MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENWOOD TOWN COUNCIL GREENWOOD, FLORIDA September 12, 2017

The Town Council of the Town of Greenwood, Florida met in a regular session in the Greenwood Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. on the 12th day of September, 2017. The place, time, and date heretofore established for the holding of such meetings.

Mayor Phyllis Bowman called the meeting to order.

Everyone present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Mayor Bowman asked all present for a moment of silence in honor of our first responders.

The following answered present to roll call:

Mayor, Phyllis Bowman Alicia Corder, Town Clerk Lisabeth Beutler, Deputy Clerk George Little, Attorney Council Member, Mamie Vann Council Member, Thomas Andreasen Council Member, Bryan Johnson

The Clerk declared a quorum present.

Others Present: Brook Bowman, Albert Lane, Holly Ness, Wesley Mickel, Lillian Blighton, Twanna Basford Dunaway, James Bradley Jr., James Bradley III, Jeff Miller, Suzanne M. NeSmith, Harry Vann

A motion to approve the minutes and financials for August 2017 as presented was made by Bryan Johnson. Second by Mamie Vann. Vote called. Johnson – Yes. Vann – Yes. Andreasen – Yes. Passed.

Next on the agenda was Chipola Divers. Mrs. Neto was informed in writing on August 28, 2017, of the findings of the Council and Planning Committee. The Council requested that Mrs. Neto appear at the September 12, 2017 meeting to discuss the land use variance. Mrs. Neto responded to this request on September 12, 2017 that she would not be able to attend and stated in her response that only internet and phone sales are being conducted at this time. Mrs. Neto feels that this constitutes the business as a Home Office of Convenience. The web page still lists 24 hr filling station and residential rental. It was determined by Council that Mrs. Corder, Town Clerk will send a letter to Chipola Divers stating that the web page must be changed and the air tanks must be removed in order to comply. Mrs. Corder, Town Clerk, suggested we allow 30 days for Mrs. Neto to comply. Mr. Little stated that if Chipola Divers has not complied within the 30 day period then the Town will file an injunction for the violation of the Land Use Order. A motion to have Mrs. Corder, Town Clerk send a letter to Chipola Divers was made by Bryan Johnson. Second by Mamie Vann. Vote called. Johnson – Yes. Vann – Yes. Andreasen – Yes. Passed

Holly Ness came before Council regarding the many stray animals roaming the streets of Greenwood. Ms. Ness is requesting tougher fines and consequences for the residents who do not follow the current ordinance. The Mayor thanked her for her input and the Council will take it into consideration.

James Bradley III came before Council with regards to his feeling that the outside employees' time and resources are being mismanaged. Mr. Bradley provided the Council with a list of his grievances. Mr. Bradley went over several of the listed grievances, one of the main concerns was regarding Hurricane Irma and the employees being required to work during the hurricane. Mayor Bowman questioned Jeff Miller, another Town employee, who is a volunteer firefighter for the Malone VFD, if he was on call in Malone with the employees of Malone. Mr. Miller stated that no Malone town employees were at work during the hurricane, only the volunteer firefighters to assist with any incident that might arise for Malone as well as Greenwood. Mr. Little addressed some of the concerns and clarified the difference between a contracted employee and regular hourly employee. Mr. Little stated that even though the Council has the ultimate authority regarding policies and procedures, it is not viable for them to become involved into the day to day operations. Mr. Little feels that better communication is necessary to resolve these issues. Councilman Bryan Johnson stated that he wants to review the list of grievances that Mr. Bradley provided before making any comments or decisions on the matter. Tabled until next Council meeting.

Attorney Little gave updates on legals. Mr. Little has no legals pending at this time.

Alicia Corder gave the clerk notes. Mrs. Corder brought to the attention of the Council the natural gas franchise fee that the Town could impose on the businesses now using Marianna's natural gas service. The Town of Greenwood has an existing contract with the City of Marianna to allow the town to add a franchise fee of up to 6% to the natural gas bill. At this time Greenwood Supermarket and Golden Peanut are the only businesses utilizing the natural gas service. Councilman Bryan Johnson requested more research be done and the issue can be reviewed again at a future date.

Mrs. Corder advised Council that Mayor Bowman, as the hiring authority for temporary help, has hired Jeff Worthington to assist with the mowing of the main highways. The main roads are 75% complete and the temporary employment of Mr. Worthington will be ending after completion.

Jeff Miller's probationary period has been completed and Mrs. Corder advised Council that he is a dedicated employee with strong work ethics and commitment. At this time Mrs. Corder is requesting that Mr. Miller be hired as a permanent employee with a \$.50 per hour raise to his salary. A motion to hire Mr. Miller as a permanent employee with the requested raise to his salary was made by Bryan Johnson. Second by Thomas Andreasen. Vote called. Johnson – Yes. Andreasen – Yes. Vann – Yes. Passed.

Mrs. Corder provided Council with an Accounting Policies & Procedures Manual last Council meeting. This policy and procedure manual provides segregation of duties and responsibilities between the Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk. A motion to approve the Accounting Policies & Procedures Manual was made by Bryan Johnson. Second by Mamie Vann. Vote called. Johnson – Yes. Vann – Yes. Andreasen – Yes. Passed

Mrs. Corder updated Council on the condition of the Town after Hurricane Irma. There was no significant damage to the Town, just some branches down. Mrs. Corder recommended that further discussion is needed on the responsibilities, duties and safety of employees during a natural disaster.

A motion to adjourn was made by Thomas Andreasen. Second by Mamie Vann. Vote called. Andreasen – Yes. Vann – Yes. Johnson – Yes. Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26PM. The next regular meeting of the Town Council will be held on October 10, 2017 at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisabeth Beutler Deputy Clerk

Approved //# day of Oct., 2017

Mamie M. Vann, Chairperson