

Meeting by video on Zoom, the Knoxville City Council had some lighter moments. The council is one of the first government bodies in the state to use video conferencing, permitted in an order from the governor, during the Coronavirus emergency. Screenshot of CTV coverage.

Council passes bond issues and home delivery of beer

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

In an online video conference of the Knoxville City Council on Zoom, several important bond issuance resolutions passed. Maybe more immediately important was an emergency ordinance introduced by Councilman Andrew Roberto to permit home delivery of beer.

"It went pretty well," commented Mayor Indya Kincannon after the two-hour

meeting. CTV telecast the session with images of the council members. The test of the system earlier in the week apparently helped iron out difficulties. Each council member responded from their homes and each could see the other members.

Roberto, who chairs the city's Beer Board, cleared the beer delivery with the city attorney and said the resolution will "help support our local vendors and keep folks employed." Vice Mayor

Gwen McKenzie seconded the motion to add it to the agenda as an emergency ordinance and the matter passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Amelia Parker also offered a resolution that passed, supporting the city's Coronavirus effort and authorizing the use of emergency funds when needed including possible rent subsidies. The funds could go to the Community Action Commission or other agencies

Continue on page 2

term easement for the East Tower and a permanent easement to the Summer Place Complex.

A second resolution would appropriate \$1.6 million to the acquisition of the Summer Place Complex there via a permanent easement and a permanent easement to the Fritts Parking Lot.

Both resolutions are being requested by the Finance Department.

On the digital meeting format, Knox County Commission Chairman Hugh Nysstrom said, "We will be sending out the agenda along with insight to Zoom process and everything is moving pretty quickly" of information going out to the commissioners.

When asked if he's been isolating, Nysstrom said, "Other than taking food and water to my mother-in-law, I have not been away from our house in about 10 days. I have spent a lot of time on phone calls."

The meeting will be aired on Community Television of Knoxville and streamed on their website, ctvknox.org, at 5 p.m. today.

CAC Emergency Response Fund

Knox County Schools unveils voluntary distance learning plan