MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
MACON-BIBB COUNTY COMMISSION
December 16, 2014 – 6:00 P.M.
Government Center
(Commission Chamber)

The Regular Commission meeting of the Macon-Bibb County Commission was held on December 16, 2014 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 Gary Bechtel
Commissioner Larry Schlesinger
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Commissioner Mallory Jones, III
Commissioner Ed DeFore
Commissioner Scotty Shepherd
Commissioner Virgil Watkins, Jr.
Commissioner Al Tillman

Staff Present:
Dale Walker – County Manager
Judd Drake – County Attorney
Crystal Jones – Sr. Asst. County Attorney
Opie Bowen – Asst. County Attorney
Reggie McClendon – Asst. County Attorney
Chris Floore – Assistant to County Manager
Kevin Barrere – Public Affairs
Shelia Thurmond – Clerk of Commission
Steve Layson – Asst. Co. Mgr – Infrastructure
Charles Coney – Asst. Co. Mgr. – Operations
Kevin Barkley – Director of Solid Waste
Jean S. Howard – Asst. Clerk of Commission
Trae McCombs – Public Affairs

Guests in Attendance
Erica Woodford, Superior Court Clerk
Dr. Henry Ficklin
Lucille Clark
Macon-Bibb County GCAPS Students:
Cecilia Fuentes
Anthony Haugabrook
Youth of Pentecostal Temple
Shanta Gilmore

News Media Present
Jim Gaines – The Telegraph
Kristen Swilley – 13 WMAZ
Malcolm Johnson – 41 WMGT
Ron Wildman – 58 WPGA

CALL TO ORDER

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

The prayer was rendered by Pastor Larry Dunning of Pentecostal Temple and Macon-Bibb County employee in the Public Works Department.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by GCAPS students Cecilia Fuentes of Howard High School and Anthony Haugabrook of Rutland High School.

Mayor Reichert stated there were a couple of amendments to the agenda that needed to be approved that were discussed during the Pre-Commission meeting; items E and F under New Business were moved to be items R and S under Old Business for action at tonight’s meeting. Also, an additional item was added to New Business pertaining to the Wings Café.

*On motion of Commissioner Ed DeFore, seconded by Commissioner Scotty Shepherd and carried unanimously, the agenda was amended to add the above stated changes.*


APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Special Called Pre-Commission Meeting on December 9, 2014
B. Special Called Regular Commission Meeting on December 9, 2014

**ACTION:**

*On motion of Commissioner Larry Schlesinger, seconded by Commissioner Virgil Watkins, Jr., and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Special Pre-Commission and Special Regular Commission meetings held on December 9, 2014 were approved as presented.*


INVITED GUESTS

Pastor Larry Dunning of Pentecostal Temple was invited to render the prayer for tonight’s Regular Commission Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None
Commissioner Watkins motioned to amend the agenda to move Item G under New Business (Resolution regarding Wings Café) to Item T under Old Business. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Shepherd.

Judd Drake, County Attorney, advised that the agenda could be amended with the affirmative vote of five Commissioners.

Commissioner Tillman requested a Roll Call Vote.

Commissioners Watkins, Tillman, Bechtel and DeFore voted YES. Commissioners Bivins, Lucas, Schlesinger, Jones and Shepherd voted NO.

The motion failed by a vote of 5 to 4.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS

Operations and Finance Committee

Committee Chairman Gary Bechtel reported that the Operations and Finance Committee met on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 and considered and/or approved the following:

- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and the Clerk of Superior Court to create a Superior Court Technology Fund
- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement to sell the alley way between Sherwood Drive and Mercer University Drive consisting of 4,950 sq. ft. to the adjoining owner for no less than fair market value, and authorizing the Mayor to execute a Quit Claim Deed and any other documents to effect the sale of said property
- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Quality Traffic Systems for the purchase of Traffic Signal Control Cabinets for use by the Facilities Management Department
- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Technology International, Inc. for the purchase of heating, ventilation and air conditioning Units for the Sears Building
- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Stafford Builders & Consultants, Inc. in the amount of $354,002.00 for renovation of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission
- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Advanced Disposal Services Macon to extend the current agreement to provide residential solid waste and recyclable materials collection and disposal services in Macon-Bibb County for a period of 30 months
• A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and WMA Architects/Planners in the amount of $93,330.00 (from SPLOST Funds) for architectural services at the Frank Johnson Community Center

