The Regular Commission meeting of the Macon-Bibb County Commission was held on September 2, 2014 at 6:30 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
- 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
- Dave Fortson, County Engineer
- Shelia Thurmond – Clerk of Commission
- Steve Layson – Asst. Co. Mgr – Infrastructure
- Jean S. Howard – Asst. Clerk of Commission
- Janice Ross – Training & Events Coordinator
- Trae McCombs – Public Affairs
- Kevin Barrere – Public Affairs

**Guests in Attendance**

- Bud Fletcher
- Pastor Marlette Gilbert
- Brittney Childs – Industrial Authority

**News Media Present**

- Phillip Ramati – The Telegraph
- Anita Oh – 13 WMAZ
- Malcolm Johnson – WGXA FOX 24
- Ron Wildman – 58 WPGA

**CALLED TO ORDER**

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

**PRAYER**

The prayer was rendered by Rabbi Laurence A. Schlesinger of Temple Beth Israel and District 2 Commissioner.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Pre-Commission Meeting on August 19, 2014
B. Regular Commission Meeting on August 19, 2014

ACTION:

On motion of Commissioner Ed DeFore, seconded by Commissioner Elaine Lucas, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Pre-Commission and Regular Commission meetings held on August 19, 2014 were approved as presented.


INVITED GUESTS

Pastor Marlette Gilbert of Grants Chapel AME Church and retired Bibb County Schools Educator

Mayor Reichert gave an overview of Pastor Gilbert's tenure as a Pastor and Educator, citing her Ordination as an AME minister in 1982, Elder in 1994 and her service as Pastor of Grants Chapel AME Church since 2001. Pastor Gilbert was also recognized for her efforts in making major renovations to the Church's main sanctuary and fellowship hall. Mayor Reichert also recognized and thanked Pastor Gilbert for her contributions as a pastor and educator, and wished her good luck in her retirement from the ministry.

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 Tuesday, August 26, 2014 and reported/recommended approval of the following:

- The First Amendment to the SPLOST Contract. Fire Station #109 was completed a year ago and has been in operations since December 2013. The budget for Fire Station #109 was $4 M. The project came in under budget leaving approximately $1 M that can be allocated to other projects that have experienced a shortfall; Tattnall Square Tennis Center was a building that, when examined, required more repairs than originally planned. At this time, the building needs the bathrooms repaired, a new roof, seating areas and a sidewalk from the Center to Oglethorpe and College.
An increase of $200,000 needs to be allocated to this project, bringing the total to $700,000.

- Additional needs for the Animal Welfare Center are also required. The building is in need of a pressure washer system, sprinkler system and a generator. This will increase the budget by an additional $300,000. The building is scheduled for completion by December 2014.

- The law regarding the use of SPLOST funds states that once a project is completed and there are leftover funds, these monies may be moved to other SPLOST projects that may have experienced a shortfall.

- To execute a payment in lieu of rent agreement between Macon-Bibb County and the Georgia Department of Human Services for $1,247,145 for office space located at 456 Oglethorpe Street

- To purchase a 2014 Wheel Loader with Bucket Attachment, a 2015 Crew Cab Patch Truck and Two 2015 F-250 Trucks with SWAB Animal Transport. All are being purchased from local vendors.


### Economic and Community Development Committee

Committee Chairman Larry Schlesinger reported that the Economic and Community Development Committee met on Tuesday, August 26, 2014 and recommended approval of the following:

- Appointment of Derrick M. Catlett, Jean M. Bragg and Valerie R. Bradley and reappointment of Martha E. Carter, Helen M. Weathers, Charles A. Jay, Diane A. Newton, Melinda D. Robinson-Moffett, Theresa L. Robinson, Mark A. Stevens, Charlotte Woody, and Carolyn M. Crayton to the Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful Commission

- The partnership with Habitat for Humanity to help train individuals on how to safely deconstruct a house rather than just tear one down. Three local churches, First Baptist Church of Christ, Centenary United Methodist Church and St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, have joined in the partnership with Habitat for Humanity. The cost is $9,000

