MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
MACON-BIBB COUNTY COMMISSION
July 1, 2014 – 6:00 P.M.
Government Center
(Commission Chamber)

The Regular Commission meeting of the Macon-Bibb County Commission was held on July 1, 2014 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 Elaine Lucas  
Commissioner Mallory Jones, III  
Commissioner Ed DeFore  
Commissioner Scotty Shepherd  
Commissioner Virgil Watkins, Jr.

**Commission Members Absent:**

Commissioner Gary Bechtel

**Staff Present:**

Judd Drake – County Attorney  
Crystal Jones – Sr. Asst. County Attorney  
Opie Bowen – Asst. County Attorney  
Reggie McClendon – Asst. County Attorney  
Trac MCombs – Public Affairs  
Kevin Barrere – Public Affairs  
Chris Floore – Assistant to County Manager  
Shelia Thurmond – Clerk of Commission  
Steve Layson – Asst. Co. Mgr - Infrastructure  
Jean S. Howard – Asst. Clerk of Commission  
Janice Ross – Training & Events Coordinator

**Guests in Attendance**

Loretta Grier Cudjoe Smith  
Sarah Hunt  
Deep Patel

**News Media Present**

Jim Gaines – The Telegraph  
Anita Oh – 13 WMAZ  
Malcolm Johnson – WXGA FOX 24  
Ron Wildman – 58 WPGA

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**PRAYER**
The prayer was rendered by Apostle Lila Smith Harris, Senior Pastor of Healing the Hurt Life Center.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Pre-Commission Meeting on June 17, 2014  
B. Regular Commission Meeting on June 17, 2014

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 June 17, 2014 were approved as presented.


INVITED GUESTS

Apostle Lila Smith Harris of Healing the Hurt Life Center was invited to render the prayer for tonight's Regular Commission Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS

Operations and Finance Committee

Committee Vice Chair Elaine Lucas reported that the Operations and Finance Committee met on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 and recommended approval of the following:

- Authorized the Mayor to transfer a parcel of property located at 506 Hawthorne Street to the Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority to make it more marketable
- Authorized the East Macon Pool to be open six days a week for the benefit of children in the community and that the staff conduct a study to present to the Commission on the facts and figures regarding use of the pools
- To appropriate $40,000 from Commissary Fund Balance to provide nine computers for the jail security electronics system
Economic and Community Development Committee

Committee Chairman Larry Schlesinger reported that the Economic and Community Development Committee met on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 and recommended approval of the following:

- The Resolution authorizing the Commission to accept the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Compliance Plan
- An Ordinance to repeal Chapter 22, Article 1, Section 22-3 known as the Macon-Bibb County Scrap Tire Ordinance
- An Ordinance to repeal Chapter 12, Article VI of the Code of Ordinances, Macon-Bibb County, Georgia so as to eliminate provisions regarding Macon-Bibb County Health Department issued permits for kindergartens

The Committee also approved the following appointments to Boards and Authorities:

- Appointment of Commissioner Elaine Lucas to the Central Georgia Joint Development Authority
- Appointment of Walt Miller to fill the vacant position on the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority
- Reappointment of Andy Ambrose, Tony Lowden, and June O’Neal to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commission
- Reappointment of Columbus Watkins to the Board of the Bibb County Department of Family and Children Services
- Reappointment of Curtis Cooper to the Economic Opportunity Council (EOC)
- Appointment of Adah Marie Roberts, Evelyn H. Adams, Chris Howard, and Rev. Leon Ward to the Macon-Bibb County Library Board of Trustees
- Appointment of Stacy Carr to the Board of Health

Facilities and Engineering Committee

Committee Vice Chairman Mallory Jones reported the Facilities and Engineering Committee met on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 and approved the following:

- To accept an Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan
- Authorized the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension with Georgia Gas Distributors, Inc. for the continued operation of the propane distribution storage facility located at 1122 Seventh Street

Public Safety Committee

Committee Chairman Scotty Shepherd reported the Public Safety Committee met on
June 24, 2014 and approved the following:

- An Ordinance amending the Table of Contents of Article III, Chapter 5 entitled "Dangerous and Vicious Dogs" of the Code of Ordinances to correct errors in the headings index

CONSENT AGENDA

None

OLD BUSINESS

A. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to transfer a parcel of property located at 506 Hawthorne Street

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority to transfer a parcel of property located at 506 Hawthorne Street, in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


B. Resolution requiring that the pool located at the East Macon Center remain open a minimum of six (6) days per week

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission requiring that the pool located at the East Macon Center remain open a minimum of six (6) days per week to ensure sufficient recreational opportunities are being provided to the citizens of Macon-Bibb County; and for other purposes.

