

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

Monday, June 7th, 2021, at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor/Chairman Steve Jones, Commissioners Phillip Snow, Todd Gentry, Mike Jenkins, Benton Bartley, Charles (Chop) Porter, Mchelle Phillips, Justin Dyer, Ken Witte, Scott Cothron, Jeff Hughes, Barry King, Chad West, Kyle Petty, Wendell Jones, Jarhea Wilmore, Helen Hesson, and Larry West.

Absent: Scott Gammons, Tony Wix, and Michael Slayton

Mayor Jones opened the meeting.

Jeff Hughes gave the Invocation.

Phillip Snow led the Pledge.

Motion #1 by Hesson, 2nd by Jenkins to accept minutes as presented from the 5/17/21 Legislative Body meeting, 5/5/21 EFSP meeting, 5/3/21, 5/10/21, 5/17/21, 5/24/21 Budget meetings, 5/20/21 Audit meeting, 3/16/21 Planning meeting, and 3/16/21 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #2 by Hughes, 2nd by C. West to approve Budget Amendment #9 Sheriff's Department effective immediately.

Motion Approved by Roll Call

Motion #3 by Snow, 2nd by Hughes to suspend the rules for approving Budget Amendment #9 Sheriff's Department.

Motion Carried

Motion #4 by C. West, 2nd by Petty to accept Budget Amendments #1 through #27 (#1 County Commission, #2 Election Commission, #3 Capital Projects-TN Cares, #4 Soil Conservation, #5 Non-Profit Charitable Organization, #6 Capital Projects-Waterline, #7 EMS, #8 County Buildings, #9 Sheriff's Department, #10 Mayor's Office, #11 Election Commission, #12 Other Facilities-Justice Center, #13 Health Department, #14 Library, #15 Agriculture Extension, #16 Animal Control, #17 County Clerk, #18 Solid Waste, #19 Willette Fire Department, #20 Register of Deeds, #21 Board of Education, #22 Judicial Commissioners, #23 Staging Building, #24 West Macon Rescue Squad, #25 Highway Department, #26 New Elementary School, #27 UCHRA) and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #5 by Witte, 2nd by Jenkins to defer #6-35/21 Dairy Month Proclamation to the Legislative Body meeting for ratification.

Motion Carried

Motion #6 by C. West, 2nd by Petty to defer #6-36/21 ADA-Service Animals Resolution to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #7 by King, 2nd by C. West to defer #6-37/21 American Rescue Plan Funding Resolution to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #8 by Witte, 2nd by Dyer to defer ratification of the Mayor's appointment of Alecia King to the Library Board to the Legislative Body meeting.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones explained there was only 1 bid, from Midwest Maintenance, Inc, received for the Courthouse renovation project. The estimates were Bid A for \$1,263,200 and Bid B for \$664,700.

Motion #9 by Witte, 2nd by King to allow discussion and/or approval for the bid, from Midwest Maintenance, Inc, for the Courthouse renovation and defer to the Legislative Body meeting.

Motion Carried

Motion #10 by Witte, 2nd by Petty to defer discussion on EMS and Fire Call write-offs to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones told the Commissioners that Jennifer Hardman had been hired as the new director at the Chamber of Commerce. He stated that he would like to bring the Chamber of Commerce budget back to the Budget Committee to ask to put that position under the County budget to be able to provide benefits. The Chamber is already receiving \$20,000 from the County, \$14,000 from the City of Lafayette, and \$5,000 from the City of RBS to pay for that position.

Motion #11 by Hesson, 2nd by Hughes to send the FY21/22 proposed Chamber of Commerce budget back to the Budget Committee and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #12 by Jenkins, 2nd by Petty to defer discussion and/or approval on the possible disbursement of funds for the American Rescue Plan Funds to the Legislative Body for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #13 by Petty, 2nd by Jenkins to defer discussion on a Redistricting Committee at a later Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones explained about the two audit findings for the FY19-20 budget. The first finding was on the office of the County Mayor regarding a material audit adjustment totaling \$301,843 on EMS involving unrecorded receivables. This audit finding has been corrected. The second finding was in the office of Sheriff Department regarding deficiencies noted in the accrual of and payment for compensatory leave. This audit finding is being corrected in payroll.

Motion #14 by Hughes, 2nd by King to defer discussion and/or approval on changing to the State of TN insurance policy to the Legislative Body meeting.

Motion Carried

Mchelle Phillips spoke on behalf of the Peewee Football league requesting a \$500 donation.

Motion #15 Snow, 2nd by Dyer to approve \$500 donation to the Peewee Football league and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval. Motion Carried

Motion #16 by Jones, 2nd Jenkins to accept the Building Codes/Impact Fee Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #17 by Hesson, 2nd by Petty to accept the Animal Control Report and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Commissioner Phillip Snow stated that he had received a phone call from a resident on Mt. View Dr. in RBS requesting that a slow kid at play sign be put up.

Motion #18 by Snow, 2nd by Witte to put a slow kid at play sign up on Mt. View Dr. in RBS and defer to Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried

Commissioner Phillip Snow and Commissioner Todd Gentry spoke to the Commissioners with concerns about not having an ambulance stationed at the RBS station all the time. Mayor Jones stated he had spoken to EMS Director Randy Carter and EMS is expected to have 3 ambulances fully staffed by June 22nd. Commissioner Ken Witte stated he felt like that should be left up to the EMS Director's discretion about the location of the staffed ambulances.

Motion #19 by Snow, 2nd by Gentry to have 1 ambulance stationed at RBS and 1 ambulance stationed in Lafayette until the Director could get the third ambulance at Westside fully staffed and to defer it to the Legislative Body for approval.

Motion Carried (K. Witte opposed)

In a discussion about safety eyewear for first responders, Sheriff Mark Gammons stated he would like the Commissioners to authorize an exact amount to be spent on the purchase of the eyewear for the Sheriff's Department and EMS.

Motion #20 by L. West, 2nd by Hesson to defer the purchase of the eyewear to the Legislative Body for approval.

Motion Carried

Motion #21 by Petty, 2nd by C. West to go out of session.

Motion Carried

Motion #22 by C. West, 2nd by King to go back in session.

Motion Carried

Motion #23 by King, 2nd by C. West to allow Mayor Jones to make a written offer for the County to purchase the Rite-Aid building and land located on Hwy 52 in Macon County, TN for an amount not to exceed \$1.6M and for any lesser amount and to make counter offers to the sellers to the extent they do not exceed \$1.6M.

Motion Carried

Mayor Jones stated he would contact the Comptroller's office to get a written authorization to confirm that the County is able to use the American Rescue Plan funds for the purchase and renovation of the Rite-Aid building before those funds are spent.

Motion #24 by Witte, 2nd by Jenkins to adjourn.

Motion Carried