

The Council of the City of Thomasville met in regular session with Mayor Greg Hobbs presiding and the following Councilmembers present: Mayor Pro Tem Terry Scott, Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, and Mobley. Also present were the Interim City Manager, Kha McDonald; Interim Utilities Superintendent, Keith Bass; Asst. Utilities Superintendent, Chris White; City Attorney, Tim Sanders; other staff, members of the press and citizens. The meeting was held at the Thomasville Municipal Auditorium at 144 East Jackson Street in Thomasville, Georgia.

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 Councilmember Flowers, the minutes of the City Council meeting held on June 20, 2018 were unanimously approved as presented.

Mayor Hobbs opened the meeting to citizens to be heard on non-agenda items. Mr. Ken O'Neal, resident of Jefferson Street, Thomasville, Georgia commended Mayor Pro Tem Scott on his closing remarks of the June 20, 2018 Council meeting. Mr. O'Neal requested Council to sincerely listen to the community and to take the appropriate actions to regain the community's trust involving recent current events.

Kadence Kidwell, owner of The Fuzzy Goat (West Jackson Street retail shop) and a Main Street Advisory Board member, addressed Council. Kidwell noted for several years, the merchants of West Jackson Street have relied on the concept that downtown can grow further than Broad Street. She reported these merchants are excited to see the West Jackson Streetscape project progressing. Kidwell also noted the merchants understand the disruption this development will cause and are pleased to see the City's commitment to this area.

Abby Hunt, owner Element Style Bar (West Jackson Street shop) echoed Kadence Kidwell's sentiments. She also reported the West Jackson Streetscape Project was a determining factor in the purchase, renovate and beautify the location of her business on West Jackson Street.

Keith Thomas addressed Council and voiced his concerns regarding salaries of City of Thomasville employees. Thomas noted he was not mad at Chief Building Official Mark Harmon, but rather the previous administration for allowing the salaries to be paid at such high rates. He noted his concerns regarding the Building Department hiring a new inspector through a local temporary agency and stated the inspector should be hired outright. Thomas also noted following review of a salary report for the Building Department, the salaries seemed excessive and requested Councilmembers to find out where the tax payers money goes. He concluded his concerns by noting he would continue to address Council regarding this matter until there were changes.

Scott Sterling, resident of Imperial Drive, Thomasville, Georgia addressed Council regarding Keith Thomas's comments. Sterling noted his concerns regarding the previous gentleman who spoke and noted City of Thomasville employees names and salaries should not be allowed to be discussed in such manner. Sterling requested Council to prohibit such comments and accusations.

Nolah Shotwell, private citizen, addressed Council regarding comments about employees' salaries and stated it was public information. Shotwell also conveyed to Council that several housing advocates had lobbied for the creation of a Housing Coordinator position to be created. She reported that to her knowledge that position had not been created as she hoped; but rather a Housing Administrator position was created. Shotwell further noted there were several departments that had Directors and Coordinators, or equivalent, positions. Stating this was a need presented in the Comprehensive Plan, Shotwell strongly

encouraged Council to address the need for a position of Housing Director/Coordinator to ensure the housing needs were met for the community. Interim City Manager McDonald responded to Shotwell's comments, reporting the current housing position has been reviewed. McDonald further reported that a plan to address the needs for housing, grant writing, infill, and other items is being reviewed as well.

Gylbert Coker, Mitchell-Young-Anderson House, reported several accidents have occurred at the corner of Washington and Oak Streets. She thanked Council and Staff for recent maintenance performed. Coker requested additional maintenance be done to assist with clearing the overgrowth as it prevents safe visibility for traffic at the intersection.

Lucinda Brown, Thomasville resident, addressed Council regarding her concerns about drainage problems on Fletcher Street. She noted that although many discussions have been held regarding this issue, nothing has been done to address the issue. Brown further noted the flooding which occurs following heavy rains is a safety issue which must be addressed before a fatality occurs. Asst. Utilities Superintendent, Chris White, acknowledged the area of concern is part of the CDBG grant for the Fletcherville area. He noted the bid process and tentative construction start date of October. Mayor Pro Tem Scott inquired if there was a temporary solution to alleviate the issues while awaiting construction start. White reported the storm drain that comes off Fletcher Street travels beneath a collapsed building on private property, which prohibits the proper stormwater flow. He further noted the City of Thomasville is currently in the process of acquiring a storm drain easement to assist the process of alleviating the challenges of proper storm water flow.

