

**MACON COUNTY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MEETING MINUTES**
Monday March 7th, 2022, at 6:30 P.M.

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

Absent: Todd Gentry, Scott Gammons, and Justin Dyer

Mayor Jones opened the meeting.

Chad West gave the Invocation.

Ken Witte led the Pledge.

Motion #1 by Jenkins, 2nd by Hughes to accept minutes as presented from the 2/22/22 Legislative Body meeting, 1/18/22 Planning Commission meeting, 12/21/21 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 2/17/22 EFSP meeting, and 2/22/22 Administrative Building meeting and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #2 by West, 2nd by Jenkins accept Budget Amendments #1 through #11 (#1 Macon County Rescue Squad, #2 General Fund, #3 Solid Waste, #4 Capital Projects-Ambulance, #5 Library, #6 Animal Control, #7 Willette Fire Department, #8 School Nutrition, #9 Solid Waste, #10 EMA, and #11 County Clerk) and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #3 by Hesson, 2nd by Wix to defer #3-27/22 UT Extension Proclamation to the Legislative Body meeting for ratification.

Motion Carried

Road Supervisor Audie Cook stated that the Lafayette Fire Department had contacted him requesting the use of the Highway Department's bulldozer to level for a pad for training on City of Lafayette land. The Road Supervisor was advised that due to liabilities and for insurance coverage the Highway Department would need to provide the operator.

Motion #4 by King, 2nd by Slayton to allow the Road Supervisor Audie Cook to use the Highway Department's bulldozer and furnish an operator to level a pad for Lafayette Fire Department and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Sheriff Mark Gammons spoke to the commissioners about his fuel cost and said he would be working on a budget amendment to bring before the commissioners for approval. The Sheriff then ask Deputy Mark Bartley to proceed with explaining a request to sell used service handguns and confiscated weapons that have been released by the Judge. Deputy Bartley told the commissioners that several deputies were being issued new handguns. Deputy Bartley ask that they use RTAC, a local gun dealer, to do the transactions. He also stated that he would like the commissioners to allow the deputies to purchase their old weapons back from RTAC if they choose.

Motion #5 by Snow, 2nd by West to allow the Sheriff's Department to sell the released confiscated weapons and purchase new weapons for the deputies from RTAC and defer to Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that 1st and 2nd district school board member Jed Goad had to resign because he had moved out of his district. He stated that with recommendations from County Attorney Guy Holliman, that seat would need to be filled at the Legislative Body meeting.

Motion #6 by Hughes, 2nd by Witte to approve the election of a school board member for the 1st and 2nd district to fill the vacancy and to advertise, take applications, and elect a new school board member at the Legislative Body meeting on March 21st, 2022.

Motion Carried

Motion #7 by King, 2nd by Petty to allow the transfer of the new tanker truck to the City of Red Boiling Springs for the RBS Fire Department and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #8 by West, 2nd by Jenkins to allow discussion for the Farmer's Market pavilion bids and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #9 by Witte, 2nd Jones to accept the Building Codes/Impact Fee Report, Animal Control Report, and EMS Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Matt Polston, representing the Lafayette Little League, came before the Commissioners requesting a \$3,500 donation for dugout renovations at the coach pitch field. This will be funded out of the General Fund.

Motion #10 by Bartley, 2nd by Snow to approve Lafayette Little League \$3,500 donation for dugout renovations and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #11 by West, 2nd by Hesson to allow discussions about Project Graduation and defer to the Legislative Body for approval.

Motion Carried

Mr. Terry Kemp, representing the residents on Glover Hollow Ln came before the Commissioners concerning the road problems they are having. The Glover Hollow Ln residents have agreed to give the right-a-way needed to the Highway Department to be able to repair the problems.

Motion #12 by Witte, 2nd by West to allow the Road Supervisor Audie Cook and Road Committee to bring back road repairs recommendations for Glover Hollow Ln and defer to the Legislative Body for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that he had been told the lighting at the fairgrounds needed to be replaced in the future. He stated he had been told there aren't any parts available for the current lights. Commissioner Barry King stated that he had checked on the relocation of the light lines going to the lights and it would cost approximately \$15,000 to get them moved.

Motion #13 by Witte, 2nd by West to allow future discussion for the Fairground lights and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated he had spoken to Evan White with Mid-Tenn Engineering regarding the cost increase for the waterline replacement on Taylor Branch Ln due to additional work TDEC required. He stated that the additional cost is estimated at \$80,000 but Evan White is still negotiating this price.

Motion #14 by King, 2nd by Petty to allow Mr. White to negotiate the additional cost with the contractor for the Taylor Branch Ln waterline and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Commissioner Ken Witte stated that he felt a letter should be drafted and sent to the Governor, Senator Blackburn, Congressman John Rose, and State Legislatures regarding the current price of gas and requesting to open the Keystone Pipeline to help with the fuel costs.

Motion #15 by Witte, 2nd by Snow to request Mayor Jones draft a letter on behalf of the commissioners, to Governor Lee, Senator Blackburn, Congressman Rose, and State Legislatures requesting their support in reopening the Keystone Pipeline project and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

County Commissioner Barry King and Commissioner Benny Bartley discussed complaints about the Codes Department not answering calls. Mayor Jones asked for the commissioners to have those calling to call him and he would take care of it. Commissioner Larry West ask if there had been any development on the discussion of adding At-large positions to the school board. Mayor Jones said he would discuss this with the County Attorney and bring back an answer at the Legislative Meeting. No motions were made.

Motion #16 by Witte, 2nd by Wilmore to adjourn.

Motion Carried