The Regular Commission meeting of the Macon-Bibb County Commission was held on June 2, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. in the Commission Chamber at Government Center.

**Commission Members Present**

Mayor Pro Tem Bert Bivins, III  
Commissioner Gary Bechtel  
Commissioner Larry Schlesinger  
Commissioner Virgil Watkins, Jr.  
Commissioner Mallory Jones, III  
Commissioner Al Tillman  
Commissioner Ed DeFore  
Commissioner Scotty Shepherd

**Commission Members Absent**

Mayor Robert A. B. Reichert  
Commissioner Elaine Lucas

**Staff Present**

Charles Coney – Asst. County Manager  
Steve Layson – Asst. County Manager  
Julie Moore – Asst. to County Manager  
Chris Floore – Asst. to Co. Mgr. Public Affairs  
Kevin Barkley – Director of Public Works  
Larry Dunning – Public Works Department  
Judd Drake – County Attorney  
Crystal Jones – Sr. Asst. County Attorney  
Reggie McClendon – Asst. County Attorney  
Opie Bowen – Asst. County Attorney  
Jean S. Howard – Clerk of Commission  
Janice Ross – Asst. Clerk of Commission

**News Media Present**

Phillip Ramati – The Telegraph  
Anita Oh – 13 WMAZ  
Noell Saunders – WGXA Fox 24

**Visitors Present**

June Parker - Macon Housing Authority  
Sarah Hunt

**CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro-tem Bert Bivins, III.

**PRAYER**

The prayer was rendered by Commissioner Larry Schlesinger.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Ed DeFore.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Pre-Commission Meeting on May 19, 2015
B. Regular Commission Meeting on May 19, 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 May 19, 2015 were approved as presented.


INVITED GUESTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS

Operations and Finance Committee

Committee Chair Gary Bechtel reported that the Operations and Finance Committee met on May 26, 2015 and took the following action:

- Approved the Ordinance granting to Jointly Owned Natural Gas, a partnership of the municipalities of Byron, Cochran, Hawkinsville, Perry And Warner Robins, its successors and assigns, the right and franchise to use and occupy the streets, avenues, roads, public highways, alleys, lanes, ways, parks, and other public places of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia for constructing, maintaining, renewing, repairing and operating a gas works and gas distribution system and other necessary means for manufacturing, transmitting, distributing and selling of manufactured, natural or commingled gas within and through Macon-Bibb County, Georgia; and fixing the terms and conditions of such grant; to provide provisions governing the franchise fee calculations. This line will furnish gas to Kumho Tire
• Approved the Resolution to amend the adoption agreement to the ACCG 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan for Bibb County Employees

• Approved the Resolution to amend the adoption agreement to the ACCG 401(a) defined contribution plan for Senior Management of Bibb County to reflect the restructuring of Bibb County into Macon-Bibb County and to provide for employer discretionary contributions for Steve Layson in accordance with the Early Retirement Incentive Programs offered to other eligible employees of Macon-Bibb County

• Approved the Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections for use of inmate labor on public works projects in the amount of $118,500

• Approved the Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation to perform apron rehabilitation and taxiway crack seal work at the Middle Georgia Regional Airport using local funds in the amount of $94,769

• Authorized the acceptance of the 2015 Good Neighbor Citizenship Grant in the amount of $5,000 from State Farm to implement a Teen Driver Safety Program awarded to the Sheriff’s Office

• The Committee continues to work on the FY 16 Budget and will meet again on Wednesday morning for discussion of the budget

**Economic and Community Development Committee**

Committee Chair Larry Schlesinger reported that the Economic and Community Development Committee met on May 26, 2015 and took the following action:

• Approved the Resolution appointing Commissioner Scotty Shepherd to the Macon-Bibb County Convention and Visitors Bureau

• Approved a Resolution authorizing Bragg Jam, Inc. to hold its 2015 Music Festival in downtown Macon, Georgia on Saturday, July 25, 2015; to permit festival-goers to carry and consume alcoholic beverages in and about the designated streets of downtown Macon, under specific conditions; to require Bragg Jam, Inc. to provide for and reimburse the City for all expenses incurred for security and clean-up

• The Committee referred the Resolution to form a Blight Task Force to the Committee on Committees for consideration

