

AGENDA SESSION MINUTES

Chattanooga City Council

April 27, 2021

Call to Order

Council Chairman Chip Henderson called the in-person and electronic-conducted (virtual) meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was present, including Council Vice-Chairman Ken Smith and Council members Jenny Hill, Darrin Ledford, Isiah Hester, Carol Berz, Raquetta Dotley, Anthony Byrd and Demetrus Coonrod. Other panelists present were Phil Noblett, City Attorney, and Keren Campbell, Council Support Specialist.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Councilman Ledford and seconded by Councilman Hester, the minutes of the last meeting (April 20, 2021) were approved as published.

Others in Attendance

Mayor's Office: Brent Goldberg, Chief of Staff; Finance: Daisy Madison, Chief Finance Officer; Economic & Community Development: Tony Sammons, Interim Administrator, and Travis Kazmierzak, Director of Open Spaces; Hamilton County: Marty Haynes, Assessor of Property

Ordinances (Final Reading) – Agenda Items 6A

This item had been discussed at previous open meetings. Upon no questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Resolutions – Agenda Items 7A & 7B

These items had been discussed at previous open meetings. Upon no questions or comments, the issues were closed.

Resolutions – Agenda Items 7C

Councilwoman Berz had questions pertaining to the COVID Funding expenditures, to which Ms. Madison responded. She requested a report from Ms. Madison detailing the expenses. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Resolutions – Agenda Items 7D & 7E

These items had been discussed at previous open meetings. Upon no questions or comments, the issues were closed.

Purchasing Questions

Councilman Ledford had questions for Mr. Sammons and Mr. Noblett pertaining to the TCA purchase and the need for action to be taken under the “proposal tab” of the Council Purchases document. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

MAY 4th AGENDA

Councilwoman Berz requested that a Budget and Finance Committee meeting be added for next week, May 4th. Chairman Henderson agreed. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Future Considerations

Councilman Ledford updated the Council on the Summit of Softball Complex contract and the reason it is going back to bid.

Councilwoman Hill asked Mr. Kazmierzak for an update on the Open Spaces Partnership Contract.

Councilwoman Coonrod requested an update on the Brownfield Revolving Fund. Chairman Henderson asked Mr. Goldberg to ensure that Councilwoman Coonrod received the update on the projects and circulate it to the full Council. Mr. Goldberg agreed.

Councilwoman Hill asked for an email to be sent to her with information on the MLK Underpass Art Work Activation Project.

Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

REASSESSMENTS OF PROPERTY VALUES

Chairman Henderson introduced Mr. Haynes, who gave a presentation on the “Reassessments of Property Values,” which included information on the following:

- Reappraisal does NOT Cause Tax increase
- Reappraisal is revenue – neutral
- Certified Tax Rate
- Video
- Arriving at Values
- 2021 Reappraisal
- Historical Certified Tax Rate – Chattanooga City of Chattanooga
- Yearly Sales vs. Appraise Value
- Review Process
- County Board of Equalization
- Sales tool on website

A discussion ensued wherein the following questions and concerns were addressed:

- Constituents affected by tornado (Councilman Ledford)
- Criteria for Assessment (Councilman Ledford)
- Influx in 2019 & 2020 in Sales (Councilman Hester)
- Out of State Sales (Councilman Hester)
- School Zones (Councilwoman Hill)
- Process for Mailings (Councilwoman Hill)
- Rolling Deadline (Councilwoman Hill)

Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Henderson adjourned the meeting at 4:24 p.m.