

City of Thomasville Council Meeting, April 10, 2023

The Council of the City of Thomasville met in regular session on the above date. Mayor Jay Flowers presided and the following Councilmembers were present: Mayor Pro Tem Todd Mobley and Councilmembers Wanda Warren, Terry Scott and Scott Chastain. Also present were the City Manager, J. Alan Carson; Assistant City Manager, Chris White; City Attorney Tim Sanders; other city staff; citizens and members of the media. The meeting was held in Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 144 East Jackson Street, Thomasville, Georgia. Simultaneous access to the meeting was provided to those members of the press and citizens not present via the City of Thomasville's online live stream feed located at www.thomasville.org.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Flowers called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

INVOCATION

Councilmember Scott gave the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Mobley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Scott motioned to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of March 27, 2023, as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Mobley seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott, and Chastain.

PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation for National Lineman Appreciation Day: Councilmember Scott presented a proclamation acknowledging National Lineman Appreciation Day as April 18, 2023 in the City of Thomasville to Electric Utility Department representatives, Director of Electric Engineering and Electric Operations, Jeremy Carter; and Lead Lineman, Rudy Thompson. The proclamation declared the City's appreciation of Linemen and their dedication for the Thomasville community.
2. Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month: Mayor Flowers presented a proclamation acknowledging April as Child Abuse Prevention Month to representatives from three separate Thomasville organizations: Vashti Center, Treehouse Children's Advocacy Center of Thomas County, and Never Lost (formerly known as CASA). The proclamation acknowledged children as the most valuable resource for shaping the future of the City of Thomasville and encouraged the community to work together to increase the awareness about child abuse and continue to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Flowers acknowledged the following Citizens to be Heard, as listed on the sign-in sheet:

1. Doug McCann, resident of Montrose Drive, Thomasville, Georgia, voiced concerns regarding the correction to the paving issue on Montrose Drive. He reported additional corrective action need to be made, as the transition from the street to the driveway is still too high to navigate across without scraping the bottom of the vehicle.
2. Barbara McCann, resident of Montrose Drive, Thomasville, Georgia, noted she was the wife of Mr. McCann who spoke previously. She also voiced concerns regarding the transition issue due to paving of the street in front of their residence.
3. Allison Coenhauer, resident of 206 Tall Pines Drive, Thomasville, voiced concerns of the proposed Solid Waste Downtown Fee Schedule for consideration by Council at this meeting. She noted she is the co-owner of AJ Moonspin Pizza, located in downtown and requested the City look at restaurants as a resource to the

City rather than continuing to tax them with fees for solid waste. She further noted that restaurants are giving back to the community as much as they can and are not in favor of the proposed fees.

4. Rhonda Foster, owner of downtown restaurant Liam's, Thomasville, Georgia, reviewed a handout given Councilmembers. The handout, titled "Restaurant Taxes/ Partial + Utilities", consisted of dollar amounts related to required fees and taxes that are required to pay to operate a restaurant (the total indicated \$297,002.00 is paid for operation). She voiced further concerns regarding the proposed solid waste plan for downtown Thomasville and cited issues relating to use of VertiPacks relating to employee challenges, schedule emptying, and access to the VertiPacks and other equipment.
5. Natasha Fast, General Manager of Grassroots Coffee Co., Thomasville, Georgia, also voiced concerns relating to the proposed downtown solid waste plan. She noted there were numerous logistical challenges for employees with the proposed VertiPacks containers. She cited examples of employees' stature and challenges with lifting filled 45 Gallon containers into the receptacles, noting the weight of a filled container most often exceeds 90 pounds and bags may contain broken glass. Fast indicated that the current 96 gallon bins currently available to Grassroots is better than what is being proposed. She also indicated that often times the VertiPacks do not operate correctly; resulting in the bags of waste being left outside the container because the waste is not permitted to return to the business.
6. Keith Thomas, resident of Woods Gate Lane, Thomasville, Georgia, requested the City look into providing a place for the youth to go and hang out. He noted there is nowhere for them to go now, which results in unwanted loitering. He suggested Council look at opportunities for solutions at City parks such as Cassidy Road Pond Park.
7. Candee Henderson, resident of Thomas County, Georgia, addressed Council regarding her mission to see Thomasville's and Thomas County's participation in 100% renewable energy by the year 2035. She noted that Council could specify that developers use methods such as more efficient insulation, double-glazed windows, and other means to help with a 100% renewable energy initiative. Henderson also suggested the city require other municipalities to remove all recyclable material from solid waste prior to bringing to the Landfill.

