



Chattanooga City Council
City of Chattanooga, Tennessee
John P. Franklin, Sr. City Council Building

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 25, 2025
3:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chairman Chip Henderson called the business meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was present that also included Vice Chair Jenny Hill, and Councilmembers Ken Smith, Darrin Ledford, Isiah Hester, Raquetta Dotley, and Marvene Noel. Councilmembers Jenni Berz and Demetrus Coonrod were not in attendance at this meeting.

[Editor's Note: This meeting was live streamed on YouTube and is available to view in full [here](#).]

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Office of City Attorney: Phil Noblett, City Attorney

Mayor's Office: Chris Anderson, Senior Advisor for Legislative Initiatives

Public Works: Bill Payne, City Engineer

Land Development Office: Darien Gilkenson, Assistant Director, Land Use Development Services

Purchasing: Debbie Talley, Chief Procurement Officer

Council Office: Melissa Bardoner, Council Support Specialist, and Nicole Gwyn, Clerk to Council

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Henderson led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave an invocation.

APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Ledford, the minutes of the last meeting (March 18, 2025) were approved as published.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS:

Agenda Item IX(c) – Council Office (Relative to city-issued devices for outgoing Council)

Vice Chair Hill requested additional information about this item from the City Attorney's Office; Attorney Noblett affirmed. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item IX(g) – Planning (Relative to Special Exceptions Permit for 50 Frazier Avenue)

Vice Chair Hill read the conditions for this item into the record:

- 1) *Shall maintain a Tennessee Agriculture License;*
- 2) *Shall have an annual minimum of ten (10%) percent of retail sales be non-alcohol, such as food; and*
- 3) *Retail display space shall not exceed nine hundred (900') square feet.*

She asked the applicants to give their verbal affirmation regarding the same [view [here](#)]. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

NEXT WEEK’S PROPOSED AGENDA (April 1, 2025)

Agenda Item 8(a) – Mayor’s Office (Ordinance relative to Off-Premise Advertising and On-Premise Advertising)

Ms. Gilkenson briefed the Council on this item [view [here](#)]. Afterwards, Chairman Henderson opened the floor for questions and comments from the Council [view [here](#)]. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(b) – Mayor’s Office (Ordinance relative to Chattanooga Tree Ordinance)

Mr. Anderson briefed the Council on this item [view [here](#)]. Afterwards, Chairman Henderson opened the floor for questions and comments from the Council [view [here](#)]. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 9(o) – Office of the City Attorney (Resolution relative to a revised public records policy)

Vice Chair Hill requested additional information on this item, as well as a redlined version; Attorney Noblett affirmed. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

**Agenda Item 9(s) – Public Works (Resolution relative to amending Resolution No. 31171)
Agenda Item 9(t) – Public Works (Resolution relative to rescinding Resolution No. 32410 & amending Resolution No. 32292)**

Councilman Ledford requested clarification on which Landfills these items referred to; Mr. Payne responded. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

PURCHASING QUESTIONS

RFP Format Recommendation

Vice Chair Hill advised she would be seeking a one-week deferral on this item [until April 1, 2025]. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

RECESS

Upon no objections from the Council, at 4:20 p.m., Chairman Henderson recessed the business

MEETING RECONVENED

Chairman Henderson reconvened the meeting at 4:45 p.m. A quorum was present that also included Vice Chair Hill and Council members Smith, Ledford, Hester, Dotley, and Noel. Attorney Noblett and Ms. Gwyn was also present. Councilmembers Coonrod and Berz were not present.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ORDINANCES – FINAL READING:

On motion of Councilwoman Dotley and seconded by Councilwoman Noel,

ORDINANCE #14209

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 14118, ALSO KNOWN AS “THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 OPERATIONS BUDGET,” BE AMENDED FOR THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA TO APPROPRIATE THE AMOUNT \$67,546.48 FOR TAX YEARS 2019 AND 2023, AND FOR DELINQUENT TAXES FOR TAX YEARS 2021 AND 2022, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$203,461.02, FOLLOWING RECEIPT AND PAYMENT TO THE CITY FROM THE HUMANE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, INC. FOR PROPERTY TAXES AND INTEREST ON TAX MAP NO. 128E-A-005, BACK TO THE HUMANE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY, FOR A TOTAL APPROPRIATION AFTER PAYMENT OF ALL DELINQUENT TAXES AND INTEREST IS RECEIVED NOT TO EXCEED \$271,200.00.

