

**City Council Building
Chattanooga, Tennessee
May 20, 2003
6:00 p.m.**

Chairman Franklin called the meeting of the Chattanooga Council to order with Councilmen Benson, Hakeem, Littlefield, Lively, Page, Pierce, Robinson and Taylor present. City Attorney Randall Nelson, Management Analyst Randy Burns, and Council Clerk Carol O'Neal, CMC, were also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Councilman Page gave invocation.

MINUTE APPROVAL

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Taylor, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published and signed in open meeting.

INTERIM BUDGET

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Pierce

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN INTERIM BUDGET AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE USUAL AND ORDINARY EXPENSES OF
THE CITY GOVERNMENT FOR THE MONTHS OF JULY, AUGUST AND
SEPTEMBER 2003, PENDING THE ADOPTION OF THE 2003-2004 ANNUAL
BUDGET**

passed second reading. On motion of Councilman Littlefield, seconded by Councilman Lively, the Ordinance passed third and final reading and was signed in open meeting.

REZONING

2003-045: Mike Reeves

On motion of Councilman Page, seconded by Councilwoman Robinson,
**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6958, AS AMENDED,
KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE A TRACT OF
LAND LOCATED IN THE 600 BLOCK OF WATTS AVENUE, MORE
PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN, FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO
M-2 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL ZONE**

passed second reading. On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Taylor, the Ordinance passed third and final reading and was signed in open meeting.

CLOSE AND ABANDON

MR-2003-046: George B. Harless, Jr.

On motion of Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Robinson
**AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING THE UNOPENED 2000
BLOCK OF BASKETTE STREET AND TWO (2) UNNAMED ALLEYS LOCATED
BETWEEN EAST 19TH STREET AND EAST 21ST STREET, MORE PARTICULARLY
DESCRIBED HEREIN AND AS SHOWN ON THE MAP ATTACHED HERETO
AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE**

passed second reading. On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Taylor, the Ordinance passed third and final reading and was signed in open meeting.

CLOSE AND ABANDON

MR-2003-049: City of Chattanooga

On motion of Councilman Page, seconded by Councilwoman Robinson
**AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING A SURPLUS STREET
RIGHT-OF-WAY ON WEST 17TH STREET BETWEEN LONG STREET AND
MARKET STREET, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN AND AS
SHOWN ON THE MAP ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF
BY REFERENCE, SUBJECT OT THE CITY OF CHATANOOGA, TENNESSEE-
AMERICAN WATER COMPANY AND THE CHATTANOOGA GAS
COMPANY MAINTAINING THEIR RESPECTIVE EASEMENTS**

passed second reading. On motion of Councilwoman Robinson, seconded by Councilman Pierce, the Ordinance passed third and final reading and was signed in open meeting.

REZONING

2003-060: Robert E. Johnson

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Littlefield,

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6958, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED AT 912 SUTTON DRIVE, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN, FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO R-4 SPECIAL ZONE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS

passed second reading. On motion of Councilman Littlefield, seconded by Councilman Lively, the Ordinance passed third and final reading and was signed in open meeting.

REZONING

2003-055: Shawn Freed

The applicant was not present.

Jerry Pace, Director of Operations with the Regional Planning Agency (RPA), stated that the applicant is not present tonight and indicated that he left a voice message that the matter had been postponed one week, however, he is not present. He stated the property in question is surrounded by R-1 and R-3 and displayed a photo through PowerPoint presentation of the residential homes along Walker and King Streets. He stated the Staff recommended approval of the request with conditions with one of the conditions that a site plan be presented to RPA prior to the Council's review to assure that the request would be in keeping with the single family residential along King and Walker Streets. He stated the Planning Commission recommended denial of the request.

Councilman Benson stated this matter was in a speculative arena when presented at the Planning Commission and he is fearful about going ahead and approving on such a speculative basis, especially since the applicant is not present to answer questions regarding its planned use.

Councilman Littlefield stated the Council gave the applicant a week to show up and apparently he is not interested in the project and does not have a site plan. He stated if the applicant is putting a deal together the matter could be denied and the matter could come back in nine months.

