

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

Regular Meeting

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. in the G. Thomas Love Boardroom at the Greeneville Energy Building with Mayor C. Calvin Doty presiding.

Present were Council Members Matt Hensley, Ginny Kidwell, Tim Teague, Tim Ward, and Cathy Osborne, Interim City Manager.

At this time, Mayor Doty's comments are as follows: 1) Christina Potts, Marketing and Media Specialist, read a joint proclamation from Kevin Morrison, Greene County Mayor, and Cal Doty, Town of Greeneville Mayor, declaring June 5, 2026 as Carmen C. Ricker Day in recognition of her diligent efforts to help countless families while employed at the Greeneville-Greene County Community Food Bank Ministries; 2) Jeff Taylor, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Greene County Partnership, announced three (3) awards presented at the Pinnacle Award Ceremonies on behalf of the Northeast Tennessee Tourism Association including Best Festival for the Iris Festival, Best Collaborative Event for the Firefly Event, and Park Ranger Joe Nowotarski was awarded for his efforts to continue promoting tourism, despite the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene at David Crockett State Park, which still remains closed at this time; 3) The Eagle's Rest Pocket Park looks great with new signage, flowers, and landscaping; 4) Events coming up for the Town of Greeneville include: June 20th – Juneteenth celebration from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Big Spring behind the Library, July 4th – Independence Day and 250th Celebration begins at 4 p.m. at the Big Spring followed by a parade on Main Street and fireworks, July 4th – Recognition of the 30th anniversary of the USS Greeneville with approximately 140 individuals in attendance that have served or are serving on the USS Greeneville, July 6th – Day of Prayer at the Lions Club Pavilion located in Hardin Park, July 8th – Reading of the Declaration of Independence from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Greene County Courthouse, Beginning July 2nd and continuing every week in the month of July is Lyrics on the Lawn, and this weekend at the Capitol Theatre is a play titled "1776" multiple showtimes.

At this time, public comments are as follows: 1) Nancy Laughlin spoke against the 4 cent property tax increase as proposed stating this would place hardship on seniors and low-income families and requested the Council delay the approval of the property tax increase until the July 7, 2026 meeting; 2) Linda Wills spoke against the 4 cent property tax increase and requested the Council delay the approval of the property tax increase until the July 7, 2026 meeting; 3) C.G. Wills requested future property tax increases be approved by voter referendum; 4) Mary Louise Watts expressed concerns about a pool which has no fencing to protect children in the area which is located on property near her home. She also thanked Scott Keith for the stop sign placed at a nearby intersection and Page Norton for addressing the property maintenance concern with a neighbor; and 5) Jancie Painter promoted the Gift for Kids Christmas in July event, which will be held on July 18, 2026, at the Town Square Shopping Center. Ms. Painter also stated Summer Street will be closed for the event.

