

**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION
AGENDA PREPARATION SESSION
SEPTEMBER 11, 2019**

STATE OF TENNESSEE)
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)

Agenda Preparation Session
September 11, 2019

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this 11th day of September, 2019, 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 Randy Fairbanks, Chairman. County Clerk Bill Knowles called the roll of the County Commission and the following, constituting a quorum, answered to their names: Commissioner Bankston, Commissioner Geter, Commissioner Mackey, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Sharpe, Commissioner Smedley, and Chairman Fairbanks. Commissioner Baker and Commissioner Boyd were absent. Total present – 7. Total absent – 2.

Chairman Fairbanks reported Commissioner Baker and Commissioner Boyd would be absent for today's Recessed Meeting and Agenda Session.

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

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COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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

- A Three Star Program Compliance report would be submitted and made a matter of record.
- Resolution No. 919-17 was the usual County Clerk item regarding notaries, etc. This required no committee assignment.
- Resolution Nos. 919-25 through 919-28 were assigned to the Finance Committee, chaired by Commissioner Smedley.
- Resolution Nos. 919-29, 919-30, 919-31A, 919-31B, and 919-32 were assigned to the Zoning Committee, chaired by Commissioner Bankston.
- Resolution Nos. 919-18 through 919-24 were heard by a Committee of the Whole.

0:59

PRESENTATION – MARTY HAYES, ASSESSOR OF PROPERTY

Hamilton County Assessor of Property Marty Haynes gave a presentation to Commissioners regarding recent certifications and designations achieved by several employees in his office. He spoke about the work the Assessor's Office does in generating Hamilton County property values and the state audit process they are required to go through. Assessor Haynes reported there are approximately 170,000 properties in Hamilton County; approximately 155,000 of those are real property. He noted there has been an increase of 25,000 properties in Hamilton County since 2000.

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He introduced several members of his staff and spoke about their years of service and achievements.

13:44

Mayor Coppinger thanked Assessor Haynes and his staff for their service to the taxpayers of Hamilton County. He congratulated them on their recent certifications.

Commissioner Smedley thanked Assessor Haynes and his staff for their service to Hamilton County.

17:41

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 919-18

This Resolution appoints Donald Seagle to the Hamilton County Health and Safety Hearing Board to fill the unexpired term of Gordon Anderson ending April 20, 2020.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

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18:01 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 919-19**

Commissioner Geter spoke regarding this item, which makes an appropriation to Harrison Ruritan Foundation in the amount of \$500.00 from general fund travel discretionary monies, as allotted to District Five. She noted the funds would support food and nutrition programs in Hamilton County.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

18:40 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 919-20**

Commissioner Sharpe spoke regarding this item, which makes an appropriation to Harrison Ruritan Foundation in the amount of \$1,000.00 from general fund travel discretionary monies, as allotted to District Six. He noted the funds would support food and nutrition programs in Hamilton County.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

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19:38 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 919-21**

Commissioner Smedley spoke regarding this item, which makes an appropriation to Harrison Ruritan Foundation in the amount of \$1,000.00 from general fund travel discretionary monies, as allotted to District Seven. She noted the funds would support food and nutrition programs in Hamilton County.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

20:22 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 919-22**

Commissioner Bankston spoke regarding this item, which makes an appropriation to Harrison Ruritan Foundation in the amount of \$1,000.00 from general fund travel discretionary monies, as allotted to District Nine. He noted the funds would support food and nutrition programs in Hamilton County.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

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20:44

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 919-23

Administrator of Human Resources Sandra Ellis spoke regarding this item, which accepts the proposal of Cigna and Sun Life Insurance Company to provide voluntary dental insurance for Hamilton County employees. She explained lines of coverage in the request included Dental Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) and Dental Health Maintenance Organization (HMO). She stated Blue Cross Blue Shield is the current provider; however, Cigna emerged as the best carrier, which will provide an expansion in dental network coverage and no increase in premiums.

There were no questions from Commissioners.

22:27

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – RESOLUTION NO. 919-24

Administrator of Public Works and County Engineer Todd Leamon spoke regarding this item, which approves the regulations governing the use of the county right-of-way. He stated this would establish clear procedures and rules, which will be enforced and administered by the Hamilton County Highway Department.

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In response to Commissioner Mackey's question, Mr. Leamon clarified state law requires allowing use of a public right-of-way by public utilities; however, this Resolution establishes guidelines for its use. He noted this gives the county more control over use and enforcement.

24:51

In response to Commissioner Smedley's question, Mr. Leamon stated public utilities are required to pull permits. He confirmed this Resolution would improve communication during that process.

Commissioner Smedley, Chairman of the Finance Committee, stated the Finance Committee would meet in the Commission Room immediately following today's Agenda Session.

Commissioner Bankston, Chairman of the Zoning Committee, stated the Zoning Committee would meet in the Commission Room immediately following today's Agenda Session.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Fairbanks asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

Several Commissioners and Mayor Coppinger spoke about the 18th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks where 2,977 people were killed and more than 6,000 injured. They encouraged everyone to continue to remember those who were affected, and to pray for our first responders and United States military.

27:29 Commissioner Mackey thanked Mayor Coppinger for his courage and leadership and spoke in support of his potential re-election campaign in 2022.

28:29 Commissioner Martin asked County Attorney Taylor to address email correspondence between him and Commissioner Boyd regarding the legal committee's recent deliberation on a Resolution to authorize evening meetings (*Resolution No. 819-22*). Attorney Taylor stated according to the current Rules of Order (*Resolution No. 717-28*), the matter could be presented back to the whole Commission with or without a committee recommendation. It was noted if the committee fails to act on a matter assigned to it within 30 days it would automatically come back to the Commission as a whole.

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34:52

Commissioner Sharpe, who was recently appointed as the Chairman of the Legal Committee, requested that the matter be brought back before the whole Commission. Commissioner Geter asked that her questions be answered in committee before the issue comes back to the Commission as a whole.

Clerk Knowles asked the 2019-2020 Committee Assignments be made a matter of record. A copy was filed in the Clerk's office.

41:15

Mayor Coppinger spoke about the educational and infrastructure challenges that need to be addressed and encouraged everyone to remain focused on the current work that needs to be done to move Hamilton County forward rather than political rhetoric and re-election rumors.

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DELEGATIONS

Chairman Fairbanks asked for delegations on matters other than zoning. There were none.

Being no further business, Chairman Fairbanks declared the meeting adjourned until Wednesday, September 18th, 2019 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

10-02-19
Date



Clerk's Initials