



Chattanooga City Council  
Chattanooga, Tennessee  
John P. Franklin, Sr. City Council Building  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
December 19, 2023  
3:30 PM

## CALL TO ORDER

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

[Editor's Note: This meeting was live streamed on YouTube in three parts. Part 1 of this meeting (prior to the recess) is [here](#). Parts 2 and 3 of this meeting (after the recess) are available [here](#) and [here](#), respectively]

## OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Office of City Attorney: Phil Noblett, City Attorney;  
Council Office: Melissa Bardoner, Council Support Specialist, and Nicole Gwyn, Clerk to Council;  
Chattanooga Police Department: Harry Sommers, Executive Chief;  
Parks & Outdoors: Scott Martin, Administrator; and  
Mayor's Office: Jermaine Freeman, Interim Chief of Staff; and Brooke Satterfield, Deputy Chief of Staff.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Hester led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave an invocation.

## APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES

**On motion of Councilman Smith** and seconded by Vice Chair Hill, the minutes of the last meeting (December 12, 2023) were approved as published.

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## DISCUSSION AGENDA

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### ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

**Agenda Item VIII(a) – Parks & Outdoors (Amendment relative to skates or similar devices)**  
Councilman Smith requested clarification on this item. Attorney Noblett responded. Discussion ensued, which may be viewed [here](#) and touched on the following:

- Locations where skating would be allowed under the proposed ordinance

- Statistics of citations issued under the existing ordinance
- Disconnect between the Legislators' intentions in drafting ordinances and the Judiciaries' interpretation of them
- The need to educate the public about, as well as enforce, the existing traffic laws
- The possibility of a work session to discuss the proposed ordinance further.

The Council also heard from two residents, Joshua Goldberg and Rusty Packard, about their experiences rollerblading downtown. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### **Agenda Item IX(c) – Economic Development (regarding Apprenticeship Works Initiative)**

Councilwoman Coonrod expressed appreciation for this item. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

### **Agenda Item IX(i) – Parks & Outdoors (regarding the Hope Included inclusive playground)**

Vice Chair Hill gave additional information about this item. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

## **FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Item 9(a) – Office of the City Attorney**

Councilman Ledford requested clarification on this item regarding the proposed AHO [Administrative Hearing Officer] ordinance amendment. Attorney Noblett responded. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

### **Item 10(a)(i) – Parks, Public Works, and Wastewater**

Councilman Henderson requested a redline version of this item relating to the proposed fee amendments for Community Development and Parks & Outdoors activities/rentals. Mr. Freeman affirmed. Councilwoman Coonrod inquired which classes had fees associated with them. Mr. Martin and Mr. Freeman advised they would send her a list of those classes.

Upon no further comments or questions, the issues were closed.

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## **RECESS**

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Upon no objections, at 4:16 p.m., Chair Dotley recessed the business meeting until 4:45 p.m.

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## **Meeting Reconvened**

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

## SPECIAL PRESENTATION

***Proclamation Recognizing Karen Clay for  
25 Years Service to the Neighborhood Services Division  
By Councilwoman Demetrus Coonrod***

[View on YouTube [here](#)]

Councilwoman Coonrod presented a proclamation [see *attached*] to Neighborhood Relations Specialist Karen Clay for her 25 years of service to the City of Chattanooga in the Neighborhood Services Division.

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## ORDER OF BUSINESS

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### ORDINANCES – FINAL READING:

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilman Smith,

**ORDINANCE #14069**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II,  
CHAPTER 10, SECTION 10-5, RELATIVE TO THE EXCLUSION OF  
FIRE DISTRICT AREA 12.**

The motion carried.

**ACTION: APPROVED**

**PROCEDURAL NOTE:** With no objection from the Council, Chair Dotley instructed the clerk to group and read the following two ordinances for one Council vote.

