

and reading with several council members agreeing to the hike, Councilman Andrew Roberto voting "No" and Councilman Marshall Stair passing on the vote. Stair is a candidate for mayor and abstained.

Councilwoman Seema Singh-Perez changed her vote from the first reading and supported the raise. She clarified her initial statement noting that the mayor position is a full-time job but noted that "some people in Knoxville work hard without fair compensation."

The council, on a resolution by Roberto, honored the Bearden High School basketball team for capturing the Class AAA state championship. Coach Jerome Parrott told the meeting his team has many "great accomplishments" including scholarships. He said, "I am honored to be their coach."

Mayor Madeline Rogero's appointment of Jay Price to the Regional Solid Waste Board was approved. The council voted to support the Chapman Highway Safety Improvement Project on a motion by Councilwoman Stepha-



*Fulton High School Principal Rob Speas thanked the crowd for their goodwill.*

## Tennova site plans draws crowd at North Knoxville meeting

**By Amy Box Fellhoelter**

Standing room only may be the best way to describe April's North Knoxville Business & Professional Association meeting where attendees filled a lower room of the Helen Ross McNabb Center to capacity. Last Friday, in excess of 70 people gathered to hear City of Knoxville's Chief Operating Officer and Deputy to the Mayor David Brace explain the city's current plans for the empty Tennova site formerly known as St. Mary's and

located behind Fulton High School.

The meeting, held off of W. Springdale Avenue in North Knoxville, began with NKBPA President George Bove acknowledging the staff of Helen Ross McNabb Center for hosting and sponsoring this month's breakfast. His thankfulness was followed by a prayer from a local pastor, the pledge of allegiance, and an introduction of more than

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## School board approves

## Gateway Park

**By Mike Steely**  
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Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero will deliver her annual State of the City address and announce her final budget Friday, April 26. Rogero is finishing her final year as mayor and will hold the event at the site of the proposed Urban Wilderness Gateway Park at the end of James White Parkway.

Construction of the \$10 million Gateway Park gets underway soon. Parking for the event is very limited but KAT buses will be staged at the Civil Auditorium and Coliseum garages to shuttle people to the event and back.

If you plan to attend, the city is asking you to call 311 or (865) 215-4311.