



**HAMILTON COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 5, 2018**

Commissioner Bankston introduced Pastor Mike Sloan, Ridgeview Baptist Church, who gave the invocation. Commissioner Bankston led in the pledge to the flag.

2:38

**PRESENTATION – CERTIFICATE OF CONGRATULATIONS – BOB WILLIE**

Commissioner Boyd presented a Certificate of Congratulations to Bob Willie, Director of the Chattanooga Ballet, who is retiring after 30 years of service to the Chattanooga Ballet. Mr. Willie thanked Commissioner Boyd for the honor and spoke about his long career, which began in New York where he served as associate operations manager at the Julliard School. It was noted Mr. Willie has served as an actor, director, and fight choreographer with over sixty professional credits ranging from Shakespeare to musical comedies. Mr. Willie has received multiple prestigious awards and his work has resulted in the commission of over 40 new pieces by American choreographers.

Commissioner Boyd congratulated Mr. Willie on his retirement and thanked him for his dedication to the arts in Hamilton County. He asked several associates of Mr. Willie to come forward.

12:38

Sonia Young, Chattanooga Ballet board member, spoke about her work with Mr. Willie and his dedication to arts organizations. She thanked him for his mentorship throughout the years and stated he will be greatly missed.

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Dan Bowers, President of ArtsBuild, spoke about Mr. Willie's character and thanked Commissioner Boyd for honoring him.

Several Commissioners thanked Mr. Willie for his service to the arts in Hamilton County and to the Chattanooga Ballet. It was noted The Nutcracker presented by Chattanooga Ballet opens today at the Tivoli Theatre and many students across Hamilton County will have the opportunity to attend at no cost. Commissioner Boyd introduced two girls who will be performing in The Nutcracker today.

At this time a round of applause was given. Mr. Willie shook hands with members of the Commission, Attorney Hobbs, and Mayor Coppinger.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

27:41 **ON MOTION** of Commissioner Fairbanks, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, that the minutes of the Recessed Meeting of November 14, 2018, the Agenda Preparation Session of November 14, 2018, and the Regular Meeting of November 21, 2018, be approved, treat 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 Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin,

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“Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, and Chairman Smedley, “Aye”. Total present – 9.

Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 9. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

**TRUSTEE REPORTS**

The Trustee’s Monthly and Excess Fee Reports for October 2018 were submitted and made and a matter of record.

**ORDER OF DESIGNATION**

An Order was recorded designating Todd Leamon to sit as the County Mayor’s representative on the Planning Commission for the meeting of December 10, 2018.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1218-1 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT  
APPLICATIONS FOR NOTARY PUBLIC POSITIONS AND THE BONDS AND OATHS  
OF NOTARIES PREVIOUSLY ELECTED.**

28:18

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to adopt Resolution No. 1218-1. 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 Bankston, “Aye”, Commissioner Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Fairbanks, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter,

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“Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, and Chairman Smedley, “Aye”. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 9. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

28:52

**RESOLUTION NO. 1218-2 A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING RESERVATION TYPES AS IT PERTAINS TO THE CAMPGROUND OPERATIONS OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT AT CHESTER FROST PARK.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, to adopt Resolution No. 1218-2. 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 Bankston, “Aye”, Commissioner Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Fairbanks, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter, “Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, and Chairman Smedley, “Aye”. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 9. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

29:26

**RESOLUTION NO. 1218-3 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ENTERING INTO OF AN ADDITIONAL INGRESS AND EGRESS EASEMENT AGREEMENT PERTAINING TO THE BIRCHWOOD CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION LANDFILL FOR GRADING AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS.**

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, to adopt Resolution No. 1218-3. 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 Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Smedley, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

30:00

**RESOLUTION NO. 1218-4 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SECOND  
AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING INGRESS AND EGRESS EASEMENT  
AGREEMENT PERTAINING TO THE BIRCHWOOD CONSTRUCTION AND  
DEMOLITION LANDFILL.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to adopt Resolution No. 1218-4. 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 Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Smedley, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

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30:33

**RESOLUTION NO. 1218-5 A RESOLUTION PROHIBITING THE ACCESS ONTO THE PRESS GALLERY OF ANY NON-CREDENTIALLED NEWS MEDIA PERSONS.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Fairbanks, to adopt Resolution No. 1218-5.

In response to Commissioner Baker's question, Assistant County Attorney Dee Hobbs stated the Resolution as presented does not provide directives for the credentialing process. He added the Commission could issue their own credentials to allow access to the press gallery.

32:22

Commissioner Mackey cautioned restricting balcony access without specific guidelines in place determining who legitimate media personnel are. He noted there is a uniformed deputy present at every meeting for safety.

