

**City Council Building  
Chattanooga, Tennessee  
May 29, 2007  
6:00 P.M**

Chairman Page called the meeting of the Chattanooga City Council to order with Councilmen Bennett, Benson, Franklin, Gaines, Pierce, Rico, Robinson, and Rutherford present. City Attorney Randall Nelson; Management Analyst Randy Burns; and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/  
INVOCATION**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by City Attorney Randall Nelson, followed by invocation.

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

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

**INTERIM BUDGET**

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Franklin,

**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 2007,  
PENDING THE ADOPTION OF THE 2007-2008 ANNUAL  
BUDGET**

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

**REZONING**

**2007-058 Gregg Juster c/o Elder Healy & Company**

On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilwoman Rutherford,

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6958, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED AT 1601 ROSSVILLE AVENUE, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN, FROM M-1 MANUFACTURING ZONE TO C-3 CENTRAL BUSINESS ZONE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS**

**was substituted.** On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Rutherford, the Ordinance passed second and final reading and was signed in open meeting.

**AMEND CITY CODE**  
**OPEB TRUST**

On motion of Councilwoman Bennett, seconded by Councilwoman Rutherford,

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE BY CREATING A NEW ARTICLE III, DIVISION 8, IN CHAPTER 2, ENTITLED "OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT TRUST" RELATED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF AN OPEB TRUST**

passed first reading.

**CLOSE & ABANDON**

**2007-040 (Patricia Robinson)**

Councilman Benson noted that the recommendation was made and seconded in the Public Works Committee earlier in the day that the Council approve **Resolution 7(a) rather than Ordinance 6(b)**.

The applicant was present. Chairman Page asked if there was any opposition present; there being none, he called for the motion.

**CLOSE & ABANDON(CONT'D)**

On motion of Councilman Pierce, seconded by Councilwoman Gaines,  
**AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING AN  
UNNAMED ALLEY LOCATED ON THE SOUTH LINE OF THE  
1500 BLOCK OF CHAMBERLAIN AVENUE, MORE  
PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN AND AS SHOWN ON  
THE MAP ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF  
BY REFERENCE**

passed first reading on roll call vote as follows:

<b>BENNETT</b>	<b>“Yes”</b>
<b>BENSON</b>	<b>“No”</b>
<b>FRANKLIN</b>	<b>“Yes”</b>
<b>GAINES</b>	<b>“Yes”</b>
<b>PIERCE</b>	<b>“Yes”</b>
<b>RICO</b>	<b>“No”</b>
<b>ROBINSON</b>	<b>“No”</b>
<b>RUTHERFORD</b>	<b>“No”</b>
<b>PAGE</b>	<b>“Yes”</b>

**TEMPORARY USAGE**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PATRICIA ROBINSON TO  
USE TEMPORARILY AN UNNAMED ALLEY LOCATED ON  
THE SOUTH LINE OF THE 1500 BLOCK OF CHAMBERLAIN  
AVENUE, AS REFERENCED IN CASE NO. MR-2007-040 AND  
SHOWN ON THE DRAWING ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE  
A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN  
CONDITIONS**

**was removed from the Agenda as a “moot” point.**

AGREEMENT

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilwoman Gaines,

**A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BEST BID FROM AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH INTEGRATED NETWORKING TECHNOLOGIES, LLC (INTEC) FOR VARIOUS STRUCTURED CABLING PROJECTS ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS FOR A TERM OF UP TO THREE (3) YEARS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$375,000.00)**

was adopted.

ETHANOL-BASED FUEL  
GRANT

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Franklin,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT, IF APPROVED, TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION ALTERNATIVE FUELS INNOVATIONS GRANTS OF UP TO EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$80,000.00), AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING CITY MATCHING FUNDS NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$20,000.00), FOR REFUELING INFRASTRUCTURE, MAINTENANCE, AND PROMOTIONAL SIGNAGE ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONVERSION OF APPROPRIATE FLEX FUEL VEHICLES IN THE CITY'S FLEET FROM REGULAR UNLEADED GASOLINE TO E-85, AN ETHANOL-BASED ALTERNATIVE FUEL**

was adopted.

**AGREEMENT**

Councilman Franklin noted that this came before the Parks and Recreation Committee today with a recommendation for approval, as did **Resolution (e)**.

