

**MINUTES OF PRE-COMMISSION MEETING  
MACON-BIBB COUNTY COMMISSION  
January 20, 2015 – 5:00 P.M.  
Government Center  
(Large Conference Room)**

The Pre-Commission meeting of the Macon-Bibb County Commission was held on January 20, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. in the Large Conference Room at Government Center.

**Commission Members Present**

Mayor Robert A.B. Reichert  
Mayor Pro Tem Bert Bivins, III  
Commissioner Gary Bechtel  
Commissioner Larry Schlesinger  
Commissioner Elaine Lucas

Commissioner Mallory Jones, III  
Commissioner Ed DeFore  
Commissioner Scotty Shepherd  
Commissioner Virgil Watkins, Jr.  
Commissioner Al Tillman

**Staff Present**

Judd Drake – County Attorney  
Crystal Jones – Senior Assistant County Attorney  
Reggie McClendon – Assistant County Attorney  
Opie Bowen – Assistant County Attorney  
Charles Coney – Assistant County Manager (Operations)  
Steve Layson – Assistant County Manager (Infrastructure)  
Chris Floore – Assistant to County Manager – Public Affairs  
Jean S. Howard – Interim Clerk of Commission  
Janice Ross – Training and Event Coordinator  
Sam Henderson – Executive Assistant to the Mayor

**News Media Present**

Jim Gaines – The Telegraph  
Anita Oh – 13 WMAZ  
Malcolm Johnson – 41 WMGT  
Alexa Rodriquez – 41 WMGT

**Visitors Present**

Brittany Childs – Industrial Authority

The Pre-Commission Meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert A. B. Reichert.

The Mayor stated the meeting was being convened as a Committee of the Whole for the primary purpose of reviewing tonight's Regular Commission Meeting's Agenda and to take action on new items under the Consent Agenda for five alcoholic beverage licenses, and one additional item that will be covered by Judd Drake, County Attorney.

Mayor Reichert reviewed the Agenda items for tonight's Regular Commission Meeting.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **PRAYER**

- A. Pastor Anthony Q. Corbett of Lundy Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

GCAP Students, Zeleria Jackson (Mt. de Sales Academy) and Alexandra Woodford (Mount de Sales Academy)

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Pre-Commission Meeting on January 6, 2015
- B. Regular Commission Meeting on January 6, 2015

### **INVITED GUESTS**

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

### **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

Mayor Reichert reminded Committee Chairs to give their Committee reports.

- A. Operations and Finance Committee
- B. Economic and Community Development Committee
- C. Public Safety Committee
- D. Facilities and Engineering Committee

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Resolution endorsing the concept to conduct further inquiry regarding a possible RFP for community intervention workers to provide crisis response and assist with proactive peacekeeping regarding gang reduction and youth development
- B. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute a Continuation of Services Agreement between Macon-Bibb County and AT&T Georgia to provide Digital Network Services for 24 months at the existing rate
- C. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute a Pole Attachment License Agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Southern Rivers Energy for the purposes of attaching fiber-optic lines to electrical power poles for internet and telecommunications connectivity at the Animal Welfare Facility
- D. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension for an additional period of one year with the Corporation of Mercer University for the lease of property located at 651 Mulberry Street, the Grand Opera House

- E. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Bob Lewis and Associates, Inc. for the lease of office space at 682 Cherry Street in the amount of \$1,450 per month for a period of two (2) years
- F. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to approve the Indigent Defense Agreement among the Circuit Public Defender Office of the Macon Judicial Circuit and the governing authorities of Macon-Bibb, Peach, and Crawford Counties
- G. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the State of Georgia Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Program Grant Award in the amount of \$80,740 from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council awarded to the Macon-Bibb County Juvenile Court
- H. Ordinance to appropriate \$200,000 from County SPLOST Fund to Parks and Recreation Rosa Jackson to fund architectural designs
- I. Ordinance to appropriate \$88,000 to establish a Confiscated Fund for the District Attorney's Office
- J. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the BJA Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Award in the amount of \$225,000 over a 3 year period. Federal share is \$162,500 and State match is \$62,500. The State match is comprised of \$18,770 and Fund Balance match of \$2,086 for 3 years. The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council awarded this grant to the Macon-Bibb County Veterans Court
- K. Ordinance to appropriate \$375,000 from County SPLOST Fund to Parks and Recreation Sub South Recreation Center to fund architectural designs
- L. Resolution to recognize the month of February 2015 as Black History Month
- M. Resolution reappointing John C. Walker, III to the Macon Housing Authority
- N. Resolution Macon-Bibb County Commission to reaffirm its commitment and support regarding the construction of the fire station to be located at 3767 Donnan Road; to appropriate funding to equip said fire station in the FY 2016 Budget

