

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

STATE OF TENNESSEE) Regular Meeting
COUNTY OF HAMILTON) February 4, 2026

BE IT REMEMBERED that on this 4th day of February 2026 at 4:00 PM, a Regular Meeting of the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners was begun and held at the Courthouse in the City of Chattanooga, in the County Commission Room, when the following proceedings were held, to wit: --

Present and presiding was the Honorable Lee Helton, Chairman Pro Tempore. Chief Deputy County Clerk Brooke Weaver called the roll of the County Commission, and the following, constituting a quorum, answered to their names: Commissioner Chip Baker, Commissioner Greg Beck, Commissioner Mike Chauncey, Commissioner Jeff Eversole, Commissioner Joe Graham, Commissioner Steve Highlander, Commissioner David Sharpe, Commissioner Gene-O Shipley, and Chairman Pro Tempore Lee Helton. Commissioner Warren Mackey arrived before the invocation. Chairman Ken Smith was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1.

Also in attendance were members of County Mayor Weston Wamp’s administrative staff, County Attorney Janie Varnell, and County Auditor Chris McCollough.

0:27

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

Attached hereto is a copy of the Public Notice for this meeting, which was published in a local newspaper and made a matter of record of this meeting.

0:54 Commissioner Eversole invited Commissioner Highlander to offer the invocation. Commissioner Eversole led the pledge to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ON MOTION of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, that the minutes of the Recessed Meeting of January 14, 2026, the Agenda Preparation Session of January 14, 2026, and the Regular Meeting of January 21, 2026, be approved, treated the same as read, made a matter of record, and filed. The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Pro Tempore Helton, "Aye." Chairman Smith was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT

The quarterly investment report of Hamilton County, for the quarter ended December 31, 2025, was submitted as a matter of record.

QUARTERLY FEE OFFICE REPORTS

Fee reports for the following constitutional offices were submitted and made a matter of record:

Clerk and Master – July 2025 through December 2025

County Clerk – July 2025 through December 2025

Register of Deeds – July 2025 through December 2025

TRUSTEE REPORT

The Trustee's Revised Monthly and Excess Fee Reports for December 2025 were submitted and made a matter of record.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

2:53

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-1 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT
APPLICATIONS FOR NOTARY PUBLIC POSITIONS, THE BONDS AND OATHS OF
NOTARIES PREVIOUSLY ELECTED, AND THE OATHS OF DEPUTY SHERIFFS.**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Highlander,
to adopt Resolution No. 226-1.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Pro Tempore Helton, "Aye." Chairman Smith was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

Without objection, Chairman Pro Tempore Helton asked for Resolution Nos. 226-2 and 226-3 to be read together.

3:19

RESOLUTION NO. 226-2 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL IN WINNING THE 2025 TENNESSEE SECONDARY SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION ("TSSAA") VARSITY GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP AND AWARDING FUNDS FROM THE HAMILTON COUNTY SCHOOLS CHAMPIONS' FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF CHAMPIONSHIP RINGS.

RESOLUTION NO. 226-3 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL IN WINNING THE 2025 TENNESSEE SECONDARY SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION ("TSSAA") VARSITY BOYS' GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP AND AWARDING FUNDS FROM THE HAMILTON COUNTY SCHOOLS CHAMPIONS' FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF CHAMPIONSHIP RINGS.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck, seconded by Commissioner Shipley, to adopt Resolution Nos. 226-2 and 226-3.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Pro Tempore Helton, "Aye." Chairman Smith was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-4 A RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF
FORMER TENNESSEE STATE REPRESENTATIVE TOMMIE F. BROWN AND
RECOGNIZING JUNE 25 AS "TOMMIE F. BROWN DAY."**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Beck, to adopt Resolution No. 226-4.

Commissioner Mackey stated the resolution reflected the consensus of the Commission and noted Mayor Wamp had signed the resolution.

There were no questions from the audience.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Pro Tempore Helton, "Aye." Chairman Smith was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

6:29

RESOLUTION NO. 226-5 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SUBMIT A FASTTRACK MODERNIZATION GRANT APPLICATION TO THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ON BEHALF OF GESTAMP CHATTANOOGA, LLC; GESTAMP NORTH AMERICA, INC.; AND GESTAMP CHATTANOOGA II, LLC, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$9,000,000 TO ASSIST WITH THE COMPANY'S MODERNIZATION EFFORTS IN HAMILTON COUNTY AND TO SIGN ANY AND ALL RELATED GRANT DOCUMENTS.

