

Meeting Minutes of The Mayor and City Council

July 20, 2021 at 7:00PM

A meeting of the Thomaston Mayor and City Council was held on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at 7:00 pm on the main floor of the Thomaston-Upson Government Complex, in the City-County meeting room. This meeting was open to the public as well as live-streamed on The Thomason City YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5x13I0DTIY>).

Mayor J.D. Stallings called the meeting to order and was in attendance with Councilmembers Don Greathouse, Jeff Middlebrooks, Ryan Tucker, and Lakeitha Reeves. Councilmember Doug Head was not able to attend. Others in attendance included: Russell Thompson, City Manager; Deann Wheeler, City Attorney; ReShann Adams, Auditor; Bobby Cunningham, GFL Operations Manager; Kyle McGee, Public Works Director; Neil Ivey, Electric Department Director; Sidney Corley, Police Major; Lonnie Joyce, Finance Director; Public comment speaker: Dennis Boyt; and Oasis Nichols, Deputy City Clerk.

Mayor Stallings asked Councilmember Reeves to lead the meeting with a prayer, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

A. Call Meeting to Order / Invocation / Pledge of Allegiance

B. Approval of Minutes of June 29, 2021 (Regular), July 2, 2021 (Special Called), July 16, 2021 (Work Session), and May 19, 2021 (Joint) - A motion was made by Councilmember Middlebrooks, seconded by Councilmember Tucker to approve the meeting minutes as written. Those voting include: Councilmembers Greathouse, Middlebrooks, Tucker, and Reeves. All votes were yes and the vote was carried out unanimously.

C. Adoption of Agenda - A motion was made by Councilmember Greathouse, seconded by Councilmember Reeves to add the topic of principal community development properties and

rent. Those voting include: Councilmembers Greathouse, Middlebrooks, Tucker, and Reeves. All votes were yes and the vote was carried out unanimously.

D. City Attorney's Report – None

E. City Clerk's Report – A few date reminders were given including: August 12th at 10 am in the Senior Center there will be a joint project budget meeting and quantifying will be held August 16th through the 20th from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm and resume 2:00 pm through 4:30 pm.

F. City Engineer's Report – None

G. Public Comment – Mr. Dennis Boyt came and spoke as a homeowner to City Council. He spoke regarding his neighborhood located on the east side of Silvertown. He stated he wanted to address the yard waste, household debris, and the public works prison detail in the back alleys of Silvertown. He stated he has only received yard waste picked up and debris picked up out of the ditch one time this year and only due to him calling his City Councilmember. He mentioned that it may be a code enforcement issue and due to renters and or tenants.

H. GFL, Bobby Cunningham - Trash Discussion: Mr. Cunningham discussed how he has now three trucks on the roadways, How GFL is working towards getting caught up, and how they are rerouting the city trash routes which will be effective August 23rd.

I. City Manager's Report

1. Presentation of 2020 Audit – Reshann Adams: Mrs. Adams gave a brief overview of the city's general funds and a breakdown of the net working capital. No action was taken.
2. Approval of TSPLOST Additional Roads - Mr. McGee identified more roads that could be added to the list to be paved since the last work session meeting. A motion was made by

councilmember Greathouse, seconded by councilmember Middlebrooks to approve the additional roads. Those voting include: councilmembers Greathouse, Middlebrooks, Tucker, and Reeves. All votes were yes and the vote was carried out unanimously.

3. Compensation Adjustments for Electric Department – Mr. Thompson explained that an all-end rate increase of \$24,525.75 is recommended due to compression issues in the electric department and a competitive market. Staff's recommendation would be to approve this increase. A motion was made by councilmember Greathouse, seconded by councilmember Tucker to approve an increase in the pay rate. Those voting include: councilmembers Greathouse, Middlebrooks, Tucker, and Reeves. The vote was tied councilmembers Middlebrooks and Reeves voted no and Councilmember Greathouse and Tucker voted yes. The mayor was asked to break the tied vote. The mayor voted yes and the increase was passed.

