

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2025**

STATE OF TENNESSEE) Regular Meeting
COUNTY OF HAMILTON) February 19, 2025

BE IT REMEMBERED that on this 19th day of February 2025, 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: --

0:16

Present and presiding was the Honorable Jeff Eversole, 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 Greg Beck, Commissioner Mike Chauncey, Commissioner Joe Graham, Commissioner Lee Helton, Commissioner Steve Highlander, Commissioner Warren Mackey, Commissioner David Sharpe, Commissioner Gene-o Shipley, Commissioner Ken Smith, and Chairman Jeff Eversole. Commissioner Chip Baker was absent. Total present - 10. Total absent -1.

Members of the mayor's administrative staff, County Attorney Rheubin Taylor, and County Auditor Chris McCollough were also in attendance.

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

0:36

Commissioner Chauncey introduced Betty Morris, Baha'i Faith of Metro, to offer the invocation. Commissioner Chauncey led in the pledge to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1:41

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck, seconded by Commissioner Chauncey, that the minutes of the Recessed Meeting of January 29, 2025, the Agenda Preparation Session of January 29, 2025, and the Regular Meeting of February 5, 2025, 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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Baker was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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2:25

QUARTERLY FEE OFFICE REPORTS

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

Clerk and Master – October 2024 through December 2024

Register of Deeds – October 2024 through December 2024

County Clerk – October 2024 through December 2024

PROCUREMENT PURCHASE ORDER REPORT

Procurement's reports detailing purchase orders between \$25k and \$50k for December 2024 and January 2025 were submitted and made a matter of record.

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2:32

RESOLUTION NO. 225-20 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR NOTARY PUBLIC POSITIONS, THE BONDS AND OATHS OF NOTARIES PREVIOUSLY ELECTED, AND THE OATHS OF OFFICE OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE NORTH WEST UTILITY DISTRICT.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 225-20.

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

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3:13

RESOLUTION NO. 225-21 A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT ONE (1) MEMBER TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH AND SAFETY HEARING BOARD TO FILL AN UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING NOVEMBER 1, 2026.

This will appoint Gary Boles.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Highlander, seconded by Commissioner Sharpe, to adopt Resolution No. 225-21.

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

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3:56

RESOLUTION NO. 225-22 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE SCHOOLS FEDERAL PROJECTS FUND BUDGET BY \$20,320,495, APPROPRIATING FUND BALANCE OF \$10,940,637 AND ADDING \$9,379,858 TO THE FY2024-2025 BUDGET; TO AMEND THE SELF-FUNDED PROJECTS FUND BUDGET BY \$4,367,376, APPROPRIATING FUND BALANCE OF \$506,033 AND ADDING \$3,861,343 TO THE FY2024-2025 BUDGET; TO AMEND THE GENERAL PURPOSE FUND BUDGET BY \$34,060,810 APPROPRIATING FUND BALANCE OF \$25,067,063 AND ADDING \$8,993,747 OF REVENUE TO THE FY2024-2025 BUDGET; TO AMEND THE SCHOOL NUTRITION FUND BUDGET BY \$1,174,401, ADDING \$1,174,401 OF REVENUE TO THE FY2024-2025 BUDGET.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Beck, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 225-22.

5:34

In response to Commissioner Highlander's question, Chief Financial Officer Lee Brouner stated the school system has already amended these funds. He noted they are operating under the assumption this resolution will be approved.

6:16

In response to Commissioner Graham's question, Mr. Brouner stated this will not change the maintenance of effort.

There were no questions from 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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Baker was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

RESOLUTION NO. 225-46 A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THAT THE GRANTING OF BUILDING PERMITS IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF HAMILTON COUNTY BE BASED ON THE "BUILDABLE AREA" OF A SITE AS OPPOSED TO THE TOTAL FOOTAGE/ACREAGE THEREOF.

Resolution No. 225-46 was deferred to the March 5, 2025, Regular Meeting during last week's Agenda Preparation Session.

