

# COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

## MINUTES

March 23, 2021

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

### COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

### OTHERS PRESENT:

Duke Groover, Interim County Attorney  
Michael McNeill, Sr. Assistant County Attorney  
Chris Floore, Public Affairs  
Janice Ross, Clerk of Commission  
Rachel Gambill, Public Affairs  
Julie Moore, Budget and Strategic Planning  
Rev. Dr. Henry Ficklin  
Joel Callins, Assistant County Attorney  
Frank Howard, Assistant County Attorney

### VISITORS PRESENT:

David Hollingsworth  
Liz Jarvis, Center for Collaborative Journalism  
Tim Wilder, Director, Public Works  
Wade McCord, Tax Commissioner

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## 1. ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Mayor Miller announced that after the formal business, the Commission would be traveling to the Landfill and to a Convenience Center in Monroe County.*

## 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 9, 2021 MEETING

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

## 3. NEW ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE

- A. New Alcohol Beverage License for Chevron Food Mart located at 1106 Rocky Creek Rd, Macon, GA 31210

Recommended Tabled at the February 16, 2021 and March 9, 2021 Meeting

*Mr. David Hollingsworth addressed the Commission as the attorney for the owner of Chevron Food Mart. Mr. Hollingsworth stated that the owner at this time does not have permission or a license to have gaming machines.*

*Mayor Miller stated that the meeting would be considered again at the April 13, 2021 after the attorney office receives questions from Commissioner Watkins to be answered by the counsel.*

#### 4. ITEMS FOR FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION

- A. A Resolution authorizing the acceptance of a Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant for Programming Year 2020 from the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council in the amount of \$50,000 with no local match requirement (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

*On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Clark and carried unanimously, the Resolution to accept the grant was approved.*

- B. An Ordinance to authorize a budget transfer within the Sheriff's Office Budget in the total amount of \$20,000 to provide funds for contract labor services to cover duties of retired employees (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

*On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Clark and carried unanimously, the Ordinance to transfer \$20,000 to contract labor was approved.*

- C. An Ordinance to authorize a budget transfer from the Sheriff's Office Budget - Fuel Line Items to the Vehicle Repair Line Item in the amount of \$25,000 to fund repairs to vehicles for the Corrections Division (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

*On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Howell and carried unanimously, the Ordinance to transfer \$25,000 from Fuel line to Vehicle Repair was approved.*

- D. An Ordinance to authorize a Supplemental Appropriation from the Probate Court - Court Costs/Fees and charges line item to the Probate Court Budget - Dues and Fees - Other Line Item in the total amount of \$80,000 to provide funds for the processing of weapons carry licenses (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

*On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Wilder and carried unanimously, the Ordinance for a supplemental from Probate Court for \$80,000 to provide funds for the processing of weapons carry licenses was approved.*

- E. An Ordinance to authorize a budget transfer from the Superior Court Budget - Dues and fees - Juror Fees Line Item to the Small Equipment Line Item in the amount of \$18,500 to fund flooring upgrades to certain Superior Court Offices (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

*On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Wynn and carried unanimously, the transfer in Superior Court Budget was approved.*

- F. An Ordinance to authorize a Supplemental Appropriation to the Engineering Department Budget in the total amount of \$25,000 to provide funds for the installation of speed awareness signs and purchase traffic calming devices (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller, Commissioner Mallory Jones and Commissioner Paul Bronson)

*On motion of Commissioner Bronson, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the Ordinance for a supplemental in the Engineering Department for speed awareness and traffic calming devices was approved.*

- G. An Ordinance to authorize an amendment to the FY2021 Capital Improvement Program in the amount of \$1,225,000 of which \$350,000 will be paid from Fund Balance and the remainder shall be paid from 2018 SPLOST Revenues (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

*On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Wilder and carried unanimously, the Ordinance for an amendment to the Capital Improvement Program was approved.*

