

**CITY OF THOMSON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

October 11, 2007

7:30PM

CITY HALL

Present

Robert E. Knox, Jr., Mayor
Alton Belton, Councilmember
Kenneth Usry, Councilmember
John Smalley, Councilmember
J.T. Wiley, Councilmember
James (Jay) Jones, Councilmember
Don Powers, City Administrator
Jimmy Plunkett, City Attorney
Dianne Landers, City Clerk

Also Present

Jim Wallace, McD. Progress
Billy W. Hobbs, the Mirror
Bud Lunceford
Bea-Hart Moss

Absent

John Smalley, Councilmember

Mayor Knox welcomed all and called the Regular Council meeting for October 2007 to order. The invocation was given by Councilmember James Jones followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES

Councilmember Wiley moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on September 13, 2007 and the Special Call Meeting on September 27, 2007. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Usry. The motion was carried by all.

NEW BUSINESS

GEFA Recycling and Waste Reduction Grant \$40,000.

The City of Thomson was awarded a Recycling and Waste grant from the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA) for the amount of \$40,000. Contract documents will be available soon. The grant will fund new equipment and infrastructure at the recycling facility on Augusta Highway. It also includes an educational component to be used to (hopefully) increase our recycling volume.

Airport Service Agreement.

This agreement was updated and re-written and covers how the City and McDuffie County manage and develop the airport. The new document more accurately describes day to day management and satisfies special conditions in our One Georgia loan to be used for T-Hanger construction.

Councilmember Usry moved the approval of the Airport Service Agreement on behalf of the City of Thomson. Councilmember Belton seconded the motion. All were in favor. This agreement will now be presented to McDuffie County for approval. (This was approved by the County at their next meeting).

CHIP Policies and Procedures.

The Community Home Investment Program (CHIP) requires that the City of Thomson has in place policies and procedures that incorporate the requirements set by Housing Urban Development (HUD) and the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). This is needed in order to put the grant in progress. These policies and procedures will have to be approved by McDuffie County also. (This was approved by the County at their next meeting).

Councilmember Belton moved to accept the Policies and Procedures of the CHIP Housing Rehabilitation program on behalf of the City of Thomson, seconded by Councilmember Jones. The motion was carried.

Resolution for Adoption of Solid Waste Management Plan Update.

This Solid Waste Management Plan was forwarded to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA). The City has received a letter indicating that DCA has found our plan in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. Therefore, the City of Thomson has resolved for adoption of the Joint Solid Waste Management Plan, 10-Year update.

Councilmember Usry moved to approve the Resolution for the Solid Waste Management Plan, seconded by Councilmember Jones. The motion was carried.

Bid Proposal for Ford F-250 Truck in the Wastewater Department.

This bid was issued to replace a 1991 F-250 heavy duty truck. The bid proposals were received from the following:

Culpepper Ford Thomson, GA	2008 Ford F-250	\$21,184.13
Thomson Motor Centre Thomson, GA	2008 Dodge Ram 2500 _ Ton Rag Cab Truck	\$23,452.00

Culpepper Ford was the low bidder. It was the recommendation of the Director of Wastewater that this purchase should be awarded to Culpepper Ford.

Councilmember Usry moved to approve the recommendation and low bid from Culpepper Ford in Thomson, GA for \$21,184.13. Councilmember Wiley seconded the motion. Councilmember Jones abstained from voting. Motion carried.

Board Appointments of Development Authority and Animal Boards.

The Industrial Development Authority, a joint City/County Authority, has three positions that expired at the end of 2006. The three that are up for re-appointment are Curtis Pickard, Riley Stamey and George Otis Hughes. Councilmember Usry will be moved to

the ex-officio position on the Authority after Mayor Knox's term ends; therefore, there will be one additional position when Councilmember Usry leaves, totaling four positions. Mayor Knox asked the Council to think on the appointments and have them in before the end of 2007.

The Animal Control Board is a joint City/County board that typically only meets should there be a dangerous animal situation or issue that needs addressing. Dr. Darrell Wester was the City's appointment and his term expired July 30, 2007. Mayor asked for Mr. Wester to be contacted to find out if he chooses to continue.

Banner request – Sacred Heart Garden Festival for April 20-27, 2008.

The Sacred Heart Garden fund has requested to hang a banner to promote their annual fund raiser that will take place April 20 – 27, 2008.

Councilmember Belton moved to approve the banner request, seconded by Councilmember Usry. The motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

City Administrator announced that the Communities of Opportunity meeting will be October 29, 2007 at the Depot. Our Service Delivery Region (Region 7) has been selected as the "pilot" to implement this program. The idea is to have the DCA directly involved in helping each community accomplish one or two key strategic initiatives.

The City of Thomson Audit is complete and available for review at City Hall.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Dianne L. Landers
City Clerk