



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

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 5, 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 joined the quorum at 3:43 p.m.

[Editor's Note: This was a recessed meeting and live streamed on YouTube. View [here](#) prior to the recess and [here](#) after the recess.]

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Mayor's Office: Tim Kelly, Mayor; Kevin Roig, Chief of Staff; and Steve Wilson, Deputy Chief Operating Officer

Finance: Weston Porter, Chief Financial Officer

Office of City Attorney: Phil Noblett, City Attorney

Regional Planning: Karen Rennich, Interim Administrator

Purchasing: Daniel Harrigan, Deputy Chief Procurement Officer

Council Office: Melissa Bardoner, Council Support Specialist, and Nicole Gwyn, Clerk to Council

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Henderson led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave an invocation.

APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES

On motion of Vice Chair Noel and seconded by Councilman Davis, the minutes of the last meeting (July 29, 2025) were approved as published.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

Agenda Item VIII(a) – Public Works – Case No. MR-2025-0066

Chairwoman Hill advised that the alternate version of this ordinance would be read by the clerk when it came time for a vote. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

RESOLUTIONS:

Agenda Item IX(a) – Finance (Relative to Senior Tax Freeze Program)

Chairwoman Hill advised that Councilman Elliott intended to bring forth a text amendment for this item. Attorney Noblett affirmed and offered some additional information. Councilwoman Berz stated her co-sponsorship of & support for this item. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item IX(b) – Mayor’s Office (Relative to confirming the appointment of Fire Chief)

Councilwoman Dotley and Vice Chair Noel each made a statement before advising the rest of the Council of their intent to abstain from voting on this item. Councilman Clark also spoke but stated his intent to vote in the affirmative when the time came. Afterwards, discussion ensued involving several members of the Council, as well as Mayor Kelly and Mr. Wilson from the Mayor’s Office. The statements and ensuing discussion may be viewed [here](#) in their entirety. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

[Councilman Elliott arrived during the above discussion.]

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mayor Kelly addressed the Council regarding the Fire Chief selection process, as well as the comments made during last week’s Budget Work Session [on July 29, 2025]. Mayor Kelly’s address may be viewed [here](#).

Councilman Elliott recognized the members of the audience there in support of the Senior Tax Freeze resolution and thanked them for coming.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

PROCEDURAL NOTE: Chairwoman Hill yielded control of the meeting to Councilwoman Berz for the Planning & Zoning Committee. [View the committee [here](#).]

CALL TO ORDER: Councilwoman Berz, Committee Chair, called the Planning & Zoning Committee to order at 3:53 p.m., with a quorum of all nine councilpersons present.

MINUTE APPROVAL: On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley, the minutes of the last Planning & Zoning Committee meeting (July 1, 2025) were approved as published.

Next Tuesday, August 12, 2025

Ordinances – First Reading:

Agenda Item 8(a) – Case No. 2025-0099

Ms. Rennich briefed the Council on this item. Chairwoman Hill requested clarification on the previous conditions for this item; Ms. Rennich responded. The presentation and ensuing discussion may be viewed [here](#). Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(b) – Case No. 2025-0109

Ms. Rennich notified the Council that the address for this item had been corrected; Attorney Noblett affirmed. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(c) – Case No. 2025-0054

Ms. Rennich briefed the Council on this item; discussion ensued. The presentation and ensuing discussion may be viewed [here](#). Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(d) – Case No. 2025-0112

Ms. Rennich briefed the Council on this item; discussion ensued. The presentation and ensuing discussion may be viewed [here](#). Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(e) – Case No. 2025-0089

Ms. Rennich briefed the Council on this item at Councilwoman Berz's request [view presentation [here](#)]. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(g) – Case No. 2025-0111

Ms. Rennich briefed the Council on this item. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(h) – Case No. 2025-0105

Ms. Rennich briefed the Council on this item. Afterwards, Councilwoman Dotley offered some additional information regarding this item. The presentation and ensuing discussion may be viewed [here](#). Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(i) – Regarding corrections to the Official Zoning Map

Ms. Rennich briefed the Council on this item; afterwards, discussion ensued. The presentation and ensuing discussion may be viewed [here](#). Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Berz reminded those present that the Planning Commission would be meeting on Monday, August 11, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. [at the Hamilton County Courthouse, 625 Georgia Avenue] if anyone wished to attend.

MEETING RECESS

Councilwoman Berz adjourned the Planning & Zoning Committee at 4:22 p.m. and recessed the business meeting until 5:00 p.m.

MEETING RECONVENED

Chairwoman Hill reconvened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. A quorum as present that also included Vice Chair Noel and Councilpersons Henderson, Davis, Harvey, Berz, Dotley, and Elliott. Councilman Clark joined the meeting a few minutes after the call to order. Attorney Noblett and Ms. Gwyn were also present.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ORDINANCES – FINAL READING: (NONE)

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

MR-2025-0066

Sam Koebley c/o Koesten Development Company LLC

Alternate Version

District No. 2

On motion of Vice Chair Noel and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley,

ORDINANCE #14261

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING THE UNOPENED RIGHT-OF-WAY IN THE 200 BLOCK OF TREMONT STREET, AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAPS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

The motion carried.

