

MACON COUNTY
“COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE”
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, October 1, 2018 at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones, Commissioners Jeff Hughes, Benton Bartley, Justin Dyer, Charles (Chop) Porter, Mike Jenkins, Todd Gentry, Tony Wix, Wendell Jones, Barry King, Mchelle Phillips, Kenneth Witte, Helen Hesson, Phillip Snow, Jarhea Wilmore, Scott Gammons, Michael Slayton, Scott Cothron, Kyle Petty, Chad West and Marcus Smith

Absent: None

Jeff Hughes gave the Invocation.

Helen Hesson led the Pledge.

Motion #1 by Witte, 2nd by Hesson to approve minutes as presented from the 9/17/18 Legislative Body Meeting, 8/21/18 Planning Committee Meeting and defer to the next meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #2 by Gammons, 2nd by Hughes to approve Budget Amendments #1 and #2 (#1 Animal Control and #2 Library) and defer to the next meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #3 by Hughes, 2nd by Wix to defer #10-13/2018 Bill Dowell Proclamation and #10-14/2018 Louie Dyer Bridge Proclamation to the next meeting.

Motion Carried

Director of Schools Tony Boles informed the commissioners that they had a School Board meeting scheduled at Red Boiling Springs and would discuss the sales tax referendum. The next meeting will be held at the MCJH. Director Boles stated that if the sales tax referendum passes it will be dedicated solely to a new elementary school and the Board of Education would fund additional building projects including MCJH, MCHS, Red Boiling Springs and Westside schools.

Commissioner King stated that his constituents had requested information on where the additional funds were coming from. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Jones gave a detailed explanation of the wheel tax breakdown.

Director Boles reported that Central Elementary and MCJH was close to needing an additional teacher. He also said that he would be on Coffee Talk with the radio station on October 2nd, Tuesday morning at 7:00 A.M.

The cost of the new elementary school is estimated to be approximately \$24 to \$25,000,000 with a payment of \$ 1.2 to \$1.3 million over 25 to 30 years.

There was a discussion about a renter's tax. Mayor Jones stated the owners of rental property were already paying a 40 percent rate. Discussion ensued on tax options. Mayor Jones said he would ask Attorney Holliman to research the options and report back at the Legislative Body meeting.

Road Supervisor Audie Cook requested to sell some highway equipment in the upcoming consignment auction. He also wanted to set a meeting with the highway committee.

Motion #4 by Gammons, 2nd by Witte to defer the Story town Road speed limit request to the next meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #5 by Bartley, 2nd by Jenkins to defer the bridge weight limits to Attorney Holliman at the next meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #6 by Gammons, 2nd by Snow to defer the Powell Road speed limit petition to the next meeting.

Motion Carried

Sheriff Mark Gammons requested to sell 3-4 vehicles along with 7 seized vehicles in the consignment sale. The money from the seized vehicles will go back into the Drug Fund.

Sheriff Gammons reported that he was working with a faith-based organization in regard to a half-way house. He also said that a meeting would be held on October 9th at 6:30 P.M. to discuss this program.

Sheriff Gammons wanted the county to get moving with the jail expansion that includes future growth. He said that due to deputy pay scale and benefits; he was losing employees to the city and other departments. Therefore, Sheriff Gammons wants to discuss pay scales. He said that he would like to start by having a law enforcement committee to meet as soon as possible.

Motion #7 by Gammons, 2nd by Wix to defer the TCRS Actuary Study to the next meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #8 by Gammons, 2nd by Jenkins to defer the lowest bid for the Red Boiling Springs Library carpet to the next meeting. The lowest bid was from Elmore's Flooring.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones informed the commissioners that the Comptroller approved the \$153,000 for the convenience site land purchase.

Motion #9 by Wix, 2nd by Witte to approve the Comptroller approval letter for the land purchase and defer to the next meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #10 by Gammons, 2nd Hughes to allow the county departments to sell vehicles and equipment in the upcoming consignment sale and defer to the next meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #11 by Gammons, 2nd by King to defer the Willette bid opening for the turn-out gear to the next meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #12 by Hesson, 2nd by Gammons to defer the RFQ's for the jail addition to the next meeting with a recommendation brought back by Mayor Jones.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones informed the commissioners that the county would need 2 people to take care of the road sign issue and also with clean up problems.

Motion #13 by Witte, 2nd by Wix to allow Mayor Jones to report back regarding the road signs and cleanup issues.

Motion Carried

Motion #14 by Gammons, 2nd by Jenkins to approve the Building Codes/Impact Fee report and defer to the next meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #15 by Gammons, 2nd by King to approve the Animal Control report and defer to the next meeting.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones reported that the tax bills will be 3-4 days late being mailed out.

State Representative Kelly Keisling presented the commissioners with the new blue book, along with budget information report. Representative Keisling went over the report.

Commissioner Porter asked Representative Keisling to explain why the Highway 10 hill proclamation/resolution did not come through the county commissioners.

Representative Keisling explained that there was not a statute that said road or bridge names had to come through the county commissioners. He stated either the county commissioners or the State Representative and the State Senator that supports the proclamation/resolution could approve road and bridge names.

Representative Keisling informed the commissioners that Polly Donoho had called to request that the Highway 10 hill be named after Glen Harold Donoho. Mrs. Donoho asked to keep it anonymity so that it would be a surprise to Glen Harold.

Representative Keisling stated that Glen Harold had served TDOT for many years, Circuit Clerk for several years and served the county in various other ways.

Representative Keisling said that he has not ever turned down a road or bridge request from anyone. He said that if someone asks him, then he supports it. He mentioned that some come up from the county commissioners and some are by request.

Representative Keisling stated that out of 4-5 phone conversations with Mrs. Donoho that she did not ever say that she wanted Highway 10 to be named after Glen Harold because he got the project done.

Motion #16 by Witte, 2nd by Dyer to bring back a resolution that says the county commissioners approve any road or bridge naming for the county and defer to the next meeting.

Motion Failed

After discussion a request was made for a recount and on recount motion carried.

Motion #17 by Smith, 2nd by West to adjourn.

Motion Carried