MINUTES OF PRE-COMMISSION MEETING
MACON-BIBB COUNTY COMMISSION
December 20, 2016 – 5:00 P.M.
Government Center
(Large Conference Room)

The Pre-Commission meeting of the Macon - Bibb County Commission was held on December 20, 2016 at 4:00 P.M. in the Large Conference Room at the Government Center.

Commission Members Present

Mayor Robert A. B. Reichert
Commissioner Mallory Jones, III
Commissioner Gary Bechtel
Commissioner Larry Schlesinger
Commissioner Al Tillman
Commissioner Ed DeFore
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Commissioner Scotty Shepherd
Mayor Pro Tem Bert Bivins, III

Commissioner Absent
Commissioner Virgil Watkins, Jr.

Staff Present

Dale Walker - County Manager
Judd Drake - County Attorney
Crystal Jones – Sr. Asst. County Attorney
Jansen Head - Assistant County Attorney
Sheriff David Davis
Sherita Jones – Budget and Strategic Planning
Janice S. Ross - Clerk of the Commission
Julie Moore - Assistant to the County Manager
Chris Floore - Assistant to the County Manager

News Media Present

Stanley Dunlap, The Telegraph

Visitors Present:

Cliffard Whitby – Chairman, Industrial Authority

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1. The Pre-Commission meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Reichert.

   Presentation by Cliffard Whitby

   Cliffard Whitby, Chairman, Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority, presented a check for $191,490 to Dale Walker, County Manager for Pilot Payments in FY2016.

2. Executive Session

   ACTION

   On motion of Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner DeFore and carried unanimously with Commissioners Bechtel, Bivins, Jones, Schlesinger, Tillman and Shepherd casting affirmative votes, the Commission went into Executive Session for 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).

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner DeFore and carried unanimously with Commissioners Bechtel, Bivins, Jones, Schlesinger, Tillman and Shepherd casting affirmative votes, the meeting was opened.

3. MBC Alert

Discussion

Spencer Hawkins, Director of EMA, discussed the new MBC Alert Program which is a free mass notification system which is an effort to help people get better and quicker information about severe weather and other situations. He encouraged the Commission to sign into the system which allows an individual to register up to four phone numbers, two email addresses and five physical addresses. Additionally, citizens can download a free application for their phone or tablet that will send them the message with a push alert.

REVIEW OF REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

CALLED TO ORDER

PRAYER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

INVITED GUESTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS

Operations and Finance Committee – Committee Chairman Gary Bechtel

Economic and Community Development Committee – Committee Vice-Chairman Elaine Lucas

Public Safety Committee – Committee Chairman Scotty Shepherd

Facilities and Engineering Committee – Committee Chairman Mallory Jones

CONSENT AGENDA

A. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Trivium Investment Group d.b.a. Momma Goldberg's Deli located at 1530 Mercer University Drive, Suite 100

B. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Kala Ba LLC d.b.a. Growler USA located at 1530 Mercer University Drive, Suite 300

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Reichert reviewed the items of old business.

Item C: A Resolution to rename the gymnasium located at North Macon Park in honor of Theron Ussery.

Discussion

Commissioner Lucas offered an amendment to change the name of North Macon Park to Theron Ussery Park. Commissioners Bechtel, DeFore and Shepherd, co-sponsors of the Resolution, concurred with the amendment.

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner DeFore and carried seven to one with Commissioners Bechtel, Bivins, Jones, Schlesinger, and Shepherd casting affirmative votes and Commissioner Tillman casting the dissenting vote, the Resolution to rename North Macon Park to Theron Ussery Park was approved.

Item E: A Resolution reappointing Dr. Ethel Cullinan to the Macon-Bibb County Board of Health.

Discussion

Commissioner Lucas requested that the resolution be amended to add Stacy Carr's reappointment as her term expires on the same day as Dr. Cullinan.

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner DeFore and carried unanimously with Commissioners Bechtel, Bivins, Jones, Schlesinger, Tillman and Shepherd casting affirmative votes, the Resolution to reappoint Dr. Ethel Cullinan to the Board of Health was amended adding Stacy Carr's reappointment.

