

CITY OF THOMSON  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
July 9, 2009  
6:30PM City Hall

Present:

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

Also Present:

Rev. Darnell Brantley, Sr  
Anthony Johnson  
Jimmy Mims  
Fred Guerrant  
Jason Smith, McD. Mirror  
Donna Branch, WTHO  
Billy Hobbs, McD. Mirror  
Will Phillips

Absent:

Jimmy Plunkett, City Attorney

Mayor Usry welcomed all to the Regular Council Meeting of July 9, 2009. The invocation was given by Councilmember James Jones followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

Mayor Usry presented Daniel Pullen, an employee with the Water Treatment Department, an award for 10 years of service with the City of Thomson. Daniel works at the Augusta Road Water Treatment Plant.

**MINUTES:**

Councilmember Smalley moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting on June 11, 2009. Councilmember Lunceford seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Belton moved to approve the minutes of the called City Council meeting (after the Water-Sewer Commission meeting) on June 16, 2009. Councilmember Smalley seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Second reading and modification of the City Signs Ordinance #540.

This is the second and final reading of the City of Thomson Signing Ordinance #540. An additional part of this Ordinance will be City yard sale signs. The applications, as well as the approval for these signs must be obtained at the City Hall. Such use shall conform to the Rules and Regulations for weekend directional signs or yard sale signs.

This ordinance will be implemented on October 1, 2009.  
Councilmember Jones moved to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Sign ordinance.  
Councilmember Smalley seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Modification to Design Guidelines, Historic Preservation Commission.

This is the second discussion for a modification to the design guidelines of the Historic Preservation Commission. The modification addresses signing in the Historic District and is designed to dovetail with the new Sign Ordinance.

Councilmember Belton moved to approve the design guideline modification of the Historic Preservation Commission. Councilmember Lunceford seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. This modification was made part of the Design Guidelines for the Historic District upon approval.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Rental of Farmer Market Building-Rev. Brantley.

Abundant Life Church has requested to rent the old "Farmers Market" on Augusta Highway. The lease rate will be \$1,000 per month for two years. The first three months rent will be forgiven in exchange for building repairs made by Pastor Brantley and the Church at their expense. The City of Thomson will retain two offices on the left side of the building for storage.

Councilmember Smalley moved to accept the proposal the recommendation from the City Attorney to lease the old "Farmers Market" building to Abundant Life Church. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. ***This proposed rental agreement was reviewed by the City of Thomson's attorney, Jimmy Plunkett after the meeting, with recommendation to lease.***

Declaration for road access to Kingstown Garden Apartments:

Kingstown Garden Apartments has requested the City of Thomson to accept the dedication of the access road adjacent to the apartment's land. The City was given a recommendation to accept such dedication of the access road if it is provided with adequate assurance that any damages to the road caused by construction traffic during the development of the Horizon land shall be paid for by the owner of the Horizon land. Councilmember Belton moved to accept the covenant and quit claim deed of declaration from Horizon Properties Trust. Councilmember Lunceford seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Alcoholic Beverage Application to B.P. Mart at 418 Jackson Street:

B.P. Mart at 418 Jackson Street submitted an application for an alcoholic beverage license. Councilmember Belton moved to accept the application, seconded by Councilmember Jones. All were in favor except one. Councilmember Smalley abstained from voting. Motion carried.

Alcoholic Beverage Application for Thomson Super Curb:

Thomson Super Curb submitted an application for an alcoholic beverage license. Councilmember Lunceford moved to accept the application, seconded by Councilmember Jones. All were in favor except one. Councilmember Smalley abstained from voting. Motion carried.

Replacement for Luther Wilson, Thomson Planning Commission:

Randy Morgan was recommended to replace Mr. Wilson on the Thomson Planning Board. Mr. Morgan resides on 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Councilmember Belton moved to accept the recommendation of Mr. Randy Morgan, seconded by Councilmember Lunceford. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION:**

City Administrator Don Powers and Chuck Cason, Gas Superintendent along with the Municipal Gas Authority are working on a fall marketing plan designed to get gas water heaters installed. The promotion will occur in September and October and will be centered on giving gas water heaters away for free to residents who switch from electric to gas.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.

Dianne L. Landers  
City Clerk