On motion of Councilwoman Gaines, seconded by Councilwoman Bennett,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH LOSE AND ASSOCIATES, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF WARNER PARK AND ITS BALLFIELDS FOR AN AMOUNT OF EIGHT AND ONE-HALF PERCENT (8.5%) OF CONSTRUCTION COSTS, NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$270,000.00), SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE FINAL AGREEMENT BY THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

was adopted.

**AGREEMENT**

On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilwoman Robinson,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH BARGE, WAGGONER, SUMNER AND CANNON, INC. FOR THE SUMMIT PARK PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED NINETY-THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$90,000.00) SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE FINAL AGREEMENT BY THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

was adopted.

**DONATION ACCEPTANCE**

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Franklin,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE DONATION OF A SUPPLY OF DOG FOOD WITH AN APPROXIMATE VALUE OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00) TO THE K-9 UNIT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM NUTRO PRODUCTS AND EXPRESSING THE GRATITUDE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL FOR SAID DONATION**

was adopted.

**OMA GRANTS**

On motion of Councilman Pierce, seconded by Councilman Franklin,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS TO APPLY FOR: (1) ONE HUD GRANT THROUGH THE NON-COMPETITIVE FAIR HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (FHAP) IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND AND NO/100 (\$120,000.00) DOLLARS, IN CAPACITY BUILDING FUNDS FOR THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF OPERATION: AND (2) ONE HUD GRANT THROUGH THE COMPETITIVE FAIR HOUSING INITIATIVE PROGRAM (FHIP) IN AN AMOUNT UP TO ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND NO/100 (\$100,000.00) DOLLARS, FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND FOR FAIR OUTREACH COMPLIANCE RELATED ACTIVITIES**

was adopted.

**OVERTIME**

Overtime for the week ending May 25, 2007, totaled \$61,975.70.

**PERSONNEL**

The following personnel matters were reported for the various departments:

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:**

- ❖ **LEROY FITCH**—Family Medical Leave of absence for Equipment Operator, 5/25/07—8/17-07.
- ❖ **HERANA ROBINSON, SR.**—Family Medical Leave of absence for Crew Worker, 5/18/07—8/10/07.
- ❖ **DANNY L. NELSON, JR.**—Suspension of Tree Trimmer, effective 5/29—30/07. (Two days without pay)
- ❖ **JASIMINUS A. TAYLOR**—Suspension of Crew Worker, effective 5/14—15/07. (Two days without pay).

**FINANCE DEPARTMENT:**

- ❖ **ALICE B. BARLEW**—Termination of Accounting Technician, effective 5/24/07.

**PURCHASES**

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

**BENTLEY SYSTEMS (Single Source Purchase)**  
**Requisition R0098992**

Bentley MicroStation Select Software Programs for Storm Water Management

\$19,743.72

**PURCHASES (CONT'D)**

**POLYDYNE, INC. (Lowest and best bid)**

**Requisition R0097867/B0004036**

Requirements for Wet Weather Polymer, Moccasin Bend Waste Resources

\$0.559/lb

**VULCAN ALUMINUM (Lowest and best bid)**

**Requisition R0098738/B0004146**

Requirements Contract for Sign Blanks for Traffic Operations

\$15,133.72

**PURCHASE**

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Franklin, the following purchase was approved for use by the Finance & Administration Department:

**THERMO SCIENTIFIC, INC. (Sole Source Purchase)**

**R0098241/B0004183**

Sequential Monitor for Air Pollution Control Board

\$14,560

**REFUNDS**

On motion of Councilwoman Bennett, seconded by Councilman Franklin, the Administrator of Finance was authorized to make the following refunds:

**CUSTOM BAKING CO.**—Due to Hamilton County Assessor of Property's amendment to remove assets duplicated in report--**\$4,246.05**

**MICHAEL F. MCGAULEY, TR.**---Due to name change--**\$1,058.72.**

**WALGREEN COMPANY**—Due to amended report from TMA Audit--**\$1,286.72.**

**PURCHASES**

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Franklin, the following purchase was approved for use by the Mayor's Office:

**NOW SOLUTIONS (Single Source Purchase)**  
**Requisition R0098703**

Renewal of Agreement for Payroll Annual Software Maintenance & Support

\$74,923.00

On motion of Councilman Pierce, seconded by Councilwoman Rutherford, the following purchase was approved for use by the Mayor's Office:

