

AGENDA SESSION MINUTES CHATTANOOGA CITY COUNCIL

May 12, 2020

Call to Order

Council Chairman Chip Henderson called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. via electronic means. A quorum was present, including Council Vice-Chairman Ken Smith and Council members Carol Berz, Anthony Byrd, Demetrus Coonrod, Russell Gilbert, Darrin Ledford, and Erskine Oglesby, Jr. Phil Noblett, City Attorney, and Lydia Christoph, Administrative Support, were also present. Councilman Jerry Mitchell was not present.

Others in Attendance

Finance: Daisy Madison, Chief Finance Officer; Mayor's Office: Maura Sullivan, Chief Operating Office; Fire Department: Phil Hyman, Chief; Public Works: Justin Holland, Administrator; Economic and Community Development: Donna Williams, Administrator, and Richard Beeland, Deputy Administrator

Approval of Minutes

With no objections from the Council, Chairman Henderson ruled that the minutes of the last meeting (May 5, 2020) were approved as published.

Ordinances – (First Reading) Agenda Item 6A

Councilman Ledford stated that the applicant asked to defer this item to June 9, so he would move to defer with some hesitancy.

Ordinances – (First Reading) Agenda Item 6B

Chairman Henderson asked Councilman Oglesby if the Council was good regarding this ordinance, and Councilman Oglesby responded that he'd received an email that day requesting the removal of this ordinance from the agenda.

Ordinances – (First Reading) Agenda Item 6C

Councilman Gilbert and Councilwoman Coonrod both confirmed that they had no questions. Therefore, the issue was closed.

Resolutions - Agenda Items 7B-E

Chairman Henderson asked the Council to allow these four resolutions to be voted on together during the evening Council meeting. There was no objection. Councilman Ledford asked Ms. Madison to walk the Council through these resolutions, to which she outlined the purposes of the resolutions. Councilwoman Berz informed the Council that these resolutions were all connected and would benefit city employees relative to the CARES [Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act] legislation.

Resolutions - Agenda Item 7F

Chairman Henderson explained that this resolution had only been proposed that morning, but that he felt it met necessary exceptions and asked Chief Hyman to explain the urgency and the need for this resolution. Chief Hyman did so.

Departmental Report - Fire

Chief Hyman gave a presentation to the Council on entitled, "Response to the East Brainerd Tornado Damage on April 12, 2020." His presentation (attached herein) included information on the following:

- Chattanooga Fire Department Response to East Brainerd Tornado
- Tornado Damage to Infrastructure
- Personnel Response, Local Aid, and Locations/Unified Command
- Unified Command Partners, Location, and Assistance Provided
- Mental Health Strike Team Assistance
- Damage Assessment and Recovery
- Recovery Efforts and Agency Partners

Chairman Henderson and Councilman Ledford thanked the Chief for his work and leadership. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Other Business

Purchasing Questions/Future Consideration:

Mr. Holland and Ms. Sullivan responded to Councilman Gilbert's questions on the biosolids item on the Purchasing Recommendations sheet and the issue of liability. Councilwoman Coonrod asked for a copy of the contract and mentioned that item 7(d) on the Public Works agenda for May 19 was actually a District 8, not District 9, item. She then questioned Mr. Holland and Ms. Sullivan on the following:

- The dollar amount for the Public Works tornado debris collection;
- The Look Ahead item regarding the donation to the Food Bank;
- The Chattanooga Zoo and appropriating \$70,000;
- The Look Ahead item regarding the Government Alliance on Race and Equity; and
- The update on the Economic Mobility Study.

Councilman Ledford informed the Council that, at tonight's Council meeting, he would be move to defer the item related to case number 2020-0038.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Henderson adjourned the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

