

MINUTES
GREENVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Regular Session, Thursday, November 05, 2020, 6:00 PM Via Zoom
CITY HALL, 154 SW OLD MISSION AVENUE, GREENVILLE FL 32331

1. Swear in Newly Elected Council Members

- Town Attorney John Reid administered the oath of office to candidates Brittini Brown and Barbara Dansey.

2. Election of Mayor

MOTION: Councilmember Hamilton moved to elect Brittini Brown as Mayor; second by Councilmember Tillman.

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

Motion passed 3-2.

3. Election of Vice Mayor

MOTION: Councilmember Hamilton moved to elect Brandi Tillman as Vice Mayor; second by Mayor Brown.

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

Motion passed 3-2.

4. Call to Order: Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.

5. Roll Call by the Clerk: Mayor Brittini Brown, Vice Mayor Brandi Tillman, Councilmember Bobby Burnett, Councilmember Barbara Dansey, and Councilmember Kathleen Hamilton were present.

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

6. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Invocation was followed by the pledge of allegiance.
7. Reading and Approval of the Agenda:

MOTION: Vice Mayor Tillman moved to approve the agenda; second by Councilmember Hamilton.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

8. Consideration of Council Member Absences: None.
9. Public Comments: None.
10. Consent Agenda: None.
11. Comments by Interim Town Clerk, Town Attorney, Town Manager, and Town Council:
- Town Attorney John Reid confirmed that the Executive Order waiving the requirement that a quorum be physically present at public meetings expired.
 - Mr. Reid stated that the Town Council had never held a meeting without a physical quorum, so there was no practical effect on Town business.
 - Mr. Reid also confirmed that existing law does prohibit the Town Council from keeping public attendance limited to videoconferencing. State law requires the public attend the meeting and offer comment, but it is silent as to whether physical presence is required.
 - Councilmember Dansey said that many citizens of Greenville do not have good Internet access, so she believes the meetings should be physically to the public.
 - Mr. Reid said that the Town Council would have the ability to open meetings to open meetings to the public.

MOTION: Councilmember Dansey moved to amend the agenda to include a line item related to meetings to be open to the public; second by Councilmember Burnett.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

11a. Opening meetings of the Town Council to the public.

MOTION: Councilmember Burnett moved to physically open meetings of the Town Council to at least 20 people while maintaining appropriate social distancing; second by Councilmember Dansey.

- Councilmember Hamilton asked how we would determine the 20 people that could attend.
- Councilmember Dansey answered that past meetings had limited attendance.
- Councilmember Burnett clarified his motion that it would require Town staff to identify an additional location where adequate social distancing could be maintained.
- Councilmember Dansey said that we could have members of the public reserve spaces for meetings, and it would be first come, first serve.
- Councilmember Burnett said that the spirit of the motion is to show the public that the Town is trying to physically open the meetings to the public.
- Councilmember Dansey asked which staff would be tasked with finding a new location.
- Mayor Brown said that it would be either Interim Town Clerk/Manager Lee Jones, Jr. or Town Attorney John Reid.

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

Motion failed 2-3.

11. Comments by Interim Town Clerk, Town Attorney, Town Manager, and Town Council:

- Interim Town Clerk/Manager Lee Jones said that the bids for construction of the grocery store came in over budget. Mr. Jones continued that the funding formula changed since the bid was offered so the Town could gain access to more funds.
- The funding source recommended that the Town rebid the project under the new funding formula.
- Mayor Brown asked if the grocery store project had stalled. Mr. Jones said that it has not, and the project was continuing to move forward.
- Mr. Jones said that the Town has addressed zoning and land use issues in a timely fashion.
- Councilmember Dansey asked if Councilmembers attended meetings between Messrs. Jones and Reid with funding partners and/or contractors and if there were any current records of the meetings.

- Interim Town Clerk/Manager said that the multi-year septic-to-sewer project has completed about \$4.2 million worth of work over the past two years and expect another \$8.3 million in future work. Mr. Jones said that he could provide timelines for the upcoming phases of the project.

- Interim Town Clerk/Manager Lee Jones has been working on finding solutions to issues of solvency related to the Evergreen Cemetery. Mr. Jones said that he has identified a grant that could provide approximately \$50,000 to assist with upkeep and digitization of records.
- Mayor Brown asked if Councilmember Burnett had identified a third-party that might wish to provide maintenance of the cemetery.
- Councilmember Burnett said the third-party is no longer interested.

- Interim Town Clerk/Manager Lee Jones continues to follow the directive of the Town Council to find new resources for infrastructure.

- Interim Town Clerk/Manager Lee Jones addressed a project through the Florida Department of Transportation for work on three streets. The Town is currently waiting on the State to release the funds.
- Mr. Jones said that he is considering future grants and that applications are currently due in March 2021.

- Interim Town Clerk/Manager Lee Jones addressed work on the signage welcoming visitors to the Town of Greenville. The State has visited, and discussions are ongoing.

- The Town has been granted two (2) \$50,000 grants to upgrade the parks. The needs exceed the amounts to be received, so the Town Council will need to prioritize.

- Following the county terminating its land use and zoning services, the Town staff is currently providing all of those services in-house.

- Interim Town Clerk/Manager Lee Jones is looking at funding for trail systems that might service as a draw for tourism to Greenville.
- Interim Town Clerk/Manager Lee Jones is reviewing telephonic services where residents could access their utility accounts and check balances. The delay in the postal service has been a problem in Greenville, so this would allow residents to have better access to services.
- Councilmember Dansey asked if the late bills have been the fault of the Town staff or the post office. Mr. Jones said that the bills are mailed on-time, but the delay is with the post office.
- Councilmember Dansey asked why residents could not pay utility bills in person at the Town Hall.
- Mayor Brown said that due to COVID-19, the Town no longer accepted cash payments.
- Mayor Brown identified the vision of the Town Council to modernize the community, which is named “Greenville 2.0” or “GV2”.

12. Future Agenda Items Requests:

- None.

13. Informational Items:

- None.

14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

/s/ Lee N. Jones, Jr.
Lee N. Jones, Jr., Town Manager