

## City of Thomasville Council Meeting, June 24, 2019

The Council of the City of Thomasville met in regular session with Mayor Pro Tempore Terry Scott presiding and the following Councilmembers present: Councilmembers Jay Flowers, David Hufstetler, Todd Mobley and Cheryl Presha. Also present were the Honorary Councilmember LaQuan Howard Bryant; City Manager, J. Alan Carson; City Attorney, Tim Sanders; other staff, members of the press and citizens. The meeting was held in Council Chambers at 144 East Jackson Street in Thomasville, Georgia.

### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Scott called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

### INVOCATION

Given by Councilmember Flowers.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Scott led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Hufstetler moved to approve minutes of the regular City Council Meeting of June 10, 2019 as presented. Councilmember Presha seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, Mobley and Presha.

### CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Pro Tem Scott acknowledged the following citizens who signed in to address Council:

1. Lucinda Brown, 103 Halcyon Way, Thomasville, Georgia, addressed Council regarding her concerns of transparency and public comment during public meetings.
2. Keith Thomas, 711 Westover Avenue, Thomasville, Georgia, addressed Council and commended the efforts of City Manager Carson and Chief Building Official Harmon to fill employment vacancies in the Building Department.
3. Nate Tyler, 208 Cloverdale Drive, Thomasville, Georgia, addressed Council and thanked them for allowing him the opportunity to serve the citizens of Thomasville as an employee of the City of Thomasville in various positions for 41 years.

### PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

### ADOPT AGENDA

Councilmember Mobley moved to approve the printed agenda as presented, with no exceptions. Councilmember Presha seconded. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, Mobley and Presha.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to be considered at this meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **First Reading of seven separate ordinances to demolish unfit structures located as listed.**

Chief Building Official, Mark Harmon, presented. It was noted most of these structures have been present on the list of dilapidated houses that has been maintained since 2015. The structures have been in a deteriorating state, without utilities for a decade or more. The listed structures were brought before the City Manager in an advertised hearing where an order was lawfully issued to demolish each structure. The time limit on all orders has expired. Harmon noted 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 City of Thomasville ordinances and Georgia Law.

Councilmember Flowers moved to order the ordinance to demolish the unfit structure located on 1107 Wright Street read for the first time, passed and carried over as presented. Councilmember Presha seconded. Councilmember Hufstetler inquired if all seven ordinances could be collectively ordered read for the first time, passed, and carried over as a Consent Agenda item. City Manager Carson confirmed that action was not possible and they must be done individually. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, Mobley and Presha.

The following ordinance was ordered read for the first time, passed and carried over:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 1107 WRIGHT STREET, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA; OWNED BY WILLIAM B. BROWN, SR., WILLIAM B. BROWN, SR., ROSETTA L. BROWN, JANICE KALIP, CONNIE DAVIS, JOHNNY GREEN, WILLIAM BROWN, JR., GWENDOLYN MILLER, KAMBRIYAH MOORE, AND KANDACE MOORE; TO PROVIDE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Councilmember Mobley moved to order the ordinance to demolish the unfit structure located on 523 West Alley read for the first time, passed and carried over as presented. Councilmember Hufstetler seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, Mobley and Presha.

The following ordinance was ordered read for the first time, passed and carried over:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 523 WEST ALLEY, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA; OWNED BY HENRY M. LAING, BARBARA JEAN IVEY, MARY ALICE COATES, PATRICIA ANN BROWN, CYNTHIA BLANCHE LAING, CALVIN LAING, JOHNNY LAING, NATHANIEL LAING, ANTONIO DEWAYNE SANDERS, AVON

DEWAYNE LAING, JR., TREVON DEMETRIUS SANDERS, ADRIELL JEANNE LAING, BRANDON LAMAR LAING, AND MICHAEL EDWARD LAING; TO PROVIDE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Councilmember Flowers moved to order the ordinance to demolish the unfit structure located on 720 Old Albany Road read for the first time, passed and carried over as presented. Councilmember Presha seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, Mobley and Presha.

The following ordinance was ordered read for the first time, passed and carried over:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 720 OLD ALBANY ROAD, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA; OWNED BY EDDIE L. HILL, ANTHONY W. ROAN, AND GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; TO PROVIDE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Councilmember Presha moved to order the ordinance to demolish the unfit structure located on 112 Dowdell Street read for the first time, passed and carried over as presented. Councilmember Mobley seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, Mobley and Presha.

The following ordinance was ordered read for the first time, passed and carried over:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 112 DOWDELL STREET, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA; OWNED BY NOBLE NASH, OPHELIA NASH, AND DORIS N. BLACK; TO PROVIDE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Councilmember Presha moved to order the ordinance to demolish the unfit structure located on 108 McRae Avenue read for the first time, passed and carried over as presented. Councilmember Flowers seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, Mobley and Presha.

