

**City Council Building
Chattanooga, Tennessee
June 29, 2004
6:00 p.m.**

Chairman Benson called the meeting of the Chattanooga Council to order with Councilmen Franklin, Hakeem, Littlefield, Lively, Page, Pierce, Robinson and Taylor present. City Attorney Randall Nelson, Management Analyst Randy Burns and Council Clerk Carol O'Neal, CMC, were also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Councilwoman Robinson gave invocation.

MINUTE APPROVAL

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Franklin, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published and signed in open meeting.

CLOSE AND ABANDON

MR-2004-096: Towne Center North, LLC

Councilmen Littlefield and Lively made the motion to substitute the amendment to this ordinance; the motion carried.

Admin. McDonald stated that he wanted to make certain Council members had the correct amended version as the requirement for a cul-de-sac was deleted; that Mr. Pace sent it over last week. The Clerk of Council clarified that Council members had the correct version in their notebooks.

Councilman Page stated that he wanted clarification regarding this as he spoke with Mr. Pace this afternoon and was of the impression no substitution was needed.

CLOSE AND ABANDON (Continued)

Admin. McDonald stated that it was his understanding that Mr. Pace was going to send over a revision deleting the cul-de-sac; that there is no need for a cul-de-sac or the plan does not work. He stated the developer requested that the cul-de-sac be deleted.

Councilman Littlefield stated that it is apparent that Council members have the correct version before them; that there is only one change that is different from the one passed on first reading. At this point he made the motion to substitute the amendment and go with the version before them indicating that it is the safest thing to do.

City Attorney Nelson clarified that the ordinance was revised last Thursday.

On motion of Councilman Littlefield, seconded by Councilman Franklin,
**AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING THE 1000 BLOCK OF
COWART DRIVE AND JOHN MARK ROAD, MORE PARTICULARLY
DESCRIBED HEREIN AND AS SHOWN ON THE MAP ATTACHED HERETO
AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN
CONDITIONS**

passed second reading. On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Page, the Ordinance passed third and final reading and was signed in open meeting.

AMEND CITY CODE

On motion of Councilman Littlefield, seconded by Councilman Lively,
**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PART II, CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE,
CHAPTER 10, RELATIVE TO PERMITS AND LICENSING**

passed second reading. On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Littlefield, the Ordinance passed third and final reading and was signed in open meeting.

2004-2005 BUDGET

Councilman Pierce stated that this request is recommended for approval per the Budget and Finance Committee.

2004-2005 BUDGET (Continued)

Councilman Littlefield stated that there are some items in the budget he is not particularly pleased with and people in Administration are aware. He stated the matters relate to the golf courses and the auditorium; that the proposed changes at the auditorium are items he does not think are directly impacted by this current budget. He stated that this is something we can deal with later in the year; that his concerns involve matters that have occurred since last week.

On motion of Councilman Littlefield, seconded by Councilman Lively,

AN ORDINANCE, HEREINAFTER ALSO KNOWN AS "THE FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005 BUDGET ORDINANCE", TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2004, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2005, AND APPROPRIATING SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT; FIXING THE RATE OF TAXATION ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE CITY, AND THE TIME TAXES AND PRIVILEGES ARE DUE, HOW THEY SHALL BE PAID, WHEN THEY SHALL BECOME DELINQUENT; PROVIDING FOR INTEREST AND PENALTY ON DELINQUENT TAXES AND PRIVILEGES, AND TO AMEND PART II, CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, SECTIONS 2-285, 7-1, 7-8, 31-36, 31-41 AND 31-43

passed first reading.

CONTRACT

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Franklin,

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF THE CONTRACT FOR THE HVAC SYSTEM AT THE FIRE RESOURCE BUILDING TO ALLIED MECHANICAL FOR THEIR LOW BID IN THE AMOUNT OF FOURTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$14,800.00)

was adopted.

CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY

On motion of Councilman Pierce, seconded by Councilman Littlefield,

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR THE CITY FINANCE OFFICER TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO FACILITATE THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN TO THE CHATTANOOGA DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

was adopted.

CONTRACT

Councilman Franklin stated Resolutions (c) and (d) were discussed in Parks and Recreation Committee today and are recommended for approval.

