

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

PRESENTATION-MIRACLE LEAGUE OF CHATTANOOGA

Kim Chapman, President of the Miracle League Board, gave a presentation on the Miracle League of Chattanooga. The Miracle League is a baseball league that gives children with disabilities the opportunity to play baseball safely on a specially designed field. Mrs. Chapman explained that according to the 2010 census, there are roughly 13,000 handicapped children and adults in Hamilton County with no place to play baseball safely. Mrs. Chapman played a brief video for members of the Commission that highlighted the importance of having a place for children with special needs to play baseball.

Mrs. Chapman introduced Chas Torrence, Vice President of the Board. Mr. Torrence gave an overview of the structure and design of the field located at Warner Park in Chattanooga as well as a pavilion, playground, and a multi-purpose field for other sports and activities.

12:31

In response to Commissioner Smedley's question, Mr. Torrence clarified that the total projected cost of the project is \$1.4 million, \$1 million of which has already been committed through fundraisers and private donors.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

13:47

In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Mrs. Chapman clarified that the closest Miracle League baseball field is in Whitfield County. It was noted that there is not currently a field in Tennessee.

She requested Commissioners to consider making a donation from their discretionary accounts.

15:10

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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

- An Order of Designation to the Planning Commission would be submitted as matter of record.
- Resolution No. 915-21 was the usual County Clerk item regarding notaries, etc. This required no committee assignment.
- Resolution Nos. 915-22A and 915-22B were assigned to the Zoning Committee, chaired by Commissioner Haynes.
- Resolution Nos. 915-32 and 915-33 were assigned the Finance Committee, chaired by Commissioner Boyd.
- Resolution Nos. 915-23 through 915-31 and 915-34 were heard by a Committee of the Whole.

Chairman Bankston stated that Resolution Nos. 915-23 through 915-31 and 915-34 would now be heard by the Committee of the Whole.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

15:48 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 915-23**

Commissioner Fairbanks spoke regarding this Resolution, which approves making an appropriation to Dallas Bay Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$5,000.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 1. The funding will assist the fire department with the purchase of a truck.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

16:10 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 915-24**

Commissioner Fairbanks spoke regarding this Resolution, which approves making an appropriation to Orange Grove Center in the amount of \$10,000.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 1. The funding will assist the nonprofit organization with the purchase of baling equipment

There were no questions from Commissioners.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

16:47 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 915-25**

Chairman Bankston spoke regarding this Resolution, which approves making an appropriation to Mowbray Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$13,000.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 1. The funding will assist the fire department with the purchase of new equipment.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

17:18 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 915-26**

Commissioner Mackey spoke regarding this Resolution, which approves making an appropriation to East Lake Neighborhood Association in the amount of \$1,800.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 4. The funding will assist with the cost of the East Lake Festival.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

19:27 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 915-27**

Commissioner Smedley spoke regarding this Resolution, which approves making an appropriation to Veterans Memorial Park of Collegedale in the amount of \$10,000.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 7. The funding will assist the park in completing renovations. Commissioner Smedley added that the funds would also be used to assist with the painting and mounting of a TA-4J fighter aircraft that was donated by the Navy, as well as the dedication of a monument to the five service members who lost their lives during the July 16th shootings in Chattanooga. In closing, Commissioner Smedley spoke about meeting with a Veteran's group, many of whom are disabled, and the importance of this project to them.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

18:58 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 915-28**

Chairman Bankston spoke regarding this Resolution, which approves making an appropriation to The Next Door, Inc. in the amount of \$1,000.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 9. The funding will assist the nonprofit with their program that allows currently incarcerated women to receive transitional services

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

to help with re-entering society and the workforce. He noted that this program is offered in partnership with the Tennessee Department of Corrections.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

19:41

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 915-29

Chairman Bankston spoke regarding this Resolution, which authorizes the County Mayor to award 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 Mayor Coppinger left the meeting before discussion of this item took place.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

20:14

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 915-30

Todd Leamon, Administrator of Hamilton County Public Works and County Engineer, spoke regarding this Resolution, which approves adopting by reference the updated National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) for unincorporated Hamilton County, Tennessee. Mr. Leamon added that the County

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

has collaborated with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide updated maps that show the extent to which areas are at risk for flooding. An open house was held in April where Hamilton County residents were able to review the preliminary maps and ask questions. It was noted that 2002 was the last time the flood maps were updated.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

21:14

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 915-31

County Attorney Rheubin Taylor spoke regarding this Resolution, which approves the amending of a certain Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement with Alstom Power, Inc. Attorney Taylor explained that this amendment was the result of an agreement reached between Hamilton County, the City of Chattanooga, the Industrial Development Board for the City of Chattanooga, and Alstom Power, Inc in response to Alstom's performance under the previous PILOT.

