

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MINUTES

July 12, 2022

The Committee of the Whole was called to order by Mayor Lester M. Miller.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mayor Lester M. Miller
Commissioner Mallory Jones
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Commissioner Raymond Wilder
Commissioner Bill Howell
Commissioner Paul Bronson
Commissioner Virgil Watkins
Commissioner Al Tillman

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Commissioner Valerie Wynn

GUESTS

Laura Mathis, Exec. Director, Regional Commission
Greg Brown, Planning and Zoning Commission
Ken North, Planning and Zoning Commission

OTHERS PRESENT:

Duke Groover, Interim County Attorney
Michael McNeill, Sr. Assistant County Attorney
Adrianna Beavers, Assistant County Attorney
Frank Howard, Assistant County Attorney
Sara Davis, Assistant County Attorney
Keith Moffett, County Manager
Janice Ross, Clerk of Commission
Julie Moore, Budget and Strategic Planning
Dr. Henry Ficklin, Exec. Dir., Community Affairs
Chris Floore, Public Affairs
Olivia Walter, Communications
Edna Ruiz, Communications
Alex Morrison, Urban Development Authority
Wanzina Jackson, Director, ECD
Amy Tarpley, Middle Ga. Regional Airports

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole from June 14, 2022

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Bronson and carried unanimously, the minutes of June 14, 2022 were approved.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Presentation of the Comprehensive Community Plan

Laura Mathis, Greg Brown and Ken North presented the Comprehensive Community Plan. There are several opportunities for the citizen of Macon-Bibb County to give input to the plan.

Once the survey closes and all town hall meetings are held, Mr. Brown and Ms. Mathis will return in October to ask for final approval of the Plan.

3. NEW ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSES

A. New alcohol license for Mercer 3737 LLC located at 3737 Mercer University Drive

On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Clark, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the license was denied as the owner did not have a certificate of good standing as the owner of the property has outstanding property taxes in the amount of \$32,000.

- B. New alcohol license for Macon Crab House, LLC located at 4690 Presidential Parkway

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the license for Macon Crab House was approved.

- C. New alcohol license for Initial Gulmit LLC dba Chevron #275 located at 997 Gray Highway

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Tillman and carried unanimously, the license for Initial Gulmit was approved.

- D. New alcohol license for Heli & Jia LLC dba Texaco Food Mart located at 4476 Ocmulgee East Boulevard

On motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Howell and carried by a vote of seven to one with Commissioners Jones, Lucas Clark, Wilder, Howell, Watkins and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioner Bronson casting the dissenting vote the license for Heli & Jia was approved.

- E. New alcohol license for Romeiser Food Mart dba Rudha 2022 LLC located at 4961 Romeiser Drive

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously the license for Romeiser Food Mart was approved.

- F. New alcohol license for Khanaji LLC dba Shooters Bar located at 4755 Chambers Road

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Tillman and carried unanimously the license for Khanaii was approved.

- G. New alcohol license for Hilltop 2022 LLC dba Velero Food Mart located at 3726 Jeffersonville Road

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried by a vote of seven to one with Commissioner Lucas, Jones Clark, Wilder, Howell, Watkins and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioner Brownson casting the dissenting vote, the license for Velero Food Mart was approved.

- H. New alcohol license for Bass Spirits & Cigars located at 5451 Bowman Road, Ste. 260

On motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Howell and carried unanimously, the license for Bass Spirits and Cigars located on Bowman Road was approved.

- I. New alcohol license for Bass Package & Cigars located at 1687 Bass Road

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Howell and carried unanimously, the license for Bass Package and Cigars on Bass Road was approved.

4. APPOINTMENTS TO AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMITTEES

- A. A Resolution reappointing Joe Robinson as a member on the Region 5 Emergency Medical Service Council

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Clark and carried unanimously, the reappointment of Joe Robinson to Region 5 Emergency Medical Service Council was approved.

- B. A Resolution appointing John Goolsby to the Fort Hawkins Board

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Lucas and carried unanimously, the appointment of John Goolsby to the Fort Hawkins Board was approved.

5. CONTRACTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OR RENEWAL

- A. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a purchase and sales agreement with Becker Arena Products, Inc for the purchase of an arena deck ice floor cover system in the amount of \$185,215.00; to be paid from 2018 SPLOST Funds for Culture and recreation, Coliseum - Property Line Item (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Bronson and carried unanimously, the agreement with Becker Arena Products for the arena deck ice floor cover was approved.

- B. A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute a quit claim deed for the sale of property to the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority totaling approximately eight hundredths (0.081) of an acre located at the dead end of Cason for its fair market value of ten thousand, two hundred sixty-one dollars and 00/100 cents (\$10,261.00) (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the quit claim deed for the sale of property to the Transit Authority was approved.

- C. A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to close and abandon a portion of Cason Street and to remove such path from the official road map of Macon-Bibb County (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Howell and carried unanimously, the closure of Cason Street was approved.

- D. A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 2 to Task Release Agreement #4 with Hofstadter and Associates, Inc. to provide for additional operational activity during the preparation and closure of the Walker Road Landfill for an additional fee of \$1,482,386.23, payable out of 2018 SPLOST Revenues - Walker Road Landfill - Closure Line Item (Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Brown and carried unanimously, the amendment to the Task Release Agreement with Hofstadler was approved.

6. ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS

- A. A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the acceptance of a Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant from the State of Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for fiscal year 2023, in the amount of \$402,896, with no local match, awarded to the Macon Judicial Circuit Juvenile Court in substantially the same form as the hereto attached Exhibit A (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Wilder and carried unanimously, the grant for the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant was approved.