ADOPT AGENDA

Councilmember Chastain motioned to adopt the agenda as presented. Councilmember Scott seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott and Chastain.

OLD BUSINESS

Second reading of an ordinance to amend Chapter 13 "Public Utilities Systems" of the Thomasville Code of Ordinances.

Managing Director of Customer Service, Mark Parrillo, reported there were no changes to this ordinance since its passage on first reading. He noted this ordinance will better align the Code and alleviate issues relating to the capabilities of the new Cogsdale system as it relates to the current ordinances regarding meter reading and billing, dates payments due and delinquent, penalty for non-payment, reconnection, and meter test charges.

Councilmember Scott motioned to order the ordinance to amend Chapter 13 of the Thomasville Code of Ordinances as read for the second time, passed and adopted. Mayor Pro Tem Mobley seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott and Chastain.

The ordinance read for the second time, passed and adopted follows.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 13, PUBLIC UTILITIES SYSTEMS, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA BY AMENDING PARAGRAPHS (a) AND (b) OF SECTION 13-14, CAPTIONED "METER READING AND BILLING; DATES PAYMENTS DUE AND DELINQUENT; PENALTY FOR NONPAYMENT; RECONNECTIONS; METER TEST CHARGES." OF ARTICLE 1, CAPTIONED "IN GENERAL"; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

SECTION I

BE IT ORDAINED by the council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same, that the paragraphs (a) of Section 13-14, captioned "Meter reading and billing; dates payments due and delinquent; penalty for nonpayment; reconnections; meter test charges.", of Article I, Chapter 13 of Code of Thomasville, Georgia is hereby amended as follows:

“(a) Meters shall be read at intervals of approximately one month and bills mailed as soon thereafter as is practical. Accounts shall be billed according to the following schedule:

Cycle Zone	Billing Date	Due Date
1	6th of month	24th of month
2	12th of month	30th of month
3	18th of month	6th of month
4	24th of month	12th of month
5	29th of month	17th of month

<u>Cycle Zone</u>	<u>Billing Date</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>6th of month</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>12th of month</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>18th of month</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>24th of month</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>29th of month</u>

The charges, which shall be for all utility services up to the latest meter reading, shall be due and payable when rendered. The due date will be 18 days from the bill date and will be printed on the monthly statement.”

SECTION II

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same, that the paragraph (b) of Section 13-14, captioned "Meter reading and billing; dates payments due and delinquent; penalty for nonpayment; reconnections; meter test charges.", of Article I, Chapter 13 of Code of Thomasville, Georgia is hereby amended as follows:

“(b) If the bill shall remain unpaid, it shall be declared delinquent according to the following schedule policy:

Cycle Zone	Delinquent Date	Cut off Date
1	27th of month	28th of month
2	3rd of month	4th of month
3	9th of month	10th of month
4	15th of month	16th of month
5	20th of month	21st of month

If the delinquent or cutoff date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday observed by the city, the delinquent or cutoff date will be the next business day. On the cutoff date, a disconnect order shall be generated and a delinquent fee charged. The delinquent fee shall be paid even if services are not cut out. The bill shall be considered delinquent if payment has not been rendered before midnight on the 21st day from the bill date. If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday observed by the city, it will be considered due on the next business day. The first business day following the 21st day will be considered the delinquent and disconnect date. On the disconnect date, a penalty fee will be charged and a disconnect order shall be generated. After service has been

discontinued for nonpayment of a bill, such service shall not be reconnected until satisfactory arrangements have been made to pay all arrears including any outstanding charges and unpaid disconnect fees. For any reconnection, a reconnection fee will be assessed. If service is cut in at a time other than normal working hours, an additional after-hours delinquent cut in fee will be assessed and collected. Any delinquent cutout which is not reconnected within ~~ten~~10 days from the date of cut-off shall be considered as a final disconnect closed, and ~~All~~ past due payments charges and delinquent fees shall be due and payable at that time. A schedule of the current fees and charges, as approved by the city council, shall be maintained and on file at the office of the city clerk and the office of the superintendent of the utilities department.”

SECTION III

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the provisions of this ordinance shall be made a part of the official ordinances of the City of Thomasville.

SECTION IV

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall be effective on the date of its final reading and passage.

SECTION V

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby expressly repealed.

SECTION VI

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED and it is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council of the City of Thomasville that all sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrase of this Ordinance are and were, upon their enactment, believed by the Mayor and the Council to be fully valid, enforceable, and constitutional.

