The Agenda Session was called to order by Chairman Rico, with Councilpersons Berz, Scott, Gilbert, Benson, Ladd, Murphy and Robinson present. Councilman McGary joined the meeting later. City Attorney Michael McMahan, Management Analyst Randy Burns and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.


Chairman Rico noted that the meeting would have to be moved to the Assembly Room because of the number of people present; that they were told they would be welcome to attend, and they came. He explained to the crowd that at this meeting, we would be going over tonight’s agenda; that rezonings are public hearings, and we will have no discussion about rezonings until the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Johnson proceeded with the Agenda. Ordinance (a) is the Vehicles for Hire Ordinance. Ordinance (b) is entitled “Injury on Duty Program”. Ordinance (c) is a rezoning matter. Ordinances—First Reading—(a) through (e) are zoning matters.

Resolution (a) awards a contract to Weeks Paving Inc. for rear parking lot repairs at the Police Service Center for the amount of $13,891.00. This was deferred from last week.

Mr. Leach explained that this had been discussed with the Police Dept.—that the basic issue was whether Public Works could do this cheaper than Weeks.

Randy Bell from the Police Dept. stated that the material would cost $791.00, which was cheaper than what Public Works could provide; that the area of concern is adjacent to gas pumps with potential sinkholes; another consideration was time constraints.

Mr. Johnson noted that it would cost Public Works $20,000 to do this, and we had gotten a bid for $14,000.

Councilman Gilbert asked if it flooded in this area and was told by Mr. Bell that this is a low lying area where the Police Chiefs and Captains park—that the asphalt has dropped.

Adm. Leach added that this had already gone out to bid, and they had not planned it in their schedule, and he was not sure when they would be able to get to this.
Resolution (b) is a COPS Grant in the amount of $4,015,156, which will be used to hire 23 police officers and pay their salaries for three years. The City of Chattanooga will be required to fund these positions one year beyond the expiration of the grant. This will take care of the next academy. Mr. Johnson noted that this had already been discussed. Councilman Murphy spoke to the way Mr. Johnson had phrased this funding for the 23 officers—there is one academy we have not budgeted for.

Resolution (c) is also a Police Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice in a total amount not to exceed $500,000 to be used for a regional training facility. This is for a three year period with no matching funds.

Resolutions (d), (e) and (f) are all Public Works’ items that were discussed last week.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR JULY 20, 2010

Resolution (a) authorizes the Mayor to execute a maintenance contract with TDOT for 2010-2011, relative to the State reimbursing the City for maintenance work on state highways routed through the City. This contract is entered into every year with TDOT.

Resolution (b) declares surplus property located at 2403 Ivy Street, and authorizes conveyance to CNE with guidelines of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

Resolution (c) is the same thing for property located at 908 W. 38th St. and conveys the property to the Habitat for Humanity or other qualified buyer. Councilwoman Scott stated that she would not be able to vote on Resolution (b) because she is a CNE Board member. She then asked a question about Resolution (e) on this week’s agenda concerning the City Sidewalk Requirements Contract. She wanted to know where the sidewalks are going? Adm. Leach stated that he had a list he would give to her.

Mr. Johnson went over a purchase of four traffic poles from A to Z in the amount of $22,661.00.

He also had two appointments—Adam Veron to the RPA Planning Commission with a term to expire May of 2012 and Kim White to the Erlanger Board with a term to expire November of 2013.

Councilman Benson asked Mr. Johnson who the appointee to the RPA Planning Commission was? Mr. Johnson responded Adam Veron, who lives in Hixson, to replace Vance Travis. He stated that an attachment was sent to the Council members two weeks ago. Councilman Benson stated that he would have to study this, wanting to know who Mr. Veron worked for and what his background was. Mr. Johnson stated that he worked for U.S. Express and had a degree in Business Administration. Councilman Benson noted that in losing Vance Travis, we were losing an architect—that it was nice to have someone on this commission with his knowledge; that he thought administration knew that he would have a problem with this.
Mr. Johnson stated that this appointment could be deferred tonight.

At this point, Councilman Benson wanted to say a few words to the group in attendance. He stated that they were an unusual group; that they were here right now because of an error in communication; that there was not time at this meeting to say what they needed to say; that the Council meeting will start at 6:00 p.m. He explained that what we were engaged in right now were committee meetings, and it would not be appropriate and proper for these people to “waste their ammunition” this afternoon. He jokingly stated that he blamed this on Chairman Rico, and he wanted to apologize to these people; that he thought the Council knew how they felt and would know more about it tonight.

Chairman Rico also apologized, stating that rezonings were advertised for 6:00 p.m.; that they had been told that they were welcome to come to this Agenda meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.