

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
OCTOBER 23, 2019**

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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

- The Trustee's Revised Monthly Report for August 2019 would be submitted for the record.
- The Trustee's Monthly and Excess Fee Reports for September 2019 would be submitted for the record.
- Fee Office reports for the quarter ending September 30, 2019 would be submitted for the record.
- A Report of Investment Activity for the quarter ending September 30, 2019 was submitted for the record.
- Resolution No. 1119-1 was the usual County Clerk item regarding notaries, etc. This required no committee assignment.
- Resolution Nos. 1119-10 through 1119-19 were assigned to the Finance Committee, chaired by Commissioner Smedley.
- Resolution Nos. 1119-20 and 1119-21 were assigned to the Zoning Committee, chaired by Commissioner Bankston.
- Resolution Nos. 1119-2 through 1119-9 were heard by a Committee of the Whole.

1:07 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-2**

This Resolution confirms the reappointment by the County Mayor of William Raines to the Carter Street Corporation Board of Directors for a term ending November 8, 2023.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-3

This Resolution appoints Steve Hall to the Hamilton County Health and Safety Hearing Board beginning November 6, 2019 and ending November 6, 2021.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

1:45

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-4

Commissioner Bankston spoke regarding this item, which appropriates \$1,000.00 from general fund travel discretionary monies as allotted to District 9 to Junior Achievement of Chattanooga, Inc. to assist with the purchase of a table for their “Big Game Show” awards dinner.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

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2:07

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-5

Commissioner Martin spoke regarding this item, which approves the expenditure of up to \$3,500.00 from discretionary bond funds as allotted to District 3 for the purchase of high jump pit equipment for Hixson High School. He stated this would allow the school to host track and field events.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

2:56

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-6

Purchasing Director Gail Roppo spoke regarding this item, which accepts the proposal of Chattanooga Funeral Home, Crematory, and Florist to provide indigent cremation services for Hamilton County beginning December 4, 2019 for a contract period of three years. Director Roppo explained there is an option to renew the contract every two years thereafter.

In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Director Roppo reported the contract contains standard termination language.

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In response to Commissioner Martin's question, Director Roppo stated the cremated remains are transferred to any remaining family members or taken to Hamilton County's Ruth Cofer Cemetery.

6:05 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-7**

Development Director Dan Saieed spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the County Mayor to submit an application to the U.S. Department of Commerce-Economic Development Administration for Disaster Supplemental Funding not to exceed \$2.5 million, with a total project cost of \$5 million for site improvements at Enterprise South Industrial Park. The remaining half of the project cost would be funded jointly by Hamilton County and the City of Chattanooga. He noted Southeast Tennessee Development District Executive Director Beth Jones and Grants Coordinator Sam Saieed were present to answer any questions.

7:13 In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Ms. Jones reported the county recently became eligible for this type of grant and funds would be used for the 182-acre site labeled Acid Plant #2 on Highway 58 for improvements such as clearing, grubbing, demolition, and water line relocation in order to make it marketable to investors.

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Mayor Coppinger reported this property was negotiated from Volkswagen during their recent expansion.

11:49 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-8**

Administrator of General Services Lee Norris spoke regarding this item, which accepts the bid of Integrated Properties, LLC for Hamilton County EMS Station #5 amounting to \$1,172,566.00 for the Hamilton County Emergency Medical Service Department. He explained the new station would be located off Apison Pike in Collegedale on land donated to the Hamilton County by McKee Bakery. He noted that location would better serve the growth in that part of the county.

Mayor Coppinger thanked the McKee family for their land donation and dedication to Hamilton County.

13:17 In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Administrator Norris stated the project was estimated at approximately \$700,000 and came in at almost twice that amount. He noted the cost is in line with other projects of this nature.

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15:15 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-9**

Director of Parks and Recreation Tom Lamb spoke regarding this item, which accepts the proposal of NOOGA Splash, LLC beginning January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023 with the option to renew for four additional one-year terms to provide an open water sports park at Chester Frost Park for the Parks and Recreation Department. A handout was distributed to Commissioners showing the details of the sports park. A copy of the handout was filed in the Clerk’s Office.

In response to Commissioner Baker’s question, Director Lamb reported the sports park consists of a heavy-duty floating material that will sit just off a beach area at Chester Frost Park that will accommodate anywhere from 85-120 people at one time. He reported that per the contract the vendor would provide staffing, lifeguards, safety equipment, insurance and security.

In response to Chairman Fairbanks’ question, Director Lamb explained the county would receive a portion of the revenue.