Motion by Council Member Kidwell, seconded by Council Member Ward to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting held on June 2, 2026. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Teague to approve an Ordinance on second and final reading to amend the Fiscal Year 2026 budget. Lora Young, Finance Director, addressed the Council. A public hearing was held with no one speaking for or against the ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Teague to approve an Ordinance on second and final reading to adopt the Fiscal Year 2027 budget and establish the property tax rate for the Town of Greeneville including a four (4) cent property tax increase and the additional \$86,800 expenditure cuts as presented. Lora Young, Finance Director, reviewed the proposed budget ordinance including the following: 1) Approximately \$1.3 million in expenditures have been cut from original budget requests by Town departments, including the additional cuts requested from the last Council meeting in the amount of \$86,800; 2) Cuts of \$86,000 include shifting pay level appropriations for vacancies that have occurred since mid-March when the budget was being developed, reductions in professional development in Administration, Finance, and Parks and Recreation Admin with alternative options for continued professional education credits, and reduction of \$30,000 in the transfer to the Municipal Solid Waste fund from the General Fund. After all expenditures have been adjusted, the General Fund Fiscal Year 2027 budget remains out of balance \$163,200. Mrs. Young presented the Council with options to balance, including: 1) Property Tax increase of four (4) cents with additional cuts, resulting in a surplus of \$103,750 or 2) Property Tax increase of three (3) cents with additional cuts, resulting in a surplus of \$38,750. Mrs. Young also noted the City Council has the ultimate authority to determine what is included or not included in the budget, as well as the state law requiring municipal budgets to be passed no later than June 30th each fiscal year. A public hearing was held with no one speaking for or against the ordinance, other than referenced in public comment. Motion passed as follows: Council Member Ward and Council Member Teague voted aye. Council Member Hensley and Council Member Kidwell voted nay. Mayor Doty voted aye, breaking the tie vote with a final 3-2 overall approval on the motion.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve the consent agenda with the following items included: 1) Special Event Application to close a portion of Summer Street on July 18, 2026 for Christmas in July event for Gifts for Kids; 2) Special Event Sign request for the Greene County Fair to be held July 20th through July 25th; 2026; and 3) Special Event Sign Request for the “Pray for Tennessee” day held on July 6, 2026 at the Lions Club Pavilion in Hardin Park at 4:30 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Hensley to approve a Resolution to adopt the Fiscal Year 2027 budget for the Greeneville-Greene County Public Library. Erin Evans, Library Director, addressed the Council stating the budget request of the Town of Greeneville for Fiscal Year 2027 appropriation to the Library includes an increase of \$11,500. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Teague to approve a Resolution to appropriate funds to the Greene County Partnership for Economic Development in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget in the amount of \$75,000. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve a Resolution to appropriate funds to Keep Greene Beautiful in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget in the amount of \$8,000. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Hensley to approve a Resolution for the Greeneville Fire Department to apply for the FY 2025 Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) Grant Program. Alan Shipley, Fire Chief, and Cathy Osborne, Interim City Manager, addressed the Council. The total grant award is \$351,000, with \$333,450 in federal grant funds and local matching funds in the amount of \$17,550. The grant funds would be used to purchase SCBA equipment, extrication equipment, and other small items. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Kidwell, seconded by Council Member Hensley to approve and allow the Interim City Manager to execute and deliver an agreement with Sumter Local Government Consulting for the City Manager executive search services. Cathy Osborne, Interim City Manager, addressed the Council, stating the base price outlined in the agreement is \$21,000 plus advertising, consultant travel, and candidate travel costs. Motion passed as follows: Council Members Ward, Hensley, and Kidwell voted aye. Council Member Teague voted nay.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Hensley to approve and engage Sumter Local Government Consulting for City Manager executive search services in an amount not to exceed \$35,000. Cathy Osborne, Interim City Manager, addressed the City Council, estimated the total cost of the search would be between \$32,000 and \$37,000. Lora Young, Finance Director, stated funds from the vacant City Manager salary could be used to cover the cost of the search. A budget amendment would be necessary to reallocate the funds. Motion passed as follows: Council Members Ward, Hensley, and Kidwell voted aye. Council Member Teague voted nay.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve and allow Interim City Manager to execute and deliver an agreement on the division of real estate located on Hal Henard Road. Cathy Osborne, Interim City Manager, addressed the Council, stating the total cost to reconstruct three of the tennis courts at the Sports Complex will be \$250,000 with \$75,000 appropriated from Greene County, \$75,000 appropriated from the City Schools, and the remainder of the costs would be appropriated by the Town. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Ward to approve the extension of the agreement with Upper East Tennessee Human Development Agency (UETHDA) allowing Head Start to utilize a portion of the George Clem Facility for operation and programming in the 2026-2027 school year. Cathy Osborne, Interim City Manager, addressed the Council stating this is an annual agreement, with contents the same as last year. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Ward to approve an addendum to the agreement with Upper East Tennessee Human Development Agency (UETHDA) allowing Head Start to add security measures to the front entrance and hallway contingent upon approval for the Town of Greeneville to have access to the video. Cathy Osborne, Interim City Manager, addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve a bid award recommendation for the mainline turn-bay extensions at SR-34 and Rufe Taylor Road. Scott Keith, Public Works Director, address the Council, stating the low bid is recommended by Mattern & Craig and is awarded to Summers Taylor in the amount of \$449,625.40. Lora Young, Finance Director, indicated that \$225,000 of remaining bond proceeds have been allocated to this project with the remaining costs allocated in the Capital Projects Fund for the Fiscal Year 2027 budget. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve the purchase of extrication equipment for the Greeneville Fire Department funded by grant dollars awarded from the Tennessee Rescue Squad Grant Funding the amount of \$73,515. Alan Shipley, Fire Chief, addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Kidwell, seconded by Council Member Ward to approve the following three appointments to the Greeneville Parking Authority: Paige Mengel, Craig Ogle, and Tim Teague. Cathy Osborne, Interim City Manager, addressed the Council stating that a total of nine (9) individuals submitted applications for the three vacancies. The Parking Authority met last week and recommended these three individuals be reappointed to the board. Motion passed as follows: Council Member Hensley, Kidwell, and Ward voted aye. Council Member Teague abstained.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Ward to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Calvin Doty, Mayor

Attest:

Lora A. Young, Recorder