

City Spotlight: Charlotte



“The city of Charlotte, Tennessee is named for Charlotte Robertson, who lived in Middle Tennessee until her death in 1843 at the age of ninety-two. She was a frontierswoman and one of the earliest settlers in Middle Tennessee.”

Charlotte is credited with saving Fort Nashborough in 1781 by releasing dogs from the fort to chase the surrounding Indians away, allowing the men to return safely to the fort.¹

Date of Incorporation:

1804

Population:

1,651

County:

Dickson

Grand Division:

Middle

**MTAS Municipal
Management Consultant:**

Gary Jaeckel

gary.jaeckel@tennessee.edu

¹ Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture

Update on Tennessee Clean Energy Future Act of 2009

During the 2009 legislative session, the General Assembly passed Public Chapter No. 529, commonly known as the Tennessee Clean Energy Future Act of 2009. This act requires, among other things, the State Fire Marshal to adopt and enforce statewide building construction and safety standards for one-family and two-family residential dwellings. A city can exempt itself from applicability of the statewide standards within its jurisdictional boundaries by adopting and adequately enforcing codes meeting the state’s minimum standards or opting out via resolution. A city choosing to adopt and enforce codes meeting the minimum state standards must notify the State Fire Marshal via the Local Government Residential Exemption Authorization form linked below.

Cities who decide to exempt one-family and two-family dwellings in their jurisdiction from applicability of the state standards can do so via a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority. A sample resolution is provided below. It is important to note that an opt-out resolution expires one hundred eighty (180) days following the date of the next election of the governing body after its passage.

Furthermore, the decision to opt out should be made only after careful examination of the totality of the circumstances in the considering municipality.

- ★ [Sample resolution](#) for opting out
- ★ Local Government Residential Exemption Authorization [form](#)
- ★ [Proposed rules related to the Tennessee Clean Energy Future Act of 2009](#)
- ★ [FAQs](#) from the Department of Commerce and Insurance, Codes Enforcement Division
- ★ MTAS [Online course](#) to assist you in making sure your building codes are in compliance with this new code (Note: this course is free of charge)
- ★ MTAS Hot Topic: “Energy Code Adoption by the State of Tennessee and Its Effects on Cities” [Read](#)
- ★ State Fire Marshal, [Codes Enforcement Section](#)

For further information contact your MTAS Municipal Management Consultant.

MTAS Staff Highlight



Alan Major, MTAS Finance and Accounting Consultant

Alan Major started working in the private sector both with public accounting firms and individual businesses after receiving his B.S. degree in Business Administration, with an accounting major, from the University of Tennessee in 1975.

Major began auditing local governments leading to employment in 1983 with the Oak Ridge, Tennessee. First as contract administrator and then as cost accountant, he handled the budget preparation, financial reporting, and accounting for all their public works departments and enterprise funds.

In 1986, he started working for the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) as a statewide consultant in utility finance. This work was based on the federal wastewater and clean water acts and involved extensive training of EPA and state officials regarding enterprise fund accounting, rate studies, and revolving funds.

In 1994, Major received his Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Tennessee. In 1996, he changed responsibilities and continues to work as the Municipal Finance Consultant in the east Tennessee area.

Major may be contacted at alan.major@tennessee.edu or 865-974-9821.

Latest MS4 Permit Report, NOI and Permit Forms on the MTAS Web Site

Be sure to check the stormwater page on the MTAS Web site for all of the latest forms and reports related to stormwater management for your city.

- ★ 2010 TDEC [Small MS4 Annual Report](#). Due **September 30, 2010**.
- ★ NPDES Phase II Stormwater [Permit Notice of Intent](#)
- ★ 2010 [Final MS4 Permit](#)

Click here to visit the [stormwater page](#).

From the MTAS Executive

Director...



MTAS serves the cities and towns of Tennessee with research, training and consulting, and often brings positive change to these same municipalities through the services of consultants and other staff. The changing needs of cities and towns in this state also requires constant change of MTAS and continuous training and development of staff. This fall, MTAS continues in the process of change and improvement, and as we distribute the 2010 MTAS Customer Feedback survey we will consider and work to answer a number of questions, including

- ◆ How can we show that we have helped cities in Tennessee to become genuinely better?
- ◆ How does MTAS maintain the essential services to the 300+ smaller towns in Tennessee, while adding capacity in this organization to meet the changing and complex needs of all, including larger cities?
- ◆ Can we develop information that indicates cities are better because of our present approach to services with field consultants and teams?
- ◆ Should we add a strategic component to MTAS, with a continuous review of the services of MTAS and a venue for broad policy discussions and studies?

We are looking forward to answering these questions with you and through our discussions.

Thank you for the services that you deliver to the residents of this state, and we hope you find that the services of MTAS continue to improve and change to support your good work.



Steve Thompson, Executive Director

steve.thompson@tennessee.edu

865-974-0411

Parliamentary Procedure and Your Council Meeting: Motion Makers' Rights and Responsibilities



Margaret Norris, MTAS Municipal Management Consultant

In the last few months the *Robert's Rules of Order* topics have covered the basics of making motions and getting them seconded. However, what are the rights and responsibilities that go along with making a motion? According to these rules, the person who makes the motion has the right to speak first about it in debate after it has been seconded. However, a motion maker may not speak against his or her own motion.