ACTION: ALTERNATE VERSION PASSED ON FIRST READING

MR-2025-0079

Wendy Elliot

Planning Version #2

District No. 2

On motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Vice Chair Noel,

ORDINANCE #14262

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING THE UNOPENED RIGHT-OF-WAY IN THE UNIT BLOCK OF CHAMBLISS STREET, AS SHOWN ON THE ATTACHED MAPS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

The motion carried.

ACTION: PASSED ON FIRST READING

RESOLUTIONS:

On motion of Councilman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley,

RESOLUTION #32598

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE TO UTILIZE THE NEW SENIOR TAX FREEZE AMOUNTS SET FORTH IN TENN. CODE ANN. SECTION 67-5-705(F)(3)(A)(III), WITH AN INCOME LIMIT OF \$60,000.00 ON ALL APPLICATIONS FOR THE SENIOR TAX FREEZE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED AT CITY CODE SECTION 2-111 IN THE FORM ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT 1.

Councilman Elliott moved to amend to reopen applications to be accepted until September 12, 205. Councilwoman Dotley seconded. Discussion ensued with Mr. Porter (Finance) and Attorney Noblett about the application requirements under Tennessee Code and the date when the rate would be frozen [full discussion available [here](#)]. Based upon the discussion with Mr. Porter, Councilman Elliot withdrew his amendment. The main motion carried.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilman Harvey,

RESOLUTION #32599

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY'S APPOINTMENT OF TERRY KNOWLES AS FIRE CHIEF.

The motion carried, **with Vice Chair Noel and Councilwoman Berz abstaining**. Chief Knowles addressed the Council upon his confirmation [view [here](#)].

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Vice Chair Noel and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley,

RESOLUTION #32600

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY'S APPOINTMENT OF AI'MANUEL DOUGLAS TO THE CHATTANOOGA DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD, FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON AUGUST 6, 2025, AND ENDING ON AUGUST 5, 2028.

The motion carried.

ACTION: 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 #32601

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A PROPOSAL WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR PIN #129839.00, U.S. 41 FROM WAUHATCHIE PIKE/BROWNS FERRY ROAD TO NEAR SR-17 IN CHATTANOOGA ROUTE SR-2.

RESOLUTION #32602

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A PROPOSAL WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR PIN #125387.00, AT LMS 4.6 AND 5.1 IN CHATTANOOGA (ROCKFALL MITIGATION) ROUTE SR-2.

RESOLUTION #32603

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A PROPOSAL WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR PIN #125259.00, AT LM 3.8 (ROCKFALL MITIGATION) ROUTE SR-148.

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

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32601 – 32603 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 #32604

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO ERECT COMMEMORATIVE SECONDARY STREET NAME SIGNS ON CENTRAL AVENUE FROM E. 38TH STREET TO WORKMAN ROAD, DESIGNATING SUCH PORTIONS AS “MILTON L. JACKSON, SR. AVENUE”.

RESOLUTION #32605

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO ERECT COMMEMORATIVE SECONDARY STREET NAME SIGNS ON W. 45TH STREET FROM CENTRAL AVENUE TO OAKLAND AVENUE, DESIGNATING IT AS “FLORENCE HIGH AVENUE”.

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

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32604 & 32605 ADOPTED

On motion of Councilwoman Dotley and seconded by Councilman Davis,

RESOLUTION #32606

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FOUR (4) YEAR ON-CALL BLANKET CONTRACTS FOR PLAN PRODUCTION SERVICES, CONTRACT NO. W-24-026, WITH THE FOLLOWING FIRMS: (1) ANAERGIA; (2) C2RL ENGINEERING, INC.; (3) CONSOR ENGINEERS, LLC; (4) GRESHAM SMITH; (5) HDR, INC.; (6) JACOBS SOLUTIONS; (7) KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC.; (8) LJA ENGINEERING, INC.; (9) STANTEC, INC.; (10) SYMBIONT SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND CONSTRUCTION, INC.; (11) ARDURRA; (12) BARGE DESIGN SOLUTIONS, INC.; (13) BLACK & VEATCH CORPORATION; (14) CDM SMITH, INC.; (15) CLEAN METHANE SYSTEMS; (16) CROY ENGINEERING, LLC; (17) CTI AND ASSOCIATES, INC.; (18) GEOSYNTEC CONSULTANTS, INC.; (19) LAMAR DUNN & ASSOCIATES; (20) ORCHARD, HILTZ & MCCLIMENT, INC.; (21) RUMMEL, KLEPPER & KAHL, LLP; AND (22) TWM, INC., FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ESTIMATED AT \$1 MILLION ANNUALLY FOR ALL TWENTY-TWO (22) PROFESSIONAL FIRMS, FOR USE BY THE WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT.

