Chairman Benson called the Agenda (Work) Session to order with Councilmen Rico, Scott, Robinson, McGary, and Ladd present. Councilman Murphy joined the meeting later. City Attorneys Michael McMahan, Phil Noblett, Crystal Freiberg, and Patrick Bobo were also present, as was Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council. Others present included Sandra Gober, Barry Bennett, Dennis Malone, Jerry Stewart, Lee Norris, Dan Johnson, Greg Haynes, Gary Hilbert, Chief Williams, Danny Thornton, Solomon Hatch, Steve Leach, Chief Haney, Richard Beeland, and Chief Parker. Daisy Madison joined the meeting later.

Chairman Benson called the meeting to order, stating that Mr. Johnson would go over tonight’s agenda, as well as next week’s agenda.

Mr. Johnson noted that we had already talked about the first three Ordinances on final reading.

**Ordinances (a), (b), and (c) will be discussed in the Legal and Legislative Committee to follow.**

**Ordinances (d) thru (f) are zoning matters.**

**Ordinance (g) is for Greg Vital and amends zoning conditions.**

**Ordinances (h) thru (j) are zoning items.**

**Ordinance (k) is relative to garbage and refuse and was added from the Public Works Committee last week. Councilwoman Scott asked if this would be discussed tonight? It will be covered later in the meeting.**

Mr. Johnson stated that we had covered most of the Resolutions. **Resolution (a) authorizes the Department of Education, Arts & Culture to apply for a grant from the Community Foundation in the amount of $20,000 for the “What’s Going On?” initiative.**

**Resolutions (b) thru (e) were discussed in the Public Works Committee last week.**

**Resolution (f) authorizes the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development to enter into a Professional Services Contract with Asset Property Disposition, Inc. to develop a Neighborhood Stabilization Implementation Plan in an amount not to exceed $40,000.00.** Mr. Johnson stated that he thought this was discussed at last week’s Safety Committee.
Resolutions (g) and (h) are Tennessee Temple PUD’s.

Resolution (i) authorizes the Department of Education, Arts & Culture to apply for a sponsorship from AT&T in the amount of $50,000.00 for “Think & Draw and Talk About It” booklets.

Resolution (j) declares a moratorium on building permits for lots in staff-approved subdivisions for sixty (60) days. This was added by permission of Chairman Benson.

Chairman Benson stated that a large number would be coming to the meeting tonight in regards to this; that it is an outgrowth of the Planning Commission and is similar to Carr Street and Kay Circle. The property is off of Morris Hill Rd. where there are large lots and expensive homes. Chairman Benson explained that a man had bought one house and had gotten staff approval to subdivide and put in three smaller houses, even moving in some torn-down houses. He went on to say that there were some legal problems with the Staff approval of this rather than the Planning Commission. He noted that Mr. Bennett had said that the Staff had certain rights but because of the legal problems there will be a large delegation here tonight, including two lawyers, and he was asking that a moratorium be placed on staff-approved subdivisions for 60 days or until the City Council can take a look at these situations where the Planning Staff has total autonomy, with no advertising, and the Planning Commission does not vote on this. He stated that this had been in effect for some time.

Mr. Bennett stated that when the economy is better there are often 40-60 staff approvals per month for subdivisions.

Chairman Benson stated that he thought they were going to tighten up their guidelines. Mr. Hayes noted that this tightening up was for infill lots. Chairman Benson noted that they were re-subdividing subdivisions. Mr. Leach explained that not all are staff approvals—just those creating lots. Mr. Bennett confirmed that it is when someone is combining lots and the lot lines remain the same.

Chairman Benson reiterated that a lot of people would be here tonight—that they were very upset and a lot of attorneys were involved. He suggested that this be pushed up on the agenda.
AGENDA ITEMS FOR JUNE 16, 2009

Mr. Johnson noted that there were no additional First Reading Ordinances.

He proceeded to Resolution (a) accepting the highest and best offers for certain parcels of property acquired by the City and Hamilton County through previous delinquent tax sales and authorizing the Director of General Services to enter into and execute deeds conveying said parcels to individuals shown on the list.

Resolution (b) authorizes an Interlocal Agreement with Hamilton County relative to maintenance and operational funding for the Bessie Smith Hall located at 200 E. Martin Luther King Blvd. Councilwoman Scott noted that when the Council got this Resolution it had some figures for expenses. She wanted to know if we approve this Agreement, are we approving the funding? Mr. Johnson responded that it is done through the Budget process. Councilwoman Scott maintained that not everything was on this. Attorney McMahan explained that both the City and County share this. Councilwoman Scott went on to say that it had figures attached and wanted to know if this was the basis for the Interlocal Agreement if we enter into and execute it? She wanted to know if we were authorizing the Mayor to approve with these figures? Attorney McMahan stated that it will definitely say continued funding by the City and the County—that every year the funding changes. Chairman Benson noted that it was essentially 50/50.

