



**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2014**

0:20

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

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

- Resolutions No. 914-12 was assigned to the Finance Committee, chaired by Commissioner Graham.
- Resolution No. 914-13 was not used.
- An Order of Designation to the Planning Commission would be submitted as a matter of record.
- A annual Financial report of the Criminal Court Clerk Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014 would be submitted as a matter of record.
- Resolution No. 914-14 and 914-15 were assigned to the Zoning Committee, chaired by Commissioner Haynes.
- Resolutions No. 914-16 through 914-19 were assigned to the Finance Committee, chaired by Commissioner Graham.
- Resolutions No. 914-20, 914-25, and 914-31 were heard by a Committee of the Whole.
- Resolutions No. 914-21 through 914-24, and 914-26 through 914-30 were assigned to the Finance Committee, chaired by Commissioner Graham.

1:39

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 914-20**

Mayor Coppinger welcomed Dane and Sheila Boyington, co-founders of SAI Interactive, Inc. Mrs. Boyington spoke regarding this Resolution, which would accept the quote of SAI Interteractive for Learning Blade Site software for Hamilton County middle

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schools amounting to \$48,000. The General Fund budget would be amended from previously unbudgeted funds.

Mrs. Boyington gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Commission regarding their proposal. She emphasized the importance of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education to the local economy and filling the workforce pipeline. She stated that their program would help introduce middle school students to technologies and related STEM careers and would assist with academic instruction in a variety of classrooms. She noted that the program would begin in seventh grade classrooms.

Based on the middle school standards, the program offered approximately 100 hours of curriculum that could be used in both middle and high schools. She also noted that there were two pilot programs already in Hamilton County, at Chattanooga Girls Leadership Academy and Ooltewah Middle School, with nearly 900 combined learning hours. During the 2013 - 2014 school year Learning Blade was used in 10 different states with over 80,000 lessons completed. She later stated that Learning Blade was currently being taught in 20 different states.

Mayor Coppinger added that School Superintendent Rick Smith had indicated his and the Department of Education's support of this program. He further stated that the

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request for \$48,000 was a one-time request. He spoke regarding the fact that a grant expected to cover the cost of this program through the Department of Education budget had not materialized. He had felt that the program was worthy of support and was therefore recommending the one time budget amendment to implement the program during this school year. It was anticipated grant funding would be available for future implementations.

Upon request by Commissioner Boyd, Mrs. Boyington provided additional information regarding the term “game-based learning” and what the funding would include. She stated that there would not be any upgrade fees in the future.

Upon questioning by Commissioner Fairbanks, Mayor Coppinger responded that the curriculum would be utilized by all seventh graders in the county school system. The software license would be available to anyone in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades.

Commissioner Haynes requested that a copy of the PowerPoint presentation be submitted to the Commission staff for distribution. Mrs. Boyington indicated she would do so.

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Chairman Fields thanked Dane and Sheila Boyington for the presentation and stated it would not be necessary for her to come back before the Commission at next week's meeting.

34:29 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 914-25**

Attorney Taylor spoke regarding this Resolution, which would authorize the payment of \$60,000 in settlement of claims brought by John Doub for injuries received from a vehicular bicycle accident on May 15, 2012 involving a county ambulance.

35:42 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 914-31**

Mayor Coppinger spoke regarding this item, which would make certain findings related to the Van De Wiele, Inc. project, and to authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute an agreement for payments in lieu of ad valorem taxes. He welcomed attorney Mark Smith, Chamber of Commerce staff member Charles Wood, and Van De Wiele President Bob Harding, who were in attendance for today's meeting.

Mr. Wood reported that the new facility would be at Relocation Way in Ooltewah. The \$5,000,000 capital investment would create an estimated 30 new jobs, with average wages of \$50,000 per year. School taxes would be paid throughout the five

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year PILOT agreement. He added that this project would result in the consolidation of the company's current Dalton, Georgia and Charlotte, North Carolina facilities.

40:21

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Fields asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

Mayor Coppinger welcomed a group of Volunteer Fire Department Chiefs who were in the audience for today's meeting. These individuals included Dallas Bay Chief Marcus Fritts, Tri-Community Chief Duane Pitts, and Sale Creek Chief Jimbo Aslinger. He expressed his appreciation to these individuals and all volunteer fire departments in the county for the valuable service they provide. He also expressed his condolences to the family of Chief Aslinger's brother Raymond, who had recently passed away. Raymond Aslinger was a founding member and retired Chief of the Sale Creek Volunteer Fire Department.

42:58

**DELEGATIONS**

Chairman Fields asked for delegations on matters other than zoning.

Time Code  
Position

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43:13

Joan Farrell, of Hixson, addressed the Commission to ask that they consider rescinding approval of all Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency (TWRA) hunts in Enterprise South Nature Park. She provided additional details regarding the history of the exclusive hunting contract signed in 2005. A copy of Ms. Farrell's remarks was submitted to the Clerk's office as a matter of record.

Being no further business, Chairman Fields declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

10-01-14  
Date

W.F.K  
Clerk's Initials