• A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers in the amount of $27,000.00 (from SPLOST Funds) for architectural services at Central City Park

• A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and WMA Architects/Planners in the amount of $159,395.00 (from SPLOST Funds) for architectural services at Memorial Park Community Center

• A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Stafford Builders & Consultants, Inc. in the amount of $993,550.00 (from SLOST Funds) for the John Drew Smith Tennis Center construction

• A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and WMA Architects/Planners in the amount of $261,770.00 (from SPLOST Funds) for architectural services at Rosa Jackson Community Center

• A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Sizemore Group in the amount of $170,365.00 (from SPLOST Funds) for architectural services at the Gilead-Bloomfield Complex

• An Ordinance appropriating $76,075.00 from the Commissary Fund to the Sheriff’s Office for the purchase of Air Handlers for the LEC

• A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers in the amount of $483,000.00 (from SPLOST Funds) for architectural services for the Sub-South Mega-Center Outdoor Recreation Complex in Macon-Bibb County

**Economic and Community Development Committee**

Committee Chairman Larry Schlesinger reported that the Economic and Community Development Committee met on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 and considered and/or approved the following:

• A Resolution endorsing the creation of a 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Corporation to replace the existing Sister Cities Commission for the purpose of fundraising for and support of Sister Cities activities in Macon-Bibb County and authorizing the County Attorney’s Office to assist in the establishment of said Non-Profit Corporation

• A Resolution endorsing the creation of a 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Corporation to replace the existing Fort Hawkins Commission and authorizing the County Attorney’s Office to assist in the establishment of said Non-Profit Corporation

• Heard a presentation by Wimberly Treadwell on the Daisy Park improvements
• Received an update from Reggie Moore, Assistant Director of Recreation, on the Senior Citizens Center. The Committee endorsed the Bloomfield site for said center.

• Received an update from Dr. Andrew Silver of Mercer University on the Tattnall Square Park Fountain. Mercer University proposed to build and maintain said fountain.

Public Safety Committee – No Report

The Committee did not meet on December 9th.

Facilities and Engineering Committee

Committee Chairman Al Tillman reported the Facilities and Engineering Committee met on December 9, 2014 and considered and/or approved the following:

• A Resolution to rename the gymnasium located at the Rosa Jackson Center in honor of Delores A. Brooks

CONSENT AGENDA

No items for consideration

OLD BUSINESS

A. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and the Clerk of Superior Court to create a Superior Court Technology Fund

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and the Clerk of Superior Court of Macon-Bibb County to create a Superior Court Technology Fund; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


B. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement to sell the alley way located between Sherwood Drive and Mercer University Drive consisting of 4,950 square feet to the adjoining owner for no less than fair market value of $29,700.00; authorizing the Mayor to execute a quit claim deed and any other necessary documents to effect the sale of said property

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement to sell the alley way located...
between Sherwood Drive and Mercer University Drive consisting of 4,950 square feet to the adjoining owner for no less than the fair market value of $29,700.00; authorizing the Mayor to execute a Quit Claim Deed and any other necessary documents to effect the sale of said property; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


C. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Quality Traffic Systems for the purchase of traffic signal control cabinets for use by the Facilities Management Department

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Quality Traffic Systems for the purchase of Traffic Signal Control Cabinets for use by the Macon-Bibb County Facilities Management Department; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


D. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Technology International, Inc. for the purchase of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning units for the Sears building

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Technology International, Inc. for the purchase of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning units for the Sears Building; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


Point of Personal Privilege:

Mayor Reichert stated he was going to make a concerted effort to refer to the Sears Building as the Sheriff’s Downtown Annex.
E. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Stafford Builders & Consultants, Inc. in the amount of $354,002.00 for renovation of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission, in form to be approved by the County Attorney’s Office

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Stafford Builders & Consultants, Inc. in the amount of three hundred fifty four thousand two dollars and 00/100 ($354,002.00) for renovation of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission, in form to be approved by the County Attorney’s Office; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**

