

HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION NOVEMBER 13, 2019

Also in attendance were County Mayor Jim Coppinger, members of his administrative staff, County Attorney Rheubin Taylor, and County Auditor Jenneth Randall.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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

- An Order of Designation to the Planning Commission would be submitted as a matter of record.
- Resolution No. 1119-22 was the usual County Clerk item regarding notaries, etc. This required no committee assignment.
- Resolution Nos. 1119-34A and 1119-34B were assigned to the Zoning Committee, chaired by Commissioner Bankston.
- Resolution Nos. 1119-23 through 1119-33 were heard by a Committee of the Whole.

1:09 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-23**

This Resolution appoints Chairman Randy Fairbanks, Commissioner Sabrena Smedley, and Commissioner Katherlyn Geter to the Hamilton County Audit Committee for a term ending November 20, 2020.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

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1:26 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-24**

This Resolution confirms the appointment by the County Mayor of Vicki Gregg to the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Hospital Authority Board of Trustees for a term ending November 20, 2023.

Chairman Pro Tempore Baker voiced his opinion that the selection of Mrs. Gregg was a good choice. There were no questions from Commissioners.

It was noted Commissioner Sharpe arrived during the reading of Resolution No. 1119-24.

2:20 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-25**

Commissioner Geter spoke regarding this item, which appropriates \$1,000.00 from general fund travel discretionary monies as allotted to District 5 to Bessie Smith Cultural Center to assist with their Big 9 Roots Festival. She encouraged personal visits to the Center.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

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4:13 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-26**

Information Systems Manager Ron Bernard spoke regarding this item, which would allow the Sheriff's Office to take possession of a trailer, which was taken as evidence in a criminal case and awarded by Honorable Judge Don Poole on September 24, 2019.

In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Mr. Bernard stated the trailer is a 2013 Victory box trailer that would be utilized by the Sheriff's Office Dive Team to replace an older trailer. He noted the old trailer would be added to surplus.

In response to Commissioner Boyd's question, Purchasing Director Gail Roppo stated the old trailer would most likely be auctioned once the process is complete.

6:15 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-27**

Information Systems Manager Ron Bernard spoke regarding this item, which accepts the proposal of Securus Technologies to provide telephone and video visitation services for inmates in the Hamilton County jail. He reported the vendor would be responsible for all expenses related to the installation and continued operation of the

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systems and there would be a 30% cost reduction in the cost of phone calls. It was noted Securus Technologies is the current vendor for this service.

In response to Commissioner Sharpe's question, Mr. Bernard stated an issue in connecting inmates with legal representation was not addressed in this contract.

9:02

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-28

County Attorney Rheubin Taylor spoke regarding this item, which clarifies previously adopted Resolution No. 919-34 as to the granting of a special permit for an event facility: wedding venue/barn for property located at 5904 Beechtree Trail. He noted Resolution No. 919-34 granted a special permit under Hamilton County Zoning Regulations for an event facility: wedding venue/barn at the above-mentioned property, subject to the applicant receiving a variance from the Hamilton County Board of Zoning Appeals for setbacks. The Hamilton County Board of Zoning Appeals rejected the applicant's request for a variance for the barn located on the property. Attorney Taylor stated clarification is needed as to whether it was the intent of the Commission to grant a special permit specifically for the barn on the property or the property as a whole. He explained if the permit was granted for the property as a whole, the owners could hold special events in structures other than the barn on the property as long as an event structure complied with current setback requirements. He noted regardless of the

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outcome the barn has been determined to be out of compliance and cannot be used as an event facility.

Commissioner Martin asked if anyone was present regarding this issue. Several neighbors were present.

12:25

Commissioner Smedley clarified the property is located in McDonald rather than Apison as indicated in a previous meeting.

Commissioner Bankston stated it was his understanding it was the intent of the Zoning Committee to approve the special permit for the property as a whole.

Chairman Pro Tempore Baker asked anyone wishing to speak regarding this matter come forward. He stated they each had three minutes.

13:26

Robert Binns and Tyria Binns, residing at 5905 Beechtree Trail, McDonald, TN 37353, and Judy Shoemaker, residing at 5127 McDonald Road, McDonald, TN 37353, all spoke in opposition to the special permit for an event facility. They cited noise disturbances, decreased property values, and increased traffic as reasons for their opposition. It was stated the property owners were using the barn as a venue prior to seeking approval from the county.