- Resolution authorizing the investigation of the feasibility of marketing, sale and / or participation in a public-private partnership involving the Government Center Annex for the purpose of creating a mixed use development project

- Resolution extending the lease with Houston County Board of Health WIC Program and with River Edge Behavioral Health Center

- Resolution to have the Mayor execute a contract with New Town Macon for a concert on the government owned parking deck at 448 Mulberry Street. A couple of Mercer
University graduates have a start-up company to promote Pop-Up concerts in Macon-Bibb County. They hope to bring residents into downtown and introduce them to underused properties in the downtown area. New Town will cover them under their insurance.

**Public Safety Committee**

Committee Chairman Scotty Shepherd reported the Public Safety Committee met on August 26, 2014 and recommended approval of the following:

- To authorize and approve the selection of State Court Probation office as the provider of Probation Services for the Macon-Bibb County Municipal Court

- Ordinance to revise Chapter 7, Section 2, Division II of the Code of Ordinances regarding the requirements of an alarm company to obtain a business license and penalties related to the operation

**Facilities and Engineering Committee**

Committee Vice-Chairman Mallory Jones reported the Facilities and Engineering Committee met on August 26, 2014 and recommended approval of the following:

- A contract with Department of Transportation for the third roundabout on Eisenhower Parkway which will slow traffic and prevent many t-bone accidents which have proved to be fatal. The government’s financial responsibility for the roundabout would be to maintain the green space and the lighting.

- Liberty Estates Drive located in the 4th Land District will be dedicated as a public road and shall be open for public use and maintained by Macon Bibb County.

- The property known as Causey Electric will be transferred to the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority. The City acquired the property ten years ago and tore down the building that was located on the property. The Transit Authority intends to use the property for parking due to its easy egress and ingress.

- An Extension agreement for property leases to Department of Veteran Services and the Economic Opportunity Council.

- Right of Way Encroachment Consent Agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Georgia Power Company for the Ocmulgee Heritage Trail.

- Granted an encroachment to Epitome Real Estate, Inc. at 667 Arch Street totaling 3,402 sq. ft. for the fair market price of $5.00 per sq. ft. ($17,000).

- To revise Chapter 22, Section 22-103 of the Code regarding the requirements to obtain a Landfill User Permit. This removes the Sheriff’s signature as a requirement.

**CONSENT AGENDA**
A. New alcoholic beverage license for JBK Southern, Inc. d/b/a Lazy Dog Growler located at 488 First Street

B. New alcoholic beverage license for RARE Hospitality International, Inc. d/b/a Longhorn Steakhouse #5027 located at 3072 Riverside Drive

C. New alcoholic beverage license for Recess located at 469 Broadway

**ACTION:**

- **On motion of Commissioner Larry Schlesinger, seconded by Commissioner Ed DeFore, and carried unanimously, the three (3) new alcoholic beverage licenses were approved.**

- **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. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute the First Amendment to the 2011 SPLOST Intergovernmental Contract

  - Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute the First Amendment to the 2011 SPLOST Intergovernmental contract; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**

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

B. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a payment in lieu of rent agreement between Macon-Bibb County and the Georgia Department of Human Services for $1,247,145 for office space located at 456 Oglethorpe Street

  - Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute a Payment in Lieu of Rent Agreement between Macon-Bibb County and the Georgia Department of Human Services for $1,247,145.00 for office space located at 456 Oglethorpe Street, Macon, Georgia, 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**

C. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for the purchase of a 2014 Wheel Loader with a bucket attachment for use by the Public Works Department

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for the purchase of a 2014 Wheel Loader with a bucket attachment for use by the Public Works Department in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


D. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for the purchase of a 2015 Crew Cab Patch truck 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 for the purchase of a 2015 Crew Cab Patch Truck for use the Facilities Management Department in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


E. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement to purchase two 2015 F-250 trucks with SWAB Animal Transport Body for use by the Animal Welfare Department in the amount of $75,300 to be paid from SPLOST funds

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for the purchase of two 2015 Ford F-250 trucks equipped with a SWAB Animal Transport Body for use by the Animal Welfare Department in the amount of $75,300.00, to be paid from SPLOST Funds in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

ACTION:

F. Resolution to amend the Macon-Bibb County Government Policies and Procedures Manual’s Section 6.12, Macon-Bibb Consolidated Government Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace Policy

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to amend the Macon-Bibb County Government Policies and Procedures Manual’s Section 6.12, Macon-Bibb Consolidated Government Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace Policy; and for other lawful 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.**

G. Resolution to appoint Derrick M. Catlett, Jean M. Bragg and Valerie R. Bradley and to re-appoint Martha E. Carter, Helen M. Weathers, Charles A. Jay, Diane A. Newton, Melinda D. Robinson-Moffett, Theresa L. Robinson, Mark A. Stevens, Charlotte Woody, and Carolyn M. Crayton to the Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful Commission

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to appoint Derrick M. Catlett, Jean M. Bragg and Valerie R. Bradley and to re-appoint Martha E. Carter, Helen M. Weathers, Charles A. Jay, Diane A. Newton, Melinda D. Robinson-Moffett, Theresa L. Robinson, Mark A. Stevens, Charlotte Woody, and Carolyn M. Crayton to the Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful Commission for a term of three years; 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.**

H. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Macon Area Habitat for Humanity to deconstruct and demolish a blighted residential structure in Macon-Bibb County for $9,000

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Macon Area Habitat for Humanity to deconstruct and demolish a blighted residential structure in Macon-Bibb County for $9,000.00; 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.**
I. Resolution authorizing the investigation of the feasibility for the marketing, sale, and/or participation in a Public-Private partnership involving the Government Center Annex for the purpose of creating a Mixed Use Development Project

   • Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the marketing, sale, and/or participation in a Public-Private Partnership involving the Government Center Annex for purposes of creating a Mixed Use Development project.

   ACTION:


J. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for extension with the Houston County Board of Health WIC Program for the lease of office space located at 456 Oglethorpe Street

   • Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension with the Houston County Board of Health WIC Program for the lease of office space located at 456 Oglethorpe Street in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

   ACTION:


K. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement of extension with River Edge Behavioral Health Center for the lease of office space located at 175 Emery Highway

   • Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension with River Edge Behavioral Health Center for the lease of office space located at 175 Emery Highway, in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

   ACTION:


L. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with NewTown Macon, Inc. to facilitate a concert at 448 Mulberry Street

   • Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission
authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with NewTown Macon, Inc. to facilitate a concert at 448 Mulberry Street; and for other purposes.

Discussion: Commissioner Lucas stated she was opposed to the Resolution because she thinks approving the agreement with NewTown would be setting a precedent and that the same opportunity should also be extended to other groups who may want to do the same thing in the future.

Commissioners Bechtel and Tillman stated NewTown would be insuring the event and the Commission was only giving permission for the use of the parking deck for the concert.

ACTION:

  Commissioner Lucas voted No.

M. Resolution to authorize and approve the selection of State Court Probation as the provider of Probation Services for the Macon-Bibb County Municipal Court

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize and approve the selection of State Court Probation as the provider of Probation Services for the Macon-Bibb County Municipal Court; and for other lawful purposes.

ACTION:


N. Ordinance to revise Chapter 7, Section 2, Division II of the Inaugural Code of Ordinances regarding the requirements of an alarm company to obtain a business license and penalties related to the operation thereof

- Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to revise Chapter 7, Sec. 2, Division II of the Inaugural Code of Ordinances for Macon-Bibb County regarding the requirements of an alarm company to obtain a business license and penalties related to the operation thereof; to provide an adoption and effective date; and to provide for other lawful purposes.