The following ordinance was ordered read for the first time, passed and carried over:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 108 MCRAE AVENUE, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA; OWNED BY RON JAMES, THOMAS COUNTY TAX COMMISSIONER, AND CITY OF THOMASVILLE; TO PROVIDE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Councilmember Flowers moved to order the ordinance to demolish the unfit structure located on 1103 Short Broad Street read for the first time, passed and carried over as presented. Councilmember Presha seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, Mobley and Presha.

The following ordinance was ordered read for the first time, passed and carried over:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 1103 SHORT BROAD STREET, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA; OWNED BY ANNIE MAE K. MUHAMMAD C/O NEW YORK GUARDIANSHIP SERVICES, ANNIE MAE K. MUHAMMAD, AND THOMAS COUNTY TAX COMMISSIONER; TO PROVIDE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Councilmember Mobley moved to order the ordinance to demolish the unfit structure located on 818 South Street read for the first time, passed and carried over as presented. Councilmember Hufstetler seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, Mobley and Presha.

The following ordinance was ordered read for the first time, passed and carried over:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 818 SOUTH STREET, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA; OWNED BY SLYDERZ, LLC, MODELLA JOHNSON, AND ESTATE OF MODELLA JOHNSON; TO PROVIDE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**Motion to Authorize Mayor Pro Tem Scott as the signatory to execute Thomasville City Council's acknowledgment of the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Agreement by and between the Thomasville Payroll Development Authority (PDA) and Check-Mate.**

City Attorney, Tim Sanders presented. It was reported that Thomasville Payroll Development Authority is in the processing of bring Check-Mate Industries to Thomasville. The MOU Agreement by and between the Thomasville PDA and Check-Mate Industries is in connection with bonds that will be issued as part of the process. Attorney Sanders reported Bond Counsel has requested City Council and all parties formally acknowledge the job creation aspect of the agreement. It was noted that the job creation target is 220 jobs.

Councilmember Hufstetler moved to authorize Mayor Pro Tem Scott as the signatory to execute Thomasville City Council's acknowledgment of the provisions of the MOU Agreement as presented. Councilmember Mobley seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, Mobley and Presha.

**Motion to approve purchase and installation of six laptops.**

Chief of Police, Troy Rich, presented. Rich noted he would be presenting the next three items; however, before he started the presentations he wanted to thank Councilmember Hufstetler for his support of considering an increase in the budget so the proposed purchase of in-car video systems for an additional car could be considered at this meeting. Rich continued to the presentations. Chief Rich reported the 2019 budget included the purchase of six ruggedized laptops and docking stations to be installed in the new Ford Interceptor Utility Police Vehicles. Information Technology Department received the following quotes:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>
Network Technology Solutions	\$21,972.00
CDW	\$26,792.00

Chief Rich noted Network Technology Solutions was recommended as the supplier of the Dell Latitude 7424 Rugged Extreme laptops and docking stations, as they provided the lowest quote. If the purchase was approved, the equipment would be ordered immediately and delivery was projected for July 2019.

Councilmember Hufstetler moved to approve the purchase and installation of six (6) Dell Rugged Extreme Laptops with Havis Docking Stations from Network Technology Solutions in the amount of \$21,972.00 as presented and with third party financing if necessary. Councilmember Presha seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, Mobley and Presha.

**Motion to approve purchase and installation of outfitting and accessories for 7 TPD cars.**

Chief of Police, Troy Rich, presented. The outfitting and accessories for the new police vehicles are purchased and installed separately from the initial purchase of the vehicle. The outfitting of police vehicles was described as the purchase and installation of specialized electronics equipment such as in-car video systems which has historically been completed by West Chatham Warning Devices of Americus, Georgia, as being the closest certified installer in-car video system WatchGuard. He also reported the this is being presented as an over budget item due to unforeseen circumstances created by the Ford Vehicle manufacturer which resulted in higher residual costs of installation. Chief Rich described the accessories of police vehicles included such items as the purchase and installation of on-car graphics, window tinting, and floor mats; all of which will be completed by local vendors and the City of Thomasville Fleet Shop. Chief Rich reported that during the June 19, 2019 Council Workshop this item was presented as a total cost of purchase and installation of outfitting as \$80,053.00; and of accessories as \$8,480.00.

Council had requested Rich to provide additional per unit bids for the installation of the WatchGuard in-car video systems. Rich reported receiving bids the following vendors certified to install the WatchGuard in-car video systems.