- B. A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the acceptance of the Judicial Council of Georgia American Rescue Plan Act Funding Grant, in the amount of

\$259,900, with no local match, awarded to the Macon Judicial Circuit (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the acceptance of the Judicial Council of Georgia American Rescue Plan Grant for the Macon Judicial Circuit was approved.

- C. A Resolution ratifying the acceptance of Georgia Department of Transportation Funding, in the amount of \$2,000,000.00 for costs associated with the Runway Extension Project at the Middle Georgia Regional Airport (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Commissioner Bronson, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the acceptance of the grant from the Community Foundation of Central Georgia with no match for Why Clean Streets Matter Contests Program was approved.

7. ORDINANCES

- A. An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to adopt the Economic and Community Development Department ESG, Home, and CDBG Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2023 (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the Ordinance to approve the ECD ESG, Home and CDBG Budget for 2023 was approved.

- B. An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to amend Article III of Chapter 17 of the Macon-Bibb County Code of Ordinances to grant the Director the authority to promulgate rules related to safety; to amend the penalty for violations; to add an additional rule related to unsupervised minors at the Tobesofkee Recreation Area (Sponsored Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Commissioner Watkins to table the Ordinance failed to pass by a vote of four to four with Commissioners Bronson, Lucas, Watkins and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioners Jones, Clark, Wilder and Howell casting the dissenting votes. As stated in the Charter the Mayor shall not vote except to break a tie. Mayor Miller voted no and the motion to table failed to pass.

On motion of Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Lucas to strike Section 17-51 "He or she may from time to time promulgate rules and regulations related to the safety of visitors at the Tobesofkee Recreation Area and such rules and regulations shall have the same force and effect as those specifically enumerated in this article." Failed to pass by a vote of five to three with Commissioners Lucas, Watkins and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioners Jones, Clark, Howell, Wilder and Bronson casting the dissenting votes.

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Howell and carried unanimously, the following amendment to the Ordinance was approved " He or she may, only after consulting with the County Attorney's Office and receiving approval from the County Manager, promulgate rules and regulations related to the safety of visitors at the Tobesofkee Recreation Area and such rules and regulations shall have the same force and effect as those specifically enumerated in this article."

- C. An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to amend Section 8.05 of the Macon-Bibb County Government Policies and Procedures Manual, entitled "Sick Leave Bank," for the purpose of incorporating changes to firefighter schedules and to the County sick leave policy (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the Ordinance to incorporate changes to the Sick Leave Bank was approved.

- D. An Ordinance to amend Section 2-17 and 2-18 of the Code and Section 2.04 of the Policies and Procedures Manual for the purpose the clarifying the nepotism policy for the county government.

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Clark and carried unanimously, the Ordinance to clarify the nepotism policy for the county government was approved.

8. APPROPRIATIONS

- A. An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize a supplemental budget appropriation from General Fund - Fund Balance to the Capital Improvements Fund - I.T. - Computers & Hardware Line Item in the amount of \$125,000 to provide additional funding for the purchase of media system improvements for the Macon-Bibb County Commission Chambers (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

O motion of Commissioner Bronson, seconded by Commissioner Jones and carried unanimously, the appropriation for funding of media system improvements were approved.

- B. Action: B. An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize a supplemental budget appropriation from General Fund - Fund Balance to the Capital Improvements Fund - Fire-Vehicles Line Item in the amount of \$265,018.00 to provide additional funding for the purchase of a new fire engine (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Commissioner Bronson, seconded by Commissioner Lucas and carried unanimously, the appropriation for a new fire engine was approved.

- C. Action: C. An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize a supplemental budget appropriation from General Fund - Fund Balance to the Capital Improvements Fund - Recreation - Property Line Item in the amount of \$145,000 to provide additional funding for the purchase of lighting at Carolyn Crayton Park (Sponsored by Mayor Lester M. Miller)

On motion of Commissioner Tillman, seconded by Commissioner Bronson and carried unanimously, the appropriation for purchasing lighting at Carolyn Crayton Park was approved.

9. INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHTS

- A. A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission approving a petition for the installation of twenty-eight (28) street lights in the Oakview Subdivision, pursuant to Article X of Chapter 29 of the Macon-Bibb County Code of Ordinance, to be paid from the Facilities Management Budget, Services to Government

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Clark and carried unanimously, the installation of street lights at Oakview Subdivision was approved.

10. PERMIT APPROVAL

- A. A Resolution authorizing Bragg Jam, Inc. a nonprofit organization, to hold its 2022 Concert Crawl in downtown Macon, Georgia, on Saturday, July 30, 2022; to permit festival-goers to carry and consume alcoholic beverages in and about the designated streets of downtown

Macon under specified conditions; to require Bragg Jam, Inc. to provide for and/or reimburse Macon-Bibb County for all expenses incurred for security and clean-up.

On Motion of Commissioner Bronson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Clark and carried unanimously the festival goers of Bragg Jam may consume and carry alcoholic beverage in and about the designated streets of downtown was approved.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Consultation with the county attorney or other legal counsel to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against Macon-Bibb County or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1); 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);

On motion of Commissioner Tillman, seconded by Commissioner Clark and carried unanimously, the meeting went into Executive Session to discuss the above.

On motion of Mayor Miller, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Clark the meeting came out of Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted:

Janice S. Ross, CMC
Clerk of the Macon-Bibb County Commission