Commissioner Sharpe stated the Resolution should contain the process for issuing credentials before it is approved.

Commissioner Fairbanks stated the Resolution as presented is clear that anyone seeking to access the press gallery can request permission from the Commission Chair. He asked that Commissioners asking for more specific guidelines provide examples for more clarification.

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Chairman Smedley stated without a written policy, the sign before accessing the balcony reading "media only" should be removed. Attorney Hobbs agreed.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Bankston, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to table Resolution No. 1218-5 until guidelines for the credentialing process are established.

39:02

At this time, a lengthy discussion took place between Commissioners and Attorney Hobbs regarding establishing guidelines. It was noted if tabled the item would be referred back to the Legal and Legislative Committee. Commissioner Martin asked that the full Commission participate in the Legal and Legislative Committee meeting in order to agree on guidelines. Several Commissioners voiced concerns about restricting media access and overregulating.

Commissioner Martin called for the question, seconded by Commissioner Geter. It was noted per the Commission's Rules of Order a Call for the Question requires a 2/3 vote in order to end debate.

The foregoing Call for the Question was rejected on a Roll Call vote, with the following members of the County Commission being present and voting as follows: Commissioner Baker, "Aye", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Nay", Commissioner Geter, "Nay", Commissioner



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Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Nay", and Chairman Smedley, "Nay". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 5. Total "Nay" votes – 4.

In response to Commissioner Sharpe's question, Attorney Hobbs stated it requires a 2/3 vote in order to remove an item from the table.

Chairman Smedley asked Clerk Knowles to call the roll on the Motion to table Resolution No. 1218-5.

The foregoing Motion to table 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 Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Nay", Commissioner Geter, "Nay", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Nay", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Smedley, "Nay". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 5. Total "Nay" votes – 4.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1218-6 A RESOLUTION PROHIBITING THE CARRYING AND DISPLAYING OF SIGNS DURING MEETINGS OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.**

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**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Geter, to adopt Resolution No. 1218-6. 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, "Nay", Commissioner Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Nay", and Chairman Smedley, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 7. Total "Nay" votes – 2.

57:13

**RESOLUTION NO. 1218-7 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO ACCEPT A STATE OF TENNESSEE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS-COURTROOM SECURITY GRANT WITH A TOTAL PROJECT COST OF \$85,500 AND REQUIRING A 10% MATCH TO BE TAKEN FROM THE HAMILTON COUNTY'S JAIL AND COURTHOUSE RENOVATION FUND.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution No. 1218-7. 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 Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner

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Sharpe, “Aye”, and Chairman Smedley, “Aye”. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 9. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

57:53

**RESOLUTION NO. 1218-12 A RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO SODDY DAISY FOOD BANK IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00) FROM GENERAL FUND TRAVEL DISCRETIONARY MONIES, AS ALLOTTED TO DISTRICT ONE.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Fairbanks, seconded by Commissioner Mackey, to adopt Resolution No. 1218-12. 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 Bankston, “Aye”, Commissioner Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Fairbanks, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter, “Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, and Chairman Smedley, “Aye”. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 9. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

Chairman Smedley asked that Resolution Nos. 1218-10 and 1218-11 be heard at this time. She stated these Resolutions were assigned to the Zoning Committee, but were heard last week as a Committee of the Whole.

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58:37      **RESOLUTION NO. 1218-10 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE "MASTER LIST OF ROADS AND SPEED LIMITS" SO AS TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING DISTRICT ROADS AND TO ESTABLISH SPEED LIMITS THEREFORE: BLUE MIST DRIVE AND PAINTER TRAIL.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 1218-11 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE "MASTER LIST OF ROADS AND SPEED LIMITS" SO AS TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING DISTRICT ROADS AND TO ESTABLISH SPEED LIMITS THEREFORE: ASHBY GAP WAY, FREMONT WAY AND CHIRPING ROAD AS EXTENDED.**

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Bankston, seconded by Commissioner Boyd, to adopt Resolution Nos. 1218-10 and 1218-11. The foregoing Resolutions were 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 Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter, "Aye", Commissioner Mackey, "Aye", Commissioner Martin, "Aye", Commissioner Sharpe, "Aye", and Chairman Smedley, "Aye". Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total "Aye" votes – 9. Total "Nay" votes – 0.

