

Burns Randy

From: Crownover Shirley
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2000 4:07 PM
To: O'Neal Carol; Moore Carolyn; Burns Randy; Nelson Randall; Couey Cindy
Subject: PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE + Budget Amend. 2-22-00

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE & BUDGET AMENDMENT
February 22, 2000
4:00 P.M.

The meeting of the Public Works Committee was called to order by Councilman Franklin, Chairman, with Councilpersons Rutherford, Eaves, Taylor, and Crockett present. Councilmen Hakeem and Hurley joined the meeting for the Budget Amendment discussion. City Attorney Randall Nelson; Management Analyst Randy Burns; and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Adm. Marcellis, Phillip Lynn, Beverly P. Johnson, Mayor Kinsey, Adm. Boney, and Daisy Madison. Fredia Kitchens and Adm. Traughber joined the meeting later.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 22, 2000

Chairman Franklin called on Adm. Marcellis to go over agenda items. He began with **Resolution (a)** authorizing reimbursement to the Hamilton County Water & Wastewater Treatment Authority in the amount of \$413,107.49 for the design, construction, contract management and inspection on the Lakeshore Pump Station and Force Main Project. He explained that about a year and one-half ago we entered into an Interlocal Agreement with Hamilton County to install a series of pumps and in that agreement if one of the Pump Stations were annexed, we would pay for it and take it over; this \$413,000.00 is for the purchase of the Pump Station, inspection, engineering, construction, and management of contract. We agreed to do this and had been operating it since January.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 29, 2000

Resolution (e) authorizes an Agreement for Engineering Services with Consolidated Technologies, Inc. relative to Contract No. SS-1-00, 5th Street Streetscape Project (Lindsay to Houston), for an amount not to exceed \$14,000.00. This is for the replacement of needed curbs, gutters, and sidewalks and trees to fill in.

Resolution (f) authorizes a Purchase Sale Agreement with CSX Transportation, Inc. for the purchase of a tract of land running from 13th Street to Main Street for a sum not to exceed \$100,000.00, plus any transfer or closing costs. This is the old railroad right-of-way between 13th and Main. Adm. Marcellis mentioned several possible Stormwater projects and the infrastructure with the Trade Center and Conference Center and above ground tanks holding 75,000 to 100,000 gallons of water to help the CSO facility and provide water for landscaping. There is no track there now even though there does appear to be one track behind the Beer Distributor.

Resolution (g) authorizes Contract No. DRC-1-2000, Development Resource Center Construction. Adm. Marcellis

explained that they had not finalized negotiations with a prospective low bidder, and he might move this off the agenda for two weeks until March 7th. He stated that they were trying to finalize this. Mayor Kinsey added that there might be an opportunity to save some money.

Resolution (h) authorizes an Agreement with the Cincinnati, New Orleans and Texas Pacific Railway Company relative to the installation, maintenance, operation, and removal of sewage pipeline on Contract No. CSO-6-99, M.L. King CSO Control Facility for an amount not to exceed \$38,350.00. Adm. Marcellis explained that this must go through the railroad that parallels this and requires 48" pipe.

On motion of Councilman Eaves, seconded by Councilman Taylor, the above items will be recommended to the full Council.

(Councilman Hakeem had not yet arrived and the committee took a short break before beginning the next session.)

Councilman Hakeem arrived and Chairman Franklin turned the meeting over to him for a discussion on the Ordinance on next week's agenda amending the 1999/2000 Budget Ordinance to provide for certain changes in appropriations set out in Section 5; to provide for certain changes in Special Revenue Funds set out in Section 6; and to provide for certain changes in Personnel set out in Section 7B. Councilman Hakeem explained that we would dovetail the Budget and Finance matter with the Public Works Committee and turned the meeting over to Adm. Boney.

Adm. Boney stated that he would characterize this in general as largely housekeeping in nature; there are no overall increases and the bulk of the Ordinance is personnel realignment that has been pending for a number of months.

He explained that there were two money-related changes: Item (3) (on a handout which is made a part of the minute material which appropriates \$35,000 from the Contingency Fund to the African-American Museum for the Bessie Smith Hall. Adm. Boney explained that the two were supposed to be combined into one and the African-American Museum was left \$35,000 short, and the money lapsed as of June 30th. This coming fiscal year one will see a combined request, which should be in the \$70,000 range. Item (4) appropriates an additional \$75,000 to the African-American Chamber of Commerce to come from the Economic Development Fund.

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There are personnel changes in Finance, changing the name of Assistant Finance Officer to Budget Officer and adding a rated pay grade for Accounting Supervisor; there are changes in the Police Dept. in sworn positions reflecting the effect of the most recent retired employees with a total staffing increase of 6. There are also six new positions in Parks, Recreation, Arts & Culture. The rest is a realignment of positions based on the approved reorganization. There will be 12 new people—six in the Police Dept. and six in Parks and Recreation.