On motion of Councilman Hakeem, seconded by Councilman Franklin,

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION, ARTS AND CULTURE TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH P&C CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, RELATIVE TO RENOVATIONS AT MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$172,000.00)

was adopted.

CONTRACT

On motion of Councilman Hakeem, seconded by Councilman Littlefield,

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION, ARTS AND CULTURE TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH JDC INDUSTRIAL MECHANICAL SYSTEMS, LLC, RELATIVE TO INSTALLATION OF AN HVAC SYSTEM AND NEW LIGHTING SYSTEM AT THE EASTDALE RECREATION CENTER GYMNASIUM, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$65,000.00)

was adopted.

INCREASE COMPENSATION

On motion of Councilman Page, seconded by Councilman Franklin,

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT TO INCREASE THE COMPENSATION OF CITY EMPLOYEES AS PROPOSED IN THE BUDGET ORDINANCE ADOPTED ON FIRST READING ON THIS DATE, EFFECTIVE FOR PAY PERIODS AFTER JULY 1, 2004

was adopted.

GRANT

On motion of Councilman Hakeem, seconded by Councilman Littlefield,

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY FINANCE OFFICER TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR CIVIC INNOVATION IN THE AMOUNT OF THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$30,000.00) FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLICATION OF ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORTS

was adopted.

OVERTIME

Overtime for the week ending June 25, 2004 totaled \$119,870.31.

PERSONNEL

The following personnel matters were reported for the various departments:

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

- **TERRY W. CAGLE** – Termination, Equipment Operator, Sr., Citywide Services, effective June 16, 2004.
- **GEORGE D. STUART, JR.** – Rehire, Heavy Equipment Operator, Waste Division, Pay Grade 10/Step 1, \$25,208.00 annually, effective May 24, 2004.

CHATTANOOGA FIRE DEPARTMENT:

- **BILAL MUHAMMED** – Resignation, Senior Firefighter, effective July 1, 2004.

CHATTANOOGA POLICE DEPARTMENT:

- **CRAIG A. NABORS** – Resignation, Police Officer, effective July 1, 2004.
- **TAMMY S. DAVIS** – Resignation, School Patrol Officer, effective June 23, 2004.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT:

- **ANNIKA M. GOINS** – Hire, Office Assistant Senior, Pay Grade 5/Step 1, \$19,234.00 annually, effective June 4, 2004.
- **MICHAEL B. OGDEN** – Resignation, Network Manager, Information Services Division, effective July 2, 2004.

PERSONNEL (Continued)

PARKS, RECREATION, ARTS AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT:

- **DAVID E. JOHNSON** – Retirement, Manager, Civic Facilities, effective June 30, 2004.

PURCHASE

On motion of Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Robinson, the following purchases were approved for use by the Chattanooga Human Services Department:

PARRIS ROOFING & SHEET METAL CO. (Lower and better bid)
R0074439/B0001699

Roofing of Summit Center

\$17,942.00

PURCHASE

On motion of Councilman Hakeem, seconded by Councilman Franklin, the following purchase was approved for use by the Public Works Department:

D & W ENVIRONMENTAL, INC. (Lower and better bid)
R0073492/B0001660

Two (2) Salt and Sand Spreaders

\$17,180.00

SHERMAN DIXIE CONCRETE (Only bid received meeting specifications)
R0073270/B0001445

Concrete Pipe

(Price information available and filed with minute material)

PURCHAES (Continued)

U.S. FILTER-ALTERNATIVE 3 (Best bid)

R0075696/B0001624

Liquid Calcium Nitrate (*U. S. Filter offers the best bid meeting specifications for the City of Chattanooga. The Dycho Company submitted a lower bid; however, they did not submit alternate bids as stipulated in the invitation's specifications.*)

(Price information available and filed with minute material)

G.E. SUPPLY CO. (Best bid)

R0075698

Adjustable Frequency Drives

\$37,422.00

ROAD KARE, LTD. (Lower and better bid)

R0076013/B0001646

Preformed Speed Cushions

\$22,776.00

ACCELA Best proposal meeting specifications)

R0065429

Permits & Inspection Records Management System

\$305,000.00

GPM ENVIRONMENT (Best bid received)

