

City Council Building
Chattanooga, Tennessee
May 2, 2006
6:00 p.m.

Chairman Pierce called the meeting of the Chattanooga Council to order with Councilmen Bennett, Benson, Franklin, Powers, Rico, Robinson and Rutherford present; Councilman Page was absent due to personal commitment. City Attorney Randall Nelson, Management Analyst Randy Burns and Council Clerk Carol O'Neal were also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Councilwoman Rutherford gave invocation.

MINUTE APPROVAL

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: STATE OF THE CITY PART II – MAYOR LITTLEFIELD

Mayor Littlefield expressed appreciation to the Council for allowing him to make this last installment of the State of the City address and allowing him to speak more than the three minutes for special presentation. He stated last week he talked about plans for the Farmer's Market Homeless Center and how all fit into the context of what we are attempting to do in the City. He stated tonight he wanted give a broad brush picture of where we were and where we are going, and to do that he would have to go back to the seven step strategy, the first being ***Finish What We've Started***. He stated many on the Council talk about what is important to them and where it is felt the city should go. *(Mayor Littlefield's comments were supported through photos presented by PowerPoint.)*

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION: STATE OF THE CITY PART II –
MAYOR LITTLEFIELD (Continued)**

Mayor Littlefield stated after the election there were a number of grand openings of all that was going on on the Riverfront and a great deal of concern expressed from people that things would stop downtown and the focus would go elsewhere. He stated all will acknowledge that really has not happened to the degree people were fearful it would. He displayed by PowerPoint photos of Renaissance Park, which will be opening in about a month, as well as a photo of a triangular piece of property that the city is swapping with Bill Young who had the property next to the Walnut Street Bridge that was to be the site of the Coolidge Hotel. He stated the swapping of the property is being completed and an outdoor center will be at this location.

Mayor Littlefield stated Mayfair on Market, also downtown, has been announced in the last few months and everything seems to still be on track for that property; that it is a visionary project that will “cure” the last block of needed substantial renovation. He stated the next challenge will be filling the space Blue Cross/Blue Shield will create as they vacate and move “on the hill”; that there will be a new marina downstream of Ross’ Landing and the owners of the property south of Ross’ Landing have been in town and closed on the property with plans to move ahead within the next 90-120 days for a project that will be somewhere between \$80 million and \$150 million depending upon the design.

Mayor Littlefield stated all of this is happening downtown with the new condominiums not just on the south side but on the north side, as well. He stated there is commercial office space and now a Walgreen’s is going in on Market in the north shore area. He stated hundreds of millions of dollars worth of investment are continuing downtown and if everyone considers what Blue Cross/Blue Shield is doing is not an exaggeration as it is somewhere in the range of \$200-\$240 million worth of investment started or near to be started.

The Mayor stated something that did not receive a lot of attention was maintaining College Hill Courts on the west side. He stated the Chattanooga Housing Authority (CHA) sold the property to Blue Cross/Blue Shield and announced that they (CHA) were moving to Holtzclaw. He stated a number of persons in the community became involved and the investment in the west side did not suffer; that CHA agreed to buy the assets of the Westside Community Development Corporation and maintain their offices. He stated they are satisfied they are doing a good thing and committed they will continue to have full utilization of the Grove Street Center across from the James A. Henry School building.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: STATE OF THE CITY PART II –
MAYOR LITTLEFIELD (Continued)

Mayor Littlefield stated the city is embarking on something of a new road in downtown with CARTA; that up until this time CARTA has primarily been a bus company. He stated CARTA has done innovative things with parking garages, electric buses and shuttles and came to him with a proposal they would maintain parking on the north and south shore and the pier areas. He stated they went through quite a bit of negotiation, have an agreement and are very pleased with the reception CARTA has received. He stated Tom Dugan has done terrific work meeting with business enterprise and people affected by meters that will be installed and has great ideas on how to expand parking, now. He stated one of Tom's more innovative ideas – and the Mayor noted he says that cautiously as he has not looked into the legalities of it – involves parking receipts people would get as something of a lottery. He stated each of the receipts will have a number and Tom has proposed perhaps we could have prizes at the end of each month for people who have the winning number. He stated that idea has some appeal and people might be inclined to buy a parking ticket even if they do not have a car! He stated no car would be actually required and that kind of creative idea keeps things moving along in Chattanooga.

