

City Council Building Chattanooga, Tennessee COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES March 27, 2018 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Council Vice-Chairman Ken Smith called the meeting to order with Councilpersons Carol Berz, Anthony Byrd, Russell Gilbert, Chip Henderson, Darrin Ledford and Erskine Oglesby. Phil Noblett, Deputy City Attorney, and Nicole Gwyn, Council Clerk, were also present. Council Chairman Jerry Mitchell and Councilwoman Demetrus Coonrod were not present this meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Ledford led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. After which, he shared his thoughts on Easter, read John 11:26 of the Bible and gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Gilbert and seconded by Councilman Henderson, the minutes of the last meeting (March 20, 2018) were approved as published.

PUBLIC HEARING: PLANNING

Vice-Chairman Smith called for a hearing on the following and instructed the Clerk to read the Planning Version of the proposed ordinance.

An ordinance to amend Chattanooga City Code, Part II, Chapter 38, Zoning Ordinance, Article XVI, Downtown Chattanooga Form-Based Code, relative to recommended improvements based on a one (1) year review. (Planning Version)

An ordinance to amend Chattanooga City Code, Part II, Chapter 38, Zoning Ordinance, Article XVI, Downtown Chattanooga Form-Based Code, relative to recommended improvements based on a one (1) year review. (Staff Version)

Vice-Chairman Smith inquired for a show of hands of everyone wishing to speak on this item. He informed the Assembly that each speaker would receive five (5) minutes to address the Council. He then recognized the following individuals on this planning item:

- Farron Kilburn (North Shore/District 2) She represented the Baker Hilltop Neighborhood Association in District 2. They oppose changes in the ordinance regarding permits and variances. They also oppose taking away the requirement of a landscape buffers and community meetings. She believes in a public process should be implemented when code is being changed. Large parking lots with no buffer zones is a poor urban design. Residents should not be required to bear the burden and cost of putting up buffers while developers expand their parking lots.
 - Councilman Henderson confirmed with Ms. Kilburn that her association opposes any change in legislation that would remove the requirement for community meetings. He also confirmed with Ms. Kilburn that the association would support not having community meetings for the permitting process, but not variances. Her association supports community meetings for variances to the zone, which aligns with her understanding of the Regional Planning's recommendation.
 - Ms. Kilburn returned later, at the request of Councilman Henderson, to clarify that she does not want the code to change regarding community meetings. She later also clarified that her association opposes changes to the buffer zone between residential attached and other protected zones.
- James Havron (District 1) He represented the Hill City Neighborhood Association. They
 oppose taking away the community meeting requirement for development. His association
 has a resolution supporting neighborhood association meetings in all due respect. He
 does not believe asking developers to donate 10-15 minutes of their time by attending a
 neighborhood association meeting to let a neighborhood know what they have in mind.
 - Councilman Henderson confirmed with Ms. Havron that he does not want any change. They want community meetings for both the permitting and variance process, even though the developer may be fully permitted.
 - Councilman Ledford also confirmed that Mr. Havron wanted no changes to current FBC in regards to neighborhood meetings.
- Williams Torbett (Chattanooga) He is a homeowner who wants to keep the requirement for developers to attend neighborhood meetings. He gave an example of an R-1 property rezoned to ERM-3 in his neighborhood that happened without the adjoining neighborhood being noticed. He said no notice was put on the loss because only the boundary is noticed. He mentioned a planning item on tonight's agenda regarding rezoning for a 3-story, 25-unit apartment building. He indicated that he has had a hard time getting the developer to tell him anything about it. He believes FBC should be left as is, no changes. He later returned to state that he believes there should be more communication with developers and additional requirements for community meetings regarding development in residential areas.
- Anita Polk-Conley (District 8) She represented the MLK Neighborhood Association in asking the Council to leave Form-Based Code as it is, with no change, especially since people are still learning about the problems and things that can change with Form-Based Code. Her association opposes removing the neighborhood review in the code. She spoke on how developers could communicate and work with neighborhood associations. One such project happening on MLK now involved the developer coming to the neighborhood; her neighborhood is pleased with the changes coming up in that project, as a result of the developer listening to the neighborhood. She also mentioned her association also had issues with parking now that so much of the street parking is shared with UTC. She noted that her neighborhood is impacted negatively and positively by Form-Based Code.