4. Authorization of Modification to City Electric Codes - A motion was made by Councilmember Greathouse, seconded by Councilmember Tucker to approve the resolution. The resolution will allow a modification to the city code for contractors to revert to the 2017 electric code requirements until January 2022. Those voting include: Councilmembers Greathouse, Middlebrooks, Tucker, and Reeves. All votes were yes and the vote was carried out unanimously.

5. Authorization and Execution of Hazard Mitigation Plan – A motion was made by Councilmember Greathouse, seconded by Councilmember Tucker to approve the hazard mitigation plan that now includes epidemics. Those voting include: Councilmembers Greathouse, Middlebrooks, Tucker, and Reeves. All votes were yes and the vote was carried out unanimously.

6. Authorization and Adoption of Façade Grant – A motion was made by Councilmember Middlebrooks, seconded by Councilmember Tucker to approve \$10,000 funds to appropriate

to the façade grant program. Those voting include: Councilmembers Greathouse, Middlebrooks, Tucker, and Reeves. All votes were a yes and the vote was carried out unanimously.

7. Authorization and Execution of 2016 GEFA Modification - A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker, seconded by Councilmember Greathouse to approve the modification of the close-out date being June 1st, 2022 for GEFA Loan CW2016044. Those voting include: Councilmembers Greathouse, Middlebrooks, Tucker, and Reeves. All votes were yes and the vote was carried out unanimously.

8. Authorization of Alcohol Resolution for Distilled Spirits – A motion was made by Councilmember Tucker, seconded by Councilmember Reeves to authorize the mayor to sign documentation adding the sale of distilled spirits by package on the November ballot. Those voting include: Councilmembers Greathouse, Middlebrooks, Tucker, and Reeves. All votes were yes and the vote was carried out unanimously.

9. Authorization of Broadband Comprehensive Plan Amendment- Mr. Thompson struck this item from the agenda due to a modification and two public hearings needed to be held before action from City Council.

10. Rent Prices of Principal Community Development Properties - Mr. Thompson stated the current rental prices being charged are below the HUD market value. No action was taken and this topic was asked to be discussed more in-depth at the next work session meeting.

Mr. Thompson requested to add an executive session to the agenda. A motion was made by Councilmember Middlebrooks, seconded by Councilmember Tucker. Those voting include: Councilmembers Greathouse, Middlebrooks, Tucker, and Reeves. All votes were a yes and the vote was carried out unanimously.

J. City Councilmember, Don Greathouse – Homelessness in Thomaston: Councilmember Greathouse stood and made a statement on how the community can pull together and make a positive impact on the homelessness throughout the city.

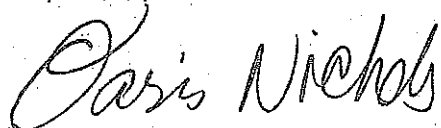
K. Other Business - Mr. Thompson mentioned the master sewer plan with Upson County. A meeting with city and county staff occurred earlier the morning of June 29th and progress seemed to be made. Mr. Thompson asked that a special called meeting be held on Friday, July 2, 2021 to ratify the agreement.

L. Executive Session / Discussion/Potential Action - A motion was made by Councilmember Middlebrooks, seconded by Councilmember Tucker. Those voting include: Councilmembers Greathouse, Middlebrooks, Tucker, and Reeves. All votes were a yes and the vote was carried out unanimously to enter into executive session at 8:15 pm regarding real estate. The executive session ended and the meeting was back open to the public at 8:26 pm.

M. Adjournment - A motion was made by Councilmember Reeves, seconded by Councilmember Middlebrooks to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 pm.

Mr. Thompson mentioned before adjourning that some charter amendments will be brought before City Council around the month of February. He also expects during the month of October the updated zoning, signs, and alcohol codes will be brought before City Council as well.

Respectfully Submitted,



Oasis Nichols

Deputy City Clerk