A slide of the city hall renovation was shown and Mayor Littlefield added that a tour of the building is possible as the former city hall is beginning to look different; that it is all cleaned up and new heating, plumbing and wiring is being installed. He stated this will be a state of the art building and was a wise investment; that the building is almost 100 years old and will be reopened in 2007.

Mayor Littlefield stated the second strategy is *Fill in the Economic Gaps*. He stated something we hear most about and spend most of the time doing is "chasing" new industry. Photos of an auto plant in China were shown and the Mayor noted that other vehicular plants were visited during his visit, including a motorcycle plant. He stated there is a very real possibility in the not too distant future that an investment could be coming back from that side of the world; that it is just a matter of time that contacts like this will begin to pay off. He stated it is true we are on a short list of a number of automobile manufacturers and that is plural, not just one, more than that.

Attention was then given to Enterprise South and the Mayor noted that it is the premier industrial park in the southeastern United States, perhaps one of the nicest in the United States, itself. He referenced an article regarding Chattanooga's transformation that acknowledged this city starting as a manufacturing town and has been transformed; that it is now coming full circle and once again "stretching its muscles" as a new manufacturing center in the southeast.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION: STATE OF THE CITY PART II –
MAYOR LITTLEFIELD (Continued)**

Mayor Littlefield stated the interchange on the interstate is nearing completion and is actually supposed to open in November. He stated they are already looking at ways to extend the road into Collegedale and utilize increment financing to pay for the infrastructure required in Enterprise South as well as infrastructure going along the way. He stated the city, county and Chamber are working together as never before; that this has been an asset to Chattanooga and Hamilton County, municipalities in Hamilton County and the entire region. He stated it is envisioned we should get bids that would engage Georgia and Alabama to recruit industry here.

The third strategy, *Enhance Links and Gateways*, was discussed. The Mayor stated that this sounds rather odd but it is the way Planners think. He stated the best example of something that Councilman Benson is familiar with is taking place in the Shallowford Road area where public and private funds and mostly private went into beautifying the interchange. He stated it was a project that started small and grew big fast; that the landscaping is new and it will take a while to grow and flourish; that it gives an entirely different impression when coming into that part of the city. He stated it announces that this is an important place and a city with high standards!

Mayor Littlefield stated that there have been opportunities with rebuilding US 27 around Moccasin Bend and the reuse of the Wheland Foundry and U. S. Pike property, which is an important gateway that can make a different kind of statement. He stated it has been suggested this could be used as a public art statement, perhaps the landfill site right on the River between the River and Interstate 24 could serve as a landmark site for a major piece of sculpture or something to really announce Chattanooga in a special way. A photo of the view entering Chattanooga from this area was shown and he stated whether we are happy about it or not it is changing substantially and we have an opportunity to make a new type of statement. He stated we lament the loss of industry and jobs however this is looked at as an opportunity (to do something different).

With reference to **transportation plans**, the Mayor confirmed Ashland Terrace is still at the top of the list. He stated there are major needs in East Brainerd, as well as in Hixson on Ring Road. He stated East Brainerd is not to be ignored; that Igou Gap, which is getting underway right now, is way over due for improvement. He stated it is a project that is essential and (he) does not apologize for the fact investments continue there. He stated Hixson and Hamill Road across the railroad have improvements underway and more are to come.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: STATE OF THE CITY PART II –
MAYOR LITTLEFIELD (Continued)

Mayor Littlefield referenced important projects that have been talked about for decades, noting that progress is being made on some of the bottlenecks in Lookout Valley and the South Broad Street underpass. He made note of the remaining old symbols of railroads in various areas and stated they do not want to remove railroads as we went through decades of relocating railroads; that what remains needs attention. He stated the Alton Park underpass is something we have to do something with and noted that the HOPE VI project is going on in the area and the underpass is something that needs “curing” no matter what. He stated there is a need to make progress on the Central Avenue extension all the way up to Amnicola Highway; that something can be done that could require the bridge not to be there. He stated there is a different type of working relationship and perhaps a different plan can be presented to TDOT for relocation of the state route. He stated it is his belief that can open the south end of the city in a way nothing else could.

The Mayor stated we are not giving up by any means and will continue to push for reconfiguration of the I-24 and I-75 interchange as this is an interchange using 1950’s design techniques, which is why we have two trucks a week that fall over out there when trying to make the curve. He stated that he has had conversations with TDOT and the Governor; that this is a major project that would require years to get it designed and built.

