

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION

321 WALNUT STREET, GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026 – 6:00 PM



MINUTES

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag – **Pastor Travis Ivey**

Roll Call

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Darren Stutts, Vice Mayor Cheryl Starnes, Council Member Tom Centracchio, Council Member Glee Glisson, Council Member Matt Johnson

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: John Wallace, Interim City Attorney, Mike Null, Interim City Manager, Kimberly Thomas, Executive Assistant

Mayor to call on members of the audience wishing to address the Council on matters not on the Agenda.

1. Larianne Stutts thanked the city for supporting the Rivers House Porchfest and for the Fun in the Sun event in VFH Park. She also thanked staff for helping with the creation of the Box City now showcased in City Hall.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Review of electric rate study update. **Mike Null**

Mr. Null gave an update on the history of electrical rates, Leidos' rate study, look ahead at the 2027 budget, and any CIP projects. No discussion followed.

2. City Council discussion regarding Water, Wastewater and Reclaimed Water Utilities. Project Updates. **Scott Schultz**

Mr. Schultz gave detailed updates on the following two projects:

A. SRF, DW 100441

North Service Territory / Harbor Road WTP Upgrades

B. SRF, CW 100450

Phase III Consolidated AWWTP

No discussion followed.

Motion to approve executive of the consent order.

Motion made by Council Member Johnson, Seconded by Vice Mayor Starnes.

Voting Yea: Mayor Stutts, Vice Mayor Starnes, Council Member Centracchio, Council Member Glisson, Council Member Johnson

3. City Council discussion regarding the Solid Waste Fund

No discussion followed.

4. City Council discussion regarding Stormwater Utility, if any.

No discussion followed.

5. Review of draft FY27 budget. **Mike Null**

Mr. Null gave an update on the general fund. He explained the goal was to restore fiscal health to the city and reduce the financial burden on the residents by taxes, fees, and utility rates. He explained ways staff would reduce expenses:

- Staffing and organizational efficiencies
- Returning to a fully insured plan health insurance plan
- Other Options
 - Eliminate specific services
 - Reduce level of service in certain areas
 - Special Events

Council stated they did not want to see expenses cut for Special Events.

Mr. Null explained how the city could increase revenues:

- Transfers from utilities by moving to 10%
- Revenue options
 - Discussed the new rules for increasing the millage

Mr. Null explained Separation of Capital Projects and Revenues

No discussion followed.

Mr. Null explained Millage and Property Values

No discussion followed.

Mr. Null explained General Fund Debt

Council Member Glisson thanks Chief Hines for his suggestion to lease vehicles through enterprise Leasing.

Mr. Null went over Action Items to include the pros and cons for setting the Millage Rate

Council Member Johnson suggested setting the tentative millage at 5.3 to ensure any needs that could come up during budget sessions.

Mayor Stutts stated he would prefer setting the millage rate at the roll back rate however understood Council Member Johnsons point and stated he would support the tentative 5.3 rate.

Mr. Null explained the roll back rate at Council's request.

Vice-Mayor thanked Mr. Null for his hard work and guidance, and staff for assisting with the last Rivers House Porchfest.

Marsha Lowrey, Finance Director approached the podium and advised the Council to be thinking of any goals or perspective projects that they may have before the Budget Sessions began, once

again explaining the setting of the millage rate process and the cost to the raise the millage rate once the tentative rate is set.

Vice-Mayor asked about the status of a New Year's Eve Fireworks event. Kimberly Thomas, Executive Assistant/City Event Coordinator, stated an application had been submitted, staff were reviewing the application, and as of yet there had not been any requests for funding assistance from the city. Mr. Null stated there were no funds set aside in the budget for that event therefore it should not affect the budget.

Council Member Centracchio confirmed the city had absorbed any additional health insurance costs and the employees once again would not pay any increases.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Null ended by asking the Council to send any questions they may think of for the budget session prior to the meetings so staff could be efficiently prepared.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Darren Stutts, Mayor

Attest:

Kimberly Thomas, Executive Assistant