

# **BUDGET AND FINANCE CHATTANOOGA CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES November 29, 2022**

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## **Call to Order**

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Councilwoman Carol Berz, committee chair, called the meeting to order at 4:44 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the John P. Franklin, Sr. City Council Building. A quorum was present that also included Council Chairman Darrin Ledford and Vice Chair Raquetta Dotley, Councilpersons Chip Henderson, Isiah Hester, Marvene Noel, and Demetrus Coonrod. Councilpersons Ken Smith and Jenny Hill were not present.

Other participants present were Phil Noblett, Interim City Attorney, and Keren Campbell, Council Support Specialist. Recorder for this meeting was Kyana Grady, Administrative Assistant.

## **Approval of Minutes**

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**On motion of Chairman Ledford** and seconded by Councilman Hester, the minutes of the last meeting (September 13, 2022) were approved as published.

## **Others in Attendance**

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Mayor's Office: Joda Thongnopnua, Chief of Staff; Finance: Brent Goldberg, Chief Financial Officer.

## **Proposed Fee Changes Presentation**

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Mr. Goldberg gave a presentation on the "Proposed Fee Changes" that covered the following:

- Proposed Fee Changes – 3 Ordinances
- Chapter 26
- Section 26-3 Municipal Parks
- Section 26-3 Signature Parks Fee Changes
- Section 26-3 Specialty Parks Fee Changes
- Section 26-3 Neighborhood Park Fee Changes
- Section 26-24 Community Center Rentals
- Section 26-25 Swimming Pools
- Section 26-26 Day Camps
- Section 26-27 Sports Programs and Fields
- Section 26-28 Softball Field Rentals
- Sections 26-29 through 26-33
- Section 26-34 Civic Center Rentals
- Section 26-91 Municipal Golf Courses
- Chapter 10
- Proposed Fee Changes Chapter 10
- Chapters 17, 19, 22.5, and 27
- Proposed Fee Changes

A discussion ensued wherein Mr. Goldberg addressed the following questions from Councilwoman Berz:

- Brainerd and Brown Acres Golf Courses
- New Contact for Finance
- Covering Cost of Doing Business

Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

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### **Other Business**

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Upon conclusion of Mr. Goldberg's report, Chairman Ledford gave a special recognition to Mr. Goldberg and Ms. Campbell, as they are both departing for opportunities outside of City employment.

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### **Adjournment**

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There being no further business, Councilwoman Berz adjourned the meeting at 5:18 p.m.

*Attachment:*  
*Presentation – "Proposed Fee Changes"*

# Council Presentation

# Proposed Fee Changes

*November 29, 2022*

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**CITY OF CHATTANOOGA**

Brent Goldberg  
Chief Financial Officer

# Proposed Fee Changes - 3 Ordinances

- Chapter 26 - Fees for events, rentals, and usage of Chattanooga parks, community centers, and recreational facilities
- Chapter 10 - Fee Schedules for non-refundable permits, moving, demolition, and other development related fees
- Chapters 14, 19, 22.5, and 27 - Fees related to electrical, gas, mechanical, and plumbing permits

# Chapter 26

# Proposed Fee Changes - Chapter 26

- Input from department administration
- Simplify fee structure
- Eliminate several fees
- Increase fees for private use of facilities
- Adjust for inflation

# Section 26-3 - Municipal Parks

- Reorganize and simplify fee structure
- Parks grouped as follows:
  - Signature parks
  - Specialty parks
  - Neighborhood parks
- Move Miller park from Section 26-58 to include under signature park fee structure

## Section 26-3 - Signature Park Fee Changes

- Change criteria for category 1 and category 2 from event type criteria to event size criteria based on number of participants
- Remove fees for city services from fee schedule as these fees will be addressed through a separately proposed special events ordinance.
- Add fee for event setup/teardown for large events



## Section 26-3 - Signature Park Fee Changes

- Renaissance Park - Small Park Grounds - new fee to accommodate small group rentals - \$100.00
- Renaissance Park - Pavilion - Add deposit, increase daily rate by \$50.00, simplify fee structure
- Coolidge Park Walker Pavilion - Add deposit, increase hourly rate by \$15.00, simplify fee structure
- Coolidge Park Carousel Party Room - Add deposit, increase hourly rate by \$15.00, simplify fee structure

