

HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION AUGUST 31, 2016

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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

- The Trustee's Amended Excess Fee Report for June 2016 would be submitted for the record.
- The Trustee's Monthly Report for July 2016 would be submitted for the record.
- The Trustee's Excess Fee Report for June 2016 would be submitted for the record.
- The Trustee's Unaudited Financial Report ending June 2016 would be submitted for the record.
- The Trustee's Unpaid Property Tax Levy Report for 2015 would be submitted for the record.
- The Trustee's Unaudited Financial Report ending June 2016 would be submitted for the record.
- The Juvenile Court Clerk's Report for June 2016 would be submitted for the record.
- Resolution No. 916-1 was the usual County Clerk item regarding notaries, etc. This required no committee assignment.
- Resolution Nos. 916-12 through 916-19 were assigned to the Finance Committee, chaired by Commissioner Boyd.
- Resolution No. 916-20 was assigned to the Zoning Committee, chaired by Commissioner Haynes.
- Resolution Nos. 916-2 through 916-11 were heard by a Committee of the Whole.

Chairman Bankston stated that Resolution Nos. 916-2 through 916-20 would now be heard by the Committee of the Whole.

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0:50 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 916-2**

Mayor Coppinger spoke regarding this item, which appoints Chris Jackson as Director of Corrections effective September 7, 2016. He noted that Barbara Payne retired as Director of Corrections effective July 15, 2016. Mr. Jackson is a 17 year veteran with Hamilton County Government and serves as second in command to Mrs. Payne.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

2:10 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 916-3**

Chairman Bankston spoke regarding this item, which reappoints Reverend Paul McDaniel to the Carter Street Corporation Board of Directors for a term ending August 18, 2020.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

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2:32

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 916-4

Commissioner Mackey spoke regarding this item, which approves an appropriation to East Lake Neighborhood Association, Inc. in the amount of \$1,000.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to district four. It was noted the funds will assist with the East Lake Back to School Festival.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

3:14

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 916-5

Commissioner Mackey spoke regarding this item, which approves an appropriation to Unity Performing Arts Foundation of Chattanooga in the amount of \$1,500.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to district four. It was noted the funds will assist with program development.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

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3:40 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 916-6**

Commissioner Bankston spoke regarding this item, which approves the expenditure of \$3,400.00 from discretionary bond funds. It was noted that \$932.94 will come from district nine discretionary bond funds and the Board of Commissioners will fund \$2,467.06 from line of credit and/or bond funds. It was noted the funds will assist with purchasing a paint machine for Ooltewah High School.

Commissioner Graham questioned why the county's line of credit was being used for unbudgeted purchases. Commissioner Bankston stated that he didn't have enough discretionary bond funds.

Additional comments regarding this resolution were made after Resolution No. 916-7 was heard in Committee of the Whole.

4:43 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 916-7**

Mayor Coppinger spoke regarding this item, which awards five days of paid leave for the purpose of encouraging all Hamilton County employees to participate in the United Way campaign through payroll deduction. It was noted that five participating

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employees will be selected through a random drawing and each will be awarded one day of paid leave.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

At this time Commissioner Mackey and Commissioner Graham made additional comments regarding Resolution No. 916-6.

Commissioner Mackey noted his support for the resolution and added that he would like to see discretionary monies back on the table for discussion.

Commissioner Graham noted that he asked, "Why" out of fairness to Hamilton County. He noted that the line of credit is designed to purchase things that general government needs within the budget. He noted the county's outstanding AAA bond rating and stated his concerns about setting a precedent.

Commissioner Mackey noted everyone is concerned with the finances of the county. He stated he would rather spend the money on kids and athletics, than spend it on the jails. He stated his supported for Resolution No. 916-6 and noted it was money well spent.

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In response to Commissioner Smedley's question, Albert Kiser, Finance Administrator stated it was a good use of bond money. He noted that the county does have a limited bond capacity; however, the purchase was adequate use of bond funds.

