

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 18, 2026**

**STATE OF TENNESSEE**            )            Regular Meeting

**COUNTY OF HAMILTON**        )            February 18, 2026

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that on this 18<sup>th</sup> 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: --

0:19

Present and presiding was the Honorable Ken Smith, Chairman. 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 Lee Helton, Commissioner Steve Highlander, Commissioner David Sharpe, Commissioner Gene-O Shipley, and Chairman Ken Smith. Commissioner Warren Mackey arrived during *Resolution No. 226-13*. Total present – 11. Total absent – 0.

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

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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.

0:40 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 28, 2026, the Agenda Preparation Session of January 28, 2026, and the Regular Meeting of February 4, 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 Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**PROCUREMENT PURCHASE ORDERS REPORT**

Procurement's reports detailing purchase orders between \$20k and \$50k for January 2026 were submitted and made a matter of record.

**TRUSTEE REPORT**

The Trustee's Monthly and Excess Fee Reports for January 2026 were submitted and made a matter of record.

2:25 **RESOLUTION NO. 226-11 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 Highlander, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution No. 226-11.

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:

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Commissioner Baker, "Aye," Commissioner Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Eversole, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Without objection, Chairman Smith asked for Resolution Nos. 226-12 and 226-30 to be read together.

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-12 A RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO  
APISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS  
(\$1,000.00) FROM GENERAL FUND TRAVEL DISCRETIONARY MONIES, AS  
ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT SEVEN.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-30 A RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO  
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS  
(\$1,000.00) FROM GENERAL FUND TRAVEL DISCRETIONARY MONIES, AS  
ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT FOUR.**

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Helton, seconded by Commissioner Beck, to adopt Resolution Nos. 226-12 and 226-30.

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 Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-13 A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HAMILTON COUNTY STATE DELEGATION TO INTRODUCE A PRIVATE ACT TO IMPOSE TERM LIMITS ON THE OFFICES OF HAMILTON COUNTY MAYOR AND HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER, AND TO SUBMIT THE ACT FOR APPROVAL AND CONFIRMATION BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION.**

4:00

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Helton, seconded by Commissioner Shipley, to adopt Resolution No. 226-13.

5:08 Commissioner Sharpe expressed opposition to term limits and offered an amendment requiring that the private act, if approved by the State Legislature, be returned to the County Commission for approval by a supermajority vote rather than a referendum.

9:20 **ON MOTION** of Commissioner Sharpe, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to amend Resolution No. 226-13 to require approval by a supermajority vote of the County Commission upon return from the State Legislature.

9:36 In response to Commissioner Highlander's question, Attorney Varnell confirmed the proposed amendment is permissible.

10:04 Commissioner Mackey expressed support for the amendment, stating the Commission should retain authority to make the final determination.

At this time, several Commissioners expressed support for submitting the matter to a referendum so citizens can vote.

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12:04 Commissioner Helton stated he supports placing the matter on the ballot. He expressed confidence in the State Delegation and noted the electorate would have sufficient time to consider the issue prior to the November election.

There were no questions from the audience.

The foregoing Motion to amend Resolution No. 226-13 to require approval by a supermajority vote of the County Commission upon return from the State Legislature passed 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, "Nay," Commissioner Helton, "Nay," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Nay," and Chairman Smith, "Nay." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 4.

14:24 **ON MOTION** of Commissioner Helton, seconded by Commissioner Shipley, to adopt Resolution No. 226-13 as amended. The foregoing Motion to adopt Resolution No. 226-13 as amended 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,

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“Aye,” Commissioner Eversole, “Aye,” Commissioner Graham, “Aye,” Commissioner Helton, “Aye,” Commissioner Highlander, “Aye,” Commissioner Mackey, “Aye,” Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye,” Commissioner Shipley, “Aye,” and Chairman Smith, “Aye.” Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 11. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

14:48

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-14 A RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER CERTAIN  
APPROPRIATIONS BUDGETED IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 HOTEL MOTEL FUND  
FROM THE CHATTANOOGA TOURISM COMPANY TO THE SPORTS AND EVENTS  
CORPORATION.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Shipley, to adopt Resolution No. 226-14.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

The foregoing Motion was 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, “Pass,” Commissioner Graham, “Aye,” Commissioner

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Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Pass," Commissioner Mackey, "Pass,"  
Commissioner Sharpe, "Pass," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith,  
"Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 0.  
Total "Pass" votes – 4.