REZONING (Continued)

On motion of Councilman Littlefield, seconded by Councilman Benson,
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6958, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE 1000 BLOCK OF NORTH KING STREET, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN, FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO R-2 RESIDENTIAL ZONE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS
was denied.

SPECIAL POLICEMAN

On motion of Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Robinson,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF LESLIE D. FREEMAN AS SPECIAL POLICEMAN (UNARMED) FOR THE CHATTANOOGA AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (CARTA), TO DO SPECIAL DUTY AS PRESCRIBED HEREIN, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS
was adopted.

CONTRACT: ATLAS ROOFING

Councilman Pierce inquired as to whether this is a joint effort with the County.

Councilman Littlefield stated this matter was discussed in Committee today and the City owns the building and leases it to the Rescue Service for \$1 per year. He stated the Committee discussed the need to deed it to them so as not to require the maintenance carryover. He stated he assumed someone other than the City owned it.

Councilman Pierce stated that it appears this could be negotiated with the County as far as the roof is concerned. He stated if the City is leasing it for \$1 the County could at least keep the property up!

Councilman Littlefield stated that Councilman Piece has the right idea to “bring it to a head”; that it is his thought the building would be put in reasonable condition and then the matter could be negotiated stronger.

On motion of Councilman Hakeem, seconded by Councilman Lively,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF THE CONTRACT FOR REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF THE ROOF AT THE CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY RESCUE BUILDING TO ATLAS ROOFING FOR THEIR LOW BID IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$22,150.00)
was adopted.

CONTRACT: PORTER ROOFING CONTRACTORS

On motion of Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Page,

A RESOLUTION AWARDDING THE CONTRACT FOR ROOFING RENOVATIONS TO THE CEDAR HILL HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START CENTER TO PORTER ROOFING CONTRACTORS FOR THEIR LOW BID IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-FOUR THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$24,480.00)

was adopted.

CONTRACT: TOTAL BUILDING MAINTENANCE, INC.

On motion of Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Littlefield,

A RESOLUTION AWARDDING THE CONTRACT FOR ROOFING RENOVATIONS TO THE AVONDALE HEAD START CENTER TO TOTAL BUILDING MAINTENANCE, INC., FOR THEIR LOW BID IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE DOLLARS (\$26,689.00)

was adopted.

AGREEMENT

Councilwoman Robinson stated Resolutions (e) – (j) were discussed in today's Parks and Recreation Committee and approval is recommended.

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Pierce,

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION, ARTS AND CULTURE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CINCINNATI, NEW ORLEANS AND TEXAS PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY (NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY), RELATIVE TO INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF WATER AND SEWER LINES UNDER THE RAILROAD TRACT LOCATED AT MILEPOST 1.11-CD, TENBRIDGE-N. CHATTANOOGA LINE CENTRAL DIVISION, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ELEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$11,000.00)

was adopted.

EASEMENT

On motion of Councilman Hakeem, seconded by Councilwoman Robinson,
A RESOLUTION GRANTING AN EASEMENT TO BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC., ON PROPERTY LOCATED IN COOLIDGE PARK, HAMILTON COUNTY TAX MAP NO. 135E-D-012, AND AS SHOWN ON THE MAP ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE, RELATIVE TO INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT
was adopted.

AGREEMENT: EASTMAN CONSTRUCTION CO.

On motion of Councilwoman Robinson, seconded by Councilman Pierce,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION, ARTS AND CULTURE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH EASTMAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, RELATIVE TO UNDERBRUSH AND TREE CLEARING AT THE DUPONT PARK SITE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THIRTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$13,000.00)
was adopted.

ACCEPT DONATION

On motion of Councilwoman Robinson, seconded by Councilman Pierce,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION, ARTS & CULTURE TO ACCEPT A DONATION OF TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) FROM HAMILTON PLACE MALL TO HELP WITH PROJECT CHOICES PROGRAMMING
was adopted.

