MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
MACON-BIBB COUNTY COMMISSION
October 6, 2015 – 6:00 P.M.
Government Center
(Commission Chamber)

The Regular Commission meeting of the Macon-Bibb County Commission was held on October 6, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. in the Commission Chamber at Government Center.

Commission Members Present

Mayor Robert A. B. Reichert
Mayor Pro Tem Bert Bivins, III
Commissioner Larry Schlesinger
Commissioner Gary Bechtel
Commissioner Ed DeFore
Commissioner Scotty Shepherd
Commissioner Virgil Watkins, Jr.
Commissioner Al Tillman

Commission Members Absent
Commissioner Elaine Lucas

Staff Present:
Dale Walker, County Manager
Julie Moore – Assistant to County Manager
Chris Floore – Asst. to Co. Mgr. – Public Affairs
Crystal Jones – Sr. Asst. County Attorney
Janice Ross – Interim Clerk of Commission
Reggie McClendon – Asst. County Attorney

Guests in Attendance
June Parker – Exec. Dir., Macon Housing Authority

News Media Present
Stanley Dunlap – The Telegraph
Paula Rotondo – 13 WMAZ
Ivy Nova – WGXA News

CALLED TO ORDER

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

PRAYER

The prayer was rendered by Pastor Bo Turner, Real Life Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Georgia Civic Awareness Student (GCAPS) Su Pak, who is a senior at Mount de Sales Academy and Jaedyn Ellis who is a senior at Stratford Academy.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Pre-Commission Meeting on October 6, 2015
B. Regular Commission Meeting on October 6, 2015

ACTION:

On motion of Commissioner Ed DeFore, seconded by Commissioner Scotty Shepherd, and carried unanimously with Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman voting in the affirmative, the minutes of the Pre-Commission and Regular Commission meetings held on October 6, 2015 were approved as presented.

INVITED GUESTS

Mayor Reichert presented a resolution to Frank Louis Tompkins, President of the Bibb County Retired Educators Association, in honor of Retired Educators Day.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Josephine Bryant Jones commented on her concerns regarding the renaming of Courtland Avenue.

Richard Austin commented on his support on renaming of Courtland Avenue based on the work of Reverend Walter Glover.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Operations and Finance Committee

Committee Chairman Gary Bechtel reported that the Operations and Finance Committee met on October 13, 2015 and took the following action:

The Committee approved the following agreements:

- An agreement with Gateway Macon LLC for the lease of parking spaces at the Mulberry Street Parking Garage at a rate of $5,250 per month
- An agreement with Peed Brothers, Inc for East Macon Park Tee Ball Field and Sidewalk Additions for $285,839 to be paid from SPLOST funds

The Committee authorized the approval of the selection of Bogdahn Consulting, LLC, d/b/a The Bogdahn Group as the investment consultant for the Macon-Bibb County Fire and Police Employees’ Retirement System

The Committee approved the transfer of $1,180,281.45 of the Series 2013A and Series 2013B Urban Development Authority Bond proceeds to the Sears Roebuck Store
Renovation Project from the Tax Commissioner’s Office Project, the Lake Tobesofkee Project and the East Bibb Fire Station Project which will be constructed as a priority.

The Committee approved the adjusted FY2015 budget to reflect organizational changes where departmental expenditures were impacted and other year-end adjustments.

The Committee approved amending the Fiscal Year 2016 General Fund Budget to $144,900,000 in total revenues and $144,900,000 in total expenditures to reflect recent retirements and other reductions; and to amend the Fiscal Year 2016 budgets of other funds to reflect recent retirements and other activities.

**Economic and Community Development Committee**

Committee Chairman Larry Schlesinger reported that the Economic and Community Development Committee did not meet on October 13, 2015.

**Public Safety Committee**

Committee Chairman Scotty Shepherd reported that the Public Safety Committee met on October 13, 2015 and took the following action:

- The Committee repeal the Safety Review Board, Chapter 2, Division 13 of the Code of Ordinances
- The Committee also heard a report from Lt. Brad Wolfe, a member of the Pedestrian Fatality Review Board, on the work of the Board to reduce deaths on the County’s streets and roads.

**Facilities and Engineering Committee**

Committee Chairman Mallory Jones reported that the Facilities and Engineering Committee met on September 13, 2015 and took the following action:

- The Committee approved erecting recognition signs in honor of Dr. Walter L. Glover, Jr. to be located at the intersections of Courtland and Montpelier Avenue and Courtland and Napier Avenue to read “Dr. Walter L. Glover Jr. Way”
- The Committee authorized the condemnation of a permanent easement of 1,165.34 square feet (0.027 acres) more or less, and a temporary construction easement of 1,150.13 square feet (0.0087 acres), more or less, as shown as parcel 11 of the right-of-way survey plat of Log Cabin Drive
- The Committee approved a Memorandum of Understanding with the Macon-Bibb County Land Bank Authority for the acquisition of property related to the Wise Avenue multipurpose field.
CONSENT AGENDA

A. A new Alcoholic Beverage License for Posh Ultra Lounge located at 385 2nd Street, Macon, Ga. 31201

B. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Gray Highway Management, Inc d/b/a Quick Serve Food Mart located at 1105 Gray Highway, Macon, Ga.

