

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

Monday April 1st, 2024, 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, Wendell Jones, Jarhea Wilmore, Helen Hesson, and Larry West.

Absent: Kyle Petty

Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones opened the meeting.

Jeff Hughes gave the Invocation.

Barry King led the Pledge.

Motion #1 by Hesson, 2nd by Newberry to accept minutes as presented from the 3/18/24 Legislative Body meeting, 2/13/24 Planning Commission meeting, 2/27/24 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 3/11/24, 3/18/24, 3/25/24 Budget meetings and 3/25/24 Emergency Services meeting and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #2 by Slayton, 2nd by Hughes to accept Budget Amendments #1-#16 (#1 Animal Control, #2 Sheriff's Department – SRO Grant, #3 Sheriff's Department – EBP Grant, #4 Willette Fire Department, #5 EMS, #6 Sheriff's Department, #7 Circuit Court Clerk, #8 Capital Projects – Administration Building, #9 General Sessions Court – Opioid Settlement, #10 Library, #11 General Fund – Opioid Settlement, #12 Trustee's Office, #13 Capital Projects – Jail Addition, #14 New Elementary School, #15 Other Facilities – Justice Center, and #16 Planning) and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried (Snow – No)

Motion #3 by Jenkins, 2nd by J. Wilmore to defer 4-20/24 Harvey Property Rezoning Resolution to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #4 by West, 2nd by Gentry to defer 4-21/24 Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #5 by West, 2nd by Hesson to defer 4-22/24 Vocational School Resolution to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones explained that he would like approval to apply for a Site Development Grant for the Macon-Lafayette Industrial property. He stated that if the grant is approved, the matching funds would be used from funds that the county has through TN Central that can only be used for economic development.

Motion #6 by Newberry, 2nd by Jones to defer 4-23/24 Site Development Grant Resolution to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #7 by King, 2nd by Hill to defer 4-24/24 HGAC Resolution to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

School Director Shawn Carter extended the invitation to all the commissioners to attend the MCHS and RBSHS graduations to sit with the faculty. RBSHS graduation will be held on Thursday May 23rd and MCHS graduation will take place on Friday May 24th.

Mayor Jones stated that Clark Construction was the only bidder for the Highway Department's roof renovation. That bid was \$111,255. Mayor Jones explained that Road Supervisor Audie Cook stated that the Highway Department did not have those funds available, and he would look into a funding solution and bring them back at the Legislative Body meeting.

Motion #8 by West, 2nd by Jenkins to approve discussions about the Highway Department roof and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones explained that the EMS rates were discussed at the Emergency Services meeting with Director Alecia Kempf stating that the rates had not been increased in the last 15 years. He stated that after some discussions about surrounding counties rates, rates were adjusted as follows, A0425 Mileage - \$15.50, A0426 ALS 1 non-emergency \$900.00, A0427 ALS 1 emergency \$950.00, A0428 BLS non-emergency \$650.00, A0429 BLS emergency \$600.00, A0433 ALS lv12 \$1,000, and A0434 Specialty Care \$1,250.00.

Motion #9 by Newberry, 2nd by Gentry to approve EMS increased rates and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that after speaking with CTAS, the county is very fortunate with the amount that is paid for fire calls. He also explained that there will be bills sent out to individuals for only structure fires for \$500.00 due to that is all insurance will pay.

Mayor Jones presented a 10-year plan for Solid Waste that must be approved for the State of TN. He explained that it states that Macon County hopes to partner with the City of Lafayette in the future to provide another convenience center for underserved residents. He stated that it was discussed regarding building a convenience center at the Macon-Lafayette Industrial Park property, but the State of TN wasn't receptive to using that site for that purpose.

Motion #10 by Newberry, 2nd by King to defer the Solid Waste 10-year plan to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that he will meet with the State of TN soon regarding selling a piece of a property at the Macon-Lafayette Industrial Park to a current locally owned company. The lot will be in the back of the park and provide approximately 30-40 jobs.

Motion #11 by Hughes, 2nd by Hesson to approve discussions regarding selling property at the Macon-Lafayette Industrial Park property and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Commissioner Bobby Ray King asked that Macon Helps explain what the funds are used for that the county donates to them each year. Macon Helps Board Member Delaney Vester stated that due to Macon Helps being a 501c3 organization, the funds could only be used for client assistance.

Motion #12 by Jones, 2nd Hughes to accept Building Codes/Impact Fee Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #13 by Hesson, 2nd Newberry to accept Animal Control Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that it was approved in the Emergency Services committee meeting to continue with EMS write-offs after a 2-year period. Mayor Jones stated that the auditors would like to see the accounts written off if they are no longer collectable. He stated that the current write-off amount is \$400,938.66 and would like to go forward for the write-off amount to be added to the EMS Operational Report to get approved monthly.

Motion #14 by Gentry, 2nd by Jenkins to accept EMS Operational Report and \$400,938.66 in write-offs and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

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

Motion #15 by Hesson, 2nd by Hill to adjourn.

Motion Carried