



Chattanooga City Council
City of Chattanooga, Tennessee
John P. Franklin, Sr. City Council Building
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 3, 2024
3:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chairman Chip Henderson called the business meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum of eight was present that also included Council Vice Chair Jenny Hill, and Councilpersons Ken Smith, Darrin Ledford, Isiah Hester, Carol Berz, Raquetta Dotley, and Marvene Noel. Councilwoman Demetrus Coonrod was not in attendance at this meeting.

[Editor's Note: This meeting was live streamed on YouTube. The video is available [here.](#)]

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Office of City Attorney: Phil Noblett, City Attorney

Mayor's Office: Jermaine Freeman, Chief of Staff, and Julia Bursch, Deputy Chief Operating Officer

Council Office: Kristal Becker, Administrative Assistant, and Nicole Gwyn, Clerk to Council

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Smith led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEETING PROCEDURE

Chairman Henderson informed the Assembly that the Council would not take a recess during this business meeting.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

In Recognition of Julia Bursch

The Council took a few moments to recognize Ms. Bursch for her work with the City of Chattanooga and to express thanks to her as she embarks on a new job outside of municipal government. Ms. Bursch, in turn, expressed her final goodbyes to the Council. [See full presentation [here.](#)]

APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Hester, the minutes of the last meeting (August 27, 2024) were approved as published.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS:

Item 8(a)(i) – Public Safety- Fire (Relative to Age Requirement for Fire Dept. Applicants)

Councilwoman Dotley requested a Public Safety Committee meeting on September 17 to discuss the proposed ordinance for lowering the age requirements for Fire Department applicants. Chairman Henderson approved the request and instructed the clerk to schedule the Public Safety committee for September 17 during the 3:30 p.m. business meeting.

Item 17(a) – Mayor’s Office (Relative to a Chief of Police Confirmation)

Councilwoman Dotley expressed her excitement about the new appointment of John Chambers as Chief of Police. She asked Mr. Freeman to speak briefly about the appointment. A discussion ensued. During which, Mr. Freeman informed the Council that future meetings would be set by the Mayor's office for the new chief to meet individually with councilpersons.

PROCEDURAL NOTE: Upon no further questions or comments, Chairman Henderson moved the business meeting to the committee portion. He yielded control of the meeting to Councilman Hester at 3:12 p.m. for Parks & Public Works Committee.

PARKS & PUBLIC WORKS

CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Hester called the committee to order at 3:12 p.m. A quorum was present that also included Chairman Henderson, Vice Chair Hill, and Councilpersons Smith, Ledford, Dotley, Berz, and Noel. Councilwoman Coonrod was not in attendance. Attorney Noblett and Ms. Becker were also present. [View the committee [here.](#)]

MINUTE APPROVAL: **On motion of Vice Chair Hill** and second by Councilwoman Dotley, the minutes of the last meeting (August 20, 2024) the minutes were approved as published.

RESOLUTIONS:

Agenda Items IX (e – h) – Parks & Outdoors
Agenda Item IX(i) – Public Works

NEXT TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING:

Agenda Items 8(a) and 8(b) – Public Works

RESOLUTIONS:

Agenda Item 9(c) - Wastewater

There were no questions on any of the above-listed items read in committee; therefore, the issues were closed.

PROCEDURAL NOTE: Upon no further questions or comments, Councilman Hester adjourned the Parks & Public Works Committee at 3:15 p.m. and yielded control of the business meeting to Chairman Henderson for the Order of Business section.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ORDINANCES – FINAL READING:

2024-0106
Chris Evans
Planning Version #2
District No. 3

ORDINANCE #14143

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 6664 SANDSWITCH ROAD, FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO R-5 RESIDENTIAL ZONE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

Councilman Smith advised that this item should have been listed under “Ordinances – First Reading,” not as a final reading item. Chairman Henderson acknowledged the correction. **Councilman Smith moved** to approve on first reading. Councilman Ledford seconded. The motion carried. [Editor’s Note: This agenda item will appear as a final reading item next week.]

ACTION: PASSED ON FIRST READING

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING: (NONE) [See above regarding Ordinance #14143.]

RESOLUTIONS:

PROCEDURAL NOTE: With no objection from the Council, Chairman Henderson instructed the clerk to group and read the following three resolutions for one Council vote.

RESOLUTION #32212

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CHATTANOOGA AREA REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SOUTHEAST TENNESSEE DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT) FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CITY’S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) BROWNFIELDS CLEANUP GRANT, FOR A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS BEGINNING ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2024, AND ENDING ON AUGUST 31, 2027, WITH THE OPTION TO RENEW FOR ONE (1) ADDITIONAL YEAR.

RESOLUTION #32213

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ACCEPT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) BROWNFIELDS REVOLVING LOAN FUND (RLF) SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING, FOR AN AMOUNT UP TO \$3.5 MILLION REQUIRING A ZERO (0%) PERCENT MATCH FROM THE CITY.

RESOLUTION #32214

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHATTANOOGA FIRE CHIEF TO SEEK APPROVAL TO EXECUTE A MULTI-YEAR SYSTEM UPGRADE AGREEMENT FOR SUPPORT OF AND UPGRADES TO THE SHIPPING SOFTWARE, REQUIRED HARDWARE, IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES, AND MAINTENANCE SUPPORT OF THE FIRE STATION ALERT SYSTEM PAID OVER THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT, WHICH IS FIVE YEARS, TO PROVIDE CRITICAL CONNECTION TO EACH FIRE STATION TO ALERT STATION PERSONNEL FOR DISPATCH OF AN INCIDENT, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$577,356.00.

