



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

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 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, Raquetta Dotley, and Ron Elliott.

[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

Office of City Attorney: Phil Noblett, City Attorney

Mayor's Office: Chris Anderson, Senior Advisor for Legislative Initiatives

Public Works: Jerramy Wood, Administrator

Treasurer's Office: Roberta Long, Deputy Treasurer

Purchasing: Daniel Harrigan, Deputy Chief Procurement Officer

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

Fire & Police Pension Fund: Chris Hopkins, Trustee (Council Appointee)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chairwoman Noel led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave an invocation.

APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Fire & Police Pension Fund Report **By Chris Hopkins**

Chairwoman Hill turned the floor over to Mr. Hopkins, who presented an overview of the Fire & Police Pension Quarterly update report, which may be viewed [here](#) and touched on the following:

- Founded in 1949
- Fiduciary Board of Trustees
 - 6 sworn officers, 1 City Council & 1 Mayoral Appointee
- Role of the Pension Trustees
- Oversight, Compliance & Direction
- Defined Benefit vs. Defined Contribution
- Challenges to CFPPF Plan
- Actuarial Accrued Liability
- Fund Performance Q1 2025
- Stock Market Concentration
- Funded Status Factors

Afterwards, the floor was opened to questions and comments from the Council, which may be viewed [here](#) and touched on the following:

- S&P 500 and gains
- Unfunded liability

Mr. Hopkins addressed the Council's questions and provided further elaboration. Upon no further comments or questions the issue was closed.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

Agenda Item VIII(a) – Legal (Relative to Amending Urban Chicken Ordinance)

A discussion followed. Councilwoman Dotley voiced her support for the ordinance as it pertains to her district. Vice Chair Noel advised the Council that her district is opposed to the ordinance and indicated her intention to propose an amendment. Councilwoman Berz noted that there is mixed support for the ordinance among her constituents. Councilman Harvey expressed his support for the ordinance and mentioned ongoing discussions with the Administration regarding stricter enforcement mechanisms. Councilman Clark acknowledged community backing and highlighted existing restrictions on chickens in certain neighborhoods. Chairwoman Hill provided her perspective on the ordinance. With no additional comments or questions, the matter was concluded.

Agenda Item VIII(b) – Public Works– Case No. 2025-0079

Chairwoman Hill requested that the Council defer this District 2 item for two weeks until August 5th. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

RESOLUTIONS:

Agenda Item IX(i) – Public Works (Relative to Orange Grove contract)

Councilman Clark requested further information about the expired solid waste contract extension, to which Mr. Wood responded with details on the contract process and the extension. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item IX(j) – Public Works (Relative to Composting award)

Chairwoman Hill requested additional information about this item as it pertains to her district. Mr. Woods provided details on the Organics Management grant and the composting award. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

NEXT WEEK’S PROPOSED AGENDA (July 29, 2025)**Agenda Item 9(b) – Public Works (Relative to Green Grants Project)**

Councilman Elliott requested clarification regarding the matter, to which Mr. Wood responded with a detailed explanation of the green grants project.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

PROCEDURAL NOTE: Chairwoman Hill yielded control of the meeting to Vice Chair Noel for the Legislative Committee. [View the committee [here](#).]

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Noel, Committee Chair, called the Legislative Committee to order at 4:38 p.m., with a quorum of all nine councilpersons present.

MINUTE APPROVAL: **On motion of Councilman Harvey** and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley, the minutes of the last Legislative Committee meeting (June 17, 2025) were approved as published.