ACCEPT GRANT

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilwoman Robinson,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION, ARTS AND CULTURE TO APPLY FOR AND, IF APPROVED, ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN THE AMOUNT OF EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$80,000.00), RELATIVE TO OUTVENTURE PROGRAMS FOR AT RISK YOUTH
was adopted.

EASEMENT

On motion of Councilman Hakeem, seconded by Councilman Taylor,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF AN EASEMENT FROM BEST PLUMBING, INC. ON .08 ACRES OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4231 BONNY OAKS DRIVE, AND AS SHOWN ON THE MAP ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE, WITH SAID PROPERTY TO BECOME PART OF THE SOUTH CHICKAMAUGA CREEK GREENWAY
was adopted.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

Councilman Hakeem stated Resolutions (k) – (m) and (o) – (r) were discussed in today’s Public Works Committee meeting and approval is recommended.

On motion of Councilman Hakeem, seconded by Councilman Littlefield,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO EXECUTE AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE, A COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE, RELATIVE TO ONLINE MAPPING SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE HAMILTON COUNTY GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$10,300.00)
was adopted.

TEMPORARY USE

On motion of Councilman Littlefield, seconded by Councilman Hakeem,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FLETCHER BRIGHT COMPANY TO USE TEMPORARILY THE CITY’S RIGHT-OF-WAY OF A PORTION OF GREENWAY VIEW DRIVE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A PYLON SIGN FOR BRIGHT PAR THREE AS PART OF THE PROPOSED BRAINERD PART III RETAIL DEVELOPMENT, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS
was adopted.

TEMPORARY USE

On motion of Councilman Benson, seconded by Councilman Taylor,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MACTEC ENGINEERING AND CONSULTING SERVICES, INC. TO USE TEMPORARILY THE CITY'S RIGHT-OF-WAY AT STANDIFER GAP ROAD, ACROSS FROM THE FAVORITE MARKET, FOR THE INSTALLATION OF TWO MONITORING WELLS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS
was adopted.

DONATION

On motion of Councilwoman Robinson, seconded by Councilman Benson,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) TO FIRST TEE OF CHATTANOOGA WITH SAID FUNDS TO BE PAID FROM THE GOLF COURSE FUND
was adopted.

EASEMENT

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Pierce,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A PERMANENT SEWER EASEMENT FROM CARL C. PRICE, RELATIVE TO CONTRACT NO. W-2-001, NORTH CHATTANOOGA SEWER PROJECT, PARCEL NO. 136A-K-020, TRACT NO. 03, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,500.00)
was adopted.

EASEMENT

On motion of Councilman Benson, seconded by Councilman Hakeem,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A DEED OF PERPETUAL CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT EASEMENT FROM JAMES C. AND MELISSA A. WOLFORD, RELATIVE TO THE RIVERBANK STABILIZATION PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 118N-D-005, TRACT NO. 605E, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED TEN DOLLARS (\$3,210.00)
was adopted.

EASEMENT

On motion of Councilman Hakeem, seconded by Councilman Lively,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF A DEED OF PERPETUAL CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT EASEMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF HAMILTON COUNTY IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT THE TENNESSEE RIVERBANK STABILIZATION PROJECT FOR TRACT 604E, TAX MAP NO. 118N-D-004, BY HAMILTON COUNTY IN COLLABORATION WITH THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
was adopted.

EASEMENT

On motion of Councilman Hakeem, seconded by Councilman Littlefield,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF A DEED OF PERPETUAL CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT EASEMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF HAMILTON COUNTY IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT THE TENNESSEE RIVERBANK STABILIZATION PROJECT FOR TRACT 605E, TAX MAP NO. 118N-D-005, BY HAMILTON COUNTY IN COLLABORATION WITH THE U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
was adopted.

GRANT

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Littlefield,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS – GUN VIOLENCE GRANT, IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THIRTY-SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FORTY-FOUR DOLLARS AND SIXTY-SEVEN CENTS (\$36,944.67) WHICH, IF AWARDED, WILL REQUIRE NO MATCHING FUNDS
was adopted.