A photo was displayed of Councilwoman Robinson aboard the MagLev Train in China. The Mayor stated that he has had people ask about the MagLev Train all the time and he tells them it is alive and well. He referenced an article in today’s newspaper about China testing their own technology. Above the photo of Councilwoman Robinson numbers reflect that the train is traveling at a speed of 224-230 miles an hour! He stated the train floats on cushions of magnetism and some years ago when they were planning the project it was stated that it was just “pie in the sky” and would never happen. He stated China built the first MagLev and are planning to extend their line 110 miles at a cost of around \$4 billion dollars, about what we said some years ago would be needed to build from our airport to the Atlanta airport. He stated that this sounds like a lot of money and it is figured it would cost over \$6 billion for Atlanta to build another runway for Hartsfield and begins to make sense.

The fourth strategy ***Nourish the Neighborhoods*** was discussed wherein Mayor Littlefield confirmed that we are nourishing the neighborhoods, which is one thing the Council does not see (in the PowerPoint presentation) as no one can take a picture of.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION: STATE OF THE CITY PART II –
MAYOR LITTLEFIELD (Continued)**

The Mayor continued with this strategy by stating that Adm. Johnson reorganized neighborhood services, noting that it was very important to put people together in teams for various parts of the city and organized the system so neighborhoods are getting the kind of attention they have always needed. He stated the neighborhoods have the full attention of a team of inspectors. A photo of the neighborhood services office quarters in the Warehouse Row building was displayed with the Mayor noting that it has been organized in a very effective way.

Mayor Littlefield stated one item that citizens could see, feel, touch and walk on are sidewalks; that over one million dollars has been spent on sidewalks, a figure that has not been close to equal that in the past. He stated that he knows people will see this and say that a sidewalk was not built by their house, however above 1,200 miles of sidewalk or 2,400 miles for both sides has been installed; that they are putting them where the need is greatest. He stated if the economy continues he is not sure if this pace can be kept every year; that \$750,000 in capital funds from regular funding and then more than a quarter of a million in funds from CDBG, over a million has been spent in sidewalks.

The Mayor stated there have been a number of revisions in zoning, codes enforcement and way we handle them. He stated on South Broad Street there was a battle over a landfill with a person from Birmingham who was determined to have a landfill on South Broad that would have been the most prominent feature other than Lookout Mountain in the area! He stated through the efforts of many people we managed to make sure this project went away and will not be coming back as local investors have purchased the site.

Mayor Littlefield indicated that Neighborhood Services has made available an additional amount of money for neighborhood projects for beautification in the amount of \$1,500 per neighborhood project. He stated interested persons could contact him or Adm. Johnson about this.

The Mayor stated the Wheland Foundry and U. S. Pipe sites are another 100 acres in proximity to downtown; that he has been in contact with the Urban Land Institute for them to do something called a panel study and bring in active developers and architects. He stated this was done some years ago, which was the genesis of the Moccasin Bend Task Force. He stated they were engaged for a week looking at ways the city could utilize that property which led to all that was done downtown.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: STATE OF THE CITY PART II –
MAYOR LITTLEFIELD (Continued)

The Mayor stated that a design study staff put a book of documentation together about the city and site and Mayor W. Hudnutt, formerly Indianapolis Mayor in 1981, was so impressed and excited about what was going on in that city. He stated they have been an inspiration to us and Mr. Hudnutt, a distinguished fellow at the Urban Land Institute, would like to chair this committee; that this again comes full circle with something that started 25 years ago and who formerly headed the panel and would now look at 100 critical acres in Chattanooga.

Mayor Littlefield then addressed the fifth strategy, ***Keep Growing the Green.*** He referenced the greenway system and stated that he met this morning with real estate people for government agencies; that it was such a pleasure to tell them should if they choose they can walk all the way from Ross' Landing to Chickamauga Park! He stated the plan is to extend those walks further and tie all the greenway systems together.

