



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

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 7, 2025

3:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Council Vice Chair Marvene Noel called the business meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was present that also included Councilmembers Chip Henderson, Dennis Clark, Jenni Berz, Raquetta Dotley, and Ron Elliott. Council Chairwoman Jenny Hill, and Councilmembers Jeff Davis and Cody Harvey were not in attendance of this meeting.

[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, and Chris Anderson, Senior Advisor for Legislative Initiatives

Office of City Attorney: Phil Noblett, City Attorney

Police: John Chambers, Chief

Family Justice Center: Regina McDevitt, Executive Director

Regional Planning: Karen Rennich, Interim Administrator

Purchasing: Debbie Talley, Chief Procurement Officer

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Elliott led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS (2)

Joint Proclamation "Honoring EPB and Lawson Electric Workers"

By Mayor Tim Kelly

[View full presentation [here](#)]

Mayor Kelly presented a [proclamation](#) to the following individuals, in honor of their heroic actions during the flooding that occurred on August 12, 2025:

- Troy Plemons with EPB
- Austin Camp with Lawson Electric
- Brandon Shadwick with Lawson Electric

Proclamation – National Domestic Violence Awareness Month
By Councilwoman Jenni Berz
[View full presentation [here](#)]

Councilwoman Berz presented a [proclamation](#) to Regina McDevitt, Executive Director of the Family Justice Center.

Ms. McDevitt accepted the proclamation and recognized the FJC staff members that were present before making a few remarks [view [here](#)]. She also invited everyone to the ‘Embers of Hope’ candlelight vigil being held at the Hamilton County Courthouse on October 30, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES

On motion of Councilwoman Dotley and seconded by Councilwoman Berz, the minutes of the last meeting (September 30, 2025) were approved as published.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS:

Item 8(b)(i) – Police (Resolution relative to the acceptance of a grant from the Stanton K9 Foundation)

Councilman Elliott requested additional information about this item; Chief Chambers responded [view discussion [here](#)]. Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Councilman Clark introduced intern Henry Dunbar to the Council, who welcomed him. Upon no further questions or comments, the issues were closed.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

PROCEDURAL NOTE: Vice Chair Noel 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 3:52 p.m., with a quorum of six Councilmembers present. Council Chairwoman Hill, and Councilmembers Davis and Harvey were not in attendance of this meeting.

MINUTE APPROVAL: **On motion of Councilman Elliott** and seconded by Councilman Henderson, the minutes of the last Planning & Zoning Committee meeting (August 26, 2025) were approved as published.

Items for Tuesday, October 14, 2025
Ordinances – First Reading:

Agenda Item 8(d) – Case No. 2025-0134

Ms. Rennich informed the Council that the applicant had formally requested to withdraw this item; Council affirmed. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(f) – Case No. 2025-0124

Councilman Clark advised that the applicant requested a 60-day deferral [to December 2, 2025] for this item; Council affirmed. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(g) – Case No. 2025-0135

Councilwoman Berz offered additional information about this item. Afterwards, Councilman Clark requested clarification. Ms. Rennich, Councilwoman Berz, and Mr. Anderson responded; discussion ensued [view [here](#)]. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(h) – Case No. 2025-0119

Councilwoman Berz advised she was still in discussions with the applicant regarding this item, so a presentation was not needed at this time. Ms. Rennich and the Council affirmed. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(j) – Case No. 2025-0128

Ms. Rennich briefed the Council on this item. Afterwards, Councilman Elliott stated that the applicant would need to get in touch with him and the neighborhood association(s) before moving forward. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(k) – Amendment to the Chattanooga Zoning Ordinance No. 14137 (relative to Short Term Vacation Rental Overlay District Map)

Ms. Rennich briefed the Council on this item. Afterward, Councilman Clark offered some additional information regarding this item. The presentation and ensuing discussion may be viewed [here](#). Council also requested updated copies of the STVR Overlay Map; Ms. Rennich affirmed. Upon no further comments or questions, the issue was closed.

Agenda Item 8(l) – Amendment to the Chattanooga Zoning Ordinance No. 14137 (relative to Form-Based Code & minimum planting requirements for buffer yards)

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.

MEETING RECESS

Councilwoman Berz adjourned the Planning & Zoning Committee at 4:11 p.m. and recessed the business meeting until 4:35 p.m.

MEETING RECONVENED

Vice Chair Noel reconvened the business meeting at 4:35 p.m. A quorum was present that also included Councilmembers Henderson, Clark, Berz, and Dotley. Councilman Elliott arrived after the call to order. Attorney Noblett and Ms. Gwyn were also present. Three members were not present: Chairwoman Hill and Councilmembers Davis and Harvey.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ORDINANCES – FINAL READING:

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

MR-2025-0041
N & R Properties c/o Mike Price
District No. 6

ORDINANCE #14282

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AND ABANDONING A PORTION OF THE UNOPENED RIGHT-OF-WAY IN THE 7200 BLOCK OF NOAH REID ROAD, AS DETAILED ON THE ATTACHED MAPS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

ORDINANCE #14283

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHATTANOOGA CITY CODE, PART II, CHAPTER 16, SECTION 16-57, RELATIVE TO CHARGES FOR FINGERPRINTS AND RECORD CHECKS.

Councilwoman Berz moved to approve both ordinances. Councilman Elliott seconded. The motion carried.