- **Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Élaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman.**

F. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Advanced Disposal Services Macon, LLC to extend the current agreement to provide residential solid waste and recyclable materials collection and disposal services in Macon-Bibb County for a period of 30 months, in form to be approved by the County Attorney’s Office

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Advanced Disposal Services Macon, LLC to extend the current agreement to provide residential solid waste and recyclable materials collection and disposal services in Macon-Bibb County for a period of thirty (30) months, in form to be approved by the County Attorney’s Office; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**

- **Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Élaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman.**

G. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and WMA Architects/Planners, Inc. for $93,330.00 for architectural services at the Frank Johnson Community Center, with funding from SPLOST

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and WMA Architects/Planners, Inc. for ninety three thousand three hundred thirty dollars and 00/100 ($93,330.00) for architectural services at the Frank Johnson Community Center in Macon-Bibb County; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**

- **Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Élaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman.**
H. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Vaughn and Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc. for $27,000.00 for architectural services at Central City Park, with funding from SPLOST

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc. for twenty seven thousand dollars and 00/100 ($27,000.00) for architectural services at Central City Park in Macon-Bibb County; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


I. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and WMA Architects/Planners, Inc. for $159,395.00 for architectural services at Memorial Park Community Center, with funding from SPLOST

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and WMA Architects/Planners, Inc. for one hundred fifty nine thousand three hundred ninety-five dollars and 00/100 ($159,395.00) for architectural services at the Memorial Park Community Center in Macon-Bibb County; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


J. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Stafford Builders and Consultants, Inc. in the amount of $993,550.00 for John Drew Smith Tennis Center construction, in form to be approved by the County Attorney’s Office, with funding from SPLOST

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Stafford Builders & Consultants, Inc. in the amount of nine hundred ninety three thousand five hundred fifty dollars and 00/100 ($993,550.00) for John Drew Smith Tennis Center construction, in form to be approved by the County Attorney’s Office; and for other purposes

**ACTION:**

- Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry
K. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and WMA Architects/Planners, Inc. for $261,770.00 for architectural services at the Rosa Jackson Community Center, with funding from SPLOST

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and WMA Architects/Planners, Inc. for two hundred sixty one thousand seven hundred seventy dollars and 00/100 ($261,770.00) for architectural services at the Rosa Jackson Community Center in Macon-Bibb County; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


L. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Sizemore Group, LLC for $170,365.00 for architectural services at the Gilead-Bloomfield Complex in Macon-Bibb County, with funding from SPLOST

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Sizemore Group, LLC for one hundred seventy thousand three hundred sixty-five dollars and 00/100 ($170,365.00) for architectural services at the Gilead-Bloomfield Complex in Macon-Bibb County; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


M. Ordinance to appropriate $76,075.00 from the Commissary Fund to the Sheriff’s Office for purchase of Air Handlers for the Law Enforcement Center

- Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Commission of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia to appropriate $76,075 from Commissary Fund to purchase five new Air Handlers at the Law Enforcement Center.

ACTION:

N. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc. for $483,000.00 for architectural services for the Sub-South Mega-Center Outdoor Recreation Complex in Macon-Bibb County to be paid from SPLOST funds

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc. for four hundred eighty-three thousand dollars and 00/100 ($483,000.00) for architectural services for the Sub-South Mega-Center Outdoor Recreation Complex in Macon-Bibb County to be paid from SPLOST Funds; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


O. Resolution endorsing the creation of a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation to replace the existing Sister Cities Commission for the purpose of fundraising for and supporting Sister Cities activities in Macon-Bibb County and authorizing the County Attorney’s Office to assist in the establishment of said Non-Profit Corporation

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission endorsing the creation of a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation to replace the existing Sister Cities Commission for the purpose of fundraising for and supporting Sister Cities activities in Macon-Bibb County and authorizing the County Attorney’s Office to assist in the establishment of said Non-Profit Corporation; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


P. Resolution endorsing the creation of a 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Organization to replace the existing Fort Hawkins Commission and authorizing the County Attorney’s Office to assist in the establishment of said Non-Profit Corporation

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission endorsing the creation of a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization to replace the existing Fort Hawkins Commission and authorizing the County Attorney’s Office to assist in the establishment of said Non-Profit Corporation; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**

Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman.

