

MINUTES
GREENVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Special Meeting/Public Hearing, Monday, September 28, 2020, 6:00 PM Via Zoom
CITY HALL, 154 SW OLD MISSION AVENUE, GREENVILLE FL 32331

1. Call to Order: Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.
2. Roll Call by Mayor: Mayor Brittni Brown, Vice Mayor Calvin Malone, Councilmembers Bobby Burnett, Kathleen Hamilton, and Brandi Tillman were present.

ALSO PRESENT: Lee Jones, Jr., Interim Town Clerk
 John Reid, Town Attorney

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Invocation was followed by the pledge of allegiance
4. **Reading and Approval of the Agenda**

MOTION: Mr. Malone moved to approve the agenda; second by Ms. Tillman.

	<u>Yay</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Mayor Brown	X	
Mr. Burnett	X	
Ms. Hamilton	X	
Mr. Malone	X	
Ms. Tillman	X	

Motion passed unanimously.

5. **Public Comment:** None

6. **Consent Agenda:**

- a. **Approval of Minutes: August 10, 2020, August 17, 2020, September 15, 2020, and September 21, 2020.**

MOTION: Ms. Tillman moved to approve the agenda; second by Ms. Hamilton.

	<u>Yay</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Mayor Brown	X	
Mr. Burnett	X	
Ms. Hamilton	X	
Mr. Malone	X	
Ms. Tillman	X	

Motion passed unanimously.

7. **Resolution 2020-13 - A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR MADISON COUNTY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021. – Lee N. Jones, Jr., Interim Town Clerk**

- Mr. Jones reintroduced Resolution 2020-13 which keeps the millage rate at 10.0 mills.
- This rate is unchanged from the current budget year.

8. **Resolution 2020-14 - A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021. – Lee N. Jones, Jr., Interim Town Clerk**

- Mr. Jones reintroduced the annual budget for fiscal year 2020-2021.

MOTION: Mr. Malone moved to adopt Resolutions 2020-13 and 2020-14; second by Ms. Hamilton.

	<u>Yay</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Mayor Brown	X	
Mr. Burnett	X	
Ms. Hamilton	X	
Mr. Malone	X	
Ms. Tillman	X	

Motion passed unanimously.

9. **Discuss – Evergreen Cemetery. – Lee N. Jones, Jr., Interim Town Clerk**

- Mr. Jones informed the Town Council that the Department of Corrections would not be able to provide maintenance labor for the cemetery.
- Mr. Jones reported that the cost of maintenance for the cemetery has been paid for by the general fund and not from the cemetery fund.
- Mr. Jones said that Mr. Reid had researched a private party assuming control of the cemetery maintenance.
- Mr. Reid inform the Town Council that Mr. Burnett had previously mentioned that a private party had expressed a party interested and deferred to Mr. Burnett.
- Mr. Burnett said that he has been approached by a private party who wanted to know if the cemetery could be conveyed.
- Mr. Reid said that it could for proper consideration.
- The Town Council asked that Mr. Burnett work with Mr. Jones to see what terms were sought by the private party.

10. **Discuss** – Legal issues pertaining to 2020 election. – **John Reid, Town Attorney**

- Mr. Reid informed the Town Council that he had received a letter from an attorney on behalf of citizens raising concerns regarding the qualifications of two (2) candidates for Town Council.
- Mr. Reid opined that the Town Council was not obliged to take an affirmative action to remove one or both candidates from the ballot, but rather that the Town Council lacked the authority. The removal of candidates from the ballot after qualifying had closed must be decided by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- Mr. Reid advised the Town Council that it could seek declaratory judgment so that a court of competent jurisdiction could make such determination or that it could choose to not take legal action and allow citizens to do so.
- Mr. Burnett asked if the Town would be liable for the attorney's fees for candidates involved in outside litigation.
- Mr. Reid said that the parties would likely be responsible for their own fees.
- The consensus of the Town Council was to take no action.

11. **Informational Items**

- Mr. Jones informed the Town Council that Mr. Reid had assumed the responsibility of fulfilling public records requests during the transition. Mr. Jones said that the duty could be returned to the office of the Town Clerk.
- Mr. Burnett asked Mr. Jones if he had offered employment to the former Town Clerk.
- Mr. Jones informed the Town Council that his private business hiring practices were not the concern of the Town Council.
- Ms. Brown asked Mr. Jones if the Town's general fund was paying the costs of the maintenance of the Evergreen Cemetery. Mr. Jones said that it was.
- By consensus, the Board directed Mr. Jones to reimburse the general fund for the cost of maintenance of the Evergreen Cemetery with funds from the cemetery fund.

12. Adjournment

- Ms. Brown informed the Board that the October meeting was tentatively scheduled for Monday, October 12, 2020, which is Columbus Day.
- Since no staff would be required to attend the October meeting, the Town would not be required to pay time and a half for attending a meeting on a holiday.

- The Town Council agreed to keep the October meeting scheduled for October 12, 2020.

MOTION: Ms. Tillman moved to adjourn; second by Mr. Malone.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

/s/ Lee N. Jones, Jr.
Lee N. Jones, Jr., Interim Town Clerk