R0075651/B0001606

Allis Chalmers Pump Parts (*HLT of Tennessee submitted a lower incomplete bid, but later rescinded their bid because they were not an authorized distributor to sell Allis Chalmers equipment and parts in this area.*)

(Price information available and filed with minute material)

PURCHASES (Continued)

BOOKER FORD (Lower and better bid)

R0069086

One (1) Ford Taurus

\$11,910.00

PURCHASES

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Littlefield, the following purchases were approved for use by the Chattanooga Fire Department:

BROOKER FORD (Lowest and best bid)

R0071841/B0001631

Two (2) Ford Taurus'

\$23,670.00

GRAINGER, INC. (Change Order No. 1)

R0071788

Flammable Storage Cabinets; Change Order per Purchase Order P0020761. This change order increases the total purchase cost by \$4,263.20, for a total cost reflected below.

\$10,597.00

HOTEL PERMITS

On motion of Councilman Pierce, seconded by Councilman Hakeem, the following hotel permits were approved:

SUPER 8 MOTEL – 511 Hunter Road, Chattanooga, TN

SLEEP INN & SUITES – 3117 Parker Lane, Chattanooga, TN

COMFORT INN – 3109 Parker Lane, Chattanooga, TN

HOTEL PERMITS (Continued)

ECONO LODGE – 7421 Bonny Oaks Drive, Chattanooga, TN

HAMPTON INN-DOWNTOWN – 2420 Williams Street, Chattanooga, TN

PURCHASES

On motion of Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Robinson, the following purchases were approved for use by the Chattanooga Police Department:

DANIEL TECHNOLOGY, INC. (Only bid meeting specifications)

R0073524/B0001656

Audio Recorders

\$13,990.00

GTSI, CORP. (Only bid meeting specifications)

R0073692/B0001658

Mobile Laptop Computers and Software

\$42,260.52

EAST RIDGE UNIFORMS (Best complete bid meeting specifications)

R0073719/B0001662

Police Uniforms

\$165,000.00

G. T. DISTRIBUTORS (Lowest and best bid)

R0073718/B0001670

Leather Gear

\$10,000.00

PURCHASES (Continued)

G.T. DISTRIBUTORS (Only bid meeting specifications)
R0073717/B0001659

Ammunition

\$90,000.00

PURCHASES

On motion of Councilman Hakeem, seconded by Councilman Franklin, the following purchases were approved for use by the Finance and Administration Department:

ORACLE (Single source)
R0069711

Oracle Database Enterprise Edition (License) for the Information Services Division, per TCA 6-56-304.6.

\$10,980.00

INCODE (Single source)
R0057956

Annual Software Maintenance and Support for City Court Clerk's Office per TCA 6-56-304-2

\$23,630.00

CAPITAL TOYOTA (Lower and better bid)
B0001679

Toyota Prius Hybrid Vehicles, Purchasing Division

\$118,775.00

HYBRID VEHICLES INQUIRY

Councilman Hakeem asked if the purchases were already scheduled for the hybrid cars and whether they were purchased because gasoline is high.

Admin. Eichenenthal stated that Public Works led off in terms of the effort of looking at hybrid vehicles and cost efficiency, clarifying that it is cost efficient to do this. He stated administration has worked well in general in terms of costs on these purchases. He stated at the budget hearings they have "met the mark" in the area of service costs because they have done a good job in terms of controlling costs in the City's fleet and have seen a reduction overall.

REJECT ALL BIDS

On motion of Councilman Hakeem, seconded by Councilman Franklin, all bids were rejected for an Optivity Telephony Manager per R0069681/B000157 for the Finance and Administration Department, Information Services Division, Telecommunications Section. A new invitation and advertisement for this purchase will be issued once the funds are available.

BOARD RE-APPOINTMENTS

On motion of Councilwoman Robinson, seconded by Councilman Littlefield, the following Board reappointments were approved:

AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD:

Re-appointment of **BILL KILLBRIDE, A. E. "GENE" VEAZEY** and **DONNA WILLIAMS** with terms expiring July 1, 2007.

HEARING: JOHN POINTER

Councilwoman Robinson reported that a hearing for John Pointer was held on yesterday and that she along with Councilmen Pierce and Benson served as the panel and unanimously upheld Administration's decision for termination.