SECTION VII

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED and it is hereby declared by the Mayor and the Council of the City of Thomasville that (i) to the greatest extent allowed by law, each and every section paragraph sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is severable from every other section paragraph sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance and (ii) that to the greatest extent allowed by law, no section paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of his Ordinance is mutually dependent upon any other section paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of his Ordinance.

SECTION VIII

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED and it is hereby declared that in the event that any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall, for any reason whatsoever, be declared invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by the valid judgement or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, it is the express intent of the Mayor and the Council of the City of Thomasville that such invalidity, unconstitutionality or unenforceability shall, to the greatest extent allowed by law, not render invalid unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or section of the Ordinance and that to the greatest extent allowed by law, all remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of this Ordinance shall remain valid, constitutional, enforceable, and of full force and effect.

SECTION IX

This ordinance was introduced and read at a lawful meeting of the City council for the City of Thomasville, Georgia, held on March 27, 2023, and read the second time, passed and adopted in like meeting held on April 10, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

First reading of an ordinance to deannex the property located at 229 Clark Road, Thomasville, Georgia.

City Planner, Kenny Thompson, reported the applicant, *INeedNow, Inc.*, is requesting to deannex 229 Clark Road from the City of Thomasville. The property was annexed into the City in April 1985 along with 3 other properties, and was occupied by the existing church building when annexed. As with all annexations, it was initially zoned A-Agricultural, and the zoning classification for the property was never changed. The property is surrounded on 3 sides by the County and is only adjacent to the city along the rear property line, which abuts the Northwoods subdivision. The applicant is considering an addition to the campus, which is not allowed under the existing Agricultural zoning classification. The proposed additions would require multiple variances that would most likely not be given due to the lack of hardship. For this property, there is no risk or cost to the City for granting the deannexation request. The property is currently tax-exempt, so there would be no revenue loss to the City School System. The County has been notified of the deannexation request and has approved absorbing the property back into the county.

Mayor Pro Tem Mobley motioned to order the ordinance to deannex the property located at 229 Clark Road, Thomasville, Georgia, as read for the first time, passed and carried over, as presented. Councilmember Warren seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott and Chastain.

The ordinance title read for the first time, passed and carried over, follows.

AN ORDINANCE TO DEANNEX CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY FROM THE CITY OF THOMASVILLE PURSUANT TO AND IN CONFORMITY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF O.C.G.A. §36-36-22, UPON THE REQUEST OF INEEDNOW, INC., THE OWNER OF THE REAL PROPERTY PROPOSED TO BE DEANNEXED FROM THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF THOMASVILLE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND TO ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Resolution to approve new, national opioid settlement participation forms (“Participation Forms”) in connection with the State of Georgia joining in national settlements with CVS, Walgreens, Teva, Allergan and Walmart (“National Settlement”), and authorize the Mayor to execute related Participant Forms and related documents.

City Attorney, Tim Sanders, reported that on March 29, 2022, the City Council approved entering into settlements of class action litigation brought by the Attorney General of the State of Georgia with certain manufacturers and distributors of opioids. Through the same class action litigation, the City has the opportunity to join in additional settlements of opioid litigation with CVS, Walgreens, Teva, Allergan, and Walmart. The City received notice of the additional settlement opportunities on April 4, 2023, and action is required before April 18, 2023. A resolution of the Council, approving the participation forms, the City joining in the settlements and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same has been prepared. The basic terms of the settlements are as follows:

- Teva to pay up to \$3.34 billion over 13 years and to provide either \$1.2 billion of its generic version of the drug Narcan over 10 years or \$240 million of cash in lieu of product, as each state may elect;
- Allergan to pay up to \$2.02 billion over 7 years;
- CVS to pay up to \$4.90 billion over 10 years;
- Walgreens to pay up to \$5.52 billion over 15 years; and
- Walmart to pay up to \$2.74 billion in 2023, and all payments to be made within 6 years.

By joining in the settlements, the City would be releasing any claims against CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, Teva and Allergan in connection with the opioid litigation. Generally, the higher the level of participation by cities and counties, the more funds will be required to be paid out for abatement. In all 5 settlements, the remaining amounts after costs, fees and restitution will ultimately be paid annually 70% into an Abatement Fund; 15% into State funds; and 15% in Subdivision funds. Ultimately, the City would receive a share of the Subdivision Fund. In addition to payments, Teva and Allergan have agreed to strict limitations on their marketing, promotion, sale, and distribution of opioids, including

a ban on: (1) promotion and lobbying; (2) rewarding or disciplining employees based on volume of opioid sales; and (3) funding or grants to third parties; and Walmart, CVS, and Walgreens are required to implement changes in how they handle opioids, including requirements addressing their compliance structures, pharmacist judgment, diversion prevention, suspicious order monitoring, and reporting on red-flag processes, as well as blocked and potentially problematic prescribers.

