

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
FEBRUARY 8, 2017**

STATE OF TENNESSEE) Agenda Preparation Session
COUNTY OF HAMILTON) February 8, 2017

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this 8th day of February, 2017, an Agenda Preparation Session of the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners was begun and held at the Courthouse, in the City of Chattanooga, in the County Commission Room, when the following proceedings were held, to wit:--

0:11

Present and presiding was the Honorable Chester Bankston, Chairman. County Clerk Bill Knowles called the roll of the County Commission and the following, constituting a quorum, answered to their names: Commissioner Beck, Commissioner Boyd, Commissioner Fairbanks, Commissioner Fields, Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Mackey, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Smedley, and Chairman Bankston. Total present - 9. Total absent – 0.

Also in attendance were County Mayor Jim Coppinger, members of his administrative staff, County Attorney Rheubin Taylor, and County Auditor Jenneth Randall.

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PRESENTATION – CERTIFICATE OF CONGRATULATIONS – SCOTT ROSENOW

0:23

Commissioner Boyd presented a certificate of congratulations to Scott Rosenow, Technology Integration Specialist at Chattanooga School for the Liberal Arts (CSLA), for winning the 2016-2017 Georgia Tech First Lego League Championship Coach/Mentor of the Year Award. Commissioner Boyd stated that Mr. Rosenow has been involved in robotics in Hamilton County for twelve years. He commended Mr. Rosenow for his implementation of the First Lego League (FLL) robotics program, which is designed to introduce and encourage STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) skills in children. Commissioner Boyd showed an example of one of the programmable robots built by CSLA students.

3:02

Mr. Rosenow provided information regarding the robotics program at CSLA and the First Lego League competitions in which the school has been involved. He emphasized the importance of developing STEM skills and using that knowledge to address real world problems. He stated that competitions encourage students to work as a team and expose students of all ages to new types of technology. Mr. Rosenow showed several photographs from the most recent competition where the CSLA team won first place overall in their division. He also played a newscast that provided additional details about the robotics program.

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Krystal Scarbrough, Principal at CSLA, stated that Mr. Rosenow has propelled the work of robotics in Hamilton County schools and expressed her gratitude for his commitment to the students of CSLA and throughout Hamilton County. A round of applause was given for Mr. Rosenow.

12:11

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kirk Kelly thanked Mr. Rosenow for his work and dedication to students in Hamilton County. He thanked students, parents, and the community for being involved in these types of activities. Dr. Kelly also thanked Commissioner Boyd for recognizing Mr. Rosenow.

Commissioner Boyd distributed a pamphlet regarding the expansion of CSLA and pointed out a lengthy waiting list of students who hope to attend the school. He encouraged Commissioners to consider expanding CSLA to give more students in Hamilton County the opportunity to attend a school he described as one with a long history of academic success. A copy of the pamphlet was filed in the clerk's office.

Several Commissioners, Mayor Coppinger, and Chairman Bankston expressed their gratitude to Mr. Rosenow, Commissioner Boyd, Ms. Scarbrough, and the students and parents at CSLA. Commissioner Fairbanks expressed a desire that the local newspaper print more stories relating to good things in the community.

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In response to Commissioner Graham's question, Dr. Kelly reported that a recent grant from Volkswagen will allow robotics and environmental engineering programs in Hamilton County to be expanded to 16 new sites, including high schools.

Commissioner Mackey spoke about the building condition of CSLA and questioned the status of a priority list of school maintenance projects.

22:28 In response to Commissioner Beck's question, Dr. Kelly stated that he would forward a list of the 16 sites to Commissioners.

22:50 Mayor Coppinger stated that a lot of discussion has taken place regarding school maintenance and building needs. He reported that expanding CSLA would be the most expensive school project thus far, and funding for the project would not be possible without enhanced revenues. He thanked Commissioner Boyd for supporting an increase in revenues. Mayor Coppinger added that he has been impressed on multiple occasions by the students and faculty during his visits to CSLA.

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COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Chairman Bankston indicated the upcoming agenda items would be considered as follows:

- Quarterly Fee Office reports, for the quarter ending December 31, 2016 were submitted for the record.
- A Three Star Compliance report would be submitted and made a matter of record.
- An Order of Designation to the Planning Commission would be submitted as a matter of record.
- Resolution No. 217-15 was the usual County Clerk item regarding notaries, etc. This required no committee assignment.
- Resolution Nos. 217-18, 217-19A, and 217-19B were assigned to the Zoning Committee, chaired by Commissioner Smedley.
- Resolution Nos. 217-20 and 217-21 were assigned to the Finance Committee, chaired by Commissioner Boyd.
- Resolution Nos. 217-16 and 217-17 were assigned to a Committee of the Whole.

Chairman Bankston stated that Resolution Nos. 217-16 and 217-17 would now be heard by a Committee of the Whole.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 217-16

29:53

Chairman Bankston spoke regarding this item, which appropriates \$2,000.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 9, to Snow Hill Recreation League. It was noted that the funds would be used to assist with the purchase of a bunker rake.

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In response to Commissioner Graham's question, Chairman Bankston stated that the funds were from general fund travel discretionary monies.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 217-17

30:18

Assistant Finance Administrator Lee Brouner spoke regarding this item, which amends the Hamilton County fixed asset policy. He reported that this is an update to the current policy (Resolution No. 404-42) and noted the major change is to increase the tracking limit on fixed assets from \$1,000 to \$2,500. He stated that the change will improve efficiency for the Finance Department.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

Commissioner Smedley, Chairman of the Zoning Committee, stated that the Zoning Committee would meet in the Commission Room immediately following the Finance Committee meeting.

Commissioner Boyd, Chairman of the Finance Committee, stated that the Finance Committee would meet in the Commission Room immediately following the Agenda Session.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Bankston asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

32:10 Commissioner Fields announced that the Legal and Legislative Committee will be meeting in the Commission Conference Room this Friday at 2:00 pm. He also announced that the Records Committee will meet next Friday, February 17th at 9:30 am at the McDaniel Building.

33:51 Commissioner Smedley reported the requested priority list of school maintenance projects has been put together by the Board of Education and will be submitted to the Facilities Committee for approval on February 16th. It was noted that Steve Highlander, Chairman of the School Board will continue to keep the commission informed.

34:40 Attorney Taylor stated that he will be adding a late item next week regarding the Alstom Power settlement. He noted he was waiting on the final drafted agreement.

35:00 Mayor Coppinger proudly reported that the County has retained its AAA bond rating from Fitch Ratings. He commended the staff in the Finance Department for their

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hard work. He reported that Hamilton County is the only county to have a AAA bond rating from all three reporting agencies.

Mayor Coppinger reported that he attended the kick off for the Skills USA program at Chattanooga State. He noted that it was a valuable option for those wishing to obtain a technical certification. He added that there are 27 Skills USA programs in Tennessee and Chattanooga State houses the only one on a community college campus.

DELEGATIONS

Chairman Bankston asked for delegations on matters other than zoning.

38:12 Basil Marceaux, residing at 810 Hyatt Road, addressed the Commission regarding concerns with the criminal justice system.

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Being no further business, Chairman Bankston declared the meeting adjourned until Wednesday, February 15th at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

03-01-17



Date

Clerk's Initials