Discussion: Commissioner Lucas, sponsor of the original Resolution calling for five of the County's six pools to be opened five days week, stated a public survey of what activities, programs, and improvements citizens would like to have at each of the recreation centers needed to be done to ensure citizens' needs and expectations are being met. She thanked the Mayor and his staff, and the Recreation Department for their participation at the recent East Macon Town Hall meeting.

ACTION:

- Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al
C. Ordinance to appropriate $40,000 from Commissary Fund Balance to provide nine (9) computers for the Jail Security Electronics System

- Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Commission of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia to appropriate $40,000 from Commissary Fund Balance to provide 9 computers for the Jail Security Electronics System.

ACTION:


D. Resolution authorizing the Commission to accept a Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Compliance Plan

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Commission to accept a Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Compliance Plan in the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


E. Ordinance to repeal Chapter 22, Article 1, Section 22-3 known as the Macon-Bibb County Scrap Tire Ordinance

ACTION:

- Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to repeal Chapter 22, Article 1, Section 22-3 of the Code of Ordinances, Macon-Bibb County, Georgia, known as the Macon-Bibb County Scrap Tire Ordinance, so as to eliminate the provisions of that section; to renumber the remaining sections; and for other purposes.


F. Ordinance to repeal Chapter 12, Article VI of the Code of Ordinances so as to eliminate provisions regarding Macon-Bibb County Health Department issued permits for Kindergartens

- Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission
to repeal Chapter 12, Article VI of the Code of Ordinances, Macon-Bibb County, Georgia, so as to eliminate the provisions of that Article; to renumber the remaining Articles; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


G. Resolution appointing Commissioner Elaine Lucas to the Central Georgia Joint Development Authority

ACTION:

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission appointing Commissioner Elaine Lucas to the Central Georgia Joint Development Authority to fill the unexpired term of Lonzy Edwards; and for other purposes


H. Resolution appointing Walt Miller to fill the vacant position on the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission appointing Walt Miller to fill the vacant position on the Industrial Authority; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


I. Resolution reappointing Andy Ambrose, Tony Lowden, and June O'Neal to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commission

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission reappointing Andy Ambrose, Tony Lowden, and June O'Neal to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commission; and for other purposes.

Discussion: Commissioner Tillman stated he would like to know how often the Commission meets, how the chairperson is chosen, and how members are chosen for appointment.

Mayor Reichert stated a Work Session with the Commission could be scheduled to talk about their function and activities.
Commissioner Lucas stated she sponsored the Ordinance to create the local Martin Luther King Jr. Commission, which is patterned after the Atlanta Commission. She stated the Commission’s primary role has been to support and publicize activities sponsored by various entities commemorating Dr. King’s birthday. She further stated the Commission’s goal was not to overshadow other planned events and the Commission welcomed any suggestions and funds as the Commission did not receive any outside funding.

**ACTION:**


J. Resolution reappointing Columbus Watkins to the Bibb County Department of Family and Children Services Board

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission reappointing Columbus Watkins to the Board of the Bibb County Department of Family and Children Services; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


K. Resolution reappointing Curtis Cooper to the Macon-Bibb County Economic Opportunity Council

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission reappointing Curtis Cooper to the Economic Opportunity Council (EOC); and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


L. Resolution appointing Adah Roberts, Evelyn Adams, Chris Howard, and Rev. Leon Ward to the Macon-Bibb County Library Board of Trustees

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission appointing Adah Marie Roberts, Evelyn H. Adams, Chris Howard, and Rev. Leon Ward to the Macon-Bibb County Library Board of Trustees; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**

Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman.