**2023-0116**  
**David Fidalti c/o Wise Construction**  
**Alternate Version**  
**District No. 1**

**ORDINANCE #14070**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II,  
CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTY  
LOCATED AT 1137 OLD PINEVILLE ROAD, FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL ZONE  
TO R-3 RESIDENTIAL ZONE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.**

**2023-0163**  
**Fidel Fonseca and Kimberly A. Wolf**  
**Planning Commission Version**  
**District No. 3**

**ORDINANCE #14071**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II,  
CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTY  
LOCATED AT 1923 HAMILL ROAD, FROM R-4 SPECIAL ZONE TO C-5  
NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL ZONE.**

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

**ACTION: ORDINANCES 14070 & 14071 APPROVED**

2023-0121  
Lyons Group Acquisitions  
Planning Commission Version  
District No. 3

**Agenda Item VII(d):**

*[Formerly assigned as Ordinance #14072; that number has been reassigned to a new ordinance.]*

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO LIFT CONDITION NOS. 2, 3, AND 4; AND AMENDING CONDITION NO. 1 FROM ORDINANCE NO. 9135 OF PREVIOUS CASE NO. 1989-0046 FOR PART OF A PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5431 HIXSON PIKE.**

**Councilman Smith moved** to withdraw per the applicant's request. Councilman Ledford seconded. The motion carried.

**ACTION: WITHDRAWN**

2023-0122  
Lyons Group Acquisitions  
Planning Version #2  
District No. 3

**Agenda Item VII(e):**

*[Formerly assigned as Ordinance #14073; that number will be reassigned to a new ordinance.]*

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 5138, 5144, 5150, AND 5157 STRICKLAND DRIVE, 5422 OLD HIXSON PIKE, AND AN UNADDRESSED PARCEL IN THE 5400 BLOCK OF OLD HIXSON PIKE, FROM R-2 RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO R-3 RESIDENTIAL ZONE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.**

**Councilman Smith moved** to withdraw per the applicant's request. Councilman Ledford seconded. The motion carried.

**ACTION: WITHDRAWN**

**ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:**

**Agenda Item VIII(a):**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 26, SECTION 26-4; CHAPTER 24, SECTION 24-10; AND CHAPTER 25, SECTION 25-28, RELATIVE TO SKATES, SKATEBOARDING, SCOOTERS, OR SIMILAR DEVICES.**

**Vice Chair Hill moved** to table until February 13, 2024. Councilman Ledford seconded. The motion carried. Chair Dotley scheduled a work session to continue discussions on this ordinance.

**ACTION: TABLED UNTIL FEBRUARY 13, 2024**

2023-0123

Lyons Group Acquisitions, LLC-MAP Engineering c/o Mike Price  
Planning Commission  
Version District No. 3

**Agenda Item VIII(b):**

**AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING AN UNOPENED RIGHT-OF-WAY LOCATED IN THE 5100 BLOCK OF STRICKLAND CIRCLE, AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAPS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.**

**Councilman Smith moved** to withdraw. Councilman Ledford seconded. The motion carried.

**ACTION: WITHDRAWN**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

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

**RESOLUTION #31903**

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF QUNITA ROBINSON TO THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – REGION 2 (SHALLOWFORD), FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON DECEMBER 20, 2023, AND ENDING ON DECEMBER 19, 2025.**

The motion carried.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

**PROCEDURAL NOTE:** With no objection from the Council, Chair Dotley instructed the clerk to group and read the following three resolutions for one Council vote.

**RESOLUTION #31904**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE CHATTANOOGA HOUSING AUTHORITY, IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED, TO LEASE APPROXIMATELY 4,581 SQUARE FEET AT 2470 6<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, A PORTION OF TAX MAP NO. 156J-G-047, FOR THE CITY'S HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM, FOR A TERM OF 364 DAYS FOR THE RENT OF \$1.00, WITH THE OPTION TO RENEW FOR THREE (3) ADDITIONAL TERMS OF 364 DAYS EACH.**

**RESOLUTION #31905**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CHATTANOOGA CHAMBER FOUNDATION TO ADMINISTER THE APPRENTICESHIP WORKS INITIATIVE, A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA, HAMILTON COUNTY, HAMILTON COUNTY SCHOOLS, THE BENWOOD FOUNDATION, AND CHATTANOOGA 2.0, WHICH WILL BUILD THE CAPACITY OF CHATTANOOGA BUSINESSES TO CREATE GROW REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP AND YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000.00.**

**RESOLUTION #31906**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT COVID (CDBG-CV) FUNDS TO VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN, FOR THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,448,782.00.**