• The Committee heard from the residents of Barnes Ferry Road regarding the rezoning of Barnes Ferry Road from an Agricultural District to a Whole Sale and Light Industrial District which would allow for a rail spur to service a pipeline loading station
Public Safety Committee

Committee Chair Scotty Shepherd reported that the Public Safety Committee met on May 26, 2015 and took the following action:

- Approved an Ordinance to create and establish a Pedestrian Fatality Review Board

Facilities and Engineering Committee

Committee Chair Mallory Jones reported that the Facilities and Engineering Committee met on May 26, 2015 and took the following action:

- Approved the Resolution adopting the Macon-Bibb County Solid Waste and Materials Management Plan
- Approved the Resolution transferring 416, 424, 430, 436, 442 and 448 Pursley Street from the Macon-Bibb County Land Bank Authority for Jefferson Long Park
- Approved the Resolution to grant the encroachment for property located at 978 Elm Street to Historic Hills and Heights Development for the fair market value of $3,675.00
- Approved the Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute a multi-party agreement with the agencies to perform a continuing, comprehensive, cooperative urban transportation planning process known as the Macon Area Transportation Study
- Approved the Resolution to authorize the Mayor to dispose of that portion of Rose Place as described by quit-claiming said property to Mount de Sales Academy for its fair market value of $45,000 and to authorize up to a 10 feet landscaping easement for construction of new sidewalks and angled parking
- Approved the Resolution to authorize the settlement of all claims pending in Bibb County Superior Court Civil Action styled Geraldine Polite V. City of Macon, Bibb County, Georgia and ABC, Inc., Civil Action File No. 13CV58568 and authorizing the use of SPLOST funds to repair and improve sidewalk and adjacent areas on Telfair Street
- Discussed the rezoning of 2048 Barnes Ferry Road to allow a rail spur from the Norfolk Southern main line to serve a rail pipeline loading station for ethanol. The Committee requested that County Attorney Judd Drake prepare a letter of support for the Barnes Ferry Citizens Group expressing concerns on health and safety issues for the residents in the area
CONSENT AGENDA

A. A New Alcoholic Beverage License for NSHP LLC d/b/a 777 Food Mart located at 3070 Houston Avenue, Macon, GA 31206

ACTION

On motion of Commission DeFore, seconded by Commissioner Shepherd and carried unanimously, the new alcoholic beverage license for NSHP d/b/a 777 Food Mart was approved.


OLD BUSINESS

A. An Ordinance granting to Jointly Owned Natural Gas, a partnership of the municipalities of Byron, Cochran, Hawkinsville, Perry and Warner Robins, hereinafter designated as "Jointly Owned Natural Gas", its successors and assigns, the right and franchise to use and occupy the streets, avenues, roads, public highways, alleys, lanes, ways, parks, and other public places of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia for constructing, maintaining, renewing, repairing and operating a Gas Works and Gas Distribution System, and other necessary means for manufacturing, transmitting, distributing and selling of manufactured, natural or commingled gas within and through Macon-Bibb County, Georgia; and fixing the terms and conditions of such grant; to provide provisions governing the franchise fee calculations; to provide an effective date

Clerk read by caption:

An Ordinance granting to Jointly Owned Natural Gas, a partnership of the municipalities of Byron, Cochran, Hawkinsville, Perry and Warner Robins, hereinafter designated as "Jointly Owned Natural Gas", its successors and assigns, the right and franchise to use and occupy the streets, avenues, roads, public highways, alleys, lanes, ways, parks, and other public places of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia for constructing, maintaining, renewing, repairing and operating a Gas Works and Gas Distribution System, and other necessary means for manufacturing, transmitting, distributing and selling of manufactured, natural or commingled gas within and through Macon-Bibb County, Georgia; and fixing the terms and conditions of such grant; to provide provisions governing the franchise fee calculations; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


A. A Resolution to amend the adoption agreement to the ACCG 457(b) Deferred
Compensation Plan for Bibb County employees.

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution to amend the adoption agreement to the ACCG 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan for Bibb County employees; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


B. A Resolution to amend the adoption agreement to the ACCG 401(a) Defined Contribution Plan for Senior Management of Bibb County to reflect the restructuring of Bibb County into Macon-Bibb County and to provide for Employer Discretionary Contributions for Steve Layson in accordance with the Early Retirement Incentive Programs offered to other eligible employees of Macon-Bibb County