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6:54 **RESOLUTION NO. 225-47 A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON ZONING CHANGES WITHIN AREA NINE (9), BEING HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICTS 9 AND 10, OF THE YET-DEVELOPING "PLAN HAMILTON" UNTIL SAID PLAN IS ADOPTED.**

Resolution No. 225-47 was deferred to the March 5, 2025, Regular Meeting during last week's Agenda Preparation Session.

7:01 **RESOLUTION NO. 225-48 A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE 114TH SESSION OF THE TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ALLOCATE ONE HALF OF THE REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX TO THE COUNTY WHERE THE TAX WAS COLLECTED ON A RECURRING BASIS.**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to adopt Resolution No. 225-48.

7:45 Commissioner Sharpe stated several commissioners attended the Tennessee County Services Association last week. He noted this resolution is in reference to the number one priority for our association this year and essentially asking the state legislature to give back to the county of origin fifty percent of their real estate transfer tax. He stated this is around \$150 million annually that would go back to counties

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across Tennessee. He noted this money will be earmarked for infrastructure projects. He also stated he has asked all our delegations to support this bill in Nashville and urged the citizens of Hamilton County to do the same.

There were no questions from the audience.

9:56

Chairman Eversole stated this is vital as the county continues looking for new revenues to help with infrastructure. He noted this would help Districts 9 and 10 as they have very tough infrastructure needs. He stated he is happy to support this resolution.

10:30

Commissioner Sharpe stated this would provide almost \$9 million of reoccurring new revenue to Hamilton County without raising taxes.

11:31

Chairman Eversole stated the growth is outpacing itself in many areas within the county and city.

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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham,

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

11:58 **RESOLUTION NO. 225-23 A RESOLUTION TO APPLY AND ACCEPT A BRYNE STATE CRISIS INTERVENTION (BYRNE SCIP) GRANT, WITH NO MATCH REQUIRED, AND IF AWARDED, TO AMEND THE JUVENILE COURT FY 2025 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES BUDGET BY \$150,000 AND TO SIGN ANY DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Smith, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 225-23 and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to adopt Resolution No. 225-23.

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

12:44

RESOLUTION NO. 225-24 A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL OF MAULDIN AND JENKINS, LLC TO PROVIDE AUDIT SERVICES FOR AN INITIAL ONE (1) YEAR CONTRACT WITH THE OPTION TO RENEW FOR FOUR (4) ADDITIONAL ONE-YEAR TERMS, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.

Commissioner Smith, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 225-24 and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution No. 225-24.

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

13:31

RESOLUTION NO. 225-25 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 DEBT SERVICE FUND BUDGET BY INCREASING THE REVENUES BUDGET BY \$1,723,171 AND EXPENDITURES BUDGET BY \$1,249,074 AS A RESULT OF THE 2024A BOND ISSUE.

Commissioner Smith, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 225-25 and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

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ON MOTION of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 225-25.

14:13 In response to Commissioner Sharpe's question, Chief Financial Officer Lee Brouner stated this is a catch-up from the bond issued in 2024. He noted the difference will go into the Debt Service Fund balance and is projected to grow around \$400,000.00 this year. He stated the revenues are to recognize the revenues from the school system. He noted they will receive \$1.5 million from the school system, with the remaining \$10 million coming from the Waste Water Treatment Authority (WWTA).

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

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Without objection, Commissioner Smith asked for Resolution Nos. 225-26 and 225-27 to be read together.

15:59

RESOLUTION NO. 225-26 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A GRANT FOR THE OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

RESOLUTION NO. 225-27 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SUBMIT A JOINT APPLICATION WITH THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA AND ACCEPT THE AWARDED THE 2024 JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND AMENDING THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET BY \$48,711.

Commissioner Smith, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 225-26 and 225-27 and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution Nos. 225-26 and 225-27.

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

Without objection, Commissioner Smith asked for Resolution Nos. 225-28 and 225-29 to be read together.

