

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MINUTES

January 8, 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

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

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

GUESTS

Blake Sullivan
Lester Miller, Chairman, Board of Education
Pam Carswell, Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful
Gary Bechtel, Board Member, Land Bank Authority
Alison Goldey, Exec. Dir. Land Bank Authority
Mike Austin, Exec. Dir., Macon Housing

GUESTS PRESENT:

NEWS MEDIA:

Eric Mock, WGXA
Abby Kousouris, 13WMAZ

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1. Approval of minutes from the December 11, 2018 meeting

ACTION

On motion of Commission Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Tillman and carried unanimously, the minutes of the December 11, 2018 meeting were approved.

2. Election of Mayor Pro Tem

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Schlesinger, seconded by Commissioner Allen and carried unanimously, Commissioner Al Tillman was elected Mayor Pro Tem for 2018.

3. 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

The Resolution will be referred to the Blight Ad Hoc Committee for action on January 22, 2019

4. Executive Session

Action

On motion of Commissioner Schlesinger, seconded by Commissioner Allen and carried unanimously, the Committee went into Executive Session for the following reasons:

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);

5. Add item to the agenda:

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Schlesinger the following item was added to the agenda:

- *Letter from WMAZ-13 regarding Open Meeting Law*

Discussion

County Attorney Judd Drake stated that the Mayor, the County Clerk, the Chairman of Operations and Finance and the Chairman of Facilities and Engineering were in receipt of a letter from the attorneys representing WMAZ-13 regarding what they perceived as a violation of the Open Meetings Law. Mr. Drake stated that after review he was assured that the Committees had not violated the Open Meetings Law. He also stated that this was an excellent reminder that the Commissioners be aware of the Open Meeting Law. Mr. Drake stated that he would send a letter to the attorneys stating their position.

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