MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
MACON-BIBB COUNTY COMMISSION
July 15, 2014 – 6:00 P.M.
Government Center
(Commission Chamber)

The Regular Commission meeting of the Macon-Bibb County Commission was held on July 15, 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 Gary Bechtel
Commissioner Larry Schlesinger
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Commissioner Mallory Jones
Commissioner Ed DeFore
Commissioner Scotty Shepherd
Commissioner Al Tillman

Commission Members Absent:
Commissioner Virgil Watkins, Jr.

Staff Present:
Dale Walker – County Manager
Crystal Jones – Sr. Asst. County Attorney
Opie Bowen – Asst. County Attorney
Reggie McClendon – Asst. County Attorney
Chris Flore – Assistant to County Manager
Julie Moore – 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
Trae MCombs – Public Affairs
Kevin Barrere – Public Affairs

Guests in Attendance
Nancy White - Bibb Health Department
June Parker – Macon Housing Authority
Craig Ross – Macon Transit Authority
Rick Jones – Macon Transit Authority
Andy Stroud – Macon Transit Authority
John F. Kennedy – State Senator-Elect
Rev. Ronald Toney
Bud Fletcher
Eleanor Castellaw
Walter Wilson
C. Jack Ellis, Former Mayor of Macon

News Media Present
Jim Gaines – The Telegraph
Elise Brown – 13 WMAZ
Malcolm Johnson – WGXA FOX 24
Sean Franklin – 41 WMGT
Ron Wildman – 58 WPGA

July 15, 2014
CALL TO ORDER

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

PRAYER

The prayer was rendered by Pastor Chris Dorrity of Grace Point Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Pre-Commission Meeting on July 1, 2014
B. Regular Commission Meeting on July 1, 2014

ACTION:

On motion of Commissioner Ed DeFore, seconded by Commissioner Al Tillman, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Pre-Commission and Regular Commission meetings held on July 1, 2014 were approved as presented.


INVITED GUESTS

Pastor Chris Dorrity of Grace Point Church was invited to render the prayer for tonight's Regular Commission Meeting.

Ms. Eleanor Castellaw and Mr. Walter Wilson, former members of the Macon-Bibb County Board of Health

Mayor Reichert presented a Proclamation to Mr. Wilson declaring July 15, 2014 as “Walter Wilson Day” in Macon-Bibb County, recognizing and thanking him for his 29 years of service on the Macon-Bibb County Board of Health beginning with his appointment in May 1985 through his retirement effective on July 1, 2014. Mr. Wilson had served as Chairman of the Board since January 1993.

Mayor Reichert presented a Proclamation to Ms. Castellaw declaring July 15, 2014 as “Eleanor B. Castellaw Day” in Macon-Bibb County, recognizing and thanking her for 36 years of service on the Macon-Bibb County Board of Health beginning with her appointment in March 1978 through her retirement effective on July 1, 2014. She had served as Vice-Chair of the Board since January 2001.
When asked if she would like to make any comments, Mrs. Castellaw stated “it was a joy to serve.”

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Former Mayor, C. Jack Ellis, gave an overview of the City of Macon’s purchase of the Terminal Station and the State and Federal grants received for its purchase and renovation. He urged the Commission to retain ownership, but if not, he cautioned against charging rent to the Department of Driver Services which could cause them to relocate to another city or facility.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS

Operations and Finance Committee

Committee Vice-Chair Elaine Lucas reported that the Operations and Finance Committee met on Tuesday, July 8, 2014 and recommended approval of the following:

- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for the purchase of a 40 ft. insulated hydraulic telescopic bucket truck from O. G. Hughes and Son, Inc.

- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement of Extension with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission for the lease of office space located at 175-C Emery Highway.

- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Bi-Party Agreement for funding and operation of the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority.

Economic and Community Development Committee

Committee Chairman Larry Schlesinger reported that the Economic and Community Development Committee met on Tuesday, July 8, 2014 and recommended approval of the following:

- An Ordinance amending Chapter 4, Article II of the Alcoholic Beverage section of the Code of Ordinances of Macon-Bibb County to comply and conform to the distance requirements for retail package sales imposed by State law.

- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to convey the paved parking lot at 412 New Street to the Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority for the purpose of selling a portion of it to the American Cancer Society.

