

# UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

## Regular Meeting

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 2, 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) Congratulations to Steve Starnes, who is retiring at the end of June as Director of the Greeneville City Schools. Mayor Doty thanked Mr. Starnes for his service and wished him well on future endeavors; 2) Christina Potts, Marketing and Media Specialist, read the joint proclamation from the Greene County Mayor Kevin Morrison and Town of Greeneville Mayor Cal Doty recognizing July 2026 as Gift for Kids Christmas in July Month; 3) On July 8, 2026, the Declaration of Independence will be read in front of the Greene County Courthouse at 6:00 p.m. This is a nationwide event, with readings occurring at the same time of day. This event will also include music, food, and other special activities; 4) With various graduations from high schools and colleges/universities in the area, along with school prom events and Memorial Day celebrations, summer is off to a great start in our area; 5) Yesterday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, was the 230<sup>th</sup> birthday of the State of Tennessee; 6) This July we celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States of America. The Town will be celebrating downtown on July 4<sup>th</sup> with many activities including a parade and fireworks. More information about the 250<sup>th</sup> memorabilia can be found on the Greene County Heritage Trust website; and 6) Mayor Doty read a statement on Ethics for Council Members and Town Employees that included the following highlights: 1) Ethical government begins with individual responsibility; 2) Tennessee Ethics Law and the Town of Greeneville Ethics Policy provides guidance to all Elected Officials, Appointed Board Members, Employees, and all who serve the citizens of Greeneville; 3) Ethics is not simply about compliance or policies, but about personal accountability which begins with education; 4) Everyone is responsible for his or her own understanding of the Ethics law and Town policy, as well as ensure he or she is trained to recognize ethical issues; and 5) Department Directors have an additional responsibility to provide guidance to staff, ensure training, and encourage questions. No employee should hesitate to approach someone when faced with an ethical concern. The Citizens of Greeneville expect honesty, transparency, and integrity from those who serve. We are also expected to put public interest ahead of personal, political, or financial interests.

At this time, Mary Louise Watts addressed the City Council regarding sight limitation, particularly at the intersection of Housley Avenue and Royal Street due to overgrown bushes and an overgrown lot nearby. Ms. Watts stated she had contacted City Council members and Town employees with no resolution as of today but was seeking public direction from the Council for who is responsible for cleanup and how this issue can be resolved. She followed her comments with photos on her cellphone. Mayor Doty responded Town employees would be looking into this further and someone would be back in touch with her.

Motion by Council Member Kidwell, seconded by Council Member Hensley to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting held on May 19, 2026. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Kidwell, seconded by Council Member Ward to approve an Ordinance on second and final reading to rezone 1202 Tusculum Blvd from R-1 (Low Density Residential) to B-4 (Arterial Business). Justin Schooley, Planning Administrator, addressed the Council. A public hearing was held with no one speaking for or against the Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Ward to approve an Ordinance on second and final reading to approve a text amendment to the Greeneville Zoning Ordinance to define and authorize Neighborhood Gathering Venues as a use in the B-1 District and Places of Amusement and Assembly as a use in the B-2 District. Justin Schooley, Planning Administrator, addressed the Council. A public hearing was held with no one speaking for or against the Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve voting separately on the two board vacancies for the Greeneville Municipal Airport Authority. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Ward to approve Mr. Jimmy Collins for re-appointment to the Greeneville Municipal Airport Authority for a five-year term. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Teague to approve Mr. John Curan to fill the vacancy on the Greeneville Municipal Airport Authority for the remainder of an unexpired term until April 2029. Motion passed as follows: Council Members Kidwell, Teague, and Ward voted aye. Council Member Hensley voted nay.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve the Consent Agenda which contains the following items: 1) Special Event Application to close portions of Main and East Depot Streets for the reading of the Declaration of Independence on Wednesday, July 8, 2026; 2) Special Event Sign request for the Adventist Academy Yard Sale June 7<sup>th</sup>; 3) Special Event Sign request for the Gift for Kids resource Fun Fair on July 18, 2026; and 4) Special Event Sign request for the 2026 “Jogging for Jess” fundraiser. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Ward to approve a Resolution authorizing the application of \$350,000 of available bond proceeds of General Obligation Bonds of the Town of Greeneville for other capital projects. Lora Young, Finance Director, addressed the Council stating both the Comptroller’s office and Bond Counsel have stated this resolution is required to reallocate the excess bond proceeds for a spending plan that varies from the original debt issue. The excess bond proceeds are to be allocated as follows: \$95,000 to be allocated to improvements to the tennis court project at the Sports Complex and \$255,000 to be allocated to the road improvement project on Highway 11E at the Rufe Taylor Road intersection. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve an Ordinance on first reading to amend the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget. Lora Young, Finance Director, addressed the Council stating this is the second budget amendment for this fiscal year and follows the same process as in prior years. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Lora Young, Finance Director, presented the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget to be considered with the following highlights: 1) Balanced budget with \$1.83 million fund balance drawdown for capital equipment and projects and a 4 cent property tax increase which increases the property tax rate from \$1.7071 per \$100 of assessed value to \$1.7471 per \$100 of assessed value; 2) Revenue increases include in property taxes in the amount of \$306,500, local option sales tax in the amount of \$334,175, and state sales tax in the amount of \$42,000; 3) Expenditure increases include additional funds to City Schools for required maintenance of effort in the amount of \$246,000, step increase for employees, including benefits, in the amount of \$333,266, new expenditures for the George Clem facility in the amount of \$40,000, and new debt expenditures in the amount of \$209,440; 4) Expenditures not budgeted include a cost of living raise for employees, new positions, technology upgrades and/or equipment, and funding for no-profit agencies; and 5) Capital equipment purchases in the amount of \$356,000 and capital improvement projects in the amount of \$1,870,305.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Ward to approve an Ordinance on first reading to adopt the fiscal year 2027 budget and establish the property tax rate effective July 1, 2026, as presented with a 4-cent property tax increase. Motion passed as follows: Council Members Hensley, Teague, and Ward voted aye. Council Member Kidwell voted nay.

Motion by Council Member Ward, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve a Resolution to amend the policy on public participation in meetings. Cathy Osborne, Interim City Manager, addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Hensley, seconded by Council Member Teague to approve an agreement with Main Street Greeneville for the purpose of adding improvements to the Eagle's Rest Pocket Park as a part of the Downtown Improvement Grant (DIG). Jann Mirkov, Executive Director of Main Street Greeneville, and Cathy Osborne, Interim City Manager, addressed the Council. Expenditures in the amount of \$25,000 are planned in the fiscal year 2027 budget and include an archway, railing, and water station. Grant funds will be provided to reimburse the Town for expenditures to complete this project. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Teague, seconded by Council Member Kidwell to approve the purchase of ballistic vests and carriers for the Greeneville Police Department in the amount of \$6,531.00 through the Bullet Proof Vest Program, which provides 50% federal funds with a 50% local match. Kevin Gass, Police Captain, addressed the Council. Motion passed unanimously.

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

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C. Calvin Doty, Mayor

Attest:

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Lora A. Young, Recorder

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