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution to amend the adoption agreement to the ACCG 401(a) Defined Contribution Plan for Senior Management of Bibb County to reflect the restructuring of Bibb County into Macon-Bibb County and to provide for Employer Discretionary Contributions for Steve Layson in accordance with the Early Retirement Incentive Programs offered to other eligible employees of Macon-Bibb County; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


C. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections for use of inmate labor on Public Works Projects in the amount of $118,500.00

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections for use of inmate labor on Public Works Projects in the amount of $118,500.00; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


D. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections for use of inmate labor on Public Works projects in the amount of $355,500
• **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections for use of inmate labor on Public Works projects in the amount of $355,500.00; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**

• Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, 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 Georgia Department of Transportation to perform apron rehabilitation and taxiway crack seal work at the Middle Georgia Regional Airport using local funds in the amount of $94,769.00

• **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation to perform apron rehabilitation and taxiway crack seal work at the Middle Georgia Regional Airport using local funds in the amount of $94,769.00; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**

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

F. A Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the 2015 Good Neighbor Citizenship Grant in the amount of $5,000 from State Farm to implement a Teen Driver Safety Program awarded to the Sheriff's Office

• **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the 2015 Good Neighbor Citizenship Grant in the amount of $5,000 from State Farm to implement a Teen Driver Safety Program awarded to the Sheriff's Office; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**

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

G. A Resolution appointing Commissioner Scotty Shepherd to the Macon-Bibb County Convention & Visitors Bureau

• **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution appointing Commissioner Scotty Shepherd to the Macon-Bibb County Convention & Visitors Bureau; and for other purposes.

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

H. A Resolution authorizing Bragg Jam, Inc., a nonprofit organization, to hold its 2015 Music Festival in downtown Macon, Georgia on Saturday, July 25, 2015; to permit festival-goers to carry and consume alcoholic beverages in and about the designated streets of downtown Macon, under specific conditions; to require Bragg Jam, Inc. to provide for and/or reimburse the City for all expenses incurred for security and clean-up.

• Clerk read by caption; A Resolution authorizing Bragg Jam, Inc., a nonprofit organization, to hold its 2015 Music Festival in downtown Macon, Georgia on Saturday, July 25, 2015; to permit festival-goers to carry and consume alcoholic beverages in and about the designated streets of downtown Macon, under specific conditions; to require Bragg Jam, Inc. to provide for and/or reimburse the City for all expenses incurred for security and clean-up; and for other purposes.

ACTION:

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

I. A Resolution adopting the Macon-Bibb County Solid Waste and Materials Management Plan

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution adopting the Macon-Bibb County Solid Waste and Materials Management Plan; and for other purposes.

ACTION:

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

J. A Resolution to authorize the Mayor to accept the transfers of the parcels of property located at 416 Pursley Street, 424 Pursley Street, 430 Pursley Street, 436 Pursley Street, 442 Pursley Street, and 448 Pursley Street from the Macon-Bibb County Land Bank Authority for Jefferson Long Park; to authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documents.

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution to authorize the Mayor to accept the transfers of the parcels of property located at 416 Pursley Street, 424 Pursley Street, 430 Pursley Street, 436 Pursley Street, 442 Pursley Street, and 448 Pursley Street from the Macon-Bibb County Land Bank Authority for Jefferson Long Park; to authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documents; and for other purposes.
ACTION:


K. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to grant an encroachment totaling 2,940 square feet for property located at 978 Elm Street to Historic Hills and Heights Development for the Fair Market Value of $3,675.00

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to grant an encroachment totaling 2,940 square feet for property located at 978 Elm Street to Historic Hills and Heights Development for the fair market value of $3,675.00; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


L. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Multi-Party Agreement with Jones County, Monroe County, the Macon-Bibb County Planning and Zoning Commission, the Middle Georgia Regional Commission, the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority, and the Georgia Department of Transportation to perform a continuing, comprehensive, cooperative urban transportation planning process known as the "Macon Area Transportation Study"

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a multi-party agreement with Jones County, Monroe County, the Macon-Bibb County Planning and Zoning Commission, the Middle Georgia Regional Commission, the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority, and the Georgia Department of Transportation to perform a continuing, comprehensive, cooperative urban transportation planning process known as the "Macon Area Transportation Study"; and for other purposes.

