

**MINUTES OF PRE-COMMISSION MEETING
MACON-BIBB COUNTY COMMISSION
August 4, 2015 – 5:00 P.M.
Government Center
(Large Conference Room)**

The Pre-Commission meeting of the Macon-Bibb County Commission was held on August 4, 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 Mallory Jones, III

Commissioner Ed DeFore
Commissioner Scotty Shepherd
Commissioner Virgil Watkins, Jr.
Commissioner Elaine Lucas

Commission Members Absent

Mayor Pro Tem Bert Bivins, III
Commissioner Gary Bechtel

Staff Present

Dale Walker – County Manager
Ben Hubbard – Director of Human Resources
Crystal Jones – Sr. Asst. County Attorney
Opie Bowen – Asst. County Attorney
Reggie McClendon – Asst. County Attorney

Chris Floore – Asst. to Co. Mgr. – Public Affairs
Jean S. Howard – Clerk of Commission
Janice Ross – Asst. Clerk of Commission

News Media Present

Stanley Dunlap – The Telegraph
Paula Rotondo – 13 WMAZ

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

Mayor Reichert stated the meeting was being convened as a Committee of the Whole add one new alcoholic beverage license to the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. A new Alcoholic Beverage License for 584 Emery Highway Shopping, LLC d/b/a Quick Serve located at 584 Emery Highway, Macon, GA 31217

ACTION

- ***On motion of Commissioner Ed DeFore, seconded by Commissioner Larry Schlesinger, and carried unanimously, the Alcoholic Beverage License was approved as presented.***

- *Unanimous approval by Commissioners Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., Al Tillman.*

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

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

CALLED TO ORDER

PRAYER

The prayer to be rendered by Deacon James Hubbard of Saint Peter Claver Catholic Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Reichert asked Commissioner Ed DeFore to lead the Pledge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Pre-Commission Meeting on July 21, 2015
- B. Regular Commission Meeting on July 21, 2015

INVITED GUESTS

Recognition and presentation of Proclamation to the Ballard-Hudson High School Class of 1965

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS

Operations and Finance Committee (Vice Chairman, Commissioner Elaine Lucas)

Economic and Community Development Committee

Public Safety Committee

Facilities and Engineering Committee

OLD BUSINESS

- A. A Resolution authorizing a one year lease agreement with River Edge Behavioral Health Center for the lease of office space at 175 Emery Highway for \$403,750.08.

- B. Resolution authorizing a lease agreement with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission for the lease of office space at 175-C Emery Highway for the annual lease amount \$100,000.08C.
- C. A Resolution authorizing an agreement with the Third Judicial Administrative District of Georgia for \$81,064.00 for administrative services provided to the Macon-Bibb County Drug Court
- D. A Resolution authorizing an agreement with F.B.P. Insurance Services, LLC d/b/a Proview Advanced Administrators, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$54,000 for the first year, to provide Administrator Services to the Macon-Bibb County Benefits Program
- E. A Resolution to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Bibb County School District to call an election on Tuesday, November 3, 2015 of the voters of Bibb County to approve the continuation of a one percent sales and use tax for education
- F. A Resolution appointing Jeffery McGee to the Macon-Bibb County Department of Business Development Services Construction Board of Appeals
- G. A Resolution authorizing the commission of a portrait to be completed by a local artist of former Macon Attorney Thomas Jackson, authorizing a ceremony to be held at the Thomas Jackson Juvenile Justice Center to present said portrait

Mayor Reichert stated Julie Moore had received an existing portrait of Attorney Jackson which the Commission viewed and deemed it was satisfactory to reframe and enlarge which met the criteria needed to have a portrait placed in the Thomas Jackson Juvenile Justice Center in lieu of having a portrait commissioned. Commissioner Shepherd offered to sponsor a Floor Amendment to effect the change in the Resolution at tonight's meeting. All Commissioners were in agreement with using the existing portrait.

- H. A Resolution to authorize and approve the lease of sixty golf carts for the Parks and Recreation Department in the amount of \$126,921.60 from Textron, Inc. for 48 months; to trade in 60 golf carts for \$83,700
- I. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to request the Georgia Department of Community Affairs submit a request to the Treasury Department to release Hardest Hit Funding to be used for a Georgia Blight Elimination Program
- J. A Resolution to authorize the condemnation of a Right of Way consisting of 538.61 square feet, more or less, as shown as parcel 26 of the right-of-way survey plat of Log Cabin Drive

NEW BUSINESS

- A. An Ordinance establishing a Millage Rate of 14.652 Mills to be levied and assessed for the year 2015 upon the taxable property located in the Macon-Bibb County Tax District and providing for the termination of the Macon City Tax District

Refer To: Operations and Finance Committee

DISCUSSION

Commissioners Elaine Lucas and Al Tillman offered suggestions on the relocation of the Board of Elections office and the need for an additional Early Voting site. Commissioner Lucas suggested the Centreplex and Commissioner suggested a look at the API building as possible locations for the Board.

Dale Walker, County Manager, location sites for the relocating the Board of Elections were being looked at.

Commissioners Virgil Watkins, Scotty Shepherd, and Mallory Jones spoke about the unkempt appearance of the County's right-of-ways and what could be done to improve the appearance of the County's entrance ways, roads, and streets using the staff we presently have.

Commissioner Shepherd stated a schedule of cuttings had been previously asked for and has not been received. Commissioner Tillman suggested having some spray growth retardants to prevent regrowth of grass and weeds. Commissioner Shepherd stated the extreme heat we have been having has affected our staff in probably getting more done. Mayor Reichert stated a report would be forthcoming from Steve Lawson, Parks and Beautification Department.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Larry Schlesinger asked everyone to sign onto a letter against Anti-Semitism.

Mayor Reichert stated there would be a grand opening of the Lamar Lofts on Friday, August 7th and ribbon cutting. He invited all Commissioners to attend. The Mayor further stated this was one project that was being completed with bond funds.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Jean S. Howard
Clerk of Commission