**ROSS SYSTEMS (Single Source Purchase)**  
**Requisition R0098608**

Renewal Agreement for Annual Maintenance & Software Licenses Support

\$26,202.35

**PURCHASE**

On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Pierce, the following purchase was approved for use by the General Services Department:

**GOODYEAR WHOLESALE TIRE CENTER (Lowest and best bid)**  
**Requisition R0098107/B0004095**

Annual Blanket Contract to cover automobile and light truck tires

\$77,282.06

**COMMITTEES**

Councilman Benson reminded Council members of the meeting of the **Legal and Legislative Committee scheduled for Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 P.M.**

Councilwoman Bennett thanked all those who took the tour today. She also stated that there had been some inquiries about a Municipal Budget Class, and she could e-mail the dates to those Council members who were interested.

**ROBERT SCHREANE**

**Mr. Schreane**, Chairman of the North Brainerd Community Council, approached the Council along with **Pastor Ron Cooke**. He stated that he represented the Avondale and Eastdale areas; that they had been a public target since December of last year; that he had talked with Beverly Johnson and Steve Leach, and they both had come to the table with community leaders and ironed out some of the problems; that, however, was not the case with the Police Chief; that they had documented that a meeting with him had **not** taken place; that Mayor Littlefield promised them in March that Chief Cooper would meet with them but so far the Chief had been a “no show”. Mr. Schreane was asking that the City Council work with them in encouraging conversation with the Police Chief. He emphasized that he was not criticizing the whole Police Dept.

**Pastor Ron Cooke** stated that he was with the Rock Island Baptist Church and was Executive Director of the Eastside Task Force. He asked the various neighborhood associations that were represented here tonight to stand. (A large number were in the audience). He noted that this was a very diverse group of people—young and old; black and white; homeowners and renters. He stated that they all were concerned because they loved their community and were seriously disappointed with the level of police protection; that they had followed the rules and regulations and done things properly. He stated that he understood that this form of government was a dual system, with the Council and Mayor’s Office working together to iron out issues. He stated that he would like for the two bodies to come up with and effect a solution to legitimate problems and to work together. He asked the Council to come together with the Mayor and come up with a solution to the level of police protection that is afforded their community.

At this point Councilman Franklin noted that he had scheduled a **Public Safety Committee** for this purpose **on Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, immediately following the Public Works Committee.** He explained that Councilwoman Gaines is the current Chairman of this committee and that both he and Councilwoman Gaines had met with community leaders about their concerns. He stated that he would like to say, at this point, we are all concerned about the different things that are happening, and he felt like one of the problems is the number of police officers on the street and the proportion of police officers in certain areas that are particularly related to crime. He went on to say that other issues would also be discussed at the committee meeting that are related to the Budget and putting more officers on the street. He stated that he had had a conversation with tenured police officers, and they were in agreement to make things happen and to shed light on this scenario. He expressed his appreciation for all the people coming here today, noting that there were acts of crime in the Avondale and Eastdale areas. He mentioned an influx of other individuals in these areas, stating that this was a major concern and that he hoped this Council would support whatever it takes to get a direct line of communication with Chief Cooper.

Mr. Schreane stated that he was not opposed to this Safety Committee meeting and assumed that Chief Cooper would be there and not just captains and lieutenants—that they needed to meet with the decision maker.

Councilman Pierce stated that he was not passing the buck, but the Council can't assure Mr. Schreane that Chief Cooper would be present at that meeting; that the Chief worked for the Mayor, and he would hope that the Mayor would encourage Chief Cooper to be there—that it might not be Chief Cooper's desire to be at the meeting but sometimes you have to do what has to be done.

Mr. Schreane stated that it was important that they talk with the Chief—that some thought “if it's not broken, don't fix it”; that they had been able to get with Beverly Johnson, and she had arranged a format, and they wanted this same type of dialog and interaction with Chief Cooper. He stated that the Chief was in command and that they had had two killings and needed more police.

Councilwoman Rutherford stated that she was supportive of what was being said, adding that she had found Chief Cooper to be accountable; that she thought the Chief was working through the Mayor's Office with a Task Force.

**Mike Williams, a Chief in the Police Dept.,** was present and stated that he had met with Chief Cooper and Chief Snyder and that they did have a newly formed Crime Unit to deal with gangs and more than just gangs; that this had been formed and a new Academy would soon be on the streets, which would give them two-man cars in high crime areas; that one day a month, everyone who was not assigned to something else, worked with the Highway Patrol, FBI, and the County—that they did have things going on, but there was not a quick fix; that we were struggling but that we were not the only city having problems. He stated that he would be glad to answer any questions.

