The Agenda Session was called to order by Chairman Bennett, with Councilpersons Berz, Rico, Gaines, Shockley, Benson, Robinson, and Page present. Also present were Attorneys Randall Nelson and Mike McMahan and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council.

Others present included Dan Johnson, Daisy Madison, Stan Sewell, Chip O’Dell, Richard Beeland, Mike Feeley, Chief Williams, Chief Rowe, Lee Norris, Larry Zehnder and a host of firefighters.

Chairman Bennett stated that Dan Johnson would go over agenda items that would not be covered in committee.

He first went over two purchases: one for Education, Arts & Culture and another for the Police Dept. handguns. Councilman Benson asked the number of handguns. Chief Williams stated about 50, and it was not the low bid.

Mr. Johnson noted that we covered most of the Ordinances last week, and he did not think there were any particular problems; that Ordinance (b) Southeast Local Development Corp. might be deferred again. Councilman Benson stated that we really needed to move on this tonight. Mr. Johnson noted that it was sent back two weeks ago.

Resolution (a) expressed the intent to issue bonds in the aggregate amount not to exceed $20,000,000.00. This comes from the Capital Budget and Mr. Johnson indicated it was probably too high. Ms. Madison noted that this was mentioned last week, and it is procedural for routine Capital Budget items (Not Volkswagen).

Resolution (b) authorizing an Agreement with Lose & Associates, Inc. for redevelopment of Warner Park was discussed last week.

Resolution (c) concerning an agreement with Architect & Associates, Inc. for the Greenway Farm Building Project for the building that burned was discussed last week.

Resolution (d) executing a Conservation Agreement with the Trust for Public Land was also discussed last week.

Resolutions (e), (f), and (g) all are final change orders for Public Works that were discussed last week.

Resolution (h) concerning a Personal Services Contract with Michael Feeley to act as a liaison with Hispanic and homeless populations was mentioned last week, and Mr. Feeley was present at this meeting.
Resolution (i) authorized $2,000,000.00 from the excess of 2007-2008 collections over expenditures to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Account. This is transfer of money that is available at the end of the year.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR AUGUST 19, 2008

Ordinance 6(a) amending Ordinance No. 11433 to correct the legal description was referred to committee.

Ordinance 6(b) Bob Franklin—Girl’s Preparatory School (Close and Abandon) is an Ordinance that Mr. Johnson noted the Council had seen about every week. It involves Frazier Ave., and Mr. Johnson stated he did not know what would happen; that the Attorneys need to get together to work everything out.

Resolution 7(a) authorizes a contract to RBA Construction, Inc. for the construction of Fire Hall No. 4 in the amount of $1,112,579.00, plus a contingency amount of $98,000.00 for a total amount not to exceed $1,210,579.00. Councilman Page wanted to know where this Fire Hall was located and was told on Dodson Ave. near Hardy School. Mr. Johnson stated that it really needed to be replaced; that they were over budget and would need to find additional funds.

Resolution 7(b) expresses the intent to issue bonds in the amount of $40,000,000.00 for the purpose of paying all or a portion of the costs of the obligations of the City in connection with the Volkswagen manufacturing facility. This is in regards to the Capital Budget and before we issue bonds we have to have a Resolution of Intent in order to reimburse ourselves. Mr. Johnson stated that this is for site preparation and a Welcome Center.

Councilman Pierce stated that he could not vote for this; that from the minority perspective no one had been brought on board as far as jobs and money; that we would be voting on using taxpayers’ money, and he was at a loss as to how it will affect his constituents, and he could not support these bonds.

Chairman Bennett stated that we could discuss funding in committee if we chose to.

Ms. Madison stated that she just wanted the Council brought up to date; that this was not totally finalized; that the specifics had to be worked out.

Councilman Pierce stated that public officials had been mentioned, and he wanted to know who they were? Ms. Madison responded that this was primarily State officials. Councilman Pierce stated that no one from the minority elected had been contacted.
Councilman Page stated that there were a lot of unknowns by all of the community, but the Bonds must be approved before any expenses are incurred. He stated that he agreed with Councilman Pierce that there was a lot of information not out there, but we can’t get reimbursed, and he would speak in favor of this.

Councilman Benson confirmed that this amount of money will be reimbursed by Federal State, and County.

Ms. Madison stated that she could not speak to this; that hopefully this was a high amount for the City; that the vast majority is coming from the State; that this is an estimate of what the City’s share will be.

Councilman Rico stated that this was untested water and everyone would benefit; that we need to get this project going.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that the State was a great partner for this; that she could not imagine that we would get off the track with our responsibility, and there will be a “trickle down” effect, and we need to be sure the State is giving us the right information.

Councilman Pierce stated that they needed someone at the table so they would know what kind of direction to tell the people in his district to get prepared; that he was getting questions from constituents everyday, and he did not know what to tell them; that it would take little effort to say this is the sense of direction; that spending $40,000,000 would just be a drop in the bucket.

Resolution © authorizes a permanent easement located at 1401 Mueller Ave. from Mueller Company through the Trust for Public Land to be used as a part of the South Chickamauga Greenway. Mr. Zehnder stated that he addressed this at last week’s meeting.

Resolution (d) authorizes the appointment of Stephen Mayo and Tonja Wilkes Animal Care Trust d/b/a McKamey Animal Care and Adoption Center, Inc.

Resolution (e) authorizes a Memo of Understanding with the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Hospital Authority for use of the City’s regional public safety radio communications system. This is a long standing agreement between Erlanger and the City, and the City receives money on a hourly basis.

Resolution (f) authorizes eminent domain proceedings again MAPCO Express, Ins. For a right-of-way and temporary construction easement on property located at 1933 Hamill Road. Mr. Norris stated that they were about to decide to negotiate.
Resolutions (g), (h), (i) and (j) all amend Resolutions relative to the Closure/Post Closure for Landfills and Recycling Solid Waste Management. These are annual adjustments that we do every year.

Councilman Page asked if the money was put into a Trust Fund? Mr. Johnson stated that these were just estimated amounts. Ms. Madison added that this was an accounting issue; that we fund to the extent that we are able to; that most of the landfills were here before this law went into effect; that we do this for all the new ones to the extent that we can.

Resolution (k) extends the Special Exceptions Permit for a Planned Unit Development known as Gentry Square Planned Unit Development located at 735 and 731 Gentry Road. This had expired and will continue this for another year. Councilman Page asked were this area was located. Mr. Norris stated that he thought it was in East Brainerd.

Chairman Bennett asked if there was any reason not to move forward with the Agenda? There being none, the meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.