

**City Council Building  
Chattanooga, Tennessee  
May 29, 2001**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/  
INVOCATION**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Councilwoman Robinson gave the invocation.

**“NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK”  
CAROLYN SKIPPER &  
KIM MCCLURKIN**

Chairman Hakeem recognized Ms. Carolyn Skipper and Ms. Kim McClurkin who were present to acknowledge “National Garden Week” which will be June 3<sup>rd</sup> thru June 9<sup>th</sup>. Ms. McClurkin introduced herself as being with the Recycling Center at Warner Park and Third District Chair Person for Garden Clubs. She stated that gardening enhances our world and helps us to enjoy our lives and fosters friendships. Gardening also protects our environment. She mentioned the goal of planting two million trees and encouraged all Tennesseans to make our State more beautiful by planting dogwoods. She ended by saying that Governor Sundquist had signed a Proclamation proclaiming June 3<sup>rd</sup> thru the 9<sup>th</sup> as “National Garden Week”.

Chairman Hakeem noted that we do not always “stop and smell the roses” and thanked Ms. McClurkin for her presentation.

Ms. Skipper added that she and Kim were members of the oldest Garden Club in Chattanooga, which is the St. Elmo Garden Club, noting that she is the President and Kim is the Chaplain. She stated that they worked hard and appreciated the support from the Council. This Garden Club was founded in 1922 and is still in existence; however Ms. Skipper was quick to point out that she was not an original charter member.

Councilman Taylor expressed his appreciation to Ms. Skipper and Ms. McClurkin for what they do, stating that he hoped they were involved with all neighborhood organizations and especially appreciated their work in St. Elmo, adding that he would give them his house number.

**“NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK”**  
**(CONT’D.)**

Councilman Littlefield used this opportunity to mention the Garden Tour, which will take place Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> and is a fundraiser for the Chattanooga Food Bank. Councilman Littlefield’s wife’s garden will be featured. He stated that she had worked hard on her garden and had made him work hard too and urged other members of the Council to support this effort by donating \$10.00 for the tour, adding that this is a major fundraising event for the Food Bank. He stated that he hoped all would participate.

**AMEND ORD. 11131**  
**CLOSURE & ABANDONMENT**

**#2000-064 (GEORGE G. HIXSON)**

On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Benson,

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 11131,  
ENCAPTIONED “AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND  
ABANDONING LINDEN STREET, LOCATED NORTHEAST OF  
TREMONT STREET AND SOUTHWEST OF DARTMOUTH  
STREET, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN AND  
AS SHOWN ON PLAT ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A  
PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN  
CONDITIONS.” SO AS TO REPLACE THE LEGAL  
DESCRIPTION**

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

**CLOSURE & ABANDONMENT**

**#2001-026 (BEAR BRANCH, INC., JIM MEEKS & PATTIE M. MEEKS)**

On motion of Councilman Benson, seconded by Councilman Taylor,

**AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING THREE (3)  
UNOPENED ALLEYS LOCATED BETWEEN THE 300 BLOCK OF  
NORTH MARKET STREET AND THE 300 BLOCK OF  
WOODLAND AVENUE, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED  
HEREIN AND AS SHOWN ON PLAT ATTACHED HERETO AND  
MADE A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE**

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

**CLOSURE & ABANDONMENT**

**#2001-033 (PROVIDENT LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE CO.)**

On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Pierce,

**AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING AN ALLEY LOCATED BETWEEN THE 400 BLOCKS OF CHERRY STREET AND WALNUT STREET, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN AND AS SHOWN ON PLAT 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.

**CLOSURE & ABANDONMENT**

**#2001-045 (JOE WHEELER)**

On motion of Councilman Benson, seconded by Councilman Taylor,

**AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING AN OPEN ALLEY LOCATED NORTHEAST FROM EAST KENT STREET, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN AND AS SHOWN ON PLAT ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE, SUBJECT TO A CERTAIN CONDITION**

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

**REZONING**

**#2001-076 (ALPINE SIGMONT, LP)**

Mr. Pace explained that this was to bring this property into compliance.

