

ORDINANCE NO. 14271

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 14239, ALSO KNOWN AS “THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 OPERATIONS BUDGET,” FOR THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA. FIXING THE RATE OF TAXATION ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTIES IN THE CITY; AMEND ESTIMATED GENERAL FUND REVENUE; AMEND SECTIONS 5 AND 5(A) SO AS TO APPROPRIATE THE SAME FROM GENERAL FUND; AMEND SECTION 7(A) TO REVISE PROVISION FOR SWORN EMPLOYEES; AMEND SECTION 7(E) TO ADJUST AUTHORIZED POSITIONS; AND TO AMEND FIRE AND POLICE PAY PLANS.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, that Ordinance No. 14239 be amended as follows:

WHEREAS, the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee, has determined that an increase in property tax revenue is necessary to adequately fund the essential services and obligations of Chattanooga for the upcoming fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Tax Rate for Chattanooga for the current year is \$1.55 per \$100 of assessed valuation; and

WHEREAS, the City has advertised its intent to exceed the certified tax rate in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, in accordance with Tennessee state law, including, but not limited to, T.C.A. § 67-5-1702 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was duly held on August 19, 2025, to receive public comments on the proposed tax rate; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Chattanooga, Tennessee,
as follows:

SECTION 1. Pursuant to and in compliance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee, revenues have been amended for operating the Municipal Government for the fiscal year 2025-2026 as follows:

	Substitute in Lieu	
	<u>Delete</u>	<u>Thereof</u>
PROPERTY TAXES		
Current Taxes on Real & Personal Property	\$176,817,000	\$221,703,000
 SUBTOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE	 345,210,000	 390,096,000
GOLF COURSE REVENUE	2,880,647	2,880,647
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE	348,090,647	392,976,647

SECTION 2. That Section 1 of said Ordinance be replaced in its entirety with;
That for the purpose of raising revenue to operate the various departments, agencies, boards, commissions, offices, divisions or branches of the Municipal Government, and to pay the interest on and retire bonds of said City as they mature, there be and is hereby levied upon all taxable property within the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee, a tax for the year 2025 at a rate of \$1.93 upon every \$100.00 in assessed value of such taxable property; and to the extent applicable there is also levied a tax at the same rate upon every \$100.00 of Merchant and other Ad Valorem within the corporate limits of the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

SECTION 3. That Section 5 of said Ordinance related to General Fund Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 be amended as follows:

GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS

		Substitute in Lieu
	<u>Delete</u>	<u>Thereof</u>
General Government & Supported Agencies	\$81,726,689	\$92,109,778
Executive Department	9,546,305	10,046,305
Department of Finance & Administration	8,090,167	8,090,167
Department of Human Resources	3,005,659	3,005,659
Department of Community Development	11,053,231	11,303,231
Department of Police	89,011,816	98,501,386
Department of Fire	63,138,391	80,351,344
Department of Public Works	49,936,827	51,687,215
Department of Parks & Outdoors	16,820,975	16,820,975
Department of Early Learning	3,344,191	3,344,191
Department of City Planning	619,699	619,699
Department of Community Engagement	1,922,876	1,922,876
Department of Economic Development	6,993,174	12,293,174
SUBTOTAL	\$345,210,000	\$390,096,000
 Golf Course	 \$2,880,647	 \$2,880,647
 TOTAL GENERAL FUND	 \$348,090,647	 \$392,976,647
 Estimated Incr(Decr) in Fund Balance	 \$0	 \$0
Beginning Unassigned Fund Balance July 1	\$111,288,498	\$111,288,498
Ending Unassigned Fund Balance June 30	\$111,288,498	\$111,288,498
Ending Unassigned Fund Balance (% of Revenue)	31.97%	28.32%
Ending Unassigned Fund Balance (% of Total Approp.)	31.97%	28.32%

