

HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION AUGUST 10, 2016

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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

- The Juvenile Court Clerk's Report for May 2016 would be submitted for the record.
- An Order of Designation to the Planning Commission would be submitted as a matter of record.
- An Order of Reappointment to the Walden's Ridge Utility District Board would be submitted as a matter of record.
- Resolution No. 816-28 was the usual County Clerk item regarding notaries, etc. This required no committee assignment.
- Resolution Nos. 816-30 through 816-33 were assigned to the Zoning Committee, chaired by Commissioner Haynes.
- Resolution No. 816-34 was assigned to the Finance Committee, chaired by Commissioner Boyd.
- Resolution Nos. 816-29 and 816-35 through 816-38 were heard by a Committee of the Whole.

Chairman Bankston announced that Resolution Nos. 816-29 and 816-35 through 816-38 would now be heard by a Committee of the Whole.

0:59 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 816-29**

This Resolution accepts the proposal of Rock/Creek for the provision of convenient and affordable access to outdoor recreational opportunities, through the establishment of paddle sport and bicycle rentals, and associated programming within Hamilton County Parks.

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In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Lee Norris, Director of General Services, reported that no new structures will be added. It was noted that Rock/Creek is currently renting a County owned facility at the Riverpark, and will expand to Chester Frost Park in 2017. Mr. Norris added that all equipment will be provided by Rock/Creek, and the County will not take on any additional liability.

In response to Commissioner Graham's question, Mr. Norris stated that the County does not currently offer or receive revenue from these types of recreational activities. Commissioner Graham thanked Mr. Norris for bringing a valuable added service to Hamilton County Parks, which will allow them to be more self-sufficient.

4:01 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 816-35**

This Resolution authorizes the County Mayor to sign a continuation contract with the Tennessee Department of Health and Hamilton County, Tennessee, the Health Services Division, Operating as the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Department, for the time period October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017, in an amount not to exceed \$360,500.00 to provide Parents Are First Teachers (PAFT) Services in accordance with the Department of Health's Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV).

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In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Health Department Director Becky Barnes explained that hi-risk families are identified through self-referrals, or referrals from different agencies throughout the community. She listed some of the criteria they can choose from, including first time mothers under the age of 21, and families with low levels of parental attainment. She clarified that any faith based organizations or non-profits in the community could refer people into the program.

6:07 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 816-36**

Director of General Services Lee Norris spoke regarding this item, which repeals Resolution No. 1284-40 (adopted on October 19, 1984) prohibiting the sale and consumption of beer and wine at Chester Frost Park, Riverpark, and Enterprise South Nature Park, and authorizes said sale and consumption thereof during special events. He explained that this Resolution was a result of a meeting with Tom Lamb, Director of Parks and Recreation, about generating additional revenue for county parks. He stated that a Special Events Committee will be responsible for reviewing all special event permit applications. The committee will be chaired by Mr. Norris and include Mr. Lamb, Tony Reavley, Director of Emergency Services and Homeland Security, a member from the Sheriff's Office and as necessary members from Risk Management, Purchasing and County Finance. He noted that it is anticipated that monies collected from the permit revenue will be put back into county parks.

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8:11 In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, County Attorney Rheubin Taylor stated that the Special Events Committee will make every effort to keep any liability on the party responsible for the event, but there is always a possibility that the County could be subject to additional liability. He added that certain risk management procedures would be in place to alleviate some of the liability.

 Commissioner Beck stated that he would not be supporting this Resolution. He explained that County Parks are reserved for families and having alcohol around children is morally wrong.

12:32 In response to Commissioner Mackey's question, Mr. Norris stated that the odds of boaters docking at County parks and having beer on their boat are high. He added that this Resolution does not allow for the consumption of alcohol at free will, but only during special authorized events such as high school reunions, wedding receptions, etc. He noted that this is an opportunity to control the consumption of alcohol in parks.

