

**RECESSED MEETING
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 8, 2020**

STATE OF TENNESSEE)	Recessed Meeting
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)	April 8, 2020

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this 8th day of April, 2020, a Recessed Meeting of the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners was conducted electronically pursuant to Executive Order No. 16 issued by Tennessee Governor Bill Lee on March 20, 2020 in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), when the following proceedings were held, to wit:--

Chairman Fairbanks read a statement into the record regarding today's electronic meeting and noted it was the first time the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners was conducting business via electronic means. He further stated the Governor's directive allowed local governmental bodies to conduct their meetings without its members being physically assembled together in order to reduce exposing the general public, members of those local governmental bodies, and governmental staff to the possibility of contracting COVID-19. Chairman Fairbanks reported each Commissioner, staff member, or member of the public participating in today's meeting is doing so from his or her own home or outside office, and none is gathered together in any one place.

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Chairman Fairbanks explained prior to the conclusion of today's meeting, all viewers would be advised how they may call in; identify themselves; and address the Commission on matters other than zoning. He added the meeting would be livestreamed for public access on County's YouTube page, which can be found by visiting www.youtube.com/hamiltoncountyttn.

Chairman Fairbanks announced that without objection, the Commission's present Rules of Procedure would be suspended in order to conduct today's meeting in conformance with the Governor's directive. There was no objection.

Present and presiding was the Honorable Chairman Randy Fairbanks. Chief Deputy Clerk Brooke Weaver called the roll of the County Commission and the following, constituting a quorum, answered to their names: Commissioner Baker, Commissioner Bankston, Commissioner Boyd, Commissioner Geter, Commissioner Mackey, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Sharpe, Commissioner Smedley, and Chairman Fairbanks. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0.

Also in attendance were County Mayor Jim Coppinger and County Attorney Rheubin Taylor.

Chairman Fairbanks asked County Attorney Rheubin Taylor to offer the invocation. Chairman Fairbanks led in the pledge to the flag.

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Chairman Fairbanks asked Resolution Nos. 420-7A and 420-7B be heard at this time. He noted the applicant and opposition would have an opportunity to call in and comment regarding these items.

RESOLUTION NO. 420-7A A RESOLUTION TO REZONE FROM R-1 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO R-3 APARTMENT-TOWNHOUSE DISTRICT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5619 CLARK ROAD.

No action was taken on Resolution No. 420-7A.

RESOLUTION NO. 420-7B A RESOLUTION TO REZONE FROM R-1 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO R-3 APARTMENT-TOWNHOUSE DISTRICT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5619 CLARK ROAD.

Executive Director of the Regional Planning Agency (RPA) John Bridger presented details regarding Resolution No. 420-7B and stated the RPA recommended approval of Resolution No. 420-7B, which included certain conditions. A copy of the presentation was filed in the Clerk's Office.

Chairman Fairbanks reported the applicant, Mike Price with MAP Engineers, was on the line to provided additional information. Mr. Price stated the property in consideration is part of a proposed apartment complex development. He noted part of

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the property was already rezoned and this adjoining parcel would be tied into the previously approved zoning case. He stated the property would eventually be annexed into the City of Chattanooga.

Barrie Elizabeth Ryan, residing at 1310 Dallas Road Chattanooga, TN 37402, spoke in opposition to the development. She expressed concern that crime levels and trespassing would increase with the addition of the apartment complex and increased traffic.

In response to Commissioner Smedley's question, Mr. Price reported two entrances are required because of the number of units in the development.

In response to Commissioner Baker's question, Mr. Price stated the exact property tax revenue that would be generated is unknown at this time.

In response to Commissioner Sharpe's question, Mr. Bridger stated a sidewalk is a condition of approval for this development. He stated this is becoming common practice for new developments.

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At this time, additional discussion took place among Commissioners, Mr. Bridger, Mr. Price, and Ms. Ryan. Mr. Price explained the main entrance would be located on Highway 58, with Clark Road being a secondary entrance. He added the land at the end of Clark Road near the water is public land owned by the State of Tennessee.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Sharpe, to adopt Resolution No. 420-7B. The foregoing Motion was unanimously 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Chairman Fairbanks asked that without objection, all items on the agenda would be discussed and voted on during today's Recessed Meeting. There was no objection.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Geter, that the minutes of the Recessed Meeting of March 25, 2020 and the Recessed Meeting of April 1, 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

TRUSTEE 2018 DELINQUENT TAX UNCOLLECTED

The Trustee's annual Delinquent Tax Uncollected Report for the 2018 levy was submitted and made a matter of record.

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RESOLUTION NO. 420-1 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR NOTARY PUBLIC POSITIONS, THE BONDS AND OATHS OF NOTARIES PREVIOUSLY ELECTED, AND THE OFFICIAL BOND AND OATH OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Smedley, to adopt Resolution No. 420-1. The foregoing Motion was unanimously 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

RESOLUTION NO. 420-2 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXPENDITURE OF ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,900) FROM DISCRETIONARY BOND FUNDS (AS ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT EIGHT) TO ASSIST IN PURCHASING BAND INSTRUMENTS FOR CHATTANOOGA SCHOOL FOR THE LIBERAL ARTS.

