

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MINUTES

December 13, 2016

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

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mayor Robert Reichert
Commissioner Gary Bechtel
Commissioner Bert Bivins
Commissioner Mallory Jones
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Commissioner Larry Schlesinger
Commissioner Ed DeFore
Commissioner Scotty Shepherd
Commissioner Al Tillman
Commissioner Virgil Watkins

OTHERS PRESENT:

David Davis, Sheriff of Bibb County
Judd Drake, County Attorney
Dale Walker, County Manager
Crystal Jones, Sr. Assistant County Attorney
Charles Coney, Assistant County Manager
Julie Moore, Assistant to the County Manager
Chris Floore, Assistant to the County Manager
Janice Ross, Clerk of the Commission
Judge Bill Adams, State Court
Judge Jeff Hanson, State Court
Rebecca Grist, Solicitor General
Patti Graves, Clerk of State Court
Judge Bobby Faulkner, Municipal Court

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

NEWS MEDIA:

Stanley Dunlap, The Telegraph
Mary Grace Shaw, 13WMAZ

VISITORS:

Louis Frank Tompkins, Candidate for Macon Transit Authority
Joyce Humphrey, Candidate for Martin Luther King Commission
Gene Dunwody, Economic Development Commission
Chris Sheridan, Urban Development Authority
Rufus Holmes, Bibb County Retiree Association
Bud Fletcher, Bibb County Retiree Association
Bill Causey, Causey Construction Consulting, LLC
Cliffard Whidby, Chairman, Industrial Authority
Brittany Childs, Industrial Authority
Robbie Fountain, Industrial Authority
Kevin Brown, Attorney for Industrial Authority

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert A. B. Reichert.

1. Approval of Minutes

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Bechtel, seconded by Commissioner Schlesinger and carried unanimously, the minutes of the November 8, 2016 meeting were approved.

2. Presentation By Judge Bill Adams And Judge Jeff Hanson

A Resolution to request that the Local Legislative Delegation introduce during the 2017 Session of the Georgia General Assembly Local Legislation to provide for the State Court to take on the Municipal Court Caseload in Accordance with the proposal attached here to as Exhibit "A"

Discussion

Judge Adams presented the proposal to move the Municipal Court Caseload to the State Court. With the proposal, all employees of Municipal Court would be provided continued employment. Judge Adams continued that State Court would then become the Court of Record and manage traffic citations and ordinances citations. He stated that after investigation, many counties and cities the same size as Macon Bibb do a variety of different things in managing municipal cases. Judge Faulkner stated that he believed the Municipal Court was working well as it is now established.

Commissioner Bechtel thanked Judge Adams, Judge Hanson and Rebecca Grist for looking for more efficient and cost saving methods of running the courts. He continued that he appreciated the time invested in working through the system and all of their efforts on behalf of Macon-Bibb County. Commissioners Schlesinger, Tillman and Shepherd concurred.

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried with Commissioners DeFore, Shepherd and Watkins casing the assenting votes and Commissioners Bechtel, Schlesinger and Tillman casing the dissenting votes, the Resolution to request that the Local Legislative Delegation introduce during the 2017 Session of the Georgia General Assembly Local Legislation to provide for the State Court to take on the Municipal Court Caseload in Accordance with the proposal attached here to as Exhibit "A" was tabled.

3. Certification Of Election Results

A Resolution declaring the results of an election held on November 8, 2016 and certificate of Election Superintendent

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Bechtel, seconded by Commissioner Schlesinger and carried unanimously, the Resolution declaring the results of an election held on November 8, 2016 and certificate of Election Superintendent was approved.

4. Continuing SPLOST Advisory Committee

A Resolution in support of continuing the SPLOST Advisory Committee

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Schlesinger, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the Resolution in support of continuing the SPLOST Advisory Committee was approved.

5. Naming Of North Macon Park Gymnasium

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

ACTION

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

6. Nominee For Parks And Beautification Director

A Resolution appointing Sam Kitchens as the Director of the Macon-Bibb County Parks and Beautification Department

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Bechtel and carried unanimously, the Resolution appointing Sam Kitchens as the Director of the Macon-Bibb County Parks and Beautification Department was approved.

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