Stephan Thompson, Thomasville resident, commended Council on their efforts in the process for Weston Park improvements moving forward. He also commended the community on its public involvement with the Comprehensive Plan and strongly encouraged Councilmembers to approve the Comprehensive Plan as presented later in this meeting.

Jack Hadley, Jack Hadley Black History Museum, addressed Council regarding the Comprehensive Plan. He also strongly encouraged Council to approve the Comprehensive Plan as presented. Hadley also commended Council and Staff on the improvements being completed in The Bottom (West Jackson Street Business District). Noting these improvements are needed for future generations, Hadley further commended Council and Staff for the narrative provided of The Bottom and the Ritz Theater. Mayor Hobbs echoed Hadley's sentiments, and noted that through the years the area was known as The Bottom, Sandy Bottom and as a portion downtown Thomasville. Jack Hadley gave a brief history of the African American businesses which were located in the area and the importance of recognizing The Bottom to ensure its history for future generations.

Alston Watt, private citizen, addressed Council. She echoed prior comments regarding the need for housing coordination and commended Interim City Manager McDonald for efforts to assist with ensuring this is done as it is noted in the Comprehensive Plan. Watt voiced concerns regarding comments in reference to the possibility of Council not adopting the Comprehensive Plan. Watt conveyed that should the Comprehensive Plan not be adopted prior to July 31, 2018, the City of Thomasville would lose its status of Qualified Local Government (QLG). She noted the Plan is requirement of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Watt further noted a City's QLG status enables that City to receive numerous grants and funding opportunities which enables that City to continue improvement projects such as CDBG grants. Watt reported the Comprehensive Plan process has received tremendous support and input by members of the community over the two year process of its creation. She conveyed to Council the importance of their responsibility to have been a part of the Plan's process and suggested Council should set aside time to work through any questions, so as to ensure adoption prior to the July 31st deadline.

Clara Clifton, resident of Woodlakes Road, Thomasville, Georgia, requested Council consider provision of additional recycling containers throughout downtown Thomasville. Mayor Hobbs directed

Clifton to speak with Nate Tyler, Director of Solid Waste/Landfill/Public Works regarding her request. Clifton also addressed Council regarding the discussion of rescinding the May 14, 2018 South Pinetree Boulevard vote and asked Council if they had viewed the April 30th Listening Session video. Mayor Hobbs and Councilmember Hufstetler acknowledged they had not viewed the video. Clifton noted she, and the Listening Session attendees, felt Council had not listened to them when Council adopted the three-laned plan for South Pinetree Boulevard at the May 14th Council meeting.

Mayor Hobbs thanked those who addressed Council and moved on to the printed agenda. He noted there was no Old Business to be discussed and moved on to New Business.

Council considered first readings of five separate ordinances to demolish structures at the following locations: 506 Oak Street, 804 Fletcher Street, 418 West Monroe Street, 808 Fletcher Street and 304 Horrix Street. Chief Building Official, Mark Harmon, reported all of the structures represented are on the list of dilapidated structures that is currently maintained in the Building Department. Each of the structures have long been abandoned and have been in a deteriorating state without utilities for a decade or more. All were brought before the City Manager in an advertised hearing where an order was lawfully issued to demolish these structures. The time limit on each order expired on July 6, 2018. The required appraisals have been completed to confirm that they meet the threshold for demolition. Title searches were performed, notices of the orders were mailed to all parties identified, orders were posted on site, and printed in the required intervals in the legal section of the Times Enterprise per the requirement by COT ordinances and Georgia Law.