**Councilwoman Coonrod moved to approve. Councilman Henderson seconded. The motion carried.**

**ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 31904 – 31906 ADOPTED**

**PROCEDURAL NOTE: With no objection from the Council, Chair Dotley instructed the clerk to group and read the following four resolutions for one Council vote.**

**RESOLUTION #31907**

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY’S APPOINTMENT OF ELLA KLIGER TO THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – REGION 2 (SHALLOWFORD), FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON DECEMBER 20, 2023, AND ENDING ON DECEMBER 19, 2025.**

**RESOLUTION #31908**

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY’S APPOINTMENT OF CAROLYN LAWHORN TO THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – REGION 2 (SHALLOWFORD), FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON DECEMBER 20, 2023, AND ENDING ON DECEMBER 19, 2025.**

**RESOLUTION #31909**

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY’S APPOINTMENT OF DENITA STRICKLAND TO THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – REGION 6 (BUSHTOWN/GLENWOOD), FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON DECEMBER 20, 2023, AND ENDING ON DECEMBER 19, 2024.**

**RESOLUTION #31910**

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY'S APPOINTMENT OF JOE SHUDAN TO THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – REGION 7 (DODSON), FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON DECEMBER 20, 2023, AND ENDING ON DECEMBER 19, 2024.**

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

**ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 31907 - 31910 ADOPTED**

On motion of Vice Chair Hill and seconded by Councilwoman Coonrod,

**RESOLUTION #31911**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA AND HOPE INCLUDED REGARDING THE INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND PROJECT AT RIVERVIEW PARK.**

The motion carried.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

**PROCEDURAL NOTE:** With no objection from the Council, Chair Dotley instructed the clerk to group and read the following two resolutions for one Council vote.

**RESOLUTION #31912**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AND EXECUTE A COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE, COMPENSATION AND LIABILITY ACT (CERCLA) WARRANTY AMENDMENT TO QUITCLAIM DEEDS, GRANTING CERCLA COVENANT AND DISCHARGING LAND USE REGULATIONS ON THE REMAINDER OF RELEASE PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE FORMER VOLUNTEER ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT (VAAP).**

**RESOLUTION #31913**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO AWARD CONTRACT NO. R-22-015-202, FROST STADIUM CONCESSION STAND VENTILATION PROJECT, TO J. BRENNAN CONSTRUCTION, INC., OF DALTON, GA, FOR \$194,000.00, WITH A CONTINGENCY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000.00, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$214,000.00.**

**Councilwoman Noel moved** to approve. Councilman Hester seconded. The motion carried.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

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

**RESOLUTION #31914**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT TO ENTER INTO AN ACCESS EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH DON R. OSCAI AND WIFE, PAULA L. OSCAI, IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING INGRESS AND EGRESS TO THE ESTABLISHED SEWER EASEMENT, FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF \$103,000.00.**

The motion carried.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

**Recommended New Purchases**

Brooke Satterfield, Deputy Chief of Staff, recommended the following new purchases for Council consideration:

**200596-2 Purchasing Department** \$55,000.00  
Soft Drinks, Energy Drinks & Bottled Water, Citywide  
Lowest/Best Bidder: Coca-Cola Bottling Company United  
P.O. Box 11128  
Chattanooga, TN 37401

**561155 PW Transportation Dept./Traffic Operations Division** Increase of \$31,500.00 for a  
Rubber Speed Cushions total amount of \$146,680.40  
Lowest/Best Bidder: Rubberform Recycled Products LLC  
PO Box 291 East  
Amherst, NY 14051

**PA100063 Fleet Management Division, Public Works** \$1,000,000.00  
Automotive Parts Catalog  
Lowest/Best Bidder: Lee-Smith Inc  
2600 8th Avenue  
Chattanooga, TN 37407

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

**ACTION: ALL PURCHASES APPROVED**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

*Affordable Housing Committee*  
Vice Chair Hill (No report)

*Budget and Finance Committee*  
Councilwoman Berz (Not present)

*Economic Development Committee*  
Councilwoman Coonrod (No report)



*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 (No report)

*Parks and Public Works*  
Councilman Hester (No report)

*Public Safety Committee*  
Councilman Henderson (No report)

## **MEETING CANCELLATIONS**

Chair Dotley announced that the December 26<sup>th</sup> and January 2<sup>nd</sup> meetings had been cancelled.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Attorney Noblett presented the following certificates of compliance:

- Certificate of Compliance - MAPCO #7553, 2282 Emcompass Drive, Chattanooga, TN 37421.
- Certificate of Compliance - Weigel Stores, Inc. d/b/a Weigel's #105, 4041 Hixson Pike, Chattanooga, TN 37415.
- Certificate of Compliance - Weigel Stores, Inc. d/b/a Weigel's #108, 5531 Hwy. 58, Harrison, TN 37341.