10:08

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 916-8

Attorney Taylor spoke regarding this item, which clarifies the compensation of the Chairman and Chairman Pro Tempore of the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, and to correct the compensation paid to said previous commission officers. It was noted that previous Resolution No. 990-1 established the compensation of the Chairman and the Chairman Pro Tempore at forty percent and thirty percent more than the commissioner's base rate. It was also noted that the Hamilton County Board of Commissioner's base rate was established in the fiscal year 2000 budget at \$16,320, and the Chairman and Chairman Pro Tempore at \$21,320 and \$18,820.

The base compensation for all members has been adjusted annually thereafter to reflect the same percentage increase as that given to the County Mayor in accordance with Resolution No. 599-50A and T.C.A 5-5-107(b)(2). He also stated that the compensation of previous Hamilton County officers over the past six year will be adjusted accordingly.

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11:08

Commissioner Graham stated he did not support the resolution and noted that in the past the Chairman and Chairman Pro Tempore received \$5,000 and \$2,500 more than other members. In addition, all commissioners received the same percentage increase given to county employees. He stated that the proposed clarification would give the Chairman and Chairman Pro Tempore substantial raises. He stated the forty and thirty percentage increases equal out to an estimated \$9,100 and \$6,800. He noted that after the Commission was made aware of the need for clarification through a legal meeting; he spoke with a prior commissioner.

He stated the commissioner served when the base salaries were established for fiscal year 2000 (*See 06-21-99 Letter to the Board of Commissioners*). According to that one commissioner, the intent was to stay at the \$5,000/\$2,500, simply because it made it easier going forward. He recommended that the resolution be revised to a percentage that is in line with what the Chairman and Chairman Pro Tempore are being paid currently.

15:19

In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Mr. Kiser stated the \$5,000/\$2,500 equals to a 30.6% and 15.3%. Commissioner Boyd stated that he supports clarifying current policy that is in line with what is currently being paid.

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19:27

Commissioner Beck noted that “current policy” could be interrupted either way and disagrees with a policy that is not in line with an adopted resolution (Res. No. 990-1).

In response to Commissioner Fields request for clarification, Attorney Taylor agreed that a discrepancy was discovered between what is currently being paid to the Chairman and Chairman Pro Tempore. The amount being paid is different than what was adopted in 1990 (Res. No. 990-1). The purpose of Resolution No. 916-8 is to clean up the discrepancy, how it is cleaned up, is up to the commission.

21:49

In response to a legal question from Commissioner Mackey, Attorney Taylor confirmed that there is justification for what is being done but the record is not clear.

In response to Assessor-elect Marty Haynes’ question, Attorney Taylor stated if passed the resolution would go back and compensate Hamilton County officers over the past six years.

23:30

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 916-9

Mayor Coppinger spoke regarding this item which renews the unit price contract with Chattanooga Funeral Home, Crematory and Florist to provide cremation services

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for the renewal contract period beginning September 4, 2016 and ending September 3, 2019. He stated the county had 130 cremations last year and thanked Gene Pike, President of Chattanooga Funeral Home for performing the service at cost. He stated Mr. Pike truly believes it's his civic duty and the county hopes to renew the contract for an additional three years.

23:40 In response to Commissioner Beck's question, Mayor Coppinger pointed out that the real question is where would the county go if Mr. Pike decided he didn't want to renew his contract.

In response to Commissioner's Boyd's question, Mayor Coppinger noted that this year's budget per cremation was increase by \$100.00. Commissioner Boyd stated that \$375.00 is still a great deal.

26:51 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 916-10**

Albert Kiser, Administrator of Finance spoke regarding this item which executes and delivers an amendment to the revolving credit agreement (Res. No. 913-5) dated September 1, 2013 with U.S. Bank National Association; and providing for certain other matters related thereto. He noted this will renew the county's \$55 million dollar line of credit for an additional thirty months and adds 4 ½ basis points to the county's spread.