Senior Tax Freeze Program

Vice Chair Noel opened the floor to Councilman Elliott for an overview of the city’s Senior Tax Freeze Program, which may be viewed [here](#) and touched on the following:

- What is the Senior Tax Freeze
- Why the change is needed
- Impact of the change
- Difference between tax freeze and tax relief
- Fiscal note
- Questions

Councilman Elliott responded to questions and comments from the Council on the following:

- New applicants: Councilman Clark asked if increasing the income limit to \$60,000 would bring more applicants. City staff said it's difficult to predict but will work on estimates.
- District data: Councilman Clark requested district-level program participation data. Elliot and treasury will look into it.
- Program cost: Chairwoman Hill questioned the \$455,000 annual cost figure versus the \$160,000 cited. Ms. Long (Treasurer’s Office) clarified that the higher figure was for the United Way stormwater program, not the tax freeze.
- Impact on United Way: Chairwoman Hill asked if higher tax freeze eligibility would increase United Way storm water program costs. Councilman Elliot offered to work with Finance to make projections.

- Participant communication: Councilwoman Berz requested improved communication with tax freeze participants. Ms. Long confirmed they are working with their vendor to improve this process for next year.

Upon no further comments or questions, **Councilman Elliott moved** to add a resolution (captioned below) to the August 5th agenda:

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 SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$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 Henderson seconded. The motion carried. Therefore, the issue was closed.

MEETING RECESS

Vice Chair Noel adjourned the Legislative Committee at 5:10 p.m. and recessed the business meeting until 5:50 p.m.

MEETING RECONVENED

Chairwoman Hill reconvened the meeting at 5:45 p.m. A quorum as present that also included Vice Chair Noel and Councilmembers Henderson, Davis, Harvey, Clark, Berz, Dotley, and Elliott. Attorney Noblett and Ms. Gwyn were also present.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ORDINANCES – FINAL READING:

On motion of Councilwoman Dotley and seconded by Councilman Elliott,

ORDINANCE #14254

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 10, SECTION 10-3 RELATING TO AMENDMENTS TO THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE REGARDING SINGLE EXIT STAIRWAYS.

The motion carried.

ACTION: APPROVED

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

2025-0090
Mark Richmond
Planning Version #2
District No. 8

ORDINANCE #14255

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1614 EAST 17TH STREET, FROM RN-2 RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE TO TRN-2 TRANSITIONAL RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

ORDINANCE #14256

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, TO ADD THE VOLUNTARY INCENTIVES PROGRAM.

Vice Chair Noel moved to approve both ordinances. Councilman Elliott seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: ORDINANCES 14255 & 14256 APPROVED

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

Version #10

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilwoman Berz,

ORDINANCE #14257

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 7, SECTION 7-107 AND CHAPTER 7, SECTION 7-145, RELATIVE TO URBAN CHICKENS.

Councilwoman Noel moved to amend to exclude District 8 from the provisions of rules of the code. There was no second. Chairwoman Hill ruled that the amendment failed due to lack of a second. Councilman Henderson called the question. Councilman Henderson's motion to approve carried, **with Vice Chair Noel and Councilwoman Berz voting "no."**

ACTION: VERSION #10 PASSED ON FIRST READING

MR-2025-0079
Wendy Elliot
District No. 2

Agenda Item VIII(b):

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

Councilman Harvey moved to defer to August 5, 2025. Councilman Clark seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: DEFERRED TO AUGUST 5, 2025

MR-2025-0092
Kimley-Horn c/o Donna Shepherd
District No. 7

On motion of Councilwoman Dotley and seconded by Councilman Elliott,

ORDINANCE #14258

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING THE UNOPENED RIGHT-OF-WAY LOCATED IN THE 200 BLOCK OF W. 27TH STREET, AS SHOWN ON THE ATTACHED MAPS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

ACTION: PASSED ON FIRST READING

MR-2025-0095
Clemons Surveying c/o Samuel W. Clemons
District No. 9

On motion of Councilman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley,

ORDINANCE #14259

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING THE UNOPENED RIGHT-OF-WAY LOCATED IN THE 600 BLOCK OF N. CREST ROAD, AS SHOWN ON THE ATTACHED MAPS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

The motion carried.

