



Electronic-Conducted (Virtual) Minutes  
Chattanooga, Tennessee

## **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

August 4, 2020  
6:00 PM

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Council Chairman Chip Henderson called the meeting to order by electronic means. A quorum was present via electronic means that included Vice-Chairman Ken Smith and Councilpersons Carol Berz, Anthony Byrd, Russell Gilbert, Darrin Ledford, Jerry Mitchell and Erskine Oglesby. Others on the panel via electronic means: Phil Noblett, City Attorney; Lydia Christoph, Administrative Support; and Nicole Gwyn, Council Clerk. Councilwoman Demetrus Coonrod was not present at this meeting. Video of the meeting is available [here](#).

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Before Councilman Ledford led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, he wished a “Happy Birthday” to Technical Sgt. Charles H. Coolidge, the oldest living Medal of Honor recipient in the United States, age 99 today.

### **ERWIN MARINE RESOLUTION**

Councilman Ledford moved to rescind item VII(g) from last week regarding Erwin Marine that was denied last week, and add it to the agenda for discussion next week. Attorney Noblett confirmed that these actions could be taken by the Council. Councilman Oglesby seconded. The motion carried unanimously (8-0) upon roll call vote.

### **APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES**

**On motion of Vice-Chairman Smith** and seconded by Councilwoman Berz, the minutes of the last meeting (July 28, 2020) were approved as published. The motion carried unanimously (8-0) upon roll call vote.

**ORDINANCES – FINAL READING: (NONE)**

**ORDINANCES – FIRST READING: (NONE)**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**PROCEDURAL NOTE:** With no objection from the Council, Chairman Henderson instructed the Clerk to group and read the first two resolutions for one Council vote.

**RESOLUTION #30438**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A FIRST AMENDMENT TO BERTHING AGREEMENT, IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED, WITH THE REINERT GROUP, LLC, WITH INSURANCE LIMITS NOT LESS THAN \$3 MILLION IN A SINGLE OCCURRENCE.**

**RESOLUTION #30439**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONSERVATION SERVICES AGREEMENT 2020-2021 WITH THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND, IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED, FOR A TERM OF ONE (1) YEAR, FROM JULY 1, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$100,000.00 TO BE PAID IN FOUR (4) QUARTERLY INSTALLMENTS OF \$25,000.00.**

**Councilman Oglesby moved** to approve both resolutions. Councilwoman Berz seconded. The motion carried unanimously (8-0) upon roll call vote.

**ACTION: RESOLUTIONS 30438 & 30439 ADOPTED**

On motion of Councilman Ledford and seconded by Councilman Byrd,

**RESOLUTION #30440**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR'S REAPPOINTMENT OF DAN MAYFIELD TO THE BEER AND WRECKER BOARD REPRESENTING DISTRICT 4, WITH A TERM EXPIRATION OF JULY 31, 2023.**

The motion carried unanimously (8-0) upon roll call vote.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

**PROCEDURAL NOTE:** With no objection from the Council, Chairman Henderson instructed the Clerk to group and read the next two resolutions for one Council vote.

**RESOLUTION #30441**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO RENEW THE CITY'S EXISTING AGREEMENT WITH DATA DRIVEN, LLC. FOR ONE (1) YEAR, PROVIDING WATSON PRODUCTS IN SUPPORT OF CHATTANOOGA POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS, BEGINNING JULY 1, 2020 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2021, WITH AN ANNUAL SPEND LIMIT NOT TO EXCEED \$90,000.00.**



## **OTHER BUSINESS:**

### **Community CARES Program**

Councilman Oglesby made an announcement about the Community CARES program award. Donna Williams, Administrator for the Department of Economic and Community Development, joined the panel to give and informed everyone that the State of Tennessee had been awarded \$150,000,000.00 in coronavirus relief funds for nonprofits grants. She emphasized a deadline of August 15 for nonprofits to apply. She encouraged nonprofits to contact the United Way, which will administer the grant for the State, or visit the United Way website for information.