On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Crockett, this will be recommended to the full Council with Councilwoman Rutherford voting "no".

Councilwoman Rutherford explained that she went on record when the African-American Chamber of Commerce first came up as being opposed because she was philosophically opposed to separation, and her stance had not changed.

Councilman Crockett stated that he went ahead and prepared a brief on the funding of the African-American Chamber of Commerce and had two points to emphasize: (1) Before the next Budget cycle he would like for the

Council to have a conversation on the use of the sales tax allocation to Economic Development. (2) He stated that his feelings on the African-American Chamber were that when this was initially founded, he thought that we had come up with a missing ingredient; that we were trying to get a good effort going by building the support of the minority business community, and it seems to be much better at this point than anything we have tried before. He stated that he did not look at this as a separate Chamber—that we had all come together, and this might be the best chance we have had; that the “end” result was more important than the organization, and he supported this on that basis and hoped we would be successful.

Councilman Eaves questioned if we were giving an extra \$50,000 to the Chamber of Commerce to advertise the City and if this does basically the same thing as the other organization does.

Mayor Kinsey responded that we were funding the News Bureau, which is not really advertising the City; that it is involved with national publications about our City; that it is free publicity. Councilman Eaves stated that this was not altogether different from what we have done in the past. Mayor Kinsey stated that it was a broader effort than CIC, and we were getting more positive results.

At this point Mayor Kinsey introduced Bertha Seals, Gerald Mason, and Jeff Olingy of the African-American Chamber of Commerce.

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Ms. Seals stated that they had been operating for six months and this time had been spent getting them up and running. She stated that they had been involved in compiling a Data Base of African-American businesses in the area and this had been pretty much a moving target; that they had 180 members and had collected nearly \$50,000.; that they had been working diligently and there is a start-up time to get up and running; that they had things planned and were trying to bring the community in to see their mission.

Mr. Jeff Olingy spoke next. He stated that there had been a lot of activity; that we were now beginning to see “buds sprouting” through. He mentioned that in terms of focus, corporate environments were taking advantage of something new like this; to get minorities back into the flow. He stated that this unit really allows us to focus on specific needs, and we are beginning to see the fruits of our efforts.

Mr. Mason stated that they were happy to be here and were appreciative of the City’s backing; that he had spent 27 years in business in this City and felt that the African-American Chamber was a great effort and would help with the next generation; that it is a very diverse group, and they are located in the same building as the broader Chamber; that they focus their efforts on problems in this community; that he had been one of the more successful minority businesses, and we have not bridged the gap yet; that we have to have this focus. He stated that they did plan to be independently funded, and he thought this was a great investment. He stated that he wished the African-American Chamber could take this credit, but it was a joint collaboration from the beginning. He stated that he was proud to be a member of this, and he did not think the City would be disappointed or embarrassed with their efforts.

Councilman Hakeem verified that there were Caucasians included in the membership of the Board; that it was diverse also in the fact that there were younger and older members.

Mr. Mason responded that there was a great deal of diversity; that this was great support for African-American businesses in the community; that \$40,000 had been raised, and they were very proud of this effort, and they were diverse; that it really helped Chattanooga.

On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Taylor, it was recommended that this be placed on tonight's agenda, with Councilwoman Rutherford voting "No". This passed six to one.

Councilman Hakeem questioned if there was any reason to hold this until next week.

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Councilwoman Rutherford stated that she had a number of people who wanted to be here next week to speak to this; that this had been advertised for next week, and there is a lot of public interest. She questioned "why the rush?"

Councilman Franklin noted that other issues had passed on first reading and then allowed time for discussion before second and third readings.

Councilwoman Rutherford again stated that there was no rush for this, and there was controversy involved, and she questioned why we were trying to push this through; that it was going to pass; that it had been advertised for next week and there was no reason to pass this early; that she felt we would be doing ourselves harm to push this tonight when it is not on the agenda, and there is no real reason to hear it a week early.

Councilman Crockett noted that there were more than two items in this amendment and questioned if there was any time-dependency in this list. Adm. Boney stated that there was nothing of a pressing nature.

Councilman Hakeem asked about the Chamber's budget restraints. Ms. Seals responded that they had one month's operating funds on hand.

Councilman Franklin asked if any of the other Councilmembers had had calls other than Councilwoman Rutherford. None indicated any calls.

Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Franklin, moved to put this on tonight's agenda for first reading. Councilwoman Rutherford voted "No". Councilman Crockett added that there would be a full discussion before 2nd and 3rd readings, and we would go forward with that understanding. Councilman Hakeem also stated that there would be a discussion period next week. This passed six to one.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 P.M.