

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
MAY 10, 2017**

STATE OF TENNESSEE) Agenda Preparation Session
COUNTY OF HAMILTON) May 10, 2017

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this 10th day of May, 2017, an Agenda Preparation Session 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:--

0:11 Present and presiding was the Honorable Chester Bankston, Chairman. County Clerk Bill Knowles called the roll of the County Commission and the following, constituting a quorum, answered to their names: Commissioner Beck, Commissioner Fairbanks, Commissioner Fields, Commissioner Graham, Commissioner Mackey, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Smedley, and Chairman Bankston. Commissioner Boyd was absent. Total present – 8. Total absent – 1.

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

HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION MAY 10, 2017

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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

- A Report of Investment Activity for the quarter ending March 31, 2017 would be submitted for the record.
- Quarterly Fee Office reports for the quarter ending March 31, 2017 would be submitted for the record.
- An Order of Designation to the Planning Commission would be submitted as a matter of record.
- Resolution No. 517-22 was the usual County Clerk item regarding notaries, etc. This required no committee assignment.
- Resolution Nos. 517-32A and 517-32B were assigned to the Zoning Committee, chaired by Commissioner Smedley.
- Resolution Nos. 517-23 through 517-31 and 517-33 through 517-37 were assigned to a Committee of the Whole.

Chairman Bankston reported Resolution Nos. 517-23 through 517-32 would now be heard by a Committee of the Whole. He noted Commissioner Boyd, Chairman of the Finance Committee was absent and Resolution Nos. 517-33 through 517-37 would also be heard by a Committee of the Whole.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-23

0:55

Commissioner Beck spoke regarding this item, which approves an expenditure of up to \$7,000.00 from discretionary bond funds, as allotted to District 5, to assist with the purchase of a stadium sound system for Brainerd High School.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
MAY 10, 2017**

There were no questions from Commissioners.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-24

1:37

Commissioner Beck spoke regarding this item, which appropriates \$2,500.00 from general fund discretionary monies, as allotted to District 5, to the Forgotten Child Fund, Inc. It was noted the funds will assist the non-profit with programming.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-25

2:17

Development Director Dan Saieed spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the County Mayor to continue a grant contract between Hamilton County and the Tennessee Department of Human Services for a \$270,430.00 Title XX grant. The grant begins July 1, 2017 and ends June 30, 2018, and provides adult daycare and homemaker services to eligible individuals and families. It was noted the total grant is for \$338,037.00 with the state providing \$270,430.00 and the County contributing \$67,608.00.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
MAY 10, 2017**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-26

3:17 Development Director Dan Saieed spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the County Mayor to continue a Memorandum of Understanding with the Partnership for Families, Children, and Adults, Inc. and Signal Centers, Inc. beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018 to provide Title XX social services for eligible individuals and families amounting to \$338,037.00. He explained Resolution No. 517-25 authorizes the grant contract, while this Resolution executes an agreement with the two aforementioned non-profit organizations for their services. It was noted representatives from the Partnership and Signal Centers were present in the audience.

4:09 In response to Commissioner Fields' question, Mr. Saieed clarified the total grant amounts to \$338,037.00.

In response to Commissioner Graham's question, Mr. Saieed confirmed the County is responsible for \$67,608.00 of the grant total. Commissioner Graham thanked representatives from the Partnership and Signal Centers for their service to Hamilton County.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
MAY 10, 2017**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-27

5:22

Development Director Dan Saieed spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the County Mayor to apply to the Tennessee Department of Correction for a two-year grant for \$650,812.00 for continuation of the Hamilton County Felony Community Corrections Program, and, if awarded, to sign all grant related documents. It was noted no County match is required.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-28

6:11

Administrator of Public Works and County Engineer Todd Leamon spoke regarding this Resolution, which accepts a proposal by the Tennessee Department of Transportation for the intersection improvement at Champion Road, LM 7.03 at SR-58 in Hamilton County.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
MAY 10, 2017**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-29

7:10

Administrator of Public Works and County Engineer Todd Leamon spoke regarding this Resolution, which accepts the bid of Talley Construction Co., Inc. for the construction of the Ooltewah-Georgetown Road at Mountain View Road/Blanche Road intersection improvements for an amount not to exceed \$1,465,152.69 and authorizing the County Mayor to sign any contracts necessary to implement this Resolution. It was noted this project is Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) approved and 100% funded by the Federal Highway Administration.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-30

8:03

Charles Wood, Vice President of Economic Development for the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce, spoke regarding this item, which makes certain findings relating to the HomeServe USA Corp., delegates certain authority to the Industrial Development Board of the City of Chattanooga, and authorizes the County Mayor, County Assessor, and County Trustee to enter into and execute an agreement for payments in lieu of ad valorem taxes (PILOT). Mr. Wood reported HomeServe USA began operating in Hamilton County in 2010 and currently employs around 300 people;

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
MAY 10, 2017**

a majority of the workforce being minority and female composed. The company plans to invest about \$5.7 million to construct an office in East Brainerd, where it will employ an additional 192 people, most of whom will earn an estimated production wage of \$17.00 per hour, or an average annual wage of \$39,250.00.

Mr. Wood explained the five-year PILOT calls for 100% tax abatement in the first year and scales down to 75% in the second year, 60% in the third year, and 50% for the final two years. It was noted 100% of the school portion of property taxes will be paid. He clarified for the record that the Chamber does not pursue companies that do not agree with the policy to pay all school taxes as they would not be good corporate citizens. Mr. Wood also highlighted several economic benefits of the project. A copy of the impact analysis was filed in the Clerk's office.

