

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MAY 31, 2012 – 6 P.M.
CONTINUED SESSION
MINUTES

Chairman Corbin convened the continued session at 6:05 p.m. in the Commissioners' Boardroom on the third floor of the courthouse as recessed from the May 23rd meeting. All Board Members, the County Manager, Deputy Clerk, Finance Director, interested citizens and members of the news media were present.

Chairman Corbin explained that the session would include hearing a request from Sheriff Robert Holland, a budget discussion with Health Center Director Jim Bruckner, an update on proposed upgrades at the recreation department from Parks and Recreation Director Seth Adams, and a closed session at the end regarding property acquisition.

Sheriff Holland requested that the board consider funding in the upcoming budget for up to six new cameras to outfit patrol cars, with the complete system for each camera costing \$4,076. The sheriff said the cameras protect both the officer and the citizen, and are triggered when the officer turns on the blue light. Video and audio are both recorded, and the officer cannot erase the tape. The sheriff noted that he was giving up his pursuit of a new position in his department in order to do this. Commissioner Beale recommended that the sheriff's request be added to the list of items the board is considering as amendments to the proposed budget, adding that the board would take this under advisement. The sheriff also provided comments on involuntary commitments and the related increases in overtime in his department. No action was taken.

The board then spent more than an hour reviewing various segments of the health center budget with Mr. Bruckner. The focus of the discussion centered on the need for capital items, particularly vehicles, that had been taken out of the department's submitted budget, and on the issue of salary parity between the children's dentist and the adult dentist. Following discussion on these and other items, the County Manager said that he would have additional conversations with Mr. Bruckner as to how to resolve these issues. No action was taken.

Chairman Corbin declared a recess at 7:39 p.m.

Chairman Corbin called the meeting back to order at 7:59 p.m.

Mr. Adams shared with the board plans for improvements to the swimming pool and the pool house at the recreation park. He reviewed a list of changes that would be needed to be made to make the pool house meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. Following discussion, Commissioner Beale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kuppers, to authorize the County Manager to contact an architect and have plans and bid specifications drawn up so that the project could be advertised for bids, with funding for this to come from contingency. The board voted unanimously to approve the motion. Mr. Adams then explained the need to renovate the pool itself and discussed some preliminary plans for additional kid-friendly features. Upon a motion by Commissioner Beale, seconded by Commissioner Kuppers, the board voted unanimously to authorize the County Manager, Mr. Adams, the County Attorney and the Finance Director to investigate the costs of upgrading the pool and to work with an architect to provide plans and bid specifications for the necessary work.

Commissioner Tate noted that some repairs were also needed at the pool in Highlands, and Commissioner Beale, with the consent of Commissioner Kuppers, amended the prior motion regarding the recreation park pool to add the Highlands pool, and the board voted unanimously to approve the amended motion.

The board then continued its budget work session by reviewing the remaining sections of the departmental expenditures from the general fund. The County Manager specifically pointed out that an increase of \$1.5 million in the Department of Social Services budget was simply a "pass through" of revenue from the state to the county to day care providers. The board members expressed their appreciation to the Finance Director and the County Manager for their work on the proposed budget.

Chairman Corbin provided a brief report on the recent trip to Raleigh for the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) County Assembly Day, which four of the five board members attended.

At 9:22 p.m., upon a motion by Commissioner Beale, seconded by Commissioner Kuppers, the board voted unanimously to go into closed session to discuss land acquisition under G.S. 143-318.11(5).

At 9:50 p.m., upon a motion by Commission Kuppers, seconded by Commissioner Haven, the board voted unanimously to come out of closed session. No action was taken.

At 9:51 p.m., upon a motion by Commissioner Koppers, seconded by Commissioner Haven, the board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Kevin Corbin
Board Chairman