AGENDA SESSION
OCTOBER 23, 2012
3:00 P.M.

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

Others present included Johnny Feagans, Dan Johnson, Boyd Patterson, Daisy Madison, Kathie Fulgham, Richard Beeland, Danny Thornton, Gary Hilbert, Dickie Hutsell, Alice Cannella, Tony Boyd, Lee Norris, Steve Leach, Dennis Malone, John Van Winkle, Jim Templeton, Stan Sewell, Captain Snyder, and Chip O’Dell.

On motion of Councilman Gilbert, seconded by Councilman Rico, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Mr. Johnson proceeded with agenda items, noting that there would be a Special Presentation involving “Go!Fest”. There will be a final reading on the annexation owned by Barrier Properties, LLC, which has been previously discussed. Ms. Madison went over Ordinance 6(a) concerning Dogwood Manor, LLC last week.

Resolution (a) authorizes Parks and Recreation to enter into an agreement with Franklin Architects for renovations at Hixson Community Center. The agenda listed this as being in District 4, when actually it is in District 3. Resolution (b) authorizes a Change Order with Accela, Inc. relative to the Integrated Voice Response System.

Resolution (c) authorizes the Gang Task Force to extend the contract with Ochs Center and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga to provide services in the development of an Implementation Plan, based upon the data accumulated for the Comprehensive Gang Assessment for an amount not to exceed $5,500.00. Mr. Johnson asked Boyd Patterson to speak to this.

Mr. Patterson explained that the second phase was being entered; that after the assessment, we enter the Plan Implementation Phase, which is part of the model after the research comes in. He stated that he was not sure that it was similar to the assessment, which included both Ochs and UTC, and this just includes UTC. This is part of the model and the money is in the Budget for this expertise.

Councilman Gilbert asked what Mr. Patterson expected to gain with this tool? Mr. Patterson responded that he expected UTC to partner with the Steering Committee for specific plans; that UTC would develop measureables and make sure the data is correct. Councilman Gilbert went on to say that we have had discussions about his next topic but that he would like to have a
council meeting to discuss this—that our constituents need to have the opportunity to weigh in on a Trade School in Chattanooga; that there are business men who are willing to work to make this happen. He noted that reading and education is an important tool in dealing with gangs and for this to be successful; that he and Councilman Benson had attended meetings concerning a Trade School, and we need to stop talking about this; that a lot of people want this to happen—that it would be from 7th grade to 12th grade with high tech training. He asked how we could put this place; that we had been talking about this for a year, and it was time to put this in place, and the Council should be a part of this, in terms of our work with gangs. Mr. Patterson responded that he agreed with Councilman Gilbert.

Councilman Benson added that as part of the gang problem, we needed to emphasis the prevention as well as suppression; that there had been a rise in gangs since 1980 and that was when we lost Kirkman and those interested in a vocational school has to go almost to Rhea County on a bus; that we did not have an academy filling this need; that with the gang momentum, we needed to tie in what Councilman Gilbert was talking about and prepare people for technical vocational jobs, and the school needed to be accessible; that we did need to tie this in.

Councilman Gilbert stated that when he was talking about high tech, he meant that we needed to be training kids to repair machines that would be breaking down, and we needed young people with electrical and plumbing skills; that Chattanooga will grow, and we need to be prepared to keep our youth in Chattanooga.

Councilman McGary mentioned the timeframe of November 1st to December 15th, stating that he wanted to ask about the long range plan—would this be completed by December 15th because Administration would be changing in March, and he hoped that this would be ongoing. Mr. Patterson responded that this timeframe would make it go faster than without a timeframe; that Chattanooga is coming together more readily than other cities—that our assessment was done quicker, and we will accelerate this plan, as well. He went on to say that we have the Plan and the Steering Committee fulfilling their roles, and he hoped by March that we would have some of this work behind us, such as the implementation of the Plan; that this would take the Steering Committee coming together and doing their part. Also law officials would have to come together, and vocational training working into the assessment had to be there, too. He explained that the Steering Committee members would let us know how realistic this will be; that he wished he could say everyone would get behind this, and we could start in January, but with his experience this last year, he never knew who would be willing partners and who would be pro-active.

Councilman McGary asked in regard to Studies, is this a Study or is there another Study on the horizon? Mr. Patterson responded that this is not a Study—that it is a contract with a Research Partner—UTC and the Ochs Center that will help us to transition and evaluate—that
this is not for research but to continue the partnership and develop measureables—that this is not a Study.

Councilman Gilbert asked Mr. Patterson to send him a list of those who are on the Steering Committee. He agreed to do this.

At this point, Mr. Patterson asked if he needed to be present at the 6:00 p.m. meeting because he was a soccer coach and need to leave. He was told that he would not be needed at 6:00 p.m.

Resolution (d) authorizes the Chief of Police to apply for and accept a GHSO Grant to be used for the purchase of radar units in the amount of $31,649. Captain Snyder explained that this was a grant for radars—moving radars on enforcement vehicles and motorcycles.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR OCTOBER 30, 2012

Resolution (a) authorizes acceptance of an Allied Arts grant to pay for urban artists, primer, and spray paint, for the pillars across from the Wellness Center in the amount of $6,248.82. Councilman McGary wanted to know more about the grant. Ms. Fulgham explained that anyone who wanted to apply for a grant from Allied Arts, could; that we would use this for three urban artists to do art work on three of the 12 pillars, and they will be mentoring as-risk youth to do the rest of the pillars. Councilman McGary asked if $6,000 was the total amount and was told “yes”.

Ms. Fulgham had mentioned “artist-grade graffiti”, and Councilwoman Scott wanted to know what this was? Ms. Fulgham responded that the artists would have samples of what it will look like. Councilwoman Scott questioned if this had been done other places and was it successful? She questioned whether others would paint over this? Ms. Fulgham responded that she hoped this would be a thing of beauty and nothing would be painted over it; that this area would be self-monitored—that if you look at these pillars now, they are tagged. Councilwoman Scott asked if we would be at risk for tagging of other things? Ms. Fulgham explained that this project was very different, and we will treat it differently.

Councilman Benson mentioned concerns. He stated that he had taken a tour of the Wellness Center, and it is beautiful—that the parking is in the back, and there will be a drive-thru pharmacy. He stated that this was something to be proud of, and he thought the open house would be the first of December; that we were ahead of ourselves, and he appreciated this and everyone should see how it will function—that something does need to be done with the pillars but questioned jumping in with $6,000—that trees might be better.
Ms. Fulgham responded that they were working with the railroad and that this is a process. Councilman Benson noted that this is a Resolution and only takes one vote.

Chairman Ladd pointed out that this is only application for the grant, and it has to be awarded.

Councilwoman Berz stated that this was a great idea and exciting—that it could include gangs. She congratulated Ms. Fulgham and thanked her, stating that she hoped we got the grant.

Councilman Murphy noted that he had been involved with graffiti eradication; however according to research, murals and art are a good anti-tagging method; that this could have a beneficial effect according to research.

**Resolution (b)** will be discussed in Public Works’ committee.

**Resolution (c)** authorizes Parks and Recreation to apply for a grant from Allied Arts for the Listen Up Internet Radio/Internship Program, in the amount of $6,000.00. Councilwoman Scott asked for a brief explanation. A representative from Parks and Recreation explained that this was a new radio program and recording studio—that this would pay for temporary staffing.

There were no purchases to be recorded.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M.