

AGENDA SESSION MINUTES

Chattanooga City Council

March 16, 2021

Call to Order

Council Chairman Chip Henderson called the electronic-conducted (virtual) meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was present, including Council Vice-Chairman Ken Smith and Council members Carol Berz, Anthony Byrd, Demetrus Coonrod, Russell Gilbert, Darrin Ledford, Jerry Mitchell, and Erskine Oglesby, Jr. Other panelists present via electronic means: Phil Noblett, City Attorney, and Keren Campbell, Council Support Specialist.

Others in Attendance (via electronic means)

Police: David Roddy, Chief; Capital Planning: Justin Steinmann, Strategic Capital Planning Manager

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Councilman Gilbert and seconded by Councilman Oglesby, the minutes of the last meeting (March 9, 2021) were approved as published.

Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Items 6A

Councilman Ledford informed the Council that he would be seeking to defer this item. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Resolutions – Agenda Items 7A, 7B, 7C & 7D

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

March 23rd Agenda

Councilman Gilbert requested that District 5 be added to the notation for item 7H. He then had questions regarding issues that the community brought to his attention. Chairman Henderson and asked that Chief Roddy join the panel to address the councilman's concerns. A discussion ensued with Chief Roddy, Mr. Steinmann, and Mr. Noblett, wherein the following questions and concerns were addressed:

- Chief to Speak to Community (Councilman Gilbert)
- Proximity of Site to Community (Councilman Byrd)
- Site Plan (Councilman Byrd)
- Cost of Center (Councilman Mitchell)
- Rezoning Process/Requirements (Councilman Ledford)
- Flexibility of Site Plan (Councilman Ledford)
- Timeline (Councilman Gilbert)
- Feasibility of Site (Councilman Mitchell)

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

Future Considerations (3-Week Look Ahead)

Councilwoman Berz asked Chairman Henderson about a scheduling a purchasing presentation. The Chairman confirmed it could take place during Strategic Planning next week, March 23rd.

Councilwoman Berz expressed the need for the Panhandling Ordinance to be brought to the forefront. Chairman Henderson asked Vice-Chairman Smith to schedule a Legislative Committee to discuss this item once he had all the information needed to proceed.

Councilman Ledford asked that Mr. Payne contact him offline for questions regarding the MOA with the City and the YMCA item.

Councilman Gilbert requested more information on the 311 updates. Chairman Henderson stated that he would look to have this set up during a departmental report.

Councilwoman Coonrod inquired about the possibility of Cultural Celebrations on June 19th via the programing that is put on by Friends of the Festival. She asked that Ms. Sullivan contact her offline.

Councilman Mitchell had questions about the process for waiving fees for parks specifically the Friends of the Festival organization. Chairman Henderson asked the Council if the item was ready to be placed on the agenda, to which both Councilpersons Berz and Oglesby requested further discussion on the item. Chairman Henderson will schedule a report or assign to a committee to address this concern and asked Mr. Noblett to keep it off the Council's two-week agenda for now.

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

Other

Chairman Henderson updated the Council on the Council Chambers walk-through that he had earlier in the day in preparation for April in-person meetings. He recommended that Strategic Planning meetings be suspended during the month April as the Council conference room will not be used during this transition period.

Mr. Noblett updated the Council on the Lupton Mills Site and Brownfield Agreement. Chairman Henderson asked that the item be put on Future Considerations for March 30th.

Councilwoman Berz spoke on the upcoming budget season and requested Ms. Sullivan to report back to the Council on the projected timeline. Chairman Henderson will follow-up on this and get back to Council.

Councilwoman Coonrod stated that she would like a discussion on making June 19th a city holiday. Chairman Henderson scheduled a discussion on March 23rd during Strategic Planning meeting.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Henderson adjourned the meeting at 4:08 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.]