Councilmember Chastain motioned to approve the resolution as presented. Councilmember Warren seconded. It was noted that as of this date, the City of Thomasville has received no claims. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott and Chastain.

The approved resolution follows.

**CITY OF THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA
RESOLUTION
NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT PARTICIPATION FORMS – CVS, WALGREENS,
TEVA, ALLERGAN, & WALMART**

WHEREAS, the City of Thomasville received new, national opioid settlement participation forms (“Participation Forms”) in connection with the State of Georgia joining in national settlements with CVS, Walgreens, Teva, Allergan and Walmart (“National Settlement”);

WHEREAS, in order for the City of Thomasville to participate in the National Settlement, it must approve, execute and submit the Participation Forms on or before April 18, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved by the City Council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia as follows:

Section 1. The recitals set forth above are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth fully in this Section 1.

Section 2. Each of the Participation Forms are attached hereto and made a Part hereof as Exhibit A.

Section 3. From and after the approval of this Resolution, the Mayor, proper officers, agents, administrators, attorneys and employees of the City of Thomasville are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to do all such acts and things and to complete, execute, and file each of the Participation Forms, and comply with the provisions of said documents as executed and are further authorized to take any and all further actions and execute and deliver any and all other documents and certificates as may be necessary or desirable in connection with such Participation Forms.

Section 4. All acts and doings of the Mayor, proper officers, agents, employees of the City of Thomasville through the Participation Forms, that are in conformity with the purposes and intents of this Resolution and in the furtherance of the Participation Forms, and the execution, delivery, and performance of the Participation Forms, and related documents shall be, and the same hereby are, in all respects approved and confirmed.

Section 5. If any one or more of the agreements or provisions herein contained shall be held contrary to any express provision of law or contrary to the policy of express law, though not expressly prohibited, or against public policy, or shall for any reason whatsoever be held invalid, then such covenants, agreements or provisions shall be null and void and shall be deemed separable from the remaining agreements and provisions and shall in no way affect the validity of any of the other agreements and provisions hereof or of the agreements ratified hereunder.

Section 6. All resolutions or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions herein contained are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby superseded and repealed.

Section 7. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 10th day of April, 2023.

Resolution of Necessity for the Traditional Neighborhoods Urban Redevelopment Area.

City Planner, Kenny Thompson, reported that in accordance with Georgia’s *Urban Redevelopment Law* (O.C.G.A. §36-61-1 et. seq.), the Planning Department is proposing a Traditional Neighborhoods Urban Redevelopment Plan that focuses on neighborhood revitalization within the boundaries of an Urban Redevelopment Area (URA) that aligns with the traditional neighborhoods future character areas and corresponding investment sector strategies as defined in the Comprehensive Plan. The *Urban Redevelopment Law* gives local governments specific powers to rehabilitate, conserve, or redevelop blighted, threatened, or otherwise under-performing areas of a municipality. As a prerequisite to exercising these powers, a local government must adopt a resolution of necessity finding that a designated Urban Redevelopment Area (URA) demonstrates “pockets of blight” as defined by the *Urban Redevelopment Law* and that redevelopment of the area is necessary for the wellbeing of the community at large. In addition to determining a URA to be appropriate for redevelopment projects, the statute requires a local government to adopt a corresponding Urban Redevelopment Plan (Plan) for the area of need. The Plan will be written broadly to allow the City flexibility to work with public and private partnerships when it makes the most sense. All actions will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Urban Redevelopment Law*. Pending Council’s adoption of the resolution of necessity, a public meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 20th to solicit public input prior to finalizing the Plan for adoption. The final version of the Plan will be presented to the City Council for approval in May 2023. The proposed URA boundary was confirmed to have “pockets of blight” by examining the confluence of economic, social, and physical indicators—including evidence of declining property conditions due to dilapidation, deterioration, age, and/or vacancy as shown in Map 3 in the Council’s packet and concentration of households living below poverty as shown in Map 4 of the Council’s packet. City Planner Thompson noted that not all properties within the proposed Traditional Neighborhoods URA are considered blighted, distressed, or deteriorated by any measure. In fact, there are many properties in the proposed URA that are productive and in good condition. Protecting these properties is one of the primary goals of the forthcoming Traditional Neighborhoods Urban Redevelopment Plan, as it could be expected that they will benefit (directly or indirectly) by the improvement of adjacent properties. It was noted that the adoption of this resolution and the URA Plan provides more opportunities for the City of Thomasville, there are not new restrictions or burdens on property owners.

