

**MINUTES FOR THE THOMASVILLE CITY COUNCIL BRIEFING MEETING ON MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 2022 AT 6:00 PM AT 7003 BALLPARK ROAD, THOMASVILLE, NC.**

Elected officials in attendance: Mayor Raleigh York, Jr., Mayor *Pro Tempore* Wendy Sellars and Council Members Doug Hunt, Lisa Shell, Jeannette Shepherd, and Hunter Thrift. Council Members Ron Bratton and Payton Williams were not present.

The following staff members attended the meeting: City Manager Michael Brandt; Assistant City Manager Eddie Bowling; Finance Director Thomas Avant; and Police Chief Mark Kattner;

1. Call to Order - Mayor York called the Briefing meeting of the Thomasville City Council to order.

2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

City Manager Michael Brandt asked that Council remove the following items from the agenda:

- 5.C. Public Hearing: Request for Rezoning Z-22-04. It was not appealed, so it did not need a public hearing.
- 7.H. Consideration of Rural Economic Development Legally Binding Commitment – Industrial Development Fund Utility Account (Nucor Corporation). This item was not necessary for council action, because they had already approved the Resolution for this matter.

He also asked that additional items become item 9, so that they could be heard before the closed session.

Council Member Thrift moved to approve the agenda as amended. Council Member Shepherd seconded. *Motion unanimously approved 5 – 0.*

3. Recognitions and Presentations on August 15, 2022 – Proclamation in Support of International Overdose Awareness Day 2022
4. Public Forum – Anyone can speak at the Council meeting on August 15, 2022 for two minutes on any topic they choose.
5. Public Hearings on August 15, 2022:
  - A. Economic Incentive Grant for Project JT will be presented by Craig Goodson – (on August 15, 2022)

City Manager Brandt said this is for a local business that is looking to expand. We are currently working on a couple of other grant opportunities for them, as well. Thomasville is in competition for this opportunity with other locations, including Canada. Following the hearing, Council will be asked to vote on a resolution to adopt.

- B. Request for Rezoning Z-22-03

Applicant/Owner: Larry Crouse  
 Location: E. Main St./White Street  
 Parcel Number: 16069000F0008  
 Existing Zoning: R-6 High Density Residential  
 Proposed Zoning: C-2 Highway Commercial  
 Conditions: N/A

The Planning Board conducted a hearing on 07/26/22 and voted 7-0 to approve this rezoning. There was no opposition to this matter at the Planning Board Hearing.

The following items were put on the Consent Agenda by the Council members for consideration on August 15, 2022:



## 6. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes – City Council Meeting on 07/18/22
- B. Consideration of General Fund Budget Amendment
- C. Consideration of Resolution Authorizing City Manager to Create and Execute Contracts for Outside Agency Funding For Amounts Previously Approved By Council
- D. Consideration of By-Laws of the Blue Ribbon Committee to Study the Uses for 7 West Guilford Street

The following items were put on the Regular Agenda by the Council members for consideration on August 15, 2022:

## 7. Regular Agenda

- A. Consideration of ARPA Grant Project Ordinance
- B. Consideration of ARPA Budget Amendment
- C. Consideration of Ordinance Repealing Certain Sections of the Code of Ordinances
- D. Consideration of Ordinance Amending Chapter 78 of the Code of Ordinances re: Parking During Parades and Special Events

## 8. Committee Reports and Appointments, Mayor's Report and Appointments, City Manager's Report, City Attorney's Report on August 15, 2022

## 9. Additional Items

- A. City Manager Brandt advised Council that the City water system was having clarity issues, due to naturally occurring algae blooms and/or manganese in the water.

He explained that the raw lake water has been fairly stagnant due to minimal rain water. This has allowed the sun to raise the temperature of the water and cause algae blooms. In addition, there was an increase in manganese in the water (which is a metal that is naturally in soil and decaying living matter).

Staff used chemicals to treat the water at the raw water pump station, which neutralized the water, but it caused the clarity to appear "dingy". They also flushed water through hydrants, but that stirred up the system, which also adversely affected the clarity. However, he assured everyone that the water has continually met state standards for consumable water.

There was a shortage of the chemicals, so we had to wait to receive those. Also, between Thursday and Saturday morning, the major pumps began having issues and they quit working. Saturday, staff opened up the Hasty and Border Street water lines from Davidson Water to be able to continue providing service to our residents. Initially, our water storage went down by half, but staff was able to fix this issue. Davidson Water provided water on Saturday and Sunday.

The SCATA Electrical Systems had indicated that there was water in the Clearwell at the Water Plant when there wasn't. He said, "We never had an issue with the SCATA System before, but it failed us. The reason why the pumps were shutting off was because there was no water, when we thought there was water in there."

Once these issues were resolved, they were able to address the dingy water issue. By Sunday morning, the numbers were better.

City Manager Brandt explained that the City produces about 2.5 Million gallons of water per day, and it takes a long time to produce that water and a long time to pump it out through 100 miles of pipes, so it took a while to resolve these three issues.

As of this date, all the pumps were working properly and water was being produced. The connections with Davidson Water were closed at the Hasty and Boarder Street sites. The high-pressure zone was still being served by Davidson



Water while the clarity issues were still being addressed in the Pilot area.

The Border Street pumps that pump into the high-pressure area continue to have issues, because they ran without water, even though they had been turned off. He said, "Until we get that looked at – hopefully that will be this week – we're still going to serve that pressure system with Davidson Water."

During this crisis, staff worked around the clock to get these issues resolved.

Additionally, the water plant is understaffed, and that is another issue that is being addressed.

- B. City Manager Brandt also advised Council that at 2:30 AM, a car was heading north on Randolph street going over 100 mph and took flight when it went over the railroad tracks. It flew 68 feet and crashed down, knocking over a fire hydrant and hitting the side of the City Hall building. There was a 6" dent in the 12"-thick brick building. The driver got out of the vehicle, uninjured, and told police that God told her to drive fast, because she was running from evil spirits. The building is currently structurally safe, but engineers are coming out to repair it. It is estimated to have sustained about \$15,000 - \$25,000 of damage.

Council Member Shepherd moved to go into closed session. Council Member Hunt seconded. *Motion unanimously approved 5 – 0.*

10. Closed Session (on August 8, 2022) – Real Estate

Mayor Pro Tem Sellars moved to go back into open. Council Member Shell seconded. *Motion unanimously approved 5 – 0.* No action was taken in closed session.

11. Adjournment Mayor Pro Tem Sellars moved to go back into open. Council Member Shepherd seconded. *Motion unanimously approved 5 – 0.*



*Raleigh York, Jr.*  
 RALEIGH YORK, JR.  
 MAYOR

*Wendy S. Martin*  
 WENDY S. MARTIN  
 CITY CLERK