ACTION: PASSED ON FIRST READING

2025-0088
Mikhail Livarchuk
District No. 9

On motion of Councilman Elliott and seconded by Councilman Dotley,

ORDINANCE #14260

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2105 RANDOLPH STREET, FROM I-H HEAVY INDUSTRIAL ZONE TO TRN-3 TRANSITIONAL RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE.

The motion carried.

ACTION: PASSED ON FIRST READING

RESOLUTIONS:

On motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley,

RESOLUTION #32581

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER TO APPLY FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT THE FY25 OVW GRANTS TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN AND FOR YOUTH PROGRAM FUNDING FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000.00; AND THE FUNDS WILL PASS THROUGH FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$260,000.00 TO WILLOW BEND FARMS, AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED HEREIN.

The motion carried.

ACTION: ADOPTED

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

RESOLUTION #32582

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY'S REAPPOINTMENT OF TOCCORA JOHNSON-PETERSEN TO THE HEAD START GOVERNING BOARD, FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON AUGUST 24, 2025, AND ENDING ON AUGUST 23, 2027.

RESOLUTION #32583

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY'S REAPPOINTMENT OF JOYCE JACKSON TO THE HEAD START GOVERNING BOARD, FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON AUGUST 24, 2025, AND ENDING ON AUGUST 23, 2027.

RESOLUTION #32584

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY'S REAPPOINTMENT OF JEFFERY MCCLENDON TO THE CHATTANOOGA HOUSING AUTHORITY, FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON JUNE 1, 2025, AND ENDING ON MAY 31, 2030.

RESOLUTION #32585

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY'S APPOINTMENT OF JAMES RICHARDS TO THE WASTEWATER REGULATIONS AND APPEALS BOARD, FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON JULY 23, 2025, AND ENDING ON JULY 22, 2029.

RESOLUTION #32586

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY'S REAPPOINTMENT OF MARK HARRISON TO THE WASTEWATER REGULATIONS AND APPEALS BOARD, FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON JANUARY 27, 2025, AND ENDING ON JANUARY 26, 2029.

RESOLUTION #32587

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY'S APPOINTMENT OF ROLAND MCCLENDON TO THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE: STANDIFER GAP (REGION 9), FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON JULY 23, 2025, AND ENDING ON JULY 22, 2028.

Councilwoman Berz moved to approve all six resolutions. Councilwoman Dotley seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32582 - 32587 ADOPTED

On motion of Councilman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley,

RESOLUTION #32588

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF CHATTANOOGA HOUSING AUTHORITY PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER, SPECIFICALLY INVESTIGATOR JOSEPH GOULET AS SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER (ARMED) FOR THE CHATTANOOGA HOUSING AUTHORITY, TO DO SPECIAL DUTY AS PRESCRIBED HEREIN, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

The motion carried.

ACTION: 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 #32589

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SOLID WASTE DIVISION, TO EXTEND THE ORANGE GROVE CONTRACT TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2025, WITH ORANGE GROVE STAFFING FOR THREE (3) REFUSE AND FIVE (5) RECYCLE CENTERS, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$200,000.00.

RESOLUTION #32590

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO ACCEPT THE ORGANICS MANAGEMENT GRANT (COMPOSTING) AWARD BY THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION (TDEC) FOR THE SOLID WASTE DIVISION, FOR THE EXPANSION OF RECYCLING SERVICE FOR COMPOSTING IN EFFORTS TO REDUCE WASTE, WITH THE CITY'S MATCHING GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$105,000.00, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$210,000.00.

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

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32589 & 32590 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 #32591

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO APPLY FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT THE FY25 COMMUNITY POLICING DEVELOPMENT MICROGRANTS FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES (COPS), FOR THE GRANT PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2025, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2027, TO SUPPORT OVERTIME EXPENSES FOR BETA TESTING DRONES AS FIRST RESPONDERS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$174,998.00.