HEARING: TERRY A. TISDALE

City Attorney Nelson reported that a request for a hearing has been received from Terry A. Tisdale regarding his termination from the Office of Performance Review, 311 Call Center.

A hearing for Mr. Tisdale was scheduled for Monday, July 19 at 3 p.m. with Councilmen Lively, Hakeem and Page serving as the panel; Councilman Benson volunteered to serve as alternate.

COMMITTEES

Councilman Taylor scheduled a meeting of the **Health, Education, Human Services and Housing Opportunities Committee two weeks from now, July 20**, concerning parking in residential yards, as it has become a community neighborhood issue. He stated he has received information from the Chattanooga Neighborhood Association regarding this who is working with the Council on this issue. He expressed thanks to the Council's Management Analyst (Randy Burns) for providing information regarding to this issue in other cities and what is being done. He expressed that the information would be shared with everyone during the Committee meeting.

Councilman Littlefield stated the **Legal and Legislative Committee** met today with City Forester Gene Hyde and received a presentation about heritage trees. He stated the proposed ordinance for clear cutting was discussed and something should be expected in the next couple weeks. He scheduled a meeting of the Committee for **Tuesday, July 6 at 3 p.m.** City Attorney Nelson referenced Charter Amendments would need to be discussed at the Committee next week.

Councilman Hakeem scheduled a meeting of the **Public Works Committee for Tuesday, July 6 at 4 p.m.**

DANIEL DEANE

Daniel Deane of 3105 Dee Drive recounted his route from Erlanger Hospital, through Warner Park to McCallie Avenue and Highland Park, indicating that his shortcut situations were dismal and (he) had to criss-cross streets in order to find an agreeable path. He stated that the sidewalk was effective in throwing him out into the street while trying to get to the curb cuts, indicating that this is a bad problem for people in wheelchairs. He stated that he encountered the same problem in trying to get to the Council Building from the County Courthouse.

DANIEL DEANE (Continued)

Mr. Deane stated there are curb cuts that are two-to-three inches that he has to "jump". He challenged the Council to take a week in a manual wheelchair or power chair and tour the City's downtown area. He stated, also, that he went to the Humane Society to view and find what dogs were available for his service dog program and could not make it in the building due to a door that was compliant with no ramp and the door that had a ramp was blocked.

Chairman Benson advised Mr. Deane to talk with the Board of Directors at the Humane Education Society, indicating that the Chairman of the Board is an attorney; that this matter is beyond the Council's control.

REV. DWIGHT PRATER

Rev. Dwight Prater of 2310 Abbey Road, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, addressed the Council regarding his son, Leslie Vaughn Prater. He stated on January 2, 2004 an unarmed 37-year old African-American male was brutally murdered by four officers employed by the Chattanooga Police Department. He stated the police neglected to do their job, which is to serve and protect citizens and because Leslie was a citizen in need of help, his situation was a perfect opportunity for the four police officers to demonstrate how they serve and protect citizens. He stated the police stated upon their arrival, they were unsure if they were dealing with a medical or mental problem, but neglected to follow departmental policy in dealing with such situation. He stated the four police officers used excessive, unreasonable and unnecessary force and violated the Constitutional Fourth Amendment Rights of Leslie and were the perpetrators of a homicide.

Rev. Prater continued by stating Leslie was severely beaten as evidenced by two independent autopsy reports showing 21 rib fractures, a broken arm, a dislocated shoulder, blunt trauma to the scrotum and numerous other bruises and lacerations. He stated the family demands an incident report and release of the public files of the four officers including their pictures, justice for their loved ones and a resolution calling for the end of police brutality in this area. He stated the family demands accountability, including a thorough independent and objective investigation and dismantling of the "blue wall". He concluded his comments by asking Mayor Corker to "tear down this wall".

DR. LORETTA PRATER

Dr. Loretta Prater, of 2310 Abbey Road, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, stated that she received shocking news today; that she knows Leslie was murdered, and the label of "accident" has been placed on the situation. She stated something is wrong here in Chattanooga, Tennessee that needs to be corrected; that the green light is on and police are killing people and saying it was an "accident". She stated that makes absolutely no sense! She stated people are talking about what happened in Los Angeles a week ago and the only difference between there is here is that she does not have a videotape of Leslie being killed and Leslie did not live to talk about what happened to him. She stated it is her guess the citizens of Chattanooga would have to put video cameras in their cars and take photos, which would be the only way to have anyone take this seriously. She stated Leslie needs justice and the Police Department must be kidding to say this was an "accident"; that she could not believe they would have the nerve to come back with something like that.