The motion carried upon roll call vote as follows:

Smith	YES	Noel	YES
Ledford	YES	Hill	YES
Hester	YES	Henderson	YES
Dotley	YES		

YES - Seven (7); NO - Zero (0)

ACTION: APPROVED

PROCEDURAL NOTE: With no objection from the Council, Chairman Henderson instructed the Clerk to group and read the following three ordinances for one Council vote.

2025-0017
John Jerman
Planning Commission Version
District No. 8

ORDINANCE #14210

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1907 STUART STREET, FROM RN-1-5 RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE AND I-H HEAVY INDUSTRIAL ZONE TO TRN-3 TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE.

2025-0020
Alfred Fredrick
Planning Commission Version
District No. 8

ORDINANCE #14211

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2800 CURTIS STREET, FROM RN-1-5 RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE TO RN-1-3 RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE.

2025-0026
Jerri Price
Planning Commission Version
District No. 8

ORDINANCE #14212

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2401 EAST MAIN STREET, FROM C-C COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR ZONE TO C-TMU TRANSITIONAL MIXED USE COMMERCIAL ZONE.

Councilwoman Noel moved to approve all three ordinances. Councilman Ledford seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: APPROVED

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

PROCEDURAL NOTE: With no objection from the Council, Chairman Henderson instructed the Clerk to group and read the following three ordinances for one Council vote.

MR-2025-0025
Bryan Bledsoe
District No. 9

ORDINANCE #14213

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING THE UNOPENED RIGHT-OF-WAY IN THE CORNER OF THE 2200 BLOCK OF E. 21ST STREET/2100 BLOCK OF S. LYERLY, AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAPS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

MR-2025-0007
LFG Homes LLC
District No. 2

ORDINANCE #14214

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING A SANITARY SEWER AND EASEMENT IN THE 1500 BLOCK OF MERCER STREET, BEGINNING AT MH #S118E041 THENCE 1,439 FEET TO MH #S118E115, FOR A TOTAL OF 1,439 LINEAR FEET, TAX MAP NO. 118E-E-006, AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAPS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

MR-2024-0194
Almarie Brenna c/o Kimley-Horn
District No. 4

ORDINANCE #14215

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING A SANITARY SEWER AND EASEMENT IN THE 7500 BLOCK OF STANDIFER GAP ROAD, BEGINNING 20 FEET FROM MH #S139O032 TO 86.5 FEET FROM MH #S139O034, FOR A TOTAL OF 320 LINEAR FEET, TAX MAP NO. 139O-B-005, AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAPS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

The motion carried.

ACTION: ORDINANCES 14213 - 14215 PASSED ON FIRST READING

RESOLUTIONS:

PROCEDURAL NOTE: With no objection from the Council, Chairman Henderson instructed the Clerk to group and read the following three resolutions for one Council vote.

RESOLUTION #32434

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF RUDOLPH FOSTER TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS FOR DISTRICT 5, FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM BEGINNING ON JUNE 9, 2024, AND ENDING ON JUNE 8, 2027.

RESOLUTION #32435

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF KANIKA JONES TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATIONAL, AND HOUSING FACILITY BOARD FOR DISTRICT 9, FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON MARCH 19, 2025, AND ENDING ON JULY 6, 2027.

RESOLUTION #32436

A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR THE SERVICE OF OUTGOING CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS AND TO AWARD THEM THEIR CITY-ISSUED DEVICES IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR SERVICE, ESTABLISHING THIS AS AN ONGOING POLICY FOR ALL CURRENT AND FUTURE OUTGOING MEMBERS.

Councilman Hester moved to approve the three resolutions. Councilwoman Dotley seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32434 - 32436 ADOPTED

PROCEDURAL NOTE: With no objection from the Council, Chairman Henderson instructed the Clerk to group and read the following three resolutions for one Council vote.

RESOLUTION #32437

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO A FIRST AGREEMENT TO EXERCISE THE OPTION TO RENEW WITH THE CHATTANOOGA HOUSING AUTHORITY, IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED, FOR AN ADDITIONAL TERM OF ONE (1) YEAR, THROUGH MARCH 31, 2026, FOR THE USE OF THE SHEILA JENNINGS WELLNESS CENTER TO OPERATE PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS, AND FAMILIES ON THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1201 POPLAR STREET AND FURTHER IDENTIFIED AS A PORTION OF TAX MAP NO. 145F-A-002.

RESOLUTION #32438

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & OUTDOORS TO ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE BETHLEHEM CENTER FOR EMPOWERING MINORITY COMMUNITIES THROUGH SWIMMING INITIATIVE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$56,640.00.