GRANT

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Littlefield,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, GOVERNOR'S HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE, ALONG WITH THE CITY OF RED BANK, IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$45,000.00) WHICH, IF AWARDED, WILL REQUIRE LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS OF TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00) PER APPLICANT
was adopted.

OVERTIME

Overtime for the week ending May 23, 2003 totaled \$93,337.17.

PERSONNEL

The following personnel matters were reported for the various departments:

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

- ✍ **TERRANCE T. ALLEN** – Termination, Crew Worker, Citywide Services, effective May 13, 2003.
- ✍ **YURY KULAKEVICH** – Return from Family Medical Leave, Crew Worker, Sr., Citywide Services, effective May 5, 2003.
- ✍ **DAVID L. HILL** – Lateral Transfer, Crew Worker, Citywide Services, Pay Grade 3/Step 10, \$24,121.00 annually, effective May 14, 2003.
- ✍ **FRANCES E. TURLEY** – Lateral Transfer, Crew Worker, Citywide Services, Pay Grade 3/Step 9, \$23,170.00 annually, effective May 14, 2003.
- ✍ **ANITA T. WARE** – Lateral Transfer, Office Assistant, Citywide Services, Pay Grade 3/Step 3, \$18,100.00 annually, effective May 27, 2003.

CHATTANOOGA POLICE DEPARTMENT:

- ✍ **CURTIS PENNEY, MARVIN TOLBERT** – Suspension (3 days without pay), Police Officer, effective May 19-21, 2003.
- ✍ **DAVID S. RENEAU** – Resignation, Police Officer, effective May 13, 2003.
- ✍ **GROVER WILSON, FREDERICKO MOORE** – Return from Military Leave, Police Officer, effective March 21, 2003.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT:

- ✍ **JOSEPH G. HUMBERD** – Promotion, System & Database Spec. Sr., Information Systems, Pay Grade 25/Step 2, \$43,935.00 annually, effective May 16, 2003.

PERSONNEL (Continued)

CHATTANOOGA HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT:

- ✍ **RACHEL WORKMAN** – Promotion, Teacher Assistant, Head Start, \$14,924.00 annually, effective May 15, 2003.

PARKS, RECREATION, ARTS AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT:

- ✍ **DAVID P. HOLMAN** – Resignation, Recreation Specialist, effective May 8, 2003.
- ✍ **MICHAEL P. DUNN** – Resignation, Pro Shop Clerk, effective April 24, 2003.
- ✍ **DAVID GHOLSTON** – Termination, Crew Worker, effective May 2, 2003.
- ✍ **MARK WILSON** – Termination, Crew Worker, effective May 19, 2003.
- ✍ **TONYA L. JENKINS** – Resignation, Zookeeper, effective May 24, 2003.

PURCHASES

On motion of Councilwoman Robinson, seconded by Councilman Lively, the following purchases were approved for use by the Public Works Department:

WEST VIRGINIA SIGNAL AND LIGHT (Single Source)
R0068792/P0018909

Traconex Front Panel Kits per TCA 6-56-304.2

\$60,280.00

TEREX TELELECT (Best bid)
R0066941/B0000766

Telescopic Aerial Device

\$59,133.00

PURCHASES (Continued)

TEMPLE, INC. (Lowest and best bid)

R0066159/B0000775

Signal Controller Timers

\$14,790.00

PURCHASES

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Pierce, the following purchases were approved for use by the Chattanooga Police Department:

GULF STATES DISTRIBUTORS (Lower and better bid)

R0065182/B0000756

Taser Advance and Air Cartridges

\$21,015.90

SOFTWARE PLUS (Single source)

R0069443

Computer Network Software and Licenses

\$65,315.88

REFUNDS

On motion of Councilman Pierce, seconded by Councilman Taylor, the Administrator of Finance was authorized to issue the following refunds of 2002 real and/or personal property taxes:

SAIA MOTOR FREIGHT LINE, INC. – Assessment changes by Tennessee State of State Assessed Property, \$1,392.40

NATIONAL CENTER FOR YOUTH ISSUES – TURNING POINT MINISTRIES, INC. – Assessment changes by Assessor of Property, \$2,591.92

DECLARE SURPLUS

On motion of Councilman Pierce, seconded by Councilman Taylor, Public Works vehicle W-378 (1995 Jeep Cherokee, Vehicle Identification Number 1J4FJ2856SL599183) was declared surplus and eliminated from its fleet due to excessive mileage and donated to Erlanger Hospital for security use.

