

**The Minutes of the Macon City Council Meeting
October 10, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.
106 West Bourke Street
Macon, Missouri 63552**

Mayor Tony Petre called the meeting to order with the following members in attendance: Caleb Dwiggins, Jerold Carr, Jerry Thompson, Cheryl Blaise, Chris Walk, and Steve Iwanowicz and Ernie Lea.

Absent: Talt Holman.

Approval of the Agenda:

Councilman Carr moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilman Iwanowicz and approved by all present voting in favor.

Approval of minutes from previous meeting:

Councilman Dwiggins moved to approve the Minutes of the September 19, 2023 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Iwanowicz and approved by all present voting in favor.

Financial Report:

Councilman Lea moved to approve the Financial Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thompson and approved by all present voting in favor.

Old Business:

Discussion of Tabled Item: Ordinance – CREATING THE MACON MUNICIPAL UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD:

Mayor Petre read aloud the September joint press release by the City Council and the Board of Public Works regarding the recent discord between the two bodies.

Councilman Dwiggins moved to approve the first reading of the bill approving the ordinance creating the Macon Municipal Utility Advisory Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Blaise and failed by roll call vote as follows:

Yea:	None.
Nay:	Dwiggins, Carr, Thompson, Blaise, Walk, Iwanowicz, Lea.
Absent:	Holman.
Abstain:	None.

Discussion of Tabled Item: Resolution 2023-09-19 Removal of Board of Public Works Member:

Council members were reminded that at the September 19, 2023 meeting a motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 2023-09-19 therefore the Council will need to take a vote on the item.

The Mayor then called for a vote on the approval of Resolution 2023-09-19. Resolution 2023-09-19 was approved by the majority of those present voting in favor.

New Business:

Ordinance OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MACON, MISSOURI AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE STANDARD AGREEMENT FOR CONSULTING SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF MACON AND McCLURE ENGINEERING COMPANY RELATED TO THE BOURKE STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT AND TAP APPLICATION:

This ordinance would approve preparation of a Preliminary Engineering Report (PRE) and completion of a TAP grant application (MoDOT's Transportation Alternatives Program) for funding towards construction of a sidewalk along Bourke Street to access the new municipal pool location at 903 W. Bourke.

Councilman Dwiggins moved to approve the first reading of the bill approving the ordinance authorizing execution of the standard agreement for consulting services between the City of Macon and McClure Engineering Company related to the Bourke Street sidewalk project and TAP grant application. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Blaise and approved by roll call vote as follows:

Yea: Dwiggins, Carr, Thompson, Blaise, Walk, Iwanowicz, Lea.
Nay: None.
Absent: Holman.
Abstain: None.

Councilman Lea moved to approve the second reading of the bill approving the ordinance authorizing execution of the standard agreement for consulting services between the City of Macon and McClure Engineering Company related to the Bourke Street sidewalk project and TAP grant application. The motion was seconded by Councilman Carr and approved by roll call vote as follows:

Yea: Dwiggins, Carr, Thompson, Blaise, Walk, Iwanowicz, Lea.
Nay: None.
Absent: Holman.
Abstain: None.

Ordinance OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MACON, MISSOURI RELEASING ABANDONED GAS LINE EASEMENT:

Macon Municipal Utilities requested the release of a 1957 right-of-way easement that is no longer needed. The natural gas main crossing the property has been abandoned. The present owners of the property requested said easement to be terminated since the purposes for the easement are no longer needed by the City.

Councilman Dwiggins moved to approve the first reading of the bill approving the ordinance releasing abandoned gas line easement. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lea and approved by roll call vote as follows:

Yea: Dwiggins, Carr, Thompson, Blaise, Walk, Iwanowicz, Lea.
Nay: None.
Absent: Holman.
Abstain: None.

Councilman Carr moved to approve the second reading of the bill approving the ordinance releasing abandoned gas line easement. The motion was seconded by Councilman Iwanowicz and approved by roll call vote as follows:

Yea: Dwiggins, Carr, Thompson, Blaise, Walk, Iwanowicz, Lea.
Nay: None.
Absent: Holman.
Abstain: None.

Mayor’s report:

Mayor Petre reminded everyone of several upcoming events:

- Oct 21st – Annual Rotary Club Shrimpfest @ Expo Center
- Oct 28th – Macon City of Maples Marching Band Festival
- Oct 31st – Flywheel Trunk & Treat 6:00PM @ Macon County Fairgrounds

Petre reported that Capital Paving completed the asphalt resurfacing project which brings the total asphalt overlay resurfacing/street repairs to about 25% of the city streets in the last five years. Council has worked hard to see that street improvements are a priority and are pleased with the results.

Petre further reported that the WiFi Park development at 501 Main Street is progressing nicely. The project site hazardous materials contamination has been abated and the demolition of the old Beef Packers facility is complete. The construction of the parking lot has begun with dirt work underway in preparation for the rock.

IrvinBilt will begin construction preparation at the new municipal swimming pool site. It is anticipated that a groundbreaking event will be held the week of October 15th- 23rd.

Council reports:

Councilman Dwiggins heard from several community members that are very happy to see the street paving and WiFi Park construction projects happening and have extended a “Thank You” to the Council. Dwiggins stated the WiFi Park project is quite extensive and funded by grants and that he is proud of all the work that this administration has accomplished throughout the town.

Councilman Iwanowicz reflected back on the joint meeting with the Board of Public Works and expressed satisfaction with the open and frank conversations and the movement forward in resolving issues and developing a better working relationship with the Board.

Iwanowicz also stated that he was saddened by the loss of a business in our community with the closure of Burger King restaurant.

Iwanowicz also reported participation in the Macon Rotary Club’s refurbishment of the community’s Christmas decorations and looks forward to the refreshed angels and stars going on display.

City Administrator’s report:

City Administrator, Avis Marshall reported the following:

- Street Department spent the last month completing structural repairs to the base of all the streets that Capital Paving asphalt overlay project would cover.
- Several firefighters have passed certification examinations: Firefighter Harrington and Grant passed their Driver Operator exams, Firefighter Hughes passed the Instructor I exam, and Firefighter Johnson is scheduled to take the Officer I exam the first week in November. These exams require many hours of classroom bookwork as well as practical skills.
- Fire bay floor demolition is complete, and the re-construction will begin shortly.
- Fire Prevention Week is underway.
- Budget 2024 preparation will continue through the first week of November.

Mayor Petre took a moment to express a sincere thankfulness to Avis Marshall for her service to the City. As promised, Avis will assist with the final 2024 Budget preparation moving forward but her last day will be October 15th and her new job will begin November first. Petre stated that it is not possible to adequately describe everything that Avis has contributed to the City to sustain financial stability and bring about projects that really benefit the city in so many ways. Again, we say thank you to Avis.

City Clerk’s report:

None.

Closed Session:

At 6:54 P.M. Councilman Iwanowicz moved to go into closed session pursuant to and §610.021(1)Litigation and (3)Personnel. The motion was seconded by Councilman Carr and approved by roll call vote as follows:

Yea:	Dwiggins, Carr, Thompson, Blaise, Walk, Iwanowicz, Lea.
Nay:	None.
Absent:	Holman.
Abstain:	None.

Closed session attendance: Dwiggins, Carr, Thompson, Blaise, Walk, Iwanowicz, Lea, Petre, Marshall, David Ausmus, and Craig.

Closed Session ended at 7:42 P.M.

No closed session action is reportable at this time.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 P.M.

Mary Lou Craig, City Clerk

Anthony E. Petre, Mayor