

Observer Corps Reporting Form

Observer: Margaux Cowan-Banker

Meeting Observed: Knoxville City Council

Meeting Date: Tuesday June 24, 2005

Feature Evaluated	Yes	No	Comments
Meeting started on time?	✓		6:00 p.m. start was observed
All members present?		✓	Charles Thomas was not in attendance
Members attentive?	✓		I think mostly yes. Some talking between a few council members while others were speaking. D. Helsley seemed to put forth extra attentive effort when speakers from the public were called up.
Did members come prepared to discuss agenda items?	✓		It appeared they did. Many agenda items under Ordinances on Second Reading were skipped over at this meeting. Fairly involved discussion on a handful of the additional items.
Agenda posted 72 hours prior to meeting?	✓		
Agenda items clearly described what was to be discussed?	✓		
Adequate opportunity given for public input?	✓		7 individuals were brought forth to speak
Was there an appearance that some action items were discussed in closed rather than open session?	?		It seemed that A.Parker subtly hinted that the council might need to provide better transparency to the public regarding 9 d. (Proposed .5% tax increase) —she was the lone vote against advancing this measure.
Was background information available to the public?	✓		I did not personally have it all but this was due to my own lack of knowing where to find all said documents.
Facilities adequate (room size, lighting, ventilation, speakers, audible, ADA accessible?)	✓		

Were there any issues on the agenda relevant to LWV positions or programs? No

Do you recommend League action on any of these issues? No

Other concerns?

Public Forum seemed a bit swift for there to be much good come of it. Only one individual participated and she presented issues she'd had with 3-1-1. She was given the standard 5 minutes to speak but after was merely thanked for her feedback. I'm sure there's not much time, but it appeared mildly dismissive by the council/mayor, to me as an observer.