

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

Monday July 3rd, 2023, at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones, Commissioners Phillip Snow, Todd Gentry, Keith Newberry, Mike Jenkins, Billy Wilmore, Dan Hill, Barry Marshall, Tony Wix, Jeff Hughes, Barry King, Bobby Ray King, Wendell Jones, Helen Hesson, and Larry West.

Absent: Benton Bartley, Ethan Flippin, Justin Dyer, Michael Slayton, and Jarhea Wilmore

Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones opened the meeting.

Jeff Hughes gave the Invocation.

Kyle Petty led the Pledge.

Motion #1 by Jenkins, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Newberry to accept minutes as presented from the 6/19/23 Legislative Body meeting, 5/16/23 Planning Commission meeting, 5/16/23 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 6/5/23, 6/12/23, 6/19/23, 6/26/23 Budget meetings, 6/16/23 Audit Committee meeting and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #2 by B. Wilmore, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marshall to defer Budget Amendments #1 (#1 Solid Waste) to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #3 by Jenkins, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hughes to defer FY23-24 Budget to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #4 by King, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hesson to defer #7-1/23 Appropriation Resolution to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #5 by West, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jenkins to defer #7-2/23 Non-profit Appropriation Resolution to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #6 by Hughes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jones to defer #7-3/23 Tax Levy Resolution to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #7 by Petty, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hesson to defer #7-4/23 Broadband Resolution to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

School Director Shawn Carter explained to the Commissioners that Upland Design had presented preliminary drawings to the School Board which were approved. He stated they along with Mayor Jones, are working with USDA to get funding as soon as possible but would not make the current quarter and may have a different interest rate than anticipated but was hopeful that the rate may decrease. He stated that they were in the process of getting a traffic study done now. He explained that the SRO grant had been submitted and the county should be receiving \$600,000 to pay for the 8 schools. He stated that there is a 9th SOR position that would be paid for by the schools. He stated that Chelsea Workman had been hired as the new principal at Macon County Jr. High School.

Mayor Jones stated that bids would be opened on July 13th for the road into Nature Trail Way for the Administrative Building and Health Department. He stated that the engineers felt the county could save money if the commissioners would approve for the Highway Department to provide and lay the stone. The Highway Department would be reimbursed from the building fund.

Motion #8 by King, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hill to defer Nature Trail Way bids and Highway Department work to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Sheriff Joey Wilburn stated that several grants had been applied for including the SRO grant for \$600,000, VSC grant for \$90,000 for body cameras, a body armor grant, a work release grant that the chamber of commerce is assisting with, and a recovery grant to help with recidivism, that he is working on with the drug court. He also stated that they are getting ready to implement the ankle monitors for the work crews.

Mayor Jones stated that the bid opening for the Jail addition would be on July 18<sup>th</sup>. He stated that the Prebid walk-thru had already taken place and that depending on the length of the bids' expiration date, there may have to be a special called meeting to approve the contractor.

Motion #9 by Snow, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jenkins to defer Jail addition bids discussion to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that he had been contacted by Betty Stevens inquiring about purchasing Galen School Museum. She would like to renovate the building and have educational programs in it. Commissioner Phillip Snow requested that she come and explain her plans for the property. It was also requested that Rayburn King, Larry Tucker, and Steve Blankenship be contacted for their input.

Motion #10 by West, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jones to defer Galen School Museum discussions to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that there would be 2 positions opening on the E-911 board and asked to bring back recommendations at the next meeting for ratification.

Motion #11 by Newberry, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jenkins to defer E-911 board nominations to the Legislative Body meeting for ratification.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that the residents of Howell Rd had submitted a 35mph speed limit petition.

Motion #12 by Hesson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Petty to defer the Howell Rd 35mph speed limit petition and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones explained that due to the new laws regarding the way the agenda is posted, there isn't enough time to get the full monthly reports from the Codes Department, Animal Control, and EMS. He requested that the monthly reports be pushed back a month.

Motion #13 by Hesson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wix to defer monthly reports until next month's meeting and send on to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones opened the period for public statements, and no one wished to speak.

Motion #14 by West, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marshall to adjourn.

Motion Carried