The certificates were signed in the open meeting by at least five councilpersons.

## **RECOGNITION OF PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

(Listen and view on YouTube [here](#))

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

<b>Speaker Name</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Primary Topics:</b>
<a href="#">Nathan Bird</a>	7	Letter of petition from Community Association of Historic St. Elmo [available <a href="#">here</a> ]
<a href="#">Haleigh Dunning</a>	1	Neighborhood findings from an informal walking audit on Frazier Avenue
<a href="#">Carina Miller</a>	1	Pedestrian walkability on/off Cherokee Blvd.
<a href="#">David Crutcher</a>	2	Support for employee Gerald Perry

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Councilman Smith made comments about Mr. Perry and expressed thanks to the speaker.</li> <li>○ Councilman Henderson asked Jermaine Freeman, Interim Chief of Staff, for an update, but Mr. Freeman could not respond on the employment matter.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Bro. Steven Sidlowski</a>	(N/A)	Request to add “personhood” in the city charter
<a href="#">Amy</a>	2	Frazier Avenue and pedestrian safety
<a href="#">Whitney Lagramada</a>	7	Support for Gerald Perry
<a href="#">Noe Sanchez</a>	(N/A)	Frazier Avenue and pedestrian safety
<a href="#">John LaRosa</a>	1	Frazier Avenue and pedestrian safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Councilwoman Coonrod made comments about safety concerns in District 9 neighborhoods.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Jon Jon</a>	9	Prioritizing swift action for pedestrian and multi-modal safety
<a href="#">Sandra Todd</a>	8	Support for Gerald Perry
<a href="#">Speaker #12</a> (technical difficulties disrupted the video)	(N/A)	Support for Gerald Perry
<a href="#">Mark Garrett</a>	5	Support for Gerald Perry
<a href="#">Lynne Weldon</a>	2	Prioritizing infrastructure for bikes and pedestrians
<a href="#">Anna Butler</a>	8	Support for Gerald Perry
<a href="#">Robert Lewis</a>	3	Support for Gerald Perry
<a href="#">Dr. Warren Mackey, Comm.</a>	(N/A)	Support for Gerald Perry

Chair Dotley expressed thanks to those who addressed the Council. Councilwomen Noel and Coonrod thanked those who came in support of Mr. Perry. Councilman Hester gave a closing comment about Mr. Perry.

## ADJOURNMENT

**On motion of Councilman Henderson**, Chair Dotley adjourned the business meeting of the Chattanooga City Council until next year, **Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.**