Mayor Pro Tem Mobley motioned to adopt the Resolution of Necessity as presented. Councilmember Warren seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott and Chastain.

The approved resolution follows.

RESOLUTION

A Resolution of Necessity for the City of Thomasville, Georgia
to Exercise Urban Redevelopment Powers

WHEREAS the Mayor and Council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia find that within the area designated on the map presented in Exhibit A to be known as the Traditional Neighborhoods Urban Redevelopment Area, there exists one or more areas containing a substantial number of deteriorated or deteriorating structures; defective or inadequate street layout; faulty lot layout in relation to size, adequacy, accessibility, or usefulness; deterioration of site or other improvements; or the existence of conditions which endanger life or property by fire and other causes; and

WHEREAS the Mayor and council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia find that the combination of such factors substantially impairs or arrests the sound growth of the municipality, retards the provisions of housing accommodations, and constitutes an economic or social liability and is a menace to the public health, safety, morals, or welfare in its present condition and use; and

WHEREAS the Mayor and council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia find that one or more pockets of blight exist within the designated Urban Redevelopment Area and that the rehabilitation, conservation, or redevelopment, or a combination thereof, of such area or areas is

necessary in the interest of the public health, safety, morals or welfare of the residents of the city of Thomasville, Georgia; and furthermore,

WHEREAS the Mayor and Council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia find it necessary to exercise powers of urban redevelopment pursuant to the provisions of the Official Code of Georgia, Title 36, Chapter 61;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia cause to be prepared an Urban Redevelopment Plan for the physical development of those portions of the City of Thomasville, Georgia described herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Resolution shall become effective on the 10th day of April, 2023.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, this, the 10th day of April 2023.

Resolution to accept award of Department of Community Affairs Historic Preservation Grant funding.

City Planner, Kenny Thompson, reported the City of Thomasville has been awarded a Historic Preservation Fund grant through the Department of Community Affairs Historic Preservation Fund. This grant will be used to update the contextual survey of the community's structures and residences over 50 years old. The focus area for this grant will be the Stevens Street National Historic Register District.

- The survey is consistent with the Blueprint 2028 Comprehensive Plan (Policy 7.14.3)
- All structures and homes over 40 years old will be surveyed to extend the length of time that the survey is viable.
- The proposal includes at least 326 structures built before 1982.
- Updated historic surveys are required to keep our Certified Local Government status with DCA; the survey will elevate the City to Tier 2 status which will allow the City to apply for additional grants.
- Award amount of \$15,000 with a 40% match required.

Councilmember Chastain motioned to adopt the resolution to accept award of DCA historic Preservation Grant as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Mobley seconded. City Planner Thompson reported the grant will be used to update the contextual survey of the City's structures and residences over 50 years old and the grant's focus area will be the Stevens Street National Historic Registration District. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott and Chastain.

The adopted resolution follows.

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, to accept the Department of Community Affairs FY2022 Historic Preservation Fund Grant Award.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, find that the program is necessary and desirable in order to identify and protect the historic community assets of the Stevens Street National Historic Register District in the City of Thomasville, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, desire to update the contextual survey of the City's structures and residences over 40 years old; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, desire to accept the Historic Preservation Fund grant award from the Department of Community Services; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, hereby authorizes the acceptance of the Department of Community Affairs

FY2022 Historic Preservation Fund Grant award in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000); and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Thomasville, GA further authorizes the Mayor of the City of Thomasville, or his/her successor, as the signatory on all necessary and related documents as shall be necessary in relation to the Department of Community Affairs FY2022 Historic Preservation Fund a grant agreement.

READ, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Thomasville, Georgia on a motion made by Councilmember Chastain, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mobley, and adopted on this 10th day of April, 2023.

Resolution to approve citizen appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

City Planner, Kenny Thompson, reported Kevin Glass recently resigned his position on the Planning and Zoning Commission, creating a vacancy to be filled by Council appointment. City Planner Thompson noted Courtney Williams had submitted application of interest for appointment to this board. Planner THompason reviewed Courtney Williams' qualifications relative to the appointment and reported Williams is aware of the new attendance requirements and is willing to serve if appointed.