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ON MOTION of Commissioner Sharpe, seconded by Commissioner Bankston, to adopt Resolution No. 420-2. The foregoing Motion was unanimously 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

RESOLUTION NO. 420-3 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR, ON BEHALF OF HAMILTON COUNTY, TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO SERVE AS THE HOLDER OF A WETLANDS CONSERVATION EASEMENT UPON PROPERTY OWNED BY C. W. MATTHEWS CONTRACTING CO. INC. TO FACILITATE THE INTERCHANGE MODIFICATION OF INTERSTATE 24 (I-24) AND INTERSTATE 75 (I-75).

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Smedley, to adopt Resolution No. 420-3.

Administrator of Public Works and County Engineer Todd Leamon provided additional information regarding this item.

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The foregoing Motion was unanimously 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

RESOLUTION NO. 420-4 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF TENNESSEE ELITE MECHANICAL, LLC FOR THE CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT CHILLER EAST REPLACEMENT PROJECT AMOUNTING TO \$125,355.00, FOR THE HAMILTON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Smedley, to adopt Resolution No. 420-4.

In response to Commissioner Martin's question, Purchasing Director Gail Roppo reported the new chiller would replace one that is over 20 years old. She noted the cost was budgeted.

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In response to Commissioner Sharpe's question, Director Roppo confirmed the chiller is one of two that serves the entire Health Department.

The foregoing Motion was unanimously 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 Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", Commissioner Smedley, "Aye", and Chairman Fairbanks, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Commissioner Smedley reported all of the roads listed in Resolution No. 420-5 and 420-6 are located in District 7. The Clerk's office requested revised resolutions.

RESOLUTION NO. 420-5 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 THEREFOR: PRAIRIE RANGE LANE AS EXTENDED.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Smedley, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution No. 420-5. The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and

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voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, “Aye”, Commissioner Bankston, “Aye”, Commissioner Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter, “Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, Commissioner Smedley, “Aye”, and Chairman Fairbanks, “Aye”. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 9. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

RESOLUTION NO. 420-6 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 THEREFORE: BENTWOOD COVE DRIVE AS EXTENDED, RAMBLE BROOK LANE, AND MERLOT LANE.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Smedley, seconded by Commissioner Bankston, to adopt Resolution No. 420-6. The foregoing Motion was unanimously 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 Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter, “Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, Commissioner Smedley, “Aye”, and Chairman Fairbanks, “Aye”. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 9. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

At this time, Chairman Fairbanks stated the phone line for members of the public wishing to address the Commission on matters other than zoning would be open at this

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time. He stated those wishing to speak should call 423-209-8998 to be added to the queue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Fairbanks asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

Commissioner Bankston thanked the County Clerk's Office for their work in the electronic meeting process.

Commissioner Mackey thanked all those who worked on the electronic meeting process and noted it was a historical time for Hamilton County government.

Commissioner Sharpe encouraged everyone to continue following the protocols in place for preventing the spread of COVID-19. He asked that Mayor Coppinger address the availability of an antibody test.

Mayor Coppinger congratulated everyone on a successful first electronic meeting. He announced the dates for the budget workshops would be May 5th, May 12th, and May 26th at 9:30 AM. He stated they would be livestreamed in order to comply with social distancing requirements. He noted the budget would be presented to Commissioners at the May 27th meeting.

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Mayor Coppinger spoke at length about Hamilton County's efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19. He noted widespread testing capabilities are being explored and evaluated daily. He spoke about the lab at Baylor School in Chattanooga, which has reduced the turnaround time of COVID-19 testing results, as well as the drive-through COVID-19 testing facility located at the Vehicle Emissions Inspection center on Bonnyshire Drive. He provided local COVID-19 statistics and commended the efforts of the Health Department and healthcare workers. He reminded everyone that it is safe to go to the doctor or hospital if you are suffering from a serious medical condition.

In response to Commissioner Baker's question, Mayor Coppinger reported the rapid testing capabilities are made available to areas with severe outbreaks first.

In response to Commissioner Martin's question, Mayor Coppinger stated most local deaths that have been attributed to COVID-19 were in patients with serious underlying health conditions.

In response to Commissioner Geter's question, Mayor Coppinger reported that additional testing sites and options are being explored to allow for better accessibility for the entire community.

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Chairman Fairbanks commended everyone for their work in the electronic meeting process. He reported former Commissioner Richard Casevant passed away recently.

DELEGATIONS

Chairman Fairbanks asked for delegations on matters other than zoning.

David Tulis, residing at 1052 Brick Hill Lane Soddy Daisy, TN 37379, addressed Commissioners regarding the local Shelter in Place orders and constitutionally protected rights.

There being no further business, Chairman Fairbanks declared the meeting in recess until Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved

04-29-20
Date

W.F.K.
Clerk's Initials