Per the Commission's Rules of Order, any member having announced "Pass" on  
the first call of the vote should subsequently be called on by the Clerk to vote a second  
time.

Chief Deputy County Clerk Brooke Weaver called the roll of members, having  
previously announced "Pass." Commissioner Eversole announced "Aye" on the second  
call of the vote, Commissioner Highlander announced "Aye" on the second call of the  
vote, Commissioner Mackey announced "Aye" on the second call of the vote, and  
Commissioner Sharpe announced "Aye" on the second call of the vote. Total present –  
11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Without objection, Chairman Smith asked for Resolution Nos. 226-31 and 226-32  
to be read together.

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**LATE ITEMS**

16:13

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-31 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO APPLY FOR AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA) FY25 DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION GRANT FOR CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE FRANKLIN-ROBERTS FUTURE READY CENTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000,000 WITH A 20% MATCH REQUIRED.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-32 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO APPLY FOR AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA) FY25 DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION GRANT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$5,000,000 WITH A 20% MATCH REQUIRED.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution Nos. 226-31 and 226-32.

17:08

Director of Economic and Community Development Alexa LeBoeuf stated the resolutions reflect a revised approach to the previously approved *Resolution No. 126-13*, shifting from the original \$50 million grant proposal to two smaller applications to better align with program requirements.

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In response to Commissioner Sharpe's question, Mrs. LeBoeuf explained eligibility is based on federal disaster declarations and relates to economic resilience funding.

18:17 Commissioner Graham thanked Mrs. LeBoeuf for bringing the matter before the Commission prior to submission and expressed appreciation for her efforts in pursuing grant opportunities for the County.

19:06 In response to Chairman Smith's question, Attorney Varnell stated she will confirm whether any additional action is needed regarding *Resolution No. 126-13*.

19:50 In response to Commissioner Graham's question, Mrs. LeBoeuf stated no application had been submitted under *Resolution No. 126-13* and the adjustment was made prior to submission.

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 Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye,"

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Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye,” Commissioner Shipley, “Aye,” and Chairman Smith, “Aye.” Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 11. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

21:39

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-15 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE SCHOOLS FEDERAL PROJECTS FUND BUDGET BY \$15,990,638, APPROPRIATING FUND BALANCE OF \$8,763,418 AND ADDING \$7,227,220 TO THE FY 2025-2026 BUDGET; TO AMEND THE SELF-FUNDED PROJECTS FUND BUDGET BY \$33,370,588, APPROPRIATING FUND BALANCE OF \$473,250 AND ADDING \$32,897,338 TO THE FY 2025-2026 BUDGET; TO AMEND THE GENERAL PURPOSE FUND BUDGET BY \$27,699,100, APPROPRIATING FUND BALANCE OF \$18,020,097 AND ADDING \$9,679,003 OF REVENUE TO THE FY 2025-2026 BUDGET; TO AMEND THE SCHOOL NUTRITION FUND BUDGET BY \$821,116, APPROPRIATING FUND BALANCE OF \$821,116 TO THE FY 2025-2026 BUDGET.**

Commissioner Graham, Chairman of the Education Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 226-15 and stated the Education Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 226-15.

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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 Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Without objection, Commissioner Graham asked for Resolution Nos. 226-16 and 226-17 to be read together.

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-16 A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE UP TO \$2,460,000 IN 2024A BOND FUNDS TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY SCHOOLS FOR PHASE 5 OF DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-17 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION TO UTILIZE A CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK PROCUREMENT PROCESS AND CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE**

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**GATEWAY CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION BUILDING RENOVATION  
(FRANKLIN-ROBERTS FUTURE READY CENTER).**

Commissioner Graham, Chairman of the Education Committee, provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 226-16 and 226-17, and stated the Education Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Chauncey, to adopt Resolution Nos. 226-16 and 226-17.

25:30 In response to Commissioner Sharpe's question, Chief Financial Officer Lee Brouner stated he would provide an updated report on bond fund balances and project schedules to the Commission. He noted updated cost projections will be included in the report.

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

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Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye,"  
Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith,  
"Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes –  
0.