Councilman Franklin stated that one of the things that would move us in the right direction was a high level of communication so that we will know things that we are specifically not aware of; that a lot of the policemen on the street are doing a good job; that they need to be disseminated in a logical way, and the Police Dept. needs to do some of the same tours that other Department Heads are doing.

Chief Williams responded that Chief Cooper is ready to help, as is Chief Snyder and Chief Dodd—that they would try to see what the community wanted them to do. He stated that he came from Sector 3 before his promotion and had spoken to some of these community leaders that were here tonight.

Councilman Benson stated that he would not take up too much time but that the Police Dept. needed to be commended for their round-up in the East Lake area—that it was a successful program and the first of its kind.

Chief Williams noted that they had had one other round-up; that Chief Cooper had designated that one day a month everyone be on the street, working with the U.S. Secret Service, FBI, TBI, Highway Patrol, and the County. He stated that at least once a month you would see this; that they were going from one area to the next, spending their resources.

Councilman Pierce asked that Chief Williams extend the invitation to Chief Cooper to be more visible, stating that he needed to be here himself.

Chief Williams agreed to pass this on.

Chairman Page thanked everyone for alerting the Council to what is happening in their area.

Chief Williams stated that they took this as support and a positive for them and not as a negative; that they would work with these people.

Councilman Pierce stated that we did not want just officers from the Police Dept. but wanted to go to the top.

Councilwoman Gaines thanked the Pastor and everyone else for coming out, stating that we appreciated their dedication and wanted them to know that we are doing the best we can. She explained that the Council is not on the scene when the crime is taking place; that everyone sitting here today who live in District 5 and District 9 could tell the same story; that she was quite frightened about this. She mentioned an incident in her neighborhood, before she even got home, concerning a young man walking up to a car for some "hit"; that this happened right in her own driveway, and she assured those present that they were not alone. She stated that she lived alone, and she thought that people in their neighborhoods often just "turn their heads". She went on to say that many had witnessed this in other places, mentioning Hamilton Place Mall. She stated that this was as open as a pipe and that she was quite frightened. She stated that she and Councilman Franklin had met with these people several times and what they were saying was not falling on deaf ears—that some on the Council are living it also. She did add that the people had been told that the Mayor controls the purse strings. She just wanted the people to know that the Council was here to support them and were walking the same road. She urged the people to call her anytime—that she knew what they had witnessed in their neighborhood; that even some of the people who own property don't care and would place people in empty dwellings and duplexes were already taken; that this was happening not far from where she lived and people were moving from place to place and as soon as police officers got from Point A to Point B, they would be gone, and there was the incarceration factor and as soon as a young man is in the county jail, he gets out and in two seconds he is replaced by someone else.

Councilwoman Gaines went on to say that Sheriff Long had told her that he was trying to get funds to extend our prisons—that from the last two rushes, young men who were arrested are already back on the streets. She stated that the Council sits here week after week and everyone is concerned and tonight we are on board.

Chief Williams stated that with the last two efforts one of the frustrating things was that everyone was released on their own recognizance and there were no bonds, and they were all out even before the officers finished their paperwork.

### PASTOR TIM SYKES

**Pastor Tim Sykes** of the Shepherd Community addressed the Council. He wished to speak to the two-men police cars, stating that two men are great, but one is in training, which can be dangerous and really a one-man car is better; that the one in training is not allowed to respond and not as well trained. He mentioned a round-up effort at the Chattanooga Housing Authority and stated that the efforts are great with the two round-ups we have had along with the FBI collaborating with the Police Dept.—however these are just targeted efforts, which can be great. He stated that Councilman Pierce had asked Chief Williams to tell Chief Cooper to be present at the June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting—that the Chief is Chief Williams' boss, and the messenger needed to be Mayor Littlefield to tell him he needs to be there. He questioned telling Chief Williams to tell Chief Cooper to be present, when he is his boss—stating that Chief Williams could not **make** him be there. He reiterated that Mayor Littlefield needs to put pressure on Chief Cooper to be present to answer questions.

At this point Councilwoman Gaines noted that Councilman Franklin had talked about the meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup>. She explained that the meeting would take place immediately following the Public Works Committee, which meets at 3:00 P.M. She emphasized that the meeting would be immediately following.