Councilmember Chastain motioned to approve resolution as presented. Councilmember Warren seconded. It was noted that citizen applications are kept on file in the City Manager's office for two years. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott and Chastain.

The adopted resolution follows.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2020, Kevin Glass was appointed by resolution of the Council of the City of Thomasville to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission for a four year term expiring on December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 2023, Kevin Glass submitted notice to the City Clerk his desire to resign his appointed position as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 2, Section 2-103(c), of the Thomasville Code of Ordinances ("Code") provides that the City Council shall fill vacant seats on any of the boards, commissions and like bodies established and enumerated in Section 2-101(a) of the Code as soon as practicable in the same manner as the initial appointment for the unexpired term, unless otherwise specifically provided for in the Thomasville Code of Ordinances.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Thomasville, and it is hereby resolved by the authority of the same, that Courtney Williams is appointed to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term expiring December 31, 2024, so as to fill the unexpired term of Kevin Glass.

So Done, this the 10th day of April, 2023.

Resolution to decline award of Georgia Department of Natural Resources FY 2021-2022 Recreational Trails Program Grant funding.

Manager-Parks & Recreation, Golf, Mike Owens, reported the Federal Highway Administration Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a Federal-aid assistance program that the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GA DNR) administers as a reimbursement grant program. These funds are intended to fund recreational trail-related projects and are on a two-year application cycle. Projects are required to be completed within a two-year period. Manager Owens further reported the City of Thomasville originally applied for this RTP grant in October of 2021 and the 2nd

level application was approved by Council in March of 2022. However, since the original application there have been changes in the priorities within the community and Council is considering a Multimodal Transportation Master Plan that will reevaluate the proposed trail in the context of the overall transportation needs of our community. A resolution is required to decline the RTP grant award stating the City is committed to construction of a portion of Phase 4 of the Community Trail inner loop.

Councilmember Scott motioned to adopt the resolution to decline the GDNR FY 2021-2022 RTP grant funding as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Mobley seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott and Chastain.

The adopted resolution follows.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a federal program fund recreational trail-related projects that is distributed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR); and,

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, desires to reevaluate the Thomasville Community Trail inner loop for the greater good of the community; and,

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, desires to decline the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Grant award for improvements to Phase 4 of the Thomasville Community Trail: and,

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, desires to reallocate funding of SPLOST funds in the FY2023 Budget that was provided for the provision of the matching funds as a requirement of the RTP Grant award; and,

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, desires to authorize the Mayor or his/her successor to sign the letter of withdrawal, as shall be necessary in relation to the RTP Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, hereby agrees to decline the award for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Grant in the amount of one hundred ten thousand five hundred dollars (\$110,500) to obtain assistance for Thomasville Community Trail Phase 4; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, further authorizes the reallocation of SPLOST funds in the FY2023 Budget in the amount of two-hundred fifty-six thousand five hundred sixty seven dollars (\$256,567) as was required for matching funds as a required in the RTP Grant award; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, further authorizes the Mayor of the City of Thomasville, or his/her successor, as the signatory on all necessary and related documents as shall be necessary in relation to the RTP grant.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, on this, the 10TH day of April 2023.

Motion to accept award of Local Government Risk Management Service (LGRMS) grant funding.

Risk Manager, Amanda Sheffield, reported the Local Government Risk Management Services (LGRMS) is a risk control agency that provides guidance and recommendations on loss control programs. LGMRS annually offers a reimbursable safety grant up to \$10,000 to members of the Georgia Interlocal Risk Management Agency (GIRMA). The grant is utilized to purchase items directed at improving the overall safety of an organization. Each organization

must meet specific requirements of the LGRMS in order to receive the safety grant. Risk Manager Sheffield reported the City of Thomasville has received the reimbursement funds of expenditures related to the safety grant.

Councilmember Warren motioned to accept the award of the LGMRS grant funding, as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Mobley seconded. It was noted safety products for parks and recreation, police and fire were purchased. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott and Chastain.

Motion to accept donation of a Fire and Life Safety Educational Trailer and supporting equipment from Sandy Springs Fire Department.

Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal, Jon Conner, reported Thomasville Fire Rescue (TFR) has tried for many years to obtain a Fire and Life Safety trailer for the purpose of providing education to the community on how to safely put out fires and escape a fire within their home. However, due to the cost of over \$100,000 for the trailer and supporting equipment, TFR has not been able to include the request in its annual budget. Fire Marshal Conner further reported that Sandy Springs Fire Department reached out to TFR personnel and inquired if TFR would like to take possession of a 2008 Scotty trailer that is 35 feet long. This trailer was purchased by Sandy Springs in February of 2008 and has served their community well, but they have purchased a new updated trailer and no longer need the 2008 model. Sandy Springs Fire Department agreed to donate the trailer to TFR at no cost. A representative from TFR went to Sandy Springs to look at the trailer and found no structural issues, also all the equipment that is also being donated was also found working with no issues. The trailer also comes with a cover that will be used to protect it from the environment. There are no cost or commitment requests by Sandy Springs. To obtain the Trailer, TFR will only incur costs of transportation to Sandy Springs and bring it back to Thomasville. In 2006, TFR placed \$5,000 into a designated account to be used towards the purchase of a trailer of this type. These funds can be used to have the graphics changed from Sandy Springs to the City of Thomasville and Thomasville Fire Rescue logos.

Councilmember Chastain motioned to accept Sandy Springs' donation of the Fire and Life Safety trailer and supporting equipment as presented. Councilmember Warren seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott and Chastain.

Motion to approve Alcohol One-Day Event Permit for Consumption of Beer and Wine for "Legend Music Festival" event held at The Ritz Amphitheater.

Customer Service Manager, Melissa Creel, reported Joy Knop, "Levi Knop Memorial Scholarship" has submitted an application for one-day alcohol event permit for beer and wine consumption for the "Legend Music Festival" event to be held at The Ritz Amphitheater. The applicant has been through the proper procedures and has completed application for approval. Thomasville Police Department found no issues or concerns with the approval of this permit and has provided confirmation of approval.

Mayor Pro Tem Mobley motioned to approve permit as presented. Councilmember Chastain seconded. It was noted the "Legend Music Festival" event will be held on May 6, 2023 from 4:00-10:00 p.m. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott and Chastain.

Motion to approve Solid Waste Downtown Fee Schedule.

Assistant Solid Waste Superintendent, LaTravis Jones, reported recent audits of Solid Waste services in the downtown area have found inefficiencies in performance and cost-effectiveness. The condensed and tight downtown locations make it difficult to identify who is correctly utilizing solid waste collection services in the area. Currently, there are various different types of solid waste containers staged in numerous locations in the Downtown District. Staff has identified eight centralized locations to stage downtown collection points for solid waste. The eight collection points will offer either a VertiPack (VP) or an 8-yard dumpster for businesses within the vicinity. The VPs will only be utilized in areas that generate a high volume of rubbish. The 8-yard dumpsters and VPs will offer significantly more capacity than the traditional 90-gallon containers. The proposed fees and rate tiers were based upon the type of business and the square footage of each establishment located within the Downtown District. The implementation of the proposed fees will only be applicable to the Downtown District and will dissolve reduce the over 40 different types of billing to approximately ten types; and alleviate many of the inefficiencies found in the Solid Waste audits. The implementation of this program will not only improve billing efficiency, but will also enhance beautification and

create a much safer environment for staff, citizens and visitors within the Downtown District. Staff is requesting council to consider approval of the proposed fee schedule within the Downtown District for Solid Waste collection services. It was noted that If approved, the rates would not go into effect until 30-60 days after the adoption of subsequent text amendments within the Thomasville Code of Ordinances, Chapter 15 Solid Waste Management. Assistant Solid Waste Superintendent Jones reviewed the locations of downtown collection points on a map which identified the type of collection equipment/container that would be placed at each location and the proposed fee schedule. Discussion ensued regarding the types and operation of collection containers (VertiPacks, Dumpsters); inefficiencies in solid waste collection history and its cost of service for the City; and, the extensive process of researching issues, challenges and the process finding a solution to the solid waste collection in downtown. It was noted that the Solid Waste Department began the research process very early in 2022; included meetings with the merchants' group and Main Street staff; as well as an extensive "boots-on-the-ground" audit by Solid Waste staff that encompassed all of the downtown areas. The staff audits revealed numerous inefficiencies; such as continuous collection of solid waste for non-paying customers, duplication of services at no charge and inefficient travel by collection trucks and staff. It was further noted that by providing a more efficient manner of collection of solid waste in the Downtown District would also provide a more favorable outcome for downtown businesses and restaurant customers. Several downtown business owners present voiced concerns regarding the non-operation of existing VertiPacks and the potential of employee injuries while disposing heavy garbage bags into VertiPacks. Director of Solid Waste, Jimmy Smith, Jr., noted these concerns are being addressed; as well as the possibility of different styles of equipment that would be more user friendly and safer to access. Director Smith also noted the placements of equipment, whether it was a VertiPack or other container, and use thereof, will consistently be reviewed by the Solid Waste Department to ensure what was placed at each location works for the customer as was planned. Director Smith also acknowledged anomalies, such as large crowds and holidays, that will occur; allowing staff to assess and address issues as they arise.

