MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
MACON-BIBB COUNTY COMMISSION
April 21, 2015 – 6:00 P.M.
Government Center
(Commission Chamber)

The Regular Commission meeting of the Macon-Bibb County Commission was held on April 21, 2015. The meeting started at 6:20 P.M. in the Commission Chamber at the 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 Flore – Asst. to Co. Mgr. Public Affairs
Dave Fortson – County Engineer
Ben Hubbard – Human Resources Director
Steve Layson – Asst. Co. Mgr. (Infrastructure)
Charles Coney – Asst. Co. Mgr. (Operations)
Julie Moore – Asst. to County Manager
Jean S. Howard – Clerk of Commission
Janice Ross – Assistant Clerk of Commission
Kevin Barrere – Public Affairs
Trae McCombs – Public Affairs
Kevin Barkley – Director of Solid Waste

Guests in Attendance

June Parker - Executive Director
Macon Housing Authority
Rev. Lonzy Edwards
Former Bibb Commissioner
Sandy Powell
Sarah Hunt
Bud Fletcher
Dorothy Ridley

News Media Present

Jim Gaines – The Telegraph
Phillip Ramati – The Telegraph
Anita Oh – 13 WMAZ
Chase Ambrose – WGXA FOX 24
Ron Wildman – 58 WPGA
CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 6:20 P.M. by Mayor Robert A. B. Reichert. Mayor Reichert apologized for the delay in the start of the meeting and stated it was due to the protracted meeting of the Committee of the Whole.

PRAYER
The prayer was rendered by Pastor James Capers of Bethel CME Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by GCAPS Students Caroline Anderson of Mount de Sales Academy and Hitanshi Mehta of Howard High School.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
A. Pre-Commission Meeting on April 7, 2015
B. Regular Commission Meeting on April 7, 2015

ACTION:
On motion of Commissioner Ed DeFore, seconded by Commissioner Larry Schlesinger, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Pre-Commission and Regular Commission meetings held on April 7, 2015 were approved as presented.

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

INVITED GUESTS
Pastor James Capers of Bethel CME Church was invited to render the prayer for tonight’s Regular Commission Meeting.

Ms. Charlie Mae Farrell, District Governor - District 14, along with District 14 Toast Master members Paul Jacobs, Dave Huffman, and Lou McClendon, was presented a Proclamation recognizing April 2015 as “District 14 Toast Masters Month.” Ms. Farrell thanked the Mayor and Commissioners and invited those interested to join Toast Masters.

Kevin Barkley, Director of Macon-Bibb Solid Waste Department and a member of the Green Team, was presented a Proclamation by Mayor Reichert in recognition of April 22, 2015 as “Earth Day.” Mr. Barkley stated there would be a Kick-Off Awards Luncheon on April 22nd and invited the public to attend activities that day beginning at 3:00 P.M. at Tattnall Square Park.

Peter F. Taylor, President of the Trade Central Federation of Trade and Labor Council, and other affiliated Labor organizations were presented a Proclamation by Mayor Reichert in recognition of April 28, 2015 as “National Workers Memorial Day.” Mr. Taylor stated this day is not being observed as a labor issue but to emphasize work place safety.
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Lonnicia Maxwell, chairwoman of the Board of Macon Charter Academy, stated that the development of the charter school was a nine (9) million dollar project in the Pleasant Hill Community and asked that the Mayor and Commissioners support the Wise Avenue bond project for blight removal in the area. She stated that the project has generated support from neighbors and the community at large. She presented a petition with over 400 signatures of supporters.

Mr. Peter Givens spoke on Pleasant Hill redevelopment and the Wise Avenue blight project. Mr. Givens stated he also had other ideas for improvement of the Pleasant Hill Community that he would like to address at a later time with the Commission.

Mr. Leroy Thomas spoke on his desire to serve as a member on the Bibb County Board of Elections and stated his commitment to the County and the voting process.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS

Commissioner Bechtel stated he would like to make a motion to add an Agenda item before the full Commission for the RFP for the Macon-Bibb County Pension Fund discussed and voted on in the Committee of the Whole.

Mayor Reichert asked the Clerk to read by caption:

- A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission requesting Procurement officials to issue a Request for Proposals for an Investment Consultant for the Bibb County Pension Plan of 1968; and for other lawful purposes

  **ACTION:**

- On motion of Commissioner Gary Bechtel, seconded by Commissioner Ed DeFore, and carried, the Resolution to request Procurement officials issue a Request for Proposals for an Investment Consultant for the Bibb County Pension Plan of 1968 was approved to be added to tonight's agenda as Item R.


