

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

Regular Meeting

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Tuesday September 2, 2025, 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 Ginny Kidwell, Matt Hensley, Tim Teague, and Tim Ward.

At this time, Mayor Doty's comments are as follows: 1) A proclamation was presented to Sarah Webster at a service to honor her on Monday, September 1, 2025, for her commitment to the community and her thirty-nine years of service with the Dickson-Williams Historic Mansion; 2) The latest Tennessee Department of Tourist Development and Tourism Economics report indicated that tourism for the Town of Greeneville has increased 7.15% over the previous year, saving Greene County residents approximately \$370 per year in state and local taxes. Thanks to the Greene County Partnership and other tourism agencies for a great job in promoting our Town; and 3) Welcome to students from Towering Oaks Christian School.

Two individuals have requested to make public comments on the following agenda items: 1) One person to speak on item 8.5- Consideration to accept the RFQ for design services for the Crowfoot Alley Pedestrian Walkway; and 2) One person to speak on item 8.7-Update from the Roby Theater Committee. Those comments are included with the corresponding agenda item.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Ward to add the following item to the agenda at the request of Mayor Doty: Discussion of severance pay for Mr. Todd Smith. This item will be considered at the end of the current agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting held on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, with the requested changes from Council Member Hensley. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Chris Poynter, Senior Managing Partner with the Baldwin Group – the Town of Greeneville's third-party health plan administrator, provided an update on the performance of the health insurance plan with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee. Mr. Poynter indicated that the Town of Greeneville health plan was performing significantly better than the national trend, specifically for 2024-2025 with the plan costs approximately 20% lower than the prior year. This reduction in costs can be attributed primarily to two drivers: prescription cost rebates and the Town's stop-loss insurance coverage to offset larger claims. Overall, large medical claims over \$25,000 are similar to prior year averages, possibly down slightly. In addition, the employee clinic usage is now tracked through the Blue Cross Blue Shield claim system, indicating a higher usage of the facility and can certainly play a role in the reduction of costs, including the large formulary of prescription medications available to employees and their dependents at no cost to the health plan. Overall, Mr. Poynter is pleased with our insurance coverage and performance within the plan at this time. No changes to the current health plan are necessary at this time.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve closing a portion of Church Street on Saturday, October 4, 2025, for the Incredible Farm Dinner Downtown to be held from 6:00 – 9:30 p.m. Sarah Creutzinger with Rural Resources addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Hensley to approve closing portions of W. Depot Street and Irish Street on Saturday, October 25, 2025, for the Shop with a Cop Car Show. Jackie Sauceman with the U.S. Military Vets MC-TN-8 Grande's Crew addressed the Council stating this is a fundraiser for this organization and will feature Volkswagen vehicles. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Ward to accept the Request for Qualifications for design services for the Crowfoot Alley Pedestrian Walkway. Dave Wright, Architect, was awarded the contract for the design part of the project. Christina Potts, Marketing and Media Specialist, addressed the Council indicating the evaluation committee comprised of Scott Keith, Assistant Public Works Director, Justin Schooley, Planner, and Andy Broyles, Development Services Director met and scored each of the two proposals submitted. For public comment, Mr. Kevin Thompson, owner of The Gentry, requested businesses in the proximity of the walkway be considered in the design due to the topography of the area and structures nearby. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve a Resolution for the Town of Greeneville to Apply, Accept, Administer, and Amend the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Brownfield Redevelopment Area Grant (BRAG). Cathy Osborne, Assistant City Manager, addressed the Council. This is an assessment grant and provides \$100,000 in grant funds with no local match. The grant application deadline is September 15, 2025. Mattern & Craig will administer the grant and are permitted up to \$5,000 in costs to do so. Furthermore, the Town of Greeneville will have oversight of the project. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time, an update from the Roby Theater Committee was provided by Mr. Carl Close, also made a request for public comment. Mr. Close indicated the Committee would like to move forward with asbestos testing and clean-up of the theater in order to fully evaluate the potential design and possible uses of this facility. Mr. Close is a member of this committee. A donation of \$250.00 had been deposited with the Town of Greeneville to cover the cost of the \$250 quote for asbestos testing. Council Member Matt Hensley disclosed he is the City Council representative on this committee.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve with the asbestos testing in the amount not to exceed \$250, which is equal to the amount of the donation deposited with the Town. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Kidwell, seconded by Council Member Hensley to approve a change order for the exterior improvements at Town Hall in the amount of \$28,700. The additional scope includes gable ends on either side of the building and restoration of the columns on the front of the building. Lora Young, Finance Director, indicated there would be an amendment to the current year budget for this change order and the original cost of the project, with funding from fund balance in the general fund. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Hensley to award a bid for resurfacing of various streets in the Town of Greeneville with only one (1) bid from Summers Taylor in the amount of \$1,198,312.00. This project is grant funded through the Tennessee

Department of Transportation (TDOT) with Surface Transportation Block Grant Funds. The scope of the project includes Church Street, Old Shiloh Road, and the Erwin Highway. Scott Keith, Assistant Public Works Director, addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Scott Keith, Assistant Public Works Director, provided an update from the American Public Works Association National Conference. Conference takeaways included: 1) Infrastructure asset inventory is critical for data-driven decision-making, possibly using a GIS system; 2) Developing a stormwater management strategy, including scope of needs and a master plan based on inventory data; 3) Identifying funding for a stormwater capital plan for those utility challenges; and 4) Working toward the American Public Works Association accreditation for the Town of Greeneville's Public Works Department.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Ward to appoint Cathy Osborne, Assistant City Manager, as the Interim City Manager. Mrs. Osborne accepted the appointment verbally, awaiting an agreement with several provisions, including permission for return to her position as Assistant City Manager upon the hiring of a permanent City Manager. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Lora Young, Finance Director, provided an estimate of the severance pay for the former City Manager, Todd Smith. The estimate is as follows: Mr. Smith's annual salary was \$164,918 at the time of his departure. According to his employment contract, a six (6) month severance in the amount of \$82,459. In addition to that amount, accrued leave of approximately 262 hours in the amount of \$20,773, with sick leave excluded and applied to service credits for the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System for employees. Mrs. Young stated the lump sum payout total is classified as gross wages and would need to be verified by the Human Resources Department.

Motion by Council Member Ward seconded by Council Member Kidwell to adjourn.
Motion passed unanimously.

C. Calvin Doty, Mayor

Attest:

Lora A. Young, Recorder

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