“In debate, the maker of a motion, while he can vote against it, is not allowed to speak against his own motion. He need not speak at all, but if he does he is obliged to take a favorable position. If he changes his mind while the motion he made is pending, he can, in effect, advise the assembly of this by asking permission to withdraw the motion.”¹

Furthermore, the one who makes a motion can also determine whether or not to accept amendments to it, but only if those amendments are made before the mayor states the question. Changes to a motion that are made after the motion has been stated require governing body approval and are called subsidiary motions.

¹ *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, Tenth Edition, p. 381.*

MTAS Training October 2010

Municipal Administration Program Drug Fund

Smyrna	October	5
Cookeville	October	6
Lakeland	October	13
Jackson	October	14
Athens	October	20
Johnson City	October	21
Knoxville	October	22

Certified Municipal Finance Officer Program Chapter 9. Purchasing and Risk Management

Spring Hill	October	26
Athens	November	3
Jackson I	November	3
McMinnville	November	3
Jackson II	November	9
Morristown	November	9
White House	November	10

Municipal Management Academy Open Enrollment Courses

Human Resource Overview (MMA05) and Workplace Harassment and Workplace Violence (MMA06)

Mt. Juliet	October	7
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Delegation Skills (MMA10)

McMinnville	October	27
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Administrative Hearing Officer Training

Pursuant to Public Chapter No. 1128 of the 2010 Public Acts, cities are now authorized to create administrative hearing officer programs to hear building, property maintenance and other related code violations. This program, created via ordinance requires a hearing officer to undergo training prior to serving in this role.

MTAS and the Tennessee Municipal League (TML) are in the process of developing this training. Cities who are interested in participating in this program should contact TML to be placed on the interest list. Those cities will be updated as new information becomes available. TML contact information: 615-255-6416.



Health Care Corner

Selected recent posts from the MTAS Health Care Corner blog will be provided here each month. Please visit the website for recommended reading, timelines and guides, and more at http://www.mtas.tennessee.edu/public/web.nsf/Web/Health_care?Opendocument#.



October 4, 2010 | Bonnie Jones, MTAS Human Resource Consultant

Federal Government Launches Health Reform Facebook Page

The federal government has launched a Facebook page with health reform information. It is integrated with the healthcare.gov website and allows users to access all of the same features including searching for health insurance. Here is an [article](#) on the Facebook launch.

Once you are at the [Facebook page](#), click “Like” and you will have access to the federal government’s new Facebook page.



September 27, 2010 | Bonnie Jones, MTAS Human Resource Consultant

"The New Health Care Legislation: What it Means for Cities" ~ a presentation at the fall 2010 Tennessee City Managers Association (TCMA) Conference.

On Thursday, September 23, 2010, MTAS presented an explanatory session on health care reform to approximately 70 city managers at the fall 2010 TCMA in Knoxville. Our guest speakers were Bill Collins of Blue Water Consulting in Knoxville and Keith Patterson of BCS consulting in Jackson. The audience was receptive and had excellent questions. Some of those questions and concerns will be responded to in an upcoming blog on our Web site so stay tuned for more information.

Click [here for a copy of the presentation](#).

Earlene Teaster Receives Southeast Tourism Society “Shining Example Award” for Governmental Tourism Leadership

Pigeon Forge City Manager Earlene Teaster is the 2010 recipient of the Southeast Tourism Society’s Shining Example Award for governmental tourism leadership.

Teaster, who has been city manager since 1980, has helped Pigeon Forge grow into one of the busiest tourism destinations in the nation. Almost every business in the



Leon Downey, Pigeon Forge Department of Tourism; Teaster; Bill Hardman, Southeast Tourism Society

community is tied to tourism, and the city’s gross receipts have grown from \$415,000 in 1987 to \$772.5 million in 2009.

The Southeast Tourism Society is a professional association that

promotes travel and tourism in 12 states. Its annual Shining Example Awards began in 1985 to recognize excellence in marketing, promotion and other areas.

Prior recipients of the award for governmental tourism leadership include Myrtle Beach Mayor John Rhodes and Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour.

“Community-wide tourism success happens for many reasons, and there often is a governmental official who is vital to that success. Recognizing that role is the purpose of this award, and Earlene Teaster’s leadership during the amazing evolution of Pigeon Forge obviously impressed this year’s judges,” said Bill Hardman, president and CEO of the Southeast Tourism Society.

Teaster started working for Pigeon Forge in 1961 as city clerk. She became the first female city manager in Tennessee in 1980 and was named the Tennessee City Management Association’s City Manager of the Year in 2000. The “Shining Example” award was announced at the annual STS convention, this year in Greenville, S.C.