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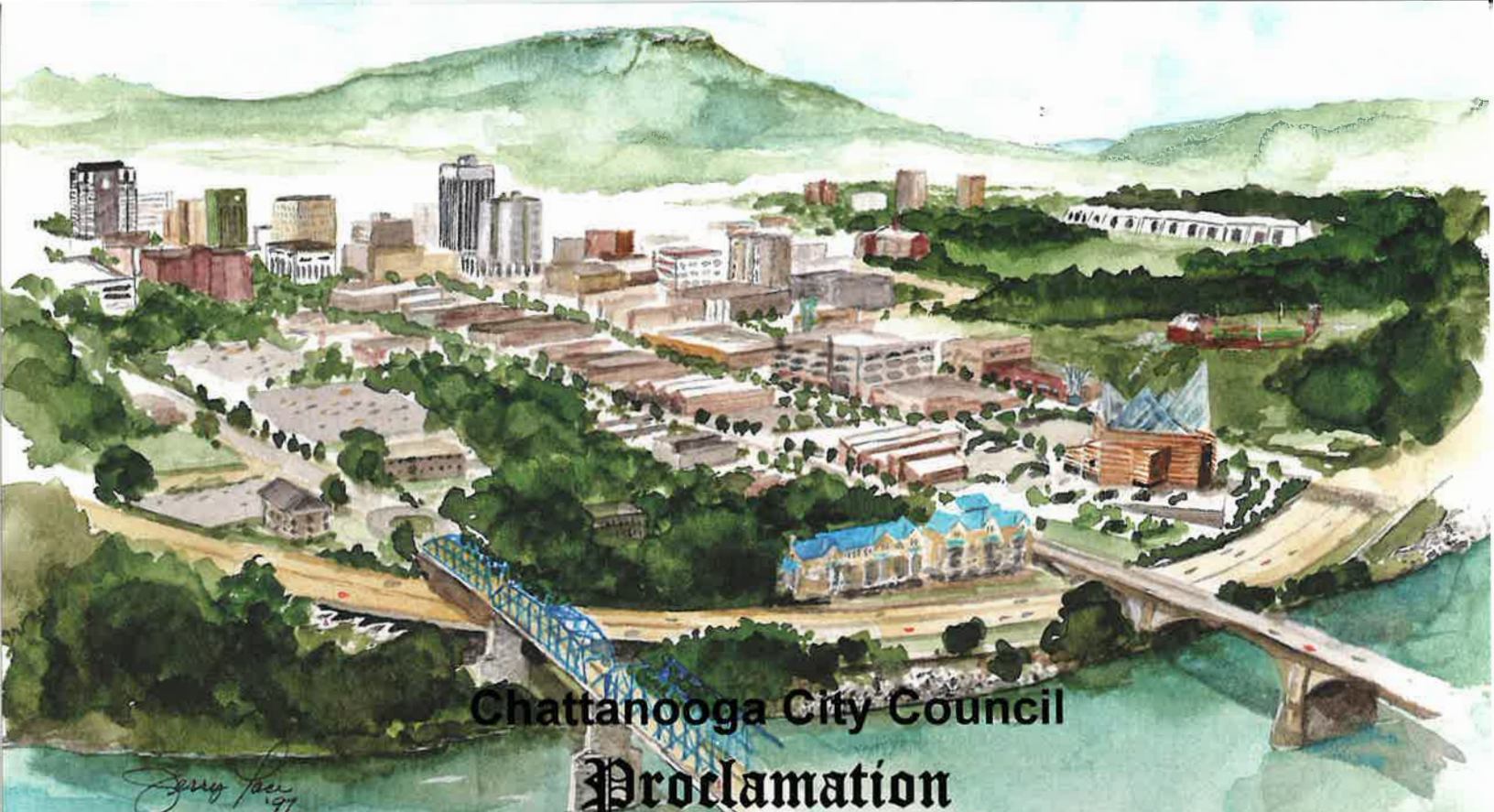
**COUNCIL CHAIR**

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**CLERK OF COUNCIL**

*Attachment:  
Proclamation Recognizing Karen Clay*





# Chattanooga City Council Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** Karen Clay has dedicated 25 years of outstanding service to the Neighborhood Services division for the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee;
- WHEREAS,** Through her passion, positivity and commitment to helping neighbors and community groups, Ms. Clay has made the City of Chattanooga a better place;
- WHEREAS,** She has spearheaded efforts to showcase the history of Chattanooga's Neighborhood Associations, connecting residents to their local communities;
- WHEREAS,** She has led the efforts in facilitating the development of neighborhood roundtables series, which aims to facilitate open and solutions-oriented dialogue between local residents, community leaders, law enforcement, local business owners, and other relevant stakeholders;
- WHEREAS,** Ms. Clay epitomizes the meaning of true public service and what it means to serve the community with vision and leadership;
- WHEREAS,** In honor of her legacy, the "Clay Community Impact Initiative" has been established to empower local residents with resources, mentorship, and support to help build a stronger, more connected Chattanooga.

### Now Therefore,


I, Demetrus Coonrod, City Council Member, District 9, Chattanooga, TN,  
Do hereby proclaim December 19, 2023, as

## Karen Clay Day

In the City of Chattanooga,  
In honor of her 25 years of exceptional service to the community.  
I call upon all citizens to join me in celebrating  
Ms. Clay's accomplishments and dedication.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Chattanooga to be affixed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023.



  
Demetrus Coonrod, District 9 Councilwoman  
Chattanooga City Council