- H. An Ordinance To Extend The Deadline For The One-Time Safe Haven Period For The Late Payment Of Business License Fees To June 30, 2021; To Extend The Renewal Deadline For 2021 Business License Fees To June 30, 2021 (Sponsored by Commissioner Mallory Jones)

*On motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Wynn and carried unanimously, the one time safe haven period for payment of business license fees was approved.*

- I. A Resolution Requesting The Issuance Of A Request For Proposals (RFP) Regarding The Installation And Maintenance Of Surveillance Cameras To Deter Littering Along Public Roadways (Sponsored by Commissioner Mallory Jones)

Discussion

*Tim Wilder stated that 804 See Click Fix complaints were closed over the last year with over 11 tons of trash being picked up. Mayor Miller stated that Macon-Bibb County needed a study so it could be determined what is causing the trash; Macon-Bibb County needs to understand it so Macon-Bibb County can determine how to tackle the problem. Commissioner Bronson thanked Tim Wilder and his team for all the amazing work Public Works has done in cleaning up problem areas. He continued that if we could identify the areas then we can solve it. He encouraged the Commissioners to continue to work and lead by example to eliminate the problem. He thanked Mayor Miller for what he is doing to eliminate trash in the Community. Dr. Moffett stated that the new administration is taking a more pro active approach to litter. He continued that on April 10<sup>th</sup> that the community is being challenged to help clean up the community. Commissioner Wilder commended Tim Wilder and his team on the outstanding job they have done. He continued that everyone has been invited to all press conference and events. He stated that he is excited about what is going on. Commissioner Jones stated that Tim Wilder does a great job and he calls him frequently and he always responds. Commissioner Watkins states there is a lot of litter and a lot of trash. Commissioner Watkins stated that he did not believe that more trash had been picked up this year than was picked up last year. Commissioner Howell stated that he had waited patiently on his time to speak regarding what was on the agenda. He first stated that he did not appreciate Dr. Moffett telling his secret on how he gets things done in his community. He thanked the Mayor for all he has done to help clean up the community. He states that a camera would be good on Goodall Mill Road. If there was a camera there he would know where the trash came from. There is an HOA in the community who would be happy to assist. Mayor Pro Tem Clark asked Tim Wilder that if the Resolution passed and cameras were placed in the community would it help him do his job. Mr. Wilder responded yes. Mayor Pro Tem called for the question.*

*On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Clark, seconded by Commissioner Howell and passed unanimously, the question was called.*

*Commissioner Tillman stated that he is not able to attend everything. He does not appreciate it when other Commissioners asked where the ones not there, where they are the response is I don't know.*

*On motion of Commissioner Bronson, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried by a vote of eight to one with Commissioner Wynn, Bronson, Jones, Clark, Wilder, Howell, Watkins and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioner Lucas casting the dissenting vote, the RFP for installation of surveillance cameras to deter littering was approved.*

5. CONTRACTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OR RENEWAL

- A. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Independent Contractor Agreement with

Environmental Differences, LLC in the amount of \$16.00 per hour per laborer to provide temporary laborers as needed for manual labor projects, to be paid from the Solid Waste Budget - Collections - Contract Labor Line Item (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

*On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Wilder and carried unanimously, the Resolution to execute an agreement with Environmental Difference was approved.*

- B. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Independent Contractor Agreement with Ark Temporary Staffing, LLC in the amount of \$16.32 per hour per laborer to provide temporary laborers as needed for manual labor projects, to be paid from the Solid Waste Budget - Collections - Contract Labor Line Item (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

*On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Wilder and carried unanimously, the Resolution to execute an agreement with Ark Temporary Staffing was approved.*

- C. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Independent Contractor Agreement with MACFACE Marketplace, Co. in the amount of \$15.36 per hour per laborer to provide temporary laborers as needed for manual labor projects, to be paid from the Solid Waste Budget - Collections - Contract Labor Line Item (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

