

# AGENDA SESSION MINUTES

## Chattanooga City Council

May 23, 2023

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### Call to Order

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Council Chair Raquetta Dotley called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the John P. Franklin, Sr. City Council Building. A quorum was present that also included Councilpersons Chip Henderson, Ken Smith, Darrin Ledford, Isiah Hester, Carol Berz, and Marvene Noel. Councilwoman Demetrus Coonrod arrived after the call to order. Council Vice Chair Jenny Hill was not in attendance at this meeting. Other participants present were Phil Noblett, City Attorney, and Melissa Bardoner, Council Support Specialist.

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### Other Participants in Attendance

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Mayor's Office: Jermaine Freeman, Chief of Staff; Ellis Smith, Director of Intergovernmental & External Affairs; and Chris Anderson, Senior Advisor for Legislative Initiatives;  
Regional Planning: Karen Rennich, Deputy Director;  
Office of Homelessness and Supportive Housing: Casey Tinker, Director;  
Chattanooga Regional Homeless Coalition: Mackenzie Kelly, Deputy Director.

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### Approval of Minutes

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On the motion of Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Ledford, the minutes of the last meeting (May 16, 2023) were approved as published.

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### Ordinances (Final Reading) – Agenda Item 5A Case No. 2023-0049

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Councilwoman Noel advised that changes were needed to this ordinance. Mr. Noblett advised that major changes would necessitate this ordinance being put back on first reading at tonight's 6:00 p.m. Council meeting. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

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### Ordinances (Final Reading) – Agenda Items 5B & 5C

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B. Case No. MR-2023-0055      C. Case No. MR-2023-0046  
These items had been discussed at previous open meetings. Upon no questions or comments, the issues were closed.

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### Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Items 6A & 6B

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A. Case No. 2022-0262      B. Case No. 2022-0263  
Councilwoman Berz advised she would be making a motion to defer these items at the 6:00 p.m. Council meeting. Upon no further questions or comments, the issues were closed.

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### Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Item 6C Case No. 2023-0037

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Councilwoman Berz requested more information, and possibly a presentation, from Regional Planning. Ms. Rennich affirmed. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

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**Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Item 6D**  
**Case No. 2023-0051**

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Councilwoman Berz advised she would be making a motion to withdraw this item at the 6:00 p.m. Council meeting. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

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**Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Item 6E**  
**Case No. 2023-0057**

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Councilwoman Noel advised she would be making a motion to defer this item at the 6:00 p.m. Council meeting. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

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**Resolutions – Agenda Items 7A – 7D**

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Upon no questions or comments, the issues were closed.

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**Resolutions – Agenda Items 7E – 7J**

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Councilwoman Coonrod questioned Mr. Anderson about the number of reappointments, as well as the selection process for applicants. Upon no further questions or comments, the issues were closed.

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**Resolutions – Agenda Items 7K & 7L**

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Upon no questions or comments, the issues were closed.

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**Resolutions – Agenda Item 7M**

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Councilman Smith advised he would be making a motion to withdraw this item at the 6:00 p.m. Council meeting. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

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**Resolutions – Agenda Items 7N & 7O**

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Upon no questions or comments, the issues were closed.

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**Resolutions – Agenda Item 7P**

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Chair Dotley informed Council that a previous version of the agenda had the below item listed as 7P:

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO APPLY FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT AN INFLATION REDUCTION ACT – URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – FOREST SERVICE (FS) URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM, FOR A FIVE-YEAR GRANT PERIOD, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$15 MILLION.**

Chair Dotley further advised that this item had been added in error and subsequently removed. A discussion ensued regarding the passage of [TN Public Chapter No. 213 / SB0027](#), which went into effect on April 25, 2023, and requires agendas be made public at least 48 hours prior to a meeting. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

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## **NEXT WEEK'S PROPOSED AGENDA**

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Chair Dotley reminded Council there would be no meetings next Tuesday, May 30, 2023, in honor of the Memorial Day holiday.

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## **OTHER BUSINESS**

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### **Encumbrance**

Upon motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Councilman Ledford, at least \$70,000.00 of the remaining City Council Budget, and whatever may be left at the end of this fiscal year, shall be used to complete the renovations to the Council Assembly Room.

The motion carried.

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## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

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### **Air Pollution Control Board Ordinance Update**

Mr. Freeman requested to postpone this ordinance update presentation. Upon no objections from Council, the presentation was postponed. Mr. Freeman is to follow up with the representatives from the Air Pollution Control Board regarding the questions the Administration has about the ordinance update, and to reschedule the presentation for the Council.

### **Budgetel / PIT Count Update**

Mr. Smith gave a brief background of the Budgetel situation. He then introduced Ms. Kelly, who gave an update on the response from community partners. Ms. Kelly then turned it over to Mr. Tinker, who discussed the City's initial response and subsequent follow-up efforts. The presentation can be viewed [here](#).

Councilpersons Henderson and Hester expressed thanks to the City's Office of Homelessness and the Chattanooga Regional Homeless Coalition. Upon no further questions or comments, the issues were closed.

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## **Adjournment**

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There being no further business, Chair Dotley adjourned the meeting at 3:51 p.m.