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

- Appointment of Jeffery Monroe as Chairman of the SPLOST Advisory Committee

- Re-appointment of Dr. Steven E. Corkery to the Board of Directors of River Edge Behavioral Health Community Service Board

- Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem Bert Bivins to fill a vacant position on the Board of Directors of River Edge Behavioral Health Community Service Board
• Appointment of Eric P. Manson to fill the unexpired term of David Danzie on the Macon Housing Authority

• Appointment of Christopher C. Tsavatewa to the Bibb County Board of Health to fill the unexpired term of Walter Wilson

• Appointment of Ethel Cullinan to the Bibb County Board of Health to fill the unexpired term of Eleanor Castellaw

**Facilities and Engineering Committee**

Committee Chairman Al Tillman reported the Facilities and Engineering Committee met on Tuesday, July 8, 2014 and approved the following:

• A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for the transfer of the Terminal Station Building to the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority contingent upon approval of the Federal Transit Authority

• A 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

**Public Safety Committee**

Committee Chairman Scotty Shepherd reported the Public Safety Committee met on Tuesday, July 8, 2014 and approved the following:

• A Resolution authorizing the acceptance of a Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant in the amount of $387,384 from the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council that has been awarded to the Bibb County Juvenile Court

• A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Third Judicial Administrative District of Georgia for $79,688.77 for administrative services provided to the Macon-Bibb County Drug Court and to employ a qualified individual to serve as Administrator of the Macon-Bibb County Drug Court

• A Resolution approving the “Bibb County Emergency Management Agency Emergency Operations Plan” for 2014

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Dollar General Store #2168 located at 3824 Pio Nono Avenue

B. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Shell Food Mart located at 2700 Riverside Drive

C. New Alcoholic Beverage License for Harvey’s Supermarket #1664 located at 1605
Shurling Drive

**ACTION:**

- **Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, and Al Tillman for the three Alcoholic Beverage License applications.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

A. Approval of retirements of Earlean Lewis - Finance Department (20 years and 5 months) and William Reid - Sheriff’s Office (20 years and 11 months)

**ACTION:**

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

B. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for the purchase of a 40 ft. insulated hydraulic telescopic bucket truck from O. G. Hughes and Son, Inc.

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for the purchase of a 40 ft. Insulated Hydraulic Telescopic Bucket Truck from O. G. Hughes as Son, Inc., 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, and Al Tillman.**

C. Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement of extension with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission for the lease of office space located at 175-C Emery Highway

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement of extension with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission for the lease of office space located at 175-C Emery Highway, 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, and Al Tillman.**
D. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Bi-Party Agreement for the funding and operation of the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute a Bi-Party Agreement for the funding and operation of the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority, in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


E. Ordinance amending Chapter 4 Article II of the Alcoholic Beverage Section of the Code of Ordinances to comply and conform to the distance requirements for retail package sales imposed by State law

ACTION:

- Clerk read by caption: An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission amending Chapter 4 Article II of the Alcoholic Beverage Section of the Code of Ordinances of Macon-Bibb County to comply and conform to the distance requirements for retail package sales imposed by State law; and for other purposes.


F. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to convey the paved parking lot at 412 New Street to the Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority for the purpose of selling a portion of it to the American Cancer Society for future development

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to convey the paved parking lot at 412 New Street to the Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority for the purpose of selling a portion of it to the American Cancer Society for future development; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


G. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to write a letter of endorsement on behalf of Macon-Bibb County and the Middle Georgia Region in support of the application for funding
related to the economic diversification from the Office of Economic Adjustment in the United States Department of Defense

**ACTION:**

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to write a letter of endorsement on behalf of Macon-Bibb County and the Middle Georgia Region in support of the application for funding related to the economic diversification from the Office of Economic Adjustment in the United States Department of Defense; and for other purposes


H. Resolution appointing Jeffery Monroe as Chairman of the SPLOST Advisory Committee

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission appointing Jeffery Monroe as Chairman of the SPLOST Advisory Committee to fill the unexpired term of Dan Slagle; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


I. Resolution reappointing Dr. Steven E. Corkery to the Board of Directors of the River Edge Behavioral Health Community Service Board

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission reappointing Dr. Steven Corkery to the Board of Directors of the River Edge Behavioral Health Community Service Board; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


