

City of Thomasville Council Meeting of March 27, 2017

The Council of the City of Thomasville met in regular session with Mayor Hobbs presiding and the following Councilmembers present: Scott, Beverly, Sims, Flowers. Also present were the City Manager/Utilities Superintendent, Steve Sykes; City Attorney, Tim Sanders; Asst. City Manager/Marketing & Communications, Lynn Williams; Asst. Utilities Superintendent, Chris White; Chief Building Official, Mark Harmon; Director of Marketing, Sheryl Sealy; Asst. City Manager/City Engineer, Jerry Pionessa; Chief Financial Officer, Michelle Juarez; Solid Waste Director, Nate Tyler; City Planner, Brian Herrmann; Project Manager, Eve Geyer; City Clerk, Felicia Brannen; Patti Dozier, Thomasville Times-Enterprise; and citizens.

Mayor Hobbs called the meeting to order. Councilmember Flowers gave the invocation. Mayor Pro-Tem Sims led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

On motion of Councilmember Scott, and seconded by Councilmember Beverly, the minutes of the Emergency Called Meeting of March 1, 2017 were unanimously approved as presented.

On motion of Mayor Pro-Tem Sims, and seconded by Councilmember Flowers, the minutes of the meeting of March 13, 2017, were unanimously approved as presented.

Mayor Hobbs opened the meeting to citizens to be heard on non-agenda items. There being none, the Council moved on to the Agenda.

Under new business, the Council considered, on first reading, an ordinance to regulate Community Gardens as amended in Chapter 22 captioned "Zoning", Article IV. Section 22-105A captioned "Article IV. Permitted Uses" of the Code of the City of Thomasville, with amendments in Section 22-6 captioned "Definitions" and by replacing Section 22-44 captioned "Reserved" with Section 22-44 captioned "Standards for Community Gardens".

On motion of Councilmember Beverly, and seconded by Councilmember Scott, the following ordinance was unanimously ordered read for the first time, and carried over:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF THOMASVILLE BY AMENDING SECTION 22-6 CAPTIONED "DEFINITIONS" OF ARTICLE I CAPTIONED "IN GENERAL" OF CHAPTER 22 CAPTIONED "ZONING" SO AS TO ADD A DEFINITION FOR "COMMUNITY GARDEN"; BY REPLACING SECTION 22-44 CAPTIONED "RESERVED" WITH A NEW SECTION 22-44 CAPTIONED "STANDARDS FOR COMMUNITY GARDEN" OF ARTICLE I CAPTIONED "IN GENERAL" OF CHAPTER 22 CAPTIONED "ZONING"; BY DELETING IN ITS ENTIRETY SUBPARAGRAPH 56 CAPTIONED "GROWING OF CROPS, GARDENS (COMMERCIAL)" AND BY REPLACING IT WITH AN ENTIRELY NEW SUBPARAGRAPH 56 CAPTIONED "GROWING OF CROPS, VEGETABLES, OR FLOWER GARDENS" OF ARTICLE IV CAPTIONED "PERMITTED USES" OF CHAPTER 22 CAPTIONED "ZONING; AND BY DELETING SUBPARAGRAH 103 CAPTIONED "VEGETABLE OR FLOWER GARDENS (RESIDENTIAL)" AND RESERVING SUBPARAGRAPH 103 TO BE CAPTIONED "RESERVED" OF ARTICLE IV CAPTIONED "PERMITTED USES" OF CHAPTER 22 CAPTIONED "ZONING"; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THIS ORDINANCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Noting a conflict of interest with the FY 2017 CDBG Grant Application, Mayor Hobbs recused himself from the meeting, authorized Council member Sims as Mayor Pro-Tem to conduct the meeting

during the Mayor's recusal. Mayor Pro-Tem Sims accepted authorization and requested City Attorney, Tim Sanders, to report.

City Attorney, Tim Sanders, apprised the Mayor and Council of the fact that the Mayor's sister, Katherine Adams, lives in the project activity location (802 Fletcher Street) of the FY 2017 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, which Mayor Hobbs confirmed.

After disclosure of the technical or apparent conflict of interest, Mayor Hobbs stated that he would comply with the Conflict of Interest guidelines by not discussing the FY 2017 CDBG. Furthermore, at any meeting where the CDBG project is to be discussed, he will excuse himself and leave the room until the discussion is concluded. There was no further discussion concerning the FY 2017 CDBG program.

On motion of Councilmember Flowers, and seconded by Councilmember Scott, the amendment to the FY 2017 CDBG Grant Application as recommended by City Attorney Tim Sanders was approved with the following vote recorded:

- AYE: Mayor Pro-Tem Sims, Councilmember Scott, Councilmember Flowers, Councilmember Beverly.
- NAY: None recorded.
- ABSTAINED: Mayor Hobbs.

Following the record of vote, and Mayor Hobbs' abstinence, Mayor Pro-Tem Sims returned authorization to conduct the remaining portions of the meeting to Mayor Hobbs.

