

HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION APRIL 27, 2016

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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

- The Trustee's Monthly and Excess Fee Reports for March 2016 would be submitted for the record.
- A list of Uncollected Delinquent Taxes for the 2014 Levy would be submitted for the record.
- The Criminal Court Clerk's Report for February and March 2016 would be submitted for the record.
- The quarterly Investment report of Hamilton County Government, for the quarter ended March 31, 2016, for Hamilton County, Tennessee, was submitted as a matter of record.
- Quarterly Fee Office reports, for the quarter ending March 31, 2016 would be submitted for the record.
- Resolution No. 516-1 was the usual County Clerk item regarding notaries, etc. This required no committee assignment.
- Resolution Nos. 516-2 through 516-14 were heard by a Committee of the Whole.
- Resolution Nos. 516-15 through 516-20 were assigned to the Finance Committee, chaired by Commissioner Boyd.

Chairman Bankston stated that Resolution Nos. 516-2 through 516-14 would now be heard by the Committee of the Whole.

0:45

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 516-2

This Resolution reappoints Bruce O'Neal to the Hamilton County Health and Safety Hearing Board for a term beginning May 4, 2016 and ending May 4, 2018.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
APRIL 27, 2016**

There were no questions from Commissioners.

1:05 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 516-3**

County Attorney Rheubin Taylor spoke regarding this item, which accepts the proposals of McGuireWoods, LLP and Chambliss, Bahner, & Stophel, P.C. for legal services relating to the future correctional facility operations and assets as authorized by Resolution Nos. 815-22 and 116-11. He added that County advisors suggested they seek outside legal counsel experienced in drafting and negotiating contract and financial agreements relative to public-private partnerships, as well as knowledge of Tennessee state and local laws. He noted that total legal expenses are not expected to exceed \$250,000.

In response to Commissioner Fields question, Attorney Taylor confirmed that McGuireWoods, LLP is proficient in the area of public-private partnerships. He noted he would share the information he has compiled on the firm with Commissioner Fields.

3:26 Commissioner Graham thanked Attorney Taylor and Mayor Coppinger and the staff for working diligently on this project. He added that he would be supporting this item next week.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
APRIL 27, 2016**

4:27 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 516-4**

Commissioner Beck spoke regarding this item, which appropriates \$2,500.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 5, to Raising the Bar Empowerment Center. It was noted that this was a recommendation from the United Community Action Alliance, the community organization started by Commissioner Beck to gain public input on how to use discretionary monies. The funds will be used to assist with a community event to provide support for inner city youth.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 516-5

Commissioner Beck spoke regarding this item, which approves the expenditure of up to \$6,620.00 from discretionary bond funds, as allotted to District 5, to assist with the purchase of a television and library books for Lakeside Elementary School.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
APRIL 27, 2016**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 516-6

Commissioner Beck spoke regarding this item, which appropriates \$2,500.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 5, to Independent Youth Services Foundation, Inc. It was noted that this was a recommendation from the United Community Action Alliance and the funds will be used to assist with a scholarships to provide support for inner city youth.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

5:43

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 516-7

Commissioner Mackey spoke regarding this item, which appropriates \$2,000.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 4, to Harrison Recreational Booster Club. It was noted that the funds will assist with programs designed to strengthen and engage children, as well as reduce violence in the community.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
APRIL 27, 2016**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 516-8

Commissioner Mackey spoke regarding this item, which appropriates \$2,000.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 4, to United Methodist Neighborhood Centers, Inc. dba The Bethlehem Center of Chattanooga, Inc. It was noted that the funds will assist with programs designed to strengthen and engage children, as well as reduce violence in the community.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 516-9

Commissioner Mackey spoke regarding this item, which appropriates \$3,000.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 4, to Lakeside Youth Association. It was noted that the funds will assist with team support and programs designed to strengthen and engage children, as well as reduce violence in the community.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
APRIL 27, 2016**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 516-10

Commissioner Mackey spoke regarding this item, which appropriates \$2,000.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 4, to Links Foundation, Inc. It was noted that the funds will assist with programs designed to strengthen and engage children, as well as reduce violence in the community.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

7:46 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 516-11**

This Resolution accepts the highest and best bid for certain parcels of property acquired by Hamilton County through previous delinquent tax sales and authorizing the County Mayor to enter into and execute deeds conveying said parcels to individuals making those bids.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
APRIL 27, 2016**

8:14 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 516-12**

Todd Leamon, Administrator of Public Works, spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the County Mayor to execute a quitclaim deed and sign any closing documents to convey certain property owned jointly by Hamilton County and the City of Chattanooga to the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum (TVRM), a Tennessee 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. It was noted that six properties have been requested. He added that Miller & Martin attorney Allen McCallie was present on behalf of the TVRM, as well as Hamilton County Real Property Manager Paul Parker.