ACTION:


O. Resolution to execute a Letter of Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation for the installation of a roundabout at the intersection of State Route 22
(also known as Eisenhower Parkway) and Knoxville Road

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute a Letter of Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation for the installation of a roundabout at the intersection of State Route 22 (also known locally as “Eisenhower Parkway”) and Knoxville Road in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


P. Resolution accepting the dedication of a public road known as Liberty Estates Drive located in the 4th Land District and to declare that said road shall be open for public use and maintained by Macon-Bibb County

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission accepting the dedication of a public road known as Liberty Estates Drive located in the 4th Land District and to declare that said road shall be open for public use and maintained by Macon-Bibb County; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


Q. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority for the transfer of ownership, interest and access rights to the property located adjacent to the Terminal Station building, commonly known as the Causey Property

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority for the transfer of ownership, interest, and access rights to the property located adjacent to the Terminal Station building, commonly known as the Causey Property, described fully in Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


R. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension with the State Properties Commission on behalf of the Department of Veteran Services for the lease of
office space located at 653 Second Street

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension with the State Properties Commission on behalf of the Department of Veteran Services for the lease of office space located at 653 Second Street, in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


S. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension with the Macon-Bibb County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc. for the lease of office space located at 653 Second Street

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension with the Macon-Bibb Economic Opportunity Council, Inc. for the lease of office space located at 653 Second Street, in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


T. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Right-of-Way Encroachment Consent Agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Georgia Power Company for the Ocmulgee Heritage Trail

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute a Right-of-Way Encroachment Consent Agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Georgia Power Company for the Ocmulgee Heritage Trail, in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


U. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to grant an encroachment to Epitome Real Estate, Inc. at 667 Arch Street totaling 3,402 sq. ft. for the fair market price of five dollars ($5.00) per sq. ft. or $17,000
• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to grant an encroachment to Epitome Real Estate, Inc., at 667 Arch Street totaling 3,402 sq. ft. for the Fair Market price of five dollars ($5.00) per sq. ft. ($17,000.00) in accordance with Exhibit “A” attached hereto; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


V. Ordinance to revise Chapter 22, Section 22-103 of the Inaugural Code of Ordinances regarding the requirements to obtain a landfill user permit

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to revise Chapter 22, Sec. 22-103 of the Inaugural Code of Ordinances for Macon-Bibb County regarding the requirements to obtain a Landfill User Permit; and to provide an adoption and effective date; and to provide for other lawful purposes.

ACTION:


W. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Sam Hall & Sons, Inc. in the amount of $314,036.04 for Tobesofkee Marina Pavement Rehabilitation

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Sam Hall & Sons, Inc. in the amount of $314,036.04 for Tobesofkee Marina Pavement Rehabilitation, in form to be approved by the County Attorney’s Office; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to transfer the parcel of property at 4664 Sheraton Drive to the Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority

Referred To: Facilities and Engineering Committee
B. Resolution authorizing elected officials of Macon-Bibb County to be covered under Workers’ Compensation

Referred To: Operations and Finance Committee

C. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an application with the Georgia Department of Transportation for the purpose of applying for State allocated funds to be used for the paving and maintenance of public roads under the 2015 Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG)

Refered To: Facilities and Engineering Committee

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Janet Spry spoke on the needs of Senior Citizens and the “Senior Golden Group” at the Senior Center on Adams Street. Ms. Spry also spoke on the problems at the present center with overcrowdedness, two flights of stairs, one elevator, inadequate parking, and meeting space for the approximately 75 seniors who use the center. She requested that the Mayor and Commissioners consider appointing members from the “Senior Golden Group” to participate in the selection of a new center.

Evelyn Evans spoke on the renaming of Haywood Road and her opposition to a name change.

Patricia Faye Ivey Brown spoke on the need for a sense of freedom for everyone and crime prevention.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and on motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 P.M.


__________________________________________
Shelia Thurmond, CCC
Clerk of Commission