ANNEXATION MORATORIUM
Before the Tennessee General Assembly adjourned, the Senate and House agreed on the Conference Committee Report on House Bill No. 475/Senate Bill No. 279. This report reflects the final version of the bill that will soon be sent to the governor for his signature. READ

MAY 19-25 PROCLAIMED PUBLIC WORKS WEEK IN TENNESSEE BY GOVERNOR BILL HASLAM
READ

TREEDC STARTS PILOT INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY EXCHANGE PROGRAM IN THE PHILIPPINES
The Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council (TREEDC) has partnered with the Renewable Energy Association of the Philippines (REAP) to develop the TREEDC International Exchange Program wherein Philippine colleges and cities join and become members of the TREEDC network of 92 cities/counties and 23 colleges in Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas.
READ

CROSSVILLE HOLDS STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT WITH MTAS’ ASSISTANCE
On April 6, the city of Crossville mayor and council held a Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat (SWOT) Assessment that was facilitated by MTAS Management Consultant Warren Nevad.
READ
Josh Jones, MTAS Legal Consultant

Before the Tennessee General Assembly adjourned, the Senate and House agreed on the Conference Committee Report on House Bill No. 475/Senate Bill No. 279. This report reflects the final version of the bill that will soon be sent to the governor for his signature. The bill does the following:

1) Imposes a moratorium from April 15, 2013 to May 15, 2014, on annexation by ordinance upon the municipality’s (does not apply to a municipality with a metro form of government) own initiative, pursuant to T.C.A. § 6-51-102, in order to annex territory being used for residential or agricultural purposes;

2) Prohibits any annexation described above from becoming operative during this time period;

3) Creates an exception to the aforementioned moratorium where a municipality has formally initiated an annexation ordinance and can show the municipality would suffer substantial and demonstrable financial injury if the ordinance does not become operative during the moratorium period. This requires approval by the county legislative body; and

4) Initiates a study of the state’s annexation laws by the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) to be completed by January 14, 2014.

So, action on any such annexation ordinance as well as such an ordinance taking effect is prohibited during the moratorium imposed by this legislation. Thus a city with a proposed annexation as of April 15, 2013 has the following options:

1) Cease all further action on the proposed annexation and await the TACIR study and end of the moratorium;

2) Start from scratch and initiate the proposed annexation as annexation by resolutions pursuant to T.C.A. § 6-51-104;

3) Go back to the residents and property owners of the territory proposed for annexation and see if they are amenable to petitioning the city to annex the territory by ordinance pursuant to T.C.A. § 6-51-102(a)(1). The moratorium only prohibits annexation by ordinance by the city’s own initiative, not where they are petitioned by a majority of the residents and property owners of the affected territory.

Cities can CLICK HERE to contact TACIR for further information regarding the legislative study.
May 19-25
Proclaimed Public Works Week
in Tennessee
by Governor Bill Haslam

In attendance at the presentation of the proclamation are front row, left to right: John Anderson, Stringfellow, Inc.; Loretta Hooper, Public Works Director Signal Mtn; Gov. Bill Haslam; Ronnie Hammonds, Streets and Sanitation Manager, Kingsport; and Bill Yearwood, Public Works Director, Bartlett and President of Tenn. Chapter of the American Public Works Association.

Back row, left to right: Manny Belen, Streets Maintenance Administrator, Memphis; Guy Patterson, Public Works Director, Goodlettsville; Donald Reid, Right-of-Way Manager, Metro Nashville; Sharon Rollins, MTAS Consultant; and Terri Troup, Technical Specialist, Metro Nashville.

WHEREAS, public works services provided in our communities are an integral part of our citizens’ everyday lives; and

WHEREAS, the support of an understanding and informed citizenry is vital to the efficient operation of public works systems and programs such as water, sewers, streets and highways, public buildings, and solid waste collection; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety and comfort of this state depends on these facilities and services; and

WHEREAS, the quality and effectiveness of these facilities, as well as their planning, design, and construction, are vitally dependent upon the efforts and skill of public works officials; and

WHEREAS, the efficiency of the qualified and dedicated personnel who staff public works departments is materially influenced by the people’s attitude and understanding of the importance of the work they perform;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of May 19-25, 2013, as Public Works Week in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this twenty-second day of February, 2013.

Governor

Secretary of State
The Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council (TREEDC) has partnered with the Renewable Energy Association of the Philippines (REAP) to develop the TREEDC International Exchange Program wherein Philippine colleges and cities join and become members of the TREEDC network of 92 cities/counties and 23 colleges in Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas. TREEDC has identified the Philippines as the pilot country for this initiative. The mission of this program is to connect Tennessee and Philippine renewable energy stakeholders in order to create more awareness, progress and development of renewable energy in their respective areas and establish collaborative projects/programs.

