

# AGENDA SESSION MINUTES

## Chattanooga City Council

### December 1, 2020

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#### **Call to Order**

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Council Chairman Chip Henderson called the electronic-conducted (virtual) meeting to order at 3:31 p.m. A quorum was present, including 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. Council Vice-Chairman Ken Smith was not present.

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#### **Others in Attendance** (via electronic means)

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Mayor's Office: Maura Sullivan, Chief Operating Officer; Tivoli Theater Foundation: Nick Wilkinson, Executive Director; Bessie Smith Cultural Center: Paula Wilkes, President; United Way Greater Chattanooga: Lesley Scarce, President and CEO; Forgotten Child Fund: Kelly Simmons, President

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#### **Approval of Minutes**

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**On motion of Councilman Gilbert** and seconded by Councilwoman Coonrod, the minutes of the last meeting (November 24, 2020) were approved as published.

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#### **Ordinances (Final Reading) – Agenda Items 5A & 5B**

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

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#### **December 8<sup>th</sup> Agenda**

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In reference to item 6am, Councilwoman Coonrod asked for an update by each agency. Chairman Henderson asked Ms. Sullivan to present the agencies. Presentations included information as follows:

##### **The Tivoli Foundation:**

- March 2020
- Operation Cost Cut
- Furloughed Staff
- Use of Funds
- Loss in Revenue
- Creative Fundraising
- Restoration Track
- Remaining Challenges

A discussion ensued in where the following questions and concerns were expressed by Council:

- 100 Years of Foundation (Councilman Ledford)
- Footprint for Economic Success (Councilman Ledford)
- Cash Flow Projection (Councilman Ledford)
- AC Entertainment (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Virtual Shows/Experience (Councilwoman Coonrod)

- Use of Funds (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- City Maintenance (Councilwoman Coonrod)

**Bessie Smith Cultural Center:**

- March 16<sup>th</sup> Closure
- Financial Impact of COVID-19 on BSCC
- Action taken to Assist with Reducing COVID-19 in the African American Community
- How Emergency Funds will be Utilized

A discussion ensued in where the following questions and concerns were expressed by Council:

- Virtual Programing for Adults & Seniors (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Fundraising (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Use of Funds (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Help of Community (Councilman Byrd)

**United Way:**

- 211
- COVID-19 Community Resource Capacity Plan
- COVID-19 and tornado Response and Recovery
- What is 211
- 211 Community Access Services
- Common Questions
- The numbers are compelling
- The Response
- Value Proposition of 211
- 211 Community Support
- Value Proposition of 211 and the City
- Chattanooga call by Zip Codes
- Connected Community changes everything
- 211 Annual Budget

A discussion ensued in where the following questions and concerns were expressed by Council:

- Use of funds (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Improvements to 211 (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Helpfulness of Data (Councilwoman Coonrod)

**The Forgotten Child Fund:**

- Donations
- Building Funds

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

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**Adjournment**

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There being no further business, Chairman Henderson adjourned the meeting at 4:30 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](http://council.chattanooga.gov).]