

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 4, 2020**

**STATE OF TENNESSEE**            )  
**COUNTY OF HAMILTON**        )

Regular Meeting  
March 4, 2020

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, that on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, a Regular Meeting 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:--

0:18

Present and presiding was the Honorable Randy Fairbanks, Chairman. County Clerk Bill Knowles called the roll of the County Commission and the following, constituting a quorum, answered to their names: Commissioner Baker, Commissioner Bankston, Commissioner Geter, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Sharpe, Commissioner Smedley, and Chairman Fairbanks. Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2.

Chairman Fairbanks reported Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey would be absent for today's meeting.

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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Attached hereto is a copy of the Public Notice of this meeting, which was published in a local newspaper and made a matter of record of this meeting.

Chairman Fairbanks introduced Senior Minister Mark Gooden, First Centenary United Methodist Church, who gave the invocation. Chairman Fairbanks led in the pledge to the flag.

2:37 **PRESENTATION – MULTIPLE MYELOMA AWARENESS MONTH**

Mayor Coppinger presented a proclamation declaring the month of March 2020 “Multiple Myeloma Action Month”. He stated the proclamation is to raise awareness and honor former Assessor of Property Bill Bennett, who passed away due to multiple myeloma in December 2018. He asked Linda Huguelet, a multiple myeloma survivor, to come forward. Mayor Coppinger read the proclamation into the record and presented a copy of the proclamation to Ms. Huguelet.

Ms. Huguelet spoke about the importance of early detection and noted some warning signs include back pain, fatigue, and anemia. She thanked Mayor Coppinger for helping spread awareness of multiple myeloma.

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8:40 **PRESENTATION – CERTIFICATE OF CONGRATULATIONS – T.J. ARNOLD**

Commissioner Sharpe presented a Certificate of Congratulations to T.J. Arnold for winning the 2020 National Silver Gloves Boxing Championship, which is the most elite tournament for junior boxers in the United States. He invited Mr. Arnold, as well as Y-CAP Boxing Club founder Joe Smith and Regional Executive Director for the Y-CAP Boxing Club Andy Smith to come forward. Commissioner Sharpe stated Mr. Arnold is a student at Lookout Valley High School. He added the Y-CAP program he has transformed his life and won multiple state and regional amateur boxing titles with a record of 41 wins against six losses. A copy of the certificate was filed in the Clerk's Office.

Mr. Joe Smith reported he started Westside Boxing Club in 1997 to help youth at risk and later changed the name to Y-CAP. It was noted he has retired from the program and turned it over to his son, Andy. He spoke about the many successes he has seen as a result of the program. He thanked Commissioner Sharpe for recognizing Mr. Arnold.

Mr. Andy Smith spoke about Mr. Arnold's success with the program as well as his success in the classroom. He stated Mr. Arnold came from a rough background, but has been able to turn his life around through the program. He added Mr. Arnold would be trying out for the 2024 Olympics.

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14:04 Mr. Arnold thanked Commissioner Sharpe for recognizing him today. He spoke about his experience growing up in a single parent household with three other siblings and the changes he has been able to make as a result of the Y-CAP program. He thanked his coaches and the program volunteers.

At this time, a round of applause was given. Mr. Arnold, Mr. Joe Smith, and Mr. Andy Smith shook hands with members of the Commission, Attorney Taylor, and Mayor Coppinger.

20:10 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smedley, seconded by Commissioner Sharpe, that the minutes of the Recessed Meeting of February 12, 2020, the Agenda Preparation Session of February 12, 2020, the Regular Meeting of February 19, 2020 be approved, treat same as read, made a matter of record and filed. The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**TRUSTEE REPORTS**

The Trustee's Monthly and Excess Fee Reports for January 2020 were submitted and made a matter of record.

20:42

**RESOLUTION NO. 320-1 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR NOTARY PUBLIC POSITIONS, THE BONDS AND OATHS OF NOTARIES PREVIOUSLY ELECTED, AND THE OATHS OF DEPUTY SHERIFFS.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smedley, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adopt Resolution No. 320-1. The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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21:17 **RESOLUTION NO. 320-2 A RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL FROM THIS LEGISLATIVE BODY TO BEGIN APPROPRIATING SUFFICIENT FUNDS IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO PAY THE RESPECTIVE CLERK AND ALL DEPUTY SALARIES OF THE CIRCUIT COURT CLERK AND THE CRIMINAL COURT CLERK OFFICES AND THE OPERATING EXPENSES OF SUCH OFFICES, IRRESPECTIVE OF THE FEES EARNED BY SUCH OFFICES.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Geter, to adopt Resolution No. 320-2. The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**RESOLUTION NO. 320-3 WAS NOT USED.**

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22:10 **RESOLUTION NO. 320-4 A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE PROTOCOL (EXPENSE ALLOWANCE POLICY) FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED BY RESOLUTION 220-4.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Geter, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution No. 320-4. The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Nay", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Nay", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 5. Total "Nay" votes – 2.

