AGENDA (WORK) SESSION
February 17, 2009
3:00 P.M.

Chairman Bennett called the Agenda (Work) Session to order with Councilpersons Berz, Robinson, Benson, Rico, Gilbert and Page present. Councilman Pierce joined the meeting later. City Attorney Michael McMahan, Management Analyst Randy Burns, and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Lee Norris, Jerry Stewart, Steve Leach, Greg Haynes, Dennis Malone, Lamar Flint, Jim Templeton, Mark Keil, Gary Hilbert, Larry Zehnder, Dan Johnson, Donna Kelley, Richard Beeland, and Daisy Madison. Missy Crutchfield, John VanWinkle, and Chief Williams joined the meeting later.

Chairman Bennett passed out agendas, noting that Mr. Johnson would have information to pass out concerning purchases. She asked each one to look over their agenda and see if they had any questions for Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson noted that Ordinances on this week’s agenda had already been covered and there were two Resolutions that would be covered in the Public Works’ Committee.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 24, 2009

Chairman Bennett stated that next week on February 24th there will be a Special Session at 2:00 P.M. for an exciting presentation by Gene Hyde, concerning Resolution (a) on next week’s agenda adopting the Chattanooga Climate Action Plan.

Resolution (b), concerning the Community Development Grant, Home Investment Partnership Act, and Emergency Shelter Grant funding will be heard next week in committee. Councilwoman Robinson asked if someone would be telling the Council about the $3 million dollars.

Resolution © authorizes General Services to apply for a Grant from Homeland Security through the Emergency Management Agency, Fiscal Year 2008, in the amount of $89,354.00. Mr. Johnson asked if Paul Page was present? He was not present and Mr. Johnson stated that this was part of the $17 million grant received earlier—that we were doing various things with this.
Resolution (d) authorizes Personnel to execute a Personal Services Agreement with Fire and Police Selection, Inc., in an amount not to exceed $18,000.00 per year. Ms. Kelley was present and explained that Personnel processes applications for the hiring of the Fire Dept. and offers training materials leading up to the testing. She stated that there was a line of people to take the test; that because of the large number, this might slightly exceed the $10,000.00.

Resolution (e) authorizes Parks and Recreation to hold the “C.H.I.P. ’S” for Charity Golf Classic” to provide scholarships and needed equipment. Mr. Zehnder will tag on to the Public Works Committee and discuss this.

Resolutions (f) thru (i) are Public Works’ related and will be discussed the Public Works Committee.

Mr. Johnson next went over the Purchases, beginning with #1 for the Police Dept. purchase of software maintenance from Motorola, Inc. in the amount of $25,290. This is for fingerprinting.

Purchase #2 is for Information Services and is a change order for professional consulting services from Excalibur Integrated Systems not to exceed $150,000. Mr. Johnson explained that this is a State Contract, which the State did not renew, and we had to pick it up individually.

Mark Keil of IS was present and added that this was funded by Homeland Security; that we started out with the State and recently got money from the FED’s; that we were already in the process of the project.

Purchase #3 is an emergency purchase of Liquid Oxygen System Repairs for Public Works from Mixing & Mass Transfer Technologies, LLC in the amount of $148,473 and Adm. Leach will cover this later in the Council meeting.

Purchase #4 is for Public Works’ purchase of Traffic Speed Cushions from Road Kare International LP in the amount of 466,420. Councilman Benson asked if the fines collected on speed cameras goes into Drivers’ Education? Mr. Johnson responded that it goes for Traffic Safety. Councilman Benson stated that we needed the speed cushions and was glad we were getting them. Mr. Norris added that there are conditions on the use of this money—that it has to be traffic safety related issues.

Mr. VanWinkle was present and added that the money is also used to defray the cost of the cameras; that it is not committed to Drivers’ Education but just traffic safety.
Councilman Benson asked if we had all the money we needed for the traffic speed cushions situation? Mr. VanWinkle responded that we are keeping up with the demand. Mr. Johnson added that for these speed cushions to be installed in a neighborhood, 2/3 of the neighborhood have to sign to get them. Councilman Benson continued to ask if we had a shortage? Mr. VanWinkle responded that as we have money, we purchase the speed cushions and install them. He continued, stating that we have never changed our policy concerning traffic calming—that it is based on traffic history, traffic speed and traffic volume. Also, the topography is a factor; that we have to look at each case as it comes in and study if an area qualifies; that if they qualify, his department works with the community for something that will be suitable.

Councilwoman Robinson asked if there was a backlog of communities wanting speed cushions? Mr. VanWinkle responded that he thought there were 5-10 projects waiting for funding; that we had a large order from $20,000 to $30,000, which should cover all on the waiting list. Mr. Norris agreed that this should be enough to eliminate the backlog.

Councilman Page questioned why we took this bid rather than the lower one of TAG International? Mr. VanWinkle explained that they did not meet the specifications.

Councilman Pierce stated that he got calls daily about this, and he tried to discourage the callers—that some said that a lot of the areas did not meet the requirements, and the City still put them in. Mr. VanWinkle asserted that they had to meet the criteria and have 2/3 of the people sign off on this.

Councilman Gilbert asked if we had a street where only two blocks needed this, would we do only that section? Mr. VanWinkle responded that it would depend on how the streets were designed; that he was working with Councilman Benson on something of this nature.

The next purchase was for the Fire Department’s purchase of furnishing and installation of diesel generators from Michaels Electric in the amount of $67,160, and the last purchase was also for the Fire Department and was for the purchase of breathing apparatus masks and voice amplifications from Safety Today in the amount of $13,914.34. He stated that these were all of the purchases.

Mr. Johnson stated that he had four appointments to the Board of Electrical Examiners.

Chairman Bennett asked if there were any questions for Mr. Johnson?
Councilman Benson asked Mr. Johnson if we would like to tell the Council who the four appointments were?

Mr. Johnson responded that the first was Kenny Smith. It was noted that Mr. Smith was present at tonight’s meeting. The other three were Steve Clark, Joe Farless, and Ron Pendergrass.

At this point, Councilwoman Berz stated that Greg Haynes was present to talk about the Colman S. Hochman case. She stated that she would like to have the language on this. She noted that this was Ordinance (b) on tonight’s agenda—First Reading and is a rezoning from R-4 to RT-1 on a tract of land located at 6203 East Brainerd Rd. She explained that we were going to add that this be subject to landscaping and screening is to be installed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 P.M.