Consent Agenda Item A

MINUTES

GREENVILLE TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Session, May 8, 2017, 6:00 PM

CITY HALL, 154 SW OLD MISSION AVENUE, GREENVILLE FL 32331

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Calvin Malone, Council Member Joi Collins, Council Member Brandi Seabrooks, Council Member Barbara Dansey and Council Member Kovacherich Arnold

ALSO PRESENT: Jim McCroskey, Town Manager

Kimberly Reams, Town Clerk

JC Fead, Public Works

Hakili Washington, Fire Chief

1. Call to Order

After prayer and the pledge, Mr. Malone called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Mayor Malone stated that he was moving citizen participation to the end of the meeting because there was much to discuss.

1. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Ms. Seabrooks moved to approve Consent Agenda Items a through c; second by Mr. Arnold. Motion passed unanimously.

YEA NAY

Mr. Malone X

Mr. Arnold X

Ms. Collins X

Ms. Seabrooks X

Ms. Dansey X

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda: Item d (Fire/Public Works Truck not to exceed $15.000) was removed from the consent agenda for discussion. Mr. McCroskey stated that half of the funds would come from the County Fire Department budget and half would come from the Town Fire Department budget. After further discussion the following motions were made.

MOTION: Ms. Dansey moved to table this item until time to work on the budget; second by Ms. Collins. Motion failed 2-3.

YEA NAY

Mr. Malone X

Mr. Arnold X

Ms. Collins X

Ms. Seabrooks X

Ms. Dansey X

MOTION: Ms. Seabrooks moved to approve consent agenda item d; second by Mr. Arnold. Motion passed 3-2.

YEA NAY

Mr. Malone X

Mr. Arnold X

Ms. Collins X

Ms. Seabrooks X

Ms. Dansey X

1. Discussion and possible action regarding Council Absences - Vacancies: Ms. Collins stated that according to the Charter Amendment Ordinance Number 234 Section 2.07 – Vacancies, Council Member Group 1 and Council Member Group 3 have been physically absent from council meetings three times within the past twelve months. Ms. Collins went on to say that there is no record of council providing prior approval for their absences therefore their seats are vacant. Mr. Arnold asked who excused absences. There was some discussion about council members attending meetings by phone and whether that was approved. Mr. Schnitker, Town Attorney stated that any action of the Town has to be done by the Council as a whole. He went on to say that no one individual can take individual action. Mr. Schnitker stated that they were discussing two different issues. After very lengthy discussion by council members and citizens the following motion was made.

MOTION: Ms. Collins moved to have the Town Attorney research legality of vacant seats and Town Manager to verify from Minutes council member absences and return with an opinion; second by Ms. Seabrooks. Motion passed unanimously.

YEA NAY

Mr. Malone X

Mr. Arnold X

Ms. Collins X

Ms. Seabrooks X

Ms. Dansey X

1. Discussion and possible action regarding Participation of Town Council Members at a Public Meeting by telephone: Ms. Dansey stated that some discussion had been done on this item in with the last agenda item. Ms. Dansey went on to state that she would like for Mr. Schnitker to get an Attorney General Opinion on whether a council member may participate by telephone. Mr. Schnitker stated that there was already an Attorney General Opinion on that question and that we should not ask for an opinion on something that they had already issued an opinion on. There was some back and forth discussion. It was finally determined that the questions were 1) Can Council retroactively vote to permit telephone attendance and 2) If previous telephone attendance has not been approved by Council are votes by members attending by phone valid. Mr. Schnitker stated that he would draft the question for the Attorney General and bring it back to Council for approval.

Department Reports

* Public Works: JC Fead stated that he had enjoyed working for the Town the last 23 years. Mr. Washington stated that he didn’t have any report.
* Fire Department: No report.
* Recreation Board: No report.
* Grants Consultant: Report attached.
* Town Manager: Mr. McCroskey stated that the two trucks that they approved for surplus at the last meeting had been sold. He went on to say that at the last meeting the council asked him to check on extending water lines on West Hwy 90 and the Engineer had gone out with him to the area and stated that anything more than a two inch line would be very expensive. Mr. McCroskey stated that the Engineer would be getting a rough estimate together for that project. Mr. McCroskey stated that he would like to thank Mr. Washington for stepping up to take over the position of Public Works Director. He stated that JC had been very helpful in the transition as well.
* Town Attorney – Mr. Schnitker gave a brief comment on Citizen Participation in meetings.
* Town Clerk: No report.

Citizen Participation: Ms. Hinton stated that the Neighborhood Watch group had a meeting scheduled for May 22nd at 5:30. She went on to state that they had discovered a grant it is a cops hiring grant. Ms. Hinton stated that she had sent an email out about the grant and asked council to encourage the Sheriff’s Department to focus on this grant. Ms. Hinton stated that Public Safety should be a top priority. Ms. Brown asked about the election cycle and if council was checking into the matter. Ms. Brown was concerned about the cost of elections if we are on a separate cycle from the County. Mr. Schnitker stated that they could try again for a Charter amendment or get a Special Act from the Legislature. Mr. Pridgeon asked if there was any action on signs recognizing the pro football players from our town. Mr. McCroskey stated that he had made some contacts and was waiting to hear back.

Ms. Seabrooks moved to adjourn; second by Ms. Collins.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kimberly M. Reams

Town Clerk