Operations and Finance Committee

Committee Chair Gary Bechtel reported that the Operations and Finance Committee met on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 and considered and/or approved the following:

- The Committee approved Revenue Bonds to finance the following:
  - General County blight removal for $10,000,000.00
  - Beall's Hill sidewalks, lights and paving for $2,000,000.00
• General improvements to Wise Avenue and surrounding areas for $2,000,000.00

• Agreement with Georgia College and State University for lease of parking spaces at the Mulberry Street Parking Garage for $350 a month

• Agreement with Womack Paving, Inc. in the amount of $1,408,192.75 to perform asphalt overlay work

• Agreement with Central Georgia Power Sports, LLC for the lease of a portion of Sandy Beach at Lake Tobesofkee to be used for jet-ski and paddle boat rentals at a monthly rate of $350.00 ($4,200 Per Year) for sixty months

• Agreement with The Board Of Regents of the University System of Georgia on behalf of the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Office for the operation of an agriculture extension education program in Macon-Bibb County

• Agreement with NAFECO in the amount of $80,370 to provide various turnout gear clothing for use by the Macon-Bibb County Fire Department

• Agreement with Warren Associates, Inc. for construction Management-At-Risk Services for the partial building renovation of the Bibb County Courthouse not to exceed $47,500, to be paid from SPLOST Funds

Economic and Community Development Committee

Committee Chairman Larry Schlesinger reported that the Economic and Community Development Committee met on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 and considered and/or approved the following:

• The Committee approved the Request for Proposals for a Feasibility Study to determine if it would be economically feasible to bring a Professional Minor League Baseball Team to Macon-Bibb County. The cost of the study would be paid for using TAD funds from the Bibb Mill Project.

• The Committee approved the Macon Tracks Club and the Rivoli neighborhood members meeting and working through the issues of paving and improving the triangle located at the corner of Rivoli and Old Forsyth Road. They will report to the Commission after the meetings are held.

• The Committee approved the Resolution supporting the development and funding of a master plan to renovate and update the Pio Nono Avenue Business Corridor District.

Public Safety Committee

Committee Chairman Scotty Shepherd reported that the Public Safety Committee met on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 and considered and/or approved the following:

• The Committee authorized the County Attorney to draft a Resolution to be presented at the next meeting in regards to forming a committee to deal with traffic fatality problems.
Facilities and Engineering Committee

Committee Chairman Mallory Jones reported that the Facilities and Engineering Committee met on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 and considered and/or approved the following:

- The Committee approved granting an encroachment totaling 940.07 square feet for property located at 745 Cherry Street to RDG Ventures, LLC for Fair Market Value of $10,340.77.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. A new Alcoholic Beverage License for Kudzu Catering d/b/a Kudzu Seafood Company located at 470 Third Street, Macon, GA 31201

B. A new Alcoholic Beverage License for Tokyo Alley Restaurant, Inc. located at 574 Mulberry Street Lane, Macon, GA 31201

C. A new Alcoholic Beverage License for Silver Bay of Georgia, Inc. located at 4690 Presidential Parkway, Macon, GA 31206

ACTION:

- **On motion of Commissioner Gary Bechtel, seconded by Commissioner Larry Schlesinger, and carried unanimously, the above three (3) Alcoholic Beverage Licenses were approved as presented.**

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

OLD BUSINESS

A. A Resolution authorizing Macon-Bibb County to enter into Intergovernmental Contracts with the Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority and the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority and to take further actions as are necessary for the issuance of approximately $12,500,000 in aggregate principal amount of Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority Taxable Refunding and Improvement Revenue Bonds Series 2015A, approximately $7,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority Refunding and Improvement Revenue Bonds, Series 2015B, and approximately $8,800,000 in aggregate principal amount of Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority Refunding Revenue Bonds (Bass Pro and Sofkee Park Projects), Series 2015

- **Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission (The “Commission”) authorizing Macon-Bibb County (The “County”) to enter into Intergovernmental Contracts with the Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority (The “Urban Development Authority) and the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority (The “Industrial Authority”) and to take further actions as are necessary for the issuance of approximately $12,500,000**
in aggregate principal amount of Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority Taxable Refunding and Improvement Revenue Bonds Series 2015A, approximately $7,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority Refunding and Improvement Revenue Bonds, Series 2015B, and approximately $8,800,000 in aggregate principal amount of Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority Refunding Revenue Bonds (Bass Pro and Soffee Park Projects), Series 2015; to take such other actions as may be required for each authority to issue their respective bonds; to authorize the Mayor and other officers and officials of the County to take such further actions as are necessary to provide for the issuance and delivery of the bonds described herein; and for other purposes.