Judd Drake, County Attorney, stated in reviewing the Resolution the source of funds used to purchase the land incorrectly showed the funding source was Special Local Option Sales Tax whereas the land was purchased with UDA Bonds.

**ACTION:**

***On motion of Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner Bivins, and carried unanimously, the Resolution was amended to show the correct source of funding which was 2013 UDA Bonds.***

***Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman***

- O. Ordinance amending Chapter 28 of the Code of Ordinances to allow for Zoned Back-In Only Angled Parking
- P. Resolution authorizing the closure of a portion of Daisy Park Place for the purpose of expanding and renovating Daisy Park

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Reichert reviewed each license application and stated they had met all requirements for approval.

#### **New Alcoholic Beverage Licenses for the following:**

- A. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Ingleside Food Mart located at 2304 Ingleside Avenue
- B. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Genghis Grill located at 5437 Bowman Road, Ste. 100
- C. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Jeffersonville Sunoco located at 2900 Jeffersonville Road
- D. New Alcoholic Beverage License for KA KA'S located at 4290 Dellwood Drive
- E. New Alcoholic Beverage License for The Back Burner Restaurant located at 2242 Ingleside Avenue

#### **ACTION:**

***On motion of Commissioner Ed DeFore, seconded by Commissioner Larry Schlesinger, and carried unanimously, the Alcoholic Beverage Licenses were approved for consideration at tonight's Regular Commission meeting.***

***Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman.***

Attorney Judd Drake stated the Charter under Section 9F states the Commission shall elect from its members in January of each year a member to serve as Mayor Pro Tem who shall preside over the meetings of the Commission in the absence of the Mayor. He also stated the Charter stated the same requirement for the Chair and Vice Chair of Committees.

**ACTION:**

***On motion of Commissioner Ed DeFore, seconded by Commissioner Larry Schlesinger, to nominate Commissioner Bert Bivins to serve another year as Mayor Pro Tem.***

***On motion of Commissioner Ed DeFore, seconded by Commissioner Larry Schlesinger to close the nomination, and carried unanimously, the nomination of Commissioner Bert Bivins as Mayor Pro Tem was approved.***

***Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman.***

Mayor Pro Tem Bivins expressed appreciation to his fellow Commissioners for his re-election.

Commissioner Watkins requested approval for a budgetary allowance, not to exceed \$500.00, to host Community Intervention Workers Workshops. He also stated any donations received would be used to reimburse the funds used.

**ACTION:**

***On motion of Commissioner Al Tillman, seconded by Commissioner Ed DeFore, and carried unanimously, the appropriation of up to \$500.00 for exploring Community Intervention Workers Workshops with funds to come from the Commissioner's Office budget was approved by the Committee of the Whole.***

***Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman.***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Reichert announced he had tickets for the ticketed event of a "Letter From A Birmingham Jail" featuring Anna Deavere Smith, and the McDuffie Center for Strings program to be held at Beulahland Bible Church on Saturday, February 21 at 7:30 P.M.

**DISCUSSION:**

Commissioner Lucas asked for the establishment of formal rules with possibly a government oversight body to handle moviemaking requests for Macon-Bibb County. She gave the recent detonation of a bus during the recent filming of "The 5<sup>th</sup> Wave that damaged buildings on Cotton Avenue as an example as to why she feels rules are needed. She commended the Macon Film

Commission for their work in facilitating the making of movies in Macon-Bibb. She also reviewed and provided information on the filming requirements used in Savannah.

Mayor Reichert asked Commissioner Schlesinger, Chairman of the Economic and Community Development Committee, to take up the discussion in his Committee.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business and on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

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Jean S. Howard  
Interim Clerk of Commission