Attachment:
Copy of CFD Presentation



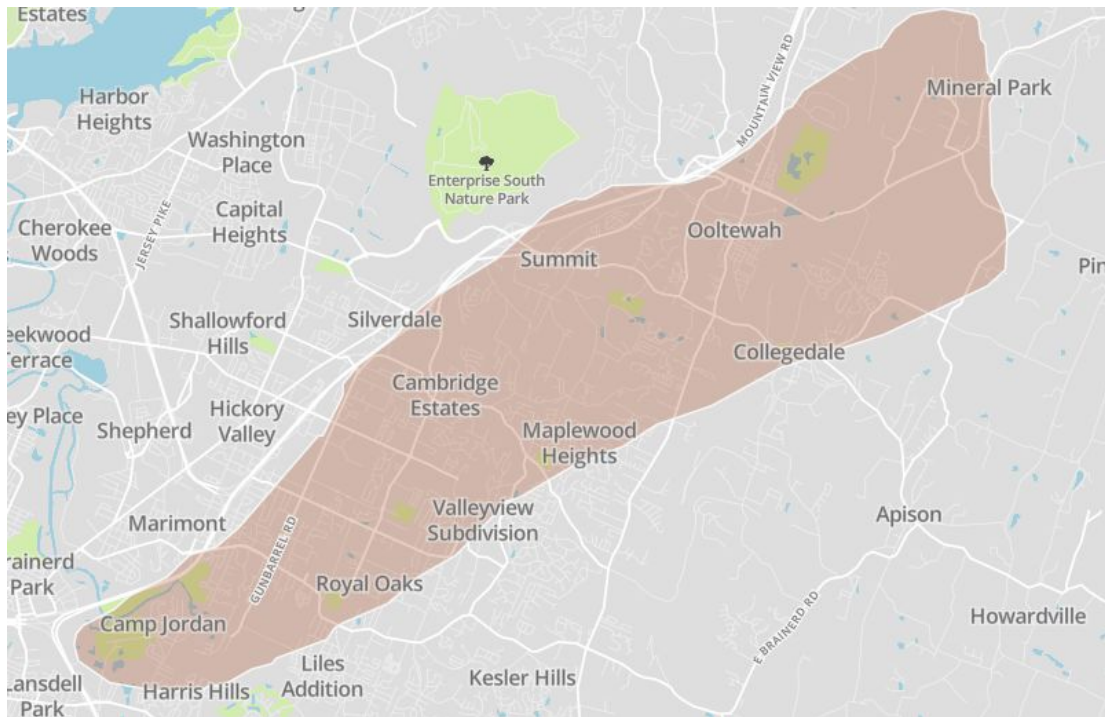
Chattanooga Fire Department

Response
To
East Brainerd Tornado
on
April 12, 2020

At 11:19PM an F-3 tornado forms in North Georgia and stays on the ground for 14.5 miles (14 Min) traveling through Hamilton County and Bradley County. The tornado is 1500 yards wide, with sustained winds of 145 mph.

Severe Damage to Infrastructure

- Hundreds of power poles and lines down
- Fiber optics
- Multiple Cell towers down or without power
- Radios system overwhelmed with users
- Limited access due to downed trees
- Fire hydrants damaged or buried



Over 1419 calls for assistance were answered that came into the Hamilton County 911 center. Unified Command was established at Lowes on Gunbarrel Road.

Chattanooga Fire Department response consisted of:

- 73 on duty personnel with 21 apparatus
- 72 off duty personnel
- 145 total personnel working the incident from initial call to 800AM the next morning.

Mutual Aid was notified. Local departments responded to back-fill stations within the City. Two Engine Strike Teams responded from outside the area to provide assistance.

Local Departments - Red Bank FD, Signal Mountain FD, East Ridge FD

East TN Strike Team - Knoxville FD, Rural Metro FD, Karns FD

Upper Cumberland Strike Team - Sparta FD, Smithville FD, Putnam Co FD, Cookeville FD



On April 13 the Unified Command moved to Silverdale Baptist Church. Teams are organized to search every structure in the tornado path. The teams are made up of Chattanooga Fire and Police along with the East Tennessee Strike Team. Each team had an Urban Search and Rescue member assigned.

Resources for residents and responders are requested through HCEMA and TEMA:

- Drinking water
- Restroom facilities
- Charging stations
- Light towers
- WiFi trailers
- Generators

Resources are deployed throughout the affected area.

Worked with Salvation Army to provide 10,000 meals daily.

Coordinate Governors Visit and City Council Tour



On April 14, Unified Command made a request for the Tennessee Disaster Mental Health Strike Team for the residents of the affected areas. The team provided crisis intervention services including assessment, triage and referral to Chattanooga/Hamilton County residents affected directly or indirectly by the tornado.