RESOLUTION #32439

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 WITH REEVES YOUNG, LLC, OF DALTON, GA, FOR CONTRACT NOS. W-17-023-201 AND W-18-008-201, MBWWTP IMPROVEMENTS – SCHEDULES A AND B, FOR INCORPORATING CRF NO. 16 FOR CONCRETE CHIPPING IN THE SRMV, FOR AN INCREASE OF \$29,382.58, FOR A REVISED CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$10,939,587.21, WITH A CONTINGENCY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$413,450.00, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$11,353,037.21.

Councilwoman Dotley moved to approve the three resolutions. Councilwoman Noel seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32437 - 32439 ADOPTED

Joseph G. DeGaetano and Heather B. DeGaetano

Version #4

District No. 2

On motion of Vice Chair Hill and seconded by Councilman Smith,

RESOLUTION #32440

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING A NEW SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS PERMIT FOR A
NEW LIQUOR STORE LOCATED AT 50 FRAZIER AVENUE.**

The motion carried.

ACTION: ADOPTED

[Councilman Smith temporarily stepped out during the new purchases.]

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Recommended New Purchases

Ms. Talley (Purchasing) recommended the following new purchases for Council consideration:

PA100144 Parks Maintenance Division, Parks and Outdoors \$123,375.00

Turf Treatment and Athletic Field Maintenance at Select City Parks

Lowest/Best Bidders: Weed Man Lawn Care

6921 Middle Valley Rd Suite 112

Hixson, TN 37343

PA100098 Grants

Grants, Data Management, Federal Compliance & Audit \$148,400.00

Support for the American Rescue Plan

Lowest/Best Bidders: UHY Advisors Mid-Atlantic MD, Inc

8601 Robert Fulton Drive Suite 210

Columbia, MD 21406

REQ161511 Fleet Management Division, Public Works \$398,310.86

Wirtgen W50Ri Milling Machine with 2 Vibrating Roller Drums

Lowest/Best Bidders: Power Equipment Company

4295 Bonny Oaks Drive

Chattanooga, TN 37406

REG161337 Golf Course, Division, Parks and Outdoors
 Greensmaster 3150-Q mower, ProCore648s aerator,
 ProPass 200BG wireless attachment and Pro Force blower
 Lowest/Best Bidders: Smith Turf & Irrigation
 525 Fairground Court
 Nashville, TN 37211

\$124,870.58

Councilman Hester moved to approve. Vice Chair Hill seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: ALL NEW PURCHASES APPROVED

[Councilman Smith had returned to the meeting.]

RFP Format Recommendation

Ms. Talley also recommended issuing the following RFP as a Competitive Sealed Proposal instead of a Competitive Sealed Bid in compliance with City Code 2-554:

DEPARTMENT	SUMMARY	DOCUMENTATION LINK
Economic Development	Economic Development is seeking a consultant to develop and implement a targeted housing outreach strategy.	REQ161037

Vice Chair Hill moved to defer this RFP format recommendation until April 1, 2025. Councilman Ledford seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: REQ161037 DEFERRED UNTIL APRIL 1, 2025

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Affordable Housing Committee
 Vice Chair Hill (No report)

Budget and Finance Committee
 Councilman Ken Smith (No report)

Economic Development Committee
 Councilwoman Coonrod (Not present)

Education and Innovation Committee
 Councilwoman Noel (No report)

Equity and Community Development Committee
 Councilwoman Coonrod (No report)

Legislative Committee
 Councilman Smith (No report)

Planning and Zoning Committee

Councilman Ledford reported:

- The committee will meet next week (April 1).

Parks and Public Works Committee

Councilman Hester reported:

- The committee will also meet next week.

Public Safety Committee

Councilwoman Dotley (No report)

OTHER BUSINESS

Certificate of Compliance

Attorney Noblett presented the following for Council signature: **Certificate of Compliance - The Cheese Tax LLC d/b/a Pedestrian Wine and Cheese, 50 Frazier Avenue, #250, Chattanooga, TN (District 2)**. He noted that the store met all requirements. *[Editor’s Note: The certificate was signed during this open meeting by at least five councilpersons.]*

RECOGNITION OF PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

[View [here](#)]

Attorney Noblett read the rules of procedure for persons wishing to address the Council. After which, Chairman Henderson recognized the following persons:

Speaker Name	District	Primary Topics:
• Andrew Jones	(N/A)	Leadership [quotes and comments on stirring the pot] / Making government transparent

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilwoman Dotley, Chairman Henderson adjourned the meeting of the Chattanooga City Council until next Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 3:30 p.m.

COUNCIL CHAIR

CLERK OF COUNCIL