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Franklin,

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 6958, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED AT 4040 MOUNTAIN CREEK ROAD, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN, FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO R-3 RESIDENTIAL ZONE**

passed first reading.

**CLOSURE & ABANDONMENT**

**#2001-035 (CROMBIE-PINKARD FUNERAL SERVICES/PINKARD & MEE)**

Chairman Hakeem called on Mr. Pace of the Planning Staff to give an overview on this case. Mr. Pace noted that this was a case that we talked about last week. The alley is open to the North but not the South. It is an alley behind the Funeral Home that is being requested to be closed. There is a Scrap Metal business to the rear and to the left is the Funeral Home business. Mr. Pace showed slides of the surrounding property. He noted that there is a small 13 ft. strip that the Scrap Metal business owns south of the Funeral Home, and the Funeral Home uses this to go in and out. Mr. Pace noted that both the Staff and Planning Commission recommend denial of this alley closure. The road is open and used; however the alley is not open at this time and not being used Denial is recommended of both 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and the alley.

Chairman Hakeem asked if Mr. Pace had had any discussions with the applicant. Mr. Pace responded that he had spoken with Mr. Baxter, who is owner of the Scrap Metal business and that he does have another access-both 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and the 13 ft. strip of land. Since he had not spoken with the Funeral Home representatives, Chairman Hakeem allowed time for this to take place at this time.

**Chairman Hakeem took this opportunity to remind those present that there would not be a Council meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> because a number of the members would be at the Tennessee Municipal League meeting.**

After a discussion with the owners of the Funeral Home, Mr. Pace explained to the Council that they said that **they** owned the 13 ft. strip of land that Mr. Baxter claims ownership to; therefore there was a dispute. Councilman Pierce confirmed that this did not have anything to do with this case and could be settled between them.

Councilwoman Robinson inquired as to there being a way that the storage area could be screened. Mr. Pace responded that there is nothing we can do about that—that it is not in their request.

Councilman Franklin indicated that he understood we can't do this but suggested that the applicant and owner might consider doing this with a sight-obscuring fence, which would make it more presentable. He added that this would not be expensive and could be worked out between the two of them.

**CLOSURE & ABANDONMENT**  
**(CONT'D.)**

Councilman Taylor stated that he wanted to make sure that there is communication and questioned if there had been any dialog between the two parties since the last meeting, with the answer being “no”. He stated that the main concern seemed to be appearance and asked Mr. Baxter if he had any problem with fixing up the outside. Mr. Baxter responded that he had already spent \$1,200 cleaning this up and had pictures to prove that it was cleaned up and made suitable. He stated that he was not buying cars now and there is screening when the gate is shut. The barrels that are visible are empty drums. He stated that he had graveled this and everything. The Funeral Home owners agreed that he had been working on things that were offensive. Councilman Taylor asked if they could work together, and Mr. Baxter responded that they always had. Councilman Taylor asked that Mr. Baxter keep this clean, noting that he would be making periodic visits.

Councilman Pierce indicated that he would like to have the alley addressed. Mr. Pace responded that the alley is covered with material and that he had told them they could be asked to move this if the alley remains open; that this is the responsibility of another City agency. Councilman Pierce asked if the guide holding the power pole was on Mr. Baxter’s property. Mr. Baxter responded “no”; that he had been here 17 years and had not changed any fences; that he leased this in 1986 and bought the property in the 1990’s. Councilman Pierce stated that he could see Mr. Baxter’s fence across the alley and stated that he did not know if the Funeral Home had a problem with this. Mr. Pace added that it protects them with the trees rather than opening it up.

On motion of Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Benson,

**AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONG A TEN (10) FOOT ALLEY AND AN UNOPENED FIFTY (50) FOOT RIGHT-OF-WAY OF WEST 22<sup>ND</sup> STREET, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN AND AS SHOWN ON PLAT ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE**  
**was denied.**

**TRANSFER TO CNE**  
**FREDERICK STREET**

On motion of Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Franklin,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF ONE HUNDRED FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$140,000.00) FROM THE FISCAL YEAR 2000-2001 CAPITAL BUDGET TO CHATTANOOGA NEIGHBORHOOD ENTERPRISE, INC. FOR INITIAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH HOUSING STARTS ON FREDERICK STREET AS APPROVED AND FUNDED IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2000-2001 CAPITAL BUDGET**

was adopted.