8:45 Mr. McCallie explained that there are six properties, all located within the same East Chattanooga neighborhood as the museum headquarters off Chamberlain Avenue. The properties were jointly acquired by Hamilton County and the City of Chattanooga through delinquent tax sales. He noted that this is an opportunity to reclaim these properties and make something good out of them.

In response to Commissioner Fields question, Mr. McCallie reported that all the properties are vacant land with the exception of an abandoned residence on one of the properties. He explained that the TVRM would be responsible for the cleanup of the properties. He added that certain obligations existed within the deed that require the

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
APRIL 27, 2016**

property to be used for non-profit purposes with cultural and historical significance. It was noted that there is no reversionary clause within the deed.

11:26 In response to Commissioner Haynes question, Real Property Manager Paul Parker confirmed that a majority of the properties are vacant properties with a select few containing abandoned structures.

12:06 In response to Commissioner Mackey's question regarding the tax impact of the TVRM yearly, Mr. McCallie explained that the six properties up for discussion are small pieces of land. He reported that the TVRM is a large economic engine with a large annual budget, a great number of jobs, and brings in hundreds of thousands of dollars in tourism each year. He noted that taking land off the property tax roll for public parks or other developments might show a decrease in property taxes, but property values around the land are dramatically increased. He used the properties surrounding Coolidge Park, Renaissance Park, and the Market Street Bridge as examples of the increases in property values.

Commissioner Mackey reported that a similar boost in property values happened in the Jefferson Heights neighborhood off Main Street on the Southside of Chattanooga. He added that he will be supporting this item next week.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
APRIL 27, 2016**

Commissioner Graham thanked Mr. McCallie for the many different parks and preservation projects that he works on. He noted that the TVRM brings in a lot of tourists and tax dollars to the community, as well as serves to improve the quality of life in the area.

18:21

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 516-13

This Resolution approves the entering into an agreement between the Hamilton County Board of Education and Tower Assets Newco IX, LLC for the lease of a tract of land at East Ridge High School. The land will be used for the erection of a cellular phone tower over a twenty-five year initial period.

It was noted that this resolution, previously known as Resolution No. 416-28, was heard as a Committee of the Whole during the April 13, 2016 Agenda Session and postponed at the April 20th, 2016 Regular Meeting.

18:51

Commissioner Boyd reported that East Ridge Mayor Brent Lambert and the East Ridge City Council have been put on notice that the Commission will be voting on this item next week. It was noted that he personally asked for their position regarding this item by next Tuesday, and will report back to the Commission before the vote.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
APRIL 27, 2016**

Commissioner Mackey stated that he will be following Commissioner Boyd's lead in regards to this item.

19:41 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 516-14**

Attorney Taylor spoke regarding this item, which approves allowing Hamilton County employees to make beneficiary designations for the receipt of any earned accumulated leave and final payroll check upon the death of the employee. He noted that currently a check is made payable to the estate of the employee upon their death, but this has caused probate problems for some family members. The item will allow the employee to designate to whom they wish to receive the check.

Commissioner Graham reported that he will be supporting this item.

Commissioner Boyd, Chairman of the Finance Committee, announced that the Finance Committee would be meeting in the Commission Room immediately following today's Agenda Session.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
APRIL 27, 2016**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Bankston asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

Several Commissioners remembered this day 5 years ago when the community, particularly the Apison area, was devastated by a series of tornados that killed eight people and left countless others wounded and homeless. They thanked County Trustee Bill Hullander for the memorial service he organized last Saturday to honor the victims. More than 300 people attended the service. It was noted that Trustee Hullander had relatives killed in the storm.

22:31 Commissioner Haynes reminded members of the Commission and audience that Hamilton County has a Property Tax Relief program in place for low income seniors or disabled homeowners, and disable veteran homeowners.

23:03 Commissioner Graham welcomed his son and daughter in law, as well as his 16-month-old granddaughter to today's meeting.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
APRIL 27, 2016**

23:28 Commissioner Boyd announced that the community meeting regarding the Water and Wastewater Treatment Authority (WWTA) has been rescheduled for April 28th at 6:30 pm at the Red Bank Community Center.

23:49 Commissioner Smedley announced a school facilities meeting with the Department of Education and Commission will take place Tuesday, May 10th at 6:00 pm at the Department of Education located at 3074 Hickory Valley Road in Chattanooga. She also commended the Mayor's staff for their hard work and complimented the quick response time any time she has questions. She specifically thanked Administrator of Public Works and County Engineer Todd Leamon, Director of Engineering John Agan, and Highway Department Director Ben Wilson.

25:34 Mayor Coppinger announced the next budget workshop will take place on May 3rd at 9:00 am at the McDaniel Building. He thanked Commissioners for participating in the last workshop.

DELEGATIONS

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

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
APRIL 27, 2016**

Being no further business, Chairman Bankston declared the meeting adjourned until Wednesday, May 4th at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

05-18-16
Date

W.F.K.
Clerk's Initials