RESOLUTION NO. 225-28 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BIDS OF PRI OF EAST TENNESSEE, AND TNT CONCRETE, LLC FOR ONE (1) YEAR CONTRACT UNIT PRICING, WITH THE OPTION TO RENEW FOR THREE (3) ADDITIONAL ONE YEAR TERMS, BEGINNING MARCH 1, 2025, THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2026, FOR CONCRETE ON-CALL SERVICES FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.

16:58

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RESOLUTION NO. 225-29 A RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN A TENNESSEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLYARDS PROJECT WITH THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA AND HAMILTON COUNTY SCHOOLS AND APPROVE FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$101,411.67 TO BE USED FOR ARTIFICIAL TURF MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD AT EAST SIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

Commissioner Smith, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 225-28 and 225-29 and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Graham, to adopt Resolution Nos. 225-28 and 225-29.

18:02 Commissioner Graham stated *Resolution No. 225-29* is an excellent project at East Side Elementary School. He noted it is a multi-purpose field that the school and the community can use for many different events and outdoor activities. He stated this is a growing community. He noted it is wonderful for the City of Chattanooga and the school system to partner with the county on this project.

There were no questions from 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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Baker was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 10. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

Without objection, Commissioner Smith asked for Resolution Nos. 225-30 and 225-31 to be read together.

18:57

RESOLUTION NO. 225-30 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CONTRACT BETWEEN HAMILTON COUNTY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT CHATTANOOGA FOR THE PROVISION OF A DEVELOPMENT OF A CLINICAL ADDICTIONS STUDIES PROGRAM AND TO SIGN ANY DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THIS RESOLUTION.

RESOLUTION NO. 225-31 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR PROMOTING RESILIENT OPERATIONS FOR

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**TRANSFORMATIVE, EFFICIENT AND COST SAVING TRANSPORTATION
(PROTECT) DISCRETIONARY GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,000,000 REQUIRING
NO COUNTY MATCH ON BEHALF OF HAMILTON COUNTY, THE CITY OF
CHATTANOOGA, AND THE CHATTANOOGA- HAMILTON COUNTY REGIONAL
PLANNING AGENCY AND TO SIGN ALL RELATED GRANT DOCUMENTS.**

Commissioner Smith, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 225-30 and 225-31 and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution Nos. 225-30 and 225-31.

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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye,"

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Commissioner Smith, “Aye,” and Chairman Eversole, “Aye.” Commissioner Baker was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total “Aye” votes – 10. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

Without objection, Commissioner Smith asked for Resolution Nos. 225-32 through 225-34 to be read together.

20:48

RESOLUTION NO. 225-32 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HAMILTON COUNTY TENNESSEE, THE HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION OPERATING AS THE HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, TO ACCEPT THE ANNUAL CONTRACT FUNDS FROM JULY 1, 2025, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$800,000.00 FOR FY 26. TO PROVIDE PARENTS AS TEACHERS (PAT) MODEL SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EVIDENCE BASED HOME VISITING PROGRAM WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES.

RESOLUTION NO. 225-33 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN AN AMENDMENT TO THE CURRENT CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HAMILTON COUNTY TENNESSEE,

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THE HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION OPERATING AS THE HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO AMEND THE CURRENT CONTRACT THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2025, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$526,140.00 TO PROVIDE ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S MATERNAL, INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME VISITING PROGRAM (MIECHV).

RESOLUTION NO. 225-34 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR ON BEHALF OF HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, THE HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION, OPERATING AS THE HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$767,740.00 TO PROVIDE A SCHOOL BASED DENTAL SEALANT PROGRAM IN HAMILTON COUNTY FOR THE TIME PERIOD JULY 1, 2024, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026.

Commissioner Smith, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 225-32 through 225-34 and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution Nos. 225-32 through 225-34.

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

Without objection, Commissioner Smith asked for Resolution Nos. 225-35 through 225-37 to be read together.

22:54

RESOLUTION NO. 225-35 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FROM CORDANT HEALTH SOLUTIONS FROM THE SOURCEWELL PURCHASING COOPERATIVE FOR DRUG SCREENING SERVICES FOR THE ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING DEPARTMENT AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS AS NEEDED, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.