The Brainerd Mission was the Mayor's next subject of discussion and he noted that the Mission is important with the Trail of Tears Passage, its Cherokee Indian heritage and its ties to Chattanooga. He stated the Brainerd Mission Cemetery is one of the most critical pieces to the whole puzzle; that many people have said there are very few locations more historic than this as it dates back to the early 1800's and was the first Christian mission to the Cherokee Nation. He stated there have been plans as to how to expand and improve it in some way to recover it from the "sea of asphalt" it is presently surrounded by. He stated the National Park Service is replacing signs with the words Trail of Tears written in Cherokee at the top.

The next slide reflected the Heritage House in East Brainerd and the Mayor noted that the house has a degree of southern charm. He stated even though it is not really a recreation center it is a civic/community center and meeting place for the East Brainerd community. He stated more is to be done there.

The next area involved softball fields wherein the Mayor noted that an article had been released today referencing the substantial problem and little hope of any utilization of Montague Park as a softball location because of the trash and garbage under ground continues to sink and is almost impossible to stabilize enough to maintain as a first class softball facility. He stated they are looking at other locations and hope in the not too distant future to move ahead with a plan.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: STATE OF THE CITY PART II –
MAYOR LITTLEFIELD (Continued)

As for Outdoor Chattanooga, the Mayor stated the plan is to continue with it; that the director position has been advertised and applications have been received from people and they are moving forward with that.

The sixth strategy, ***Attack Fear with Technology***, was next and the Mayor stated the 911 improvements are long overdue; that the 911 office had a couple “wake up calls” and are now moving ahead with improvements. He stated this is a state of the art facility and with the program of planning and implementation underway he feels confident we will see that temporary problem resolved. He stated Chief Parks and others in his department are doing an excellent job of keeping “patches” in place while figuring out a permanent solution.

The Mayor stated Congressman Wamp is helping to secure federal funds for digital cameras; that the digital cameras have a lot of implications of how we patrol and keep security in the city. He stated digital cameras enable police officers to record exactly what is going on when they have stops, but more than that, having information in digital format enables them to utilize a laptop that they now have in their cars and most will have them soon. He stated a wireless website will be created in schools to control schools from outside (in wireless fashion) and he noted he has talked to a number of people in this business who knows more than he does. He stated that he has done research as school resource officers were offered because we wanted to make sure security remained in the schools, however, he wants to do a better job and not depend on resource officers to be in one location. He stated it is possible the schools could train their own personnel and monitor their halls. He stated any interruption in school could be monitored from outside through the wireless web link.

The Mayor then mentioned the fire safety house that was recently approved by the Council, as well as a request for a tractor trailer to do what many cities are doing. He stated other cities are putting all homeland security equipment needed for major events in the region in one trailer so that if it has to be taken to a location to aid neighbors everything would be contained and noted Nashville has one.

Mayor Littlefield stated there is the need for more patrolling in the parks and perhaps in addition to police officers, more video cameras in the offering, as well.

In discussing the seventh and final strategy, ***Focus on Teaching***, the Mayor noted that this is something that involved one of his favorite projects.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: STATE OF THE CITY PART II –
MAYOR LITTLEFIELD (Continued)

At this point a brief film was shown regarding the Great Ideas competition and the Mayor clarified that the city is no longer in the teaching and school business, however he noted we are in the business of making sure our young people's minds are the finest they can hope to be. He stated one thing this program does is encourage youth to "think outside the box" and come up with ideas that can serve them well if they should choose to go in that direction. He stated that he wants them to be outrageous in what they think! He stated a panel was employed to help judge the projects that were submitted which took place in nine schools this year. He stated there were excellent entries and the winners will be announced on next Wednesday at the Spirit of Innovation Awards program, along with the Chamber recognizing the most innovative businesses. He stated the students will be recognized with a small cash prize, a medal and t-shirt with a print of Einstein's head "exploding" and Einstein's famous saying, "Imagination is more important than knowledge" on the back. He stated Great Ideas was a senior project; that the city and the Public Education Foundation are proposing the Great Ideas competition be a project senior students will be required to present in the future.

In closing his presentation, Mayor Littlefield addressed **change** and noted that this is important because a lot has changed. He noted that the Office of Multi-Cultural Affairs is a recent addition with Jacqueline Strong-Moss as the administrator. He indicated that Adm. Strong-Moss has had a couple events that have gone well and there are high hopes and great expectations for that department. He stated the second Go!Fest was held and just as last year's event was well received; that Friends of the Festival will help with this and other events. He stated the Council on Disability was created that will listen to people struggling with disabilities; that he wants Chattanooga to be a community that assists in a number of ways, employing the talents of people who have been wrestling with more of a disability than the rest of us.