RESOLUTION #32592

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO APPLY FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT THE FY25 SAFER OUTCOMES ENHANCING DE-ESCALATION AND CRISIS RESPONSE TRAINING GRANT FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES (COPS), TO BE USED FOR LOCAL TRAINING AND PROVIDE OVERTIME, TRAINING, AND MATERIALS FOR CITY OFFICERS AND CO-RESPONDERS, FOR A TWO-YEAR GRANT PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2025, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2027, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$119,270.00.

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

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32591 & 32592 ADOPTED

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Recommended New Purchases

[View [Here](#)]

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

200807-2 Chattanooga Police Department	\$420,000.00
Police Uniforms	
Lowest/Best Bidder: G T Distributors, Inc.	
1124 New Meister Ln., Suite 100	
Pflugerville, TX 78660	
REQ167344 Citywide Services Division, Public Works	\$86,550.00
Broce RCT-350 Road Construction Sweeper	
Lowest/Best Bidder: Power Equipment Company	
4295 Bonny Oaks Drive	
Chattanooga, TN 37406	

(continued on next page)

PA100475 PA100476**Citywide Services Division, Public Works**

\$83,000.00

Traffic Safety Materials, Flashers & Barricades

Lowest/Best Bidders:

1. Safety Zone Specialists P.O. Box 90764 Lakeland, FL 33804
2. Safety Products Inc 3517 Craftsman Blvd Lakeland, FL 33803

PA100533 Citywide Services Division, Public Works

\$116,000.00

Manhole Components

Lowest/Best Bidder: Acheson Foundry & Machine Work Inc
P.O. Box 2196
Chattanooga, TN 37409

PA100534 PA100535**Citywide Services Division, Public Works**

\$77,000.00

High Visibility Work Clothes

Lowest/Best Bidders:

1. Reflective Apparel Factory 1649 Sands Place, Suite J Marietta, GA 30067
2. Safety Products Inc 3517 Craftsman Blvd Lakeland, FL 33803

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

ACTION: ALL NEW PURCHASES APPROVED

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

[View [Here](#)]

Affordable Housing Committee

Councilwoman Dotley (No report)

Budget and Finance Committee

Councilwoman Dotley reported:

- The second budget working session focused on a detailed review of both the police and fire department budgets and concluded with a recommendation from Councilman Henderson.
- The third budget working session is scheduled for next week, July 29, [at 9:00 a.m.] and will address first responder pay, with proposals expected from both the council and the administration.

Economic Development Committee

Councilman Elliott (No report)

Education Committee

Councilman Harvey (No report)

Community Development Committee

Councilman Clark (No report)

- He acknowledged individuals from District 5 who were present in the Assembly: Shakira and Christy Rashid. He recognized Ms. Rashid, President of the Lake Hills Neighborhood Association, for her local leadership. He also thanked them for their contributions to the city and their efforts in community development.

Legislative Committee

Vice Chair Noel reported:

- The legislative committee convened today and discussed the senior tax freeze program, which will be placed on the agenda for August 5 for a vote.
- Special recognition to Public Works Administrator Jerramy Wood for his contributions to District 8, including recent work at the Avondale Community Center and efforts made two weeks ago to clear ditches and alleys in the district.

Planning and Zoning Committee

Councilwoman Berz (No report)

Parks and Public Works Committee

Councilman Davis reported:

- The committee will meet next week to hear from Jerramy Wood and the Public Works team on the Paving List and new administrator, April Furth, on the goals and vision for the Parks and Outdoors.

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 persons:

Speaker Name	District/Org.	Link to YouTube Comments
• Haley Treadway	(N/A)	View here
• Lee Helena	8	View here
• Mary Morris	8 (Bushtown N.A.)	View here
• Christy Rashed	5 (Lake Hills N.A.)	View here
• George Edward Ricks, Sr.	8	View here
• Eric Atkins	(Unity Group)	View here
• Tiffany Rankins	8 (Lincoln Park N.A.)	View here

ADJOURNMENT

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

COUNCIL CHAIR

CLERK OF COUNCIL