J. Resolution appointing Macon-Bibb County Mayor Pro-Tem Bert Bivins to fill a vacant position on the Board of Directors of the River Edge Behavioral Health Community Service Board

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission appointing Macon-Bibb County Mayor Pro-Tem Bert Bivins to fill a vacant position on the Board of Directors of the River Edge Behavioral Health Community Service Board; and for other purposes.
ACTION:


K. Resolution appointing Eric P. Manson to fill the unexpired term of David Danzie on the Macon Housing Authority

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission appointing Eric P. Manson to fill the unexpired term of David Danzie on the Macon Housing Authority; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


L. Resolution appointing Christopher C. Tsavatewa to the Bibb County Board of Health to fill the unexpired term of Walter Wilson

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission appointing Christopher C. Tsavatewa to the Bibb County Board of Health to fill the unexpired term of Walter Wilson; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


M. Resolution appointing Ethel Cullinan to the Bibb County Board of Health to fill the unexpired term of Eleanor Castellaw

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission appointing Ethel Cullinan to the Bibb County Board of Health to fill the unexpired term of Eleanor Castellaw; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


N. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of a Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant in the amount of $387,384 from the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council that has been awarded to the Bibb County Juvenile Court
• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the acceptance of a Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant in the amount of $387,384 from the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council that has been awarded to the Bibb County Juvenile Court; 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, and Al Tillman.

O. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Third Judicial Administrative District of Georgia for $79,688.77 for administrative services provided to the Macon-Bibb County Drug Court and to employ a qualified individual to serve as administrator of the Macon-Bibb County Drug Court

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Third Judicial Administrative District of Georgia for $79,688.77 for administrative services provided to the Macon-Bibb County Drug Court in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; to employ a qualified individual to serve as administrator of the Macon-Bibb County Drug Court; 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, and Al Tillman.

P. Resolution approving the Bibb County Emergency Management Agency Emergency Operations Plan for 2014

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission approving the "Bibb County Emergency Management Agency Emergency Operations Plan" for 2014, in the same or similar 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, and Al Tillman.

Q. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for the transfer of the Terminal Station building to the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority contingent upon approval by the Federal Transit Authority

• Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for the transfer of the Terminal Station building to the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority contingent upon
approval of the Federal Transit Authority; and for other purposes.

**Discussion:** Commissioner Lucas asked for verification that the transfer of the Terminal Station to the Macon Transit Authority was contingent upon approval by the FTA and whether any deficits incurred by the Transit Authority would be covered by the Macon-Bibb County Government.

Mayor Reichert affirmed that FTA approval was needed and that the Macon-Bibb County Government would be responsible for deficits incurred.

Commissioner Lucas stated the rent-free option was one of the incentives offered to Driver Services to locate their office at the Terminal Station. She also stated the Driver Services Office was of great benefit to the citizens of Macon-Bibb County and other Middle Georgia communities. She further urged that the rent-free option not be changed. Commissioner Lucas also stated that the “Colored Only” signs at the Terminal Station should remain in place and not be removed or covered up as they are a part of history and could be used as a teaching tool to show that we are working on a brighter future.

Commissioner Bivins stated the Driver Services office should remain rent-free at the Terminal Station as they offer invaluable services to our citizens. He also agreed that the “Colored Only” signs should remain in place.

Commissioner Tillman stated that he was okay with Driver Services paying rent and that the Macon-Bibb Commission should not get involved in micromanaging the Macon Transit Authority.

**ACTION:**


R. 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

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an amended agreement with Correct Health Services for inmates and detainees of the County, in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


**NEW BUSINESS**
A. Ordinance amending Chapter 4 Article V of the Code of Ordinances to allow for the retail sale of wine and malt beverages for consumption on the premises as an establishment licensed for the sale of growers

*Referred To: Economic and Community Development Committee*

B. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with CWC, LLC for the moving of current furnishings and the purchase of new interior furnishings for the Tax Commissioner’s Office in the amount of $104,213.04

*Referred To: Operations and Finance Committee*

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mayor Reichert announced that he had received notification that the YKK Window Plant planned to double its residential window production capacity which is slated to begin production in January 2015. The company also plans to relocate its production lines into a larger building at its Macon site and add two new production lines dedicated to vinyl window and multi-layered glass production.

ADJOURNMENT

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


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Sheila Thurmond, CCC
Clerk of Commission