

**CITY OF THOMSON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
April 13, 2006**

7:30PM

CITY HALL

PRESENT

Robert E. Knox, Jr. Mayor
Kenneth Usry, Councilmember
J.T. Wiley, Councilmember
Alton Belton, Councilmember
Mike Carrington, Councilmember
Robert L. Flanders, City Administrator
Jimmy Plunkett, City Attorney
Dianne L. Landers, City Clerk

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Beth Newton, Thomson
Elementary School
Judith A. Hobbs
Fred Guerrant, Planning Director
Herman Blanchard Jr.
George Nichols, Water Treatment
April Davis, McDuffie Progress
Mike Wall, WTHO
Kristopher Wells

Absent

Rev. John Smalley

Mayor Knox welcomed all present. The invocation was given followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

MINUTES

Councilmember Kenneth Usry moved the approval of the minutes from the March 9, 2006 meeting. The minutes were seconded by Councilmember J. T. Wiley, the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Beth Newton, Principal of Thomson Elementary School appealed to the Council for two items: (1) Make the Fluker St. and Guill St. intersections a 4-way stop.
(2) Give Thomson Elementary School permission to block off the Fluker St. entrance to the back of the school so it will be one-way from 7:20 am to 8:15 am and then again from 2:40 pm to 3:15 pm to prevent traffic from coming behind the building except in one direction before and after school.

This appeal was made as a result of several accidents occurring on the above mentioned intersections.

City Council directed City Administrator, Bob Flanders to get with the Police Chief and the Fire Chief to make necessary provisions in order to implement the above recommendations.

Fred Guerrant, Planning Director of the Thomson-McDuffie County Planning Commission, presented an application from Mr. Herman Blanchard of 651 Robin Street for a home occupation review. Mr. Guerrant familiarized the Council with the information concerning the property, structure use, zoning designation and indicated that Mr. Blanchard desired to continue operating his in-home personal income tax preparation service. The Planning Board made the following recommendations: (1) A home occupational sign be placed in the front yard instead of the banner that is now in place on the front porch, and (2) Discourage on- street parking by directing parking to the yard. Councilmember Kenneth Usry moved that the recommendations of the board be accepted, seconded by Councilmember Mike Carrington. The motion carried.

Resolution of Support Monterey Pass. The resolution gave support for additional funding for Monterey Pass L.P.

Councilmember Alton Belton moved to approve the Resolution, followed by a seconded by Councilmember Mike Carrington. The motion carried.

Bid for Water Treatment Plant Truck: _ Ton C-10 Pickup

Budget: \$18,000.00

Bidders: Culpepper Ford	-	\$14,257.00
Stokes-Hodges	-	\$13,570.00
Thomson-Chrysler	-	\$16,546.00

Motion by Councilmember Mike Carrington, seconded by Councilmember Kenneth Usry to accept the low bid from Stokes-Hodge. The motion carried.

Bid for Water Treatment – Big Creek Mower: Gravely 260Z Mower

Budget: \$8,500.00

Bidders: Wallace and Son	-	\$8,399.00
Outdoor Equipment	-	\$9,008.94

Councilmember Mike Carrington moved to accept the low bid from Wallace and Son, seconded by Councilmember Alton Belton seconded. The motion carried.

Bid for Wastewater Treatment Plant – Westwood Subdivision Generator:

Bidders: Cummins Power South LLC	-	\$18,390.00
Diesel Genset 60hz		

J&T Service Center, Inc	-	\$21,215.00
Kohler 60hz		

Councilmember Kenneth Usry moved to accept the lower bid from J&T Service, seconded by Councilmember Alton Belton. The motion carried. Since this item was not budgeted, it will be taken funded out of Water contingency.

Banner request for 3rd Annual Car Show – May 6th, 2006, by Chamber of Commerce.
Motion by Councilmember Mike Carrington to display the banner and seconded by Councilmember Kenneth Usry. The motion carried.

First Reading of Amendment to the Historic Preservation Ordinance. Before the members are appointed it was purposed to amend the Historic Preservation Ordinance in Section III, sub-paragraph (c) to read “all members shall be owners or operators of businesses in or” in order to take in members in our downtown business area. This will be the 1st reading of the amended resolution.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Bob Flanders, City Administrator stated that we have received news that the EIP grant for Shaw’s water line expansion has been approved. It is \$129,590.00.

The Thomson Police has issued notice that tickets will be given to vehicles that are not parked properly. The law requires that every vehicle parked on a two way roadway shall be parked with the right hand wheels parallel to and within 12 inches of the right hand curb. They will issue warnings for two weeks after which violations for the infraction will be \$66.00.

A CDBG grant was filed on April 3, 2006 with the Department of Community Affairs. This grant consists of \$371,160 for street paving and drainage improvement in the First and Second Street area, \$300,581 for housing renovation in the Pitts Street area, 44,800 for administration and \$63,874 in contingencies.

The Thomson Fire Department was successful in obtaining a \$25,000 grant to be used for the purchase of a self contained breathing air compressor.

No other business.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

Dianne L. Landers
City Clerk