- Amanda (N. Shore) She believes that the benefit of government relies on those who live in the community and those making the decisions for the community. She believes there is a "give and take" between parties. She believes the proposed changes to FBC would take away some of that "give and take" process. Community meetings encourage a give and take between both parties on the front end. She asked the Council to take into account that most developers do not live in the FBC areas where they have projects, and are not negatively impacted by these proposed changes.
- **Christopher Dahl (Highland Park)** He opposes the ordinance because he believes it will hinder public participation. He noted that a developer is now over the Planning Commission. He believes that more taxpayer dollars are going to developers. He believes public participation is in the best interest of taxpayers. He opposes the buffer zone and asks that the Council make no changes to the Form-Based Code.
 - Mr. Dahl later clarified for Councilman Henderson that he opposes the changes due to adverse environmental effects.
 - Councilman Ledford confirmed that Mr. Dahl wants no changes to the current Form-Based Code and that he is against changes to the buffer zone and perimeter planting. Mr. Dahl would like to see more public participation and input in Form-Based Code.
 - Councilwoman Berz asked for a show of hands of anyone present in the Assembly who was "for" the proposed changes to current Form-Based Code. Seeing none, she repeated the chief trends spoken among those in opposition: community meetings, buffer zone, parking and street elevation.
- Joe Collier (Hamilton Avenue) He opposes the ordinance because he wants citizens to have an ability to voice concerns to developers in neighborhood meetings. He believes that community meetings ensure all parties concerned get to voice their opinions. He also voiced concerns about mixed use, commercial and 4-story buildings being allowed and, therefore, increasing traffic in residential areas.
 - Councilwoman Berz confirmed that Mr. Collier would like for the Council to make no changes to Form-Based Code.
- Matt McClanahan (North Shore/District 2) He is with Baker Hilltop as well. He emphasized keeping the buffer zone. He also noted that this week is spring break for many, so many in his own neighborhood were unable to attend. He asks the Council not to make the proposed changes to Form-Based Code.
 - Councilwoman Berz confirmed with Mr. McClanahan Baker Hilltop residents that they do not want any changes to the FBC.
- Rick Carpenter (East Brainerd/District 4) He is concerned with enforcement of current zoning regulations. He does not believe developers paying fines is enough for enforcement. He does not want to see the proposed changes made to Form-Based Code until there is stronger enforcement. He informed the Council about a developer that caused a fire in his community on Thanksgiving morning. He believes water contamination, for instance, is a greater issue affecting the city.
 - Councilman Ledford confirmed that Mr. Carpenter does not wish to see the proposed changes to the Form-Based Code.

Councilman Henderson thanked everyone who spoke, especially all the neighborhood associations that came to address the Council. He informed the Assembly that the Council decided to defer the vote until April 17, 2018. He informed the Assembly that there are 36

changes being proposed to the Form-Based Code, with 12 items being administrative clarifications only. He reiterated the main points of opposition being no changes in community meetings, no changes in buffering and parking lots, and parking in general.

Seeing no further speakers on this matter, Vice-Chairman Smith closed the hearing at 6:40 p.m. and moved into the regular agenda.

ORDINANCES – FINAL READING:

<u>MR-2018-019</u> <u>International Board of Jewish Missions, Inc.</u> <u>c/o Edward Frampton</u> <u>District No. 3</u>

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilman Oglesby,

ORDINANCE #13291

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING A PORTION OF THE 5100 BLOCK OF GENESIS LANE TO ALLOW FOR CREATION OF GREEN SPACE AND PARKING, AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAP, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

ACTION: APPROVED

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

<u>2018-028</u> <u>SE First Holding, LLC</u> <u>Planning Version</u> District No. 2

Agenda Item VI(a):

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 713 HAMILTON AVENUE, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN, FROM E-RM-3 URBAN EDGE RESIDENTIAL MULTI-UNIT 3 STORIES MAXIMUM HEIGHT TO E-CX-3 URBAN EDGE COMMERCIAL MIXED USE 3 STORIES MAXIMUM HEIGHT.