	Substitute in Lieu	
	<u>Delete</u>	<u>Thereof</u>
DEPARTMENT OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH	\$9,546,305	\$10,046,305
Community Safety and Gun Violence Prevention	\$982,414	\$1,482,414
 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	 \$11,053,231	 \$11,303,231
Community Centers Administration	\$751,007	\$1,001,007
 DEPARTMENT OF POLICE	 \$89,011,816	 \$98,501,386
Neighborhood Policing	\$29,993,965	\$39,376,399
Police Technology	2,511,755	2,618,891
 DEPARTMENT OF FIRE	 \$63,138,391	 \$80,351,344
Fire Administration	\$8,501,700	\$8,670,176
Fire Operations	54,636,691	71,681,168
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS	 \$49,936,827	 \$51,687,215
City Engineering	\$2,043,535	\$2,241,127
Downtown Campuses Building Maintenance	2,066,244	2,246,380
SM Street Cleaning Crews	1,170,918	1,570,918
SM Mowing Tractors and Leaf Collection	1,468,015	1,740,675
DRP Code Enforcement	2,409,745	2,609,745
Traffic Operations	250,410	750,410
 DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	 \$6,993,174	 \$12,293,174
Administration	\$2,619,559	\$3,919,559
Economic Development	1,356,943	5,356,943

SECTION 4. That section 5(a) of said Ordinance related to General Government and Supported Agencies Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 be amended as follows:

	<u>Delete</u>	Substitute in Lieu <u>Thereof</u>
General Government & Supported Agencies	\$81,726,689	\$92,109,778
Technology Services	\$17,343,334	\$18,370,148
Purpose Point Learning AcademyA.O.	0	150,000
Capital Improvements	0	13,350,000
Contingency Fund Appropriation	950,156	1,806,431
Earnest Money for Sworn Fire & Police Comp	5,000,000	0

SECTION 5. That section 7(a) of said Ordinance related to Increase in Base Pay for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 be amended as follows:

Remove “This ordinance excludes increases for sworn employees at this time.”

Replace “Sworn increases are in accordance with the updated Fire and Police pay plans.

SECTION 6. That section 7(e) of said Ordinance related to Authorized positions for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 be amended as follows:

	Delete	Add
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL GOVERNMENT	145	147
Technology Services Department	139	141
GG IS Smart Cities	6	8
Transportation Management System Lead	0	1
Transportation Management System Coordinator	0	1
 DEPARTMENT OF POLICE	 603	 604

	Delete	Add
SWORN	477	478
Police Officer	269	270
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE	447	463
SWORN	431	447
Deputy Fire Chief	1	2
Fire Captain	78	81
Fire Lieutenant	78	81
Firefighter	78	81
Senior Firefighter	156	162
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS	292	300
SM Mowing Tractors and Leaf Collection	7	11
City Laborer	0	4
City Engineering	15	17
Construction Supervisor	0	1
Construction Inspector 1	0	1
Downtown Campuses Building Maintenance	19	21
Building Maint Mechanic 3	0	2
GENERAL FUND	1,996	2,023
NON-GENERAL FUND	611	611
GRAND TOTAL	2,607	2,634

SECTION 7. Replace the Fire and Police Pay Plan in its entirety as follows:

