The Regular Commission meeting of the Macon-Bibb County Commission was held on September 15, 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 Elaine Lucas  
Commissioner Mallory C. Jones, III  
Commissioner Ed DeFore  
Commissioner Scotty Shepherd  
Commissioner Virgil Watkins, Jr.  
Commissioner Al Tillman

**Staff Present:**

Julie Moore – Assistant to County Manager  
Chris Floore – Asst. to Co. Mgr. – Public Affairs  
Crystal Jones – Sr. Asst. County Attorney  
Reggie McClendon – Asst. County Attorney  
Janice Ross – Asst. Clerk of Commission  
Don Druitt – EMA Director  
Spenser Hawkins – Asst. EMA Director  
Kevin Barkley – Dir. of Solid Waste

**Guests in Attendance**

June Parker – Exec. Dir., Macon Housing Authority  
Sarah Hunt  
Dr. John Dunaway  
Retirees of the Macon Fire and Police Departments

**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 Rabbi Larry Schlesinger – Macon-Bibb County District 2 Commissioner.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Georgia Civic Awareness Students (GCAPS) Caroline Anderson, a junior at Mount de Sales Academy, and Adreanna Chester, a junior at Mount de Sales Academy.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Pre-Commission Meeting on September 1, 2015
B. Regular Commission Meeting on September 1, 2015

ACTION:

On motion of Commissioner Larry Schlesinger, seconded by Commissioner Scotty Shepherd, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Pre-Commission and Regular Commission meetings held on September 1, 2015 were approved as presented.


INVITED GUESTS

Mayor Reichert recognized Chris Floore, Assistant to County Manager – Public Affairs, for being named Communicator of the Year by the City-County Communications & Marketing Association, 3CMA. The award was presented in recognition of his contributions to local government, community relations, and public affairs.

Mayor Reichert also asked Mr. Floore to speak on the award Macon-Bibb County received for its “Forward Together Strategic Plan.”

Chris Floore stated that on September 10, the City-County Communications & Marketing Association (3CMA) awarded Macon-Bibb County the Silver Circle Award for its first-ever Forward Together Strategic Plan in the Printed Publication (Other) category. The award is part of the organization’s annual Savvy Awards program.

Mr. Floore further stated the judges stated the County’s plan overall was a great project - well executed and designed, clean and thorough. The judges also commended the use of graphics, infographics, and design in strategic plan document, and the use of photos were a great starting point for a new government.

Mr. Floore also stated The Forward Together Strategic Plan was developed over the course of about 18 months by meeting with the public, partner groups, department heads, and the Commissioners. The process was facilitated by the University of Georgia’s Carl Vinson Institute of Government and funded by the Knight Foundation. He stated this process helped focus priorities for projects and funding into five focus areas: Economic and Community Development, safe neighborhoods and safe communities, efficient and effective government, infrastructure improvement, and quality of life.

The Savvies salute skilled and effective city, county, agency or district professionals who have creatively planned and carried out successful innovations in communications and marketing. 3CMA accommodates local government organizations of all sizes and budget classes by judging entries in several different population groups.

Mayor Reichert congratulated Mr. Floore for a job well done.
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Operations and Finance Committee

Committee Chairman Gary Bechtel reported that the Operations and Finance Committee met on September 8, 2015 and took the following action:

- Approved an agreement with Evidence Based Associates, LLC for services provided to the Juvenile Court for Maximum of $143,300.40 using Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Funds
- Approved an agreement between the Economic and Community Development Department and Rebuilding Macon, Inc. for minor home repair services for $125,000 in Community Development Block Grant Funds
- Approved an agreement with Philips Lighting for County-Wide Lighting Management Services for Macon-Bibb County
- Approved an agreement with Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc. for $67,000 for engineering services for the Wise Avenue multi-purpose field to be paid from Blight Bond Funds
- Approved an agreement with XEROX State and Local Solutions, Inc. to extend the current agreement to provide Court Information Management and Fine Debt Recovery Services to Municipal Court on a Month-To-Month basis for $13,750 per month
- Approved an agreement with Trinity Services Group, Inc. to reduce the cost of meals served to inmates of the LEC by $0.01 per meal; to extend said agreement to allow Trinity Services Group, Inc. to provide such services for an additional term of one year from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016
- Approved an agreement with General Services Administration (on behalf of the Transportation Security Administration) for use of office space at Middle Georgia Regional Airport for a period of 1 year in the amount of $0.00
- The Committee approved purchasing two knuckleboom loader trucks in the amount of $256,290 from Middle Georgia Freightliner and two eight inch compressor assisted horizontal self-priming water sewage pumps for the Solid Waste Department in the amount of $88,259 from Thompson Pump & Manufacturing Company
- The Committee approved the new 704 Fund Project, designated as the 2015 Parks and Properties Project, to provide $1.5 million from the 704 Fund to the Industrial Authority to undertake improvements to existing industrial parks, properties and related facilities of the Industrial Park and the new 704 Fund Project, designated as the I-75 NB at Sardis Church Project, to use 704 Funds to acquire and develop additional tracts of land
proximate to Interstate 75 Northbound and Sardis Church Road for commercial and industrial development in the County