ACTION:

- On motion by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Schlesinger, to amend the Resolution to use the approximately two million dollars for the Wise Avenue blight removal be used for athletic fields and be operated by the Parks and Recreation Department for public use.

Discussion:

Commissioner Bivins stated he wanted to confirm what is meant by include, but not limited to, and if this means any money not used for the athletic fields would be rolled back into the blight fund to be used for the community. He also stated the residents of the Pleasant Hill area wanted a recreation area.

Commissioner Watkins stated that if the athletic fields do not exhaust all of the two million dollars, any funds left over would be used for blight and other infrastructure projects within the Wise Avenue area with approval by the Board.

Commissioner Bivins stated he wanted to ensure the athletic fields would be operated in the same manner as all other recreation areas.

- Commissioner Bivins motioned to make an amendment to the amendment, seconded by Commissioner Lucas, to change the language to include but not be limited to athletic fields to be operated by Parks and Recreation for public use in the same manner as all other recreation areas and with the same rules.


Commissioner Mallory Jones, III voted NO.

- Unanimous approval on the Main Motion as amended by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman. The Resolution was amended authorizing the issuance of the bonds with the amended amendment using part of the money in the Wise Avenue area to build athletic fields to be operated by the Macon-Bibb County Parks and Recreation Department under the same terms and conditions as they operate all other public facilities.
B. A Resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Georgia College and State University for the lease of parking spaces at the Mulberry Street Parking Garage at a rate of $350.00 per month

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Georgia College and State University for the lease of parking spaces at the Mulberry Street Parking Garage at a rate of $350.00 per month; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


C. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Womack Paving, Inc. for the amount of $1,408,192.75 to perform asphalt overlay work of various streets and roads in Macon-Bibb County

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Womack Paving, Inc. for the amount of $1,408,192.75 to perform asphalt overlay work of various streets and roads in Macon-Bibb County and for other purposes.

ACTION:


D. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Central Georgia Power Sports, LLC for the lease of a portion of Sandy Beach at Lake TobeSofkee to be used for Jet-Ski and Paddle Boat rentals at a monthly rate of $350.00 ($4,200.00 per year) for sixty months with form of said lease 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 Central Georgia Power Sports, LLC for the lease of a portion of Sandy Beach at Lake TobeSofkee to be used for Jet-Ski and Paddle Boat rentals at a monthly rate of $350.00 ($4,200.00 per year) for sixty months with form of said lease to be approved by the County Attorney’s office; and for other purposes.

ACTION:

- On motion of Commissioner Tillman, seconded by Commissioner Watkins, to amend the contract to one (1) year instead of five (5) years once it is operational.
Discussion:

Commissioner Tillman stated the Water Park was not being built to give this company an advantage over other vendors, and that the term was too long compared to other leases the County presently has with other vendors.

Mayor Reichert stated the number of years for the lease was to incentivize the developer to do capital improvements for housing the paddle boats and skis.

Reggie McClendon, Assistant County Attorney, stated an amendment to the lease was to be offered at the Pre-Commission meeting but time ran out. Mr. McClendon stated Ben Hamrick, Tobesofkee Manager, had met with the vendor who desired to reduce the terms of the lease to 48 months or less. Mr. McClendon also stated the vendor would be buying all new equipment and building either a stick or modular facility and that the County would be providing electricity to the facility to facilitate credit and debit card use by equipment renters. In addition, Mr. McClendon stated GA Law states these types of leases have to technically end after 12 months but can be automatically renewed. He further stated this lease would be revisited at the end of the first 12 months and based on performance and equipment purchases, the rent may go up or down depending on any adjustments to be made.

Commissioner Lucas stated she felt one year was too short of a period of time and five years was too long.