**ANTHONY CHATMAN**

**Anthony Chatman** addressed the Council, stating that he was going to switch gears and talk about the aspect of tracking funds that were allocated for African-American communities, stating that the Summer Youth Program is classic and all are saying it is great with \$400,000 allocated and five young people will be selected from each school. He stated that the jobs being offered were menial labor and janitorial-type jobs; that if we were going to be positive with that kind of money, we should be having internships to motivate young people to go to college to become lawyers, bankers, nurses, and doctors—that few people wanted to do janitorial work, and this was the problem with this program; that he had spoken to Al Chapman about this, and he said there was no paperwork, and he went to the County Commission, and it was a problem to track down where the funding is being directed. He mentioned funding from the Multi-Cultural Affairs Office for community outreach and related activities, wanting to know what these activities are and could they get the paperwork; that he would like to see this \$100,000 grant going to the community and not to administration.

Chairman Page responded that the Budget was fully available and was on the web and that Mr. Chatman could speak to Daisy Madison.

**JULIA DEAN**

**Julia Dean**, President of the Brotherhood of Police Officers, next addressed the Council. She stated that as a police officer, herself, she was very concerned with the safety of our citizens. She stated that people tend to forget that police officers have families and are citizens of Chattanooga, also. She talked about the low number of police officers and also about police officer safety; that as a supervisor in the East Chattanooga area, the call load was extremely high, and they had four officers, which might sound like a lot and most of the calls are two-car calls; that a lot of times she worked Sector 2 and there was only one other person answering calls; that as a police officer, she wanted to let the community know that they were stretched; that the districts had grown from a 27 mile radius to a 143 mile radius, and the problem is we are taking the same amount of officers and spreading them over the annexed areas, which spreads them very thin. She stated that the police were for anything they could do for community safety and officer safety and that they appreciated the Council.

Councilwoman Rutherford stated that what the public does not understand and what Julia Dean had taught her was that it takes five people to keep one officer on the street; that when we have 20 graduates, we only have four around the clock officers, and it is hard to recruit, questioning who would want to do the job they have to do, putting their lives on the line, and the amount of money they get paid makes it even less desirable; that people want more officers but don't want their taxes to go up; that the City spends \$35 to \$40 on training and equipment for every cadet. She stated that this was a major, major problem and takes dollar bills, and we don't want to pay more taxes.

**PASTOR CAROL MOORE**

**Pastor Moore** addressed the Council, stating that she was with the ministry that the Council had been addressing about noise in Miller Park; that their permit had been rescinded, and she wanted to address this; that there had been a complaint from someone who lives in the Lovemans Building; that it had been said that they were at Miller Park past 9:00 P.M. and that was a lie; that she knew there was a Noise Ordinance, and she was not breaking it; that she knew it was 50 decibels. She reiterated that her Permit had been rescinded while another's ministry had not been rescinded. She went on to say that Kevin Brady had called her assistant and told him they could not preach and serve food in Miller Park and that they would be removed. She stated that she loved this City and had gone to schools here in East Lake and loved this City and that she wanted to minister to the homeless of the Patton Towers and Gateway, and she had people coming in wheelchairs; that she called the Mayor's Office on Tuesday and was told that a facility was set up at the Farmer's Market on 11<sup>th</sup> Street for 150 people, with electricity, bathrooms, and tables; that her assistant, David, went by and none of this stuff was available; that this seemed to be an opportune time to move them there, but they loved going to Miller Park.

Chairman Page thanked Pastor Moore and explained to her that construction was going on; that he hoped there would be an equitable type of resolution for these complaints.

Ms. Moore responded that the Park was not closed. Chairman Page still maintained that there was going to be some construction and that minutes had been taken on her comments and were on record.

**BARRY KIDWELL**

**Mr. Barry Kidwell** spoke next, stating that he appreciated the work being done on Forest Ave. until he was asked to leave Miller Park on Thursday. He stated that he went to a variety of places and was asked to leave Miller Park on Thursday; that the officer that asked him to leave was very nice to him; however they asked them to leave, and they were battling for the “heart” of this City; that it was hard to make laws to win the heart of the City; that laws allowed them to be on the streets; that he had worked hard with Inner City Ministries and also Harriett Tubman and that their job was tough; that they needed to be here, too, with a ministry on the streets. He stated that they had to go where the people are; that Lovemans says that Miller Park is their backyard, but it is also the backyard of Patton Towers. He stated that he did not have to have a permit because he did not use an amplifier—that he was just a preacher and did not have to have a permit; that jails were not changing people—that people were not in jail long enough to change.

