

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MINUTES

November 10, 2020

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

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Commissioner Scotty Shepherd

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor-Elect Lester Miller
Commissioner Elect Bill Howell

Commissioner Elect Raymond Wilder

OTHERS PRESENT:

Duke Groover, Interim County Attorney
Michael McNeill, Sr. Assistant County Attorney
Michelle Harris, Assistant County Attorney
Chris Floore, Public Affairs
Janice Ross, Clerk of Commission
Rachel Gambill, Public Affairs
Sara Henton, Information Technology
Spencer Hawkins, Director, EMA
Julie Moore, Budget and Strategic Planning
Keith Butler, Interim Director, Vehicle Maintenance
Michael Glisson, Director, Parks and Beautification

VISITORS PRESENT:

Erin Keller, NewTown Macon
Tim McCoy, Pastor Ingleside Baptist Church
Claire Cox
Yvonne Williams, President, Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce
Clay Murphey, SPLOST Project Manager

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1. Approval of minutes from the September 8, 2020 meeting

On motion of Commissioner Wynn, seconded by Commissioner Schlesinger and carried unanimously, the minutes of the October 27, 2020 meeting were approved.

2. Update on COVID-19

Spencer Hawkins, Director of EMA, gave an update on COVID-19 in our area.

3. Appointment Director Of Vehicle Maintenance

- A. A Resolution To Appoint Keith Butler As Director Of Vehicle Maintenance (Mayor Robert A. B. Reichert)

On motion of Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner Tillman and carried five to three with Commissioners Bivins, Lucas, Schlesinger, Watkins and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioner Wynn and Jones casting the dissenting vote, the appointment of Keith Butler was tabled until the next meeting.

4. Blight Bond Update

A. Update From Cass Hatcher

The update on the Blight Bonds was removed from the agenda and will be rescheduled at a later date.

5. Appropriation Of Funds For Cotton Avenue Plaza, First Street And Rosa Parks Square

- A. An Ordinance To Approve And Authorize The Re-Appropriation Of Up To \$300000 From 2018 SPLOST Revenues - Cy2019 Road And Bridges - Central City Commons Line Item To Provide Funding For Planned Improvements To Cotton Avenue Plaza, First Street And Rosa Parks Square (Sponsored By Mayor Robert A. B. Reichert And Commissioner Elaine Lucas)

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner the Ordinance to Re-appropriate \$300,000 from SPLOST Revenues to Central City Commons for planned improvements to Cotton Avenue Plaza, First Street and Rosa Parks Square was approved by a vote of five to three with Commissioners Bivins, Lucas, Schlesinger, Watkins and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioners Allen, Jones and Wynn casting the dissenting votes.

6. Change To The Code – Discrimination

- A. An Ordinance To Amend Article III Of Chapter 2 Of The Code, Now Reserved, For The Purpose Of Establishing Protections Against Discrimination In Places Of Public Accommodation (Sponsored By Commissioners Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Virgil Watkins And Mayor Pro Tem Al Tillman)

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Lucas and carried by a vote of five to three with Commissioners Schlesinger, Lucas, Bivins, Watkins and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioners Allen, Jones and Wynn casting the dissenting votes, this item was moved to the first item on the agenda.

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Lucas and carried by a vote of five to three with Commissioners Schlesinger, Lucas, Bivins, Watkins and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioners Allen, Jones and Wynn casting the dissenting votes, the Ordinance was approved.

7. Newtown Macon Update

- A. A. Newtown Update On Poplar Street - Erin Keller

Information Only

8. Naming Resolutions

- A. A Resolution To Rename The Macon City Auditorium As The "C. Jack Ellis City Auditorium" In Honor Of C. Jack Ellis's Contributions To His Community (Sponsored By Mayor Pro Tem Al Tillman, Commissioner Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas And Virgil Watkins)

ACTION

On motion of Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Lucas and carried by a vote of five to three with Commissioners Lucas, Bivins, Watkins, Schlesinger and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioners Allen, Jones and Wynn casting the dissenting votes.

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

Respectfully Submitted:

Janice S. Ross, CMC
Clerk of the Commission