

The Council of the City of Thomasville met in regular session with Mayor Hobbs presiding and the following Councilmembers present: Mayor Pro-Tem Terry Scott, Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler and Mobley. Also present were the Interim City Manager/Human Resources and Community Relations, Kha McDonald; City Attorney, Tim Sanders; other staff; members of the press and citizens.

Mayor Hobbs called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Councilmember Flowers gave the invocation. Mayor Pro-Tem Scott led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

On motion of Mayor Pro-Tem Scott, and seconded by Councilmembers Flowers, Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular meeting held January 29, 2018 as presented.

Mayor Hobbs thanked citizens for attending and noted the Council meeting was moved to the Municipal Auditorium due to the number of attendees for the City of Thomasville Length of Service Awards. Councilmembers, Interim City Manager McDonald and representatives of the Human Resources Department presented to City of Thomasville Employees individual awards relative to each employee's length of service with City of Thomasville. Awards were presented to those employees with five, ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five, thirty, thirty-five, and forty years of consecutive service with the City of Thomasville.

Mayor Hobbs reported there was no old business to be discussed and Council moved on to new business.

Under new business, Mayor Hobbs reported Mr. Lucas Stewart had withdrawn his appeal of the Historic Preservation Commission's decision of denial of material for facade improvements of 116 N. Broad Street. On motion of Mayor Pro-Tem Scott, and seconded by Councilmember Flowers, Council unanimously approved the striking of the Public Hearing from the printed agenda.

Council considered a resolution honoring the late Reverend Earl Williams, the City of Thomasville's first African American Councilmember and Mayor. Interim City Manager McDonald reported Reverend Earl Williams passed away on February 1, 2018. Interim City Manager McDonald noted Reverend Williams was a vital part of the Thomasville community through his presence and leadership.

On motion of Councilmember Mobley, and seconded by Councilmember Hufstetler, Council unanimously approved the following resolution honoring Reverend Earl Williams:

### **Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, the Thomasville community lost a strong, faithful, and generous leader on Thursday, February 1, 2018, with the passing of former Mayor and Councilmember, the Reverend Earl Williams; and

**WHEREAS**, Earl Williams was a leader throughout his life and a man of many firsts: the first African American to play with the United States Marine Corp baseball team; the first African American assistant principal of Thomas County Central High School; the first African American principal of Thomas County Central Middle School; the first African American Thomasville City Councilmember; and the first African American Mayor for the City of Thomasville; and

**WHEREAS**, in January of 1982, Councilmember Williams began his service on the Council of the City of Thomasville, sharing his vast experience as a U.S. Marine, a professional baseball player, a pastor, and a middle school principal, to focus on the governance of the City of Thomasville; and

**WHEREAS**, during his service on the Council, Councilmember Williams worked tirelessly in support of many of the City of Thomasville's initiatives and had a particular passion for the plight of those less fortunate in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, he passionately supported youth recreation programs, improving and paving miles of streets throughout our community, and providing exceptional public safety services for the citizens of Thomasville; and

**WHEREAS**, Councilmember Williams served the City of Thomasville as Mayor from 1986-1989, and several terms subsequently as Mayor Pro-Tem, serving his beloved Thomasville with honor, dedication and distinction for an unparalleled 28 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Councilmember Earl Williams often began a prayer by saying, "In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths;" and

**WHEREAS**, Councilmember Williams surely exemplified this belief in his own life with a dedication to his faith, a desire to serve others, and a commitment to honesty and integrity, and

**WHEREAS**, Councilmember Williams, together with his lovely wife Faye, were much loved and respected by their family, friends, colleagues and citizens of Thomasville:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Council of the City of Thomasville, on behalf of the citizens of the City of Thomasville and of the entire community, hereby extends its heartfelt gratitude and sympathy to the family of the late Councilmember and Mrs. Earl Williams for their committed and dedicated service to Thomasville.

**SO DONE**, this the 8th day of February 2018.

Council considered applications for non-profit one-day Beer and Wine Consumption Licenses. CFO Juarez presented three applications for the following organizations and events:

1. Tree House Advocacy/Kiwanis Club of Thomasville (Event: *Oakfest* on 3/17/18 at the Amphitheater)
2. Thomasville Center for the Arts (Event: *Due South* on 4/21/2018 at Amphitheater)
3. Hands On Thomas County (Event: *Cheers for Volunteers* on 4/24/2018 at Amphitheater)

CFO Juarez reported all applicants had completed applications and provided official documentation of non-profit statuses respectively. CFO Juarez also reported all three applications had been approved by the Interim City Manager and Chief of Police; and the permits are issued by the City is conditioned upon the applicants obtaining a like permit from the Georgia Department of Revenue, Alcohol, and Tobacco Tax unit.

On motion of Councilmember Flowers, and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Scott, Council unanimously approved the three applications for non-profit one-day Beer and Wine Consumption Licenses as submitted from Tree House Advocacy/Kiwanis Club of Thomasville, Thomasville Center for the Arts and Hands on Thomas County.

Council considered approval of purchase of police vehicles for the Thomasville Police Department. Police Chief Rich reported this is an approved 2018 budget item. The replacements for the six existing

vehicles in the fleet will be purchased through the Georgia State Contract, which provides a guaranteed purchase price. The replacement vehicles were reported as follows:

**Georgia State Contract Pricing - Wade Ford  
(Designated State Company for Government Sales)**

Five (5) Police Vehicles <i>(\$27,690.00 each vehicle)</i>	\$138,450.00
One (1) Police F-150	<u>\$36,784.00</u>
Total Cost	\$175,234.00

Police Chief Rich noted this is for the vehicle only, emergency equipment accessorizing costs will be separate.

On motion of Councilmember Hufstetler, and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Scott, Council unanimously approved the purchase five (5) Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles and one (1) Ford Police F-150, under the Georgia State Contract from Wade Ford, Smyrna, Georgia for the total amount of \$175,234.00, with third party financing if necessary.

Council consider approval of Transfer of Cemetery Spaces at Laurel Hill Cemetery. City Clerk Brannen presented a request for Transfer of Ownership of Lot 52, Section EE, Virginia Street, Laurel Hill Cemetery, from Charles E. Chastain to Tina Bates. It was noted the affidavit date was January 23, 2018.

On motion of Mayor Pro-Tem Scott, and seconded by Councilmember Flowers, Council unanimously approved the Transfer of ownership of Lot 52, Section EE, Virginia Street, Laurel Hill Cemetery, from Charles E. Chastain to Tina Bates spaces as presented.

Councilmember Flowers commended City of Thomasville employees and the recipients of Length of Service Awards, noting the significance of dedication to receive such award. Council collectively agreed and also commended City of Thomasville employees.

Having no further discussion, the City Council meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

  
Greg Hobbs, Mayor

  
Felicia Brannen, City Clerk