- The Committee approved the Ordinance to amend Article IV of Charter Appendix III of the Charter of Macon-Bibb County Macon Fire and Police Employees Retirement System to increase the supplemental benefit provided for in Section Seven from $100 per month to $200 per month for certain current and future retirees that were hired prior to July 1, 1985

- The Committee approved accepting the Group Health Benefits Program Health Promotion & Wellness Grant in the amount of $15,000 awarded from Association County Commissioners of Georgia to the Human Resources Department.

**Economic and Community Development Committee**

Committee Chairman Larry Schlesinger reported that the Economic and Community Development Committee met on September 8, 2015 and recommended approval of the following:

- The Committee endorsed the Eagle Scout Project presented by Gordon Smith to honor four Maconites who played in Negro League Baseball with plaques to be displayed at Luther Williams Field

- The Committee approved an agreement with HomeFirst Housing Resources Services, Inc. to provide housing counseling services for $62,810 using Community Development Block Grant Funds

- The Committee heard an update on the Department of Workforce Development.

- The Committee also agreed to honor the Veterans of the Vietnam War and asked anyone who is a Veteran to contact the office so they may be invited to a Commission meeting to be recognized.

**Public Safety Committee**

- No Report - The Committee had no agenda items to consider.

**Facilities and Engineering Committee**

Committee Chairman Mallory Jones reported that the Facilities and Engineering Committee met on September 8, 2015 and took the following action:

- The Committee discussed a resolution to rename Courtland Avenue to Dr. Walter L. Glover, Jr. Boulevard. The Committee postponed action on the resolution for two weeks until after the Public Hearing is held on September 15, 2015. During the Public Hearing on today at 4:00 p.m. there approximately 70 people in attendance to address the
renaming of Courtland Avenue to Dr. Walter L. Glover, Jr. Boulevard. Dr. Glover is pastor of Greater Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church located at the corner of Napier Avenue and Courtland Avenue. Opponents of the renaming cited the cost of the name change and the desire to preserve the name as it is. Several members of Rev. Glover’s church cited the impact of Rev. Glover’s impact to the community such as providing food and clothing to the poor of the community. The majority of those in attendance were against the entire street name being changed. Some suggested the renaming only that portion of Courtland Avenue from Napier to Montpelier Avenues where the Church is located.

- The Committee approved a resolution to adopt a policy in accordance with the Federal “Brooks Act” regarding the selection of engineering and architecture firms for all road projects that utilize State and Federal Funds.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. A new Alcoholic Beverage License for Jenil 2015 Inc. d/b/a Neighborhood Gas and Groceries located at 3102 Napier Avenue, Macon, GA 31204

B. A new Alcoholic Beverage License for Harsh Vansh, LLC d/b/a Reliance Food Mart located at 3609 Pio Nono Avenue, Macon, GA 31206

C. A new Alcoholic Beverage License for Umiya 2015 Inc., d/b/a Citgo Food Mart located at 1681 Rocky Creek Road, Macon, GA 31206

D. A new Alcoholic Beverage License for Jay 2015 Inc. d/b/a Citgo Food Mart located at 1924 Forsyth Street, Macon, GA 31201

ACTION:


E. A new Alcoholic Beverage License for Twentyone Macon, LLC d/b/a The Brick located at 1305 Hardeman Avenue, Ste. #100, Macon, GA 3120

ACTION:

- Approved by Commissioners Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, and Virgil Watkins, Jr. conditional to fifty percent (50%) of sales from food sales.
- Commissioner Bert Bivins, III voted No.

OLD BUSINESS

A. A Resolution authorizing an agreement with Evidence Based Associates, LLC for services provided to the Macon-Bibb County Juvenile Court for a maximum of $143,300.40 using Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Funds
• **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Evidence Based Associates, LLC for services provided to the Macon-Bibb County Juvenile Court for a maximum of $143,300.40 using Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Funds, in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; 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.**

B. A Resolution to authorize an agreement between the Macon-Bibb County Economic and Community Development Department and Rebuilding Macon, Inc. for minor home repairs services for $125,250 in Community Development Block Grant Funds.

