

# ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 5, 2019

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## **In Attendance**

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Councilman Anthony Byrd, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. A quorum was present, including Council Vice-Chairman Erskine Oglesby and Council members Carol Berz, Demetrus Coonrod, Russell Gilbert, Chip Henderson, Darrin Ledford and Jerry Mitchell. Phil Noblett, City Attorney, and Nicole Gwyn, Council Clerk, were also present. Council Chairman Ken Smith was not present at this meeting.

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## **Others in Attendance**

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Mayor's Office: Stacy Richardson, Chief of Staff; ECD: Charita Allen, Community Development Administrator; Open Spaces: Travis Kazmierzak, Director; Chattanooga Chamber: Steve Hiatt, Director of Existing Business Development; Gestamp: Corey Jahn, Plant 1 Director

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## **Approval of Minutes**

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**On motion of Councilman Henderson** and seconded by Councilman Ledford, the minutes of the last meeting (February 12, 2019) were approved as published.

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## **Ordinances (First Reading) - Agenda Item 6A**

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After the Clerk read the ordinance, Councilman Byrd opened the floor to Mr. Kazmierzak, who gave a presentation on the OS-PACE Program that included information on the following:

- What is OS-Pace?
- Council Requests and Other Encumbrances
- OS-PACE Process (Steps 1-4)
- Application/Evaluation Team Review

He then responded to questions from the Council on the following:

- Waterfront Management and City-wide locations (Councilman Gilbert)
- Definition of "Parks"/Signature Parks/Community Parks (Councilman Gilbert)
- Religious Programs (Councilman Gilbert and Councilwoman Berz)
- Park Rental Process (Councilman Gilbert)
- Cancelled Events Due to Event Producers (Councilman Ledford)
- Limiting the Number of Rentals (Councilman Berz)
- Parades Under CDOT/Rights-of-Way (Councilman Henderson)
- 1-Year Sunset (Councilman Henderson)
- Question about Experience (Councilman Henderson)

- General Liability: Required or not? (Councilman Henderson)
- Police Safety at Events (Councilman Gilbert)

Discussion ensued about not allowing religious programming at the parks. Ms. Richardson clarified what is meant by a “religious program.” Councilman Gilbert asked Mr. Kazmierzak about the pricing list for certain events. Councilwoman Berz recommended that Mr. Kazmierzak look into whether religious concerts and proselytizing events will be allowed, and how to balance the church-state separation.

Councilman Ledford questioned the waiving of fees for events cancelled by the City due to emergency circumstances. He recommended that Mr. Kazmierzak look into this from the aspect of liability. Mr. Kazmierzak will talk with CDOT and let the Council know if parades will be included in the policy. Further discussion ensued about the language regarding general liability; process involving CDOT and CPD are involved.

Councilwoman Coonrod made remarks about the amount of questions being asked by the Council for free events. Mr. After which, Mr. Kazmierzak asked the Council if there were further questions that his office could examine. Councilman Byrd mentioned that he will speak with Attorney Noblett about the liability insurance and the religious events components of the policy.

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### **Jobs PILOT Presentation**

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Ms. Allen introduced Mr. Woods, who introduced the representatives from Gestamp and briefed the Council on Gestamp here and across the country. They are competing for an out-of-state OEM company (automotive), which would create 150 jobs in 3 years with a \$48 million expansion at the Hickory Valley site. He discussed the wages and benefits for employees. There are two other companies competing for the contract.

Mr. Hiatt asked the Council for a 3-year extension of the existing Gestamp PILOT agreement. He indicated that Gestamp has exceeded what they put forth in their existing PILOT.

Mr. Jahn gave a presentation on Gestamp’s WBL Apprenticeship and other programs. His presentation included information on the following: accomplishments of their programs; current completions; local educational partnerships; development spend; local donations; and layout with new addition on Hickory Valley.

Councilpersons Berz, Coonrod, Gilbert and Henderson all made comments commending Gestamp’s impact on their impact in the city, District 6 and at Tyner school. They also commended Gestamp’s impact on students, many of whom were at-risk, and adults re-entering the workforce after prison. Councilwoman Berz noted that she had no problems with their expansion. Councilman Ledford questioned if Gestamp has had conversations with CARTA about routes near their plants. Councilman Ledford offered to reach out to Lisa Maragnano at CARTA. Councilman Mitchell further questioned a partnership with CARTA. Ms. Richardson informed the Council about ongoing conversations about employer partnerships for shuttle.

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### **Adjournment**

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There being no further business, Councilman Byrd adjourned the meeting at 5:01 p.m.