Councilwoman Berz moved to approve all three resolutions. Councilwoman Dotley seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32212 – 32214 ADOPTED

On motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Vice Chair Hill,

RESOLUTION #32215

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY’S APPOINTMENT OF JAMES BROWN TO THE ELECTRIC POWER BOARD, FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2024, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2029.

The motion carried.

ACTION: ADOPTED

PROCEDURAL NOTE: With no objection from the Council, Chairman Henderson instructed the clerk to group and read the following five resolutions for one Council vote.

RESOLUTION #32216

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA TO APPLY FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT A TENNESSEE TOURISM ENHANCEMENT GRANT ROUND 7 FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF LIGHTING FOR EIGHT (8) TENNIS COURTS AT THE CHAMPION CLUB COMPLEX, FOR AN AMOUNT OF \$100,000.00, WITH A MATCH NOT TO EXCEED \$140,000.00.

RESOLUTION #32217

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA TO APPLY FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT A NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE AFRICAN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS GRANT FOR THE “REMEMBERING ROSENWALD SCHOOLS PROJECT”, FOR AN AMOUNT OF \$65,400.00.

RESOLUTION #32218

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA TO APPLY FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT A NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE AFRICAN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS GRANT FOR THE “BIG NINE HISTORY CRAWL PROJECT”, FOR AN AMOUNT OF \$74,000.00.

RESOLUTION #32219

A RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA TO BE A NATIONAL PARK CITY AND TO ASSIGN THE PARKS & OUTDOORS COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT OF THIS CAMPAIGN ON BEHALF OF CITY COUNCIL AND THAT THEY APPOINT A VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE OF RESIDENTS TO PUSH THE CAMPAIGN FORWARD.

RESOLUTION #32220

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION TO APPLY FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT A RAILROAD CROSSING ELIMINATION (RCE) GRANT FOR SEPARATING THE AT-GRADE NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILROAD CROSSING ON HAMILL ROAD DEPENDENT UPON INCLUSION IN THE CAPITAL BUDGET AND APPROVAL BY CITY COUNCIL, FOR AN AMOUNT UP TO \$32,220,975.00, WITH A LOCAL TWENTY (20%) PERCENT MATCH NOT TO EXCEED \$6,444,195.00.

Vice Chair Hill moved to approve all five resolutions. Councilman Hester seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32216 – 32220 ADOPTED

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Recommended New Purchases

Ms. Bursch recommended the following new purchases for Council consideration:

PA100058 Fleet Management Division, Public Works

Vehicle Preventative Maintenance - PMB Services

Lowest/Best Bidder: East Ridge Fast Lube
3208 Ringgold Road
Chattanooga, TN 37412

Increase of \$82,000.00 for
a new annual estimated spend
of \$332,000.00

REQ153367 Fleet Management Division, \$148,187.00
Public Works (Wastewater)

2025 Freightliner M2 Single Axle Dump Truck with 6 Yard Ox Body
 Lowest/Best Bidder: National Auto Fleet Group
 490 Auto Center Drive
 Watsonville, CA 95076

PA100570, PA100571 Purchasing Increase of \$15,000.00 for a
 Paper Goods new annual estimated spend of
 Lowest/Best Bidders: \$100,000.00

1. American Paper & Twine - 2134 Amnicola Hwy Chattanooga, TN 37406,
2. Jacobs Paper Company - 1300 Chestnut Street Chattanooga, TN 37402

REQ152530 Technology Services \$121,300.51

EnvisionWare Software Maintenance & Support for the Library
 Lowest/Best Bidder: EnvisionWare Inc
 2855 Premiere Pkwy
 Duluth, GA 30097

PA100015 Chattanooga Fire Department \$67,586.31

RAE System
 Lowest/Best Bidder: All Safe Industries
 10711 Electron Drive
 Louisville, KY 40299

Councilwoman Berz moved to approve. Councilwoman Dotley seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: ALL PURCHASES APPROVED

Sole Source Purchase (1)

Ms. Bursch reported the following sole source purchase:

DATE	DEPARTMENT	SUPPLIER	ITEM DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION	COST	DOCUMENTS
7/10/24	Technology Services	Forensic Technology 7975 114th Avenue North Suite 2500 Largo, FL 33773	Forensic Technology Software Renewal for the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) for CPD	The National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) is the only national network that allows for the capture and comparison of ballistic evidence to aid in solving and preventing violent crimes involving firearms.	\$20,971.00	REQ153467

[No Council action was required for this report.]

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Affordable Housing Committee
Vice Chair Hill (No report)

Budget and Finance Committee
Councilwoman Berz (No report)

Economic Development Committee
Councilwoman Coonrod (Not present)

Education and Innovation Committee
Councilwoman Noel (No report)

Equity and Community Development Committee
Councilwoman Coonrod (Not present)

Human Resources Committee
Councilwoman Coonrod (Not present)

Legislative Committee
Councilman Smith (No report)

Planning and Zoning Committee
Councilman Ledford reported:

- The committee was originally scheduled to meet today to review one case, but the meeting was cancelled due to the Applicant deferring the case.

Parks and Public Works
Councilman Hester reported:

- The committee met today and will meet again in two weeks (September 17).

Public Safety Committee
Councilwoman Dotley reported:

- The committee will meet on September 17.

RECOGNITION OF PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Chairman Henderson inquired if there were any persons wishing to address the Council at this time. Seeing none, he closed this portion of the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Smith, Chairman Henderson adjourned this meeting of the Chattanooga City Council until the next meeting on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at its regular time of **3:30 p.m.**

COUNCIL CHAIR

CLERK OF COUNCIL