27:23

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-18 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF  
HELEN ROSS MCNABB CENTER, INC. FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR JUVENILE COURT AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY  
CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Beck, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, provided details  
regarding Resolution No. 226-18 and stated the Public Safety Committee reviewed and  
recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Beck, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to  
adopt Resolution No. 226-18.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

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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 Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

28:06

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-19 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF CALVARY FUNERAL SERVICE INCORPORATED FOR FORENSIC TRANSPORT SERVICES AND FUNERAL HOME DIRECTOR SERVICES, LANE FUNERAL HOME COULTER CHAPEL FOR INDIGENT CREMATION SERVICES AND NMS LABS FOR FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY SERVICES FOR THE MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Beck, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 226-19 and stated the Public Safety Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Beck, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 226-19.

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 Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Without objection, Commissioner Beck asked for Resolution Nos. 226-20 and 226-21 to be read together.

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-20 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2026  
GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES BUDGETS FOR THE HAMILTON  
COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BY \$55,200.00 TO ACCEPT FUNDING  
FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TO BE**

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**USED TO PAY EDUCATION TRAINING SUPPLEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF  
\$800.00 EACH FOR 69 ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-21 A RESOLUTION TO APPLY AND ACCEPT AN AWARD  
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,303.03 FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE WITH NO  
MATCH REQUIRED, TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
SERVICES REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES BUDGET, AND TO SIGN ANY  
DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Beck, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 226-20 and 226-21, and stated the Public Safety Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Beck, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution Nos. 226-20 and 226-21.

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:

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Commissioner Baker, “Aye,” Commissioner Beck, “Aye,” Commissioner Chauncey, “Aye,” Commissioner Eversole, “Aye,” Commissioner Graham, “Aye,” Commissioner Helton, “Aye,” Commissioner Highlander, “Aye,” Commissioner Mackey, “Aye,” Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye,” Commissioner Shipley, “Aye,” and Chairman Smith, “Aye.” Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 11. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

Without objection, Commissioner Baker asked for Resolution Nos. 226-22 through 226-25 to be read together.

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-22 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR ON BEHALF OF HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION, OPERATING AS THE HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO SIGN AN AMENDED CONTRACT WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$711,103.17 TO PROVIDE SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION EDUCATION, PREVENTION, AND CONTROL SERVICES IN HAMILTON COUNTY AND EXTEND THE END DATE OF THE CONTRACT TO THE FULL 5-YEAR ALLOWABLE TERM OF JANUARY 1, 2023 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2027.**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 226-23 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, AND HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION, OPERATING AS THE HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, TO PROVIDE THE SUPPORTING PREVENTION OF ADOLESCENTS RESOURCES KNOWLEDGE (SPARK) PROGRAM, AND TO ACCEPT \$300,000.00 FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2029.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-24 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR ON BEHALF OF HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION DOING BUSINESS AS THE HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA) OF THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$8,653,996.00 FOR THE TIME PERIOD OF MARCH 1, 2026 - FEBRUARY 28, 2030 TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE SERVICES AT THE HOMELESS HEALTH CARE CENTER AND TO INCREASE THE DEPARTMENT'S REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,163,499.00 FOR THE PERIOD OF MARCH 1, 2026 - FEBRUARY 28, 2027.**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 226-25 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2026  
GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$92,983.00 FROM  
FUND BALANCE OF THE GENERAL FUND TO BE USED FOR MAINTENANCE  
NEEDS AT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT FACILITY LOCATED ON EAST THIRD  
STREET.**

Commissioner Baker, Chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee, provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 226-22 through 226-25 and stated the Health and Human Services Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution Nos. 226-22 through 226-25.

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 Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye,"

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Commissioner Shipley, “Aye,” and Chairman Smith, “Aye.” Commissioner Mackey stepped away during the vote. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total “Aye” votes – 10. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

33:20

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-26 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN A GRANT AMENDMENT WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TO REALLOCATE AN ADDITIONAL \$40,592 FOR THE TENNESSEE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (YEP) GRANT REQUIRING NO MATCH AND TO AMEND THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT'S FY26 REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES BUDGET.**

Commissioner Eversole, Chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 226-26 and stated the Finance and Budget Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Eversole, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 226-26.

There were no questions from the Commissioners or the audience.

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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 Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey stepped away during the vote. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

34:14

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-27 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE QUOTE FROM MP ACQUISITION, LLC DBA MOPEC GROUP FOR THE PURCHASE, DELIVERY, AND INSTALLATION OF AUTOPSY EQUIPMENT FOR THE NEW HAMILTON COUNTY FORENSIC CENTER AMOUNTING TO A TOTAL OF \$175,270.90, 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. 226-27 and stated the Finance and Budget Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Eversole, seconded by Commissioner Helton, to adopt Resolution No. 226-27.