**SPECIAL POLICEMEN FOR**  
**RIVERPARK**

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Franklin,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF RALPH S. BROWN, SPENCER S. DANIELS, CHARLES EZELL, THOMAS M. FULMER, MARVIN FRED FUSON, TIMOTHY L. GUINN, JOE S. STANSIFER AND JACKIE L. WILLIAMS AS SPECIAL POLICEMEN FOR THE RIVERPARK, TO DO SPECIAL DUTY AS PRESCRIBED HEREIN, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS**

was adopted.

**Councilwoman Robinson noted that the next three Resolutions were discussed in committee and come with a recommendation.**

**PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT**  
**PURCHASE**

On motion of Councilman Page, seconded by Councilman Taylor,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR THE EAST CHATTANOOGA RECREATION CENTER FROM DOMINICA RECREATION PRODUCTS, INC. (REPRESENTING GAMETIME PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT) FOR THEIR LOW BID IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$27,935.00)**

was adopted.

**PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT  
PURCHASE**

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilman Taylor,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR LOOKOUT VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FROM DOMINICA RECREATION PRODUCTS, INC. (REPRESENTING GAMETIME PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT) FOR THEIR LOW BID IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$27,935.00)**

was adopted.

**CONTRACT**

On motion of Councilman Benson, seconded by Councilman Taylor,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION, ARTS AND CULTURE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH MCBRAYER CONSTRUCTION CO., LLC, RELATIVE TO WORK AT THE EAST BRAINERD PARK, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED FORTY-TWO THOUSAND, THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-SIX DOLLARS (\$542,376.00)**

was adopted.

**Councilman Franklin noted that the next six Resolutions were discussed in committee and come with a recommendation.**

**CONTRACT**

On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Lively,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT NO. 01A, MISCELLANEOUS SANITARY SEWER REQUIREMENTS CONTRACT, TO MAYSE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY AND EAST TENNESSEE GRADING, INC. FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$900,000.00), WITH THE WORK BEING DIVIDED BETWEEN THE TWO (2) CONTRACTORS ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, BASED UPON THE LOWEST COST FOR THE SPECIFIC PROJECT AND CONTRACTOR SCHEDULE**

was adopted.

**CONTRACT**

On motion of Councilman Littlefield, seconded by Councilman Franklin,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT NO. 53B-3, NORTHWEST GEORGIA SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM – PHASE II, TO MAYSE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR THEIR LOW BID IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION, NINE HUNDRED NINETEEN THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE AND 40/100 DOLLARS (\$1,919,623.40)**

was adopted.

**EASEMENT PURCHASE**

On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Taylor,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT FROM GERALD L. BAUGHMAN AND DIANE BAUGHMAN, RELATIVE TO CONTRACT NO. RW-3-00, SHALLOWFORD ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, TRACT NO. 28-S, FOR A TOTAL CONSIDERATION OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS (\$120.00)**

was adopted.

**EASEMENT PURCHASE**

On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Taylor,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT FROM JOSHUA WHITE MANTOOTH AND JENNIFER HEFFERLIN MANTOOTH, RELATIVE TO CONTRACT NO. RW-3-00, SHALLOWFORD ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, TRACT NO. 29, FOR A TOTAL CONSIDERATION OF SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$775.00)**

was adopted.

**EASEMENT PURCHASE**

On motion of Councilwoman Robinson, seconded by Councilman Taylor,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT FROM JOSHUA WHITE MANTOOTH AND JENNIFER HEFFERLIN MANTOOTH, RELATIVE TO CONTRACT NO. RW-3-00, SHALLOWFORD ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, TRACT NO. 29-S, FOR A TOTAL CONSIDERATION OF TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00)**

was adopted.



**EASEMENT PURCHASE**

On motion of Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilwoman Robinson,  
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A  
SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT FROM LOIS KLEZMER,  
RELATIVE TO CONTRACT NO. RW-3-00, SHALLOWFORD  
ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, TRACT NO. 35-S, FOR A TOTAL  
CONSIDERATION OF TWO THOUSAND, SEVEN HUNDRED  
DOLLARS (\$2,700.00)**

was adopted.