### **Police Officers Injured In Fire**

Chairman Henderson asked for an update on police officers injured in a fire yesterday. He invited Assistant Chief Danna Vaughn, Police Chief David Roddy, and Fire Chief Phil Hyman to update the Council on the three officers and the situation leading to their injuries.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### *Budget and Finance Committee*

Councilwoman Berz reported:

- The committee met today in open meeting to hear a performance review by Tim Moreland. Mr. Moreland discussed the district-specific information pages online now. They will meet again about the performance review on the first Tuesday in September. She thanked Moreland and Administration for their work for accountability.

### *Economic and Community Development Committee*

Councilman Oglesby

(No report)

### *Human Resources Committee*

Councilman Gilbert

(No report)

### *Planning and Zoning Committee*

Councilman Ledford reported:

- The committee met today to review agenda items, and to hear about Form-Based Code changes.
- Amendment items 6(e) and 6(f) on next week's agenda will be moved to the August 25 agenda.
- Regarding the vegetative component in relation to steep slopes, he will reach out to Administration with requests for assistance.

### *Public Safety Committee*

Councilman Byrd reported:

- The committee will meet next week (August 11) to hear about from the Fire Department about traffic and access for emergency vehicles, and the Police about the recent rise in crime in the city.

*Public Works and Transportation Committee*

Councilman Mitchell reported:

- The committee met today in open meeting and will meet again in two weeks (August 18).

*Youth and Family Development Committee*

(Councilwoman Coonrod not present)

*Legislative Committee*

Vice-Chairman Smith

(No report)

**RECOGNITION OF PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

(Listen by clicking [here](#))

Attorney Noblett read the rules of procedure for persons wishing to address the Council. After which, Chairman Henderson recognized the following persons:

<b>Name (Street, City, District):</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Primary Topics:</b>
• <a href="#">Janice Gooden</a>	8	Response to Councilwoman Coonrod’s challenge
• <a href="#">Casey Crook</a>	3	Reorganizing budget for social services and support

Editor’s Note: A third person wished to speak, but had not registered, so they were not allowed to address the Council.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**On motion of Councilman Byrd**, Chairman Henderson adjourned the meeting of the Chattanooga City Council until Tuesday, August 11, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

[Editor’s Note: Any person may join the electronic-conducted meetings of the Chattanooga City Council at the scheduled time by visiting online at [council.chattanooga.gov](http://council.chattanooga.gov).]

---

**CHAIRMAN**

---

**CLERK OF COUNCIL**

*Attachment:  
Written comments from Janice Gooden*

**Public Comments to City Council Janice Gooden, District 8 8/4/2020**

Re: Councilwoman Coonrod's request to hear from Black residents

A couple of weeks ago, Councilwoman Coonrod stated that the council was not hearing from black people. While some of us have spoken, others have expressed a distrust of engaging in this format because they feel no consideration will be given or decisions have already been made. There should be a willingness to consider new ideas and make changes when needed.

In light of recent calls for changes in budget allocations in terms of police funding, I support the idea of utilizing the skills of social workers and mental health professionals in staff or contracted positions. Upon review of existing policies, those that would perpetuate racism or police brutality should be eliminated.

There needs to be a reevaluation of all policies and programs in every department to determine if they are effective. 1) Funding and/or staffing adjustments should be made when needed. 2) Any barriers to citizens' access to services should be identified and eliminated. 3) There should be a balance in funding for services and maintaining safe and accessible facilities.

We cannot ignore, the impact that "Black on Black" crime has on our community. We know there are different theories why it exists but we need to move toward finding real solutions. Consider: 1) Preventive measures-mentoring and counseling services through YFD centers in cooperation with schools, churches and non-profits. 2) Focus on initiatives to eliminate prevalence of violence (including with the use of weapons) and participation in gang activity. 3) Opportunities for job training and employment with livable wages. 4) Prison reform with transitional programs to support those committed to rebuilding their lives.

Other needs include: 1) Adequate transportation throughout the city and surrounding areas. 2) Elimination of food deserts. 3) Safe streets for pedestrians and bikers. 4) Preserving historic neighborhoods with funding to assist families and seniors with maintaining and restoring older homes.

With all of the expertise and resources in our city, change can happen. Commitment to the process is the first step.