

AGENDA SESSION MINUTES CHATTANOOGA CITY COUNCIL

July 14, 2020

In Attendance

Council Chairman Chip Henderson called the electronic-conducted (virtual) meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was present, including Vice-Chairman Ken Smith and Council members Carol Berz, Anthony Byrd, Demetrus Coonrod, Russell Gilbert, Jerry Mitchell and Erskine Oglesby, all present via electronic means. Other panelists present via electronic means: Phil Noblett, City Attorney; Lydia Christoph, Administrative Support; and Keren Campbell, Council Support Specialist. Councilman Darrin Ledford was not present.

Others in Attendance (via electronic means)

Mayor's Office: Maura Sullivan, Chief Operating Officer; Economic & Community Development: Donna Williams, Administrator, and Richard Beeland, Deputy Administrator

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Councilman Gilbert and seconded by Councilwoman Berz, the minutes of the last meeting (July 7, 2020) were approved as published.

Ordinances (Final Reading) – Agenda Items 5A

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

Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Items 6A, 6B & 6C

These items had been discussed at previous open meetings. Upon no questions or comments, the issues were closed.

Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Items 6D

Councilman Oglesby informed the Council that he is looking to defer this item to August 11th. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Items 6E

Councilwoman Coonrod inquired from Councilman Byrd on what his constituents wanted regarding this item. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Items 6F, 6G, 6H & 6I

These items had been discussed at previous open meetings. Upon no questions or comments, the issues were closed.

Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Items 6J

Councilman Gilbert asked Attorney Noblett to give an explanation on this item. Councilman Henderson had questions pertaining to the alternate version. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Resolutions – Agenda Items 7A

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

Resolutions – Agenda Items 7B

Councilwoman Berz asked Attorney Noblett which version Council would consider tonight. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Resolutions – Agenda Items 7C

Councilman Mitchell asked Mr. Beeland about the differences between this item and the first item under future considerations for ECD. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Resolutions – Agenda Items 7D, 7E, 7F, 7G, 7H & 7I

These items had been discussed at previous open meetings. Upon no questions or comments, the issues were closed.

Department Report - ECD

Ms. Williams gave a presentation on the “COVID Emergency Rent and Utility Assistance Program” (see attached) that covered the following:

- Who can we help?
- How can we help?
- Who is “We”?
- COVID Rent and Utility Applicants by Council District

A discussion ensued where she addressed the following from Council:

- Things that applicants are furnishing and why (Councilman Mitchell)
- Total applications submitted (Councilman Henderson)
- Where can people call (Councilman Byrd)
- Forward presentation to Council and contact information (Councilman Gilbert)

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

July 21st Agenda

Councilman Mitchell requested the financials for FY18 & FY19 for item 6B. Councilwoman Coonrod inquired about the removal process for the Lexia contract resolution on tonight's agenda. Upon no further questions or comments, the issues was closed.

Future Considerations (3 Week Look Ahead)

Councilwoman Coonrod inquired about the use of funds and space at Eastgate Town Center. Chairman Henderson recommended that the Council address this item on the two-week agenda. Upon no further questions or comments, the issues was closed.

Other

Chairman Henderson initiated a discussion on the time limit for tonight's public hearing on the Area 3 Plan. Councilman Mitchell asked if the speakers would be allowed to ask questions, to which Chairman Henderson responded.

Vice-Chairman Smith moved for the public to be allowed three minutes during today's public hearing. Councilwoman Coonrod seconded. The motion carried unanimously (8-0) upon roll call vote.

Councilwoman Berz informed the Council that she would be leaving tonight's meeting early and had no committee report. Chairman Henderson asked that the proposed amendments brought up by Councilwoman Coonrod regarding Police funds to social programs be discussed in Budget and Finance Committee during the Strategic Planning next week (July 21). Councilwoman Berz agreed.

Discussion ensued with Ms. Sullivan, with Councilman Gilbert questioning the use of federal funds and whether they could be used for employee raises. Councilwoman Coonrod asked if there were specific employees that have received raises and why. Upon no further questions or comments, the issues were closed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Henderson adjourned the meeting at 4:24 p.m.

[Editor's Note: Any person may join the electronic-conducted meetings of the Chattanooga City Council at the scheduled time by visiting online at council.chattanooga.gov.]

Attachment:
ECD Presentation

Who Can We Help?

1. City of Chattanooga resident
2. Income directly impacted by COVID-19
3. Laid off, furloughed or hours reduced
4. Renters without subsidized housing
5. Household Income up to 120% AMI



City of Chattanooga

COVID Emergency
Rent & Utility
Assistance
Program

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How Can We Help?

Eligible Applicants:

- 1) Up to 3 Months of Rent Payments
- 2) Up to 3 Months of Utilities Bills
- 3) FREE Legal Assistance for Evictions

Who is “We”?

1,396+ Requests for Assistance/**4,500+**
Personal Contacts with Requesters

- Neighborhood Services
- Community Development
- Youth & Family Development/OFE
- Homeless Services
- Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise
- Legal Aid of East TN
- Chattanooga Community Foundation
- Businesses and Non-profits

City of Chattanooga

COVID Emergency
Rent & Utility
Assistance
Program

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COVID Rent & Utility Applicants by COUNCIL DISTRICT

- District 1: Henderson, **9 Applications/3 Assisted**
- District 2: Mitchell, **6 Applications/4 Assisted**
- District 3: Smith, **18 Applications/7 Assisted**
- District 4: Ledford, **15 Applications/2 Assisted**
- District 5: Gilbert, **29 Applications/6 Assisted**
- District 6: Berz, **19 Applications/6 Assisted**
- District 7: Oglesby, **24 Applications/7 Assisted**
- District 8: Byrd, **29 Applications/3 Assisted**
- District 9: Coonrod, **49 Applications/14 Assisted**

Total: Applications Completed 198

Total: Applicants Assisted: 52



For Additional Information

Call: 423-643-7322

Email: ecdhelp@chattanooga.gov

THANK YOU