- **Commissioner Lucas offered a substitute motion, seconded by Commissioner Watkins, to change the term of the lease from five years to three years. carried**

- **Approval on the substitute motion to amend the terms of the lease by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman to amend the term of the lease agreement from five years to three years.**

- **Unanimous approval on the main motion as amended by Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman.**

E. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia on behalf of the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension office for the operation of an Agricultural Extension Education Program in Macon-Bibb County

- **Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia on behalf of the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Office for the operation of an Agricultural Extension Education Program in Macon-Bibb County; and for other purposes.**

**ACTION:**

- **Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman.**
F. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with NAFECO in the amount of $80,370 to provide various turnout gear clothing for use by the Macon-Bibb County Fire Department

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with NAFECO in the amount of $80,370 to provide various turnout gear clothing for use by the Macon-Bibb County Fire Department; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


G. A Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Warren Associates, Inc., for Construction Management-At-Risk Services for the partial building renovation of the Bibb County Court House for approximately 2% of the budgeted amount plus pre-construction fee, not to exceed $47,500.00 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 Warren Associates, Inc., for Construction Management-At-Risk Services for the partial building renovation of the Bibb County Court House for approximately 2% of the budgeted amount plus pre-construction fee, not to exceed 47,500.00, to be paid from SPLOST Funds; and for other lawful purposes.

**ACTION:**


H. A Resolution to support a Request for Proposals be issued requesting a Feasibility Study be conducted to determine the economic impact of obtaining a professionally affiliated Minor League Baseball Team in Macon, Georgia

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to support a Request for Proposals be issued requesting a Feasibility Study be conducted to determine the economic impact of obtaining a professionally affiliated Minor League Baseball Team in Macon, Georgia; and for other purposes.

  
  Commissioner Bert Bivins, III voted NO.
I. A Resolution supporting the development and funding of a Master Plan to renovate and update the Pio Nono Avenue Business Corridor District

- *Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission supporting the development and funding of a Master Plan to renovate and update the Pio Nono Avenue Business Corridor District; and for other purposes.*

**ACTION:**


J. A Resolution appointing Michael M. Kaplan as the fifth member of the Bibb County Board of Elections from a list of nominees provided by the four Partisan Appointees to the Board

- *Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission appointing Michael M. Kaplan as the fifth member of the Bibb County Board of Elections from a list of nominees provided by the four Partisan Appointees to the Board*

**ACTION:**

- *Commissioner Tillman motioned to substitute Leroy Thomas of 1248 Jackson Street Lane to replace Mr. Kaplan as the appointed fifth member of the Board of Elections. The motion failed for a lack of a second.*


K. An Ordinance amending Article VI of Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia to create and establish a Pedestrian Fatality Review Board

- *Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission amending Article VI of Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia to create and establish a Pedestrian Fatality Review Board; and for other purposes.*

**ACTION:**

L. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to grant an encroachment totaling 940.07 square feet for property located at 745 Cherry Street to RDG Ventures LLC for the Fair Market Value of $10,340.77

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to grant an encroachment totaling 940.07 square feet for property located at 745 Cherry Street to RDG Ventures LLC for the Fair Market Value of $10,340.77; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


M. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Glasson Enterprises LLC in the amount of $368,737 to perform brick repair work of various streets and roads in Macon-Bibb County

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Glasson Enterprises LLC in the amount of $368,737.00 to perform brick repair work of various streets and roads in Macon-Bibb County; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


N. A Resolution to amend the Macon-Bibb County Pension Plan of 1968 to provide for a Limited Early Retirement Incentive

Judd Drake, County Attorney, stated the Committee of the Whole approved a Resolution which authorized the introduction for action at the next Regular meeting such Ordinances and Resolutions as are necessary to implement the proposed plans for the Macon-Bibb County Plan of 1968 to provide for a limited early retirement incentive, the Macon-Bibb County Fire and Police Employees’ Retirement System plan to provide for a limited early retirement incentive, and for the Macon-Bibb County Pension and Retirement System, Division A plan to provide for a limited early retirement incentive. He further stated the Macon-Bibb County Pension Plan only had to be done by Resolution because it was not codified; whereas the Macon-Bibb County Fire and Police Pension Plan and the Macon-Bibb County Division A Plans had to be done by Ordinance as they are a part of the Charter and have to be adopted at two successive meetings and have notices run in the newspaper. He also stated that the two Ordinances would come back for action if they are approved at tonight’s meeting.

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to amend the Macon-Bibb County Pension Plan of 1968 to provide for a Limited Early Retirement Incentive; and for other purposes.
On motion of Commissioner Shepherd, seconded by Commissioner Watkins, to amend the Macon-Bibb County Pension Plan of 1968 to allow any pre-May 2011 employees who have obtained 30 or more years of service as of December 31, 2015 still be eligible to receive the HRA of $388 if they do not take the September 30th window to retire.