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 Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey stepped away during the vote. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**RESOLUTION NO. 226-28 A RESOLUTION TO REZONE FROM R-3 MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT WITH CONDITIONS TO M-2 WHOLE AND LIGHT INDUSTRY DISTRICT WITH CONDITIONS FOR PARTS OF PROPERTIES LOCATED 6831 AND 6837 MOUNTAIN VIEW ROAD.**

35:12

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Commissioner Highlander, Chairman of the Public Works and Zoning Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 226-28 and stated the Public Works and Zoning Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Highlander, seconded by Commissioner Beck, to adopt Resolution No. 226-28.

36:28 Commissioner Highlander expressed appreciation to the developer, Barry Payne, for voluntarily addressing community concerns regarding the rezoning request.

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 Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Commissioner Mackey stepped away during the vote. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 226-29 A RESOLUTION TO REZONE FROM A-1  
AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO R-1 SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT  
WITH CONDITIONS FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1835 CRABTREE ROAD.**

Commissioner Highlander, Chairman of the Public Works and Zoning Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 226-29 and stated the Public Works and Zoning Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

37:15           **ON MOTION** of Commissioner Highlander, seconded by Commissioner Chauncey, to defer Resolution No. 226-29 until March 18, 2026.

Chairman Smith stated the item is unopposed, but the developer requested a deferral to meet with community members to provide further clarification regarding the project.

There were no questions from the audience.

The foregoing Motion to defer 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

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Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," and Chairman Smith, "Aye." Total present – 11. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 11. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Smith asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

38:24

Commissioner Mackey referenced earlier public comments regarding the Sunshine Law and stated he believes the State Legislature should not require local governments to adopt measures it is unwilling to adopt itself.

39:10

Commissioner Helton thanked the Commissioners for their assistance in advancing *Resolution No. 226-13* and expressed appreciation for their support.

39:26

Commissioner Highlander announced Districts 9 and 10 will host a Community and Education Forum on March 2, 2026, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM at the Harrison Community Center and invited the public to attend. He also noted a constituent meeting scheduled for March 5, 2026, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Electrical Brotherhood Hall and encouraged any available Commissioners to attend.

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40:07 Commissioner Eversole announced budget hearings are anticipated to begin in March of 2026 on Wednesdays at 3:00 PM, prior to Commission meetings, to begin the budget process earlier than in previous years.

In response to Commissioner Eversole's question, Mayor Wamp stated he would look into the feasibility of allowing free parking in the County garage beginning at 4:00 PM on Commission meeting days.

41:54 Commissioner Graham encouraged community members to volunteer at local recreation centers during the upcoming youth ball season, particularly to assist with concession operations. He also expressed support for the proposed McDonald Farm project becoming a new Tennessee state park and thanked Mayor Wamp and state legislators for their efforts and support.

44:50 Commissioner Shipley echoed support for the proposed McDonald Farm project and commended the collaborative efforts of County and State officials in advancing the initiative.

45:32 Mayor Wamp thanked the Commissioners for their support of *Resolution No. 226-13* and stated he believes it reflects the best interests of citizens across the County. He also reported on West Star Aviation's recent expansion announcement at the

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Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport, noting anticipated job growth and the company's continued investment in Hamilton County.

47:59

Sheriff Garrett introduced thirteen members of the Sheriff's Office Corrections Academy Class 26-1 and noted they recently began training. He reported continued progress in reducing staffing vacancies within the jail division and expressed appreciation for recruitment and training staff.

49:00

Commissioner Mackey commended the professionalism of the new recruits and expressed confidence in their service to Hamilton County.

49:48

At this time, a round of applause was given, and Chairman Smith invited the new recruits forward to shake hands with the Commissioners.

51:55

Chairman Smith expressed condolences to former City Councilman Darrin Ledford and his family on the passing of his father, Tom Ledford. He reflected on Mr. Ledford's impact on his life and requested prayers for the Ledford and Smith families.

**DELEGATIONS**

Chairman Smith asked for delegations on matters other than zoning.

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54:31 Monty Bell, a homeless journalist for the Grey-Haired Fox, spoke about Docket Number 25-C-919 in Circuit Court and racist white supremacy.

There being no further business, Chairman Smith declared the meeting in recess until Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

03-04-26      W.F.K

Date              Clerk's Initials