**OVERTIME**

Overtime for the week ending May 25, 2001 totaled \$14,666.09

**PERSONNEL**

The following personnel matters were reported for the Chattanooga Human Services Dept.:

**ANGELA APPLEBERRY, JOYCE DOUGLAS, THEMBI HUFF, FRANCES JONES, ROSA SMITH, AND ANNE VINCENT**—Termination of Child Care Counselors and Referral Technician, effective 5/31/01.

**SHELBA CONLEY**—Resigned as Headstart Teacher, effective 5/03/01.

**JUANITA HOWARD**—Resigned as Cook, effective 4/18/01.

**ERICA HUGHES**—Transfer from Broker Services to Field Supervisor, \$24,186 annually, effective 5/18/01.

**FELECIA MADDEN**—Resigned as Payment Technician, effective 5/16/01.

**TERRIOUS SMITH AND KIMBERLY THOMAS**—Termination of Teacher and Teacher Assistant, effective 5/23/01.

**TRACI VANCE**—From full time to part-time as Family Service Assistant, \$9,555 annually, effective 5/03/01.

**KEYCHE WORBINGTON**—Termination of Teacher Assistant, effective 5/03/01.

**PERSONNEL (CONT'D)**

Councilman Taylor made mention of the fact that there were quite a few terminations and asked if the positions were held open. Mr. Pruitt responded that the terminations were a result of the State ending a Contract that we had, and they will not be replaced.

**PURCHASES**

On motion of Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Franklin, the following purchases were approved for use by the Chattanooga Human Services Dept.:

**EXECUTONE COMMUNICATIONS & US LEC OF TENNESSEE, INC. (Dual awards)**

**Requisition No. R0047448/B0000555**

Contract for Telephone Communication System Upgrade for Avondale Head Start Administrative Office

\$22,951.00 (\$846/month)

Chairman Hakeem asked if this was a separate telephone provider from other departments. Mr. Pruitt responded that this was through the County as low bidder. It is a different provider. Adm. Boney added that these are physically remote satellite locations, and they were able to beat the provider that we have now. He stated that this did go through the Telecommunications Office, which works for him.

**PERSONNEL**

The following personnel items were reported for the Parks and Recreation Dept.:

**OSCAR O. SMITH**—Deceased, effective 5/11/01

**MARK A. WOOD**—Voluntary Demotion from Crew Worker to Custodian, \$16,558 annually, effective 5/23/01.

**MARK R. WILSON**—Hire as Crew Worker, Pay Grade 3/1, \$15,535 annually, effective 5/23/01.

**JOSEPH P. TEMPLE**—Resignation of Crew Worker, effective 5/23/01.

**PURCHASE**

On motion of Councilman Lively, seconded by Councilwoman Robinson, the following purchase was approved for use by the Parks and Recreation Dept.:

**NEWTON CHEVROLET (Lowest and best bid meeting specs.)**  
**Requisition R0056516/B0000586**

4 x 2 Pick-Up Truck for the Forestry Division

\$13,675.00

**PERSONNEL**

The following personnel matters were reported for the Chattanooga Police Dept.:

**VIVIAN JOHNSON**—Resignation of School Patrol Officer, effective 4/26/01.

**SCOTT NICHOLS**—Resignation of Police Cadet Officer, effective 5/26/01.

**JEFFREY GAINES**—Military Leave of Absence for Police Officer from June 4, 2001 through January 11, 2002.

**DEBORAH R. DENNISON**—Transfer from Police Officer to Communications Officer, Pay Grade 11/2, \$25,861.00 annually, effective 5/23/01.

