

**MACON COUNTY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, January 3rd, 2022, at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones, Commissioners Phillip Snow, Todd Gentry, Scott Gammons, Mike Jenkins, Benton Bartley, Charles (Chop) Porter, Mchelle Phillips, Justin Dyer, Ken Witte, Barry Marshall, Michael Slayton, Jeff Hughes, Barry King, Chad West, Kyle Petty, Wendell Jones, Jarhea Wilmore, Helen Hesson, and Larry West.

Absent: Tony Wix

Mayor Jones opened the meeting.

Chad West gave the Invocation.

Kyle Petty led the Pledge.

Motion #1 by Jenkins, 2nd by Wilmore to accept minutes as presented from the 12/20/21 Legislative Body meeting, 11/16/21 Planning Commission meeting, and 11/16/21 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #2 by Hughes, 2nd by Snow accept Budget Amendments #1 through #6 (#1 Sheriff's Department, #2 Judicial Commissioners, #3 Planning Commission, #4 County Buildings-Courthouse, #5 Animal Control, and #6 County Buildings-Courthouse) and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that after speaking to Road Supervisor Audie Cook, they are concerned about the liability on the County of different agencies using the Highway Department's equipment at the Fairgrounds. He stated that he had spoken to Attorney Guy Holliman about bringing his recommendations back to the Commissioners.

Motion #3 by Snow, 2nd by Gammons to defer discussions on the liability of use of the Highway Department's equipment to the Legislative Body for approval and/recommendations from Attorney Guy Holliman.

Motion Carried

Sheriff Mark Gammons stated he would bring back the Sheriff's Department's reports at the Legislative Body meeting. He stated that the Sheriff's Department had approximately 14,000 reports last year which is an increase of approximately 5,000 reports from the previous year.

Mayor Jones explained that Macon County has received the \$1,000,000 Site Development Grant from the State of Tennessee for the purchase of the Donoho property. This grant will bring the cost from \$20,000 an acre to approximately \$12,538 an acre. Mayor Jones explained that purchasing this land for industrial development is for the future of Macon County. He stated that the Commissioners will have to decide if they want to purchase the land due to the purchase option running out this year. He stated that if the Commissioners decide not to purchase the property the \$1,000,000 Site Development Grant will go back to the State of Tennessee.

He stated that after purchasing the land Macon County can reapply for an Invest Prep Grant to use for utilities and access roads.

Motion #4 by Gammons, 2nd by Hughes to proceed with the purchase of the Donoho property and defer to the Legislative Body for approval.

Motion Carried by Roll Call 16 Yes, 2 No, 1 Pass

Mayor Jones stated that the City of Lafayette is considering selling 2 additional acres to add to the 10 acres at Winding Stairs to the County to build an Administrative Building. Mayor Jones stated he is meeting with Upland Design this week. He stated he will bring back the information about the land and designs after he meets with Mayor Wilmore and Upland Design.

Motion #5 by Gammons, 2nd by Petty to allow discussions about the Winding Stairs property and Administrative Building at later meetings and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried.

Motion #6 by Hughes, 2nd by Petty to defer the establishment of an Industrial Development Board to Legislative Body for approval and/or recommendations from Attorney Guy Holliman.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that Mid-Tenn Engineering has almost completed the designs for the water lines for Sycamore Valley Rd, Old Bottom Rd and Addison Hollow Rd. The designs will be sent to the State for approval then sent out for bids. He stated that construction for the water lines on Taylor Branch Ln are underway. He stated that Macon County is now eligible for approximately \$3,9000,000 for water lines through TDEC.

Motion #7 Gammons, 2nd by Jenkins to allow discussions on water lines at later meetings and defer to Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that he had received complaints regarding dump sites at different locations in the County. He stated that they are on private property and asked the Commissioners for recommendations on ways to help with this problem. Sheriff Mark Gammons recommended that Macon County Solid Waste be open every Saturday and inquire about adding a fee on citizens property taxes for trash disposal. Commissioner Michael Slayton recommended putting up cameras and signs about dumping at the dump sites. Commissioner Barry King recommended hiring someone for the Convenience Site at Westside.

Motion #8 by Slayton, 2nd by Jenkins to allow Mayor Jones to discuss with Macon County Solid Waste Director Debbie Richardson about operating hours and convenience site to help with dumpsites and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #9 by Gentry, 2nd Petty to accept the Building Codes/Impact Fee Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #10 by Witte, 2nd by Petty to accept the Animal Control Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #11 by Gammons, 2nd by Gentry to accept the EMS Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Crystal Justice and Olivia Brumach representing non-profit 37150 Community Center, Inc came before the Commissioners explaining their goals of establishing a facility to be able provide educational and recreational programs for the youth and senior citizens. They were requesting a \$10,000 donation to help with establishing a building.

Motion #12 by Gammons, 2nd by Snow to defer the 37150 Community Center's \$10,000 donation request to the Budget Committee and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that Attorney Guy Holliman will discuss some case updates at the Legislative Body meeting.

Motion #13 by Gammons, 2nd by Snow to allow discussions about case updates from Attorney Guy Holliman and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Commissioner Ken Witte requested a cost analysis for the last 4 years of the renovations that were done on the Courthouse.

Commissioner Barry King stated that due to the upcoming election, the UCHRA building needed the parking lot restriped and needed more parking. He requested some work be done to the parking lot to make more parking spaces. Mayor Jones stated that Road Supervisor Audie Cook could look and see if the Highway Department could do the work.

Motion #14 by King, 2nd by West to allow Road Supervisor Audie Cook to work on parking lot at the UCHRA building and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #15 by Jones, 2nd by West to adjourn.

Motion Carried