BOARD APPOINTMENT

On motion of Councilman Page, seconded by Councilman Lively, the following Board appointment was approved:

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION:

Appointment of **GRADY RHODEN** to fill the unexpired term of Finely Wilhoite for a term expiring May 31, 2004.

BOARD APPOINTMENT

On motion of Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Hakeem, the following Board appointment was approved:

WASTEWATER REGULATIONS APPEALS BOARD:

- ✍ Appointment of **J. D. BYRD** to fill the unexpired term of Jim Calloway for a term expiring May 31, 2004
- ✍ Appointment of **GEORGE SIVILS** to fill the unexpired term of John Eager, Sr. due to this death for a term expiring May 31, 2004.

BOARD APPOINTMENT

City Attorney Nelson stated Pat Murphy of the Industrial Development Board resigned and the Council must hold an election to name his successor for the rest of his term.

Councilman Lively placed the name of James P. Woods, Vice President of SunTrust Bank, in nomination; Councilman Benson seconded the motion.

Councilman Littlefield moved that there be no further nominations; the motion was seconded by Councilman Hakeem.

BOARD APPOINTMENT (Continued)

On vote of Councilmen Lively and Benson's motion, **JAMES P. WOODS** was unanimously elected to the *Industrial Development Board* to fill the unexpired term of Pat Murphy.

COUNCILMEN PAGE AND ROBINSON

Councilman Page stated that he and Councilwoman Robinson would have to leave the Council meeting early to attend a Kiwanis meeting, indicating that he did not want those in attendance who might want to address the Council to be embarrassed by their leaving early.

COMMITTEES

Councilman Hakeem scheduled a meeting of the **Public Works Committee for Tuesday, May 27 at 4 p.m.** Admin. McDonald indicated that there are no departmental matters on next week's agenda. City Attorney Nelson interjected there might be matters on the following week's agenda (June 3) that might require discussion.

Councilman Littlefield stated the **Legal and legislative Committee** met today and began discussion of a potential light trespassing ordinance having to do with commercial and utility lighting that will continue for the next few weeks. He scheduled a meeting of the Committee for **Tuesday, May 27 beginning at 3 p.m.**

ROOSEVELT FRANKLIN SMITH

Roosevelt Franklin Smith stated that he read in the newspaper on Monday morning that program funds for Mary Walker Towers and Boynton Terrace would be cut to two-to-three days a week for four hours each day. He stated that he knows in his heart there is money to keep the centers open and asked that the Council members have compassion on the senior citizens. He stated he does not want to be "stuck" in a nursing home and is sure no one else does, either; that no one can be forced to stay in a nursing home, however it seems that is what this cut back is pointing toward. He implored the Council to not take the funds from the programs, as they would like for the programs to stay as they have been. He stated they need the programs because they have a lot of time on their hands. He asked that Council members go home and pray about the matter and ask God to lead them in the right direction and not cut or interfere with this program and leave it as it is.

ROOSEVELT FRANKLIN SMITH (Continued)

Chairman Franklin expressed sympathy for Mr. Smith's comments and stated that the City has some financial straits to work through. He stated many of the Council members have had an opportunity to spend time at most of the facilities mentioned and would do all they can to help.