Mr. Johnson stated that Resolution (c), which authorizes an agreement with CSX Railway to conduct preliminary engineering services relative to a proposed trail under the South Chickamauga Bridge in an amount not to exceed $10,000, was similar to the one last week with Norfolk Southern.

Resolutions (d) thru (j) will be discussed in Public Works Committee next week.

Resolution (k) authorizes a Lease Agreement with the Chattanooga African American Museum and Hamilton County for property located at 200 East Martin Luther King Blvd. for a term of ten years and for a monthly rental rate of $1.00. Mr. Johnson noted that Danny Thornton was present to go over this.

Mr. Thornton noted that it was a 10-year lease term with a five year option and is subject to funding. He noted that the explanation is in the exhibit that the Council was looking at—that all is spelled out in the lease as to what we will take care of and what they will take care of. Councilwoman Scott asked for a copy of the lease.

Mr. Johnson stated that there was one appointment to the Sign Appeals Board—Ms. Charlotte Martin. Councilman Rico noted that this was his appointee.
Mr. Johnson had 19 purchases to cover. The first was for General Services and the purchase of a Ford Cargo Van from Brooker Ford in the amount of $18,479.00. The second was also for General Services and the purchase of truck utility bodies from Cherokee Truck Equipment, LLC in the amount of $21,231.00. The third was for Public Works and the purchase of ABB Flow Meters and Transmitters from Edison Automation, Inc. in the amount of $37,936.00. The fourth was also for Public Works and the purchase of a Spectrophotometer, and they were asking for a rejection of all bids and recommending new advertisement. The fifth purchase was for Public Works and a blanket contract for the purchase of River Sand from both Ramsey Trucking Co. and Thomas Brothers Construction Company with estimated amount of $11,050 and $4,542.50, respectively. Mr. Templeton explained that the reason for two was so that we would have a back-up. The sixth purchase was also for Public Works and a blanket contract for Sewer Grout Chemicals from Avanti Material Sales Ltd. at an estimated cost of $43,000. Mr. Johnson explained that “estimated cost” means unit price. Purchase #7 was for Public Works and the purchase of All Weather Refrigerated Samplers from Hack Company in the amount of $12,655.20. Purchase #8 was for Human Services for the purchase and installation of new carpeting from Certified Installation in the amount of $16,256.90. Purchase #9 was for Public Works and a blanket contract for the purchase of Liquid Calcium Nitrate from Siemens Water Technology Corp. with an estimated annual cost of $643,500.00. Purchase #10 was for Public Works and the purchase of Open Top Containers from Wastequip-Holt in the amount of $13,344. Purchase #11 was for General Services and the purchase of additional Warranty Coverage for Police Cruiser Camera Systems from Digital Safety Technologies in the amount of $25,000. Purchase #12 was for the Police Dept. and the purchase of promotional items from Remains To Be Seen in the amount of $13,572.50. Chairman Benson wanted to know what promotional items were? Chief Williams explained that it was for crime preventions and community outreach.

Purchase #13 was for Finance and Administration and a Requirements Contract for the purchase of Online Payment Services from Link2Gov at an estimated annual cost to service users of $30,000. Purchase #14 was for the Mayor’s Office and the purchase of Rental Space for Computer Equipment from Airnet in the amount of $6,835.00. Purchase #15 was for Parks and Recreation and the purchase of Contractor’s Services to Resurface Rivermont Park Tennis Courts with Competition Athletic Services in the amount of $13,910.00. Purchase #16 was for General Services and a Blanket Agreement for the purchase of Remote Fuel at the Fuel Pump from Mapco Fleet, Inc. at an estimated annual cost of $115,000.00. Purchase #17 was for General Services, also, and a Blanket Agreement for the Purchase of Truck Wash Chemicals from Pro Chemicals Products at an estimated annual cost of $28,000. Purchase #18 was from Public Works and a Blanket Agreement for the purchase of Herbicide Treatment Services from SprayMax, Inc. at an estimated annual cost of $9,000. The last purchase (#19) was for the Health and Wellness Center and a Blanket Agreement for the purchase of Medical Supplies from Physician Sales and Service, Inc. for an estimated annual cost of $20,000.00.
Chairman Benson asked if there were any questions concerning the purchases? Mr. Rico asked if these could be approved as a unit or if Mr. Johnson had to read them all out at tonight’s meeting? Chairman Benson stated that he would ask Mr. Johnson to summarize the number and then file the information with the Clerk as a record.

Councilman McGary asked when the Council sees the “Best Bid” as noted on the last purchase, does this mean that it is not the lowest bid? Mr. Johnson responded that all of the back-up is sent to the Council by e-mail; that sometimes it is not the lowest bid because some of the bidders have incomplete bids—that all of this is explained in the letters with the back-up.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.