

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

Tuesday September 6th, 2022, at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones, Commissioners Phillip Snow, Todd Gentry, Keith Newberry, Mike Jenkins, Benton Bartley, Ethan Flippin, Billy Wilmore, Justin Dyer, Dan Hill, Barry Marshall, Tony Wix, Michael Slayton, Jeff Hughes, Barry King, Bobby Ray King, Kyle Petty, Wendell Jones, Jarhea Wilmore, Helen Hesson and Larry West.

Absent: None

Commissioners were sworn in by Mayor Jones.

Mayor Steve Jones opened the meeting.

Michael Slayton gave the Invocation.

Wendell Jones led the Pledge.

Motion #1 by Petty, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hughes to go into election.

Motion Carried

Motion #2 by Petty, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dyer to elect Mayor Jones as Chairman.

Motion Carried

Motion #3 by Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dyer to nominate Jeff Hughes and Benton Bartley was nominated by King, 2<sup>nd</sup> by King for Vice-Chairman.

Motion Carried

With a tied vote of 9 each, Mayor Jones elected Benton Bartley by the flip of a coin.

Motion #4 by Wix, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hesson to accept minutes as presented from the 8/15/22 Legislative Body meeting and 8/15/22 Waterline Committee meeting and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #5 by Bartley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jenkins to defer Budget Amendments #1-5 (#1 Animal Control, #2 Solid Waste, #3 Mayor's Office, #4 Library, and #5 General Purpose Schools) to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #6 by Hughes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jenkins to defer #9-9/22 Strategic Plan Resolution and Debt Management Policy to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #7 by West, 2<sup>nd</sup> by King to defer #9-10/22 Title VI Resolution to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #8 by Wix, 2<sup>nd</sup> by King to defer #9-11/22 Suicide Prevention Proclamation to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #9 by King, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hesson to defer #9-12/22 U8 Coach Pitch Proclamation to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion #10 by King, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Petty to defer 9-13/22 Isaac Kirby Proclamation to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones explained that the roof at the Highway Department has a leak due to age and needs to be bid out to be repaired and/or replaced.

Motion #11 by Bartley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Slayton to approve Mayor Jones to bid out Highway Department roof and defer to Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #12 by Wix, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marshall to approve Comptrollers' budget approval letter and defer to the Legislative Body for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #13 by Hesson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jenkins to approve annual financial reports and defer to Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones explained that the TDEC Waterline Grant requires resolutions to be approved for the application process and asked the Commissioners to approve for them to be brought back at the Legislative Body meeting.

Motion #14 by Hesson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by King to approve TDEC Waterline Grant Resolutions to be brought back and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones explained that he had been in meetings with Castalian Springs/Bethpage Water Utility District about the waterline for Hicks Hollow Rd. He stated that there were approximately 10 property owner at the meeting stating they would want the water if offered to them. He stated that the Commissioners would have the final say in which roads received the funding using the TDEC Waterline Grant. He stated that the Commissioners had already approved waterlines to be installed on Old Bottom Rd, Addison Hollow Rd and Sycamore Valley Rd. Smith County Mayor Jeff Mason has already committed \$440,000 of their TDEC funding to help with the waterlines on Sycamore Valley Rd. He stated that N. Long Creek Rd and Tanyard Rd has also been discussed. He explained that if these roads are the ones that are funded, he felt that this would distribute the funding across the County well. He also stated that until the projects are bid out the County will not know how many roads can be funded.

Motion #15 by Slayton, 2<sup>nd</sup> by West to approve using the TDEC Waterline grant for Hicks Hollow Rd and defer to the Legislative Body for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones explained that the Justice Center was approximately 20 years old and had a roof leak that Rackley Roofing has already patched. He stated they had sent pictures of more problems that needed to be addressed. He stated that the repairs or replacement of the roof could be paid for out of Debt Service using Contracted Prisoner Board funds.

Motion #16 by Bartley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Newberry to approve Mayor Jones to bid out Justice Center roof and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #17 by Hesson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Newberry to approve EMS Write offs of \$19,911.13 and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #18 by King, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Petty to defer bids for Election Commission voting machine system to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #19 by Hesson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jenkins to approve NCTC phone system contract for Justice Center and EMS and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones explained that USDA currently has an interest rate of 3.25% for loans. He suggests that the County look into applying for a loan for the Administrative Building to lock in the low rate. Mayor Jones stated that it would be a 40-year loan but would recommend making an extra principal payment to shorten the loan to 20-25 years.

Motion #20 by King, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hughes to apply to USDA for Administrative Building loan and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #21 by Dyer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Petty to pay off Courthouse Renovation Loan when due and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones explained that due to the new administration at the Sheriff's Department, there had been some comp time and vacation time paid out. He stated that there would need to be a budget amendment brought back using funds out of General Fund balance to take care of the cost incurred.

Motion #22 by King, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dyer to allow budget amendment for Sheriff's Department to be brought back and defer to the Legislative Body for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #23 by Hesson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wilmore to accept the Building Codes/Impact Fee Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #24 by Petty, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wilmore to accept the Animal Control Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that we had lost an Animal Control Officer and were currently taking applications for the position.

Motion #25 by West, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gentry to accept the EMS Report, Collections, and Write-offs and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Commissioner Barry King stated that he would like the Commission to approve buying a piece of equipment for the Highway Department to help cut overhanging trees with. He stated that he had already received one quote for \$268,967 and had also spoken to the State of TN Department of Transportation about possibly contracting with them cutting trees on state roads as well. Mayor Jones stated that the equipment would have to be bid out.

Motion #26 by King, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marshall to allow discussions on equipment for Highway Department and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Commissioner Benton Bartley asked about drafting a letter to the State of TN Legislators regarding the Hwy 141 road project requesting the project be finished.

Motion #27 by Bartley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by King to send a letter to the State of TN about the Hwy 141 project and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Commissioner Keith Newberry stated that he had been contacted by a citizen regarding the Property Assessor's vehicle not being stickered to be identifiable.

Motion #28 by Newberry, 2<sup>nd</sup> by King to have Property Assessor's vehicle stickered for identification and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Commissioner Michael Slayton asked about how long the Constables have to be sworn in and the process if they were not. Mayor Jones stated that he would have to find out and bring back the information.

Motion #29 by Hesson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jones to adjourn.

Motion Carried