



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

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

May 26, 2026
3:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

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

[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

Finance: Weston Porter, Chief Financial Officer

Technology Services: Jerele Neeld, Chief Information Technology Officer

Regional Planning Agency: Karen Rennich, Administrator

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Harvey led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. He also gave a speech introducing his mother, Yvonne Harvey, who gave the invocation. [View [here](#)]

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Davis provided an overview of the business meeting structure.

APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Harvey and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley, the minutes of the last meeting (May 19, 2026) were approved as published.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS:

Agenda Item IX(b) – Information Technology (Relative to Safe Streets for All Grant)

Vice Chair Elliott asked Mr. Neeld to elaborate on the need for this item. Councilman Henderson inquired about the tech and drone technology capabilities. Mr. Neeld addressed the Council and provided a detailed explanation. Chairman Davis explained the need for the alternate version, providing the corrected grant amount of \$17 million. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

Agenda Item VIII(b) – Finance (Relative to Capital Budget Ordinance amendment for Raccoon Mountain)

Councilwoman Berz gave her thoughts and provided some additional information regarding this item before offering proposed amendments to the ordinance. Discussion ensued [view [here](#)]. Councilman Harvey and Clark had comments and questions about the parcels. Councilman Henderson addressed the Council's questions and recommended voting against the amendments. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item VIII(c) – Planning (Case No. 2026-0047 for 6210, 6212, 6214, 6216, and 6218 Vance Road)

Councilwoman Berz asked Ms. Rennich to read the added conditions for this item [view [here](#)]. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item VIII(d) – Planning (Case No. 2026-0049 for 1128 East 13th Street)

Councilwoman Noel indicated her intent to approve with conditions. Ms. Rennich then read the conditions and a statement from the Applicant [view [here](#)]. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Agenda Item XII(a) (Relative to Position for Director of Legislative Affairs)

Vice Chair Elliott advised his intent to approve this item. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

NEXT WEEK'S PROPOSED AGENDA (June 2, 2026):

Agenda Item 9(a) – Economic Development (Resolution relative to Independent Contractor Services with Trajectory Changing Solutions)

Vice Chair Elliott proposed tabling this item. Councilman Clark expressed his lack of support for it. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 9(c) – Mayor's Office (Resolution relative to David Johnson appointment)

Agenda Item 9(d) – Mayor's Office (Resolution relative to Erica Collins appointment)

Councilman Clark advised his intent to support these items. Upon no further questions or comments, the issues were closed.

Agenda Item 9(e) – Office of the City Attorney (Resolution relative to Special Exceptions Permit for 7703 Lee Highway / Dream Liquor, Inc.)

Councilwoman Berz advised her intent to defer this item one week [until June 9, 2026]. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS:

Item 9(d) – Office of the City Attorney (Relative to Deletion of International Building Code)

Councilwoman Hill provided some additional information for this item [view [here](#)]. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

MEETING RECESS

Upon no objections from the Council, at 4:12 p.m., Chairman Davis recessed the business meeting until 5:00 p.m.

MEETING RECONVENED

Chairman Davis reconvened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. A quorum was present that also included Vice Chair Elliott and Councilpersons Henderson, Hill, Harvey, Clark, Berz, and Noel. Attorney Noblett and Ms. Gwyn were also present. Councilwoman Dotley was not present after the meeting reconvened.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ORDINANCES – FINAL READING:

On motion of Councilwoman Hill and seconded by Vice Chair Elliott,

ORDINANCE #14366

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 3, ADVERTISING, ARTICLE V, SCENIC AREAS AND SCENIC CORRIDORS, SECTION 3-55, OFF-PREMISE SIGNS ALONG SCENIC CORRIDORS PROHIBITED.

The motion carried.

ACTION: APPROVED

2026-0040
Erlanger Health c/o Tripp Stephens
Planning Commission Version
District No. 4

On motion of Councilman Harvey and seconded by Vice Chair Elliott,

ORDINANCE #14367

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 1812, 1816, AND 1818 FARRIS ROAD TOGETHER WITH PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 7301 AND 7309 CRANE ROAD, FROM RN-1-6 RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE TO INST INSTITUTIONAL ZONE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

The motion carried.

ACTION: APPROVED

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Vice Chair Elliott,

ORDINANCE #14368

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OPERATIONS BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. 14239 AND THEREAFTER AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. 14271, KNOWN AS "THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 OPERATIONS BUDGET," TO AMEND ESTIMATED GENERAL FUND REVENUE BY THREE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,500,000.00); AMEND SECTIONS 5 AND 5(A) SO AS TO APPROPRIATE THE SAME AMOUNT FROM GENERAL FUND TO CAPITAL PROJECTS.

Councilman Henderson moved to approve [view [here](#)]. Vice Chair Elliott seconded. Councilpersons Noel and Berz made comments. Councilman Henderson called the *question*. The motion carried upon roll call vote as follows:

Henderson	YES
Hill	YES
Harvey	YES
Clark	YES
Berz	("Present")
Noel	NO
Elliott	YES
Davis	YES

YES – Six (6); NO – One (1); PRESENT/ ABSTAIN – One (1)

ACTION: PASSED ON FIRST READING

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Vice Chair Elliott,

ORDINANCE #14369

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CAPITAL BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. 14272, KNOWN AS "THE AMENDED FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 CAPITAL BUDGET," APPROPRIATING, AUTHORIZING, OR ALLOCATING FUNDS TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 TO INCREASE THE CAPITAL BUDGET BY THREE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,500,000.00) FROM GENERAL FUND OPERATIONS FOR RACCOON MOUNTAIN WATER SERVICE PROJECT.