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In response to Commissioner Boyd's request for additional clarification, Attorney Taylor stated if Resolution No. 1119-28 is approved, it would clarify Resolution No. 919-34 to mean it was the intent of Commissioners to grant the special permit for the entire property. He reiterated that regardless of the outcome the barn could not be used, as it is not in compliance.

25:34 Executive Director of the Regional Planning Agency John Bridger reported historically special permits are granted for the property as a whole and not a specific structure on the property.

Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Martin questioned if Resolution No. 919-34 should be rescinded. Commissioner Sharpe noted the property owners were using the barn without approval prior to Resolution No. 919-34 being considered.

28:21 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-29**

Administrator of General Services Lee Norris spoke regarding this item, which accepts the bid of Custom Truck & Body Works, Inc. for four Type I Medium Duty Ambulances amounting to \$885,040.00 for the Emergency Medical Services Department.

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There were no questions from Commissioners.

29:05 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-30**

Director of Emergency Management Chris Adams spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the County Mayor to sign an agreement with the Tennessee Department of Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) for a grant of \$378,670.00 with a term ending September 30, 2024 for fixed nuclear facilities emergency planning.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

29:48 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-31**

Director of Emergency Management Chris Adams spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the Office of Emergency Management to apply for a 2019 Floor Mitigation Assistance Grant with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Tennessee Department of Military, and the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), with a period beginning upon receipt of the grant to continue for a period of three years. He reported this would help residents of Hamilton County with habitual flooding issues. It was noted no county match would be required.

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In response to Commissioner Geter's question, Director Adams confirmed the grant would specifically help Ms. Yokita McGraw, who has appeared before the Commission asking for help with repetitive severe flooding on her property at 4921 Northwind Drive Chattanooga, TN 37416.

31:25 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-32**

Health Department Director Becky Barnes spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the County Mayor, on behalf of Hamilton County, Tennessee, the Health Services Division operating as the Chattanooga Health Department to sign a continuation contract with the Tennessee Department of Health for certificate issuance from the Vital Records Information Systems Management for a period of five years. She reported this would allow the Health Department to continue issuance of birth and death certificates.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

32:47 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 1119-33**

Health Department Director Becky Barnes spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the County Mayor, on behalf of Hamilton County, Tennessee, the Health

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Services Division operating as the Chattanooga Health Department to sign a contract with the Tennessee Department of Health in the amount of \$128,300.00 to provide Hepatitis C disease education, prevention, and control services in Hamilton County.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

Chairman Pro Tempore Baker reported Resolution Nos. 919-34A and 919-34B were assigned to the Zoning Committee, but would be heard today by a Committee of the Whole per the request of Commissioner Bankston, Chairman of the Zoning Committee.

32:47

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NOS. 1119-34A AND 1119-34B

Executive Director of the Regional Planning Agency John Bridger spoke regarding this item, which requests the rezoning of property located in the 9100 block of Fuller Road from A-1 Agricultural District to R-1 Single Family Residential District. It was noted the applicant nor any opposition was present. Mr. Bridger reported the Planning Commission recommended approval of Resolution No. 919-34B, which included conditions limiting curb cuts and prohibiting driveway access on Fuller Road.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Pro Tempore Baker asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

34:47 Commissioner Martin announced the Hixson Kiwanis would be hosting a Ham and Chicken Dinner Fundraiser on Sunday, November 17th from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM. He noted the funds would towards scholarships at Hixson High School.

35:11 Commissioner Geter announced her quarterly District 5 stakeholders meeting would take place Monday, November 18th at 6:00 PM at Village Church located at 2800 North Chamberlain Avenue Chattanooga, TN 37406 to discuss the census and voter registration.

35:55 Commissioner Boyd responded to an article in today's paper regarding the town hall meeting Sunday at 3:00 PM at the Brainerd Youth & Family Development Center organized by Hamilton County teacher Kendra Young. He stated he found the language "call out meeting" offensive and spoke about the increased funding Commissioners have provided to the Department of Education each year of his tenure.

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40:38 **DELEGATIONS**

Chairman Pro Tempore Baker asked for delegations on matters other than zoning. There were none.

Being no further business, Chairman Pro Tempore Baker declared the meeting adjourned until Wednesday, November 20th, 2019 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

12-04-19

Date



Clerk's Initials