On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Scott, and seconded by Councilmember Flowers, the following ordinance was unanimously ordered read for the first time, passed and carried over:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 506 OAK STREET, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA; OWNED BY CATHERINE WALLACE; TO PROVIDE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 804 FLETCHER STREET, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA; OWNED BY THOMASVILLE INVESTMENTS, LLC; TO PROVIDE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 418 WEST MONROE STREET, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA; OWNED BY ROBBIE LEE ALEXANDER; TO PROVIDE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Scott, and seconded by Councilmember Mobley, the following ordinance was unanimously ordered read for the first time, passed and carried over:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 808 FLETCHER STREET, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA; OWNED BY GENE VINSON; TO PROVIDE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

On motion of Councilmember Flowers, and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Scott, the following ordinance was unanimously ordered read for the first time, passed and carried over:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 304 HORRIX STREET, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA; OWNED BY MAPLE P. HOWARD; TO PROVIDE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Chief Building Official Harmon addressed citizen Gylbert Coker concerns regarding safety and visibility of the intersection at Washington and Oak Streets. He reported the code enforcement process had begun with property owners and would be resolved in the near future. Harmon also addressed citizen Keith Thomas regarding concerns of inspector employment through a local temporary agency. He reported the number of inspections year-to-date have exceeded the typical 2,400 inspections per year, and are projected to be 4,000 by year end. To meet the demand of inspections, an additional inspector was needed and a temporary agency was utilized.

Council considered a resolution to adopt Blueprint 2028 as the new Comprehensive Plan for the City of Thomasville. City Planner, Brian Herrmann, reported the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) requires every municipality to complete this process every ten years. Herrmann noted the Plan is considered a high level plan, intended to provide a vision for Thomasville. He further noted the plan is amenable and it purposely extends outside of Council to include the entire community. It was reported that over 1,200 community members participated and the process was the largest most extensive process in the community's history. Herrmann reported there were minor amendments to the plan following the March 2018 presentation; however, there were no overarching changes made. He suggested staff could provide detailed explanations to Council at subsequent meetings to review the changes in detail. Herrmann reported the draft plan has been approved by the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission and DCA. He further reported the Thomasville Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously recommended Council's adoption of the Plan. Herrmann concluded his presentation by stating the following: As required to retain the City's "Qualified Local Government Status," and pursuant to the Georgia Planning Act of 1989, the City of Thomasville must remain in compliance with the requirements of the State of Georgia's Minimum Standards for Local Comprehensive Planning. In keeping with these standards and the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission, staff recommends that City Council move to adopt, by resolution, Blueprint 2028 as the new and updated Comprehensive Plan for the City of Thomasville.

On motion of Councilmember Flowers, and seconded by Councilmember Hufstetler, Council unanimously approved the following resolution to adopt the Blueprint 2028 Comprehensive Plan:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE THOMASVILLE BLUEPRINT 2028 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, To retain its “Qualified Local Government Status” pursuant to the Georgia Planning Act of 1989, the City of Thomasville must remain in compliance with the requirements of the State of Georgia’s Minimum Standards for Local Comprehensive Planning; and,

WHEREAS, the Thomasville City Council has contracted with the firm of Dover Kohl & Partners to provide visioning, project framework, document development and an implementation strategy as part of an updated Comprehensive Plan for the City of Thomasville in accordance with Georgia’s Standards and Procedures for Comprehensive Planning; and,

WHEREAS, the Thomasville Blueprint 2028 Comprehensive Plan goals and policies are a direct result of public input through an extensive public engagement process that consisted of community workshops, neighborhood walks, online and visual preference surveys, and a 5-day community design charrette; and

WHEREAS, the Thomasville Blueprint 2028 Comprehensive Plan establishes a framework that is the basis for local government decision making regarding the character, intensity, and use of future land, investment priority, community design, historic preservation, mobility, tactical interventions, housing, natural and cultural resources, community facilities, economic development, and health; and

WHEREAS, the comprehensive plan gives long-range and comprehensive context and support for infrastructure Capital Improvement Planning, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) infrastructure and housing development grants, as well as other state and federal grants and loans that the city may apply for; and

WHEREAS, Thomasville Blueprint 2028 has been reviewed and approved by the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (SWGRC) and Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), including the implementation phase of that planning process, the Community Work Program; and,

