



Chattanooga City Council
City of Chattanooga, Tennessee
John P. Franklin, Sr. City Council Building

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 22, 2025
3:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chairwoman Jenny Hill called the business meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was present that also included Vice Chair Marvene Noel and Councilpersons Chip Henderson, Jeff Davis, Cody Harvey, Dennis Clark, Jenni Berz, and Raquetta Dotley. Councilman Ron Elliott arrived immediately after the call to order.

[Editor's Note: This meeting was live streamed on YouTube and included a brief recess. Parts of the meeting before the recess are [here](#) and parts after the recess are [here](#).]

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Mayor's Office: Kevin Roig; DCOS & Senior Advisor for Public Affairs

Office of City Attorney: Phil Noblett, City Attorney

Regional Planning: Karen Rennich, Deputy Administrator

Community Development: Nicole Heyman, Chief Housing Officer

Public Works: Jerramy Wood, Administrator

Economic Development: Richard Beeland; Administrator

Purchasing: Debbie Talley, Chief Procurement Officer

Council Office: Kristal Becker, Administrative Assistant, and Nicole Gwyn, Clerk to Council

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Clark led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and invited Pastor Marcellus Barnes of Grace Pointe Church to give the invocation.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

In memory of the two recently passed City of Chattanooga employees, Councilwoman Berz gave her thoughts, peace, and prayers to the families and staff and paused for a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley, the minutes of the last meeting (April 15, 2025) were approved as published.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

Agenda Item VIII(b) – Transportation – Case No. 2025-0001

Councilman Henderson asked Chairwoman Hill if this item was ready for a vote. Chairwoman stated that she was in favor of Alternate Version #2 and gave permission for Councilman Henderson to make a motion in favor of the Alternate Version #2 during the second half of the business meeting. Upon no further comments or questions from Council, the issue was closed.

Agenda item VIII(c) – Planning – Case No. 2025-0040

Councilwoman Berz started off by asking if anyone from the community would like to speak on this item. No one came forward. She informed the Council that she had spoken with the engineer on this item and would move to approve this item. She asked Ms. Rennich to come up to the podium to add conditions discussed at the planning meeting. Ms. Rennich agreed, and asked that Mr. Noblett also be included. Chairwoman Hill went over the process of making a motion to amend the item. Councilwoman Berz advised that once she received the amended version from Ms. Rennich, she would make the motion to amend. Upon no comments or questions from Council, the issue was closed.

PURCHASES

Chairwoman Hill asks Ms. Talley to speak about the rescinding of a previous approval for debt collection services. Ms. Talley addressed the council and clarified the need to rescind. Upon no comments or questions from Council, the issue was closed.

NEXT WEEK'S PROPOSED AGENDA (April 29, 2025)

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

Agenda item 8(a) – Transportation (Relative to Speed on Through Streets)

Councilman Henderson asked if the item was about lowering the speed limits on streets and Chairwoman Hill clarified that it referred to the streets on Cherokee Boulevard that were lowering speed limits. Upon no comments or questions from Council, the issue was closed.

COMMITTEE CANCELLATION

Councilman Davis, Parks & Public Works Committee Chair, announced that the Parks & Public Works Committee meeting scheduled for April 29, 2025, at 3:30 p.m. would be cancelled.

NEXT WEEK'S PROPOSED AGENDA (April 29, 2025)

RESOLUTIONS

Agenda item 9(f) – Transportation (Relative to ROW acquisition services)

Councilman Henderson expressed curiosity about the need for the ROW acquisition. Chairwoman Hill then requested that Mr. Wood address the council of the need for the purchase and the analysis process. Councilman Clark requested further clarification on the request and the increase in the amount. Mr. Wood answered the questions that the council asked. Upon no comments or questions from Council, the issue was closed.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS:

Agenda item 1(a) – Economic Development (Relative to Housing & Community investment)

Councilman Clark asked how to access additional information on this item. Chairwoman Hill discussed the "Future Considerations" process and how the Council could request additional information. Chairwoman Hill asked Mr. Beeland to address Councilman Clark's questions. Mr. Beeland addressed the Council and stated that he would send the link to the Council to review. Upon no further comments or questions from Council, the issue was closed.

Agenda item 1(b) – Economic Development (Relative to Resolution approving Fiscal 2025-2026-year Community Development grant)

Councilwoman Dotley, Affordable Housing committee chair, made a request to add an Affordable Housing Committee meeting to the agenda during the April 29, 2025, to address the Economic Development items with the Housing team. Upon no further comments or questions from Council, the issue was closed.