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There were no questions from Commissioners.

27:43

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 916-11

Todd Leamon, Administrator of Public Works and County Engineer spoke regarding this item, which accepts the offer of Lee-Smith, Inc for two tandem axle chassis with roll-off hoist amounting to \$75,000.00 for the Highway Department. He noted that if passed this would allow the Highway Department to replace two prior purchased tandem axle chassis with roll-off hoist, which have performed unsatisfactory. Both trucks are a 2012, one has 50,000 miles and is still under warranty, the other has 250,000 miles and is no longer under warranty. He noted that the industry has identified design flaws and Lee-Smith is willing to replace both trucks with brand new ones for \$75,000.00. The 2012 trucks will be returned to Lee-Smith. The beds will be taken off the 2012 chassis and put on the 2017 trucks.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

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

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31:15 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 916-20**

Todd Leamon, Administrator of Public Works and County Engineer spoke regarding this item, which amends the “Master List of Roads and Speed Limits” by changing the speed limits of Village Way Drive, West Village Lane, and East Village Lane from 30 miles per hour to 20 miles per hour, west of Dent Road, North. He noted that the reduction was requested by residents living along the roadways. After thorough investigation it was recommended the speed limit be reduced to 20 miles.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Bankston asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

32:34 Assessor-elect Marty Haynes stated he was thankful for the opportunity to serve as District 3 County Commissioner. He thanked his biggest supporter, his mother Norma Haynes, who was present in the audience. He recited Ecclesiastes 3, “To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven” and stated

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that his season as County Commissioner ended today and he looked forward to serving as the Assessor beginning tomorrow. He spoke highly of his predecessor Bill Bennett and noted that he was filling big shoes. He thanked District 3 for allowing him to serve his hometown community and stated he will truly miss being their commissioner.

Commission members, Mayor Coppinger, and Attorney Taylor spoke highly of Marty Haynes and thanked him for his service as Commissioner. They wished him the best of luck as Assessor of Property and look forward to working with him.

Several Commission members and Mayor Coppinger gave their condolences to the family of George Shuford, a renowned football official and former member of the County Commission, who passed away August 27th, 2016.

37:47 Commissioner Graham announced that on September 10th, the Lookout Valley Lions Club will be holding its annual golf tournament at the Trenton Golf Club. He reported that 100% of the proceeds are used to provide food, toys, and gifts for children and families at Christmas. He stated that Commissioner Fields will also be participating in the golf tournament.

Commissioner Graham also spoke about the District 3 Commission seat vacancy, and stated that the Commission should appoint an interim to serve for the next two months.

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40:45

Commissioner Fields announced that the Signal Mountain Lions Club will be hosting their annual Labor Day barbeque at Althous Park and invited everyone to attend.

Mayor Coppinger reminded everyone that a swearing in ceremony for various recently elected officials would be held at 9:00 am on Thursday, September 1st at the Chattanooga Trade and Convention Center. He also thanked Marty Haynes' mother, Norma Haynes for attending today's meeting.

Chairman Bankston noted that George Shuford's family will receive friends at the funeral home today 2-8 pm, and tomorrow 1-2 pm. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 1, at the North Chapel of Chattanooga Funeral Home.

DELEGATIONS

Chairman Bankston asked for delegations on matters other than zoning.

46:45

Andy Ziegler residing at 6130 Champion Road addressed the commission and reported that his neighbors are living in extremely poor conditions. He reported they are currently living in a camper with no power or running water. He reported that he has

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filed several reports with the Health Department and the Police Department. Mayor Coppinger requested that Mr. Ziegler meet with him and the Health Department immediately following today's meeting.

Being no further business, Chairman Bankston declared the meeting adjourned until Wednesday, September 7th at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

09-21-2016
Date

W.F.K.
Clerk's Initials