23:07 **RESOLUTION NO. 320-5 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT AMENDMENT (AMENDMENT 4) WITH THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND THE HAMILTON COUNTY JUVENILE COURT IV-D CHILD SUPPORT DIVISION.**

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Bankston, to adopt Resolution No. 320-5. The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

23:45

**RESOLUTION NO. 320-6 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SUBMIT A FASTTRACK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND GRANT APPLICATION TO THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,250,000 TO ASSIST WITH CONSTRUCTION COSTS TO SUPPORT AN UNDISCLOSED COMPANY'S EXPANSION IN HAMILTON COUNTY.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution No. 320-6.

Chairman Fairbanks reported after last week's meeting the amount of the grant changed from \$870,000 to \$1,250,000.



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24:39 In response to Commissioner Smedley’s question, Director of Existing Business Development of the Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce Steve Hiatt stated the amount was increased after discussions with the Commissioner of Community and Economic Development. He noted this was a competitive grant with another state.

The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows:  
Commissioner Baker, “Aye”, Commissioner Bankston, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, Commissioner Smedley, “Aye”, and Chairman Fairbanks, “Aye”. Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total “Aye” votes – 7. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

26:23 **RESOLUTION NO. 320-7 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY MAYOR TO INCREASE THE CONTRACT WITH TRICON, INC FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW WALDENS RIDGE FIRE HALL FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$205,936.83.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Geter, to adopt Resolution No. 320-7. The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows:  
Commissioner Baker, “Aye”, Commissioner Bankston, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter,

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“Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, Commissioner Smedley, “Aye”, and Chairman Fairbanks, “Aye”. Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total “Aye” votes – 7. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

27:00 **RESOLUTION NO. 320-8 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF TO ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR \$2.2 MILLION TO IMPLEMENT AN OUTCOMES-BASED CONTRACT WITH PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING SERVICE PROVIDERS TO IMPROVE RECIDIVISM, HOUSING AND RELATED OUTCOMES FOR FORMERLY INCARCERATED PEOPLE AND TO AMEND THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE BUDGET BY AN ADDITIONAL \$200,000 IN REVENUES AND \$200,000 IN EXPENDITURES TO BE USED PROJECT ADMINISTRATION AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smedley, seconded by Commissioner Geter, to adopt Resolution No. 320-8.

In response to Commissioner Baker’s question, Sheriff Hammond confirmed this would support the Frequent User (FUSE) program. He noted the project would be ready to implement within 30-60 days.

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The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows:  
Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

29:07

Chairman Fairbanks asked that Resolution Nos. 320-9 through 320-13 be heard at this time.

**RESOLUTION NO. 320-9 A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT A DONATION OF DIVING EQUIPMENT FROM THE FAMILY OF FRANK DAVEY TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE VALUED AT APPROXIMATELY \$920 FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 320-10 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BIDS OF ON DUTY DEPOT AND TRUCKERS LIGHTHOUSE INC. FOR ONE ( 1) YEAR CONTRACT UNIT PRICING, WITH THE OPTION TO RENEW FOR THREE (3) ADDITIONAL ONE-YEAR TERMS, BEGINNING MARCH 15, 2020, THROUGH MARCH 14, 2021 , FOR VEHICLE UPFITTING EQUIPMENT FOR VARIOUS HAMILTON COUNTY**

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**DEPARTMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY  
CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 320-11 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF HALIFAX  
SECURITY DBA NORTH AMERICAN VIDEO FOR ONE ( 1) YEAR CONTRACT UNIT  
PRICING, WITH THE OPTION TO RENEW FOR ONE ( 1) ADDITIONAL ONE-YEAR  
TERM, BEGINNING MARCH 15, 2020, THROUGH MARCH 14, 2021, FOR AVIGILON  
EQUIPMENT FOR THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT AND  
AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY  
TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 320-12 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BIDS OF GRAYBAR  
ELECTRIC AND MAYER ELECTRIC FOR ONE ( 1) YEAR CONTRACT UNIT  
PRICING, WITH THE OPTION TO RENEW FOR ONE (1) ADDITIONAL ONE (1)  
YEAR TERM, BEGINNING MARCH 15, 2020, THROUGH MARCH 14, 2021, FOR  
CYBERPOWER EQUIPMENT FOR THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT  
AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS  
NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 320-13 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE, FREIGHT, DELIVERY, AND INSTALLATION OF NINETY-THREE (93) FREESTYLE PERSONAL STORAGE LOCKERS FROM PATTERSON POPE FROM THE OMNIA PARTNERS PUBLIC SECTOR PURCHASING COOPERATIVE AMOUNTING TO \$126,913.23 FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Smedley, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 320-9 through 320-13 and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smedley, seconded by Commissioner Sharpe, to adopt Resolution No. 320-9. The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smedley, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution No. 320-10. The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smedley, seconded by Commissioner Geter, to adopt Resolution No. 320-11. The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smedley, seconded by Commissioner Sharpe, to adopt Resolution No. 320-12. The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Smedley, seconded by Commissioner Geter, to adopt Resolution No. 320-13. The foregoing Motion was adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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33:54 At this time, Chairman Fairbanks asked that Resolution Nos. 320-14 through 320-16 be heard at this time.

