

AGENDA SESSION MINUTES

CHATTANOOGA CITY COUNCIL

December 1, 2015

In Attendance

Council Chairwoman Carol Berz called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was present, including Vice Chair Moses Freeman and Councilmen Chris Anderson, Chip Henderson, Jerry Mitchell and Ken Smith. Councilmen Russell Gilbert, Larry Grohn and Yusuf Hakeem joined the meeting immediately after the call to order. Also present was City Attorney Wade Hinton and Nicole Gwyn, CMC, Clerk.

Others in Attendance

Human Resources: Todd Dockery, Administrator; Regional Planning: John Bridger, Executive Director, and Karna Levitt, City Architect.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Councilman Anderson and seconded by Councilman Gilbert, the minutes of the last meeting (November 24, 2015) were approved as published.

Resolutions – Agenda Item 7A & 7B

These items had been discussed previously in open meetings. Upon no further questions, the issue was closed.

Resolutions – Agenda Item 7C

Chairwoman Berz asked Mr. Dockery to come forward to address any misinformation that had been disseminated about the “Ban The Box” initiative. Councilman Anderson discussed what the resolution does not do. Attorney Hinton responded to a question from Councilman Henderson on how this will affect the application process for Fire and Police.

Other Business:

Ms. Levitt made a presentation titled, “Zoning Ordinance 12867: 7408 & 7414 Bonny Oaks Drive.” She specifically addressed Sections 38-595 (“no rip-rap”) and 38-602 (“natural living ground cover”) of the ordinance in relation to a landscaping violation at the Burger King on Highway 58.

A discussion ensued:

- Councilman Henderson asked several questions about the bioswale.
- Councilman Hakeem asked questions about the conflicting plans that show rip-rap as an alternate in one plan.
- Councilman Gilbert noted that the pictures in Ms. Levitt’s slideshow do not reflect the way the property looks today.

The developer, Mike Price of MAP Engineers, stated his position about the buffer zone violation and responded to questions from the Council. He also offered pictures and letters to support his position on the matter. Mr. Bridger joined the discussion to clarify the process for lifting a condition.

Further discussion ensued:

- Councilman Grohn read the EPA's definition of rip-rap.
- Vice Chair Freeman recommended that Mr. Price work with the contractor to get the buffer zone into compliance.
- Attorney Hinton told the options for the City if the property owner(s) do not comply.

Once the discussion concluded, the Council decided to take no action today on this matter. The discussion will, therefore, be removed from tonight's Council agenda.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairwoman Berz adjourned the meeting at 3:46 p.m.