The motion carried.

ACTION: ADOPTED

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

[View [Here](#)]

Recommended New Purchases

Mr. Harrigan (Purchasing) recommended the following new purchases for Council consideration:

PA100514 Purchasing Department/Finance \$170,000.00

Janitorial Cleaning Supplies

Lowest/Best Bidder: American Paper & Twine
2134 Amnicola Hwy
Chattanooga, TN 37406

PA100170 Human Resources \$1,450,000.00

Pharmacy Benefit Manager Services

Lowest/Best Bidder: Navitus Health Solutions
361 Integrity Drive
Madison, WI 53717

PA100705 Fleet Management Division, Public Works \$61,000.00

Harley-Davidson Police Motorcycle Service & Repairs

Lowest/Best Bidder: White Lightning Harley Davidson
7720 Lee Highway
Chattanooga, TN 37421

PO# 557937 Fleet Management Division, Public Works (No Money Added)

Vehicle Rental

Lowest/Best Bidder: Enterprise Rent-A Car of Tennessee
209 Seaboard Lane
Franklin, TN 37067

REQ168342 Public Works \$234,537.59

Playground Equipment for James A. Henry Campus

Lowest/Best Bidder: Bliss Products
6831 S. Sweetwater Road
Lithia Springs, GA 30122

Councilwoman Dotley moved to approve. Councilman Henderson seconded. Discussion ensued regarding the name change for PO# 557937. Upon no further questions or comments, the motion carried.

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| ACTION: ALL NEW PURCHASES APPROVED |
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Sole Source Purchases*

Mr. Harrigan also reported on the following sole source purchases:

| DATE | DEPARTMENT | SUPPLIER | ITEM DESCRIPTION | COST | DOCUMENTS |
|---------|------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| 7/10/25 | RPA | AMPO RESEARCH FOUNDATION 4300 WILSON BLVD, SUITE 220 ARLINGTON, VA 22203 | ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAM | \$30,590.00 | REQ167384 |
| 7/10/25 | WASTEWATER | RODGERS & MORGAN CO 4620 CHAMBLISS AVE KNOXVILLE, TN 37919 | HARTZELL FAN PARTS | \$20,293.00 | REQ166858 |

**No Council action was required for this report.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

[View [here](#)]

Public Safety Committee

Councilman Henderson reported:

- There will be an ad hoc committee meeting on next Tuesday, August 12, at 1:30 p.m. to discuss an alternate version of the budget amendment in relation to first responder pay.
- He requested to move the public hearing on the budget amendment from August 19 to August 26. However, Councilwoman Dotley, chair of the Budget and Finance Committee, and Mr. Roig (Mayor's Office) expressed concerns about doing so. [View full discussion [here](#).]
- Upon no further discussion, Chairwoman Hill confirmed Administration's Proposal for a public hearing on August 19 [re: re: Intent to Exceed Certified Tax Rate] and the Councilman Henderson's proposal for public hearing on August 26.

Affordable Housing Committee

Councilwoman Dotley (No report)

Budget and Finance Committee

Councilwoman Dotley reported:

- The fourth budget work session took place today.
- A public hearing for Administrations proposal will take place on August 19. A hearing for the Council's proposal will take place on August 26. The first vote on the budget ordinance amendment will happen on the August 26 agenda. The second vote will take place on the September 9 agenda.

Economic Development Committee

Councilman Elliott (No report)

- The District 9 Town Hall will take place on August 18, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at Redemption for the Nations Church on Bailey Avenue.

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 reported:

- The committee met today. She thanked Ms. Rennich for the RPA presentation.
- The Planning Commission will meet next Monday, August 11, at 1:00 p.m.

Parks and Public Works Committee
Councilman Davis (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 persons:

| Speaker Name | District/Organization | Comments on YouTube |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| • Andrew Jones | | View here |
| • Scott Burkel | District 4 | View here |
| • Jack Thompson | Chattanooga Firefighters Assoc., Local 820 | View here |
| • Jason Brown | SEIU Local 205 Chattanooga chapter | View here |
| • Steven Russell | SEIU Local 205 Chattanooga chapter | View here |
| • Keith Liles | Chattanooga Firefighters Assoc., Local 820 | View here |
| • Monty Bell | (N/A) | View here |
| • Marie Mott | District 6 | View here |
| • Tiffany Rankin | District 8 | View here |
| • Terri Bonfilio | District 8 | View here |
| • Melanie Stober | District 7 | View here <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Chairwoman Hill recognized Councilman Clark for comments during this portion of the meeting [view here].○ The chairwoman also recognized Councilman Elliot for comments [view here]. |

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Eric Atkins | Unity Group of Chattanooga | View here |
| • Sabrina Daniels | (East Ridge) | View here |

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Clark, Chairwoman Hill adjourned the meeting of the Chattanooga City Council until next Tuesday, August 12, 2025, at 3:30 p.m.

COUNCIL CHAIR

CLERK OF COUNCIL