CITY OF CHATTANOOGA																
FIRE PAY STRUCTURE –FY26																
	Rank	Grade	Entry	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Year 14
	Step # For Reference		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Cadet	FD.0C	\$50,421.30													
	Firefighter	FD.1A	\$55,967.64	\$57,646.67	\$59,376.07	\$61,157.35	\$62,992.07	\$64,881.84	\$65,855.06	\$66,842.89	\$67,845.53	\$68,863.22	\$69,896.17	\$70,944.61	\$72,008.78	\$73,088.91
	Staff Firefighter*	FD.1C	\$59,967.64	\$61,646.67	\$63,376.07	\$65,157.35	\$66,992.07	\$68,881.84	\$69,855.06	\$70,842.89	\$71,845.53	\$72,863.22	\$73,896.17	\$74,944.61	\$76,008.78	\$77,088.91
	Senior Firefighter	FD.2A		\$64,719.92	\$66,661.52	\$68,661.36	\$70,721.20	\$71,782.02	\$72,858.75	\$73,951.63	\$75,060.91	\$76,186.82	\$77,329.62	\$78,489.57	\$79,666.91	
	Staff Senior Firefighter*	FD.2C		\$68,719.92	\$70,661.52	\$72,661.36	\$74,721.20	\$75,782.02	\$76,858.75	\$77,951.63	\$79,060.91	\$80,186.82	\$81,329.62	\$82,489.57	\$83,666.91	
	Lieutenant	FD.3A					\$77,086.11	\$78,242.40	\$79,416.04	\$80,607.28	\$81,816.39	\$83,043.63	\$84,289.29	\$85,553.63	\$86,836.93	
	Staff Lieutenant*	FD.3C					\$81,086.11	\$82,242.40	\$83,416.04	\$84,607.28	\$85,816.39	\$87,043.63	\$88,289.29	\$89,553.63	\$90,836.93	
	Captain	FD.4A									\$89,179.86	\$90,517.56	\$91,875.32	\$93,253.45	\$94,652.26	
	Staff Captain*	FD.4C									\$93,179.86	\$94,517.56	\$95,875.32	\$97,253.45	\$98,652.26	
	Battalion Chief/Staff Chief	FD.5A												\$100,144.10	\$101,646.27	\$103,170.96
	Assistant Chief	FD.6C												\$109,157.07	\$110,794.43	\$112,456.35
CITY OF CHATTANOOGA																
FIRE PAY STRUCTURE –FY26																
	Rank	Grade	Year 15	Year 16	Year 17	Year 18	Year 19	Year 20	Year 21	Year 22	Year 23	Year 24	Year 25	Year 26	Year 27	Year 28
	Step # For Reference		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Cadet	FD.0C														
	Firefighter	FD.1A	\$74,185.24	\$75,298.02	\$76,427.49	\$77,573.90	\$78,737.51	\$79,918.57								
	Staff Firefighter*	FD.1C	\$78,185.24	\$79,298.02	\$80,427.49	\$81,573.90	\$82,737.51	\$83,918.57								
	Senior Firefighter	FD.2A	\$80,861.91	\$82,074.84	\$83,305.97	\$84,555.55	\$85,823.89	\$87,111.25	\$88,417.91	\$89,744.18	\$91,090.35	\$92,456.70				
	Staff Senior Firefighter*	FD.2C	\$84,861.91	\$86,074.84	\$87,305.97	\$88,555.55	\$89,823.89	\$91,111.25	\$92,417.91	\$93,744.18	\$95,090.35	\$96,456.70				
	Lieutenant	FD.3A	\$88,139.49	\$89,461.58	\$90,803.50	\$92,165.55	\$93,548.04	\$94,951.26	\$96,375.53	\$97,821.16	\$99,288.48	\$100,777.80	\$102,289.47	\$103,823.81		
	Staff Lieutenant*	FD.3C	\$92,139.49	\$93,461.58	\$94,803.50	\$96,165.55	\$97,548.04	\$98,951.26	\$100,375.53	\$101,821.16	\$103,288.48	\$104,777.80	\$106,289.47	\$107,823.81		
	Captain	FD.4A	\$96,072.04	\$97,513.12	\$98,975.82	\$100,460.45	\$101,967.36	\$103,496.87	\$105,049.32	\$106,625.06	\$108,224.44	\$109,847.81	\$111,495.52	\$113,167.96	\$114,865.48	\$116,588.46
	Staff Captain*	FD.4C	\$100,072.04	\$101,513.12	\$102,975.82	\$104,460.45	\$105,967.36	\$107,496.87	\$109,049.32	\$110,625.06	\$112,224.44	\$113,847.81	\$115,495.52	\$117,167.96	\$118,865.48	\$120,588.46
	Battalion Chief/Staff Chief	FD.5A	\$104,718.52	\$106,289.30	\$107,883.64	\$109,501.90	\$111,144.42	\$112,811.59	\$114,503.76	\$116,221.32	\$117,964.64	\$119,734.11	\$121,530.12	\$123,353.07	\$125,203.37	\$127,081.42
	Assistant Chief	FD.6C	\$114,143.19	\$115,855.34	\$117,593.17	\$119,357.07	\$121,147.42	\$122,964.63	\$124,809.10	\$126,681.24	\$128,581.46	\$130,510.18	\$132,467.83	\$134,454.85	\$136,471.67	\$138,518.75

SECTION 8. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That this Ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage as provided by law.

PASSED on Second and Final Reading: September 9, 2025

CHAIRPERSON

APPROVED:_____ DISAPPROVED: _____

MAYOR