The motion carried [view [here](#)] upon roll call vote as follows:

Henderson YES
Hill YES
Harvey YES
Clark YES
Berz NO
Noel NO
Elliott YES
Davis YES

YES – Six (6); NO – Two (2)

ACTION: PASSED ON FIRST READING

2026-0047
Allen Jones c/o Stone Creek Consulting
Alternate Version
District No. 6

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

ORDINANCE #14370

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PARTS OF PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 6210, 6212, 6214, 6216, AND 6218 VANCE ROAD, FROM RN-1-6 RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE, I-H INDUSTRIAL HEAVY ZONE AND I-L INDUSTRIAL LIGHT ZONE TO RN-1-6 RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE AND I-L INDUSTRIAL LIGHT ZONE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

The motion carried.

ACTION: ALTERNATE VERSION PASSED ON FIRST READING

2026-0049
Heidi Hefferlin
Alternate Version
District No. 8

On motion of Councilwoman Noel and seconded by Councilwoman Berz,

ORDINANCE #14371

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 38, ZONING ORDINANCE, SO AS TO REZONE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1128 EAST 13TH STREET, FROM RN-3 RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE TO TRN-1 TRADITIONAL RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD ZONE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

Attorney Noblett read the conditions of the Alternate Version [view [here](#)]. The Clerk confirmed reading the Alternate. The motion carried.

ACTION: ALTERNATE VERSION PASSED ON FIRST READING

RESOLUTIONS:

On motion of Vice Chair Elliott and seconded by Councilman Harvey,

RESOLUTION #32895

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) FOR THE SECTION 108 LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM AND THE DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS.

The motion carried.

ACTION: ADOPTED

Alternate Version

On motion of Vice Chair Elliott and seconded by Councilman Harvey,

RESOLUTION #32896

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER TO APPLY FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION SAFE STREETS FOR ALL IMPLEMENTATION GRANT (SS4A) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17 MILLION WHICH GRANT BUILDS ON SS4A 2024 AND SS4A 2025 GRANTS AWARDED TO THE CITY IN PAST YEARS.

The motion carried.

ACTION: ALTERNATE VERSION ADOPTED

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Recommended New Purchases

[View [here](#)]

Weston Porter (Finance) recommended the following new purchases for Council consideration:

REQ180431 Fleet Management Division, Public Works	\$311,794.38
Knuckle Boom Truck	
Lowest/Best Bidder: Thompson Truck Group	
2600 8th Avenue	
Chattanooga, TN 37407	

REQ180472 Fleet Management Division, Public Works	\$234,991.77
Ford F550 4X4 Crew Cab Trucks	
Lowest/Best Bidder: National Auto Fleet Group	
490 Auto Center Drive	
Watsonville, CA 95076	

REQ180285 Parks & Outdoors	\$862,560.00
Synthetic Turf	
Lowest/Best Bidder: Astro Turf Corporation	

2680 Abutment Road
Dalton, GA 30721

Vice Chair Elliott moved to approve. Councilman Henderson seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: ALL NEW PURCHASES APPROVED

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

[View [here](#)]

Affordable Housing Committee
Community Development Committee
Councilwoman Dotley (Not present)

Budget and Finance Committee
Councilman Henderson reported:

- The third and final budget education session wrapped up loose ends today and got the budget to a place where it is ready to be codified.
- The public hearing on the proposed FY27 budget ordinances will take place next week (June 2).

Economic Development Committee
Councilwoman Hill (No report)

Education & Innovation Committee
Councilman Clark (No report)

- He used this time to announce an upcoming “Historic Preservation Town Hall” meeting on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. here in the Council’s Assembly Room.

Legislative Committee
Vice Chair Elliott (No report)

Planning and Zoning Committee
Councilwoman Berz (No report)

Parks, Public Works & Wastewater Committee
Councilman Harvey (No report)

- He commented on the success of the recent Public Works Awards ceremony.

Public Safety Committee
Councilwoman Noel (No report)

OTHER BUSINESS

[View [here](#)]

Discussion ensued about the proposed new position. **Vice Chair Elliott moved** to approve including the Legislative Affairs Director, as the job description highlights, into the [FY27] budget ordinance. Councilman Henderson seconded. Discussion ensued. After which, Vice Chair Elliott called the *question*. **The motion carried, with Councilwoman Hill voting “No.”**

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, Chairman Davis recognized the following persons:

Speaker Name	District	Link to YouTube Comments
● Angela Tuttle	2	View here ○ Councilwoman Hill made comments in relation to the speaker's comments.
● Audrey Ramsey	5	View here
● Cat Zwitter	(N/A)	View here
● Joan (no last name given)	(N/A)	View here
● Nels Thompson	(N/A)	View here
● Tyler Golson	(N/A)	View here

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Vice Chair Elliott, Chairman Davis adjourned the meeting of the Chattanooga City Council until next Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 3:30 p.m.

COUNCIL CHAIR

CLERK OF COUNCIL