

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MINUTES

May 25, 2021

The Committee of the Whole was called to order by Mayor Lester M. Miller.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mayor Lester M. Miller
Mayor Pro Tem Seth Clark
Commissioner Valerie Wynn
Commissioner Paul Bronson
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Commissioner Mallory Jones
Commissioner Raymond Wilder
Commissioner Bill Howell
Commissioner Virgil Watkins
Commissioner Al Tillman

OTHERS PRESENT:

Duke Groover, Interim County Attorney
Joel Callins, Assistant County Attorney
Frank Howard, Assistant County Attorney
Keith Moffett, County Manager
Chris Floore, Public Affairs
Janice Ross, Clerk of Commission
Wanzina Jackson, ECD
Edna Ruiz, Communications
Olivia Walter, Communications
Lauren Schultz, James Bates
Sara Davis, Assistant County Attorney
Clay Murphey, SPLOST Manager
Wanzina Jackson, Director, ECD
Alex Morrison, ECD
Donald Bracewell, Director, Lake Tobesofkee

VISITORS PRESENT:

1. Announcements

Sara Davis, Assistant County Attorney, announced a new movie filming in town. She announced the streets that would be closed during the filming.

2. Approval Of Minutes From The May 11, 2021 Meeting

On motion of Commissioner Wynn, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the minutes were approved.

3. New Alcohol Beverage License

- A. New Alcohol Beverage License for Lucky Food Mart located at 3390 Jeffersonville Road, Macon, GA 31217

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the License for Lucky Food Mart was approved.

- B. New Alcohol Beverage License for La Bella Vita located at 347 Cotton Avenue, Macon, GA 31201

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Wilder and carried unanimously, the license for La Bella Vita was approved.

- C. New Alcohol Beverage License for Vibez Middle Ga located at 401A Cherry Street, Macon, GA 31201

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Clark and carried unanimously, the license for Vibez was approved.

4. Appointments / Reappointments To Authorities, Boards, Committees

- A. A Resolution appointing James R. Davis to the Macon-Bibb County Board of Tax Assessors (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller and Commissioner Bill Howell)

On motion of Commissioner Howell, seconded by Commissioner Wynn and carried unanimously, the appointment of Jim David to the Tax Assessors Board was approved.

- B. A Resolution appointing George Greer to the Central Georgia Joint Development Authority (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Clark and carried unanimously, the appointment of George Greet to the Join Development Authority was approved.

5. Purchase And Sale Agreements

- A. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Williams Communication, Inc in the amount of \$85,500.00 for the purchase of an annual Harris FX Software Maintenance Agreement with funds to be paid from the Information Technology Department purchased / contracted services, repairs and maintenance software license and maintenance line item (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Howell and carried unanimously, the agreement with Williams Communication was approved.

6. Contracts For Implementation Or Renewal

- A. A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission designating Mauldin and Jenkins, Certified Public Accountants and Consultants, LLC, as the official external auditor for Macon-Bibb County, Georgia for fiscal years 2021, 2022 and 2023 with options for fiscal years 2024 and 2025; authorizing the Mayor to execute a professional services agreement for auditing services in the amount of \$120,000 for fiscal year 2021, to be paid from the General Fund, Board of Commissioners, Professional Services Audit Fee Line Item. (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the Resolution to approve Mauldin and Jenkins as auditors for years 2021, 2022, and 2023 were approved.

- B. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to approve a Construction Management at Risk Services Contract with Chris R. Sheridan & Company d.b.a. Sheridan Construction for the Macon City Auditorium Renovations, in the amount of \$518,167.24 to be paid from 2018 SPLOST - Cultural and Recreation - Auditorium (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner Wilder and carried unanimously, the Contract with Chris R. Sheridan for the Auditorium Renovations was approved.

7. Budget Transfers And Supplemental Appropriation

- A. An Ordinance authorizing a supplemental appropriation from Fund Balance to the Transfers Out Debt Service budget line item in the amount of \$8,558,773 in order to fund FY 22 debt service obligations. (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Bronson and carried unanimously, the supplemental for debt services was approved.

- B. An Ordinance to authorize a budget transfer within the District Attorney's budget, from various line items as stated herein, and to authorize a budget supplemental from General Fund Balance in the amount of \$31,000 to pay for costs associated with the State Prosecuting Attorneys' Council Staffing Contract (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Howell and carried unanimously, the transfer within the District Attorney's budget was approved.

8. Amending The Code Of Ordinances

- A. An Ordinance to amend Chapter 12 and Chapter 22 of the Code for the purpose of establishing a scrap tire management ordinance (Sponsored by Commissioner Bill Howell, Commissioner Raymond Wilder, Commissioner Paul Bronson, Commissioner Elaine Lucas and Mayor Pro Tem Seth Clark)

On motion of Commissioner Howell, seconded by Commissioner Bronson and carried unanimously, the Scrap Tire Management Ordinance was approved.

- B. An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to amend Sections 26-458 and 26-460 of Chapter 26 of the Macon-Bibb County Code of Ordinances relating to the Macon-Bibb County Community Redevelopment Tax Incentive Program to address blighted commercial property; to clarify existing language. (Mayor Lester M. Miller and Commissioner Valerie Wynn)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Wynn and carried unanimously, the Tax Incentive Program to address blighted commercial property was approved.

9. Complete Streets Policy

Presentation: A. Presentation by Rachel Hollar regarding Complete Streets Policy

Information Only

10. Small Business Loans Update, Cares Act Funding, ESG, Home And CDBG Budget

- A. Update on Small Business Loans presented by Wanzina Jackson and Alex Morrison

Information Only

- B. An Ordinance to adopt the Economic and Community Development Department's ESG, Home and CDBG proposed budget for fiscal year 2022 (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the ECD's ESG, Home and CDBG budget was approved.

- C. A Resolution to approve an amendment to the 2019 Action Plan for Community Development and Housing Programs between Macon-Bibb County and the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and to authorize the Mayor to accept Community Development Block Grant Funds and Emergency Grant Solution Funds Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act 9CARES Act/Covid-19) Funds Act (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Bronson and carried unanimously, the 2019 Community Development and Housing Program for the Community Development Block Grant Funds was approved.

11. Tobesofkee Fees

- A. A Resolution establish new fees for the Lake Tobesofkee Recreation Area (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Wilder and carried unanimously, the new fees for Lake Tobesofkee were approved.

12. Executive Session

A. Consultation with the county attorney or other legal counsel to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against Macon-Bibb County or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1); Entering into an option to purchase, dispose of, or lease property as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(E); and Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. §50-14-3(b)(2);

Mayor Miller stated there was no need for Executive Session.

Mayor Miller stated that the County had finished more than 30 houses in 30 days. He stated it has gotten attention of citizens who have problem houses. He thanked Code Enforcement and the Fire Department for their work. He continued that the list of next destructions were based on age.

Mayor Miller stated that the Administration was aware of the crime in the community. Public Safety was his number one concern. He wants people to know that he has been working behind the scene and has already convened the stake holders to come up with a plan. He is using rescue money to help fight crime. What the community will see a simple boots on the ground to attack the crime where it is at and will work with all officials to make a difference. He continued that there may be hot spots and problem areas that may need more attention.

Dr. Moffett stated that the County continues to work through issues with Waste Management. He stated that recycling bins have been placed at several fire stations.

Mayor Miller stated that this is an issue but we continue to work through this issue. He understands there are lots of concern but if this is our largest problem then we are doing something right. He continued that Macon-Bibb County would get through this and everyone just needs to be patient.

Respectfully submitted:

Janice S. Ross, CMC
Clerk of the Macon-Bibb County Commission