Dr. Prater stated that she sincerely believes that there are some good police officers that serve and protect citizens and also believes there are some persons who walk around in blue shirts and pants with badges that should not be on the public payroll and should not be police officers. She stated what happened to Leslie is not any different than if they had on white robes and white hoods! She reiterated that she does not see any difference because the only difference was that they had on blue instead of white; that this is definitely murder! She stated she does not know what will happen to this City if it is not realized that there is a problem; that what is needed is to correct it rather than come in and say there is no problem. She stated there is a problem and asked why there are so many murders and additional bodies; that this does not make any sense all. She stated that she and her husband Dwight know they will never have their child back again, however, as a mother she does not want anyone else to go through this. She stated her comments are spoken on behalf of the other people who have children and there should be no more murder in Chattanooga from police officers!

Chairman Benson thanked Rev. and Dr. Prater for their comments and stated that the Council has been advised by legal counsel that since they (Praters) had obtained an attorney the Council could not respond.

At this point, Rev. Prater indicated that he wanted to address the Council again and Chairman Benson advised him that his time limitation had expired.

Johnny Holloway, a representative of the Rainbow PUSH Coalition, stated that he wished to yield his three minutes time to speak to Rev. Prater so that he could complete his statement.

REV. DWIGHT PRATER

Rev. Prater stated Chattanooga is his and his wife's hometown; that they lived here fifty years prior to moving away. He stated the problem is that the Council members have been called and elected to do a great job and with much power comes much responsibility. He stated it is his hope Council members have not neglected their responsibility and indicated that he was not speaking in reference to the favors some of them might do for others; that this city of Chattanooga is for everyone. He stated Chattanooga is a "beautiful apple" but there is a "core" that is rotten! He stated he does not care how beautiful that place is, but if the core is rotten eventually all who partakes of that apple is going "down the tube". He emphasized to the Council that they are in a position to make big changes, and if they do not become a part of the solution, they are part of the problem.

TOM BISSONETTE

Tom Bissonette of 1010 Carter Drive stated he was present because he is a friend of the Praters and that Loretta was a colleague for a number of years. He stated that he knows the Council's role is not to determine guilt or innocence or the intent of the parties involved, yet it is his belief it is within the scope of their authority and responsibility to render this city a safe place for all citizens. He stated that he was speaking as a father of three adolescents when he looks at these issues; that he tries to look at them from both sides from the standpoint of safety of citizens. He stated that his daughter wants to become a police officer and he wants her to receive the best possible training that is available. He stated that he was speaking to the Council as a mental health professional who is involved with violent individuals and the severely mentally ill; that he is involved in the physical restraint of them and there are techniques available to restrain people without injury. He stated that he was not present to blame or try to accuse because he cannot change what has happened; that he is here to say loud and clear that we have an opportunity to make this community a better, safer place and empower police officers to have the highest possible training so they can protect and serve, and most officers want to do that. He stated that there are "bad apples" in any profession even his and we have to give them the tools they need. He stated it is his thought there is something this Council can do, which is to make recommendations and take a new look into what training is offered.

MAXINE COUSIN

Maxine Cousin stated that she was present to support the Prater family because she has “been there” and was asked to come. She expressed remembrance of the incident that happened in Knoxville four years ago; that the person was Andre Stinson and there were only five officers who sat on him – a man with five children. She stated the officer that lied was Mike Williams, a man of the Chattanooga Police Department who was an expert witness who said police officers of the county have no such police policy allowing this procedure; that apparently they did not believe his lies as Chattanooga officers do the same thing. She asked how it could be an accident when four people sat on him, or how it could be an accident when a UTC student coming across the street was hit by a patrol car and killed, however, that case was dealt with. She stated there is a difference in this city when the black and powerless have no representation. She stated that the Council members will not do anything; that “we” have to do it, “we” have to do it as citizens and “we” are going to do it!