# Section 26-3 - Specialty Park Fee Changes

- Simplify fee structure
- Categorize fees based on size of event
- Includes:
  - Blue Goose Hollow Grounds
  - East Lake Park
  - Greenway Farm Park
  - Heritage Park
  - Martin Amphitheatre
  - Riverview Park

# Section 26-3 - Neighborhood Park Fee Changes

- Simplify fee structure
- Applies to all parks not listed as signature or specialty
- Reduce fee from \$150.00 to \$25.00 daily rental for less than 150 participants, no deposit required
- Reduce fee from \$500.00 to \$150.00 daily rental for more than 150 participants, deposit required

# Section 26-24 - Community Center Rentals

- Simplify fee structure
- Multipurpose Room Rental - Rate Increases
  - From \$20/hour to \$50/hour during operating hours
  - From \$25.00/hour to \$65.00/hour outside operating hours
- Gymnasiums - Increase from \$40.00/hour to \$100.00/hour
- Fee based classes - Decrease range from \$1.00 - \$800.00 to \$0.00 to \$500.00

# Section 26-25 - Swimming Pools

- Simplify fee structure
- Outdoor Pool Rental Rate - change to flat fee of \$300.00
- Spray Park Rental Rate - change to flat fee of \$100.00 during operating hours and \$300.00 outside operating hours
- Indoor Pool Rental Rate - increase from \$45/hour to \$50/hour
- Eliminate usage fees for outdoor/indoor pools other than Warner Park (Warner Park remains at \$3.00/person)

# Section 26-26 - Day Camps

- Restore Summer Camp Fees
  - 8 weeks (includes lunch) - \$300.00
    - Early Registration - Discounted to \$250.00
  - Scholarships available for children who qualify for free or reduced lunch through Hamilton County Schools, reducing fee to \$40.00 for 8 weeks.
- Establish fees for school break camps and art camps - \$75.00
- Parks & Outdoors camps will be free

# Section 26-27 - Sports Programs & Fields

- Washington Hills Football Field Rentals
  - Semi-Pro - increase from \$200.00 to \$500.00
  - HS & MS Games - increase from \$200.00 to \$350.00
  - Youth League Games - increase from \$100.00 to \$150.00
- Tyner and Montague Field Rentals
  - Add Tournaments & Special Events Fee - \$500.00
  - Remove Leagues/Games fee

# Section 26-28 - Softball Field Rentals

- Simplify fee structure
- Increase fees throughout to adjust for inflation and reflect competitive rental rates
- Change definition of national scope tournament from registering teams within 100 miles of Chattanooga to registering teams within 80 miles of Chattanooga



# Sections 26-29 through 26-33

- 26-29 - Skate Park - eliminate all fees
- 26-30 - Champion's Club - eliminate user fees
- 26-31 - Fitness Center - eliminate user fees
- 26-32 - Therapeutic Recreation - Change fee range maximum from \$50.00 to \$75.00
- 26-33 - Outdoor Chattanooga - simplify fee structure, clarify activities available, establish group retreat rates by group size

# Section 26-34 - Civic Center Rentals

- Heritage House
  - Decrease rate for city residents from \$60/hour to \$50/hour
  - Increase rate for non-residents from \$70/hour to \$75/hour
  - Decrease rate for city residents from \$600/day to \$500/day
  - Increase rate for non-residents from \$700/day to \$750/day
  - Add wedding fees
- North River Civic Center
  - Increase meeting room rental from \$35 to \$50/hour
  - Increase special event rental from \$60 per hour to flat fee of \$300.00, deposit required

