

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

Monday May 6th, 2024, at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones, Commissioners Phillip Snow, Todd Gentry, Keith Newberry, Mike Jenkins, Ethan Flippin, Billy Wilmore, 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: Benton Bartley and Justin Dyer

Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones opened the meeting.
Keith Newberry gave the Invocation.
Bobby Ray King led the Pledge.

Motion #1 by Hesson, 2nd by Petty to accept minutes as presented from the 4/15/24 Legislative Body meeting, 4/1/24, 4/8/24, 4/22/24, and 4/29/24 Budget meetings and 4/23/24 Audit Committee meeting and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.
Motion Carried

Motion #2 by West, 2nd by Hill to accept Budget Amendments #1-#18 (#1 EMS, #2 Circuit Court Clerk, #3 Rural Fire Protection, #4 Animal Control, #5 Sheriff's Department – SRO Grant, #6 Capital Projects – Admin Building, #7 Capital Projects – ThreeStar Grant, #8 Animal Control, #9 Sheriff's Department, #10 SOR, #11 Library, #12 Public Safety Grants Program – EBP Grant, #13 Other Facilities – Justice Center, #14 E-911, #15 EMS, #16 Highway Department, #17 General Purpose School, and #18 School Nutrition) and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.
Motion Carried (Snow – No)

Motion #3 by Hughes, 2nd by Slayton to defer 5-25/24 Hospital Week Proclamation to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.
Motion Carried

Motion #4 by Petty, 2nd by Jones to defer 5-26/24 EMS Week Proclamation to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.
Motion Carried

School Director Shawn Carter explained that the TRANE energy savings program evaluation has been completed and approved by the State of TN, TVA, and Comptrollers office. This program is fully funded through the savings and will be paid for by the Board of Education. It includes approximately \$2,100,000 worth of improvements at every school, including the interior lighting, HVAC, and plumbing.

Motion #5 by King, 2nd by Newberry to approve Board of Education to participate in the TRANE Energy Savings Program and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.
Motion Carried

Motion #6 by Petty, 2nd by West to defer iSOM bids for Sheriff's Department to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.
Motion Carried

Motion #7 by Jones, 2nd by J. Wilmore to approve the 4.95% interest rate from Citizens Bank for the Highway Department equipment note and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones explained that the Solid Waste's 2021 Western Star transfer truck has been wrecked, and insurance would be totaling it causing the County to purchase a new one. He stated that when the truck was purchased in 2021, the cost was \$155,000 and now a new truck is going to cost approximately \$250,000. He stated that he is waiting to hear back from the insurance company to know how much they will be paying out. He stated that Solid Waste had been using a spare truck, but it was down for repairs right now, so something would have to be done soon to replace the wrecked truck. The County is currently having to pay to have the trash hauled off due to the current truck problems.

Motion #8 by King, 2nd by Newberry to allow discussions regarding the Solid Waste trucks and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that he and Attorney Guy Holliman are working on the information for the Industrial Development Board regarding the sale of a piece of property at the Macon-Lafayette Industrial Park and would bring back that information at the Legislative Body meeting.

Motion #9 by Newberry, 2nd by J. Wilmore to approve discussions regarding the IDB selling property in the Macon-Lafayette Industrial Park and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval with recommendations from Mayor Jones and Attorney Guy Holliman

Motion Carried

Motion #10 by King, 2nd by Newberry to approve discussions regarding selling property and sale price of property at the Macon-Lafayette Industrial Park and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval with recommendations from Mayor Jones and Attorney Guy Holliman.

Motion Carried

Motion #11 by King, 2nd by Newberry to defer the Putnam County Juvenile Detention Contract to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated that his office is working on paperwork with USDA for the vocational school project. He stated that for the increase of wheel tax to pay for the construction of a new vocational school, it must pass 2 consecutive Legislative Body meetings with 2/3 votes each time. Mayor Jones stated that the commissioners had options, commissioners could take no action to proceed with the construction, commission could vote to have it put on the November ballot, or the commissioners could approve to move forward with the wheel tax funding and construction. He explained that it will have to be approved in May and June commission meetings for it to be possible to be put on the November ballot. Mayor Jones explained that 491 registered voters must sign a petition to have it put on the November ballot. Mayor Jones also stated that TCAT in Hartsville has given the Macon County School Board 3 to 5 years to relocate the vocational students to the Macon County High School campus. Macon County has approximately 2 more years, at the end of the school year, to start construction of a new vocational school or Macon County will no longer have a Vocational School. School Director Shawn Carter stated that if the school was under construction before the 2-year period ended, then TCAT could possibly extend that time frame. Mayor Jones stated that he had spoken with Senator Yager and Congressman Rose to see if there was any possible funding available.

Motion #12 by West, 2nd by Hughes to approve discussions regarding the vocational school and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried (13- Yes, 5-No)

Motion #13 by Hughes, 2nd Petty to accept Building Codes/Impact Fee Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #14 by Gentry, 2nd Marshall to accept Animal Control Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #15 by Snow, 2nd by Gentry to accept EMS Operational Report and 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 #16 by Hesson, 2nd by Marshall to adjourn.

Motion Carried