59:33      Chairman Smedley asked that Resolution Nos. 1218-8 and 1218-9 be heard at this time.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 1218-8 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF TEN (10) MOTOROLA APX6000 PORTABLE RADIOS AMOUNTING TO \$41,402.20 FROM MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS FROM THE STATE CONTRACT SWC-418 FOR THE HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 1218-9 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID OF LEE-SMITH, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF TWO (2) FORD F-550 TRUCKS WITH SNOW EQUIPMENT AMOUNTING TO \$156,600.00 FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO SIGN ANY CONTRACTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS RESOLUTION.**

Commissioner Fairbanks, Chairman of the Finance Committee, stated the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended approval of Resolution Nos. 1218-8 and 1218-9.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Fairbanks, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution No. 1218-8. 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 Bankston, "Aye", Commissioner Boyd, "Aye", Commissioner Fairbanks, "Aye", Commissioner Geter,

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“Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, and Chairman Smedley, “Aye”. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 9. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

**ON MOTION** of Commissioner Fairbanks, seconded by Commissioner Baker, to adopt Resolution No. 1218-9. 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 Bankston, “Aye”, Commissioner Boyd, “Aye”, Commissioner Fairbanks, “Aye”, Commissioner Geter, “Aye”, Commissioner Mackey, “Aye”, Commissioner Martin, “Aye”, Commissioner Sharpe, “Aye”, and Chairman Smedley, “Aye”. Total present – 9. Total absent – 0. Total “Aye” votes – 9. Total “Nay” votes – 0.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Smedley asked for announcements from members of the Commission.

Several Commissioners spoke about the death of former president George H.W. Bush and reflected on his life and accomplishments.

Commissioner Mackey voiced concerns over limited development and growth in relation to the WWTA sewage treatment plant.

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1:07:16 Commissioner Sharpe announced the Mainx24 parade was a success despite the rain. He announced the Christmas parade in Red Bank Friday at 6:00 PM and the Lookout Valley Christmas parade Saturday at 11:00 AM.

1:08:06 Commissioner Baker invited Commissioners to a holiday gathering December 17<sup>th</sup> at the Read House at 5:30 PM with School Board members.

1:11:18 Mayor Coppinger announced today the Hamilton County Health Department is hosting a free drive through flu shot clinic at 4825 Dayton Boulevard.

1:12:13 Chairman Smedley asked everyone to pray for her son, Ryan Turner, who was deployed overseas until next September.

Chairman Smedley reminded Commissioners that next week the potential location for the WWTA sewage treatment plant will be discussed. She noted there was significant public interest and time will be allotted to allow both sides to present.

Chairman Smedley asked that the “media only” sign going up to the balcony be removed until a written policy is established.

In response to Commissioner Mackey’s question regarding next week’s sewage treatment plant discussion, Chairman Smedley stated she plans to discuss time

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restraints with County Attorney Rheubin Taylor for direction on how to allow both sides ample time to present their cases.

1:15:37 Commissioner Boyd suggested convening next week's meeting at 8:30 AM.

Commissioner Martin reminded Commissioners of Rule 25. He stated the Rule requires a 2/3 vote to suspend the rules changing the time limit now placed on non-commission members who wish to speak. He emphasized that a specific period be allocated to speakers at next week's WWTA discussion. Chairman Smedley reiterated she will meet with Attorney Taylor regarding the matter.

1:18:43 Commissioner Fairbanks reminded Commissioners they are doing the people's business and time should be given to make sure all the facts are established. Chairman Smedley echoed Commissioner Fairbanks comments.

**DELEGATIONS**

Chairman Smedley asked for delegations on matters other than zoning.

1:23:01 WDEF Reporter Ashley Henderson, residing at 26 Crabtree Road Rossville, Georgia 30741, addressed Commissioners regarding media access to the Commission Room balcony. He reported the six audio ports in the balcony area are not functional.



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Mr. Henderson stated the balcony area can get crowded at times making it difficult for news media to find space to record.

1:24:48 Emily Kate Boyd, residing at 519 Lytle Street Chattanooga, TN 37405, echoed Mr. Henderson's comments about the audio ports in the balcony area not working. She thanked Commissioners for allowing her to livestream meetings.

1:25:48 Ronnie Ray, residing at 613 Mahan Gap Road Ooltewah, TN 37363, spoke against the use of discretionary funds and thanked Commissioners for voting against them at the November 7th meeting.

Several Commissioners strongly disagreed with Mr. Ray's comments regarding discretionary funds. Commissioner Sharpe made reference to refunding an amount if necessary.

Mayor Coppinger announced next week's presentation regarding livestreaming meetings has been rescheduled. He noted this will include a comprehensive remodel and will address the audio ports.

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There being no further business, Chairman Smedley declared the meeting in recess until Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



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William F. (Bill) Knowles, County Clerk

Approved:

12-19-18  
Date

WJK  
Clerk's Initials