Mental Strike Team statistics:

- 35 Strike Team Members deployed
- 1424 persons served
- 1378 Individual interventions completed
- 46 persons assisted in 2 group interventions
- 65 referrals 100% complete (spoke with a counselor)
- 1192 hours of service provided



Chattanooga/Hamilton County Tornado Response

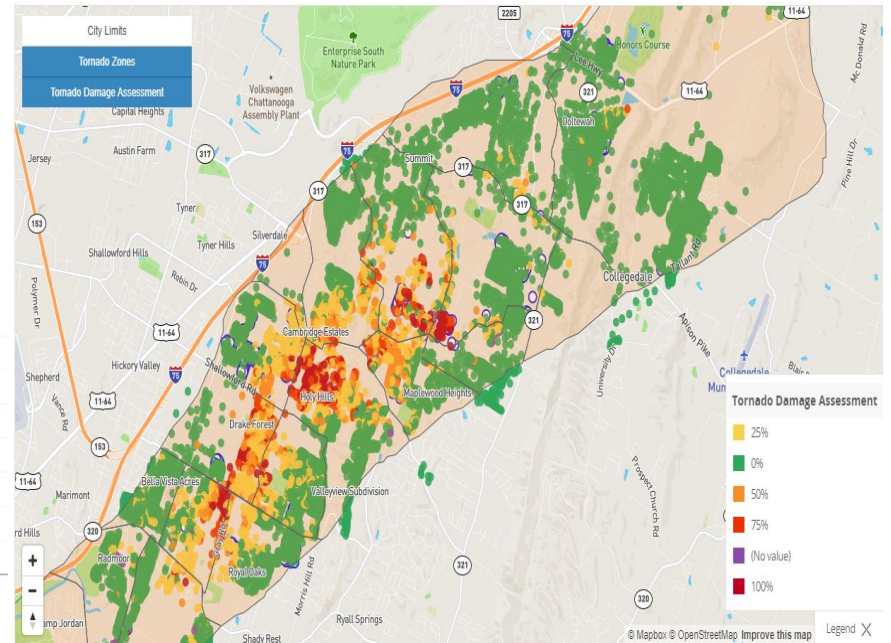
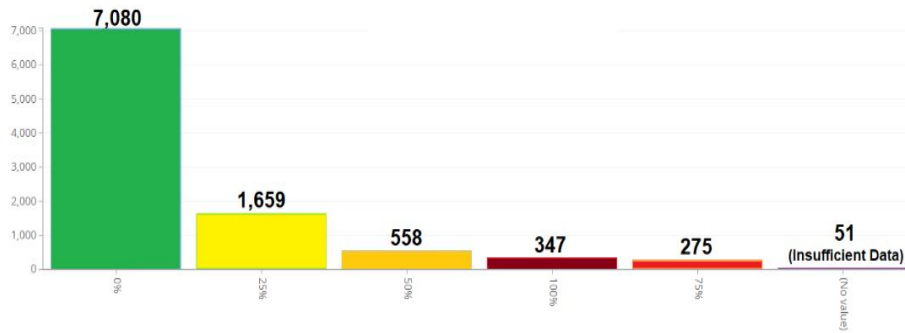
April 14 - April 21, 2020

The Chattanooga Fire Department Peer Support Team and IAFF provided mental health assistance to responders involved with or affected by the tornado.

As search and rescue operations conclude, a shift to damage assessment and recovery is made. Crews are assigned to damage assessment and the data is collected by the Office of Performance Management (OPMOD). OPMOD is able to create maps and track progress of efforts.

Damage assessment breakdown:

347 Buildings -100% Completely destroyed
 275 Buildings -75% Damage
 558 Buildings -50% Damage
 1,659 Buildings -25% Damage
 7,080 Buildings -0% No Damage



Recovery efforts continue with Unified Command in place until April 24. Federal, State and Local agencies worked seamlessly with little regard to jurisdictional boundaries to provide for residents affected by this disaster. By working together we were able to move the incident forward with great speed and efficiency.

Agencies working together at the Unified Command:

- Chattanooga FD
- Chattanooga PD
- Hamilton Co EMS
- Hamilton Co EMA
- Hamilton Co SO
- TEMA
- Tn National Guard
- Public Works (City/County)
- Mayor's Office (City/County)
- Hamilton Co 911
- EPB
- Eastside Utility
- TAWC