Q. Resolution to rename the gymnasium located at the Rosa Jackson Center in honor of Delores A. Brooks

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to rename the gymnasium located at the Rosa Jackson Center in honor of Delores A. Brooks; and for other purposes.

Discussion: Commissioner Lucas stated Ms. Brooks was unable to attend tonight’s meeting due to illness. She then gave a brief history of Ms. Brooks’s service to the community as well as her efforts in the construction of the Rosa Jackson Center as it exists today. She also stated Ms. Brooks served as the first black female on Macon City Council, serving over 20 years.

Mayor Reichert asked for a point of personal privilege to express his concern for Ms. Brooks’ well-being and asked Commissioner Lucas to invite her again to attend at which time the Resolution would be read in its entirety in her honor.

ACTION:


R. Resolution to approve the placement of a fountain in Tattnall Square Park by Friends of Tattnall Square Park and to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement for Mercer University to pay the annual maintenance costs for the fountain

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to approve the placement of a fountain in Tattnall Square Park by Friends of Tattnall Square Park and to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement for Mercer University to pay the annual maintenance costs for the fountain; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


S. Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to approve the selection of the Bloomfield Center property as the location for the new Macon-Bibb County Senior Center

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to approve the selection of the Bloomfield Center property as the location for the new Macon-Bibb County Senior Center; and for other purposes.

ACTION:
NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution to reappoint Violet Poe to the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority

   Referred To: Economic and Community Development Committee

B. Resolution to reappoint Commissioner Gary Bechtel and Gene Dunwody, Sr. to the Macon Economic Development Commission

   Referred To: Economic and Community Development Committee

C. Resolution to appoint Tom Sands and to reappoint Gene Dunwody, Jr. to the Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority

   Referred To: Economic and Community Development Committee

D. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute a project change request between Macon-Bibb County and Mainline Information Systems, Inc. for $99,000.00 for additional consulting and support services to the Information Technology Department to be paid from the departmental budget

   Referred To: Operations and Finance Committee

E. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement in the amount of $79,923.50 with Northeast Concrete Co., Inc. for the paving of Liberty Church Road, the paving of Sofkee Road, and for the installation of sidewalks near Graham Road

   Referred To: Operations and Finance Committee

F. Ordinance to appropriate $6,000.00 ($1,000.00 per month for 6 months) from Fund Balance to supplement various operational needs of Fort Hawkins

   Referred To: Operations and Finance Committee

G. Resolution to require the named licensee of the Wings Café at 2822 Bloomfield Drive to appear before the Macon-Bibb County Municipal Court for violation of SEC. 4053 of the Inaugural Code of Ordinances for Macon-Bibb County; to determine whether to suspend or revoke any alcoholic Beverage license issued to said location

   Referred To: Public Safety Committee

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Johnny James provided information on the Georgia Sports Alliance All Star Senior Football Game to be held at the Ed DeFore Sports Complex on December 20, 2014.

Dr. Henry C. Ficklin thanked Mayor Reichert for the Proclamation he presented to Dr. Julius C. Hope, a former minister and Civil Rights leader, in Detroit, Michigan in recognition of his retirement. Dr. Ficklin also addressed the Commission about a $700.00 plus garbage fee assessed on an unoccupied Kitchens Road rental property, with assessment dating back to 2010, and asked for a review of the charges.

Terry McGee spoke on the budget process of the Consolidated Government and stated the budget should be based on sustainability. He also spoke on the boxing gym and the need for a pool at Freedom Park.

Robert Curry, Jr. spoke on the need for a new senior citizens center and Parks and Recreation.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mayor Reichert recognized Shelia Thurmond, Clerk of Commission, on her retirement and stated that tonight was Shelia’s last meeting. Mayor Reichert stated that Shelia had served the office with grace and dignity, and expressed his great appreciation for her service.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and on motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 P.M.


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Shelia Thurmond, CCC
Clerk of Commission