AGENDA SESSION MINUTES
CHATTANOOGA CITY COUNCIL
May 23, 2017

In Attendance

Council Chairman Jerry Mitchell called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. in the Assembly Room. A quorum was present, including Vice Chair Ken Smith and Council members Carol Berz, Anthony Byrd, Demetrus Coonrod, Russell Gilbert, Chip Henderson, Darrin Ledford and Erskine Oglesby. City Attorney Wade Hinton and Council Support Specialist Keren Campbell were also present.

Others in Attendance

Administration: Stacy Richardson, Chief of Staff, and Maura Sullivan, Chief Operating Officer; Youth and Family Development: Lurone Jennings, Administrator, and Greta Hayes, Recreation Director; Finance: Daisy Madison, Administrator; Information Technology: Brent Messer, Chief Information Officer; Regional Planning Agency: Sarah Robbins, Senior Planner; Police: Tracy Arnold, Assistant Chief

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Ledford, the minutes of the last meeting (May 16, 2017) were approved as published.

Ordinances (First Readings) - Agenda Item 6A

This item had been discussed at previous open meetings. Upon no questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Ordinances (First Readings) - Agenda Item 6B

Councilman Oglesby informed the Council that he would request a deferral on this item at tonight’s Council meeting. Upon no questions or further comments, the issue was closed.

Ordinances (First Readings) - Agenda Item 6C

Chairman Mitchell asked for a briefing on this item, to which Coach Jennings introduced Greta Hayes, who described the recreational programs for youth, such as the Summer Youth Camp program, and facilities uses. Ms. Hayes then responded to questions about the following subjects:

- Free camp for Title I students (Councilman Henderson)
- Verifying who qualifies for the free camp (Councilman Henderson)
- Confirming schools of children who participate (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Whether priority is given to those qualifying for reduced lunch (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Why the City charges a fee (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Facility rental prices for events (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- What happens to unused funds that were not used (Councilwoman Coonrod)
- Amount of children allowed to participate in programs (Councilman Byrd)
- How programs affected if school board partners with state. (Councilman Ledford)

Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.
Resolutions - Agenda Item 7A, 7B & 7C

These items had been discussed at previous open meetings. Upon no questions or comments, the issues were closed.

Resolutions - Agenda Item 7D

Councilman Henderson stated that he will propose to amend the resolution to “5 minutes” instead of “6 minutes,” and, at the request of Councilman Gilbert, explained why he was recommending this amount of time. A discussion ensued that included the following:

- Councilwoman Berz requested that the wording of the time limit be specific and offered the following language: “non-agenda speakers at the 6:00 p.m. Council meeting.” She commented on the importance of people’s needs and concerns being voiced as the primary goal. She also requested that the buzzer sound to alert speakers of time limits. Mr. Messer addressed I.T.’s efforts in this.
- Councilwoman Coonrod inquired about a platform for citizens to address the Mayor at Council meetings. She inquired of Attorney Hinton about the Mayor’s presence in Council meetings and if the charter addressed that.
- Councilman Ledford commended the Chairman for giving enough time for citizens to speak and address their concerns.
- Councilman Byrd commented on people’s disappointment and feelings of not being heard.

Resolutions - Agenda Item 7E

Ms. Robbins distributed the proposed Brainerd overlay zone and gave a brief overview on this resolution. Upon no questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Resolutions - Agenda Item 7F

Councilman Oglesby requested more information on this item. A discussion ensued with Chief Arnold, in which he informed the Council that the appropriate personnel would be at the 6:00 p.m. meeting. Upon no questions or comments, the issue was closed.

Other Business: Public Safety Meeting Proposed

Councilman Henderson requested a Public Safety Committee soon regarding the increase in clothing for fire fighters. Councilman Byrd agreed to coordinate the date and get back to the Council.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Freeman adjourned the meeting at 3:16 p.m.