

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MINUTES

January 22, 2019

The Committee of the Whole was called to order by Mayor Robert A. B. Reichert

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mayor Robert Reichert
Commissioner Joe Allen
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Commissioner Larry Schlesinger
Commissioner Virgil Watkins
Commissioner Valerie Wynn
Commissioner Mallory Jones
Commissioner Scotty Shepherd
Mayor Pro Tem Al Tillman
Commissioner Bert Bivins

OTHERS PRESENT:

Keith Moffett County Manager
Judd Drake, County Attorney
Crystal Jones, Senior County Attorney
Michael McNeill, Assistant County Attorney
Chris Floore, Public Affairs
Janice Ross, Clerk of Commission
Wade McCord, Tax Commissioner
Tom Cherry, Tax Commissioners Office
Christy Iulucci, Director, Finance Department
Kim Roberts, Finance Department
Narenda Bhardwaj, Finance Department
Sherita Jones, Budget and Strategic Planning
Ben Hubbard, Director, Human Resources
Harold Gaines, Human Resources

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

GUESTS

Miller Edwards, Mauldin and Jenkins

NEWS MEDIA:

Eric Mock, WGXA
Abby Kousouris, 13WMAZ

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1. Approval of minutes from the January 8, 2019 meeting

ACTION

On motion of Commission Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Tillman and carried unanimously, the minutes of the January 8, 2019 meeting were approved.

2. Add Item to the Agenda

On motion of Commissioner Schlesinger, seconded by Commissioner Shepherd and carried unanimously, the audit report was moved from the Operations and Finance Committee to the Committee of the Whole.

3. Macon – Bibb County Audit Report

Information only; no action required.

4. NewTown Macon – Bond Fund Update

Information Only.

5. Proposed Process for Sale of Real Property

- A. A Resolution authorizing the Tax Commissioner to utilize the proposed subsequent sale process with regard to real property that fails to sell when originally presented at Tax Sales

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commission Schlesinger and carried unanimously, the Resolution was amended to add Commissioner Mallory Jones as a sponsor.

On motion of Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Schlesinger and carried unanimously, the Resolution was approved as amended.

6. Request of Legislative Delegation

- A. A Resolution requesting that the Local Legislative Delegation introduce legislation during the 2019 Session of the Georgia General Assembly for the purpose of amending Georgia's SPLOST law to provide that Blight Remediation Capital Projects may include the demolition of structures on Public and Private Property through abatement actions

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commission Schlesinger and carried unanimously, the Resolution requesting that the Local Legislative Delegation introduce legislation during the 2019 Session of the Georgia General Assembly for the purpose of amending Georgia's SPLOST law to provide that Blight Remediation Capital Projects may include the demolition of structures on Public and Private Property through abatement action was approved.

- B. A Resolution requesting the Georgia General Assembly to adopt local legislation for Macon-Bibb County, Georgia to increase the Hotel/Motel Excise Tax under O.C.G.A. 48-13-51(b) to authorize the Mayor to execute all necessary acts to accomplish the intent of this Resolution

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commission Schlesinger and carried unanimously, the Resolution requesting the Georgia General Assembly to adopt local legislation for Macon-Bibb County, Georgia to increase the Hotel/Motel Excise Tax under O.C.G.A. 48-13-51(b) to authorize the Mayor to execute all necessary acts to accomplish the intent of this Resolution was approved.

- C. A Resolution to request that the Local Legislative Delegation introduce Legislation during the 2019 Session of the Georgia General Assembly for the purpose of amending the Charter of Macon-Bibb County so as to increase the annual salary of each Commissioner from \$15,000 to \$20,000 and so as to increase the annual salary of the Mayor from \$100,000 to \$120,000 with such increases in salary being subject to concurrently amending the Charter to provide that the Commission shall be reduced in size from nine to five members

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Wynn, seconded by Commissioner Jones to revise the Resolution to change the number of Commissioners from five to seven failed to pass with

Commissioners Bivins, Lucas, Schlesinger, Shepherd, Tillman and Watkins casting the dissenting votes and Commissioners Wynn, Jones and Allen casting the affirmative votes.

On motion of Commissioner Shepherd, seconded by Commissioner Watkins and carried six to three with Commissioners Bivins, Lucas, Schlesinger, Shepherd, Tillman and Watkins casting the affirmative votes and Commission Wynn, Jones and Allen casting the dissenting votes, the Resolution was tabled

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

Respectfully Submitted:

Janice S. Ross
Clerk of the Commission