

CITY OF THOMSON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
March 12, 2009

6:30PM

CITY HALL

Present:

Kenneth Usry, Mayor
Alton Belton, Councilmember
Clifford Lunceford, Councilmember
Bernice Brown, Councilmember
James Jones, Councilmember
John Smalley, Councilmember
Don Powers, City Administrator
Jimmy Plunkett, City Attorney
Dianne Landers, City Clerk

Also Present:

Billy W. Hobbs, McD. Mirror
Gail Newsome
Scott Whittle
John Hathaway
Fred Guerrant
Jim Wallace, The Progress
Donna Branch, WTHO
George Pinkston
Andy Knox, Jr.
Kakika Moss

Mayor Usry welcomed all to the Regular Council meeting of March 12, 2009. The invocation was given by the Mayor followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENTATION:

On February 28, 2009, the Georgia Engineers Association recognized O'Brien and Gere along with the City of Thomson for design and completion of the project for the City of Thomson Water Treatment Facilities GAC Upgrade. The City of Thomson was presented a plaque for the Engineering Excellence.

MINUTES:

Councilmember Belton moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting on February 12, 2009. Councilmember Smalley seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kakika Moss zoning change for 413 Salem Road.

Mr. Fred Guerrant came forward with a request from Kakika Moss to change a zoning classification for a .62 acre parcel. Ms. Moss requested to change the property's zoning classification from R-2 (Multi-Family) to SPECIAL to accommodate a proposed child daycare facility. Ms. Moss was approved in June of 2008 to construct a new "commercial" daycare at the intersection of Salem Road and Forrest Clary Drive; however, due to the current cost of construction, Kakika has decided not to build at this

time. Ms. Moss is intending to move the current daycare at her residence to this location (413 Salem) and increase the number of children from 12 to 40. The exterior will be modified to accommodate the proposed daycare, including enclosing the front and rear porches. The Planning Board recommended approval of the daycare facility under the condition that any alternate future use of the property, other than a daycare, be approved by the Board and City of Thomson.

The City Council was concerned with the enclosure of the front porch. Councilmember Jones moved to approve the recommendation from the Planning Board with the exception of the front enclosure to remain as close to residential uniformity as possible, and that said plans are submitted for approval. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Andy Knox, Jr. – Minimum Lot Size – 418 Forrest Clary Drive:

Mr. Guerrent submitted an application from Andy Knox, Jr. requesting a variance from the minimum required lot size for a residential lot located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Forest Clary Drive and Dell Drive. Mr. Knox desires to eliminate the one large parcel and subdivide it into four (4) residential lots for resale. There are already three residential structures on the property.

Councilmember Belton moved to approve the recommendation from the Planning Board for the reduction in lot sizes. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Safety Plan Agreement Warren County:

The Public Service Commission ruled that in any County in which a City has assets, there must be a Mutual Natural Gas Safety Plan. The City of Thomson presently has assets in Warren, Glasscock and Jefferson Counties. Although we do not serve Warren County, we have gas lines in that county; therefore, we must have a Safety Agreement with that county to make sure that when the Gas Authorities work together they are under the same plan.

Councilmember Lunceford moved to adopt the Countywide Natural Gas Safety Plan Agreement. Councilmember Belton seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Bid Proposals – Police Unit, Gas Department Truck:

2009 Patrol Vehicle –	Budgeted at \$24,000
Bids are as follows:	
Bobby Jones Ford, Inc. Augusta, GA	\$21,475
Culpepper Ford Company Thomson, GA	\$23,031.64

Since there will also be an additional cost of \$2,000 in Patrol lights to be added to the above cost; Mr. Powers recommended acceptance of the bid from Bobby Jones Ford for \$21,475 in order to stay under budget.

Councilmember Belton moved to accept the bid from Bobby Jones Ford of Augusta, GA. Councilmember Smalley seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION:

Trash Amnesty Day – Saturday, March 28, 2009.

There being no further business the Regular Council meeting was adjourned at 7:12pm.

Councilmember James Jones moved to go into the Executive Session. Councilmember Alton Belton seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Dianne L. Landers
City Clerk