• **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between the Macon-Bibb County Economic and Community Development Department and Rebuilding Macon, Inc. for minor home repairs services for $125,250.00 in Community Development Block Grant Funds; 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.**

C. A Resolution to authorize an agreement with Phillips Lighting for County-Wide Lighting Management Services for Macon-Bibb County.

• **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with Philips Lighting for County-Wide Lighting Management Services for 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.**

D. A Resolution to execute an agreement with Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc. for $67,000 for engineering services for the Wise Avenue multi-purpose field to be paid from Blight Funds.

• **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Vaughn & Melton.
Consulting Engineers, Inc. for $67,000.00 for engineering services for the Wise Avenue multi-purpose field in Macon-Bibb County to be paid from Blight Bond Funds in form to be approved by the County Attorney’s Office; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


E. A Resolution to authorize an agreement with Xerox State and Local Solutions, Inc. to extend the current to provide Court Information Management and Fine Debt Recovery Services to Macon-Bibb County Municipal Court on a month-to-month basis for $13,750.00 per month

- Clerk read by caption: *A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with Xerox State and Local Solutions, Inc. to extend the current to provide Court Information Management and Fine Debt Recovery Services to Macon-Bibb County Municipal Court on a month-to-month basis for $13,750.00 per month in form to be approved by the County Attorney’s Office; and for other purposes.*

**ACTION:**


F. A Resolution authorizing an amendment to an agreement with Trinity Services, Group, Inc. to reduce the cost of meals served to inmates of the Bibb County Law Enforcement Center by $0.01 per meal; extend said agreement to provide services for an additional term of one year from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

- Clerk read by caption: *A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an amendment to an agreement with Trinity Services, Group, Inc. to reduce the cost of meals served to inmates of the Bibb County Law Enforcement Center by $0.01 per meal; to extend said agreement to allow Trinity Services Group, Inc. to provide such services for an additional term of one (1) year from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016; and for other purposes.*

**ACTION:**

G. A Resolution authorizing an agreement with General Services Administration (on behalf of the Transportation Security Administration) for the use of office space at Middle Georgia Regional Airport for a period of one year in the amount of $0.00

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with General Services Administration (on behalf of the Transportation Security Administration) for the use of office space at Middle Georgia Regional Airport for a period of one (1) year in the amount of $0.00; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


H. A Resolution authorizing an amendment to an agreement with CorrectHealth Bibb, LLC for $3,471,691.77 to continue to provide physical health services for inmates and detainees of the Bibb County Sheriff's Office

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an amendment to an agreement with CorrectHealth Bibb, LLC for $3,471,691.77 to continue to provide physical health services for inmates and detainees of the Bibb County Sheriff's Office, in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


I. A Resolution approving the purchase of two Knuckleboom Loader Trucks from Middle Georgia Freightliner for the amount of $256,290.00

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission approving the purchase of two (2) Knuckleboom Loader Trucks from Middle Georgia Freightliner for the amount of $256,290.00 via purchase order; and for other purposes.


J. A Resolution to authorize and approve the purchase of two eight inch compressor-assisted horizontal self-priming water sewage pumps for the Solid Waste Department in the amount of $88,259.00 from Thompson Pump & Manufacturing Company, Inc. to be paid by Department Funds

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon–Bibb County Commission
to authorize and approve the purchase of two (2) eight inch compressor-assisted horizontal self-priming water sewage pumps for the Solid Waste Department in the amount of $88,259.00 from Thompson Pump & Manufacturing Company, Inc. to be paid by Department Funds; and for other lawful purposes.

ACTION:


K. A Resolution authorizing an acknowledgement and project approval for a new 704 Fund Project, designated as the 2015 Parks and Properties Project, to provide $1.5 million from the 704 Funds to the Industrial Authority to undertake improvements to existing industrial parks, properties, and related facilities of the Industrial Park

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an acknowledgement and project approval for a new 704 Fund Project, designated as the 2015 Parks and Properties Project, to provide $1.5 million from the 704 Funds to the Industrial Authority to undertake improvements to existing industrial parks, properties, and related facilities of the Industrial Park; and for other purposes.