**DAVID AVANT**

**David Avant** stated that he worked with Pastor Carol Moore and asked if he could get more than three minutes of the Council’s time? Chairman Page responded—not tonight. Mr. Avant stated that they wanted back in Miller Park without cop cars and being intimidated by Parks and Recreation employees who were saying that they attracted the wrong crowd; that Miller Park was a public park, and they had a right to be at Miller Park—just as much as anyone from EPB or TVA taking a lunch break.

Councilman Benson responded that if Mr. Avant had any proposed legislative change that he could come to the Legal and Legislative Committee, which is scheduled next week at 3:00 P.M. He stated that Mr. Avant could get an appointment with the Mayor or Chief of Staff and propose legislation to bring to next Tuesday’s meeting.

Mr. Avant went on to say that facts had been misstated; that they went to the Farmers Market and there was lack of power and water; that someone saw what was taking place and called Public Works and their bosses had tables brought there immediately.

**DAVID AVANT (CONT'D)**

Councilman Benson stated that it was his understanding that this area was already set up. Mr. Avant asked Councilman Benson if he checked to see if there was power? Councilman Benson stated that he thought there was power there. Mr. Avant stated that he was not trying to argue but facts had been misstated.

Chairman Page asked Mr. Avant to come to the Legal and Legislative Committee with a proposal next Tuesday, and he thanked him for coming to this meeting.

Councilman Pierce asked how long the construction of the Park would take and was told by Dan Johnson that everything is in place and should proceed on Friday. Councilman Pierce indicated that he was talking about when the Park would be complete.

Larry Zehnder explained that they had been planning for Miller Park for a year and were getting to the point to make improvements and during the next one and one-half months there should be major work; that they needed to know who is in the Park; that this whole process started when a permit was requested, and they denied the permit because of renovation of the Park. He added that previous permits did not come through the Department of Parks and Recreation.

**MAN FROM BLUE RIDGE,GA**

An unidentified man from Blue Ridge, Ga. spoke, stating that he loved to see the Council and read scripture from Isaiah Chapter 58 of the Bible. After finishing the scripture, he stated that Chattanooga is a growing city, and if they would open themselves up to the power of God that God would smile on us; that he fed people out of the back of his car and had opened his life up to people in need.

**RESIDENT OF  
PATTON TOWERS**

An unidentified resident of Patton Towers likened this situation to Adolph Hitler of Germany, who made a statement that he would take care of everything, and we could see what a “good job” he did of taking care of things!

**ROBERT BROOKER**

**Mr. Robert Brooker of Wildwood, Georgia** spoke next, stating that he had previously lived in Eastdale for 30 years; that we had talked about it taking more tax dollars to put police officers on the street; that people would be willing to pay more taxes for more policemen on the streets for safety; that right now people were afraid to come out of their homes and were living in prisons—that they were scared to come out; that some of the people committing crimes were coming from other neighborhoods; that they had no respect for the neighborhoods or themselves; that he had lived in Eastdale for 30 years and had moved to Wildwood, Georgia, because he could no longer stand the noise and loud music; that his daughter, who was young, still lived here and said she was used to the noise, but now she is afraid—that she came to his home in Wildwood and hated to go home because people were on the streets with tents and spot lights and card tables. He stated that this was a neighborhood, but people were treating it like a Block Party or Bessie Smith Strut; that they had called the police to quiet it down—that they came out and told them to turn the music down; that you could hear the music in other houses at 3:00 in the morning, and they were still celebrating.

**J. MABRY ARMSTRONG**

At this point, Councilman Benson acknowledged the presence of Mr. Armstrong in the rear of the room, who was here concerning the Credit Union; that Mr. Armstrong was an 87 year old man whose life insurance had been cancelled by the Credit Union. He called on Mr. Armstrong to come forward. Councilman Benson noted that several Councilmembers had met with the President of the Credit Union, and he was going to take this action under advisement and then write Mr. Armstrong a letter.