Item X: A Resolution authorizing NewTown Macon to contract with Sam Schwartz Engineering, DPC at a cost of approximately $40,000 for the design and engineering of a continuous bike path to serve as a component of the Ocmulgee Heritage Trail beginning at Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive and expanding as far as Forrest Avenue subject to approval of the design by the Macon-Bibb County Commission

Discussion

Judd Drake, County Attorney, stated that the Macon-Bibb County Engineering Department had suggested that they would be able to design and engineer the continuous bike path thereby saving the $40,000 from the grant. It was the consensus of the Commission that they would like to approve the design before moving forward with the engineering aspect of the bike path project.

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner DeFore and carried unanimously with Commissioners Bechtel, Bivins, Jones, Schlesinger, Tillman and Shepherd casting affirmative votes, the Resolution authorizing NewTown Macon to contract with Sam Schwartz Engineering, DPC at a cost of approximately $40,000 for the design and engineering of a continuous bike path to serve as a component of the Ocmulgee Heritage Trail beginning at Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive and expanding as far as Forrest Avenue subject to approval of the design by the Macon-Bibb County Commission was table and removed from tonight's agenda.

PRE-COMMISSION AGENDA ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

A. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Trivium Investment Group d.b.a. Momma Goldberg's Deli located at 1530 Mercer University Drive, Suite 100

B. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Kala Ba LLC d.b.a. Growler USA located at 1530 Mercer University Drive, Suite 300

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Schlesinger, seconded by Commissioner DeFore and carried unanimously with Commissioners Lucas, Bechtel, Bivins, Jones, Tillman and Shepherd casting affirmative votes the above licenses were approved and will be added to tonight's agenda for action.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion of the amended Fiscal Year 2017 General Fund Budget

Discussion

Julie Moore, Assistant to the County Manager for Budget and Strategic Planning, discussed the agreement that Parks and Beautification's Director and Public Work's Director had come to where by 16 total positions will be transferred to Public Works. She stated that some of these positions are vacant and the Director of Public Works will work to fill these. After the transfers Parks and Beautification will still have four vacancies which *they will work to fill. Sheriff Davis distributed the new organizational chart for his Office and reminded everyone that he still needs approximately 100 deputies to have a full staff.*

ACTION:

On motion of Commissioner Bechtel, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the FY2017 budget was amended to transfer sixteen positions from Parks and Beautification to Public Works.

B. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a new use agreement with John R. Walker Sr. and Dennis A. Walker to allow for the continued use of approximately 40 acres of property located along Lower Poplar Road for grazing cattle and /or growing and storing hay at a rate of $1,200 per year for a period of five years

ACTION:

On motion of Commissioner DeFore, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a new use agreement with John R. Walker Sr. and Dennis A. Walker to allow for the continued use of approximately 40 acres of property located along Lower Poplar Road for grazing cattle and /or growing and storing hay at a rate of $1,200 per year for a period of five years was approved and added to tonight's agenda for action.

C. A Resolution to reappoint Bryan W. Scott to the Macon-Bibb County Planning and Zoning Commission for an additional term

ACTION:

On motion of Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner Bechtel and carried unanimously, the Resolution to reappoint Bryan W. Scott to the Macon-Bibb County Planning and Zoning Commission for an additional term was tabled to verify Mr. Scott's home address.

D. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a twenty four month lease agreement with U. S. Congressman Sanford Bishop for 1,800 square feet of office space located on the third floor of the Willie C. Hill Government Center Annex Building for $1,000 per month for the purpose of General Office use

ACTION:

On motion of Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner Bechtel and carried unanimously, the Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a twenty four month lease agreement with U. S. Congressman Sanford Bishop for 1,800 square feet of office space located on the third floor of the Willie C. Hill Government Center Annex Building for $1,000 per month for the purpose of General Office use was approved and added to tonight's agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and on motion of Commissioner Larry Schlesinger, seconded by Commissioner Gary Bechtel and carried unanimously, the Pre-Commission meeting was adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bechtel, DeFore, Jones, Lucas, Tillman, Schlesinger and Shepherd.

Respectfully submitted:

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Janice S. Ross, CCC
Clerk of Commission