Councilmember Warren motioned to approve the Solid Waste Fee Schedule as presented. Councilmember Scott seconded. Councilmember Chastain thanked staff for providing extensive details and noted having numerous conversations with city staff as well as downtown merchants about this matter. He further noted this plan is a step in the right direction to simplify a lot of the problems with collection of solid waste in downtown Thomasville. Councilmember Chastain also encouraged downtown business and restaurant owners to be patient with the implementation of this plan. There was no further discussion. The motion remained unchanged and passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott and Chastain.

The approved Solid Waste Downtown District Fee Schedule follows.

**CITY OF THOMASVILLE SOLID WASTE
DOWNTOWN DISTRICT FEE SCHEDULE**

<u>Shared Container (RC)</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Office/Retail/ Professional < 2000 sq. ft.	\$ 34.00
Office/ Retail/Professional > 2000 sq. ft.	\$ 44.00
Retail 2000 -2999 sq. ft.	\$ 52.00
Retail > 3000	\$ 75.00
Restaurant < 1500 sq. ft.	\$ 62.00
Restaurant 1500 – 2499	\$ 75.00
Restaurant 2500 -3499	\$ 140.00
Restaurant > 3500 sq. ft.	\$ 210.00
Event Facility < 2000 sq. ft.	\$ 75.00
Event Facility > 2000 sq. ft.	\$ 125.00
Atypical commercial use	Independently Assessed

Bids and award for construction of Cell 5B at Landfill.

Assistant Solid Waste/Landfill Superintendent, Lee Thomas, reported staff is requesting approval for the construction of cell 5B at the Landfill. This will allow staff to continue the footprint of the MSW (municipal solid waste) Subtitle D lined portion of the facility. Assistant Superintendent Lee further reported this is an unbudgeted capital expense request, due to the accelerated fill of the current cell, cell 5A. At the current rate of fill, a cell of this size should last an estimated five years. Cell 5A was constructed between 2019 and 2020 and began to accept waste in July of 2020. Due to a land area reclaim project on the C&D (construction and demolition) portion of the facility, additional unaccounted waste was placed in cell 5A, and is shorting the life of the cell. The reclaim project allowed waste that was buried in the 1980s to be excavated and placed on the lined portion of the facility. The forecasted amount of waste removed from the C&D project was surpassed by an estimated 13,000 cubic yards. Assistant Superintendent also noted that staff requested Council consider the provision of \$2,000 a day incentive rate (not to exceed \$40,000) for the early completion. A summary of bids received follows.

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>
Peed Brothers	\$1,870,537.84
Atlantis Commercial Group	\$1,962,331.35
COMANCO	No Bid Submitted

Councilmember Scott motioned to award the bid for construction of Cell 5B at the Landfill to Peed Brothers, in the amount of \$1,870,537.84, with an incentive rate of \$2,000 per day for early completion up to \$40,000.00, for a total approval not to exceed \$1,910,537.84, as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Mobley seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0, with the following votes recorded: AYES: Flowers, Mobley, Warren, Scott and Chastain.

REPORTS

Councilmember Warren encouraged citizens to take action if they witnessed child abuse as children are the future of the community and our world.

Mayor Pro Tem Mobley reminded the community of the upcoming Rose Show & Festival events taking place at the end of April and encouraged citizens to participate.

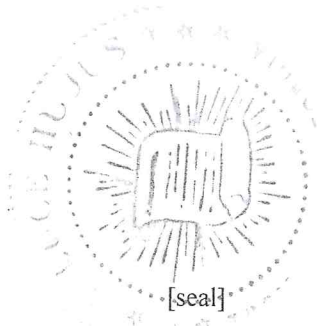
Councilmember Scott wished everyone a happy and safe Easter holiday in their celebrations and traditions surrounding the holiday.

Councilmember Chastain thanked citizens for their participation and being engaged in their community.

Mayor Flowers also commended citizens for their engaging participation, noting that it is important to Councilmembers to hear from the community. He encouraged citizens to attend the upcoming "Push In ceremony held by the Thomasville Fire Department in celebration of their newest Fire Truck.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business for consideration at this meeting, the Thomasville City Council Meeting was adjourned at 7:06 PM.



CITY OF THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA

Mayor John H. Flowers

ATTEST: City Clerk