15:09 In response to Commissioner Smedley's question, Mr. Norris clarified that the only time alcohol consumption will be permitted in the park is during authorized special events. He added that authorization from the Special Events Committee would not be limited to events requesting alcohol consumption, but would be a way to control and regulate all events taking place in various County park facilities.

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In response to Commissioner Graham's question, Mr. Norris explained that the Committee would use a specific formula to determine whether to approve an event, and how much security would be necessary to monitor it. He added that those selling alcohol would have to have a special permit or license issued by the beer board, which has its own set of regulations. He also stated that permission granted will require alcohol providers to furnish personnel to serve the alcohol and ID individuals served at an approved event. It was noted that the liability from violating any of those regulations would be placed on the alcohol provider.

21:03 In response to Commissioner Fairbanks question, Attorney Taylor explained that applications will be evaluated case by case, based on specific parameters.

Commissioner Boyd stated that it is important to understand that those breaking the law and illegally consuming alcohol in the park will most likely continue to do so, and that should not be confused with this Resolution, which applies to special events.

25:42 Commissioner Beck asked that Mr. Norris provide him with a list of special event types that might qualify for committee approval. Mr. Norris stated that a list will be furnished.

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In response to Commissioner Haynes question, Mr. Norris confirmed that the County Fair held at Chester Frost Park would not be considered a special event for the purpose of serving alcohol.

27:47

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 816-37

This Resolution amends the rules, regulations, and rates pertaining to the operation of the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department.

In response to Commissioner Fields' question, Mr. Norris clarified that changing the firearm prohibition in Chester Frost Park, Riverpark, and Enterprise South Nature Park was to comply with Tennessee state law. Attorney Taylor confirmed the changes were to comply with state law.

29:49

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 816-38

This Resolution establishes a "Hamilton County Parks Special Events Coordinating Committee" to regulate and oversee special events in certain designated areas of Chester Frost Park, Enterprise South Nature Park, and certain parts of the River Walk.

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There were no questions from Commissioners.

Commissioner Haynes, Chairman of the Zoning Committee, announced that the Zoning Committee would meet in the Commission Room following the Finance Committee meeting.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Bankston asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

Commissioner members, Mayor Coppinger, and Attorney Taylor expressed their condolences to retired Director of General Services Don Allen, who recently lost his wife, Sandra Allen, on August 8, 2016.

Each Commission member, Mayor Coppinger, and Attorney Taylor congratulated Commissioner Haynes on his election as Hamilton County Assessor of Property on

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August 4th. It was noted that his win will leave the District 3 Commission seat vacant when he is sworn into office September 1, 2016.

30:18 Commissioner Haynes thanked the citizens of Hamilton County who voted in the August 4th election. He added that he is honored and humbled to be the Assessor of Property elect.

31:06 Commissioner Graham welcomed students back to school as they begin the new year. He also suggested that the Commission begin accepting caretaker applications to fill the District 3 Commission seat from applicants that promise not to become a candidate in the November 2016 election. He noted this would prevent the Commission from getting involved in the District 3 election process.

33:14 Commissioner Boyd announced that the new Bass Pro Shop parking lot is always full. He thanked everyone for coming out and supporting development in East Ridge.

35:13 Commissioner Beck stated that he agreed with Commissioner Graham's comments regarding filling the upcoming vacancy of the District 3 Commission Seat.

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36:29 Attorney Taylor requested that Commissioners and the Mayor meet with him in the adjacent conference room following today's Agenda Session for a brief legal meeting.

36:47 Mayor Coppinger announced that the swearing in ceremony for the winners of the August 4th election will take place on September 1st at 9:00 am at the Trade Center. He also announced that the downtown section of the River Walk, which will extend from downtown to South Chattanooga, will open on Friday at 11:00 am.

DELEGATIONS

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

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Being no further business, Chairman Bankston declared the meeting adjourned until Wednesday, August 17th at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

09-07-16

Date



Clerk's Initials