Assistant City Manager/City Engineer, Jerry Pionessa, presented a request of purchase of furniture for the Engineering offices at 411 W. Jackson Street. He added the 2017 Capital Budget for Engineering includes \$100,000.00 for the purchase of furniture for the renovated offices. He reported receiving a quote from Office Environments of Tallahassee, FL for \$81,364.33 using the State of Georgia and US Communities Contract pricing for Herman Miller products. A quote was requested from Ponders of Thomasville, GA; however, they notified staff on February 14th of a decline to bid.

On motion of Mayor Pro-Tem Sims, and seconded by Councilmembers Flowers, the Council unanimously approved the purchase of office furniture and equipment for the renovated City of Thomasville Engineering Building as per staff recommendation and awarded as specified:

1. Herman Miller in the amount of \$41,254.24 using the State of Georgia contract pricing with third party financing if necessary.
2. Office Environments of Tallahassee, Florida in the amount of \$40,110.09 using US Communities Contract pricing with third party financing if necessary.

Solid Waste Director, Nate Tyler, presented the following bid tabulation for the purchase of one (1) John Deer Rhino Flex 15, Batwing Mower for the Landfill. The Solid Waste Director added that due to EDP maintenance mandates and rigid use of equipment, other vendors were not able to offer the required, or similar unit, with features needed. Therefore, this was a sole source purchase.

BID TABULATION
One (1) John Deer Rhino Flex 15, Batwing Mower
For use at Landfill

John Deere, Ag-Pro Thomasville, GA	\$16,000.00
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On motion of Councilmember Beverly, and seconded by Councilmember Scott, the Council unanimously approved a contract for the purchase of as per staff recommendation and as specified to Ag-Pro, of Thomasville, Georgia for \$16,000.00 with third party financing as needed.

Solid Waste Director, Nate Tyler, presented the following bid tabulation for the purchase of one (1) Front End Refuse Truck – CNG Ready for the Landfill. The Solid Waste Director added this unit will be replacing a unit that was destroyed by fire in the fourth quarter of 2016 and is a capital purchase included in the 2017 budget.

BID TABULATION
 One (1) Front End Refuse Truck – CNG
For use at Landfill

Consolidated Equipment	\$251,937.00
Truck Equipment	\$274,780.00
Ingram Equipment	\$267,858.00

On motion of Mayor Pro-Tem Sims, and seconded by Councilmember Flowers, the Council unanimously approved a contract for the purchase of one (1) Front End Refuse Truck – CNG for the Landfill as per staff recommendation and as specified to Consolidated Equipment for \$251,937.00 with third party financing as needed.

Solid Waste Director, Nate Tyler, presented the following bid tabulation for the purchase of one (1) ¾-ton, CNG, 4x4 Pickup Truck for the Landfill. The Solid Waste Director added this unit will be replacing an 18-year old 4x4 pickup truck at the end of its service cycle. This unit is a planned purchase and is included in the 2017 Landfill capital budget. He also noted this unit is CNG ready, which eliminates the need for aftermarket installation of CNG conversion.

BID TABULATION
 One (1) ¾-ton, CNG, 4x4 Pickup Truck
For use at Landfill

Stallings Motors Thomasville, GA	\$37,775.00 (CNG ready)
Hub City Ford Crestview, FL	\$30,996.00 (CNG prep)
Hub City Ford Crestview, FL	\$45,896.00 (CNG ready)
Alan Vigil Ford Morrow, GA	\$29,859.00 (CNG prep)

On motion of Councilmember Scott, and seconded by Councilmember Beverly, the Council unanimously approved a contract for the purchase of one (1) ¾-ton, CNG, 4x4 Pickup Truck for the

Landfill as per staff recommendation and as specified to Stallings of Thomasville, Georgia for \$37,775.00 with third party financing as needed.

There being no further discussion, the meeting moved on to Added Agenda Items.

Mayor Hobbs thanked City Manager Steve Sykes for his work as City Manager and Utilities Superintendent to date. Mayor Hobbs asked Council to consider the retirement of Steve Sykes, City Manager effective June 23, 2017.

On motion of Mayor Hobbs, and seconded by Councilmember Scott, the consideration of the retirement of City Manager Steve Sykes effective June 23, 2017 failed to pass with the following vote recorded:

AYE: Mayor Hobbs, Councilmember Scott.

NAY: Mayor Pro-Tem Sims, Councilmember Flowers, Councilmember Beverly.


Councilmember Scott reported that during several Town Hall Meetings, discussions were held regarding use of City of Thomasville funds. Councilmember Scott asked the Council to consider a call for a special audit of City of Thomasville's financial records.

On motion of Councilmember Scott, and seconded by Mayor Hobbs, the request for a call for audit finances of the City of Thomasville failed to pass with the following vote recorded:

AYE: Mayor Hobbs, Councilmember Scott.

NAY: Mayor Pro-Tem Sims, Councilmember Flowers, Councilmember Beverly.

Having no other business, the meeting adjourned.



Greg Hobbs, Mayor

ATTEST:



Felicia Brannen, City Clerk