MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING  
MACON-BIBB COUNTY COMMISSION  
January 20, 2015 – 6:00 P.M.  
Government Center  
(Commission Chamber)

The Regular Commission meeting of the Macon-Bibb County Commission was held on January 20, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. in the Commission Chamber at Government Center.

Commission Members Present:

Mayor Robert A.B. Reichert  
Mayor Pro Temp 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  
Kevin Barrere – Public Affairs  
Steve Layson – Asst. Co. Mgr – Infrastructure  
Charles Coney – Asst. Co. Mgr. – Operations  
Jean S. Howard – Asst. Clerk of Commission  
Janice Ross – Training & Events Coordinator  
Trae McCombs – Public Affairs

Guests in Attendance

Brittney Childs – Industrial Authority  
Juanita Womack  
Sonya Daugherty  
Mrs. Woodford (Mother of Alexandra Woodford - GCAPS)  

News Media Present

Jim Gaines – The Telegraph  
Kristen Swilley – 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 Pastor Anthony Q. Corbett, Sr. of Lundy Chapel Missionary Baptist Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by GCAPS student Alexandra Woodford of Mount de Sales Academy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Pre-Commission Meeting on January 6, 2015
B. Regular Commission Meeting on January 6, 2015

ACTIONS:

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 January 6, 2015 were approved as presented.


INVITED GUESTS

Pastor Anthony Corbett, Sr. of Lundy Chapel Missionary Baptist Church was invited to render the prayer for tonight’s meeting.

Mayor Reichert recognized the presence of former Bibb County Commissioner, Rev. Lonzy Edwards.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Sandy Powell spoke on the need to construct the fire station on Donnan Road for the safety and well being of the citizens in the area that would benefit having a fire station that could respond to fire emergencies in a timely manner to save lives and property.

Rev. Lonzy Edwards, former Bibb County Commissioner, urged the approval and construction of the fire station on Donnan Road. He stated all citizens are Macon-Bibb County should be respected and treated fairly in all communities. He further emphasized the need for an area that he feels has been underserved by the governing authorities and stated the budget should not be balanced at the expense of not constructing and completing the Donnan Road fire station.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS

Operations and Finance Committee

Committee Chair Gary Bechtel reported that the Operations and Finance Committee met on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 and reported/recommended approval of the following:
The concept for community intervention workers to provide crisis response and assist with proactive peacekeeping regarding gang reduction and youth intervention was endorsed by the Committee.

Approved an agreement for the continuation of services between Macon-Bibb County and AT&T to provide digital network services for a period of 24 months at the existing rate.

Approved executing a pole attachment license agreement with Southern Rivers Energy for the purpose of attaching fiber optic lines to electrical power poles for internet and telecommunication connectivity at the Animal Welfare Center.

Approved an Agreement of Extension with Mercer University for the lease of property located at 651 Mulberry Street, the Grand Opera House.

Approved an agreement with Bob Lewis and Associates, Inc. for the lease of office space at 682 Cherry Street.

Approved the acceptance of the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Award in the amount of $24,000 with a Federal share of $18,000 and Local (In-Kind) match of $6,000 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Approved the contract for the Circuit Public Defender Office for the Macon Judicial Circuit and governing authorities of Macon-Bibb, Peach and Crawford Counties.

Approved grant awards for the Adult Drug Court in the amount of $225,000, and a grant for $80,740 for the Juvenile Court.

Approved establishing a Confiscated Fund for the District Attorney’s Office.

Approved appropriating $200,000 to the Rosa Jackson Center to fund architectural designs and $375,000 to Sub South Recreation Center to fund architectural designs. These funds will come from SPLOST Funds.

Economic and Community Development Committee

Committee Chairman Larry Schlesinger reported that the Economic and Community Development Committee met on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 and recommended approval of the following:

- Re-appointment of John Walker, III to the Macon Housing Authority.

- Approved a Resolution to recognize the month of February 2015 as Black History Month.
Public Safety Committee

Committee Chairman Scotty Shepherd reported the Public Safety Committee met on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 and recommended approval of the following:

- Approved the Resolution to reaffirm the Commission’s commitment and support regarding the construction of the fire station to be located at 3767 Donnan Road and to appropriate funding to equip said fire station in the FY 2016 Budget.

Facilities and Engineering Committee

Committee Chairman Al Tillman reported the Facilities and Engineering Committee met on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 and recommended approval of the following:

- Approved an Ordinance amending Chapter 28 of the Code of Ordinances to allow for Zoned Back-In Only Angled Parking.
- Approved a Resolution authorizing the closure of a portion of Daisy Park Place for the purpose of expanding and renovating Daisy Park.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Ingleside Food Mart located at 2304 Ingleside Avenue

B. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Genghis Grill located at 5437 Bowman Road, Ste. 100

C. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Jeffersonville Sunoco located at 2900 Jeffersonville Road

D. New Alcoholic Beverage License for KA KA’S located at 4290 Dellwood Drive

E. New Alcoholic Beverage License for The Back Burner Restaurant located at 2242 Ingleside Avenue

ACTION:


OLD BUSINESS

A. Resolution endorsing the concept to conduct further inquiry regarding a possible RFP for community intervention workers to provide crisis response and assist with proactive peacekeeping regarding gang reduction and youth development
• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission endorsing the concept to conduct further inquiry regarding a possible Request for Proposal (RFP) for community intervention workers to provide crisis response and assist with proactive peacekeeping regarding gang reduction and youth development; and for other lawful purposes.