TVA “Fuel Solutions Forum” Promotes Electric Vehicle Network in Tennessee

More than 170 representatives from the Tennessee Renewable Energy & Economic Development Council (TREEDC), the automotive industry, and electric utilities met on September 9 in Nashville to learn about electric transportation vehicle infrastructure opportunities in Tennessee. The Fuel Solutions Forum, sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), addressed electricity as a transportation fuel, with a sharp emphasis on education and strategy to help consumers, communities and industry achieve “plug-in readiness.”



Kim Greene, TVA group president for Strategy and External Relations, said TVA is leading efforts with several partners to develop advanced electric vehicle charging stations that are solar-assisted, fast-charging and able to store energy or send power to the TVA electric grid during high-demand periods. Tennessee has the potential to become the nation’s largest system for this rapidly emerging technology by 2013 largely due to TVA’s key role in [The EV Project](#), an approximately \$230 million public-private initiative established last year with a \$114.8 million ARRA grant from the Department of Energy. The project involves 16 cities in six states and the District of Columbia and is the largest electric vehicle rollout to date.

Under The EV Project, managed by ECOtality North America, the Nashville-Knoxville-Chattanooga corridor will serve as a national pilot for connecting three metropolitan areas to an electric vehicle charging network. The Tennessee project also will include infrastructure for 1,000 Nissan Leaf plug-in electric cars as well as more than 2,200 standard charging stations, 60 fast charging stations and 125 solar-assisted charging stations. This project will provide more infrastructure and stations than any other area in the nation to date.

TVA’s role includes investigating new metering and control technologies for demand response and more efficient integration; analyzing charging station impacts on the power grid; and analyzing power system processes to achieve the most energy efficiency with electric vehicle charging systems.

TVA also leads a solar-assisted charging station project called the Smart Modal Area Recharge Terminal, or SMART station. The first prototype station, due this fall, will feature power generation by solar photovoltaic panels, stationary battery storage and key elements of smart grid technology. The Electric Power Research Institute, Oak Ridge National Laboratory and local power companies are partners in the SMART station project.

The forum also featured participation from the Department of Energy, the Department of Transportation, the Electric Power Research Institute and automakers Ford, General Motors and Nissan. Other highlights included electric vehicle displays of the Nissan Leaf, Chevy Volt, Tesla Roadster, Mitsubishi iMiEV, and Ford Plug-In Hybrid Escape. Representatives from the Department of Energy’s Clean Fuels Coalitions were also present at the forum.

For more information on this forum and the activities of the Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council, contact Warren Nevad, MTAS Management Consultant and TREEDC Executive Director at warren.nevad@tennessee.edu or 865-974-9839.

Mark Your Calendar!

TREEDC, TVA, Roane State Community College, and the Roane County Alliance will host the first East Tennessee membership meeting and symposium on **October 22, 2010 at the Roane State Community College, Harriman.**



[Click here for agenda.](#)

Farragut Joins Partners in Stream Restoration Research Efforts

Farragut has partnered with the Tennessee Stream Mitigation Program and the University of Tennessee in a research effort aimed to improve the tools that engineers, biologists and planners use for restoring degraded streams in east Tennessee. Little Turkey Creek in Farragut has been selected for this three-year study due in part to its stable condition in a partially urbanized setting.

At no cost to the town, this research effort involves the installation of small and large scale devices for measuring sediment load, flow rate, water stage and various other stream parameters. The small scale devices have been installed in various portions of Little Turkey Creek and are largely unnoticeable to the casual observer; the large scale devices have been installed in the creek approximately 0.2 miles downstream of Old Stage Road near the greenway at Wentworth Subdivision. Marked with an interpretive sign, this instrumentation will be collecting data continuously including water surface elevations, stream flow and bed load transport rates.



These concrete boxes are part of the stream restoration research project. Shown here, they are approximately 90% installed and will be backfilled shortly for stabilization.

For more information regarding this stream restoration research project, please contact Farragut Engineering Technician Jason Scott at jason.scott@townoffarragut.org or 865-966-7057.

Mark Your Calendar!



October 2-7

IPMA-HR Annual Conference (Seattle)

October 6-7

TGFOA Conference (Franklin)

October 13-16

Southeastern Conference on Public Administration (American Society for Public Administration regional conference, Wilmington, NC)

October 13-16

TPMA East Tennessee Meeting (Sevierville)

October 19

Fundamentals of Traffic Control. (sponsored by Tennessee Transportation Assistance Program, Ellington Agricultural Center, Nashville)

October 19-20

Tennessee Solid Waste Directors Association Fall Conference (Henry Horton State Park)

October 22

Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council East Tennessee Membership Meeting (Roane State Community College, Harriman)

October 23-26

Tennessee Chapter of the American Public Works Association Conference (Nashville)

October 28-30

Tennessee Urban Forestry Conference and Tree Climbing Championship (Chattanooga)

October 28

Tennessee Chapter of College and University Professional Association for Human Resources Fall Seminar (Memphis)

“Municipal ENews” is provided by the University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service in an effort to meet the challenge of providing timely, valuable information and assistance to Tennessee cities to build better communities.

If you have any questions or comments related to this newsletter please contact Frances Adams-O’Brien at frances.adams-obrien@tennessee.edu.