The Mayor stated the McKamey Animal and Adoption Center is moving toward reality this year and will create a new type of environment for dealing with our pet population. He stated he is not criticizing the old facility as it is more than 50 years old. He stated this facility will be across from DuPont and will have a park-like setting -- open, airy and something people will find as a happy place rather than a plan that does not give the right image of our city.

Mayor Littlefield stated the permit process would be streamlined; that Adm. Leach and his staff are complete. He stated the plan is to place inspectors and plans review people across from each other and improve communication. He stated the development process has been transformed, which is a major improvement.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION: STATE OF THE CITY PART II –
MAYOR LITTLEFIELD (Continued)**

Mayor Littlefield stated that the **challenges** we face are in **transportation improvements** and referenced the increase in fuel costs that Katrina and Rita added. He stated that **maintenance and security of new public space** is not something we are unaware of; that it is something we plan to get on top of. He stated **economic development** deals with community public spaces, appropriate spaces and parks. As a final point, he stated if he had to say what is the thing we speak most about are jobs.

The Mayor closed by stating this is it; that it is perhaps more than where we are going and is the substance of his State of the City address. He stated that he looks forward to working with the Council during the coming year. (Applause from those in attendance was given at this point.)

Chairman Pierce expressed that he is sure everyone looks forward to next year and bigger and better things.

FRANCHISE

Councilman Powers stated this request was discussed at last week's Public Works Committee meeting and it was unanimously recommended for approval.

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Franklin,
AN ORDINANCE GRANTING UNTO XSPEDIUS MANAGEMENT CO. OF CHATTANOOGA, LLC d/b/a/ XSPEDIUS COMMUNICATIONS A FRANCHISE TO INSTALL AND MAINTAIN FIBER OPTIC CABLES IN CERTAIN RIGHTS-OF-WAY IN THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA, AS SHOWN ON THE MAP ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE, TO PROVIDE TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS

passed second and final reading and was signed in open meeting.

CLOSE AND ABANDON

MR-2006-015: Robert S. Davis, Jr.

On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Benson,
**AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING AN UNNAMED ALLEY
LOCATED ON THE EAST LINE OF THE 300 BLOCK OF SOUTH WILLOW
STREET, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN AND AS SHOWN ON
THE MAP ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE,
SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS**
passed second and final reading and was signed in open meeting.

SPECIAL POLICEMAN

On motion of Councilman Rico, seconded by Councilwoman Robinson
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF LARRY DEMPSEY AS
SPECIAL POLICEMAN (ARMED) FOR ERLANGER HEALTH SYSTEMS, TO DO
SPECIAL DUTY AS PRESCRIBED HEREIN, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN
CONDITIONS**
was adopted.

CONTRACT

On motion of Councilman Powers, seconded by Councilman Franklin,
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT NO. W-05-003-
201, EASTGATE PUMP STATION NO. 2, GRAVITY CONNECTOR SEWER AND
FORCE MAIN, TO EAST TENNESSEE GRADING, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF
FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY-EIGHT THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY-SIX AND
50/100 DOLLARS (\$558,486.50), PLUS A CONTINGENCY AMOUNT OF
FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$40,000.00), FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO
EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED NINETY-EIGHT THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED
EIGHTY-SIX AND 50/100 DOLLARS (\$598,486.50)**
was adopted.

AGREEMENT

On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Powers,
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC WORKS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH LAMAR DUNN &
ASSOCIATES, INC. RELATIVE TO CONTRACT NO. W-06-003-101,
CROMPTON STREET SANITARY SEWER REHAB (LUPTON CITY), IN AN
AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED
DOLLARS (\$23,100.00)**
was adopted.

AGREEMENT

On motion of Councilman Powers, seconded by Councilwoman Bennett,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH CONSOLIDATED TECHNOLOGIES, INC. FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GAS COLLECTION SYSTEM AT THE CITY LANDFILL ON BIRCHWOOD PIKE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FORTY-TWO THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FORTY DOLLARS (\$42,140.00)

was adopted.

CONTRACT

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Franklin,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT NO. S-05-015-201, TELEVISED INSPECTION OF PRIVATE SANITARY SEWER LINES, TO ROTO ROOTER PLUMBING SERVICE IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$20,000.00)

was adopted.

