

**MINUTES OF PRE-COMMISSION MEETING
MACON-BIBB COUNTY COMMISSION
May 15, 2018
Government Center
(Large Conference Room)**

The Pre-Commission meeting of the Macon - Bibb County Commission was held on May 15, 2018 at 5:00 P.M. in the Large Conference Room at the Government Center.

Commission Members Present

Mayor Robert A. B. Reichert
Commissioner Mallory Jones, III
Commissioner Joe Allen
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Commissioner Al Tillman

Commissioners Bert Bivins, III
Commissioner Virgil Watkins, Jr.
Commissioner Larry Schlesinger
Commissioner Scotty Shepherd

Commissioner Absent

Staff Present

Judd Drake – County Attorney
Crystal Jones – Sr. County Attorney
Julie Moore – Budget & Strategic Planning
Janice Ross – Clerk of the Commission

Keith Moffett – County Manager
Michael McNeill - Assistant County Attorney
Chris Floore – Public Affairs
Sam Kitchens – Director, Parks & Beautification

News Media Present

Stanley Dunlap, The Telegraph
Mary Grace Shaw, WMAZ13

Visitors Present:

Rufus Holmes – Bibb County Retiree Association
Clay Murphey – SPLOST Project Manager
Nikki Randall – Navicent Health
Priscilla Esser – Macon Film Festival
Elliott Dunwody – Macon Film Festival
Tom Pund – Manager, Macon Bacon
Valerie Wynn, Candidate, District One

1. Call To Order

2. Announcements

Mayor Reichert reviewed the two articles recently written highlighting the good things going on in Macon-Bibb County. One article, written by Liz Fabian quoted Fodor's Travel Guide in ranking Macon-Bibb County as Number 2 on the list of American's 12 Best "Music Cities" outside of Nashville. Fodor's names Macon music legends [Otis Redding](#), [Little Richard](#) and the [Allman Brothers Band](#) as getting their start in the community and includes the contributions Capricorn Records made to the Southern Rock era. Little Richard's Pleasant Hill takes "hold of its destiny". The Pleasant Hill neighborhood, split by the construction of Interstate 75 decades years ago, is celebrating a renaissance anchored by the old Little Richard Penniman house, which was moved April 25, 2017, for highway expansion.

*The second article was from The Atlantic which stated ““Downtowns. Even as the country looks more homogenized and faceless in the parking lots of big malls, downtown by downtown it looks more distinctive and local. The Main Street America project of the National Trust for Historic Preservation reports more than 1,000 downtown-revitalization efforts now under way. Downtown reinventions that have already been successful—in places like Burlington and Greenville and Bend—illustrate the model of combining residences, shopping, and dining and entertainment for downtowns that are still on the way back, as in Allentown and Duluth and **Macon, Georgia**. Even as arguments about tax cuts or increases have degenerated into religious war at the national level, we saw them discussed in what you could call reasonable terms locally. Dodge City, in western Kansas, is very conservative in national politics. But everyone we met there stressed the importance of its “Why Not Dodge?” sales-tax increase, which citizens had approved in the late 1990s in a referendum. The proceeds had paid for parks, public swimming pools, and other facilities. In the same 2014 election in which West Virginia voters removed the very last Democrat from the state’s congressional delegation, the taxpayers of the capital city, Charleston, voted for a levy to sustain their public libraries. Even as the local and national economy collapsed in 2009, the mayor of Columbus, Ohio, urged his citizens to approve a tax increase rather than curtail city services and lay off employees, and they agreed.”*

Mayor Reichert introduced Mr. Tom Pund from the Macon Bacon. He issued an invitation and tickets to the Commission to attend the first Macon Bacon Game.

3. Review Of Regular Commission Meeting Agenda

Mayor Reichert reviewed the items that will be presented at the 6:00 p.m. Commission meeting.

4. Consent Agenda:

- A. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Dakshyog, Inc. d.b.a. Tobesofkee Lake Store located at 6024 Moseley Dixon Road, Macon, GA
- B. New Alcoholic Beverage License for BC Express Mart, LLC located at 6999 Knoxville Road, Lizella, GA 31052
- C. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Clary Gas, Inc. located at 1290 Gray Highway, Macon, GA 31211
- D. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Jaffary Group LLC located at 1286 Anthony Road, Macon, GA 31204
- E. New Alcoholic Beverage Application for JMP Food Mart located at 2031 Shurling Drive, Macon, GA 31211
- F. New Alcoholic Beverage Application for Houston Food Mart located at 5642 Houston Road, Macon, GA 31216

On motion of Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Schlesinger and carried unanimously, the above licenses were approved and added to tonight’s agenda.

5. New Business

Priscella Esser and Elliott Dunwody gave an update on a production that would be using Macon as its location for a new Fox series.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and on motion of Commissioner Schlesinger, seconded by Commissioner Bechtel and carried unanimously, the Pre-Commission meeting was adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Janice S. Ross, CCC
Clerk of the Commission