WHEREAS, Appropriate notice has been provided and a public hearing was held on March 20, 2018, at the Thomasville Municipal Building; and,

WHEREAS, on July 10, 2018, the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended the approval of the Thomasville Blueprint 2028 Comprehensive Plan to the City Council by a unanimous vote; and

WHEREAS, the Thomasville Blueprint 2028 Comprehensive Plan requires adoption and final submittal to Georgia DCA and the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Thomasville to adopt the Thomasville Blueprint 2028 Comprehensive Plan

SO DONE, THIS THE 23RD DAY OF JULY, 2018.

Council considered a resolution to name the downtown amphitheater “The Ritz” Amphitheater and to further officially recognize the West Jackson Street Downtown Business District as “The Bottom.” ACM/Economic Development & Communications, Lynn Williams, reported to Council the Jack Hadley Black History Museum lists the Ritz Theater as having served as the main entertainment center for African-American residents and surrounding communities for many years. In addition, the Sandy Bottom District, also known as the Bottom, was developed as an African-American and Jewish business district in the latter part of the 19th century. Williams briefly reviewed the history of the West Jackson Street Business District. By the late 1920s, the area was nearly completely developed with small restaurants, retail shops,

groceries, and professional services. The presence of German-Jewish retail shop owners greatly increased after 1932, along with some Greek restaurant and retail store owners and African-American entrepreneurs. The creation of the Gateway district around U.S. 19 in the late 1960s brought a period of decline to both the Bottom and downtown in general, but by the late 1980s a slow-but-steady effort to re-invigorate and restore downtown began, with the re-development of “the Bottom” being a central effort of recent business interests. This area is bounded by Jefferson Street to the north, by Madison Street to the east, by Remington Avenue to the south, and the railroad tracks to the west. In recognition of this historic theater, Council was requested to resolve to name the downtown amphitheater the Ritz Amphitheater in honor of “The Ritz” theater. Council was requested to further resolve to officially recognize the name of the West Jackson Street downtown business district as “The Bottom” in honor of the area’s rich history.

On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Scott, and seconded by Councilmember Mobley, Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Ritz Theater served as the main entertainment center for African American residents of Thomasville and surrounding communities for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Ritz Theater was located in the Sandy Bottom District, commonly known as “The Bottom” which was developed as a business center in the latter part of the 19th century for African-American and Jewish owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, this area is now home to the downtown park and amphitheater.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Thomasville that the downtown amphitheater be named “The Ritz” Amphitheater; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the West Jackson Street downtown business district, bounded by Jefferson Street to the north, by Madison Street to the east, by Remington Avenue to the south, and the railroad tracks to the west, is hereby recognized as “The Bottom.”

SO DONE, this the 23rd day of July, 2018.

Council considered a motion to rescind the May 14, 2018, and subsequent June 20, 2018, City Council votes regarding South Pinetree Boulevard so as to properly allow for further community engagement and input. Mayor Pro Tem Scott motioned to rescind the May 14 and June 20, 2018 votes regarding South Pinetree Boulevard. Councilmember Flowers seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Council considered a motion to approve a proposed agreed upon procedure, engagement to Mauldin & Jenkins of Macon, Georgia to commence immediately. Mayor Hobbs noted the agreed upon procedures listed 14 items in regards to the finances of the City of Thomasville to be audited by Mauldin & Jenkins, an accounting firm in Macon, Georgia. Discussion ensued regarding potential addition of items as deemed necessary and actual cost of services for the audit.

Councilmember Hufstetler motioned to approve the Mauldin & Jenkins proposed agreed upon procedures engagement in regards to the City of Thomasville’s finances, with added items as deemed necessary and for a total cost not to exceed \$25,000.00. Mayor Pro Tem Scott seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Interim City Manager McDonald requested clarification regarding designated point

of contact and Mayor Hobbs designated the City of Thomasville Chief Financial Officer, Ashley Cason, as the point of contact for Mauldin & Jenkins.

Mayor Hobbs acknowledged Criminal Investigations Division Director, Maurice Holmes, who reported the police department currently staffs Thomasville High School and MacIntyre Park Middle School with one (1) SRO each. Nationally, the increased violence due to active shooter situations on school campuses is a growing concern. It was noted the Thomasville City School System has an agreement with Thomasville Police Department to share in the costs of SROs and the School Board of Educations has requested additional SROs be assigned to each of the four elementary schools. Holmes reported Dr. Lane Reichert, Superintendent of the Thomasville City School System, has committed to \$12,500.00 per year for each of the new SRO positions. To accommodate this request, a budget amendment for the expenditure of four (4) additional Full Time Employees will be necessary in the amount of \$135,288.00. This amount will provide SROs through the end of the current school year (2018-2019).

Councilmember Mobley motioned to approve the Thomsville Police Department budget amendment in the amount of \$135,288.00 for the Thomasville Police Department to provide for four (4) additional SROs as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Scott seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hobbs acknowledged City Engineer, Wayne Newsome, who briefly reviewed a presentation provided to Council during the April 4, 2018 Workshop regarding the status of the West Jackson Streetscape project which outlined the two phase approach to the project. He noted Phase 1, relocating overhead utilities in the project area, is currently underway. Phase 2 involves the actual construction of the sidewalk improvements on West Jackson and is scheduled for the summer months of 2019. Newsome further reported RFQs were received from three engineering firms and a seven person committee comprised of City of Thomasville Engineering and Planning staff unanimously ranked the top firm as Genesis of Tall assess, Florida. Newsome noted the final scope of services and fees were negotiated with Genesis, and authorization was requested for the City Manager to enter into agreement with Genesis based on the fee schedule submitted with their proposal/agreement dated June 19, 2018, which includes a lump sum fee amount of \$138,690.00 for the basic scope of services. Additional services for public meeting assistance, and assistance during construction will be provided, based on the hourly rate schedule outlined in the proposal, not to exceed the limits outlined in the proposal. Reimbursable items such as printing, mileage, and other non-labor items will be billed at cost plus 15 percent.

Councilmember Flowers motioned for Council to approve authorization of the Interim City Manager to into an agreement with Genesis for the professional services contract and fees for the West Jackson Streetscape project as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Scott seconded the motion. Mayor Hobbs called for discussion of the motion and citizen, Lucinda Brown, inquired if utility rates would be increased due to the infrastructure improvements of the West Jackson Streetscape Project. Council acknowledged that this would not increase the utilities rates. Having no further discussion, Mayor Hobbs restated the motion, and second. The motion carried unanimously.

Council considered bids and award for the purchase of construction contract for 2018 Laurel Hill & Peaceful Rest Cemetery Roadway Project. City Engineer Wayne Newsome reported six bids were opened July 12, 2018 for the project, which includes furnishing of all labor, material, and equipment and performing all work required to construct the following: the resurfacing of approximately 400 LF of asphalt roadway at Laurel Hill Cemetery and paving (10' Wide) of approximately 960 LF of roads at Peaceful Rest Cemetery. This work includes all clearing, grubbing, grading, soil treatment/stabilization, and asphalt paving required for construction. All asphalt paving will comply with GDOT Specifications, 2001, including the 2008 Supplemental Specifications Section Work is to be completed within 21 working days of Notice to Proceed. A summary of the bids received were as follows:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>
Scoggins-Dozier, Inc., Ochlocknee, Georgia	\$53,310.00
Defnall Construction, Inc., Thomasville, Georgia	\$54,602.00
Green's Backhoe, Inc., Thomasville, Georgia	\$44,090.40
Capital Asphalt, Inc., Tallahassee, Florida	\$64,535.00
H & H Paving, Quitman, Georgia	\$36,292.00
CMI, Inc., Cairo, Georgia	\$53,668.00

On motion of Councilmember Mobley, and seconded by Councilmember Flowers, Council unanimously approved the award of contract for the 2018 Laurel Hill & Peaceful Rest Cemetery Roadway Project to H & H Paving of Quitman, Georgia, in the amount of \$36,292.00 as being the lowest bid received, utilizing available 2012 SPLOST funding.