18:55 In response to Commissioner Geter’s questions regarding safety and liability, Director Lamb stated the proposal currently states the sports park will accommodate ages seven and up and personal flotation devices would be required.

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20:40

In response to Commissioner Martin's question, Director Lamb clarified in the first year the county would receive 2% of the gross revenue over \$200,000. He added beginning in the second year the county would receive 5% of all gross revenue. He noted all revenue would go back into the county general fund.

In response to Commissioner Martin's question, Attorney Taylor stated his office would be reviewing the proposal. Director Lamb stated they have been working primarily with the Risk Management Department to identify liabilities.

23:23

In response to Commissioner Sharpe's questions regarding parking and impact on the park, Director Lamb stated those issues would be addressed in the Master Plan which is currently in its final stages of development.

Several Commissioners questioned how these ideas are developed and when the Master Plan would be available. Director Lamb reported the plan would be ready for its final presentation within a month. Commissioner Geter requested to be involved in that process.

In response to Commissioner Martin's question, Director Lamb noted other floating sports parks seen in the area are owned by private companies who must seek permission from the landowners where they are placed.

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Commissioner Smedley, Chairman of the Finance Committee, stated the Finance Committee would meet in the Commission Room immediately following today's Agenda Session.

Commissioner Bankston, Chairman of the Zoning Committee, stated Resolution Nos. 1119-20 and 1119-21 were standard items setting speed limits for two county roads and did not need a committee assignment. There were no objections.

Chairman Fairbanks recognized Register of Deeds Marc Gravitt to come forward to make a presentation.

32:48

Register Gravitt reported in honor of the 200th anniversary of Hamilton County's founding his office was allowing public viewing of some historic documents including 200 year old deeds recorded in the Hamilton County Register's Office. He provided some background information on the documents and noted they would be available for public viewing through October 31st.

Register Gravitt also provided an update regarding the Hamilton County United Way campaign and reported \$83,000 has currently been raised.

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Chairman Fairbanks thanked Register Gravitt for his presentation. He recognized School Board members Kathy Lennon, District 2, and Tiffanie Robinson, District 4, in the audience at today's meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Fairbanks asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

38:54 Attorney Taylor called for a legal meeting in the Mayor's Conference Room following today's Finance Committee meeting.

39:12 Mayor Coppinger reminded everyone that Hamilton County's 200th anniversary celebration will begin Friday, October 25th at 11:00 AM on the Courthouse Lawn.

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DELEGATIONS

Chairman Fairbanks asked for delegations on matters other than zoning.

39:43

Jerald Peterson, residing at 1019 Central Drive Hixson, Tennessee, addressed Commissioners regarding his opposition to any new taxes and his concerns regarding funding for the Department of Education. He referenced Resolution No. 1119-5, introduced by Commissioner Martin, which would provide \$3,500.00 from District 3 discretionary bond funds for the purchase of high jump pit equipment for Hixson High School.

In response to Commissioner Smedley's question, Attorney Taylor confirmed that if approved by the Commission, Resolution No. 1119-5 would still have to go before the School Board for approval.

44:13

District 4 School Board member Tiffanie Robinson, residing at 4134 Safe Haven Court Chattanooga, TN 37406, addressed Commissioners regarding the news that a fourth grade student in her district had committed suicide the night before. She stated the tragedy prompted her to speak at today's meeting. Ms. Robinson emphasized the importance of both governmental bodies working together to address issues in the

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school system and community, and encouraged a more collaborative approach going forward.

At this time, a lengthy discussion took place between Commissioners and Ms. Robinson regarding the responsibilities of both Commissioners and School Board members and ways to work jointly to address issues within the school system. Ms. Robinson stated she would be reaching out to Commissioner Sharpe, Chairman of the Education Committee, to schedule a joint meeting.

52:41 Commissioner Baker stated that when he served as Education Chair last year he was unsuccessful in getting the School Board to agree to a joint meeting.

56:56 Mayor Coppinger encouraged everyone to set aside emotions and make decisions based on facts. He spoke about the importance of education and mentioned the growing needs in other areas including public safety and infrastructure. He explained that addressing these needs requires tough decisions to be made and asked that everyone work together to move forward and best serve the citizens of Hamilton County.

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Being no further business, Chairman Fairbanks declared the meeting adjourned until Wednesday, November 6th, 2019 at 9:30 AM.

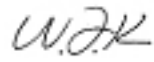
Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

11-20-19



Date

Clerk's Initials