ACTION: ORDINANCES 14282 & 14283 APPROVED

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING: (NONE)

RESOLUTIONS:

On motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley,

RESOLUTION #32651

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF VICTORIA JOHNSON TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS FOR DISTRICT 6, WITH A TERM BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 8, 2025, AND ENDING ON OCTOBER 7, 2028.

RESOLUTION #32652

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF PAM FOSTER TO THE HEAD START GOVERNING BOARD FOR DISTRICT 7, FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 8, 2025, AND ENDING ON OCTOBER 7, 2027.

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

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32651 & 32652 ADOPTED

On motion of Councilwoman Berz and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley,

RESOLUTION #32653

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA DELEGATING TO THE HEALTH, EDUCATIONAL, AND HOUSING FACILITY BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, THE AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE AND ACCEPT PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES WITH RESPECT TO THE 702 MANUFACTURERS ROAD PROJECT TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE ATLANTIC COMPANIES, LLC OR AN AFFILIATE THEREOF AND TO BE LOCATED IN THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, AND FINDING THAT SUCH PAYMENTS ARE DEEMED TO BE IN FURTHERANCE OF THE PUBLIC PURPOSES OF THE HEALTH, EDUCATIONAL, AND HOUSING FACILITY BOARD OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE.

The motion carried.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilman Henderson and seconded by Councilwoman Dotley,

RESOLUTION #32654

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO ENTER INTO AN OFFICE LEASE WITH STREET GRACE, INC., IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED, FOR ONE HUNDRED SIX (106) SQUARE FEET OF OFFICE SPACE IN A PORTION OF THE DR. CAROL B. BERZ FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER AT 5705 UPTAIN ROAD, IDENTIFIED AS TAX MAP NO. 157M-A-012, FOR A TERM OF FOUR (4) YEARS, FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$1.00 ANNUALLY.

The motion carried.

ACTION: ADOPTED

On motion of Councilman Clark and seconded by Councilman Elliott,

RESOLUTION #32655

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY'S APPOINTMENT OF CEDRIC HENSON AS ADMINISTRATOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

Councilmembers Elliot and Clark expressed support and thanks for this appointment. The motion carried.

ACTION: ADOPTED

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

RESOLUTION #32656

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY'S REAPPOINTMENT OF RANDALL SMITH TO THE BOARD OF MECHANICAL EXAMINERS, FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2025, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2029.

RESOLUTION #32657

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY'S REAPPOINTMENT OF DAVID NORDY TO THE BOARD OF ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS, FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON NOVEMBER 17, 2025, AND ENDING ON NOVEMBER 16, 2029.

RESOLUTION #32658

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING MAYOR KELLY'S APPOINTMENT OF MARIA GRAEFE TO THE CHATTANOOGA HOUSING AUTHORITY, FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 8, 2025, AND ENDING ON OCTOBER 7, 2030.

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

ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 32656 – 32658 ADOPTED

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Recommended New Purchases

Ms. Talley (Purchasing) recommended the following new purchases for Council consideration:

200800-2 Fleet Management Division, Public Works **\$95,866.00**

Ford F-550 Regular Cab 4x2 Diesel with 16ft Flatbed Dump Body
Lowest/Best Bidder: Thompson Truck Group dba Lee-Smith Company
2600 8th Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37407

REQ171294 Chattanooga Fire Department **\$1,841,146.00**

Smeal 107 ft Aerial Quint (Fire Truck)-
Lowest/Best Bidder: Spartan Fire, LLC
907 7th Avenue N
Brandon, SD 57005

PA100570, PA100571 **\$109,000.00**

Facilities Management Division, Public Works

Paper Goods

Lowest/Best Bidders:

1. American Paper & Twine - 2134 Amnicola Hwy, Chattanooga, TN 37406
2. Jacobs Paper Company - 1300 Chestnut Street, Chattanooga, TN 37402

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

ACTION: ALL NEW PURCHASES APPROVED

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Affordable Housing Committee

Councilwoman Dotley (No report)

Budget and Finance Committee

Councilwoman Dotley (No report)

Economic Development Committee

Councilman Elliott (No report)

Education Committee

Councilman Harvey (Not present)

Community Development Committee

Councilman Clark (No report)

- He congratulated Mr. Henson on accepting the position of Community Development Administrator.

Legislative Committee

Vice Chair Noel (No report)

Planning and Zoning Committee

Councilwoman Berz reported:

- The committee met today to review all agenda items. There were some questions needing more answers.
- Planning and zoning hearings will take place next week (October 14).

Parks and Public Works Committee

Councilman Davis (Not present)

Public Safety Committee

Councilman Henderson (No report)

OTHER BUSINESS

Point of Personal Privilege

Vice Chair Noel took an opportunity to speak about Council unity and effective governance [view [here](#)].

Scheduling Reminder

Vice Chair Noel reminded the Assembly that the Council's business meeting next week will begin at 2:00 p.m. to give councilmembers an opportunity to participate in National Night Out events within their districts.

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	Link to YouTube Comments
• Janice Gooden	8	View here

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilwoman Dotley, Chairwoman Hill adjourned the meeting of the Chattanooga City Council until next Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at **2:00 p.m.**

COUNCIL CHAIR

CLERK OF COUNCIL