Commissioner Shipley, Chairman of the Building and Economic Development Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 226-5 and stated the Building and Economic Development Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Shipley, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution No. 226-5.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Pro Tempore Helton, "Aye." Chairman Smith was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

7:29

RESOLUTION NO. 226-6 A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROPOSAL FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF TWO (2) ELEVATORS IN THE HAMILTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE FROM THYSSENKRUPP ELEVATOR CORPORATION FROM THE SOURCEWELL PURCHASING COOPERATIVE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,392,608.92 FOR THE SUPPORT SERVICES DEPARTMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

Commissioner Shipley, Chairman of the Building and Economic Development Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 226-6 and stated the Building and Economic Development Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Highlander, seconded by Commissioner Beck, to adopt Resolution No. 226-6.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Nay," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Pro Tempore Helton, "Aye." Chairman Smith was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 1.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

8:26

RESOLUTION NO. 226-7 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO APPLY FOR, AND, IF AWARDED, ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE TENNESSEE OPIOID ABATEMENT COUNCIL CYCLE THREE PROGRAM, A GRANT NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000, AND INCREASING BOTH REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES.

Commissioner Beck, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 226-7 and stated the Public Safety Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Beck, to adopt Resolution No. 226-7.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Pro Tempore Helton, "Aye." Chairman

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

Smith was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total “Aye” votes – 10. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

RESOLUTION NO. 226-8 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF MACE & CARMICHAEL, LLC FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES FOR THE REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.

Commissioner Eversole, Chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 226-8 and stated the Finance and Budget Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Eversole, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 226-8.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, “Aye,” Commissioner Beck, “Aye,” Commissioner Chauncey,

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

“Aye,” Commissioner Eversole, “Aye,” Commissioner Graham, “Aye,” Commissioner Highlander, “Aye,” Commissioner Mackey, “Aye,” Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye,” Commissioner Shipley, “Aye,” and Chairman Pro Tempore Helton, “Aye.” Chairman Smith was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total “Aye” votes – 10. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

Without objection, Commissioner Highlander asked for Resolution Nos. 226-9 and 226-10 to be read together.

10:01

RESOLUTION NO. 226-9 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE "MASTER LIST OF ROADS AND SPEED LIMITS" SO AS TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING DISTRICT ROADS AND TO ESTABLISH SPEED LIMITS THEREFOR: HAWKS CREEK DRIVE EXTENSION AND FEATHER RIDGE.

RESOLUTION NO. 226-10 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE HAMILTON COUNTY "MASTER LIST OF ROADS AND SPEED LIMITS" TO REDUCE THE POSTED SPEED LIMIT ON SAVANNAH DRIVE, SAVANNAH LANE, WOLFTEVER LANE, AND WOLFTEVER DRIVE FROM 30 MILES PER HOUR TO 20 MILES PER HOUR.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

Commissioner Highlander, Chairman of the Public Works and Zoning Committee, provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 226-9 and 226-10, and stated the Public Works and Zoning Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Highlander, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution Nos. 226-9 and 226-10.

10:47 Commissioner Eversole thanked Administrator of Public Works and County Engineer Todd Leamon and Director of Highway Maintenance Brandon Mauracher for their assistance with speeding concerns in growing neighborhoods and for helping implement solutions to improve safety.

There were no questions from the audience.

The foregoing Motion was unanimously adopted on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Pro Tempore Helton, "Aye." Chairman Smith was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

At this time, several Commissioners offered congratulations to Soddy Daisy High School for their third consecutive state championship.

13:05

Commissioner Sharpe expressed appreciation to Chairman Smith and Chairman Pro Tempore Helton for coordinating video monitors in the rotunda to accommodate anticipated public attendance.

13:43

Commissioner Highlander announced he would attend the Commissioners' Legislative Conference in Lebanon, TN, on February 6, 2026, and invited input from Commissioners and constituents. He also announced an education forum and open house on March 2, 2026, at the Harrison Recreation Center.

14:43

Commissioner Graham recognized Blake Wright, a resident of District 11, in the audience and thanked her for being present.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

14:59

In response to Commissioner Beck, Commissioner Highlander stated he continues to raise the subject of widening Bonny Oaks Road through the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and would continue to advocate for the project.

16:12

Chairman Pro Tempore Helton announced his intent to bring forward a resolution imposing term limits for the County Mayor and County Commission. The resolution will be on the next agenda cycle. The resolution will recommend that no person serve more than 12 years in each respective office, and that this shall not be retroactive.

Prior to the delegations, Commissioner Shipley stated the Commission does not have authority over the Sheriff's Office and requested speakers explain the action they were seeking from the Commission.

18:54

Commissioner Mackey stated delegations were intended to allow members of the public to express their concerns, noting their understanding of the limits of the Commission's authority.

DELEGATIONS

Chairman Pro Tempore Helton asked for delegations on matters other than zoning.

Time Code
Position

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

20:00 Blake Wright, residing at 313 Westside Drive, Samantha Benavides, residing at 9126 Integra Preserve Drive, and Victoria Flores, residing in District 5, addressed the Commission in opposition to the 287(g) agreement between the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. They raised concerns regarding civil rights, allocation of local resources, and the impact on community trust, urging the Commission to take action to end the agreement.

30:08 Megan Gilbert, residing at 3901 Weldon Drive, spoke about county budget priorities and encouraged greater community involvement in the budget process.

There being no further business, Chairman Pro Tempore Helton declared the meeting in recess until Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

02-18-26 W.F.K

Date Clerk's Initials