

Connie B. Blackwell
County Clerk



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Minutes-January 22, 2024, Meeting of the Macon County Legislative Body:

The Macon County Board of Commissioners met, pursuant to notice, at the City Hall Council Chambers in Lafayette, Tennessee on Monday January 22, 2024, at 6:30 pm. (The meeting is being held at a different location due to ADA compliance with the Chair lift at the Courthouse.) The meeting was called to order by Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones with Sheriff Joey Wilburn opening the meeting. Commissioner Michael Slayton gave the invocation and Commissioner Dan Hill led the pledge to the flag. County Clerk Connie B. Blackwell called the Roll with 18 members being present. Also made a part of the Minutes are Proclamations and Roll-Call Voting.

County Commissioners absent were Todd Gentry and Benton Bartley.

Motion #1 by West, 2nd by Petty motion to go into a Public Hearing for the Tuck Property Rezoning. There were no residents present to speak for or against the Rezoning.

Motion Carried

Motion #2 by Petty, 2nd by West motion to go back into session after the Tuck Property Hearing.

Motion Carried

Motion #3 by Hughes, 2nd by Petty to go into Election of Notaries Public.

Motion Carried

Ashley Carter Nominated by Kyle Petty

Renee Davis Nominated by Jeff Hughes

Laura Sells Nominated by Kyle Petty

Motion #4 by Hughes, 2nd by B. King to move nominations cease and we elect those nominated by acclamation.

Motion Carried

Motion #5 Jenkins, 2nd by Slayton to approve minutes as presented from the 12/18/23 Legislative Body meeting and 12/18/23 Joint Economic and Community Development Meeting and 01/02/24 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #6 by West, 2nd by Jenkins to approve Budget Amendments #1-#4 (#1 Solid Waste, #2 Sheriff's Department, #3 Sheriff's Department – SRO Grant and #4 Animal Control).

Motion Carried on Roll Call

Motion #7 by J. Wilmore, 2nd by Hesson to approve 1-16/24 Tuck Property Rezoning.

Motion Carried (Vote 12 yes/ 5 no / 1 pass)

School Director Shawn Carter introduced a TRANE representative to the Commissioners, who explained about an Infrastructure Improvement and Energy Conservation Program for the schools. This program is a 15-year plan that addresses aging infrastructure and utility costs in gas, electric, and water systems within each school. He explained that TRANE performs a Feasibility Analysis of each facility and if this plan is used to update things such as master controls, lighting, etc., that TRACE guarantees savings for Macon County.

Sheriff Joey Wilburn requested to bring back appointments for the three (3) Work Release Committee members required for the Work Release program for approval by the County Commissioners.

Motion #8 by B. King, 2nd by Petty to approve Sheriff Wilburn to bring back appointments for the Work Release Program Committee. Appointments were Dan Hill, Jennifer Hardman and Glenda Smith.

Motion Carried

Motion #9 by Hill, 2nd by Slayton to approve the Kellwell Food Management bid for food services at the Macon County Jail.

Motion Carried on Roll Call (Vote 18 yes)

Motion #10 by Wilmore, 2nd by Hesson to not repair chair lift and do not spend any more money on it except for the current work already done.

Motion Carried

Motion #11 by Hesson, by Hill defer Jail bids to the February 20th, 2024, meeting.

Motion Carried

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on January 2nd, Mayor Jones stated that the County had received a \$50,000 3 Star Grant to install a walking track around the pond at Winding Stairs Park. He explained that this money would need to be transferred to the City of Lafayette to be used for the project. Mayor Jones told the commissioners this was just a formality and if the funds were not transferred the grant funds would have to be given back to the State of Tennessee.

Motion #12 by Jones, 2nd by Marshall to donate the \$50,000 3 Star grant to the City of Lafayette for installation of the walking track at Winding Stairs Park.

Motion Carried on Roll Call (Vote 18 yes)

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on January 2nd, Mayor Jones stated he had been approached by the City of Lafayette Mayor asking if the County would be interested in taking over the City of Lafayette's animal control officers' position and how much would it cost. Mayor Jones gave the city a price of \$30,000. Since that meeting the City of Lafayette Mayor contacted Mayor Jones and stated they were going to keep their animal control position. Mayor Jones told the commissioners there was no further action required from Macon County.

Motion #13 by West, 2nd by King to accept Mid-Tenn Office Equipment copier lease agreement for the Register of Deeds.

Motion Carried on Roll Call (Vote 18 yes)

Motion #14 by Slayton, 2nd by West to approve accepting the CDGB grant for the Willette Fire Department tanker truck quoted at a purchase price of \$450,000.00. Macon County will receive \$364,465.00 in which the county will pay the matching \$80,000.00. The county will also pay approximately \$30,000.00 for the additional cost of the tanker truck. The funds will be paid out of the Fund Balance. Once the CDGB contract is received and if approved under grant funding and by state audit the county will apply for purchase through the HGAC purchasing process. The money from the sale of the 1986 Tanker that the department currently has will be put back into the county budget to help offset costs.

Motion Carried on Roll Call (Vote 17 yes / 1 no)

Motion #15 by Hesson, 2nd by Wilmore to allow Billy Wilmore's request for further discussion on the number of County Commissioners. County Attorney Holliman explained why it had been set up the way it is with twenty commissioners, with two in each district to represent the citizens equally. After discussion no action was taken.

(Motion died no action taken)

Commissioner Tony Wix stated that he had been contacted by an owner of one of the three markets located in the county regarding selling beer on Sundays.

Motion #16 by Jones, 2nd by Snow to move that the County Beer Board rules will remain the same regarding county markets selling beer on Sundays. No selling on Sundays.

Motion Carried on Roll Call (Vote 13 yes / 5 no)

During the Committee of a Whole meeting on January 2nd, Commissioner Bobby Ray King requested to discuss adding a third member as back up to the County Mayor/Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the Commissioners meetings. Mayor Jones stated that he had discussed it with Attorney Holliman and stated that by law a third member could not be added. He stated that Attorney Holliman could explain further at the next meeting.

Motion #17 by Wilmore, 2nd by Hesson to allow discussion regarding a third member as back up for meetings. After discussion by the County Attorney Guy Holliman and the Legislative Body no action was taken.

(Motion died not action taken)

Motion #18 by Hesson, 2nd Marshall to accept Building Codes/Impact Fee Report.

Motion Carried

Motion #19 by Hesson, 2nd Wilmore to accept Animal Control Report.

Motion Carried

Motion #20 by Hesson, 2nd by Dyer to accept EMS Operational Report.

Motion Carried

Motion #21 by B. King, 2nd by Newberry to go out of session for an Executive Session.

Motion Carried

Motion #22 by Petty, 2nd by Newberry to go back into session.

Motion Carried

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

Motion #23 by Hesson, 2nd by Petty to adjourn.

Motion Carried