

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

Regular Meeting

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, March 17, 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, and Tim Ward. Interim City Manager Cathy Osborne was absent.

At this time, Mayor Doty's comments are as follows: 1) Nancy Laughlin, a Greeneville property owner, addressed the Council inquiring about the authority of the Council to assist in a matter regarding the police department; 2) Joint Proclamation for Greene County and the Town of Greeneville to recognize April as Child Abuse Prevention Month; 3) George Wurtzel, owner of GM Wurtzel Custom Furniture and Design, thanked the Council and the Public Works Department for the recent installation of ADA compliant crosswalk upgrades. Mr. Wurtzel presented the Mayor with a token of appreciation; 4) Mr. Bart Long, owner of Bart Long & Associates Realty and Auction, LLC, presented the Town and the City Council with a framed photograph of their Clydesdale entry in the 2025 Greeneville Christmas Parade.

At this time, Mayor Doty requested the addition of an item for today's agenda after hearing and considering the comments from Mr. Tracy Solomon at the special called meeting held on Friday, March 13, 2026, and considering the issues the Council has experienced with the current consultant and process.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Hensley to add the following item to the agenda: Consideration to hire a consultant or executive search firm for the City Manager search. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time, several people registered for public comment on item 7.2 regarding changes to the sign ordinance. Comments will be heard during the associated agenda item.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting held on February 17, 2026. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Dr. Mike Hartsell, MD, Chair of CANUP, addressed the Council stating the following regarding homelessness in Greeneville: 1) Examples of milestones for 2025 include: daily food delivery, housing assistance, referrals for mental health services, and facilities for showers and laundry services; 2) CANUP will continue to document those individuals who need shelter and/or housing; 3) Vision would for 2026 would be to lay the foundation for the transitional housing project, as well as securing partners from mental health organizations, local law enforcement, non-profit organizations, and municipal involvement to be successful; and 4) CANUP will continue its reputable 501 (c) (3) status with continued registration as a Tennessee Charity.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Hensley to authorize the City attorney to amend the sign ordinance to allow feathered flags. Public comments were as follows: 1) Lynn Broyles, Executive Director of the Green County Anti-Drug Coalition, addressed the Council stating her concern for this type of advertisement as it could draw the attention of under-age individuals to purchase products from stores with age restrictions; 2) Jann Mirkov,

Executive Director of Main Street Greeneville, addressed the Council requesting that the downtown and historic district be exempted from permitting feathered flags for businesses in these areas; 3) Chris Gunter, owner of Wheel Sports in Greeneville, addressed the Council expressing his support for feathered flags, which is an inexpensive, as well as effective way of advertisement for small businesses; and 4) Chris Nicely, owner of Nicely Done Barber Shop in Greeneville, addressed the Council expressing his support for feathered flags and his reasons for requesting this consideration to revise the sign ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Lora Young, Finance Director, reviewed the February monthly financial report, stating the following: 1) The large amount of excess revenues for February can be attributed to this month being the final month to pay personal and real property taxes for the current year; 2) Local Option Sales Tax collections for February, which reflects sales activity for the previous December, represent a \$35,235 or 3.5% increase over the prior year; and 3) State Sales Tax collections for February, which also reflects sales activity for the previous December, represent a \$7,791 or 4% increase over the prior year. Mrs. Young also noted that Sales Tax revenue collections are trending downward and will be monitored closely as we approach budget development for the next fiscal year.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Hensley to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Greeneville City Schools and the Town of Greeneville to address school facility maintenance needs. Lora Young, Finance Director for the Town of Greeneville, and Ellen Lipe, Chief Financial Officer for the Greeneville City Schools, addressed the Council. Both Mrs. Young and Mrs. Lipe have worked together for several months to develop an accounting model that includes two additional financial funds (School Facility Maintenance Debt Fund and School Facility Maintenance Project Fund) which provide short-term borrowing for eligible school maintenance projects and would include equal financial participation from the Town and the Schools. The Greeneville City School Board of Education approved this Memorandum of Understanding at their regular meeting held on February 24, 2026. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Andy Broyles, Development Services Director, provided an update on the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) Multi-Modal Access Grant that was awarded in 2022 in the amount of \$944,006. After a recent meeting with the TDOT's Local Programs Office and several Town staff members, the scope of this project has been greatly reduced from sidewalk improvements beginning at McKee Street and ending at the Tusculum Boulevard, including landscaping, pedestrian furniture and pedestrian lighting to currently only one block of the original grant project. The cost of sidewalk construction with only concrete as an option for construction and without landscaping, furniture, and lighting has escalated to at least \$1.8 million with a 5% local match. This block includes sidewalks between West Depot Street and Church Street. TDOT indicated there would be significant sloping challenges for these sidewalks. Mr. Broyles has some questions for the Local Program Office of TDOT and will provide additional information to the City Council as it becomes available.