M. Resolution appointing Stacy Carr to the Bibb County Board of Health

- *Clerk read by caption:* A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission appointing Stacy Carr to the Bibb County Board of Health; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


N. Ordinance amending the Table of Contents of Article III, Chapter 5 of the Code of Ordinances entitled "Dangerous and Vicious Dogs"

- *Clerk read by caption:* An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission amending the Table of Contents of Article III Chapter 5, entitled "Dangerous and Vicious Dogs", of the Code of Ordinances of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia to correct a Scrivener’s error in the heading index; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


O. Resolution authorizing the Commission to accept an American with Disabilities Act Transition Plan

- *Clerk read by caption:* A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Commission to accept an Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan, in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


P. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension with Georgia Gas Distributors, Inc. for the continued operation of the propane distribution and storage facility located at 1122 Seventh Street

- *Clerk read by caption:* A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension with Georgia Gas Distributors, Inc. for the continued operation of the propane distribution and
storage facility located at 1122 Seventh Street, in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**

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

Q. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with the Georgia Department of Corrections for the use of prison labor to supplement the Public Works Department's workforce

- **Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute a contract with the Georgia Department of Corrections for the use of prison labor to supplement the Public Works Department's workforce (3 offender work details from Dooley State Prison at $39,500 per detail for one year, for a total of $118,500 for FY 2015); and for other purposes.**

**ACTION:**

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

A. Resolution authorizing an agreement for the purchase of a 40ft. Insulated Hydraulic Telescopic Bucket Truck  

**Referred To: Operations and Finance Committee**

B. Resolution authorizing an agreement with Community Solutions, Inc. for services provided to the Macon-Bibb County Juvenile Court for a maximum of $250,000 using Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Funds  

**Referred To: Public Safety Committee**

C. Resolution authorizing an agreement with Marie Martin for services provided to the Macon-Bibb County Juvenile Court for a maximum of $53,184 using Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Funds  

**Referred To: Public Safety Committee**

D. Resolution authorizing an agreement with Volunteer Macon, Inc. for services provided to the Macon-Bibb County Juvenile Court for a maximum of $56,000  

**Referred To: Public Safety Committee**
E. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission for lease of office space at 175-C Emery Highway

**Referred To:** Operations and Finance Committee

F. Ordinance amending Chapter 4 Article II of the Code of Ordinances known as Alcoholic Beverages

**Referred To:** Economic and Community Development Committee

G. Approval of Retirements for Earlean Lewis – Finance Office (20 years and 5 months) and William Reid – Sheriff’s Office (20 years and 11 months)

**Referred To:** Operations and Finance Committee

H. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for the transfer of the Terminal Station building to the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority

**Referred To:** Facilities and Engineering Committee

I. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to convey the paved parking lot at 412 New Street to the Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority

**Referred To:** Economic and Community Development Committee

J. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Third Judicial Administrative District of Georgia for administrative services provided to the Macon-Bibb County Drug Court

**Referred To:** Public Safety Committee

K. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an amended agreement with Correct Health Bibb, LLC to provide continued physical health services for inmates and detainees of the County

**Referred To:** Facilities and Engineering Committee

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Loretto Grier Curjoe Smith – asked Commissioners for a Resolution calling for the repeal of Senate Bills 440 and 441 enacted in 1994 and 1995 primarily to reduce crime. Ms. Smith stated she would be willing to meet with individual Commissioners or during a Work Session to discuss the impact of these Bills on the budgetary expenses for jails and prisons, but most importantly, the negative effect they have had on juveniles and adults through mandatory long-term jail/prison sentences, and the fact they offer no incentive for rehabilitation or good behavior. She also spoke on the inequity of punishments for crimes committed. She thanked Commissioner Tillman for his assistance when he was president of the local NAACP.

**POINTS OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Commissioner Tillman stated State Senator David Lucas had sought to repeal Senate Bills 440
and 441 this year, but was unable to bring the issue up for discussion. Commissioner Tillman stated he would be willing to sponsor a Resolution for the Commission asking for the repeal of Senate Bills 440 and 441.

Commissioner Tillman also read a letter of thank you from Ervin Josey and For3Training thanking the Parks and Recreation Department for providing a venue for kids in the Middle Georgia area for three days of various basketball and life skills training. Mr. Josey also sent a Thank you card expressing his appreciation to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Commissioner Lucas introduced and recognized Deep Patel, a 10th grader at Stratford Academy, who has asked to shadow the Mayor and other Commissioners and possibly intern with other elected officials to learn more about the governmental process. She commended him for his interest in government and how it works.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and on motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 P.M.


Sheila Thurmond, CCC
Clerk of Commission