

EQUITY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Committee Minutes

August 9, 2022

Call to Order

Vice Chair Raquetta Dotley, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:52 p.m. in the Council Assembly Room of the John P. Franklin, Sr. City Council Building. A quorum was present, including Council Chairman Darrin Ledford and Council members Chip Henderson, Jenny Hill, Ken Smith, Isiah Hester, Carol Berz, Marvene Noel, and Demetrus Coonrod. Others present were Phil Noblett, Special Council to City Attorney, and Keren Campbell, Council Support Specialist.

Others in Attendance

Mayor's Office: Julia Bursch, Deputy Chief Operating Officer; Community Development: Tony Sammons, Administrator, Donna Casteel, Chief Code Enforcement Officer; Regional Planning Agency: Lisa Thompson, Subdivisions Coordinator; Economic Development: Jermaine Freeman, Senior Advisor for Economic Opportunity & Interim Administrator; Chattanooga Housing Authority: Betsy McCright, Executive Director; Chattanooga Design Studio: Eric Myers, Executive Director

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilwoman Coonrod, the minutes of the last meeting (March 22, 2022) were approved as published.

Ordinances (Final Reading) – Agenda Item 5A

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

Code Enforcement & Neighborhood Services Updates

Mr. Sammons introduced Ms. Casteel and Ms. Thompson who gave a presentation that included information on the following:

- Defining Code Enforcement
- Impacting Blight
- Community Outreach and Education

A discussion ensued, wherein the following questions and concerns were addressed by presenters and Ms. Bursch:

- Condemned Buildings (Councilman Henderson)
- Follow up of boarded buildings (Councilman Henderson)
- High risk activity on properties (Councilman Henderson)
- Timeline for New integrations services app (Councilman Henderson)
- Community Round Tables (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Social Media (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Youth Ambassador Program (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Success Percentage for Code Violations (Councilwoman Hill)
- Next Door Platform (Councilman Ledford)
- Neighborhood Associations List (Councilwoman Berz)
- Status of Neighborhood Meetings (Councilwoman Berz)

- Community Work (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Occurrence of Neighborhood Meetings (Councilman Hester)

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

Westside Evolves Presentation

Mr. Freeman introduced Ms. McCright and Mr. Myers who gave a presentation on the Westside that included information on the following:

- Where is 'The Westside'
- Why the Westside
- How were residents Involved
- What informed the Plan
- Final Numbers
- Next Steps

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

- Survey's Completed (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- One for one replacement (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Rates of Units (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Future of Residents (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Programs Offered for betterment of Residents (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Comparison Cottages (Councilwoman Hill)
- Maintenance (Councilwoman Hill)
- Under Performing Vendors (Councilwoman Hill)

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

Adjournment

There being no further business, Vice Chair Dotley adjourned the meeting at 4:56 p.m.