Motion by Council Member Kidwell, seconded by Council Member Hensley to approve a Resolution for the Greeneville Fire Department to apply for the FY 2026 Rescue Squad Grant

Program in the amount of \$73,140 with no local match. These grant funds would be used to purchase rescue tools. David Weems, Fire Marshal, addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Ward to approve a Resolution for the Greeneville Police Department to apply for the FY 2027 Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant in the amount of \$47,000 with no local match. These grant funds would be used to purchase a vehicle. Steve Spano, Police Chief, addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Kidwell, seconded by Council Member Hensley to approve a special event application for the Iris Festival to be held on May 16 and May 17, 2026, with proposed closed streets as follows: Portions of College and Academy. Kendra Hopson, General Manager for the Greene County Partnership, addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve a special event application for Sundown on Depot Car Show to be held on May 16 and May 17, 2026, with proposed closed streets as follows: Portions of Main, Depot, Church, Irish, and Summer. Mr. Todd Collins and Mr. James Cooper, organizers of the event, addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Kidwell, seconded by Council Member Hensley to approve a special event application for Appalachian Autumn Festival to be held on October 24, 2026, with proposed closed streets as follows: Portions of College and Academy. Kendra Hopson, General Manager for the Greene County Partnership, addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Kidwell, seconded by Council Member Ward to approve a special event application for Sundown on Depot Car Show (Fall event) to be held on October 24, 2026, with proposed closed streets as follows: Portions of Main, Depot, Church, Irish, and Summer. Mr. Todd Collins and Mr. James Cooper, organizers of the event, addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Bert Seay, Building Department Director, addressed the Council stating that administrative approval was provided for a special event sign request for the Antique Appraisal Fair that was held on March 14, 2026, at the Eastview Recreation Center. Since the first City Council meeting in March was canceled, Mr. Seay spoke with Cathy Osborne, Interim City Manager, for approval of the sign request.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Hensley to approve three board members for the Health and Education Facilities Board to fill vacancies due to end of term. Recommended applicants are: April Lane, Rodney Bell, and Al Claiborne. Christina Potts, Marketing and Media Director, addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Kidwell, seconded by Council Member Hensley to approve the purchase of a server from Central Technologies in the amount of \$24,919.57. This is a budgeted item and is purchased via state contract vendor. Daniel Rollins, IT Systems Technician for the Greeneville City Schools and the Town of Greeneville, addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Ward to approve the repair of the transmission to the D6 Dozer at the Landfill. Tony Morrison, Landfill Manager, addressed the Council. This is an unbudgeted purchase. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve a certificate of compliance for a retail package store. Steve Spano, Police Chief, addressed the Counmcil. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Hensley to hire a consultant or executive recruiting firm to conduct the search for a City Manager. The motion remains pending and is considered unfinished business.

At this time, discussion was held regarding the option of hiring a consultant to conduct the executive search for the next City Manager. The City Council reached a consensus to pause the City Manager search until further notice. No formal action was taken.

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

Attest:

C. Calvin Doty, Mayor

Lora A. Young, Recorder

*

*

*

*