Councilman Henderson informed the Assembly that this was an item in Chairman Mitchell's district. He noted that he had been included in correspondence with the developer, who has requested to withdraw. Therefore, **Councilman Henderson moved** to withdraw, seconded by Councilman Ledford. The motion carried.

ACTION: WITHDRAWN

Agenda item VI(b):

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1700 DODDS AVENUE, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN, FROM R-2 RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO UGC URBAN GENERAL COMMERCIAL ZONE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

Councilman Henderson noted that this item was in Councilwoman Coonrod's district and that, due to the passing of her mother, a deferral might be in order since she was not present today. Vice-Chairman Smith confirmed with John Bridger, Executive Director of Regional Planning, that there would be any issue caused by deferring this matter. The Applicant was present and agreed with Mr. Bridger.

Councilman Henderson moved to defer one (1) week to April 3, 2018. He was seconded by Councilman Ledford. The motion carried.

ACTION: DEFERRED UNTIL APRIL 3, 2018

<u>MR-2017-123</u> <u>C. Barton Crattie/Niles Surveying</u> <u>District No. 2</u>

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilman Oglesby,

ORDINANCE #13292

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING A TEN (10') FOOT WIDE SEWER EASEMENT BEGINNING AT THE SOUTH LINE OF THE 1000 BLOCK OF FERNWAY ROAD THEN SOUTHWARDLY ONE HUNDRED FOUR AND ONE-TENTH (104.1') FEET, TAX MAP NO. 127H-G-001 AND 002, AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAP.

Donald Stone, Deputy Administrator for Public Works, and Stacy Richardson, Chief of Staff, indicated that they were not aware of opposition to this item in Chairman Mitchell's district. The motion carried.

ACTION: PASSED ON FIRST READING

<u>MR-2017-124</u> <u>C. Barton Crattie/Niles Surveying</u> <u>District No. 2</u>

ORDINANCE #13293

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING A FIVE (5') FOOT WIDE SEWER EASEMENT BEGINNING AT A POINT IN THE NORTHWEST LINE OF LOT 61, AMENDED PLAT OF LOTS 37 TO 64, INCLUDING BLOCK, DALLAS HEIGHTS, PLAT BOOK 15, PAGE 38, ROHC, THENCE SOUTHEASTWARDLY SOME ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX (156') FEET TO THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT, TAX MAP NO. 127H-F-055, AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAP, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

Noting that this is in Chairman Mitchell's district, **Councilman Ledford moved** to approve, seconded by Councilman Byrd. The motion carried.

ACTION: PASSED ON FIRST READING

<u>MR-2017-175</u> <u>PMS Properties</u> <u>District No. 6</u>

On motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Councilman Gilbert,

ORDINANCE #13294

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING A TWENTY (20') FOOT WIDE SEWER EASEMENT BEGINNING SIXTY-THREE (63') FEET WEST OF MANHOLE S138J760 THENCE NORTHWEST SOME FIFTY-ONE (51') FEET TO MANHOLE S138J766, TAX MAP NO. 138J-A-0013.02, AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAP, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

ACTION: PASSED ON FIRST READING

RESOLUTIONS:

On motion of Councilman Oglesby and seconded by Councilman Ledford,

RESOLUTION #29375

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO APPLY FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT THE 10-MINUTE WALK PLANNING GRANT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION IN COLLABORATION WITH THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,000.00.

On motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Councilman Byrd,

RESOLUTION #29376

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH RUSS BLAKELY AND ASSOCIATES, LLC TO PROVIDE BENEFIT ADVISOR AND OPEN ENROLLMENT SERVICES, VOLUNTARY BENEFITS, AND ACT AS AGENT OF RECORD FOR ALL BENEFIT OPTIONS AT NO COST BEGINNING APRIL 1, 2018, FOR A ONE (1) YEAR TERM WITH TWO (2) ONE (1) YEAR RENEWAL OPTIONS.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilwoman Berz,

RESOLUTION #29377

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY TO ENTER INTO A SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR INSURANCE BROKERAGE SERVICES, IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED, WITH ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC. FOR COMMERCIAL LIABILITY, AUTO INSURANCE, ATHLETIC LIABILITY, PUBLIC OFFICIAL BONDS, AND OTHER RISK SERVICES FOR A ONE (1) YEAR TERM WITH THREE (3) ADDITIONAL ONE (1) YEAR RENEWAL OPTIONS, UPON MUTUAL AGREEMENT, FOR AN ANNUAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$110,037.00.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilman Ledford,

RESOLUTION #29378

A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS OF SARAH HOPE AND JESS FRIEDOWITZ TO THE LIBRARY BOARD.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilman Ledford and seconded by Councilwoman Berz,

RESOLUTION #29379

A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE MAYOR'S RE-APPOINTMENTS OF DAN JACOBSON, WARREN BARNETT, PAUL COHN, AND THOMAS SNOW TO THE CHATTANOOGA METROPOLITAN AIRPORT AUTHORITY.

On motion of Councilman Gilbert and seconded by Councilman Ledford,

RESOLUTION #29380

A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS OF CYNTHIA COLEMAN AND JACKIE THOMAS AND THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF DAN MAYFIELD TO THE BEER AND WRECKER BOARD.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilman Oglesby and seconded by Councilman Byrd,

RESOLUTION #29381

A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE MAYOR'S RE-APPOINTMENT OF ETHAN COLLIER TO THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilman Oglesby and seconded by Councilman Byrd,

RESOLUTION #29382

A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE MAYOR'S RE-APPOINTMENTS OF JULIAN BELL AND DAVID DALTON TO THE CHATTANOOGA DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilman Ledford,

RESOLUTION #29383

A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS OF THALIA MICAH TO THE PASSENGER VEHICLES FOR HIRE BOARD FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilman Oglesby and seconded by Councilman Byrd,

RESOLUTION #29384

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR CIVIC ENGINEERING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATIVE TO CONTRACT NO. S-09-008-401, NORTH ST. ELMO STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT CEI SERVICES, FOR AN INCREASED AMOUNT OF \$109,775.00, FOR A REVISED CONTRACT AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$901,887.00.

On motion of Councilman Byrd and seconded by Councilwoman Berz,

RESOLUTION #29385

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT NO. M-17-006-201 TO TRI-STATE ROOFING CONTRACTORS OF CHATTANOOGA, TN, REPLACEMENT ROOFING SYSTEM FOR THE LINDSAY STREET BUILDING, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$42,625.00, WITH A CONTINGENCY AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$47,625.00.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Councilman Ledford,

RESOLUTION #29386

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO ACCEPT REIMBURSABLE FUNDS FOR THE RECYCLING REBATE GRANT FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION (TDEC), IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,211.00. ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Councilman Byrd,

RESOLUTION #29387

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SECOND PAYMENT OF FIVE PAYMENTS TO HAMILTON COUNTY GIS RELATIVE TO GIS ADDRESSING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 WITH FUTURE COMPENSATION TO BE NEGOTIATED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS AS NOTED IN THE CITY/COUNTY ADDRESSING MOU DATED MAY 19, 2006, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$68,100.00.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Councilman Byrd,

RESOLUTION #29388

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL FOR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE/STAY-ON-VOLUME BANK PROGRAM SERVICES FOR YEAR TWO (2) OF TWO (2) WITH (1) W.M. WHITAKER; (2) CDM SMITH; AND (3) STANTEC, TO ENTER INTO THREE (3) ONE (1) YEAR BLANKET CONTRACTS WITH THESE PROFESSIONAL FIRMS (2018-2019) FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ESTIMATED AT \$300,000.00 FOR AN ANNUAL TOTAL FOR ALL THREE (3) PROFESSIONAL FIRMS FOR USE BY ALL DEPARTMENTS.

On motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Councilman Ledford,

RESOLUTION #29389

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO ACCEPT REIMBURSABLE FUNDS FOR THE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH GRANT FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION (TDEC), IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,916.00.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilman Oglesby and seconded by Councilman Byrd,

RESOLUTION #29390

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ENTER INTO A PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT, PROJECT NO. T-18-001-806, WITH 1400 CHESTNUT, LLC, FOR 1400 CHESTNUT STREET APARTMENTS, LOCATED AT 1400 CHESTNUT STREET AND TO ACCEPT A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE COST OF FIVE (5) PEDESTRIAN LIGHT POLES, LUMINAIRES, CONDUITS, AND INSTALLATION, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,648.65.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilman Oglesby and seconded by Councilwoman Berz,

RESOLUTION #29391

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ENTER INTO A PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT, PROJECT NO. T-18-001-808, WITH WISE PROPERTIES-TN, LLC, FOR 1920 CHESTNUT STREET APARTMENTS, LOCATED AT 1920 CHESTNUT STREET AND TO ACCEPT A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE COST OF SIX (6) PEDESTRIAN LIGHT POLES, LUMINAIRES, CONDUITS, AND INSTALLATION, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,818.38.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Councilman Byrd,

RESOLUTION #29392

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO RENEW THE SERVICES AGREEMENT, IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED, WITH SENSYS AMERICA, INC. FOR THE TRAFFIC INFRACTION DETECTION AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM FOR ONE (1) YEAR.

On motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Councilman Byrd,

RESOLUTION #29393

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT THE CITIES SUPPORTING A STRONG PRENATAL TO AGE 3 AGENDA GRANT ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES TO STRENGTHEN SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES OF YOUNG CHILDREN AND IMPROVE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, FOR AN AMOUNT OF \$25,000.00.

ACTION: ADOPTED

PURCHASES:

Bonnie Woodward, Purchasing Director, briefed the Council on the following proposed purchases:

R165396 - Public Works

New Blanket Contract for Overhead Crane Maintenance and Repair Services-Waste Resources Division Lowest/Best Bidder: Konecranes 4638 Resource Drive, Chattanooga, TN 37416

PO532852 - Public Works

Increase of Authorized Expenditure on Blanket Contract for Bypass Pumping Equipment Rental -Waste Resources Division Lowest/Best Bidder: Xylem Dewatering Solutions, Inc. 402 Old Mill Road, Cartersville, GA 30120

PO543003 - Public Works

Blanket Contract Renewal for Titleist & FootJoy Golf Equipment-City Golf Courses-Parks Division Lowest/Best Bidder: Acushnet Company PO Box 532402, Charlotte, NC 28290

PO537275 - Police Dept.

Estimated \$90,000 Annually

Blanket Contract Renewal for Police Uniforms Lowest/Best Bidder: Summit Uniform Solutions, Inc. 2901 East Magnolia Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37914

PO546393 - Youth & Family Development

New Total Estimated \$60,000 Annually Increase of Authorized Expenditure on Blanket Contract for Kitchen Equipment Repair Services Lowest/Best Bidder: Mountain City Service, Inc. P.O. Box 300, Signal Mountain, TN 37377

Councilman Henderson moved to approve, seconded by Councilman Oglesby. The motion carried.

ACTION: ALL PURCHASES APPROVED

Estimated \$100,000 Annually

New Total Estimated \$310,000 Annually

Estimated \$75,000 Annually

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OTHER BUSINESS: (NONE)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget and Finance Committee Councilman Henderson (No report)

Economic and Community Development Committee Councilman Oglesby (No report)

Human Resources Committee (HR) Councilman Gilbert reported:

• The committee met today in open meeting for the HR Department report on benefits.