**RESOLUTION NO. 320-14 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE "MASTER LIST OF ROADS AND SPEED LIMITS" SO AS TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING DISTRICT ROAD AND TO ESTABLISH A SPEED LIMIT THEREFORE: GENERATIONS WAY.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 320-15 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE "MASTER LIST OF ROADS AND SPEED LIMITS" SO AS TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING DISTRICT ROAD AND TO ESTABLISH A SPEED LIMIT THEREFORE: BUTTONWOOD LOOP.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 320-16 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE "MASTER LIST OF ROADS AND SPEED LIMITS" SO AS TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING DISTRICT ROADS AND TO ESTABLISH SPEED LIMITS THEREFOR: CALDER CIRCLE AND FALKIRK WAY.**

Commissioner Bankston, Chairman of the Zoning Committee, provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 320-14 through 320-16. He noted these items were all accepting district roads and were reviewed by a Committee of the Whole at last week's meeting.



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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Bankston, seconded by Commissioner Smedley, to adopt Resolution Nos. 320-14 through 320-16.

34:58 In response to Commissioner Sharpe's question, Administrator of Public Works and County Engineer confirmed he would include more information regarding number of residents with Resolutions to accept district roads.

36:06 In response to Commissioner Baker's question, Mr. Leamon stated he would have his staff look into the condition of the road leading to Signal Mountain Middle/High School.

The foregoing Resolutions were adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows:

Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Mackey were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Fairbanks asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

38:16 Commissioner Baker encouraged everyone to attend the unveiling of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan on March 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM at the McDaniel Building.

38:40 Commissioner Smedley announced a District 7 community forum would take place on March 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at Morris Hill Baptist Church. She noted Sheriff Hammond, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Bryan Johnson, and representatives from the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) would be providing updates.

39:29 In response to Commissioner Smedley's question regarding Hamilton County's preparation for a possible COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak, Health Department Director Becky Barnes stated emergency preparedness plans are being updated throughout the community. She added her department is heavily involved in preparing for the worst.

Commissioner Smedley asked that everyone keep all those affected by the Nashville tornados in their prayers.

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41:01            Commissioner Sharpe asked that Hamilton County Sheriff Jim Hammond come forward to comment on the recent loss of dashcam footage that occurred when the server the videos were stored on experienced some software issues. Sheriff Hammond explained his office has contacted the IT Department as well as multiple outside companies in an attempt to recover the footage, but has so far been unsuccessful. He added a company with a high success rate in recovering lost footage has reached out to him, but he cannot respond until a judge rules on an injunction that has been filed. Commissioner Sharpe thanked Sheriff Hammond for his comments.

42:28            Commissioner Sharpe spoke about the 10-year school facilities plan for Hamilton County Schools presented by MGT Consultants on Tuesday. The plan would cost approximately \$891 million, which includes closing 9 sites, 11 new buildings, and 29 renovations. He noted these needs would need to be addressed in the very near future. Commissioner Sharpe noted he was unable to attend the meeting, but was able to livestream it through Facebook.

43:17            Mayor Coppinger spoke about attending the school facilities meeting last night. He emphasized there are a lot of needs for schools all over the county and stated he looks forward to working together to address them. He added he was in Nashville Monday and found that there are similar needs throughout the state. He expressed his pride in the public education system in Hamilton County.

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Mayor Coppinger also spoke about the possible coronavirus outbreak and commended the Health Department and Emergency Management Department for their training and preparation. He noted it would be a collaborative effort throughout the community.

47:30 **DELEGATIONS**

Chairman Fairbanks asked for delegations on matters other than zoning. There were none.

Time Code  
Position

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There being no further business, Chairman Fairbanks declared the meeting in recess until Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



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William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

03-18-20

W.F.K.

Date

Clerk's Initials