**SHERRI CURTIS**—Hire as a Crime Scene Technician, Pay Grade 9/2, \$23,474 annually, effective 6/01/01.

**PURCHASE**

On motion of Councilman Littlefield, seconded by Councilman Franklin, the following purchase was approved for use by the Finance & Administration Dept.:

**NEXTEL COMMUNICATIONS AND CINGULAR WIRELESS (Best proposals meeting specs.);**  
**Requisition R0041771**

Contract for Wireless Communication Services for 12 months

(See Minute Material for pricing)

**BUDGET UPDATE**

At this point, Councilman Pierce asked Adm. Boney about the possibility of an update next week on the Budget Shortfall. Adm. Boney responded that he would like to do this on a one-on-one basis with each Councilperson. He stated that they were a long way away from saying what the shortfall is and on giving the Council a thorough update. Councilman Pierce indicated that he did not know what the proper way to do this would be but the Council did need to be updated.

Chairman Hakeem stated that he had had a brief discussion with the Mayor concerning this and that he had indicated that if the Council wanted individual or group briefings that he was open to this, but he wanted to wait until he had something to give the Council. Chairman Hakeem stated that there was no budget ready at the present time and questioned if Councilmembers wanted to be in on formulating the individual department's administrative budgets.

Councilman Pierce stated that he had had questions from the Press on the shortfall, and he felt these figures were available, and he did not want to be in the position of giving out false information. He questioned where the shortfall was coming from, whether it was from the departments or inflation—that he needed to know.

Adm. Boney stated that the Budget would not be ready by June 30<sup>th</sup>; that we are dealing with revenues and expenditures and that they had not finalized their departmental budgets yet. He stated that they had a long way to go; that public health and the landfill account for about \$9 million dollars of the shortfall, and they were working on these two items, but they were not ready yet.

Chairman Hakeem questioned if the Council should get with Adm. Boney and his office and individually set up meetings for some degree of briefing.

Councilman Benson stated that he hated to have to bother Adm. Boney individually; that the amount of a \$20 million dollar shortfall had been thrown out to the public, and he felt the Council needed something in writing concerning this, even if it was just one page.

Chairman Hakeem indicated that this would be somewhat speculative and it would be hard to put something in writing. Adm. Boney added that anything they put down now could be wrong three weeks from now.

Councilman Page asked that they lay out their process and put some dates on it.

**BUDGET UPDATE (CONT'D.)**

Adm. Boney responded that he could not give any dates spontaneously; that the revenue side of the budget is waiting for the reappraisals of property in Hamilton County, and it could be well into July before we have this information; that we face this every four years; that the final reappraisal values will play a big part in the revenues. He stated that we were in negotiations with Health Care, and it was not business as usual.

Councilman Page stated he would still like some kind of schedule—nothing concrete but just some dates of when answers will be forthcoming. He stated that he would like to see a timetable.

Councilman Pierce agreed that the Council was not asking for anything concrete; that in talking about taxes, we were \$1 million short on sales taxes; that the Council just wanted some projection set up and were not trying to “pin” Adm. Boney down; that they had already heard that Health Insurance and the Landfill accounted for about \$9 million dollars of the shortfall. He stated that he would like to be in a position to answer questions that were asked of him.

Councilman Franklin added that in the Commission form of government days, it was well into July and August before a Budget was formulated; that he felt as soon as Adm. Boney got the opportunity, that he would get to the Council in as efficient manner as possible; that he did not want to give a false notion to the public; that he felt Councilmembers could meet with Adm. Boney individually for some ideas.

Councilman Littlefield stated that this was a great responsibility for Adm. Boney and his Staff; that things had been different in the past, but he thought the Council felt “more in the dark” this time than he could previously remember. He stated that he did not want to burden Adm. Boney, but the Council did need some kind of general update to tell them what they could anticipate so that they could be prepared to do what they had to do. He stated that the Council needed more information.

Councilman Lively stated that it seemed that the Budget was a good ways off in some departments; that it was hard to tell how far short we were at this time.

Chairman Hakeem stated that he was hearing that the Council was interested in a timetable. He asked if he was hearing a desire for someone to come before the Council to give us an overview of where we are on the budget so that the Council could have some input. He questioned if the Council should be in on each individual departmental budget.

**BUDGET UPDATE (CONT'D)**

Councilman Page indicated that he would like a presentation telling us that this is when the Budget should be ready and the process they are going through; that the City was spending money on a weekly basis, and it was hard to make a decision on an ongoing basis when we did not know what to expect. He stated that being new on the Council, he did not know what was reasonable and questioned if it would be ready by July.