AGREEMENT

Councilman Benson stated this issue came out of the Legal and Legislative Committee with a split recommendation for approval; that five on the Council believe this needs to be studied and more documentation is needed. He expressed concern about a company that would charge \$190,000 to make this study and noted that he really hated to speak against it, yet he has to at the present time until he sees what they have done in other cities and others studies, as well as what this amount entails. He expressed agreement with the need however he spoke in opposition at this time.

Chairman Pierce asked if the matter should be tabled and sent back to committee.

At this point Councilman Benson made the motion to table the matter; the motion failed for lack of a second.

AGREEMENT

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Powers,
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SEGAL COMPANY TO PERFORM A CITYWIDE CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION STUDY FOR THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED NINETY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$190,000.00) WITH AN OPTIONAL PAY FOR PERFORMANCE SYSTEM IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$20,000.00)

was adopted; Councilman Benson voted "no".

ELECTRIC POWER BOARD APPOINTMENT

On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Benson,
A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING AND APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF JOHN N. FOY AS A MEMBER OF THE ELECTRIC POWER BOARD OF CHATTANOOGA

was adopted.

OVERTIME

Overtime for the week ending April 28, 2006 totaled \$72,901.06.

PERSONNEL

The following personnel matters were reported for the various departments:

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

- **SAMIR SHENOUDA** – Resignation, Technical Information Manager, effective May 5, 2006.
- **JERRY W. HAYES** – Return to Duty from FMLA, Crew Worker, City Wide Services, effective April 19, 2006.
- **ROGER W. SAMPLES** – Family Medical Leave, Crew Worker, Sr., City Wide Services, effective April 20 – July 13, 2006.
- **AARON M. DAVIS** – Family Medical Leave, Crew Supervisor, Sr., City Wide Services, effective April 12 – July 5, 2006.

PERSONNEL (Continued)

CHATTANOOGA FIRE DEPARTMENT:

- **JOSEPH BUTLER** – Promotion, Lieutenant, Pay Grade F3A/Step 6, \$38,277.00 annually, effective May 12, 2006.
- **KENNETH HARDEN** – Promotion, Lieutenant, Pay Grade F3A/Step 5, \$36,767.00 annually, effective May 12, 2006.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT:

- **VICKIE CORSON** – Promotion, Assistant Administrator of Finance and Administration, Pay Grade 35/Step 7, \$71,997.00 annually, effective May 2, 2006.

PURCHASE

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Franklin, the following purchase was approved for use by the Public Works Department:

BRADLEY TANK & PIPE (Lowest and best bid)

R0088436/B0003005

Corrugated Metal Pipe

\$324,700.00

EMERGENCY PURCHASE

The emergency purchase of a Nortrax Track Hoe Excavator Rental for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$28,751.00 on Requisition No. R0089465 was duly reported and signed in open meeting.

PURCHASE

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Benson, the following purchase was approved for use by the Chattanooga Fire Department:

PURCHASE (Continued)

NAFECO (Best bid)

R0088210

Twenty-nine (29) Thermal Imaging Cameras

\$227,070.00

REFUND

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Franklin, the Administrator of Finance was authorized to issue the following refund of gross receipts tax:

Kamboi #1 Exxon	\$1,563.76
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PURCHASE

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Franklin, the following purchases were approved for use by the Department of Administration:

BEST ONE TIRE OF CHATTANOOGA (Lowest and best bid)

R0088743/B0003057

Tires

\$50,816.67

PERISCOPE HOLDINGS, INC. (Single source)

R0089166

Annual Software Maintenance and Support per TCA 6-56-304-2

\$28,696.00

HEARING: SGT. NOORBERGEN

Councilman Franklin stated an appeal hearing for a 28-day suspension was held for Sgt. Noorbergen with a panel consisting of himself as Chairman and Councilmen Powers and Bennett; that Atty. Larry Cash served as the legal counsel for the Council. He stated after presentation of evidence and much deliberation, the panel affirmed the 28-day suspension for the defendant.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Attorney Nelson scheduled an executive session with the Council on Tuesday, May 9 at 5:15 to discuss a pending lawsuit.