Council considered bids and award for the purchase of design team services to conduct a Public Design Charrette for Paradise Park. City Planner, Brian Herrmann, reported In 2015 City Council approved a "park's improvement initiative." This ensured that each of the City's major parks would have an updated master plan from which to propose and budget future improvements. In 2016 and 2017, respectfully, MacIntyre Park and Weston Park underwent public design charrettes to develop vision plans for each. Herrmann further noted in continuation of this process, bids were sought, and received, from design firms with expertise in urban design and planning, landscape architecture, historic preservation and design charrette facilitation. A summary of bids received follows and includes RFP ranking:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>RANKING</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>
K2 Urban Design	1	\$30,750.00
Lord Aeck Sargent	2	\$40,000.00
TSW	3	\$39,971.00
Wood +Partners	4	\$38,930.00
WLA Studio	5	\$39,976.00

On motion of Councilmember Mobley, and seconded by Councilmember Hufstetler, Council unanimously approved the bid award to K2 Urban Design for \$30,750.00 to conduct a public design charrette for Paradise Park as per staff recommendations. It was noted the design team expenditure would be funded by City of Thomasville and SPLOST funds would cover the construction expenditures resulting from the design team's plan.

Council considered bids and award for the purchase of Vac-Tron Vacuum Excavation Machine for the Waste Water Department. Asst. Utilities Superintendent, Chris White, reported this request consists of the purchase of one (1) vacuum excavation machine for the Wastewater Department. This equipment will improve efficiencies and operational safety conditions for the crews and allows for the identification and safe excavation of all underground utilities. Bids were solicited with only (2) bids received by the purchasing department. The 2018 Wastewater Capital budget includes \$50,000 for this purchase. Bids received have been reviewed for accuracy. The following is a summary of bids received:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>
Vermeer Southeast	\$46,575.00
Ditch Witch of Georgia	\$47,313.36

On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Scott, and seconded by Councilmember Flowers, Council unanimously approved the purchase of one (1) vacuum excavation machine to Vermeer Southeast of Jacksonville, Florida, in the amount of \$46,575.00, utilizing the 2018 Wastewater Capital funds with third party financing if necessary.

Council considered bids and award for the purchase of one (1) ¾ ton-crew cab pickup truck for the Natural Gas Department. Asst. Utilities Superintendent, Chris White, reported this purchase will consist of (1) ¾ ton –Crew cab pick truck for the Natural Gas Department. This new vehicle will replace existing unit 10475 that has reached the end of its service life. The 2018 Natural Gas Capital budget includes \$40,000 for this purchase. Sealed bids were received by the City Purchasing Dept. on May 14, 2018. A total of five (5) bids were received. Bids received were checked for accuracy. The following is a summary of bids received:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>
Stalling Motors <i>Thomasville, Georgia</i>	\$38,370.00
Tallahassee Ford <i>Tallahassee, Florida</i>	\$36,803.00
TransPower, Inc. <i>Albany, Georgia</i>	\$43,095.19
Bozard Ford <i>St. Augustine, Florida</i>	\$45,001.00
Allan Vigil <i>Morrow, Georgia</i>	\$36,124.06

On motion of Councilmember Flowers, and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Scott, Council unanimously approved the award of purchase of (1) ¾ ton–Crew cab pickup truck to Allan Vigil, Morrow, Georgia in the amount of \$ 36,124.06, utilizing 2018 Natural Gas Capital funds with third party financing if necessary.