ACTION:

- The new Alcoholic Beverage Licenses for Posh Ultra Lounge located at 385 2nd Street and Gray Highway Management, Inc. d/b/a Quick Serve Food Mart located at 1105 Gray Highway were approved unanimously with Commissioners Bivins, Bechtel, Schlesinger, Tillman, Jones, DeFore, Shepherd, and Watkins, voting in the affirmative.

OLD BUSINESS

A. A Resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Gateway Macon LLC for the lease of parking spaces at the Mulberry Street Parking Garage at a rate of $5,250 per month

Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Gateway Macon LLC for the lease of parking spaces at the Mulberry Street Parking Garage at a rate of $5,250 per month; and for other purposes.

ACTION:

- Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bivins, Bechtel, Schlesinger, Jones, DeFore, Shepherd, Watkins, and Tillman.

B. A Resolution approving an agreement with Peed Bros, Inc. for East Macon Park Tee Ball Field and Sidewalk Additions for $285,839 to be paid from SPLOST Funds

Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission approving an agreement with Peed Bros, Inc. for East Macon Park Tee Ball Field and Sidewalk Additions for $285,839 to be paid from SPLOST Funds in form to be approved by the County Attorney’s Office; and for other purposes.

ACTION:

- Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bivins, Bechtel, Schlesinger, Jones, DeFore, Shepherd, Watkins, and Tillman.
C. A Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute a public safety communications maintenance agreement with Williams Communications, Inc. for $290,250 for year one and to allow for automatic renewal of the agreement for an annual increase not to exceed five percent

Clerk read by caption:  A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute a public safety communications maintenance agreement with Williams Communications, Inc. for $290,250 for year one and to allow for automatic renewal of the agreement for an annual increase not to exceed five percent; and for other purposes.

ACTION:

- The Resolution passed seven to one with Commissioners Bechtel, Bivins, Shepherd Schlesinger, Jones DeFore, and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioners Watkins casting the dissenting vote.

D. A Resolution to authorize and approve the selection of Bogdahn Consulting, LLC, d/b/a The Bogdahn Group as the investment consultant for the Macon-Bibb County Fire and Police Employees' Retirement System

Clerk read by caption:  A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize and approve the selection of Bogdahn Consulting, LLC, d/b/a The Bogdahn Group as the investment consultant for the Macon-Bibb County Fire and Police Employees' Retirement System in accordance with the terms of the agreement attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

ACTION:

- The resolution passed seven to one with Commissioners Schlesinger, Bechtel, Bivins, DeFore, Watkins, Tillman and Shepherd casting the affirmative votes and Commissioner Jones casting the dissenting vote.

E. A Resolution to authorize and approve the transfer of $1,180,281.45 of the Series 2013A and Series 2013B Urban Development Authority Bond proceeds to the Sears Roebuck Store Renovation Project from the Tax Commissioner's Office Project, the Lake Tobesofkee Project and the East Bibb Fire Station Project

Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize and approve the transfer of $1,180,281.45 of the Series 2013A and Series 2013B Urban Development Authority Bond proceeds to the Sears Roebuck Store Renovation Project from the Tax Commissioner’s Office Project, the Lake Tobesofkee Project and the East Bibb Fire Station Project; and for other purposes.
ACTION:

- **Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bivins, Bechtel, Schlesinger, Jones, DeFore, Shepherd, Watkins, and Tillman.**

F. An Ordinance of the Commission of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia to adjust FY 2015 Budget to reflect organizational changes where departmental expenditures were impacted and other year-end adjustments

*Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Commission of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia to adjust FY 2015 Budget to reflect organizational changes where departmental expenditures were impacted and other year-end adjustments*

ACTION:

- **Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bivins, Bechtel, Schlesinger, Jones, DeFore, Shepherd, Watkins, and Tillman.**

G. An Ordinance to amend the Fiscal year 2016 General Fund Budget to $144,900,000 in total revenues and $144,900,000 in total expenditures to reflect recent retirements and other reductions; and to amend the Fiscal Year 2016 budgets of other funds to reflect recent retirements and other activities

*Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to amend the Fiscal year 2016 General Fund Budget to $144,900,000 in total revenues and $144,900,000 in total expenditures to reflect recent retirements and other reductions; and to amend the Fiscal Year 2016 budgets of other funds to reflect recent retirements and other activities; and for other lawful purposes*

ACTION:

- **The resolution passed seven to one with Commissioners Schlesinger, Jones DeFore, Bivins, Tillman, Bechtel, and Shepherd casting the affirmative votes and Commissioner Watkins casting the dissenting vote.**

H. An Ordinance to repeal the Safety Review Board, Chapter 2, Division 13 of the Code of Ordinances, so as to eliminate the provisions of that division; to renumber the remaining divisions

*Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to repeal the Safety Review Board, Chapter 2, Division 13 of the Code of Ordinances, so as to eliminate the provisions of that division; to renumber the remaining divisions; and for other lawful purposes.*
ACTION:

- Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bivins, Bechtel, Schlesinger, Jones, DeFore, Shepherd, Watkins, and Tillman.

