Greetings from District 9~2 Councilman Ford Canale

City of Memphis
Service Numbers

Animal Shelter:

901-636-1416

Citizen Service Center:

901-636-6500 (311)

City of Memphis Solid Waste

Holiday Line:

901-636-6650

Health Department:

901-222-9000

Non-Emergency Police:

901-545-2677

Memphis City Beautiful:

901-636-4410

Memphis City Council Office:

901-636-6786

Memphis Code Enforcement:

901-636-7464

Memphis Light, Gas, & Water:

901-544-6549

Memphis Police Department

Organized Crime Unit:

901-525-3673

Public Works:

901-636-6762

Shelby County Code Enforcement:

901-222-8300

Solid Waste:

901-636-6876

Welcome Chief of Police, Cerelyn "CJ" Davis

On Thursday, July 23, 2021, Second Presbyterian Church invited me and fellow City Councilman Chase Carlisle to host a community meeting for citizens to meet and greet the new Chief of Police, Cerelyn "CJ" Davis, and Assistant Chief Don Crowe. At this meeting, hundreds of neighbors attended to greet the new Memphis Police Chief with a standing ovation. Chief Davis presented the current crime data, as well as provided tips for neighbors to avoid being victimized, help with efforts toward recruiting more police officers, and to maintain a safer community. Assistant Chief Don Crowe also shared some valuable information about partnering with the Shelby County Sheriff's Office and Tennessee Highway Patrol to deter crime in our community. Following the presentation, there was a question and answer segment that allowed neighbors to voice their questions and concerns. Many of them shared disheartening anxieties about being victimized and the dangers of drag racing along their streets at night. Others expressed their ideas about recruiting more police officers to activate police programming amongst City neighborhoods.

Also present at the meeting were Tennessee State Representative John Gillespie, Shelby County Commissioner Brandon Morrison and Memphis Councilman Worth Morgan. Thank you so much, Second Presbyterian Church, for having us; and to everyone that joined us at the meeting! Your voices were heard and I am committed to pushing our police recruiting and retention efforts, deterring drag racing on our streets; and protecting the health, welfare and safety of our families, friends and neighbors.

Sincerely,

J Ford Canale

August Newsletter

On July 22 Councilman Canale, along with Super District 9-1 Councilman Chase Carlisle, held a Town Hall Meeting on Crime at Second Presbyterian Church. Hundreds of citizens turned out to hear from the Councilmen, Memphis' new Police Chief, Cerelyn "CJ" Davis, and MPD Assistant Chief Don Crowe.

Loud Muffler Legislation

Earlier this year, Councilman Canale introduced legislation to give Memphis police officers another tool to use in their efforts to make the city a safer and more peaceful place to live. Working with the Memphis Police Department, the Councilman drafted changes strengthening the City's ordinances on vehicle mufflers and muffler noise violations.

These ordinances will require a mandatory court appearance for all muffler violations. Councilman Canale also partnered with the Summer Avenue Merchants Association to create the Muffler Exchange Program. The Summer Avenue Merchant Association donated $10,000 to this program.

Under the program, eligible motorists who receive a citation for muffler noise violations may obtain a voucher for muffler repair at Holley's Automotive or Rufus Discount Muffler and Brakes. Once the repairs are completed and proof of compliance/repair is submitted to City Court, the court will dismiss the citation.

Councilman Canale is pleased to have been able to address an issue which many constituents were concerned; and he is grateful to the Summer Avenue Merchants Association and the two local repair shops whose efforts made the Muffler Exchange Program possible.

Drag Racing Legislation

Last year, Councilman Canale worked collaboratively with Tennessee State Senator, Brian Kelsey and State Representative, John Gillespie to pass legislation to increase the penalty for drag racing from a Class B misdemeanor to a Class A misdemeanor. This bill became active July 1, 2021.

In efforts to reinforce that legislation, Councilman Canale also introduced an ordinance to adopt the same language as the state law. As drag racing has increased throughout the year, Councilman Canale remains committed to introducing all legislation possible to hold those who participate in drag racing accountable.

August Newsletter

(Councilman Canale and Rachel Heck)

(Jaylen Lyndon Hunter and Ms. Chrysti Chandler, Founder of Young Actors Guild)

Recognitions and Presentations

Rachel Heck

At the July 20 Council meeting, Councilman Canale introduced a resolution congratulating and celebrating Rachel Heck on being named the NCAA Individual Champion at Stanford University and the 2021 Annika Award Winner as the nation's top female college golfer.