<u>BIDS RECEIVED FOR OUTFITTING INSTALLATION</u>	
West Chatham, Americus Georgia	\$200.00 per unit
Dana Safety, Marietta, Georgia	\$257.50 per unit
Interceptor, Forsyth, Georgia	\$348.83 per unit

Chief Rich noted the higher costs shown in the per unit installation bids by Dana Safety and Interceptor would increase the overall total cost of purchase and installation of outfitting and accessories as

presented. It was noted that staff's recommendation was to utilize certified WatchGuard installer West Chatham of Americus, Georgia as having provided the lowest bid for outfitting installation. Chief Rich requested the approval of Council for the 2019 capital budget purchase and installation of equipment for seven (7) Ford Police Interceptor Utilities, by West Chatham Warning Devices and other local vendors in the amounts as follows:

Outfitting: \$80,053.00, West Chatham Warning Device

Accessories: \$8,480.00, utilizing local vendors and City of Thomasville Fleet Shop

Councilmember Hufstetler noted Councilmembers want to be provided with all information so as to make informed decisions for expenditures. He further noted he had also personally inquired of West Chatham's service and they were highly recommended by others in this field.

Councilmember Hufstetler motioned to approve the purchase and installation of outfitting equipment for seven (7) Ford Police Interceptor Utilities, by West Chatham Warning Devices of Americus, Georgia in the amount of \$80,053.00, and accessories for the same by local vendors in the amount of \$8,480.00 as presented. Councilmember Mobley seconded. Chief Rich reported equipment would be ordered in the coming days delivery date is projected for August 2019. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, Mobley and Presha.

**Motion to approve purchase and installation of five new in-car video with body camera systems.** Chief of Police, Troy Rich, presented. Rich reported the original request for this item was for five (5) in-car video systems, this was presented so as to remain within the 2019 budget for the Police Department. However, during the June 19, 2019 Council Workshop discussion of this item, it was noted that Councilmember Hufstetler supported an increase in the budget to enable six (6) new in-car video systems to be purchased. City Manager Carson noted for consideration at this meeting was only the purchase and installation of the systems, as the increase in budget would be considered in the customary year-end budget amendment. Rich briefly reviewed the department's plan of upgrading the outdated in-car video systems and reported a Request for Proposal was sent out in early 2017 for in-car video systems. WatchGuard was awarded a contract for twenty-five (25) systems to be purchased and installed in 2017. In 2018, eighteen (18) additional systems were purchased and installed. This current request will provide replacement for all remaining older in-car systems that are no longer supported or serviced by the manufacturer.

Councilmember Flowers motioned to approve the purchase and installation of six (6) new WatchGuard 4RE High Definition Video Systems and Vista Body Cameras from WatchGuard Video in the total amount of \$37,620.00, with third party financing if necessary. Councilmember Presha seconded. Councilmember Hufstetler commended City Manager Carson and Chief Rich for their efforts in maintaining budgets and keeping citizens safe with upgraded technology. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Scott and Councilmembers Flowers, Hufstetler, Mobley and Presha.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Scott reported there were no items to be considered under the Consent Agenda at this meeting.

**REPORTS**

Councilmember Flowers acknowledged the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) was currently conducting a public hearing regarding Thomasville Police Department's annual CALEA Accreditation. He commended Chief of Police, Troy Rich and the Thomasville Police Department on their efforts in maintaining this accreditation.

Councilmember Presha reported having attended the inaugural Juneteenth celebration. She noted it was a well-attended, marvelously organized event and expressed her support of it continuing as an annual event for the citizens of Thomasville. She recognized Ms. Ucher Dent and all of the work that was required to produce this event.

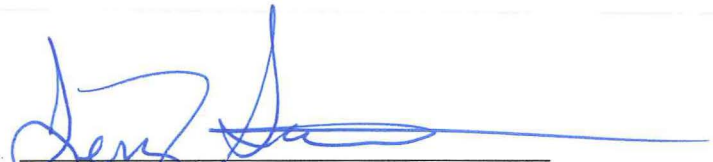
Councilmember Mobley thanked citizens for being present and wished everyone a safe 4th of July holiday.

Councilmember Hufstetler commend City crews for efficiently restoring power during a recent outage. He also thanked Mrs. Lucinda Brown for her comments regarding citizen input during meetings and noted Council will continue to work towards a solution.

Mayor Pro Tem Scott presented a commemorative plaque to Honorary Councilmember Ms. LaQuan Howard Bryant. Ms. Bryant thanked Councilmembers for allowing her the opportunity to serve as the Honorary Council member for the month of June. She also acknowledged Lt. Fisher of the Thomasville Police Department for returning her call and meeting with her to discuss concerns.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further discussion, the Thomasville City Council meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM.



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Mayor Pro Tempore, Terry Scott



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ATTEST: City Clerk