PROCEDURAL NOTE: Chairwoman Hill opened the floor to Council to discuss any other items or issues during this time. Vice Chair Noel recognized the contributions that Councilman Henderson made to the Council during his tenure as Chairman. Upon no further comments or questions from the Council, the issue was closed.

MEETING RECESS

At 3:43 p.m., Chairwoman Hill recessed the business meeting until 4:30 p.m.

MEETING RECONVENED

Chairwoman Hill reconvened the business meeting at 4:30 p.m., with a quorum of all nine councilmembers present. Attorney Noblett and Ms. Gwyn were also present.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ORDINANCES – FINAL READING:

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley,

ORDINANCE #14223

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 11, SECTION 11-456, DEFINITIONS, QUALIFIED SMALL BUSINESS.

The motion carried.

ACTION: APPROVED

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley,

ORDINANCE #14224

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 16, ADDING SECTIONS 16-30 THROUGH 16-34, RELATING TO EMERGENCY POWERS OF THE CHATTANOOGA FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The motion carried.

ACTION: PASSED ON FIRST READING

MR-2025-0001

Clifton McCormick and Tracy Culver

Alternate Version #2

District No 2

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilwoman Berz,

ORDINANCE #14225

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING THE UNOPENED RIGHT-OF-WAY IN THE 700 BLOCK OF WOODLAND AVENUE, AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAPS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

Chairwoman Hill made comments [view [here](#)] about the conservation easement in this Alternate Version #2. The motion carried.

**ACTION: ALTERNATE VERSION #2
PASSED ON FIRST READING**

2025-0040
N&R Properties
Planning Commission Version
District No. 6

ORDINANCE #14226

[View [here](#)]

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 7210 NOAH REID ROAD, FROM RN-1-6 RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE AND CN-T NEIGHBORHOOD TRANSITION COMMERCIAL ZONE TO RN-1-3 RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

Councilwoman Berz moved to approve with the intent to amend. Councilwoman Dotley seconded. Councilwoman Berz asked Attorney Noblett to read the amendment to add Condition #5: *"All outdoor lighting must be located and adequately shielded so there is no glare onto adjacent lots or onto the public right-of-way."*

Councilwoman Berz moved to amend with the language read by the Attorney. Councilman Elliott seconded. The motion carried. **Councilwoman Berz moved** to approve as amended. Councilman Elliott seconded. The motion carried. Councilman Clark affirmed with Councilwoman Berz that this rezoning will only affect the District 6 portion of Noah Reid Road.

ACTION: PASSED AS AMENDED ON FIRST READING

2025-0046
Jason Scott
Planning Commission Version
District No. 7

On motion of Councilwoman Dotley and seconded by Councilman Elliott,

ORDINANCE #14227

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5281 USHER DRIVE, FROM RN-1-5 RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE TO RN-2 RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE.

The motion carried.

ACTION: PASSED ON FIRST READING

RESOLUTIONS:

PROCEDURAL NOTE: With no objection from the Council, Chairwoman Hill instructed the Clerk to group and read the following two resolutions for one Council vote.

RESOLUTION #32473

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO ENTER INTO A DONATION AGREEMENT WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA, INC., IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED, FOR THE DONATION OF TAX MAP NO. 136E-F-020 AT 2211 DAVENPORT STREET, TAX MAP NO. 136E-G-025 AT 2117 DAVENPORT STREET, AND TAX MAP NO. 136E-G-027 AT 2113 DAVENPORT STREET, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING AND PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING, AND TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE QUITCLAIM CONVEYANCE.

RESOLUTION #32474

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO AWARD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DISASTER RELIEF (CDBG-DR) FUNDS OF UP TO \$511,000.00 TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA TO CONSTRUCT HOMES FOR AFFORDABLE HOMEOWNERSHIP, AND UP TO \$70,000.00 TO CHATTANOOGA COMMUNITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION TO REPLACE DETERIORATED/DAMAGED ROOFS ON OWNER-OCCUPIED HOMES OF LOW TO MODERATE INCOME HOUSEHOLDS, AND UP TO \$140,031.00 FOR GRANT ADMINISTRATION.

Councilman Elliott moved to approve both resolutions. Councilwoman Dotley seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32473 & 32474 ADOPTED

PROCEDURAL NOTE: With no objection from the Council, Chairwoman Hill instructed the Clerk to group and read the following two resolutions for one Council vote.

