

AGENDA (WORK) SESSION
February 10, 2009
3:00 P.M.

Chairman Bennett called the Agenda (Work) Session to order with Councilmen Benson, Rico, Berz, Gaines, Pierce, Page, Robinson and Gilbert present. City Attorney Michael McMahan and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Fire Marshall Craig, Donna Kelley, Doug Kelley, Gene Hyde, Jim Templeton, Larry Zehnder, Dan Johnson, Jerry Stewart, Richard Beeland, Daisy Madison, Steve Leach, Dennis Malone, Karen Rennich, Greg Haynes, and Barry Bennett.

Chairman Bennett stated that Mr. Johnson would review items on the Agenda and also purchases.

He first addressed the closure and abandonment for Tony Devaughn, which is on the agenda for final reading and was discussed last week.

Mr. Johnson noted that the Ordinances for First Ready were all zoning matters, with the exception of Ordinance (a), which had been discussed last week.

Mr. Leach stated that he would like to speak to **Resolution (e)**, which contained an additional \$20,000.00.

Mr. Johnson then proceeded with **Resolutions (a), (b), (c) and (d)**, which were discussed last week, coming to **Resolution (e)**, which authorizes a 2008 City Sidewalk Requirements Contract in the amount of \$196,155.60, plus a contingency amount of \$19,614.40 for a total amount not to exceed \$215,770.00. Mr. Johnson explained that there was a little change; that we had been working with Hamilton County to do a match and help us with this; that it involves Washington Hills and Murray Hills sidewalks. Mr. Leach noted that they showed graphics last week and were now getting approximately \$20,000 from the County.

Resolution (f) concerns an Interlocal Agreement with Hamilton County, Tennessee for Homeland Security Grant Funds and was discussed last week.

Resolution (g) authorizes the adoption of the Martin Luther King (MLK) Community Plan and will be discussed in Legal and Legislative Committee.

Resolution (j) is an add-on that authorizes a Change Order relative to Construction Inspection Services with Dennis Smith and was discussed last week.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 17, 2009

Ordinance 6(a) First Reading amends the Zoning Ordinance by revising the definition of “Townhouse” and including revisions of the RT-1 Residential Townhouse Zone and Zero Lot Line Zone. Mr. Johnson noted that Barry Bennett was present to answer questions concerning this.

Mr. Bennett stated that they had received a number of calls that indicated that townhouses of only two units had been turned into duplexes; that this amendment establishes a minimum of three units as opposed to two; that the only exception is if the Developer is doing a mixed-use development, and this is part of the overall Townhouse development.

Councilman Gilbert asked if there were not currently townhouses there if you could put a townhouse on property? Mr. Bennett explained that you just would not be able to do a two-unit townhouse.

Mr. Leach noted that the two Resolutions for next week are temporary uses. **Resolution (a)** authorizes Barrett Taylor to temporarily use the right-of-way at 3914 St.Elmo Ave. to install a canopy and a fence. This is the old Incline Drug Store. **Resolution (b)** authorizes Gregory A. Rose to temporarily use a portion of the right-of-way at 63 East Main St. to install a canopy, planter, and sign.

The next topic was purchases. Councilwoman Bennett noted that Mr. Johnson had attached additional information of the purchases. She informed that this information would not be duplicated in Council books; that this was back-up information.

Mr. Johnson proceeded with the first purchase, which was for Public Works and is a Tree Inventory Upgrade with Arbor Pro, Inc. in the amount of \$22,500.00. He stated that Gene Hyde was present to tell us about the Tree Inventory.

Mr. Hyde stated that the City did a Tree Inventory in 2000, and it is on the GIS System; that we had 6,000 trees but there had been rotary alignments and new streetscapes, and the GIS Maps are for all to look at in order to coordinate construction in the City—that you can plug into the software program, which he thought was an important aspect. He noted that in addition, we had submitted an application to the Tennessee Department of Agriculture for a Grant, and if it is awarded to us, it will be a 50/50 match.

Chairman Bennett asked if Arbor Pro, Inc. was a local company and was told it is a company on the west coast.

Councilwoman Berz mentioned the significant differences in the bid prices. Mr. Hyde agreed that there were huge differences, and he did not know the reason. She wanted to know if any of these were Chattanooga companies?

Mr. Hyde noted that the lowest bidder (S & ME) had an office in Chattanooga, but their bid was incomplete.

Councilwoman Robinson stated that she thought the bid of \$125,000 might be a typo error. Mr. Hyde, however, stated that “no” \$125,000 was truly a bid price.

Councilman Pierce noted that the City only requested four bids but six bids were returned. Mr. Hyde responded that he could not say for sure the reason for this—that he counted six separate bids.

Mr. Johnson explained that if the City has a list of bidders, we might send bids to the four on the list but in addition this is also publicly advertised on the internet and through the newspaper and this could be where the other two were picked up, with Councilman Pierce indicating that we had only four companies on our list.

Mr. Hyde stated that this was a pretty narrow and specific field.

The second purchase was also for Public Works for the purchase of a pump from Guthrie Sales & Services in the amount of \$37,207.00.

Councilman Gilbert asked if when a company bid maybe \$32,000 and could see that they might need additional money, if they had a clue when they bid only \$32,000 that they would need more, knowing that the City would give them additional money; that this might encourage someone to be dishonest and try to get the low bid, knowing they could get more money later.

Mr. Johnson explained that this would not happen if the specifications were properly drawn; that additional money is for only if some of the specifications change.

Councilwoman Berz stated that she thought the changes came from the City.

Mr. Johnson explained that such changes were not anticipated and was no fault of the company.

Councilwoman Berz questioned why we chose Guthrie Sales over Sykes, which had a lower bid? Mr. Stewart explained that we asked for specific cable and Sykes had not provided enough money in their bid for the cable.

Councilman Gilbert verified that specifications go out with the bid.

The third purchase was for Parks and Recreation for the purchase of signs for Renaissance Park from Nordquist of Minneapolis in the amount of \$11,725.00. Mr. Johnson explained that they provided the original signs in the Park, and we wanted all of the signs to be in agreement.

The fourth purchase was for General Services for the purchase of 12 Foot Box Delivery Trucks for the Fleet Management Division from Brooker Ford in the amount of \$42,200.00. Mr. Johnson noted that the list of the other dealers was in the packet.

Chairman Bennett asked if there were any questions concerning the purchases.

Councilwoman Berz stated that she really appreciated the back-up information, with Councilman Gilbert echoing that it helped a lot.

There were no objections to the purchases.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 P.M.