# Section 26-91 - Municipal Golf Courses

- Municipal Golf Course Fee Increases
  - 18 hole green fee - weekdays - from \$23 to \$25
  - 18 hole green fee - weekends/holidays - from \$28 to \$30
  - 18 hole green fee - seniors - from \$17 to \$18
  - 9 hole green fee - weekdays - from \$11.50 to \$12.50
  - 9 hole green fee - weekends/holidays - from \$14 to \$15
  - 9 hole green fee - seniors - from \$11.50 to \$12
  - Cart rental - 18 holes - from \$14 to \$15
  - Cart rental - 9 holes - from \$7.00 to \$7.50
  - Annual passes - increase all approximately 10%

# Chapter 10

# Proposed Fee Changes - Chapter 10

- Input from LDO
- Adjust fees for inflation
- Building Permits - base fee increases
  - Range 1 - From \$25.00 to \$40.00
  - Range 2 - No change
  - Range 3 - From \$294.50 to \$295.00
  - Range 4 - From \$519.50 to \$525.00
  - Range 5 - From \$1,919.50 to \$1,925.00

# Proposed Fee Changes - Chapter 10

- Building Permits - additional value fee increases
  - Range 1 - N/A
  - Range 2 - From \$5.50 to \$5.75 per \$1,000 additional value
  - Range 3 - From \$4.50 to \$4.75 per \$1,000 additional value
  - Range 4 - From \$3.50 to \$3.75 per \$1,000 additional value
  - Range 5 - From \$2.50 to \$2.75 per \$1,000 additional value

# Proposed Fee Changes - Chapter 10

- Fee for moving building or structure - Increase from \$125.00 to \$150.00
- Demolition fee increases
  - Residential - From \$125.00 to \$200.00
  - Non-Residential under 10,000 SF - From \$250.00 to \$350.00
  - Non-Residential over 10,000 SF - From \$400.00 to \$500.00

# Proposed Fee Changes - Chapter 10

- Other fee changes (section 109.2.4)
  - CO - Beverage License - From \$50.00 to \$125.00
  - Certificate of Completion - From \$15.00 to \$25.00
  - Zoning Letter Fee - From \$75.00 to \$150.00
  - Code Compliance Letter Fee - From \$50.00 to \$75.00
  - Permit Transfer Fee - From \$25.00 to \$50.00
  - Modular Home Site Investigation - From \$50.00 to \$100.00
  - Floodplain Variance Request Fee - From \$100.00 to \$200.00
  - Fire District Removal Request Fee - From \$100.00 to \$200.00
- Fees in this section not listed above - no change



# Proposed Fee Changes - Chapter 10

- Add new fee that currently does not exist
  - Building Permit Plan Revision Fee - 5% of Plan Review Fee
- Engineering plans review fee changes (section 10-32)
  - Simplify structure from 3 lot size ranges to 2 ranges
  - 10 lots or less - Increase from \$125.00 to \$175.00
  - Additional fee per lot Above 10 lots - \$10.00

**Chapters 17, 19, 22.5, and 27**

# Proposed Fee Changes

- Chapter 14 - Electrical
  - Increase permit fee from \$35.00 to \$40.00
  - No other changes
- Chapter 19 - Mechanical
  - Increase permit fee from \$35.00 to \$40.00
  - No other changes

# Proposed Fee Changes

- Chapter 22.5 - Gas
  - Increase permit fee from \$35.00 to \$40.00
  - Increase boiler inspection fees based on BTU range
    - Range 1 - from \$5.00 to \$10.00
    - Range 2 - from \$10.00 to \$20.00
    - Range 3 - from \$15.00 to \$30.00
    - Range 4 - from \$25.00 to \$50.00
    - Range 5 - from \$35.00 to \$70.00

# Proposed Fee Changes

- Chapter 27 - Plumbing
  - Increase permit fee from \$35.00 to \$40.00
  - Increase additional permit fees( if not listed, no change):
    - Plumbing Fixture - from \$5.00 to \$6.00
    - Building Sewer - from \$10.00 to \$20.00
    - Building Sewer Replace/Repair - from \$10.00 to \$20.00
    - Water Heater/Vent - from \$5.00 to \$6.00
    - Pressure Reducing Device - from \$5.00 to \$6.00
    - Vacuum Breaker - from \$5.00 to \$10.00
    - Sand/Grease/Oil Interceptor (Underground) - from \$25.00 to \$35.00

**Questions?**