HEARING: RONALD MADDEN

Councilwoman Rutherford stated that she is scheduled as part of the panel for next Monday's hearing and noted that she could not serve beyond 12:30 a.m. as she has a 1 p.m. appointment. She stated there is a matter coming before the Planning Commission and she has to be present.

City Attorney Nelson suggested that the panel recess after 12:30 until sometime later in the week.

Councilwoman Rutherford stated if Councilman Benson, as a member of the Planning Commission, could get the matter moved to the top of the agenda it is possible she could come back as early at 1:30 or 1:45. She stated she needs to be at the Planning Commission; that it is not personal as it involves District 6.

Councilman Benson assured Councilwoman Rutherford that the agenda could be adjusted at Planning.

At this point Councilman Page was volunteered as an Alternate for the panel.

COMMITTEES

Councilman Powers scheduled a meeting of the **Public Works Committee for Tuesday, May 9 at 4 p.m.**

REFER TO PLANNING

Councilwoman Rutherford stated last week the principals of Eastgate met with representatives of the Planning agency. She stated that she needs approval for Planning to do a zoning study for Miller Drive, the back entrance into Eastgate. She stated another issue involves the other three streets between Miller Drive and Brainerd Road as a study is needed to determine land usage (for the three streets). She stated she has spoken with Barry Bennett and they are ready to move on this.

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Benson, approval was given for the Regional Planning Agency to do a zoning study for Miller Drive and a land use study for the streets leading up to Brainerd Road.

DEATH OF CHARLES PAYNE'S MOTHER

Councilman Franklin stated the mother of Charles Payne passed and family visitation is scheduled for this evening from 7-8 p.m. at Franklin Strickland. He stated Mr. Payne is President of the Washington Hills Neighborhood Association and CENAC. He stated the funeral service is scheduled for Wednesday at New Mt. Carmel on Washington Avenue. He asked that all be in prayer for the family.

GARY BALL

Gary Ball addressed the Council regarding the Rescue Mission issue and noted that it was his thought this matter is one that the neighborhood will lose when it comes before the Variance Board next week. He stated that he wanted Councilman Benson to be aware that Planning does not do speculations when neighborhoods try to work with someone in zoning. He stated that they are getting "slammed" by the guy developing the property however they still plan to be present to argue the case next week. He stated he has tried to get Jerry Pace to call him, however he has never called; that he wanted the Council to realize when speculators come in they will not support them any longer.

Later in the meeting he addressed Chiefs Parks and Cooper and stated that he has made contact with Jennifer Dugan to ask if the Police Department would do a one mile sweep of that address (where the Rescue Mission is proposed) and give them the crime statistics so they could have it to present at next week's Variance Board to show what is going on. He stated this would show the negative impact of what is being proposed. He asked that they give Ms. Dugan the authority to provide the information.

LOUISE HAMMONDS

Louise Hammonds, President of the Oak Grove Neighborhood Association, spoke in reference to the old Oak Grove Elementary School's rezoning request to turn the former school into a drug rehabilitation center and place for the homeless. She stated she brought members from her neighborhood tonight, one of whom involves a gentleman whose yard adjoins the school yard.

DEVONDA MCKENZIE

DeVonda McKenzie stated that she lives in the community and operates a day care at her home; that she has three children and one of them is already afraid to walk past the building due to the transients that live in the area. She stated that something positive could be done other than a rehab center; that it should be something positive that would benefit the community and children.

CASILDA JAMES

Casilda James, President of the Historic Organization of Ferger Place, stated their concern is that they have been trying so hard to bring the neighborhood forward and they are doing so well; that it is a peaceful, quiet neighborhood. She stated the police give them good support and properties in Ferger Place, as of last month, were going for \$110 per foot; that she has been there thirty years and never thought she would see that! She stated the facility being proposed for the old Oak Grove School will hurt them a lot; that they would rather see the enterprise going in at Eleventh Street and they support the Mayor's plan. She stated it is thought the Eleventh Street facility would be better for overall health of the area if those facilities congregated there rather than spreading them in the neighborhoods that have worked hard to get ahead. She expressed thanks to the Council for helping them get where they are in their community as noted that it would not have been possible without the Council's support. She expressed hope that they can continue to have the Council's "ears" and to please hear their prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Pierce adjourned the meeting of the Chattanooga Council until Tuesday, May 9, 2006 at 6:00 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

CLERK OF COUNCIL

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