Discussion:

Mayor Reichert stated this had been a long process and to make changes at this time would be unwise, in his opinion. He stated those already getting the $388 would continue and those retiring by September 30th would receive the $388.

Commissioner Bechtel asked if this request had been vetted and taken through the actuary. He also stated there would be some essential positions that would need to be refilled, especially in Fire and Police.

Commissioner Shepherd stated the actuary felt the funding would not support the proposed changes. He also stated his amendment was on behalf of some employees with 30 or more years of service who did not want to retire at this time.

Commissioner Tillman stated he believed the offers were the best plans at this time to prevent future lay-offs, and the incentives offered were very good for those eligible to retire.

ACTION:

- The motion to amend failed in the opinion of the Chair.


O. An Ordinance to amend the Macon-Bibb County Fire and Police Employees’ Retirement System, (1969 GA. Laws, Page 2801), to provide for a Limited Early Retirement Incentive

- Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to amend the Macon-Bibb County Fire and Police Employees’ Retirement System, (1969 GA. Laws, Page 2801), to provide for a Limited Early Retirement Incentive; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


P. An Ordinance to amend the Macon-Bibb County Pension and Retirement Systems, Division A (1972 GA. Laws, Page 3152), to provide for a Limited Early Retirement Incentive
• **Clerk read by caption:** *An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to amend the Macon-Bibb County Pension and Retirement Systems, Division A (1972 GA. Laws, Page 3152), to provide for a Limited Early Retirement Incentive; and for other purposes.*

**ACTION:**

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

Q. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation to conduct an environmental assessment of the proposed improvements associated with the Runway 10-28 Extension Project at the Macon Downtown Airport for $56,565

• **Clerk read by caption:** *A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation to conduct an environmental assessment of the proposed improvements associated with the Runway 10-28 Extension Project at the Macon Downtown Airport in the amount of $56,565.00; and for other purposes.*

**ACTION:**

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

R. A Resolution requesting Procurement Officials to issue a Request for Proposals for an Investment Consultant for the Bibb County Pension Plan of 1968

• **Clerk read by caption:** *A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission requesting Procurement Officials to issue a Request for Proposals for an Investment Consultant for the Bibb County Pension Plan of 1968; and for other lawful purposes.*

**ACTION:**

• **Approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Ed DeFore, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman. Commissioners Mallory Jones, III and Scotty Shepherd voted NO.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

A. A Resolution to support Tindall Partners I, L.P. and its application for Low Income Housing Tax Credits to develop the Tindall Seniors Towers property located at 985 Plant Street in Macon-Bibb County

*Referred to the Economic and Community Development Committee*
GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Leroy Thomas of 1248 Jackson St. Lane spoke on the need to re-evaluate the location of the new Senior Citizens Center from the planned Bloomfield-Gilead site to a more centrally located area of downtown.

Former County Commissioner Lonzy Edwards stated he was representing seniors and asked Mr. Robert Curry to bring forth a petition signed by 1,866 seniors who have expressed a desire to have a free-standing facility for the new senior center. Mr. Edwards also stated that the seniors did not want an intergenerational facility and felt that the decision made to locate the center in Bloomfield had not been transparent. He stated the seniors wanted the Bloomfield site to be reconsidered and a more centrally located site be selected with their input in the architectural design process. He also stated the seniors wanted the selected site to be visible, safe, centrally located downtown, and be handicap accessible. He suggested the old Virgil Powers building and Central City Park as possible sites. He cited transportation and lack of access to medical facilities as negatives to the Bloomfield location and felt the new center was not compliant with the SPLOST document.

Mayor Reichert stated this portion of the agenda was not supposed to be for debate or question and answer, but for the Commission to hear concerns. He stated he wanted to clarify where we are in the process for the senior center and stated the Commission voted to tentatively select the Bloomfield site for the new senior center and to commission plans be drawn up for the new building and layout. He further stated there would be three hearings after the architect has had the opportunity to show what he would propose putting there. He acknowledged this did not address location issues, ball fields, and intergenerational concerns; however, these questions would be answered at the upcoming public hearings and that this is step one in the process.

Mr. Robert Curry, Sr. stated he did not feel a representative number of seniors (14) had input in the selection of the Bloomfield site for the new senior center location. He presented a petition with 1,866 signatures of seniors who stated they were against the Bloomfield site.

Mr. Donald Richardson, Jr. spoke on being in the Easter season and the Communion of Saints.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and on motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 P.M.


Jean S. Howard
Clerk of Commission