Councilman Pierce stated that he had an opportunity to talk with several persons from the Mary Walker Towers today concerning the programs that are sponsored for seniors. He expressed sympathy for their plight and stated he would personally look at what is being proposed in the Mayor's budget as far as the City's assistance is concerned. He stated this is a joint agency and the funds come from the State and City, indicating that the State is cutting back. He stated that it is his thought there is very little the Council as City elected persons can offer the senior citizens. He stated it is his hope the City will not cut any funds as this is one agency that would need to be looked at closely and if there is any way possible the City will continue the funding if not increase it. He stated the Council does not have any control over State funds and does not know how much senior citizens get from the State. He stated he would try to encourage administration and the Council to support this and continue the funding the City has been giving.

Councilman Taylor expressed appreciation to the citizens present in support of this matter, indicating that this is a program that is valuable to our senior citizens. He, too, indicated that this is a matter that would be looked into and would be given utmost consideration to see what can be done.

Admin. Eichenthal stated that administration would be coming before the Council with a budget some time in early June. He clarified that no decision has been made with regard to cuts in any programs. He stated Councilman Pierce pointed out that some cuts are clearly on the table from the State and the county is looking at this, as well. He reiterated that no decision has been made at this point and that he has certainly heard the concerns raised by those in attendance that are affected.

Councilman Taylor asked if official contact has been made that the cuts are going to be made at the State level. The response was "yes".

Stacy Smith, Program Director at Boynton Terrace stated it is projected there would be a twenty-six percent cut from the State of senior centers. She stated the reason senior centers are targeted is because they are not considered a life or death situation; that they are on a priority list and they know they are not a priority. She stated a twenty-six percent cut is what they will get.

ROOSEVELT FRANKLIN SMITH (Continued)

Councilman Pierce inquired as to the services that are provided to the senior centers.

Ms. Smith stated that they work with the PACE program at both Centers; that several go to CSTCC for physical therapy and once a week they go to bible study and health fairs; that an education program is provided by the Health Department and many other services. She stated not only would senior centers be affected, other agencies that work with them would be affected, as well as Chattanooga Housing Authority's properties.

Chairman Franklin reiterated that the Council would do every thing within their power to keep the programs in effect.

Councilman Benson expressed frustration that Admin. Eichenthal indicated that the Council would get the Mayor's budget proposal in June. He stated in the meantime, he would like to see a laundry list of requested amounts of money and projected income, indicating that the matter could come before the Budget Committee so the Council can look at the "big picture" for themselves. He stated Council members are receiving a lot of requests like this and do not know what it will be until the State comes in. He stated the Council should be kept current so they can join administration and be proactive in looking at comprehensive needs otherwise he is for all the things coming forward. He stated the Council does not know the limitations of the projected income and administration does not, either. He stated the Council would like to be brought along during the process.

Admin. Eichenthal stated he would be happy to do that. He stated with regard to what Councilman Benson is asking in part is a projected deficit they are looking at.

Councilman Benson stated that the Council would like to know how this request like others is felt as basic and needed; that the Council can then better prioritize what it takes to get the job done.

Admin. Eichenthal stated that it is his thought the answer is that they do not have a defined number at this point as there are still a number of things "in play" with one being the State. He stated there is also an issue regarding pension contributions they are working out; that they are in the process of taking a step toward identifying what will be the critical component of the deficit and the issue of health insurance, which was presented today. He stated the City is in a better situation today than three months ago with regard to health insurance.

ROOSEVELT FRANKLIN SMITH (Continued)

Admin. Eichenthal assured the Council that as they know how these pieces are falling into place he will be happy to go over that with the Budget Committee and the full Council. He stated the reason he made reference to June is that it is their expectation as to when they will know to be in a position to give a full picture. He stated in terms of requests for the senior neighbors program, the actual requests out there are obviously ones the Council saw at the joint funded agencies heard earlier this month. He stated people have laid out their requests and we are still trying to identify what we will be able to do in funding the request. He stated that is the best he can do right now.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Franklin adjourned the meeting of the Chattanooga Council until Tuesday, May 27, 2003 at 6 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK OF COUNCIL

**(A LIST OF NAMES OF PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE IS FILED
WITH MINUTE MATERIAL OF THIS DATE)**