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RESOLUTION NO. 225-36 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO APPLY TO THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION (TDOC) FOR A THREE-YEAR COMMUNITY-BASED SUPERVISION, PROGRAMMING, AND TREATMENT GRANT FOR OFFENDERS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT YET SPECIFIED, ON BEHALF OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY FELONY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROGRAM, AND IF AWARDED, TO SIGN ANY AND ALL GRANT-RELATED CONTRACTS AND DOCUMENTS.

RESOLUTION NO. 225-37 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) VEHICLES AMOUNTING TO \$121,776.00 FROM LONNIE COBB FORD FROM THE STATE CONTRACT SWC-209 FOR THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.

Commissioner Smith, Chairman of the Finance Committee, provided details regarding Resolution Nos. 225-35 through 225-37 and stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to adopt Resolution Nos. 225-35 through 225-37.

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

24:42

**RESOLUTION NO. 225-38 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE HAMILTON COUNTY
ZONING REGULATIONS TO AMEND ARTICLE V. GENERAL PROVISIONS BY
ADDING STANDARDS FOR ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS.**

Resolution No. 225-38 was deferred to the April 16, 2025, Regular Meeting during last week's Zoning Committee.

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24:44

RESOLUTION NO. 225-39 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE HAMILTON COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS TO AMEND ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS AND ADD A NEW P-R PARKS AND RECREATION DISTRICT AND TO AMEND ARTICLE VI. SPECIAL PERMITS BY HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION TO ADD A RURAL RETREAT.

Resolution No. 225-39 was deferred to the April 16, 2025, Regular Meeting during last week's Zoning Committee.

RESOLUTION NO. 225-40A A RESOLUTION TO REZONE FROM A-1 AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO R-1 SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR THE UNADDRESSED PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE 400 BLOCK OF WHITE ROAD.

No action was taken.

24:51

RESOLUTION NO. 225-40B A RESOLUTION TO REZONE FROM A-1 AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO R-1 SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT WITH CONDITIONS FOR THE UNADDRESSED PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE 400 BLOCK OF WHITE ROAD.

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Commissioner Chauncey, Chairman of the Roads Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 225-40B and stated the Roads Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Chauncey, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to adopt Resolution No. 225-40B.

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

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25:37

**RESOLUTION NO. 225-41 A RESOLUTION TO REZONE FROM A-1
AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO R-3 MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR
THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2610 FOLKNER ROAD.**

Resolution Nos. 225-41 was withdrawn at the applicant's request during last week's Zoning Committee.

**RESOLUTION NO. 225-42A A RESOLUTION TO REZONE FROM A-1
AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO R-1 SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR
THE PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 10341, 10343, 10345, AND 10347 EAST
BRAINERD ROAD.**

No action was taken.

**RESOLUTION NO. 225-42B A RESOLUTION TO REZONE FROM A-1
AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO R-1 SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR
THE PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 10341, 10343, 10345, AND 10347 EAST
BRAINERD ROAD WITH CONDITIONS.**

No action was taken.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 225-42C A RESOLUTION TO REZONE FROM A-1
AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO R-1 SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR
THE PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 10341, 10343, 10345, AND 10347 EAST
BRAINERD ROAD WITH CONDITIONS.**

ON MOTION of Commissioner Chauncey, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to
adopt Resolution No. 225-42C.

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

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26:36

**RESOLUTION NO. 225-43 A RESOLUTION FOR A SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS PERMIT
FOR A RESIDENTIAL PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PROPERTIES
LOCATED AT 10341, 10343, 10345, AND 10347 EAST BRAINERD ROAD.**

Commissioner Chauncey, Chairman of the Roads Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 225-43 and stated the Roads Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Chauncey, seconded by Commissioner Highlander, to adopt Resolution No. 225-43.