I. A Resolution to erect recognition signs in honor of Dr. Walter L. Glover, Jr. to be located on Courtland Avenue and to read "Dr. Walter L. Glover Jr. Way"

Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to erect recognition signs in honor of Dr. Walter L. Glover, Jr. to be located on Courtland Avenue and to read "Dr. Walter L. Glover Jr. Way"; and for other purposes.

ACTION:

- The resolution passed seven to one with Commissioners Bivins, Bechtel, Schlesinger, DeFore, Shepherd, Watkins and Tillman casting the affirmative votes and Commissioner Jones casting the dissenting vote.

J. A Resolution to authorize the condemnation of a permanent easement of 1,165.34 square feet (0.027 acres) more or less, and a temporary construction easement of 1,150.13 square feet (0.0087 acres), more or less, as shown as parcel 11 of the right-of-way survey plat of Log Cabin Drive

Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the condemnation of a permanent easement of 1,165.34 square feet (0.027 acres) more or less, and a temporary construction easement of 1,150.13 square feet (0.0087 acres), more or less, as shown as parcel 11 of the right-of-way survey plat of Log Cabin Drive; and for other lawful purposes.

ACTION:

- Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bivins, Bechtel, Schlesinger, Jones, DeFore, Shepherd, Watkins, and Tillman.

K. A Resolution approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Macon-Bibb County Land Bank Authority, Inc. for the acquisition of property related to the Wise Avenue multi-purpose field

Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Macon-Bibb County Land Bank Authority, Inc. for the acquisition of property related to the Wise Avenue multi-purpose field in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A” and other lawful purposes.
ACTION:

• Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bivins, Bechtel, Schlesinger, Jones, DeFore, Shepherd, Watkins, and Tillman.

L. A Resolution endorsing the establishment of a revolving loan fund with Blight Bond Funds

_Clerk read by caption:_ A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission endorsing the establishment of a revolving loan fund with Blight Bond Funds; and for other purposes.

ACTION:

• Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bivins, Bechtel, Schlesinger, Jones, III, DeFore, Shepherd, Watkins, and Tillman.

M. A Resolution to authorize the condemnation of a Right-Of-Way consisting of 40,467 square feet (0.929 acres), more or less, as shown as parcel 08 of the Right-Of-Way survey plat of the Little Richard Penniman Connector

_Clerk read by caption:_ A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the condemnation of a Right-Of-Way consisting of 40,467 square feet (0.929 acres), more or less, as shown as parcel 08 of the Right-Of-Way survey plat of the Little Richard Penniman Connector and for other lawful purposes.

ACTION:

• Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bivins, Bechtel, Schlesinger, Jones, DeFore, Shepherd, Watkins, Jr., and Tillman.

NEW BUSINESS

A. An Ordinance to appropriate funds from District Two Blight Bond Funds to be used for the Lynmore Avenue Park Project

• Refer to the Operations and Finance Committee

B. A Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc for up to $348,000 for architectural and engineering services at Central City Park

• Refer to the Operations and Finance Committee

C. A Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with Triple Point Engineering, Inc for $47,800 for services associated with closing the Macon-Bibb County inert landfill

• Refer to the Operations and Finance Committee
D. A Resolution to authorize the employees of Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority to be eligible to receive the same retirement, health, dental, vision and life insurance benefits offered to Macon-Bibb County Employees

- Refer to the Operations and Finance Committee

Mayor Reichert stated other new business items would be added to next week’s Committees meetings agenda for distribution on Friday.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Remonia Toombs with the Georgia Federation of Teachers commented on the Senate Bill 133, Opportunity School District Legislation, recently proposed by the Governor. She stated that the Georgia Federation of Teachers opposed the legislation and asked that the Commission also oppose the Bill.

Mr. Donald H. Richardson, Jr. gave his reflections from a grass roots perspective regarding the Ambassador North Winship family’s legacy to Macon-Bibb County.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Commissioner Larry Schlesinger stated that he attended the exhibition game of the Macon Mayhem the past Friday night. He continued that he was pleased to report that approximately 2,000 people were in attendance.

Commissioner Al Tillman stated that he would like to solicit the public’s help in stopping the stealing of copper wires at County facilities. Bloomfield Recreation recently experienced the thief of copper wiring and now has no lights for the field. He continued that it was going to be expensive to replace these lights.

Commission Ed DeFore stated that he was grateful that Log Cabin was being widened but he wanted to be assured that the bridge on Log Cabin would also be widened.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 P.M.


Janice S. Ross, CC
Interim Clerk of the Commission