In response to Commissioner Graham's question, Mr. Wood explained the new East Brainerd office facility will generate new revenue for County schools.

16:01

In response to Commissioner Graham's question, Robert Judson, Senior Vice President of Contact Center Operations at HomeServe USA, stated the 192 jobs the project will add is a conservative estimation based on the current budget. Commissioner Graham stated he would be supporting the PILOT and thanked Mr. Judson for investing in Hamilton County's workforce.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
MAY 10, 2017**

In response to Commissioner Fields' question, Attorney Taylor noted the project has been thoroughly vetted by his office and is in compliance with the parameters of the statute.

Mayor Coppinger spoke highly of HomeServe USA and thanked Mr. Wood and Steve Hiatt with the Chamber of the Commerce for bringing the project forward.

Chairman Bankston thanked Mr. Wood and Mr. Hiatt and stated they were not required to attend next week's regular meeting.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-31

19:51

Director of General Services Lee Norris spoke regarding this item, which authorizes the County Mayor to sign a contract in the amount of \$60,000.00 with the City of Chattanooga for the Hamilton County Courts Community Service Program with a term beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018. He noted the program contracts with the State to provide litter and trash collection as alternative to incarceration for selected offenders.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
MAY 10, 2017**

Commissioner Smedley, Chairman of the Zoning Committee, stated the Zoning Committee will meet in the Commission Conference Room immediately following the Agenda Session.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-33

Director of Support Services for the Sheriff's Department Geno Bennett spoke regarding this item, which accepts a donation of \$10,650.00 from the Aegis Law Enforcement Foundation of Greater Chattanooga, Tennessee for the purpose of purchasing a K9 tracking bloodhound, related equipment and deputy training for law enforcement purposes. Director Bennett showed a brief video of a similarly trained tracking dog to members of the Commission and audience.

In response to Commissioner Fields' question, Director Bennett explained the grant from Aegis will cover the purchase of the bloodhound from a Georgia trainer as well as training for two deputies who will work with the dog, and equipment. He noted the bloodhound will assist in tracking criminals and be useful in locating lost children and elderly citizens. He stated one of the five drug dogs in the Sheriff's Department K9 unit is retiring, and the bloodhound will replace that dog. He noted this will be the only tracking dog in Hamilton County and will be available for use by other law enforcement agencies.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
MAY 10, 2017**

33:55

In response to Commissioner Graham's question, Director Bennett stated no other equipment will be necessary.

In response to Commissioner Fairbanks' question, Director Bennett stated dogs in the K9 unit live with their deputies.

In response to Commissioner Smedley's question, Director Bennett stated retired dogs typically live permanently with their respective deputies.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-34

27:24

Director of Administration for the Sheriff's Department Don Gorman spoke regarding this item, which approves the purchase of five vehicles amounting to \$141,875.00 from CDJR of Columbia from the state contract for the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, and authorizes the County Mayor to sign any contracts necessary to implement this Resolution.

In response to Commissioner Graham's question, Mr. Gorman stated the five vehicles include four SUVs and one pick-up truck.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
MAY 10, 2017**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-35

37:44 Administrator of Finance Al Kiser spoke regarding this item, which ratifies the purchase of gasoline and diesel fuel for the period of April 1, 2017, through April 30, 2017, and authorizes the County Mayor to sign any contracts necessary to implement this Resolution.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-36

38:08 Health Department Director Becky Barnes spoke regarding this item, which accepts the proposal of Fairway Outdoor Funding, LLC, for a tobacco exposure prevention billboard campaign to promote the Mayor's Smoke Free Community Initiative amounting to \$38,850.00 for the Health Services Division.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
MAY 10, 2017**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 517-37

39:11

Administrator of Public Works and County Engineer Todd Leamon spoke regarding this item, which approves the purchase of one 4x4 pick-up truck from Ford of Murfreesboro amounting to \$29,928.64 from the state contract for the Highway Department, and authorizes the County Mayor to sign any contracts necessary to implement this Resolution. He noted the previous truck was totaled in an accident that was not the employee's fault. Nineteen Thousand Dollars (\$19,000) was received from the insurance claim and \$10,000 will come from the operating budget.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Bankston asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

40:08

Commissioner Fields announced a meeting of the Legal and Legislative Committee will meet following the Agenda Session of May 31st. He clarified several Commissioners requested a meeting after the draft version of the Commission's Official Rules and Proceedings was distributed at last week's meeting.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
MAY 10, 2017**

40:33 Commissioner Mackey spoke about the upcoming graduation ceremonies taking place. He stated his hope that current policies allow for success as the graduates enter the workforce.

41:06 Commissioner Smedley thanked Mayor Coppinger for his presentation regarding education at yesterday's budget workshop.

41:24 Mayor Coppinger thanked all nine Commissioners for their attendance at yesterday's education focused budget workshop. He noted the next workshop will take place on Tuesday, May 16th, and the final meeting will be on Tuesday, June 6th. He stated both meetings will be at 9:00 AM at the McDaniel Building and the public and media are invited to attend.

42:16 Clerk Knowles extended his sympathies to the family of Sarah DeFriese, who passed away on April 23, 2017. Mrs. DeFriese served in the Register of Deeds office for 24 years, and served as the elected Register for two terms.

DELEGATIONS

42:51 Chairman Bankston asked for delegations on matters other than zoning. There were none.

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
MAY 10, 2017**

Being no further business, Chairman Bankston declared the meeting adjourned until Wednesday, May 17th at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

06-07-17
Date

W.F.K.
Clerk's Initials