Council considered bids and award for the purchase of one (1) new 973K Track-Style Loader for the Landfill. Asst. Landfill Superintendent, Lee Thomas, reported this was considered a single source purchase from Yancey Brothers Company in the amount of \$539,000.00 as a budgeted large capital purchase. Thomas noted that although other manufacturers produce a track loader, no competitors offer one of the same size and weight needed for the proper compaction of waste. He further noted that Yancey Brothers has a proven history with the City of Thomasville with excellent service after the sale. Due to the amount of time it takes to build the unit and time for delivery (6-8 months), Thomas reported the Landfill is requesting Council award the purchase in 2018 and to receive and pay for the unit in 2019. Councilmember Hufstetler questioned the cost, single source provision and if the unit to be replaced was repairable. Solid Waste/Landfill/Public Works, Nate Tyler, further explained the necessary use of the four track loaders needed to properly maintain the Landfill so as to remain in compliance with numerous State and Federal requirements. Councilmember Hufstetler voiced concerns regarding cost of the unit and inquired if waiting thirty days prior to approving the purchase to further research other vendors would be feasible. Tyler noted waiting for this approval would create potential unnecessary and excessive expenditures due to the age of the unit being replaced. He further reported past experience, constant unit use for two landfills and proven excessive repair expenditures necessitated the creation of a buying schedule for large capital purchases such as this. It was noted that since 2010, there have been four units purchased in this manner and that the unit to be replaced would be sold at auction.

Mayor Pro Tem Scott motioned to approve the purchase of one (1) new 973K Track-Style Loader for the Landfill to Yancey Brothers Company in the amount of \$539,000.00 as presented. Councilmember

Flowers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. It was noted that Councilmember Hufstetler voted NAY in opposition of the motion.

Council considered bids and award for the purchase of one (1), CNG, Knuckle Boom Truck for the Solid Waste Department. Solid Waste/Landfill/Public Works, Nate Tyler, reported the Solid Waste yard trash division uses knuckle boom trucks in various areas within Thomas, Grady and Mitchell counties to provide services such as curbside yard debris pickup, removing or packing down waste roll-off containers and removing large construction or demolition piles. The yard units receive much wear and tear due to daily use, travel and operating hours. Tyler reported currently, Solid Waste has a 2007 unit which needs to be replaced and the department has funds in the 2018 Capital Budget to purchase a new CNG unit. Tyler reported staff recommendation was not the lowest bidder; however, it was the unit that best fit the needs of the department and the rigorous use the vehicle would receive. The following is a summary of bids received:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Cab Chassis</u>	<u>Body Offered</u>	<u>Complete Unit Price – CNG</u>	<u>Delivery</u>
Performance Peterbuilt Albany, Georgia	2019 Peterbuilt 337	Petersen TL-3	\$204,385.00	240 ARO
Fourstar Freightliner Albany, Georgia	2019/2020 Freightliner M2 112 (CNG)	Petersen TL-3	\$208,332.00	210-240 Days ARO
Environmental Products Albany, Georgia	2019/2020 M2 122 Freightliner	Petersen TL-3	\$197,241.00	180-300 Days ARO
Fourstar Freightliner Albany, Georgia	2019/2020 Freightliner M2 112 (CNG)	PAC-MAC- KBF-20H-HJ	\$192,993.00	160-180 Days ARO
Transpower Inc. Albany, Georgia	2019 T440 (CNG)	PAC-MAC- KBF-20H-HJ	\$183,382.44	Oct. 31, 2018 (T370) 2018 (T440)
Wade Ford Smyrna, Georgia	2019 Ford F750	Brush Hawg Model-C	No bid	
Fleetcare Commercial Trucks Augusta, Georgia	2019 Hino 338	Petersen TL-3	No bid	

On motion of Councilmember Mobley, and seconded by Councilmember Hufstetler, Council unanimously approved the purchase of one (1), CNG, Knuckle Boom Truck for the Solid Waste Department to Performance Peterbuilt of Albany, Georgia in the amount of \$204,386.00 as per staff recommendation and with third party financing if needed.

Council considered bids and award for the purchase of construction contract for expansion construction for breakroom at Solid Waste Department. Solid Waste/Landfill/Public Works, Nate Tyler, reported staff has increased in number to the point and a larger break room facility is needed to accommodate employee needs. Staff frequently utilizes the breakroom throughout the day for: the ice machine, lunch breaks and muster training. Tyler noted requests were sent to four vendors and the following is a summary of bids received:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
David Dunn/ Tip Top Construction	\$70,000.00
Tony Brock Construction	No Bid
Keevan Strickland Construction	No Bid
Jason Harp Construction	No Bid

On motion of Councilmember Flowers, and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Scott, Council unanimously awarded the bid the purchase of construction contract for expansion construction for breakroom expansion at Solid Waste and Public Works facility to the sole bidder Tip Top Construction in the amount of \$70,000.00, with third party financing if necessary.

