

**CITY OF THOMSON  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2006**

**7:30PM**

PRESENT

Kenneth Usry, Mayor Pro Tem  
Alton Belton, Councilmember  
Mike Carrington, Councilmember  
John Smalley, Councilmember  
J.T. Wiley, Councilmember  
Robert L. Flanders, City Administrator  
Dianne L. Landers, City Clerk  
Jimmy Plunkett, City Attorney

Not Present

Robert E. Knox, Jr., Mayor

**CITY HALL**

ALSO PRESENT

Curt Meredith  
Bobbie Radford  
Ursula Weiser  
Tex Weiser  
Carl L. Williams  
Fred Guerrant  
Peter Ruddick

Sidney Taylor  
Leon Cato  
John Hathaway  
Pat Ashcraft  
Diane Perry  
Victor Franklin  
Jason Smith  
Jim Wallace  
Mike Wall

Mayor Pro Tem Kenneth Usry called the regular council meeting to order at 7:30pm in the absence of Mayor Robert E. Knox, Jr. who had hip replacement surgery on September 12, 2006. Councilmember Smalley gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Curt Meredith and Sidney Taylor were recognized for 10 years of service with the City of Thomson. Victor Franklin was recognized for 20 years of service with the City of Thomson. All three employees received a plaque recognizing their service and a check.

**MINUTES**

Councilmember Carrington moved the approval of the minutes from the August 10, 2006 meeting, followed by a second from Councilmember Belton. The motion carried.

## NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Pro Tem Usry recognized guests in audience from Lee Drive and the Austin Street area. Mrs. Bobbie Radford spoke first concerning a house on 828 Austin Street that has been abandoned for some time. The second spokesperson was Mrs. Ursula Weiser who has a list of complaints in the form of a letter. The letter was submitted and a copy is attached. In essence the resident's complaints were concerning noise, speeding, overgrown yards, signs missing, and the abandoned house.

Mayor Pro Tem Usry asked for a copy of all the complaints that were written to be submitted to the Clerk and directed the Administrative staff to get together to attend to these problems.

### Zoning North Main and Wilson from McDuffie County R2 to B1 City of Thomson.

The Planning Commission presented a recommendation to change former county parcel T13-25 from R-2 to B-1 (Neighborhood business), and as for the remaining parcels T-12, 1,2,3,4 the recommendation is to change the county's designation of R-2 to the city's equivalent designation of R-1b (Medium Density Residential).

A motion was made by Councilmember Smalley to approve the new zoning designations. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wiley. The motion carried.

As a second issue, the Planning Commission spokesperson, Mr. Guerrant stated that Video Warehouse contacted the City concerning the possibility of moving their store to the property at parcel T13-25 where they would build a new store. The Commission approved the building plans with the exception of two setbacks of 15' on Main Street, and 10' on Dean Avenue. After a brief discussion of the City Council members, Councilmember Carrington moved to approve the building plans of the Video Warehouse with the following stipulations: (1) Setbacks 15' on Main Street, (2) 10' on Dean Ave., (3) No Concrete building, (4) Consider safety factor-The developer should provide the City with a safety plan, and (5) Building – should be brick façade. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Belton. Motion carried.

### Request by the Chamber of Commerce for sponsorship of the Christmas Parade.

The Magic of Christmas Parade will be held at 5:30pm on Saturday, December 2, 2006. The Chamber is also requesting an \$800 donation to help sponsor this event.

There was a motion by Councilmember Carrington to except the change in time and to donate the funds for the 2006 Christmas Parade, seconded by Councilmember Wiley.

The motion carried.

Banner request – Heaven’s Gates, Hell’s Flames (New Hope Baptist Church)

A request was sent from New Hope Baptist Church to hang banner across Main Street. Recommended time to hang banner is September 25, 2006 to October 3, 2006 for the annual drama to be presented at the Church. Councilmember Carrington moved to approve the recommended time, followed by a seconded by Councilmember Smalley. The motion carried.

Board Appointment – Airport Advisory.

Joint City/County Advisory Appointment to the Airport Board of Mr. William B. Parkerson who will replace Dr. Bill Chisholm. Councilmember Smalley moved approval of the appointment, seconded by Councilmember Carrington. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

The City of Thomson received notice of approval of the CDBG grant which will provide about \$371,160 for the paving of First and Second Street, and \$300,581 for the rehabilitation of owner occupied properties in the Pitt Street project area.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Dianne L. Landers  
City Clerk