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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Aye," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Aye." Commissioner Baker was

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 225-44 A RESOLUTION TO REZONE FROM M-1
MANUFACTURING DISTRICT TO R-T/Z RESIDENTIAL TOWNHOUSE ZERO LOT
LINE DISTRICT FOR PART OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 6084 ARBURY WAY.**

Commissioner Chauncey, Chairman of the Roads Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 225-44 and stated the Roads Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Chauncey, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to adopt Resolution No. 225-44.

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 Beck, “Aye,” Commissioner Chauncey, “Aye,” Commissioner Graham, “Aye,” Commissioner Helton, “Aye,” Commissioner Highlander, “Nay,” Commissioner

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Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Aye," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Nay." Commissioner Baker was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 8. Total "Nay" votes – 2.

28:35

RESOLUTION NO. 225-45 A RESOLUTION FOR A SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS PERMIT FOR A RESIDENTIAL PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT FOR SEVERAL PROPERTIES LOCATED IN THE 6000, 7000 AND 7100 BLOCKS OF ARBURY WAY, THE 7000 BLOCK OF CHESTERTON WAY, 9400 BLOCK OF HAVILAND WAY, 9400 BLOCK OF KINGSHEDGE COURT, 6100 THROUGH 6300 BLOCK OF OOLTEWAH GEORGETOWN ROAD, 9400 BLOCK OF PURBECK LANE, AND 9400 BLOCK OF TRAVISTOCK WAY.

Commissioner Chauncey, Chairman of the Roads Committee, provided details regarding Resolution No. 225-45 and stated the Roads Committee reviewed and recommended approval.

ON MOTION of Commissioner Chauncey, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to adopt Resolution No. 225-45.

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29:39

In response to Commissioner Shipley's question, Director of Development Services for the Regional Planning Agency Bryan Shults stated this will add 26 townhomes to Cambridge Square in Ooltewah. He noted no opposition at the Planning Commission Meeting or last week's Zoning Committee Meeting.

In response to Chairman Eversole's question, Mr. Shults stated the townhomes will not touch Ooltewah Georgetown Road.

31:58

In response to Commissioner Helton's question, Administrator of Public Works and County Engineer Todd Leamon stated a residential development typically has fewer volumes pertaining to traffic calculations than a commercial one. He noted it does connect to a portion of Ooltewah Georgetown Road in the city limits and Lee Highway. Commissioner Helton stated he will support this resolution.

32:08

In response to Commissioner Highlander's question, Mr. Shults stated they must get sewer commitments from WWTA. He noted this could not be developed if there was no sewer available.

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32:48 Chairman Eversole stated this is in his district and will not support this resolution. He noted this section of the county needs to be fixed before more development is approved. He referred to this district section as the new Snow Hill Road. A horrible two-lane road.

34:06 Terry Yoder, residing at 6865 Villa Terrace, spoke about her concerns with the congestion and sewage in this area. She stated people in Ooltewah would not want more development going up.

35:07 Commissioner Sharpe stated that when zero lot line developments happen, the burden on ratepayers for sewage is reduced.

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 Beck, "Aye," Commissioner Chauncey, "Aye," Commissioner Graham, "Aye," Commissioner Helton, "Aye," Commissioner Highlander, "Nay," Commissioner Mackey, "Aye," Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye," Commissioner Shipley, "Nay," Commissioner Smith, "Aye," and Chairman Eversole, "Nay." Commissioner Baker was absent. Total present – 10. Total absent – 1. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 3.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Eversole asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

36:35

Commissioner Beck spoke about the impact of the departure of the Federal Department of Education and asked if any conversations had happened with any county departments on efforts to educate our future.

38:05

In response to Commissioner Beck, Commissioner Highlander stated there are many concerns across Tennessee and the country. He noted Governor Lee is willing to take this on himself and receive federal funds from the state. He stated no one will know what to do until details emerge on this conversation. Commissioner Beck stated education is too big to wait for more information. He noted someone needs to be talking about this so the county will know their next move.

40:38

Commissioner Shipley stated after conversing with the Congressman that it would be determined by how much waste is going on with the Department of Education in Washington, D.C. He noted it could put more funds in Hamilton County's pocket.