ACTION:


B. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute a Continuation of Services Agreement between Macon-Bibb County and AT&T Georgia to provide Digital Network Services for 24 months at the existing rate

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute a Continuation of Services Agreement between Macon-Bibb County and AT&T Georgia to provide Digital Network Services for 24 months at the existing rate; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


C. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute a Pole Attachment License Agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Southern Rivers Energy for the purposes of attaching fiber-optic lines to electrical power poles for internet and telecommunications connectivity at the Animal Welfare Facility

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute a Pole Attachment License Agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Southern Rivers Energy for the purposes of attaching fiber-optic lines to electric power poles for internet and telecommunications connectivity at the Animal Welfare Facility; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


D. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension for an additional period of one year with the Corporation of Mercer University for the lease of property located at 651 Mulberry Street, the Grand Opera House
• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension for an additional period of one year with the Corporation of Mercer University, a non-profit organization, for the lease of property located at 651 Mulberry Street, (The “Grand Opera House”); and for other purposes.

ACTION:


E. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Bob Lewis and Associates, Inc. for the lease of office space at 682 Cherry Street in the amount of $1,450 per month for a period of two (2) years

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Bob Lewis and Associates Inc. for the lease of office space at 682 Cherry Street in the amount of $1,450.00 per month for a period of two (2) years; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


• Commissioner Gary Bechtel recused himself from the Vote.

F. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to approve the Indigent Defense Agreement among the Circuit Public Defender Office of the Macon Judicial Circuit and the governing authorities of Macon-Bibb, Peach, and Crawford Counties

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to approve the Indigent Defense Agreement among the Circuit Public Defender Office of the Macon Judicial Circuit and the governing authorities of Macon-Bibb, Peach, and Crawford Counties; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


G. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the State of Georgia Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Program Grant Award in the amount of $80,740 from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council awarded to the Macon-Bibb County Juvenile Court
• **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the acceptance of the State of Georgia Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Program Grant Award in the amount of $80,740 from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council awarded to the Macon-Bibb County Juvenile Court; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


H. Ordinance to appropriate $200,000 from County SPLOST Fund to Parks and Recreation Rosa Jackson to fund architectural designs

• **Clerk read by caption:** An Ordinance of the Commission of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia to appropriate $200,000 from County SPLOST Fund to Parks and Recreation Rosa Jackson to fund architectural designs.

**ACTION:**


I. Ordinance to appropriate $88,000 to establish a Confiscated Fund for the District Attorney’s Office

• **Clerk read by caption:** An Ordinance of the Commission of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia to appropriate $88,000 to establish a Confiscated Fund for the District Attorney’s Office.

**ACTION:**


J. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the BJA Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Award in the amount of $225,000 over a 3 year period. Federal share is $162,500 and State match is $62,500. The State match is comprised of $18,770 and Fund Balance match of $2,086 for 3 years. The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council awarded this grant to the Macon-Bibb County Veterans Court

• **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the acceptance of the BJA Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Award in the amount of $225,000 over a 3 year period. Federal share is $162,500 and State match is $62,500. The State match is comprised of $18,770 and Fund Balance match of $2,086 for 3 years. The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council awarded this grant to the Macon-Bibb County Veterans Court.
Court; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


K. Ordinance to appropriate $375,000 from County SPLOST Fund to Parks and Recreation Sub South Recreation Center to fund architectural designs

- Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Commission of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia to appropriate $375,000 from County SPLOST Fund to Parks and Recreation Sub South Recreation Center to fund architectural designs.

ACTION:


L. Resolution to recognize the month of February 2015 as Black History Month

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to recognize the month of February 2015 as Black History Month; and for other lawful purposes.

ACTION:


M. Resolution reappointing John C. Walker, III to the Macon Housing Authority

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission reappointing John C. Walker, III to the Macon Housing Authority; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


N. Resolution Macon-Bibb County Commission to reaffirm its commitment and support regarding the construction of the fire station to be located at 3767 Donnan Road; to appropriate funding to equip said fire station in the FY 2016 Budget
• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to reaffirm its commitment and support regarding the construction of the fire station to be located at 3767 Donnan Road; to appropriate funding to equip said fire station in the FY 2016 Budget; 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.**

O. Ordinance amending Chapter 28 of the Code of Ordinances to allow for Zoned Back-In Only Angled Parking

• Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission amending Chapter 28 of the Code of Ordinances to allow for Zoned Back-In Only Angled Parking; to provide for the repeal of conflicting Ordinances; to provide an effective date; and to provide 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.**

P. Resolution authorizing the closure of a portion of Daisy Park Place for the purpose of expanding and renovating Daisy Park

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the closure of a portion of Daisy Park Place for the purpose of expanding and renovating Daisy Park; 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.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

Mayor Reichert stated any New Business items received after tonight’s meeting would be referred to the appropriate Committee for action.
GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ash P. Walker spoke on the need for having discussions with Robins Air Force Base regarding joint civilian and military use of certain runways at Robins Air Force Base. Mr. Walker stated this would negate the cost of expanding the runway at Middle Georgia Regional Airport. He provided a hand-out titled “Converting Military Airfields to Civilian Airports” and provided examples of areas where this was taking place.

Dr. Lindsay Holliday spoke on the MATS Committee and the expansion of the runways at Middle Georgia Regional Airport.

Cynthia D. Knight spoke on economic development opportunities for Macon-Bibb County.

Robert Curry, Sr. spoke on the need to allocate more funds for recreation and the proposed recreational plans at the Filmore Thomas Park.

ADJOURNMENT

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


---------------------------
Jean S. Howard
Interim Clerk of Commission