



CITY OF THOMSON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 13, 2023

6:00PM

Thomson-McDuffie Government Center

Present:

Kenneth Usry, Mayor
Keryl Corley, Councilmember
Elaine Johnson, Councilmember
Karen Fioretti, McDuffie Progress
John Smalley, Councilmember
Scott Whittle, Councilmember
John Waller, City Administrator
Lucretia Ferguson, City Clerk

Also Present:

Chief Courtney Gale, TPD
Ronald Toney, Water Treatment Dept.
Officer Dexter Norman, TPD
9 Interested Citizens

Not Present:

Alton Belton, Councilmember
Jimmy Plunkett, City Attorney

At 6:00pm, Mayor Usry called the regularly scheduled City Council meeting to order and Councilmember Smalley gave the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION: Ronald Toney, one of only four people running two Water Treatment plants, was awarded a commendation for his work. The Council expressed their appreciation. Police Officer Dexter Norman was likewise recognized for outstanding performance, particularly for patrolling the neighborhoods around Old Washington Road.

CITIZEN INPUT: Markeita Moss is concerned with the amount of water on her property and lack of working ditches on Matthew Street. She was assured that with the recent excessive amount of rain saturating the ground, her street is one of many that are on the work list for improvements.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The motion to approve the agenda as written, made by Councilmember Corley and seconded by Councilmember Johnson, passed by a vote of 4-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council Meeting, March 9, 2023. A motion made by Councilmember Johnson and seconded by Councilmember Smalley, to approve the minutes, passed by a vote of 4-0.

BUSINESS:

- a. **One Day Alcohol Application – Activities Council of Thomson – April 21, 2023:**
The ACT will host a fund raiser for the Blind Willie McTell statue with a blues concert at the Historic Depot. They have requested a One Day Alcohol License for the event. A motion made by Councilmember Whittle and seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve the request for April 21, 2023 was passed by a vote of 3-0, with Councilmember Smalley abstaining.

- b. Resolution 02-2023: MGAG Voting Delegate and Alternate: The Gas Authority will hold their annual conference in May. An Elections Committee voting delegate and alternate for the City must be appointed. This resolution will have Gas Department Director Rodney Dunaway (delegate) and Mayor Kenneth Usry (alternate) fill those positions. A motion to approve the resolution made by Councilmember Corley and seconded by Councilmember Smalley passed with a 4-0 vote.
- c. Juneteenth Holiday: There have been discussions about making Juneteenth a City holiday every June 19th. If approved to begin this calendar year, City employees would still be able to take their floating holiday, giving full time employees eleven paid holidays. Beginning in 2024, Juneteenth would replace the floating holiday, reverting to ten paid holidays per year. A motion was made by Councilmember Johnson and seconded by Councilmember Smalley to approve the new holiday. A vote of 4-0 passed the motion.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Council Concerns: Councilmember Corley noted that several streets in Hickory Hill had dirty water this week and asked if any fire hydrants were being flushed. CA Waller said that the City was not able to find a cause for the change in water, but did flush some hydrants over a couple of days to see if that would clear it up which seemed to help the situation.

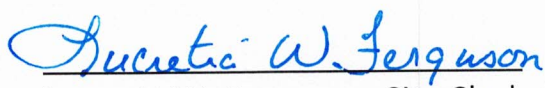
City Administrator Report: CA Waller informed the Council that he recently had lunch, on separate occasions, with seven different departments and the last ones will be in the next couple weeks. A lot of good feedback comes out of these informal meetings and he will continue to schedule them.

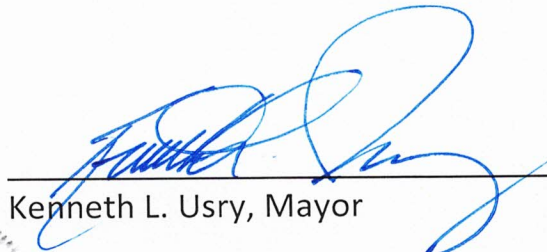
Mayor Report: The mayor went over the coming events for the City and Council. He noted how good the airport looked during Masters Week and that there were eight jets on the tarmac and eleven parked behind the hangars when he went by there Thursday. CA Waller said that Maintenance, Streets & Water/Sewer Distribution Departments put in a lot of time and energy at the airport recently to make things extra nice for our guests.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

Having no other business to attend to, a motion to adjourn was tendered by Councilmember Johnson and seconded by Councilmember Whittle. A vote of 4-0 ended the meeting at 6:18pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Lucretia W. Ferguson, City Clerk


Kenneth L. Usry, Mayor