**J. MABRY ARMSTRONG**  
**(CONT'D)**

**Mr. Armstrong** stated that he was retired from the Public School System, and he made it clear that he did not bring this up because of his personal burial insurance; that it was about matching money; that the Credit Union's only justification is to serve its members in the same way any other financial institution would, and this Credit Union is not doing this; that the rule was if you accumulated \$2,000 by the age of 58 and leave it in the Credit Union, that the money would be matched; that some employees were counting on this as part of their burial money. He went on to say that the problem with the Credit Union was much more than just this aspect. He made mention of the low interest on shares, stating that most Credit Unions have Certificates of Deposit; that he told Mr. Meeks this on February 8<sup>th</sup>, and he said that he would consider what had been said and in 30 days he would get a letter; that nothing had been mailed to him by May 8<sup>th</sup>, and he decided to come before the Council. He stated that he was not pursuing this for himself, personally, but the shareholders need someone to say that this is not a progressive Credit Union.

Councilman Benson stated that people thought this was a Chattanooga City Credit Union and yet we have nothing to do with it.

**RICKY MEYERS**

**Rickey Meyers** addressed the Council, stating that he had worked in this City for 12-13 years, and this ministry had helped him, as a veteran, to find a job, and he had been employed since February. He thanked God for this ministry, stating if it were not for them, he would not have had a place to eat and that he was speaking for all the homeless people.

**SANDY RICHARDSON**

**Sandy Richardson of Calhoun, Georgia** next addressed the Council. She stated that she loved to visit this City; that it was a beautiful City, and she brought her children here; that she and her husband came here to eat rather than going to Atlanta; that they had seen the homeless people and her heart had been truly moved with compassion; that she and her husband had decided to come here every Sunday and feed the homeless

**SANDY RICHARDSON**  
**(CONT'D)**

people out of their own pockets—that they did not represent any ministry. She stated that this was all new to her—that the place we were talking about sending the people to was about a half a mile away and many who were fed at Miller Park could not make it that far. She had with her, her friend Mary Jean, a homeless person, who she said could hardly make it to this meeting; that people in wheelchairs could not go that far. She stated that Miller Park was a lovely park and had been a blessing to her. She said that she had been to Tent City and Patton Towers, and she had great respect for these people who needed to be treated with dignity—that they needed to be treated with respect and dignity. She asked that the Council do all they can to help these people and stated that her friend, Mary Jean would like to speak.

**MARY JEAN**

**Mary Jean**, a homeless person, stated that she could not walk last year and now she could; that Jesus Christ had done this for her—that she knew God and Jesus would help her; that there is a God and if the Council would work with him, God would work with them; that if you don't work with him, he will not work with you.

Mrs. Richardson said that Mary Jean had said this better than she could have and again related to the Council that she loved this City.

At this point Chairman Page asked that when people spoke, they made sure that what they were speaking about was under the purview of this Council.

**MICHAEL WILLIAMS**

**Michael Williams** stated that he lived at Patton Towers; that people stereotyped the homeless and made the comment that homeless people would not do anything for themselves; that basically they were stereotyped because of “crack heads” and drugs, and he wanted this stereotyping to stop; that Pastor Carol was trying to stop this; that there were complaints about no lack of compassion in this City for the homeless; that they were struggling to get back on their feet.

**PURCHASES**

Chief Williams could not get through the crowd to present these at the proper time.

On motion of Councilwoman Bennett, seconded by Councilwoman Gaines, the following purchases were approved for use by the Chattanooga Police Dept.:

**COLEMAN TECHNOLOGIES, INC. (Single Source Purchase)**  
**Requisition R0098761**

Network Connectivity Equipment

\$28,858.50

**CHATTANOOGA OFFICE SUPPLY (Formerly approved)**  
**Requisition R0098845**

45 Ergonomic Chairs

\$22,815.00

**CLAUDIA**

**Claudia**, a resident of Patton Towers addressed the Council, begging them to help Pastor Carol out, stating that she was a good person. She stated that she had been with Ms. Carol for 2-7 years and that Ms. Carol had gotten her friend off drugs and now she and her friend were engaged, and Ms. Carol had kept them together and out of jail. She reiterated that Ms. Carol had kept them together; that she met her friend, Thomas, at the Community Kitchen; that she loved Ms. Carol and she had fed them. She mentioned the noise at Night Fall.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Page adjourned the meeting of the Chattanooga City Council until Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.

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**CHAIRMAN**

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**CLERK OF COUNCIL**

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