In March, a TREEDC delegation consisting of President/Ducktown, Tennessee, Mayor James Talley, Director and UT Municipal Technical Advisory Service Consultant Warren Nevad and International Affairs Consultant Doug Jackson along with REAP President Oly Serafica met with chancellors, presidents and vice presidents representing the Central Bicol State University, Central Philippine University, University of Philippines Los Banos, Philippine Electronics and Communication Institute of Technology, Polytechnic University of the Philippines, Systems Plus College Foundation and Technological University of the Philippines. These educational institutions all agreed in principle to become members of the TREEDC network and to be matched with a sister school from the TREEDC college/university sector for information, research and technology exchanges. TREEDC plans to invite more Philippine schools and cities during the spring and summer. The TREEDC delegation will work with REAP to organize several community outreach forums at various schools across the country in September. TREEDC also plans to replicate its renewable energy network developmental model in the Philippines.

TREEDC also met with Mayor Marino “Boking” Morales of Mabalacat City to invite him as an honorary mayor member of TREEDC. The delegation also met with CEMEX corporate officials to learn more about CEMEX’s corporate social responsibility plans on environment and clean energy awareness. TREEDC President Talley said “The purpose of this exchange program is to exchange mutually beneficial resources and strategies for the advancement of renewable energy and related economic development in our respective countries.” REAP President Serafica said that “TREEDC has committed to make the Philippines the TREEDC pilot country and worldwide model for the international exchange program and that REAP is eager to work with TREEDC to make this program a success.”

TREEDC is a non-profit network of cities, universities, and private businesses with the mission of providing leadership in promoting renewable energy and economic development for member organizations. TREEDC is affiliated with the University of Tennessee and currently includes 92 local governments, nine state and federal agencies, 23 colleges and universities, 60 commercial businesses and power utilities and three international organizations. The chairman of TREEDC is University of Tennessee President Emeritus Dr. Joe Johnson. TREEDC was awarded the Governor’s Excellence in Energy Leadership by the state of Tennessee in 2012. Go to www.treedc.us for more information.
Crossville Holds Strategic Planning Retreat with MTAS’s Assistance

On April 6, the city of Crossville mayor and council held a Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat (SWOT) Assessment that was facilitated by MTAS Management Consultant Warren Nevad.

After several hours of deliberations, the top four goals chosen by the council at the included 1) a merger with South Cumberland Utility District; 2) preparation of an inter-local orientation package to share goals with the county and the chamber of commerce, 3) a pilot single stream recycling program and 4) investigation into the possibility of a self-funded health insurance program for employees in order to control costs.

During the assessments, the city developed a long list of the community’s strengths including the city’s location within driving distance of a large percentage of the U.S. population, the proximity of the interstate for transportation, and nearby education including colleges. Other strengths included low taxes, low cost of living and low utility rates. Council members also saw strengths in the recreation and arts including golf courses, the Palace Theatre and the Cumberland County Playhouse, recreation parks and facilities and sports organizations.

The city adopted a resolution at the May meeting approving the top four goals to be implemented during the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

MTAS Training Calendar

MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT ACADEMY
May – June Open Enrollment

HUMAN RESOURCE OVERVIEW (MMA05)
May 14 • Spring Hill

WORKPLACE HARASSMENT AND WORKPLACE VIOLENCE (MMA06)
June 11 • Spring Hill

RISK MANAGEMENT AND SAFE WORKPLACE ENVIRONMENT (MMA07)
July 9 • Spring Hill

MOTIVATING YOUR WORKFORCE (MMA08)
Aug. 13 • Spring Hill

For details and how to register, CLICK HERE.

ELECTED OFFICIALS ACADEMY LEVEL II
TML PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS • JUNE 21-22 • MEMPHIS

The UT Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) will host pre-conference sessions this year at the Tennessee Municipal League (TML) Annual Conference in Memphis. The sessions offered are part of Level II of the Elected Officials Academy program. Each session is designed specifically for the elected official and allows time for networking and sharing ideas with other cities. These sessions will be informative for both seasoned and newly elected officials in Tennessee. Participants will also earn hours toward completing Level II of the Elected Officials Academy program. If all five sessions are completed, a Level II certificate will be earned. The cost is $200 per person. This one-time fee includes registration for Elected Officials Academy Level II. Meals and snacks will be provided both days.

June 21 • Municipal Human Resources
       June 21 • Municipal Water and Wastewater Operations
       June 22 • Municipal Fire Service Review
       June 22 • Municipal Public Works
       June 22 • Municipal Police Review

For more information, contact
Kurt Frederick at (615) 253-6385 or e-mail kurt.frederick@tennessee.edu

CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL FINANCE OFFICER (CMFO) PROGRAM CLASS OFFERINGS
CLICK HERE

MTAS ... in cooperation with the Tennessee Municipal League
Mark Your Calendar!

MAY

MAINTENANCE TECHNOLOGIES FOR PUBLIC WORKS
TENNESSEE PUBLIC WORKS INSTITUTE
May 13-16 • Doubletree Hotel, Murfreesboro
CLICK HERE for information

JUNE

TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE (TML) ANNUAL CONFERENCE
June 22-25 • Memphis
CLICK HERE for information

GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE
June 2-5 • San Francisco
CLICK HERE for information

JULY

TENNESSEE FIRE CHIEFS ANNUAL MEETING
July 14-17 • Airport Marriott, Nashville
CLICK HERE for information

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE WATER PROFESSIONALS CONFERENCE
July 14-17 • Louisville, KY
CLICK HERE for information