Mayor Hobbs reported the conclusion of the printed agenda and requested an update regarding the City Manager search from Interim City Manager, Kha McDonald. McDonald reported Renee Narloch, S. Renee Narloch and Associates, is currently vetting 25 candidates. McDonald further reported that Narloch noted the number was good; however, she would like to extend the deadline so as to increase opportunities to reach additional candidates. Mayor Hobbs noted that he had spoken with Narloch as well and she inquired about the duties of City Manager. Mayo Hobbs reported that during the Council retreat Council had determined the City Manager and the Utilities superintendent would be two separate positions and both would each report to Council. Mayor Hobbs reported that Narloch had talked with each Councilmember separately and had received differing answers regarding the reporting structure of the two positions. He noted that Council had determined to adhere to the City Charter. McDonald noted that Narloch had requested the meeting notes from the Council retreat facilitated by the University of Georgia, Carl at which all Councilmembers, McDonald, and Interim Utilities Superintendent Keith Bass attended. McDonald reported the final meeting notes were recorded by the UGA facilitator and reflected two separate positions; however, the Utilities Superintendent would report to the City Manager and the City Manager would report to the City Council. McDonald further reported the UGA notes sent to Narloch also reflected Council's desire to change the City Charter.

Mayor Hobbs inquired of each Councilmember their individual recollection of the meeting in reference to the reporting structure of the two separate positions. Councilmember Flowers recalled two separate positions with the Utilities Superintendent reporting to the City Manager. Councilmember Mobley noted he wanted to review the UGA meeting notes; however, he would be in support of the dual reporting structure. Mayor Hobbs, Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmember Hufstetler recalled two separate positions, with both reporting to City Council. Councilmember Hufstetler noted that the City Charter defined the structure and that should be followed.

Councilmember Flowers conveyed Council did discuss the reporting structure during the retreat in reference to the current Utilities Committee appointments as a way for Council to provide direction for Utilities. He noted that Council also discussed the need to have the single reporting structure to Council by the City Manager. Mayor Hobbs noted the Council was also the Utilities Commission and acknowledged the City Charter was in place and it should be followed; however, if it is not followed it should be clear that the majority of the Council is changing from the Charter. He continued and noted Councilmembers acting as the Utilities Commission and the Council would be able to keep the separation maintained. Mayor Hobbs requested the two separate positions and structure be relayed to Narloch.

McDonald, reported the advertisement of the City Manager position was placed with reference to the Charter and the past 20-years of reporting structure. She also acknowledged Councilmember Hufstetler's campaign promise of separating the two positions. McDonald reported that during the retreat Councilmember Hufstetler indicated his support of the Utilities Superintendent position reporting to the


City Manager. She further reported that all of Council also indicated their support of the single reporting structure so as to avoid duplication of services. McDonald conveyed the UGA facilitator recorded these indications, as well as Council's indication to amend the City Charter, in the meeting notes and these notes were forwarded to Narloch to assist with marketing of the City Manager position. Councilmember Hufstetler commented that the notes were incorrect and he was adamant to adhering to the City Charter. Councilmember Flowers clarification.

Mayor Hobbs clarified that consensus of Council, 4-1, was to proceed with two separate positions with a dual reporting structure. Councilmember Flowers conveyed concerns regarding the dual reporting structure and two separate entities. He inquired where lines would be drawn in relation to duplication of services and department structures citywide. Mayor Hobbs acknowledged this would be a new structure and those details were yet to be defined. He recommended another Council retreat be arranged to work through these details. In conclusion, Mayor Hobbs, indicated that position advertisement for the Utilities Superintendent would begin soon.

Councilmembers commended staff and the community for their participation with the Comprehensive Plan. Having no further business to discuss, the City of Thomasville Council meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.



Mayor, Greg Hobbs



City Clerk