Discussion:

Commissioner Al Tillman stated that the Citizens Advisory Committee continues to need a representative from District 9. He urged anyone who would like to be the representative from his district to please contact him.

ACTION:


M. A Resolution authorizing the closure and abandonment of that portion of Rose Place consisting of the circular drive located 187+/- feet west of Orange Street; authorizing the
Mayor to convey said circular drive property to Mount de Sales Academy in exchange for Mount de Sales Academy having agreed to make improvements for the public benefit along the remaining portion of Rose Place Drive valued at a cost of no less than $300,000; authorizing the Mayor to convey a landscaping easement to Mount de Sales Academy of up to 10 feet along the northern edge of the Right-of-Way of Rose Place

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution authorizing the closure and abandonment of that portion of Rose Place consisting of the circular drive located 187+/- feet west of Orange Street; authorizing the Mayor to convey said circular drive property to Mount de Sales Academy in exchange for Mount de Sales Academy having agreed to make improvements for the public benefit along the remaining portion of Rose Place Drive valued at a cost of no less than $300,000; authorizing the Mayor to convey a landscaping easement to Mount de Sales Academy of up to 10 feet along the northern edge of the Right-of-Way of Rose Place; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**

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

N. A Resolution authorizing the settlement of all claims pending in Bibb County Superior Court Civil Action Styled Geraldine Polite v. City of Macon, Bibb County, Georgia and ABC Inc., Civil File No. 13CV58568; authorizing the Macon-Bibb County Engineering and Public Works Departments to use SPLOST funds designated for road and street improvements to repair and improve the sidewalk and adjacent areas on Telfair Street which was the subject of said litigation so as to ensure its safety for use by the general public

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution authorizing the settlement of all claims pending in Bibb County Superior Court Civil Action Styled Geraldine Polite v. City of Macon, Bibb County, Georgia and ABC Inc., Civil File No. 13CV58568; authorizing the Macon-Bibb County Engineering and Public Works Departments to use SPLOST funds designated for road and street improvements to repair and improve the sidewalk and adjacent areas on Telfair Street which was the subject of said litigation so as to ensure its safety for use by the general public; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**

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

O. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Prince Service and Mfg. Inc. for the amount of $196,032.00 to perform repairs and modifications to Fenley Ryther Dam at Lake Tobesofkee

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Prince Service and Mfg. Inc. for the amount of $196,032.00 to
perform repairs and modifications to Fenley Ryther Dam at Lake Tobesofkee; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


P. Item Q was removed from the Agenda during the Pre-Commission Meeting.

Q. A Resolution to support the proposed affordable rental housing rehabilitation by Southport Financial Services, Inc. of "Autumn Apartments" located at 1745 Rocky Creek Road

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution to support the proposed affordable rental housing rehabilitation by Southport Financial Services, Inc. of "Autumn Apartments" located at 1745 Rocky Creek Road; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


R. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding between Macon-Bibb County and Spirit of America Theme Park and Development, LLC to postpone the construction of certain Park infrastructure improvements until a later date

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding between Macon-Bibb County and Spirit of America Theme Park and Development, LLC to postpone the construction of certain Park infrastructure improvements until a later date; and for other purposes.

**Discussion:**

Commissioner Mallory Jones stated that there were eight points that were changed in the agreement. He continued that Phillip Ramadi, The Telegraph, would have these points in his article in the newspaper tomorrow.

**ACTION:**

NEW BUSINESS

A. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Macon Mayhem Hockey Team to allow the use of the Macon-Bibb County logo on the team jerseys for the inaugural first 2 games

*Referred to Economic and Community Development Committee*

11. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Don Richardson read an article from an old newspaper which chronicled the development of the King and Spalding law firm in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mrs. Sara Hunt expressed her concerns over the recent suspension of two supervisors from the Macon-Bibb County Landfill.

Mr. Chapman expressed his concern on the proposed locations for the Senior Citizens Center. He would like to see the facility placed at the Macon Health Club.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 P.M.

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Jean S. Howard
Clerk of Commission