

Minutes  
Thomas County Library  
Flipper Room  
201 North Madison Street  
12:00 Noon; January 24, 2018

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners met on the above date in a Workshop with the Thomasville City Council at 12:00 p.m. at the Thomas County Library with the following board and council members present:

Wiley Grady, Chairman, Dist. 6	Phillip V. Brown, Vice-Chair, Dist. 7- absent
Merrill E. Baker, Jr., Dist. 1	Moses Gross, Dist. 2 - absent
Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3	Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4
Hershel P. Ansley, Dist. 5	Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8
Greg Hobbs, Mayor, Dist. 1/P2	Terry Scott, Mayor Pro Tem, Dist. 1/P1
Jay Flowers, Dist. 2/P1	David Hufstetler, Dist. 2/P2
Todd Mobley, Dist. At Large	

Staff present was County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, Acting City Manager Kay McDonald, Chris White, Asst. Utilities Superintendent, County Attorney Bruce Warren, County Clerk Twink Monahan, and City Clerk Felicia Brennen. Media present was Chris Hurst, WPAX Radio; Ashlyn Becton, WALB; and Patti Dozier, Times Enterprise. Sheriff Carlton Powell was also present.

Chairman Grady gave the invocation. Chairman Grady also recognized David Hufstetler and Todd Mobley, newly elected City Councilmembers.

#### South Pinetree Boulevard Intergovernmental Agreement

This agreement is for the City of Thomasville to have ownership of the right of way on Pinetree Blvd. from Jackson Street (319 S.) east and northward to Jackson Street (319 N.) and the balance of Pinetree Boulevard being Thomas County right of way. This agreement will facilitate better short and long term planning, maintenance, repairs and coordination of all governmental services, and particularly for public safety and public works. Elected officials present agreed to approve at the next meeting of the respective governing authorities.

#### Radio System and Motorola Maintenance Agreement

County Manager Michael Stephenson explained how county-wide radio system operations were shifted to the City of Thomasville in 2006. Funds were set aside in the 2006 SPLOST for the radio system to be upgraded. At that time the City of Thomasville agreed to bear all future costs for the upgrade. In November 2014 with a Motorola mandated upgrade of the radio system pending, the City Manager requested the County share in the estimated \$2.8 million upgrade. In March 2015, the Board of Commissioners approved the payment of 50% of the upgrade, provided all elements of the upgrade were included. The Board of Commissioner made the cost sharing contingent on the adoption of a new City/County intergovernmental agreement making Thomas County a full partner in the oversight, operation and funding of the radio system.

Mr. Stephenson also pointed out that all components of the E-911 operation are either part of the phone system or part of the radio system and the distinction between the two is not arbitrary. This fact has been confirmed by Motorola representative Glenn Hendry. Mr. Stephenson provided a report showing how the County has paid 100% of all 911 phone system capital upgrades and pays 100% of all 911 phone system annual maintenance costs.

Chris White stated the maintenance of radio system has an annual cost of \$232,000. The agreement with Motorola is for 10 years with no increase in annual maintenance costs or software upgrade costs and no additional costs in radio system capital improvements. The new maintenance agreement is designated as "SUA II". This maintenance costs in addition to all annual operating costs of the radio system is divided by the number of radios per entity and will be at a rate of \$28.50 per month, per radio unit. This agreement does not cover the repair or replacement of portable or mobile radio units. Chris White said that radio costs ranges from \$1,500 to \$4,000, depending on the user's needs, and can be purchased collectively to increase the discounts available from Motorola.

At the end of the 10 year period the system will have the most current software available. Additionally, both entities agree that before there were any future capital purchases there would be an agreement between the city and the county. The Sheriff is going to schedule a User Board meeting and with Chris White and Michael Stephenson attending.

T-SPLOST

Mr. Stephenson included in the agenda packet information about the Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (T-SPLOST). Georgia laws have changed where a county can stand alone for a T-SPLOST and not be in a regional T-SPLOST. Because Thomas County has had so many improvements to state routes over the years our community does not benefit from a regional T-SPLOST. The one county T-SPLOST does require voter approval by referendum. Also, ½¢ to 1¢ can be levied with restrictions. To levy 1¢ there must be an IGA or the maximum levied is 75¢. This is the first time a fraction of a cent has been available to counties. This is for informational purchases only.

The board and council agreed to have regularly scheduled bi-monthly meetings. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the odd number months was set. The next meeting will be March 21 with the City hosting.

Chairman Grady closed the workshop.

  
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Wiley E. Grady, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
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M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk