

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

Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:30 P.M.

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

Absent: Scott Gammons

Mayor Jones opened the meeting.

Jeff Hughes gave the Invocation.

Jarhea Wilmore led the Pledge.

Motion #1 by Hesson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by King to accept minutes as presented from the 6/15/20 Legislative Body Meeting and 6/15/20 Budget Meeting and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried by Roll Call (19 yes)

Motion #2 by Hesson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by King to defer #7-1/20 Macon County Board of Health Resolution to the Legislative Body meeting for ratification.

Motion Carried by Roll Call (19 yes)

School Director Tony Boles stated the Board of Education will meet in a work session Thursday July 9, 2020 to discuss the procedures that are going to take place for returning to school due to COVID-19.

Mayor Jones stated he had received a phone call from Mickey Harp regarding the closure of Green Hollow Rd.

Motion #3 by Witte, and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Snow to not close Green Hollow Rd until all parties could come before the Commissioners and discuss the closure and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.

Motion Carried by Roll Call (19 yes)

Mayor Jones explained the amount the County will have to contribute for the CDBG water line extension on Epperson Springs Rd and Claude Fox Rd had changed from the amount that was discussed last meeting. The County will have to pay \$33,937.25 instead of \$22,272.66 to have water lines ran the complete portion that was bid. Mayor Jones stated that the City of Lafayette had already agreed to pay the matching funds which would total around \$38,500.

Motion #4 by King, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hesson to approve paying \$33,937.25 for the CDBG water line extension project and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.  
Motion Carried by Roll Call (19 yes)

Mayor Jones explained that Attorney Guy Holliman had written a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Macon County and Macon County School Board stating that Macon County will issue a general obligation bond for the “Series 2020 School Project” but the Macon County School Board will be obligated to pay all the costs incurred with the bond. Mr. Boles stated that the Macon County School Board approved the MOU in their June 29, 2020 meeting.

Motion #5 by Hughes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by King to accept the Memorandum of Understanding between Macon County and the Macon County School Board and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.  
Motion Carried by Roll Call (19 yes)

Mayor Jones explained the Project Amendment II between Macon County and Raymond James & Associates. This is an agreement making Macon County responsible for paying \$69,400 for services regarding the general obligation debt named “Series 2020 School Project.”

Motion #6 by Hesson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by King to accept the Project Amendment II between Macon County and Raymond James & Associates and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.  
Motion Carried by Roll Call (19 yes)

Mayor Jones stated that our State Legislators had increased the amount of money being awarded to each county and had basically given each county the authority to spend it as needed. Macon County will receive approximately \$862,974. Macon County has put \$688,000 into the 171 Capital Projects Fund in the 20-21 budget. Mayor Jones told the Commissioners that money was budgeted in Capital Projects to purchase 1 ambulance and 4 patrol cars and he ask the commissioners to authorize the purchase of the new ambulance and 4 new patrol cars out of the 171-Capital Projects funds.

Motion #7 by King, 2<sup>nd</sup> by L. West to give authority to Mayor Jones to purchase the ambulance and 4 patrol cars using the money from the Fund 171.  
Motion Carried by Roll Call (19 yes)

Mayor Jones stated that 10 employees had inquired about buying their retirement back and that the Commissioners had previously authorized the Tennessee County Retirement System (TCRS) to do an actuary study to get the cost to fund the retirement. Tennessee Department of Treasury’s James Armistead with TCRS was on the conference call and explained to the Commissioners that for employees to be able to buy back their retirement, the County would be obligated to pay \$123,474 in one full payment or over a 1 year period the County’s rate would increase by 1.16% of the total payroll. Commissioner Larry West stated he had bought his retirement back a few years ago and would like to see any employee have that option also. The money would be paid from the General Fund or using the money coming from the State.

Motion #8 L. West, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. West to give employees the option to buy back their retirement and defer to the Legislative Body meeting for approval.  
Motion Carried by Roll Call (19 yes)

Mayor Jones explained the County has started receiving invoices for the Justice Center expansion and will get reimbursed for those through the USDA loan. Mayor Jones ask for the authority to proceed with payment of the invoices.

Motion #9 by King, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wix to give Mayor Jones authority to pay the invoices for the Justice Center expansion using funds from Fund 171.  
Motion Carried by Roll Call (19 yes)

Motion #10 by Hesson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Petty to accept the Building Codes/Impact Fee Report and Animal Control Report and defer to Legislative Body for approval.  
Motion Carried by Roll Call (19 yes)

Motion #11 by Hesson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartley to adjourn.  
Motion Carried by Roll Call (19 yes)