41:56

In response to Commissioner Mackey's question, Commissioner Highlander stated the state legislature promised everyone there would be no problems during the first year of the new voucher system, but it could be a problem in the future.

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Commissioner Mackey expressed his concerns with funds coming out of the public school system for these vouchers to help pay for private schools.

44:46

Commissioner Sharpe stated, "One man's waste is another child's treasure. What one man sees as waste is a vital resource potentially for children growing up in poverty." He noted the impact on the Department of Education will depend on your state. He stated many refer to Tennessee as a welfare state, meaning that we receive more federal dollars than we put into the federal government. He noted it would hurt people in Tennessee if the federal government reduced their investment in public education. He stated vouchers hurt public education and has already harmed education outcomes in Tennessee. He noted this is a handout to wealthy people who can afford private education to reduce expenses and funnel money into unmonitored educational organizations of various sizes, who can pick and choose what students they want to educate. He also stated vouchers are a failure nationwide, costing taxpayers money and children their education.

49:17

Commissioner Sharpe announced the Chattanooga Mocs men's basketball team is going after their 20th win tonight against Western Carolina at 7:00 PM. He noted he hopes to see many people cheering on the Mocs.

49:58

Commissioner Highlander stated that the Chattanooga Mocs wrestling team will take on the University of Indiana on Friday, February 21, 2025. He encouraged

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everyone to come out and support the wrestlers. He also commended Deputy County Clerk Jennifer Smith for her excellent reading in the Commission Room, along with her parents and teachers for supporting her.

51:04 Chief Operating Officer for the Mayor's Office, David Roddy, reminded everyone to drive safely during the inclement weather.

51:09 Chairman Eversole announced he has placed a mini Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the US in commissioner's mailboxes. He stated the ABCs of the Constitution will be held at Howe Farms on March 8, 2025, and encouraged members to attend. He also spoke about the budget season and the mayor's announcement last week of a committee working on reducing county spending.

54:02 In response to Commissioner Mackey's question, Chairman Eversole stated when you have a budget in the billions, the key is to make sure the numbers are right up front and there have been periodic reviews.

DELEGATIONS

Chairman Eversole asked for delegations on matters other than zoning.

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56:01 Governmental Affairs Director for the Real Estate Association Josh Branum, with offices at 2963 Amnicola Highway, provided the commission with the January 2025 Residential Market Statistics for Hamilton County. A copy has been filed with the clerk's office.

58:28 Monty Bell, A Homeless Journalist for the Grey Haired Foss, stated he resides at 727 East 11th Street. He spoke about a lawsuit he filed in 1995 against the school system for failing to educate black kids. He also talked about a book he wrote and read a small section. Commissioner Highlander advised everyone to be cautious of taking a copyrighted book title. He stated they may come under a lawsuit.

1:02:08 Hamilton County Trustee Bill Hullander spoke about personalty tax bills his office sends yearly and a bill he is working on to stop this. He stated his office sends out around 18,000, with 4,400 individuals owing less than \$20.00 and 1,200 owing less than \$5.00. He noted if he could collect all of the small personalty amounts, it would be around \$37,000.00. He stated it is difficult to get many of those small bills to pay. A copy of his handout has been filed in the Clerk's Office.

1:03:46 In response to Commissioner Helton's question, Mr. Hullander stated his office is spending around \$50,000.00 to try and collect \$37,000.00.

Time Code
Position

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1:06:13 In response to Commissioner Graham's question, Mr. Hullander stated there is a communication problem between the state and the county on notifying us when a business has closed.

1:08:48 In response to Commissioner Sharpe's question, Mr. Hullander stated they are proposing no longer sending bills to individuals who owe \$20.00 or less.

1:10:48 Megan Gilbert, residing at 3901 Wren Drive, spoke about believing in positive reinforcement and commended the commission for bringing up the dismantling of the Department of Education. She stated she would like the County Commission and Education Committee to participate in this matter actively.

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There being no further business, Chairman Eversole declared the meeting in recess until Wednesday, February 26th, 2025, at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

03-05-25

W.F.K.

Date

Clerk's Initials