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

Others present included Barry Bennett, Dan Johnson, Lee Norris, Larry Zehnder, Chief Parker, Tony Simmons, Richard Beeland, Chief Rawlston, Vickie Haley, John Van Winkle, Paul Page, Dickie Hutsell, Gary Gillet, Jim Templeton, Greg Haynes, Jerry Stewart, Dennis Tate, and Chief Dodd.

Mr. Johnson began the meeting, calling on Lisa Elam with the State Department of Human Services Weatherization Program who was on tonight’s agenda. He asked her to tell the process. Chairman Rico asked her if it would take more than five minutes and was told “no”. She stated that tonight would be a Public Hearing for the community to provide comments; that CNE had been chosen to handle the Weatherization Program.

**Ordinance 5(a)** amends the Code relative to permits on special gatherings. Mr. Johnson stated that he thought this was ready to go on second and final reading.

**Ordinance 6(a)** amends the Code regulating inoperable vehicles. Councilman Murphy stated that this item would be taken up in Legal and Legislative Committee. **Ordinance 6(b)** was a closure and abandonment of a portion of the 1700 Block of E. 17th St. **Ordinances (c) and (d)** are zoning matters.

**Resolution (a)** authorizes an Agreement with Hamilton County for the Hamilton County Courts Community Service Program to pick up litter along City right-of-ways using first-time, non-violent offenders, in an amount not to exceed $60,000.00. Councilman Gilbert asked if we were paying them $60,000 to pick up paper? He went on to say that these streets are also in Hamilton County. Lee Norris pointed out that they are City streets; however Councilman Gilbert felt that the County should be doing this anyway. Mr. Johnson stated that it keeps our streets clean, and he agreed with the concept. Councilman Murphy stated that most of the County Commissioners do not think it is their responsibility—that it is a City problem; that if we don’t spend the money, cities such as East Ridge would be locked out. Councilman Gilbert stated that we needed to sit down with the County and talk about this, with Councilman Murphy stating that Councilman Gilbert had just nominated himself to do this. Councilwoman Scott asked if any other city in Hamilton County is paying for this service? Mr. Johnson stated that he did not know and neither did Public Works. Mr. Norris explained that they pick up litter on our streets and State streets, also. Councilwoman Ladd noted that the labor force is the County Jails, and we get a lot of trash bagged and off our streets. Councilman Benson added that a lot of the prisoners are coming out of the City.
Resolution (b) declares surplus property at 1612 Olive Street and was discussed last week. Resolution (c) rescinds Resolution 26291 authorizing the purchase of property located at 201 Sequoia Drive with Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds. Resolution (d) amends Resolution No. 25442 by changing the amount allocated to 28th District CDC from $364,000 to $235,061.15. The remaining funds of $128,938.85 will be allocated to HOMEAgain Program. Resolution (e) also concerns Neighborhood Services, awarding $199,264.00 to HOMEAgain Program Funds to Orange Grove Center, Inc. to create affordable, permanent, supportive housing. Resolution (f) authorizes the Finance Officer to apply for re-financing of the Dogwood Manor property and was discussed last week. Resolution (g) authorizes Tom Marshall to temporarily use the right-of-way located at 407 Broad Street for the placement of a sign over a portion of the right-of-way. Public Works will cover this item. Resolution (h) authorizes to bid at an auction on used equipment and will be discussed in the Public Works Committee.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR JUNE 15, 2010

Resolution (a) authorizes the Chief of Police to apply for and accept an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant in a total amount of $228,752 of which $74,825 will go to the Hamilton County Sheriff’s Department and $153,927 will go to the Chattanooga Police Dept., with no local matching funds required. Chief Rawlston explained that we share with Hamilton County, and it much cheaper than running a jail. Councilwoman Scott asked if there were any obligations going forward and was told “no”.

Resolution (b) will be discussed in Public Works. Resolution (c) authorizes the Fire Chief to enter into a contract with JDH to remove and replace the roof at Fire Station No. 13 to allow for a 10% contingency for a total price not to exceed $46,456.30. Resolution (d) is a Special Exceptions Permit for The Covenant which has been deferred waiting on community meetings. Councilman Gilbert stated that they were getting together.

Mr. Johnson went over the following two purchases: (1) 50 Taser Guns & Cartridges for the Police Dept. from Gulf States Distributors in the amount of $47,330.00 and (2) Turbo-Expander Rebuild Services for Public Works from Lufkin-RMT in the amount of $116,124.00. The first purchase is from grant funds. Councilwoman Berz asked the Chief if he purchased equipment that was not approved yet? Chief Rawlston responded that these officers will come on line, and he did not know the level of staffing, and they would have these in inventory. She asked if this was basic equipment and was told “yes”. Councilwoman Scott wanted to know what the second purchase was and was told by Mr. Stewart that it is the repair of two turbines and two rebuilds.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 P.M.