

## **AGENDA (WORK) SESSION**

**July 7, 2009**

**3:00 P.M.**

Chairman Benson called the Agenda Session to order with Councilpersons Robinson, Rico, Gilbert, Ladd and McGary present. Councilpersons Murphy, Scott and Berz joined the meeting later. City Attorney Phil Noblett and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Larry Zehnder, Gary Hilbert, Jim Templeton, Dan Johnson, Richard Beeland, Lee Norris, Dennis Malone and Steve Leach. Dickie Hutsell, Vicky Haley, Joe Booth, Tony Sammons, and Greg Haynes joined the meeting later.

Chairman Benson asked that Mr. Johnson go over the agenda. He began with the two closures and abandonments that were covered in Public Works committee last week. **Ordinance First Reading (a)** amends the City Code relative to alcoholic beverages with respect to persons under the age of 21. This will be discussed in more detail in the Legal and Legislative Committee.

**Resolution (a)** authorizes free Carousel tickets in support of the Summer Reading Program to be given to all young readers who complete their reading goals. This was discussed last week in the Parks and Recreation Committee.

**Resolution (b)** authorizes a management agreement with the Trust for Public Land for the design and construction of part of the North Chickamauga Greenway in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00. This also was discussed in committee last week.

**Resolution (c)** authorizes Public Works to apply for a grant from the National Park Service in an amount up to \$100,000 relative to Contract No. T-09-002, Transportation Planning Study, Moccasin Bend National Archeological District, which along with **Resolutions (d) and (e)** were discussed in Public Works last week.

Chairman Benson wanted to return to **Resolution (b)** in regards to the RFP process and administering the design and construction.

Adm. Zehnder stated that this would be the responsibility of the Trust for Public Land—that they would handle this from start to finish with the design and engineering; they will obtain the quotes and bids and will handle this through their framework. He explained that taking this through the City System would be totally different and would negate the need for this Resolution.

Chairman Benson stated that he thought Councilwoman Scott had a question concerning this.

Councilwoman Ladd stated that TPL does the fundraising, which takes it off our plate and then the easement is given to us—that this involves fundraising.

Adm. Zehnder mentioned Waterhaven, which was handled by the same basic Resolution; that we will enter into an agreement with TPL, and they will handle this from start to finish and get the job done and then turn it over to the City with work done to our specifications. Adm. Zehnder explained that he did not have engineering people to do the work and would have to hire consultants; that TPL will handle the bid process and will get everything to us in completed form.

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR JULY 14, 2009**

Mr. Johnson noted that the Ordinance for first reading on tonight's agenda, should appear on next week's agenda for final reading.

**Ordinance (a) First Reading** amends the City Code relative to the Zoning Ordinance. Adm. Leach stated that this was a housekeeping matter.

**Ordinance (b)** amending the City Code relative to retail sale of wine will be discussed in the Legal and Legislative Committee.

**Ordinances (c), (d), and (e)** are zoning matters.

**Ordinance (f)** will be discussed in Public Works next week.

**Resolutions (a) through (g)** will be discussed in Public Works next week.

**Resolution (h)** authorizes the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development to enter into a contract with the Chattanooga Convention Center for an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Neighborhoods and Codes Conference scheduled for October 22-23, 2009. Mr. Tony Sammons was present and explained that the revenue for the Codes side is for continuing education and offsets expenditures coming in. Councilman McGary asked "how much"? Mr. Sammons responded that the fee for each participant is \$100.00, and they hoped to get 50 to 100 participants, who would pay the registration fee.

**Resolution (i)** is in regards to prohibiting handguns in City public municipal parks, natural areas, historic parks, nature trails, campgrounds, forests, greenways, waterways, or other similar public places. This is on next week's agenda. Chairman Benson added that this would be discussed more fully in the Legal and Legislative Committee.

Mr. Johnson stated that there were no purchases for this week.

Councilman Gilbert stated that in regards to handguns, they should not be allowed in pee wee fields. Chairman Benson noted that this would be discussed in greater detail in the Legal and Legislative committee.

Mr. Johnson mentioned one board appointment—Mr. Joe Sliger to the Construction Board.

### **COUNCIL AGENDA**

Councilwoman Berz stated that when we passed the Mission Statement, we were supposed to have meetings where the Council would have their own agenda session. She asked if we were going to implement this?

Chairman Benson stated that he did not know what she was talking about.

Councilwoman Berz stated that right now the Agenda is initiated through Administration, which is a good thing; that she was talking about the Council's Mission Statement and how we were going to implement this. She stated that we needed a Council Agenda in order to have checks and balances with Administration.

Councilwoman Scott stated that she thought this was a good idea; that things come up with the Council and there will be issues, and this would give an opportunity to have a meeting on a regular basis to see if any districts have something that needs to be discussed.

Councilman Gilbert stated that he agreed—that Council issues are not on Administration's agenda.

Chairman Benson stated that most issues are touched on in our regular committee meetings, with Councilman Gilbert responding "not everything".

Councilwoman Robinson stated that if we were going to have these meetings, it needed to be at a time when we would have an attorney present and a time when everyone would be here anyway. She suggested the time be at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Councilman Murphy mentioned the e-mails concerning council requests to Administration; that if we did have this meeting it might make available a time to discuss common issues that the Council might have, for instance, Daisy Madison might not have to answer five sets of questions concerning numbers, and we could arrive at what the entire Council would like for her to look at.

Chairman Benson asked if what Councilman Murphy was talking about was different from a meeting concerning the Mission Statement?

Councilman Murphy responded that we needed to think globally, using as an example that Councilwoman Scott was interested in purchasing procedures and contracts and her requests could come from five or more councilmembers as a body rather than just one councilperson; that it has been said that the Council is “burying” Administration under requests.

Councilman Gilbert stated that he thought this was a great opportunity for a committee to act as a group.

Councilwoman Ladd stated that she liked the idea—that it would be council housekeeping.

Councilwoman Robinson again asked that the meeting be at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesdays. Councilwoman Berz felt that it should be at 2:00 p.m. Councilman Murphy agreed that it could be held every Tuesday to see if we have a backlog. Chairman Benson confirmed that this meeting would take place next Tuesday at 2:00 p.m.

Councilman McGary stated that the Council could plan where we want to put our dollars.

Councilwoman Berz added that we had talked about looking at the infrastructure and communication and various other issues; that she was looking at the Mission Statement—that in order to work with Administration, there has to be checks and balances; that there is a meeting on Tuesday morning that is attended by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman with Administration; that this is not meant to be antithetical to Administration’s agenda, but we do not have checks and balances; that we need to implement the Mission Statement and have our own agenda, which might be larger than the Mission Statement; that we need to see where we want to go and there are issues we all need to discuss in the light of day.

Chairman Benson still felt that if our committees work properly that each committee will generate what needs to be done; that we will start this out and introduce it each Tuesday but issues discussed should be referred to the proper committee.

Councilwoman Berz stated that this was not just a Mission Review Statement; that she thought it was important for all of our colleagues to see that this starts next week.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.