ANNIE THOMAS

Annie Thomas, Co-Chair of an Atlanta organization and the first president and organizer of Concerned Citizens for Justice, stated that she was one of the plaintiffs in the lawsuit against the City that ushered in the process to allow for Councilmen Taylor, Pierce, Hakeem and Franklin to have a seat on the podium together. She stated one of the main purposes for filing the lawsuit to change the government was that they were naïve to believe that if we had people of our own rank and color on this Council representing us, we would get justice in the Wadie Suttles case. She asked that this nonsense stop, the murdering of people in Chattanooga. She stated that she was appalled to read in the Saturday morning edition of the *Times* the article about the prisoner in Kuwait who had been abused and murdered. She stated the instance surrounding that case was the same as Mr. Suttles’ and she could not breathe; that he had a head injury and when he was taken out it was known that he was dead, yet they connected him to a breathing machine and knew the man was already dead! She asked if this is something that has started in Chattanooga and is now spreading to other parts of the country. She stated injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere and she is very ashamed to be a Chattanooga today.

Chairman Benson again reiterated that he does not want those in attendance to mistake the Council’s silence as not listening or “feeling”; that the Council is not in a position to respond due to the litigation.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Councilman Hakeem stated that all on the Council care about what happens to all citizens of this community. He addressed the Prater family by stating that he wanted to respond briefly out of respect and asked that they not criticize if the Council cannot say something. He stated that the Council does take seriously the concerns brought before them and know there is much work to be done within the police department and there is a problem in some sense. He stated that the Council takes to heart what Rev. Prater said regarding those who have received much power and with it much responsibility; that the Council hears them and because they cannot respond does not mean they are not working to relieve some of the concerns citizens have shared in this regard.

Councilman Franklin stated that he certainly appreciates the level of concern based on the hardships the Praters have felt. He stated some on the Council have been closely related to the proximity of where this happened and have actually experienced some of the things that have happened personally. He stated their concerns do not fall on deaf ears just because the Council cannot go into any major depth regarding the matter; that it does not mean in any shape, form or fashion they are not working to try to alleviate these problems. He stated that it is personal and they do not know just how personal this is; that there are others who have experienced this, as well. He expressed assurance that the Council has some responsibility to some degree to protect and serve as the police department and does not want to put an indictment on them all, as it is a good police department, however there are some that make it bad for the rest. He stated the Council would do everything within their power to assist, help and bring some of the things to conclusion and return the respect to those individuals whom we represent.

Councilman Pierce addressed the Prater family and stated there should not be any questions in anyone's minds how he has worked with the family and tried to advise them as to "what and whatever". He stated for the past thirty years he has been in business he has had a relationship with the police department and will be the first to say we have a problem and have always had a problem. He expressed agreement with the Prater family that there needs to be more independent investigations of things that our police department does and he does not know how to go about doing that; that the TBI, FBI and other agencies can be engaged, but no matter what report comes back, it is not what they would want to hear. He stated if there is a source the Praters feel would be ideal to investigate, he would have no problem being the one to initiate the request and ask the Council and City to investigate. He stated it is not only this case but several he has felt should have been more thoroughly investigated but were not; that the Council would work in the best interest of the public and that is the "bottom line".

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS (Continued)

Councilman Taylor expressed to the Prater and Cousin families that the Council hears them and are responding.

SHIRLEY DEAKINS

Shirley Deakins of 222 Baker Street in North Chattanooga stated that she knows Council members think she is "tetched", however it is her thought that is God's way of covering and protecting her. She stated that there is so much corruption here in Chattanooga and again charged the Council to take back their power from corrupt, powerful people who have created an institution whereby this type of thing can go on. She stated there is no justice, just situations based on truth, nothing but truths, which is a paradigm in consciousness. She stated we are sitting on the edge of eternity, now, in terms of what is happening in our world and indicated that something needs to be done about all these matters. She stated "care" is nothing but a noun if not an action put into absolute work that requires a lot of courage, going against the current, getting straight up and getting ostracized or killed. She stated we really need to do this and if she is "tetched" it may be God's way of giving her cover!

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Page, seconded by Councilman Littlefield, the meeting of the Chattanooga Council was adjourned until Tuesday, July 6, 2004 at 6:00 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK OF COUNCIL

**(A LIST OF NAMES OF PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE IS FILED
WITH MINUTE MATERIAL OF THIS DATE)**