

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Chattanooga City Council

February 28, 2023

Call to Order

Councilman Ken Smith, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:22 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the John P. Franklin, Sr. City Council Building. A quorum of the Chattanooga City Council was present, including Council Chairman Darrin Ledford, Vice Chair Raquetta Dotley, and Council members Chip Henderson, Jenny Hill, Demetrus Coonrod, Carol Berz, Marvene Noel, and Isiah Hester. Other participants were Phil Noblett, City Attorney, and Kyana Grady, Council Administrative Assistant.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Chairman Ledford and seconded by Vice Chair Dotley, the minutes of the last meeting (January 24, 2023) were approved as published.

City Election Cycle Charter Amendment Ordinance

Councilwoman Coonrod presented her proposed version of the ordinance (available for viewing [here](#)) alongside the areas in which the amendment is affecting, highlighting the following:

- Community Impact
- Attendance/Participation
- Potential Cycle
- Current Legislation Concerns
- Clarification of Proposed Language
- Determining Community Voting Factors

Following Councilwoman Coonrod's presentation, discussion ensued which addressed the following questions and comments:

- Section 5.15 Clarification (Noblett)
- Section 8.2-9 Regulations (Noblett)
- Section 5.3 Inquiry/Concern with Cycle Update/Inquiry on Modification/Poll Times/Section 4 Clarification/Bearing of State Led Legislation/Objection to Proposed Legislation (Ledford)
- Rebuttal to Objection/Elaboration of Purpose of Amendment/State vs Local Legislation/Voter Diversity (Coonrod)
- Echo of Chairman Ledford's Concerns/Process Clarification (Smith)
- Process Inquiry (Henderson)

On conclusion of the open discussion, Councilman Smith advised the proposed legislation would be added to the business agenda upon consensus by roll call vote as follows:

Henderson	YES	Noel	YES
Hill	YES	Coonrod	YES
Ledford	YES	Dotley	YES
Hester	YES	Smith	NO
Berz	NO		

YES - Seven (7); NO - Two (2)

As a result of the roll call vote, Councilman Smith advised the City Attorney to add the item to appear on the March 14th agenda for first reading. Attorney Noblett agreed, stating he would also ensure the election date listed in the ordinance was correct before adding to the agenda. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Councilman Smith adjourned the meeting at 4:41 p.m.