

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

Monday August 7th, 2023, 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

Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones opened the meeting.

Keith Newberry gave the Invocation.

Helen Hesson led the Pledge.

Motion #1 by Hesson, 2nd by J. Wilmore to accept minutes as presented from the 7/17/23 Legislative Body meeting, 6/20/23 Planning Commission meeting, 6/20/23 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 7/3/23 Budget meeting, 7/19/23 JECDB meeting and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #2 by Jenkins, 2nd by Newberry to accept Budget Amendments #1-#12 (#1 Sheriff's Department, #2 EMS, #3 EMS, #4 West Macon Rescue Squad, #5 Macon Rescue Squad, #6 Animal Control, #7 Mayor's Office, #8 Trustee, #9 Circuit Court Clerk, #10 Solid Waste, #11 EMS, and #12 Other Facilities – Justice Center) and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

School Director Shawn Carter thanked the Commissioners for supporting the new elementary school. He stated that the preliminary numbers of new students are approximately 150 more with new students continuing to register every day.

William Carter came before the Commissioner requesting, they approve the Highway Department to take over the roads Uhles Rd, Elton Ln, and David Ln in Azilee Farms. County Attorney Guy Holliman stated that Mr. Carter had followed all the proper procedures and regulations required by subdivision developers and Road Supervisor Audie Cook has already signed off on the project for planning.

Motion #3 by Gentry, 2nd by Hill to accept Uhles Rd, Elton Ln, and David Ln to be added to the county road list and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

During a discussion, Attorney Holliman stated that Mr. Cook had already spoken to him about possibly changing the requirements of thickness of the pavement for future subdivisions to offset the quality of materials of hot mix being provided now. Mr. Carter suggested following the guidelines set by the City of Lafayette. Mr. Cook is currently working on new specs to give planning for the County. Mayor Jones stated that he was informed that the United Postal Service will no longer allow individual mailboxes to be put up in subdivisions but instead developers will have to install collection boxes at one location for all residents. Mr. Holliman stated that he will investigate it and discuss his recommendations with the Planning Commission and guidelines may need to be changed for that as well. Commissioner Dan Hill asked Mr. Holliman, who is responsible for installing new signage when a subdivision is added. Mr. Holliman stated he would check into it.

Mayor Jones stated that he had been contacted by a resident requesting to have Bluebird Ln extended approximately 85ft. He suggested the Highway Committee go and look at it and bring back recommendations to the Legislative Body meeting.

Motion #4 by King, 2nd by Newberry to defer the extension of Bluebird Ln to the Legislative Body meeting for discussion and/or approval with recommendations from the Highway Committee.
Motion Carried

Sheriff Joey Wilburn stated that the Sheriff's Department needed a new printer. He requested leasing one from Mid-Tenn Office Equipment for \$149.22 each month for 60 months.

Motion #5 by Dyer, 2nd by J. Wilmore to accept Sheriff's Department entering a 60-month lease from Mid-Tenn Office Equipment for printer and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.
Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that the County and City of Lafayette had received a \$100,000 TVA Invest-Prep Grant to put a temporary road on the Industrial Development expansion property. He stated that TVA felt this would help market the new site for potential industry to better see the land layout. The grant funds match of would be split between the County, City of Lafayette, and TN Central and cost approximately \$14,000 each.

Motion #6 by Hesson, 2nd by Hughes to accept receiving the \$100,000 TVA Invest-Prep Grant with the estimated \$14,000 match and defer the to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.
Motion Carried by Roll Call (20 – yes, 0 – no)

Mayor Jones stated that an architecture firm would have to be procured again for the new health department due to the State of TN's guidelines changing but due to the procedures may not have the documents by the next meeting but requested to defer to the Legislative Body meeting for discussion.

Motion #7 by West, 2nd by Petty to allow discussions about the architecture firm procurement for the new health department and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.
Motion Carried

Motion #8 by Petty, 2nd Newberry to accept Building Codes/Impact Fee Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.
Motion Carried

Motion #9 by Wilmore, 2nd Gentry to accept Animal Control Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.
Motion Carried

Motion #10 by Hesson, 2nd by Marshall to accept EMS Operational Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.
Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that the bid for the jail addition came in at a little over \$38M. After speaking with the architecture firm Cope Architecture, they took some items off and got the bid down to approximately \$31M. He stated that it was still considerably over budget and that it was planned that he, along with Sheriff Wilburn, TCI and the architects would be meeting to discuss the next steps and possibly rebidding the project early next year.

Motion #11 by B.Wilmore, 2nd by Newberry to discuss vocational school in the September meeting and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.
Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that the scales at Solid Waste had broken and are supposed to be repaired this Thursday and Friday but would require them to close those days. The cost of repairs will be approximately \$5,000. He stated that the County had received a \$50,000 grant for new scales and the quotes that he had received are approximately \$120,000 to \$123,000.

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

Motion #12 by Wilmore, 2nd by Newberry to adjourn.

Motion Carried