Rachel is a 2020 graduate of St. Agnes Academy and a rising sophomore at Stanford University, majoring in Political Science with a concentration in International Relations; while serving as an Air Force ROTC cadet.

This year alone, Rachel has set a new NCAA scoring record of 69.72 as her college scoring average. She is the Annika Award winner, PING/WGCA Player of the Year, PING/WGCA Freshman of the Year, Pac12 Player of the Year, Pac12 Newcomer of the Year, and Honda Sport Award Winner for Golf. Rachel now holds the title of the 3rd woman in history to sweep the postseason. Councilman Canale applauds her on her many accomplishments and encourages her to keep it in the fairway as she takes on many more rounds.

Jaylen Lyndon Hunter

At the City Council's July 6 meeting, Councilman Canale introduced a resolution honoring Jaylen Lyndon Hunter. At 11 years old, just three years into his acting career, Jaylen was selected for a lead role as Young Simba in the Broadway production of Disney's *The Lion King*.

Born in Granada, Spain in 2010, Jaylen moved to Memphis, where he developed a love for Creative and Performing Arts at the Young Actors Guild. He made his acting debut in 2017 at the Cannon Center as a dancer and singer in YAG's production of *The Jungle Book*.

In addition to scoring the role in *The Lion King*, this year Jaylen also was promoted from Idlewild Elementary School and is set to attend Evangelical Christian School at the start of the new school year. Jaylen's Broadway tour is scheduled to come to his hometown of Memphis in November.

Encouraging Memphians to support Jaylen in the show, Councilman Canale's resolution also urges that Jaylen "be honored, recognized and celebrated for his accomplishments and relentless efforts to pursue his dreams through Creative and Performing Arts." Councilman Canale also wishes Jaylen the best on his many accolades to come.

August Newsletter

2021 Memphis City Council Meeting Schedule

- January 5
- January 26
- February 2
- February 16
- March 2
- March 16
- April 6
- April 20
- May 4
- May 18
- June 1
- June 15
- July 6
- July 20
- August 3
- August 17
- September 7
- September 21
- October 5
- October 19
- November 2
- November 16
- December 7
- December 21

Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Amendments

In partnership with Councilman Carlisle, Councilman Canale proposed a successful amendment to the City's Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget to add an additional $41,127 to the MLK Amnesty Program. This program is a partnership between the Memphis City Council, City Court, and the Shelby County Criminal Court and General Sessions Court to help individuals pay fines to get their driver's licenses back. The program has helped hundreds of citizens regain their licenses, so they can get to and from work each day.

We look forward to helping many more citizens do the same.

Councilman Canale successfully introduced an amendment to increase the Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Improvement Program Budget to add $300,000 to the renovation of the Levitt Shell. We look forward to all of the updates for all Memphians to enjoy.

Recognitions and Presentations

Dr. Lulah M. Hedgeman

On May 8, Councilman Canale participated in the unveiling ceremony for an Honorary Street Name Change for Dr. Lulah M. Hedgeman. At the Council's May 4 meeting, the Councilman had introduced the resolution for the honorary name change of Lanier Lane between Willow Road and Mallory Avenue.

With a Master of Music degree from Memphis State University and an Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree from Rhodes College, Dr. Hedgeman taught in Chicago Public Schools, Memphis City Schools and at Memphis State University. In 1976, she became Choral Director at Overton High School of Creative and Performing Arts, a capacity in which she served until her untimely death in 1997.

While she was in this position, Overton's choirs won first place in every national and international competition and were ranked number one in the state of Tennessee for 21 consecutive years. Among the numerous awards and accolades Dr. Hedgeman received was the Walt Disney Company's Salute to the American Teacher, "Most Outstanding Performing Arts Teacher" Award presented by Oprah Winfrey. In addition, the movie "Mr. Holland's Opus," starring Richard Dreyfuss, was dedicated to Dr. Hedgeman.

Numerous friends, family and colleagues of Dr. Hedgeman attended the May 8 Honorary Street Name Change sign unveiling, which was organized by Dr. Hedgeman's daughter, Dr. Denita Hedgeman, as a Mother's Day tribute.