ACTION


L. A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an acknowledgement and project approval for a new 704 Fund Project, designated as the I-75 NB at Sardis Church Project, to use available 704 Funds to acquire and develop additional tracts of land proximate to Interstate 75 Northbound and Sardis Church Road for Commercial and Industrial Development

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an acknowledgement and project approval for a new 704 Fund Project, designated as the I-75 NB at Sardis Church Project, to use available 704 Funds to acquire and develop additional tracts of land proximate to Interstate 75 Northbound and Sardis Church Road for Commercial and Industrial Development in the County; and for other purposes.

ACTION

M. An Ordinance to amend Article IV of Charter Appendix III of the Charter of Macon-Bibb County, Macon Fire and Police Employees Retirement System so as to increase the supplemental benefit provided for in Section Seven from $100.00 per month to $200.00 per month for certain current and future retirees that were hired prior to July 1, 1985

- Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to amend Article IV of Charter Appendix III of the Charter of Macon-Bibb County, Macon Fire and Police Employees Retirement System (1969 GA Laws, page 2801) so as to increase the supplemental benefit provided for in Section Seven from $100.00 per month to $200.00 per month for certain current and future retirees that were hired prior to July 1, 1985; and for other lawful purposes.

Discussion:

Commissioner Mallory Jones stated the fund is funded at 115 percent and the contribution rate is six percent, and felt the fund could afford the additional $100.00 for the retirees that have worked for the City and County governments.

Commissioners Elaine Lucas, Al Tillman, and Ed DeFore agreed that this was a much needed increase for the retirees of the Fire and Police Departments

Commissioner Gary Bechtel stated approving the additional $100 could be a liability in that the pension plan that has $220 million with a balance sheet is far lower, and the liabilities that occur puts pressure on the balance sheet, not the pension plan in explanation for his.

Commissioner Scotty Shepherd stated he was not against the additional supplement but wanted to wait to see how the recent retirements would affect the County’s budget

ACTION

Commissioner Mallory Jones asked for a Roll Call Vote:

- Commissioners Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman voted Yes.

- Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, and Scotty Shepherd voted No.

- The Resolution passed by a vote of 6-3. A second voted will be required at the October 6, 2015 Commission meeting to approve the Ordinance change.

N. A Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the Group Health Benefits Program Health Promotion & Wellness Grant in the amount of $15,000 awarded from Association County Commissioners of Georgia to the Human Resources Department

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the acceptance of the Group Health Benefits Program Health Promotion & Wellness Grant in the amount of $15,000 awarded from
Association County Commissioners of Georgia to the Human Resources Department; 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.**

O. A Resolution to authorize an agreement with HomeFirst Housing Resource Services, Inc. to provide Housing Counseling Services for $62,810.00 using Community Development Block Grant Funds

- **Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with HomeFirst Housing Resource Services, Inc. to provide Housing Counseling Services for $62,810.00 using Community Development Block Grant Funds; 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.**

P. A Resolution to adopt a policy in accordance with the Federal "Brooks Act" regarding the selection of engineering and architecture firms for all road projects that utilize State and Federal funds

- **Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to adopt a policy in accordance with the Federal "Brooks Act" regarding the selection of engineering and architecture firms for all road projects that utilize State and Federal funds in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; 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 General Release and Settlement Agreement for the settlement of all claims Macon-Bibb Storage Properties, Inc. filed against Macon-Bibb County for alleged damages in Bibb County Superior Court

- **Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute the General Release and Settlement Agreement for the settlement of all claims Macon-Bibb Storage Properties, Inc.**
filed against Macon-Bibb County for alleged damages in Bibb County Superior Court Civil Action Number 14 CV 61501; and for other purposes.

ACTION


NEW BUSINESS

A. A Resolution endorsing the Leadership Service Project of Eagle Scout candidate Gordon Smith and authorizing the placement of four plaques or signage at Luther Williams Field by Gordon H. Smith, Boy Scout of America Troup 170, for the purpose of appreciating and honoring four Macon Native Negro League Baseball Players

- Referred to the Economic and Community Development 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

Mr. Donald H. Richardson, Jr. gave his reflections from a grass roots perspective of the social, economic, and political institutions of the Macon-Bibb County Government.

Ms. Patricia Faye Ivey Brown spoke on her rights as a person and citizen and the rights of others to live their lives as they wish.

Mr. Leroy Thomas, III spoke on blight and crime in Macon-Bibb County and his efforts to keep clean the Village Green neighborhood. He also spoke on the need to empower citizens’ through-out Macon-Bibb County to beautify and keep Macon-Bibb County clean and safe.

ADJOURNMENT

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


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Jean S. Howard
Clerk of Commission