21:57

In response to Commissioner Fields question, Attorney Taylor explained that under the new agreement Alstom would be paying 50% of the assessed value of the property as well as an advanced payment of \$250,000.00 to the County and City by October 5th for the 2015 tax bill which is due February 2016. He added that another

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

review of the PILOT agreement will take place on or before March 15, 2016. In closing, Attorney Taylor noted that all parties involved have reviewed the agreement and recommend approval.

In response to Commissioner Haynes question, Attorney Taylor clarified that under the new provisions the total property tax payment due to the County by October 5, 2015 is \$250,000.00.

In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Attorney Taylor confirmed that the new agreement will apply to the company and any of its successors.

25:02

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 915-34

Commissioner Graham asked that Resolution No. 915-34 be read into the record in its entirety.

25:24

Commissioner Graham spoke regarding this Resolution, which approves the return of the \$100,000.00 appropriation for discretionary spending, as previously allotted to District 6, to the fund balance of the Hamilton County general fund, and authorizing the receipt of the same. Commissioner Graham spoke about his disapproval of the use of the general fund balance for discretionary spending, and his desire to see those

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

funds returned to the general fund balance for appropriation to needed projects throughout the County. In closing, Commissioner Graham expressed his willingness to commit the current balance of his expense account, as well as the expense money he will be allotted over the next two years of his term, to District 6 for specified projects.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

Commissioner Haynes, Chairman of the Zoning Committee, announced that the Zoning Committee would be meeting in the Conference Room immediately following the Agenda Session.

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

30:20

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Bankston asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

Several Commissioners congratulated Times Free Press reporter Louie Brogdon on his upcoming move to Washington D.C. They thanked Mr. Brogdon for his fair and objective reporting.

30:43

Commissioner Graham and Commissioner Smedley publicly gave out their cell phone numbers to Chairman Bankston. Commissioner Graham reported that his cell phone number is 423-255-6601 and was concerned that he had not received a call regarding committee assignment preferences. Commissioner Smedley reported that her cell phone number is 423-309-5250, and indicated that she had not been consulted last year or this year regarding committee assignments. Attached is a copy of the Chairman's 2015-2016 committee assignments.

31:57

Commissioner Boyd spoke about his support of discretionary funds. He talked about meeting with Julie Baumgardner, President and CEO of First Things First, a grassroots organization dedicated to strengthening families. Commissioner Boyd added that he invested a portion of his discretionary money into Dads Make a Difference, a faith based program designed to educate non-violent convicted felons on the positive involvement of fathers. In closing, Commissioner Boyd talked about the positive impact of keeping these young men from entering back into the prison system, and the amount of money in incarceration fees it saves the County.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

36:00 Commissioner Fields announced that September 17th is Constitution Day. He encouraged members of the Commission and the audience to attend the annual Constitution Day lecture at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) at 7:30 pm in the UC Auditorium. Former UTC professor Wilfred M. McClay will be speaking about the relevancy of the Constitution given the changing times.

38:59 Commissioner Smedley thanked Mike Dunn for the update on the status of the improvements of the intersection at Standifer Gap Road and Ooltewah Ringgold Road. She spoke about her recent trip to New York City and visit to the 9/11 Museum. She encouraged everyone never to forget the events that took place on September 11, 2001.

39:23 Chairman Bankston announced that the scheduled Commission Meeting on Wednesday, October 7th at 9:30 am, would be moved to Tuesday, October 6th at 9:30 am. It was noted that several of the Commissioners plan to attend the Tennessee County Services Association 62nd Annual Fall Conference in Murfreesboro. The change from Wednesday October 7th to Tuesday October 6th was legally advertised.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**

DELEGATIONS

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

Being no further business, Chairman Bankston declared the meeting adjourned until Wednesday, September 16th at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

10-6-15
Date

W.F.K.
Clerk's Initials