Planning and Zoning Committee Councilman Ledford reported:

• The committee will meet next week (April 3) after the 3:00 p.m. Agenda Session.

Public Safety Committee Councilman Byrd (No report)

Public Works and Transportation Committee Councilwoman Berz reported:

• The committee will meet next week after the Planning and Zoning Committee next week.

Youth and Family Development Committee (Councilwoman Coonrod not present)

Innovation Technology Committee Vice-Chairman Smith (No report)

RECOGNITION OF PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL (Non-Agenda Items)

Attorney Noblett read the rules of procedure for persons wishing to address the Council on nonagenda items. After which, Vice-Chairman Smith recognized the following persons:

• **Kirkland Robinson (Alton Park/District 7)** - He came in support of an Alton Park recycling business that has been in business for 35 years. He said there was a formal proposal to the City that could produce millions in growth for the business. He held up a proposal for display-purposes that he will submit to the Council through his Council representative to each councilperson, and indicated that the proposal was currently being revised. He questioned why there has not been a collective effort to ensure that this recycling business survives in the community since it will add to economic development in Alton Park. One of their goals is to hire people at higher wages. He believes the City of Chattanooga should help to ensure the growth of this recycling business. He discussed

one of the main points of resistance to the company's growth, but he ensured the Council about the business having people in place now to handle its proposed growth.

- Jeff Melvo (District 7) He reviewed the draft of the panhandling ordinance and asks that the Council give the community a chance to look at the ordinance. He saw democracy in action when homeowners were allowed to speak during the planning hearing earlier. He believes panhandlers need people representing their interests in the proposed ordinance. He discussed the part of the code regarding the 20-foot buffer zone and believes the code eliminates passive and aggressive panhandling throughout the entire downtown area. He believes this buffer will create a de facto ban on panhandling in a large part of the city. He believes it should not just be left to business owners, developers and "people with the loudest voices" to decide on this ordinance. He asks that the Council not put those most impacted by the ordinance in an impossible spot. Many of those most impacted do not have homes and are not able to come to express their opinions. He asked the Council to delay the ordinance to give members of the community a chance to bring their interests and thoughts to bear.
- Stratton Tingle (Chattanooga) He is Executive Director of Sound Core. He discussed his nonprofit's "Sidewalk Stages" initiative. He supports the part of the panhandling ordinance that states: "Panhandling shall not include the act of passively standing or sitting, performing music, or singing with a sign or other indication that a donation is being sought but without any vocal request other than a response to an inquiry by another person." He asks the Council to look at unintended consequences that could negatively impact those who are trying to do good for this city. He also invited the Council to the "Beats on the Boulevard" on this Saturday, March 31, where Sidewalk Stages will host auditions on M.L. King Boulevard. This is being brought in partnership with River City Company, the MLK Merchants Association and many other partners. There will be 50 budding street performers on eight sidewalk "stages" from Noon - 8pm. He invited everyone to come and share in the "renaissance of Chattanooga music."
- **Cindy Deering (Chattanooga)** She hosts a radio show on 92.7 FM. She worked in Texas, helping homeless persons. She has dealt with bouts of homelessness early in life. Due to a domestic abuse situation, she was homeless in the summer of 2015, but was afraid of going to the Community Kitchen for help. She ate food from garbage cans, got very sick, but never panhandled. She eventually got hungry enough and sick enough to go to the Community Kitchen, where she got three free meals a day and free medical care over a 60-day period of homelessness. She met panhandlers while utilizing the services at the Community Kitchen, realizing the various issues that panhandlers have. She informed the Council of one particularly-aggressive panhandler whom she helped evidence against that led to legal action against one predator who was attacking homeless people. The predator got the much-needed help he needed while being held accountable for his actions. She saw what panhandling would produce, which is why she never did it. She spoke on people victimizing those in desperate need, such as panhandlers.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Henderson, Vice-Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting of the Chattanooga City Council until Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

CLERK OF COUNCIL