Adm. Boney responded that it would be at least that long; that we still had a long way to go and added that every capital item that we are spending today is being reviewed on a daily basis; that it is not business as usual.

Councilman Taylor stated that this budget year would prove to be a “tight and interesting” year, and everyone needed to know where we are and the timeframe. He asked if the Council could get some kind of tentative schedule and if Adm. Boney could get with each Councilperson and spend time with them.

Chairman Hakeem questioned if this was the desire of the entire Council.

Councilman Pierce asked Councilman Taylor if he was updating the Council as Chairman of the Budget Committee.

Chairman Hakeem asked if it was acceptable that Adm. Boney meet with the Council on a one-to-one basis.

Councilman Littlefield stated that it could be Adm. Boney or anyone on his staff; that a \$20 million dollar shortfall had been issued to the public; that we all know that the numbers are changing daily, but he did feel that the Council needed an additional report as to where we are going; that the additional information could be a formal presentation or a tentative budget at some point or someone could be sent around to give additional guidelines as to where we are. He stated that the Council needed to be more in the process than they were and did not have enough information.

Chairman Hakeem asked if the Council wanted a formal presentation or a one-on-one briefing or both.

Councilman Benson stated that he did not need Adm. Boney to come to him; that the Council did need current information from someone and needed to be kept current either by the Chairman or the Chairman of the Budget Committee.

**BUDGET UPDATE (CONT'D)**

Chairman Hakeem stated that he and Councilman Taylor could stay close to this item and share the information with other Councilpersons on a one-to-one basis or at a committee meeting; that they could meet with someone in Adm. Boney's office.

Councilman Littlefield stated that the Council needed information from anyone they could get it from.

Chairman Hakeem indicated that a timeline was needed.

Councilman Pierce stated that he had heard that it would August or September before the Budget is ready.

Attorney Nelson stated that the Mayor had mentioned earlier today that August would be the earliest date that we could anticipate it.

Chairman Hakeem asked Councilman Page if sharing the information with himself or Councilman Taylor would be sufficient or if he wanted it in more detail. Councilman Page responded that Councilman Benson was on target with what he had asked for; that Councilman Taylor or Chairman Hakeem could keep them "in the loop".

Councilwoman Robinson asked if there were regularly scheduled meetings of the Budget and Finance Committee; that she felt we needed to schedule meetings of the Budget and Finance Committee every two weeks for updates; that we have a \$20 million dollar problem, and we know where \$9-10 million of this is coming from, but we don't know about the other \$10 million. She asked that the Council be helped as a body to be properly updated and asked if every two weeks could be considered.

Chairman Hakeem stated that this could be given some consideration and that he and Councilman Taylor would be involved and bring back information to the Council.

**COMMITTEES**

Councilman Franklin reminded Councilmembers of the **Public Works Committee** scheduled at **4:00 P.M. on Tuesday, June 5<sup>TH</sup>**.

**'FISH' STORY**

Councilman Littlefield stated this being a matter of “no importance”, he would like to come to the podium. He stated that a few days ago the Council was fascinated by a story told by “one of our own”—that he had hooked a “Great Primitive Beast” which was over 200 pounds; that a battle had ensued and the Councilperson had treated the battle in some detail, and the battle went on for sometime and the Councilperson was at a significant disability with this larger and more intelligent fish. He persevered and got the creature within 5 ft. of the boat, and he **nearly, nearly** caught the fish. He endured all of the pain but got no prize! Councilman Littlefield stated that we as a Council believed he should have more for “nearly landing some magnificent specimen!” He presented Councilman Dan Page with a “Certificate of Achievement” signed by Chairman Hakeem and himself. He proclaimed Councilman Page as the “Greatest Fish Story Teller” and congratulated him on **nearly** catching a 200-pound fish! He presented him also with a fish entitled “Almost Caught by Dan Page—May of 2001”. Councilman Page accepted, stating that he was a Politician and a Good Liar now!

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Hakeem adjourned the meeting until Tuesday, June 5, 2001 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)**