RESOLUTION #32475

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO ERECT COMMEMORATIVE SECONDARY STREET NAME SIGNS ON W. 38TH STREET FROM CENTRAL AVENUE TO ALTON PARK BOULEVARD, DESIGNATING SAID PORTIONS ON W. 38TH STREET AS “MRS. ERMA R. CHOICE COMMEMORATIVE STREET”.

RESOLUTION #32476

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO ENTER INTO A FOUR (4) YEAR CONTRACT FOR THE ON-CALL BLANKET CONTRACT NO. E-25-002-301 FOR THE CONTINUING GEOENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING, CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TESTING, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES WITH (1) ECS SOUTHEAST, LLC; (2) HDR ENGINEERING, INC.; (3) LABELLA ASSOCIATES, P.C.; (4) S&ME, INC.; AND (5) TERRACON CONSULTANTS, INC., IN THE SERVICES CATEGORIES APPLIED, FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ESTIMATED AT \$2,250,000.00 ANNUALLY.

Councilwoman Dotley moved to approve both resolutions. Councilman Elliott seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32475 & 32476 ADOPTED

PROCEDURAL NOTE: With no objection from the Council, Chairwoman Hill instructed the Clerk to group and read the following three resolutions for one Council vote.

RESOLUTION #32477

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF JACOB RUSS AS A SPECIAL COMMISSIONED POLICE OFFICER (UNARMED) FOR MCKAMEY ANIMAL SERVICES, TO PERFORM DUTIES EXPRESSLY LIMITED TO THE PERFORMANCE OF THE DUTIES IN HIS POSITION AS ANIMAL PROTECTION OFFICER.

RESOLUTION #32478

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF JUSTIN BECKWITH AS A SPECIAL COMMISSIONED POLICE OFFICER (UNARMED) FOR MCKAMEY ANIMAL SERVICES, TO PERFORM DUTIES EXPRESSLY LIMITED TO THE PERFORMANCE OF THE DUTIES IN HIS POSITION AS ANIMAL PROTECTION OFFICER.

RESOLUTION #32479

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF BROOKLYN BONSKI AS A SPECIAL COMMISSIONED POLICE OFFICER (UNARMED) FOR MCKAMEY ANIMAL SERVICES, TO PERFORM DUTIES EXPRESSLY LIMITED TO THE PERFORMANCE OF THE DUTIES IN HER POSITION AS ANIMAL PROTECTION OFFICER.

Councilman Henderson moved to approve all three resolutions. Councilman Elliott seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32477 - 32479 ADOPTED

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Purchasing - Renewals

[View [here](#)]

Ms. Talley (Purchasing) presented the following to the Council and asked the Council to rescind the previous approval:

DEPARTMENT	ITEM DESCRIPTION	SUPPLIER LOWEST/BEST BIDDER	SUMMARY	FUND NAME	ANNUAL COST ESTIMATE	DOCUMENTATION LINK
Finance	Debt Collection Services	Nationwide Recovery Service 5655 Peachtree Parkway Suite 211 Norcross, GA 30092	Rescind Previous Approval		\$220,000.00	PO# 561159

Councilman Elliott moved to rescind approval for PO# 561159. **Councilwoman Dotley** seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: RESCIND PREVIOUS APPROVAL FOR PO# 561159

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Affordable Housing Committee

Councilwoman Dotley reported [view [here](#)]:

- The committee will meet next Tuesday, April 29, to hear about the 5-year consolidated plan and Community Development Block Grants.

Budget and Finance Committee

Councilwoman Dotley (No report)

Economic Development Committee

Councilman Elliott (No report)

Education Committee

Councilman Harvey (No report)

Equity and Community Development Committee

Councilman Clark (No report)

Legislative Committee

Vice Chair Noel (No report)

Planning and Zoning Committee

Councilwoman Berz (No report)

Parks and Public Works Committee

Councilman Davis reported [View [here](#)]:

- The April 29th committee meeting will be cancelled.
- The committee will move from recurring biweekly meetings to meeting only on an “as needed” basis.

Public Safety Committee

Councilman Henderson (No report)

RECOGNITION OF PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

[View [here](#)]

Attorney Noblett read the rules of procedure for persons wishing to address the Council. After which, Chairwoman Hill recognized the following:

Speaker Name	District	YouTube Links to Comments
• Josh Branum (GCAR)	8	March Housing Market Data [View here]

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilman Clark requested to meet after this meeting with Administration staff on behalf of a constituent.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Davis, Chairwoman Hill adjourned the meeting of the Chattanooga City Council until next Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 3:30 p.m.

COUNCIL CHAIR

CLERK OF COUNCIL