*On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Wilder and carried unanimously, the Resolution to execute an agreement with MACFACE Marketplace was approved.*

- D. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Independent Contractor Agreement with STSS, Inc in the amount of \$16.00 per hour per laborer to provide temporary laborers as needed for manual labor projects, to be paid from the Solid Waste Budget - Collections - Contract Labor Line Item (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

*On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Wilder and carried unanimously, the Resolution to execute an agreement with STSS, Inc was approved.*

- E. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Wade Ford, Inc in the amount of \$91,981.48 for the purchase of 2 S12 Cargo Transit Vans, with funds to be paid from the Board of Elections' Grant Funds (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

*On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Wilder and carried unanimously, the Resolution to execute an agreement with Wade Ford for the purchase of two cargo Transit Vans was approved.*

## 6. APPOINTMENTS TO AUTHORITIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

- A. Resolution reappointing Henderson Carswell to the Board of the Bibb County Department of Family and Children Board

*On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the reappointment of Henderson Carswell to the Board of Family and Children Services was approved.*

## 7. HONORING BUDDY BARRON

- A. A Resolution to honor the 100th Birthday of Mr. Young "Buddy" Barron (Sponsored by Mayor Pro Tem Seth Clark)

*On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Clark, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the Resolution honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday was approved.*

## 8. LEGISLATION REGARDING VOTING

- A. A Resolution requesting that the local Legislative Delegation oppose any legislation that would reduce or limit voting rights, opportunities, operations or access; and that the Governor veto any such Legislation that may be adopted (Sponsored by Mayor Pro Tem Seth Clark and Commissioner Elaine Lucas)

### Discussion

*Mayor Pro Tem Seth Clark addressed the need for the Commission to pass the Resolution requesting that the local Legislative Delegation oppose any legislation that would reduce or limit voting rights. Mayor Pro Tem stated prepared remarks.*

*Commissioner Howell moved to amend the Resolution to read:*

*Now therefore, be it resolved by the Macon-Bibb County Commission, and it is hereby so resolved by the authority of the same, the local legislative delegation is hereby requested to vote in opposition to any legislation that would usurp local governments' power, authority, or ability to conduct election operations in the same manner as currently provided for under the law and reduce or limit the voting rights, opportunities, or access of any lawful voter or prospective voter, or would reduce or limit the ability of local governments to conduct election operations at the same level as currently provided for under the law*

*Mayor Pro Tem Clark seconded the amendment.*

*Commissioner Wynn stated that she concurred with the amendment in that Mayor Pro Tem discussed the move for the Legislature to control the local Board of Elections. She supported the amendment but she does support some things that are out there. She asked if they could be separated.*

*Commissioner Howell stated that he had read through the previous bills and he does think that this one does affect the Board of Elections in Macon-Bibb County. He would like for it to be unanimous.*

*On motion of Commissioner Wynn, seconded by Commissioner Jones, to separate the Resolution so one would be the basic language and the other would be the amendment. The motion failed to pass by a vote of seven to two with Commissioners Bronson, Lucas, Clark, Wilder, Howell, Watkins and Tillman casting the dissenting votes and Commissioner Wynn and Jones casting the affirmative votes.*

*The Resolution as amended was approved by a vote of eight to one with Commissioners Bronson, Lucas, Jones, Clark, Wilder, Howell, Watkins and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioner Wynn casting the dissenting vote.*

*The Resolution was approved by a vote of seven to two with Commissioners Bronson, Lucas, Jones, Clark, Wilder, Howell, Watkins and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioner Wynn and Commissioner Jones casting the dissenting vote.*

## 9. 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 that there was no need for an Executive Session.*

*Mayor Miller recessed the meeting for a site visit.*

#### 10. SITE VISIT

Information: A. Site Visit to Landfill and Convenience Centers

There being no further business and on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Janice S. Ross, CMC  
Clerk of the Commission