

AGENDA SESSION MINUTES

Chattanooga City Council

November 29, 2022

Call to Order

Council Chairman Darrin Ledford called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the John P. Franklin, Sr. City Council Building. A quorum was present that also included Vice Chair Raquetta Dotley, and Councilpersons Chip Henderson, Jenny Hill, Carol Berz, Marvene Noel, Isiah Hester, and Demetrus Coonrod. Councilman Ken Smith was not present.

Other participants present were Phil Noblett, Interim City Attorney, and Keren Campbell, Council Support Specialist. Recorder for this meeting was Kyana Grady, Administrative Assistant.

Others in Attendance

Mayor's Office: Joda Thongnopnua, Chief of Staff; Finance: Brent Goldberg, Chief Financial Officer; Economic Development: Jermaine Freeman, Senior Advisor for Economic Opportunity & Interim; and Regional Planning Agency: Karen Rennich, Deputy Director.

Approval of Minutes

On the motion of Councilwoman Noel and seconded by Councilwoman Berz, the minutes of the last meeting (November 22, 2022) were approved as published.

Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Item 5A

Mr. Thongnopnua requested to defer for one week. In response to this request, a discussion ensued in which the following questions and comments arose:

- Opposition to deferral (Dotley)
- Mirroring Administration's concerns regarding rates (Coonrod)
- Inquiry about the timing of presented concerns (Hill)
- Rate increase (Noel)
- Consistency (Coonrod)
- Weighing concerns for deferral (Henderson)
- Questioning deferral (Hester)

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

Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Item 5B

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

Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Item 5C

Councilwoman Hill expressed concern regarding inconsistencies and cost to produce a safe unit. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Item 5D – 5E

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

Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Item 5F

Mr. Thongnopnua requested to defer this item to allow a thorough approach. A discussion ensued in which the following questions and comments arose:

- 30-day deferral (Berz)
- Inquiry on need for deferral (Henderson)
- Request for City Attorney input (Ledford)

Following these questions, Mr. Anderson advised that he would provide the Council with a definitive date for the deferral at this evening's Council business meeting. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Resolutions – Agenda Item 7A – 7D

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

Purchasing Questions

Chairman Ledford inquired about the language for an item under Public Works and requested clarity. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

December 6th Proposed Agenda

Councilwoman Berz inquired on the necessity of a Special Exceptions Permit for item 7h. A discussion ensued between Ms. Rennich, Mr. Noblett, and Councilwoman Berz. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Ledford adjourned the meeting at 4:08 p.m.