

BYLAWS OF THE GREENVILLE UTILITIES COMMISSION

These Bylaws are adopted by the Greenville Utilities Commission to implement its Charter and to establish basic rules of organization, process and procedure and to provide for the efficient and effective conduct of public business for the benefit of the ratepayers.

To The Extent The Terms & Conditions Of These Bylaws Conflict With the Terms & Conditions of The Charter, The Charter Shall Govern.

- I. Name: The name of the Commission shall be: The Greenville Utilities Commission.
- II. Individual Responsibility: Commission members have responsibility over utilities' affairs when acting as a body appropriately called to session. To request additional information concerning the functions of the Greenville Utilities Commission, Board members should contact the General Manager/CEO.
- III. Board Membership
 - A. Number of Members: The Greenville Utilities Commission shall consist of eight (8) members, all appointed by the Greenville City Council. Two of these appointees are nominated by Pitt County Board of Commissioners.
 - B. Commission Seats: Of the eight (8) members, six (6) members shall be bona fide residents of the City of whom one shall be the City Manager of Greenville, and two of whom shall be bona fide residents of Pitt County but residing outside the city limits of Greenville, who shall be customers of the Greenville Utilities Commission.
 - C. Vacancies on the Commission: In the event a Greenville Utilities Commissioner resigns, dies, or otherwise becomes incapable of performing his or her duties, at any regular or special meeting of the City Council, the City Council shall appoint, according to the same process described herein for regular appointments, a Greenville Utilities Commissioner to fill the unexpired term.
 - D. New members to the Board are required to participate in orientation and training sessions as scheduled by the General Manager/CEO. Orientation shall include such activities as:
 1. Workshops for new Board members conducted by the American Public Power Association.
 2. Discussions and visits with the General Manager/CEO, General Counsel, and other members of the staff.

3. Provision of printed and audiovisual materials on Greenville Utilities Commission and copies of administrative policies and procedures.

IV. Organization

- A. The Greenville Utilities Commission each year shall elect its officers on the first regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on or after July 1 at which a quorum is present. Meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday in each month at 12:00 noon.
- B. The officers of the Commission shall be a Chair, a Chair-Elect and a Secretary, elected in that order for a term of one (1) year. The General Manager/CEO shall preside while a new Chair is being elected.
- C. Vacancies in the office of Chair, Chair-Elect or Secretary occurring during the year shall be filled by the Commission at its discretion.

V. Powers and Duties of the Board

The Powers and Duties of the Board shall include but not be limited to the following:

- A. The Greenville Utilities Commission shall have entire supervision and control of the management, operation, maintenance, improvement, and extension of the public utilities of the City, which public utilities shall include electric, natural gas, water, and sewer services, and shall fix uniform rates for all services rendered; provided, however, that any person affected by said rates may appeal from the decision of the Greenville Utilities Commission as to rates to the City Council. With approval by the City Council, the Greenville Utilities Commission may undertake any additional public enterprise service which may lawfully be operated by a municipality (Reference Charter Section 5).
- B. The Board shall discharge its duties and responsibilities as required by its Charter or otherwise imposed by law.
- C. The Board shall employ a General Manager/CEO whose duties shall be to supervise and manage the operations of the Greenville Utilities Commission, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners of the Greenville Utilities Commission, as provided in Section 6 of the Charter.
- D. The Board shall annually evaluate the performance of the General Manager/CEO as its Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- E. Upon the recommendation of the General Manager/CEO, the board shall employ an attorney to give counsel on matters of legal concern to the Greenville Utilities Commission. The attorney shall represent the Commission on most matters, except that the Commission may hire other expertise as warranted on a case by case basis. The General Manager/CEO shall annually review the performance and services of the General Counsel.

- F. The Board shall annually review its performance. An annual review may consist of a written review and/or survey by Board members and/or a review with or by the General Manager/CEO.

VI. Duties of Officers

- A. The Chair shall preside at Board meetings. The Chair, in consultation with the Secretary and General Manager/CEO, shall review the draft agenda of regular and special meetings of the Board.
- B. The Chair shall appoint committees and designate the chairs unless otherwise directed by majority vote of the Board in session.
- C. The Chair, subject to the approval of the Commission, shall have the authority to execute any official document for and on behalf of the Commission.
- D. The Chair shall not be entitled to vote on any proposition before the Greenville Utilities Commission except in case of a tie vote and only for the purpose of breaking the tie.
- E. The Chair shall be the official spokesperson for the Board and will make, either in person or through the General Manager/CEO, every effort to communicate the Board's decision to the community through the media and any other means available.
- F. In the absence of the Chair, it shall be the duty of the Chair-Elect to preside at meetings of the Board and assume authority of the Chair.
- G. The Secretary shall record minutes of meetings and hearings and distribute minutes in advance for review and approval.
- H. It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary to maintain official minutes and records of Board proceedings and actions. Minutes may be examined by any interested citizen under the supervision of the Secretary or the Secretary's designee. Consistent with the purpose of Closed Sessions, minutes of these meetings shall be separately maintained by the Secretary. Minutes of Closed Sessions may not be examined by interested citizens except as provided by law.
- I. The Secretary shall be responsible for the proper maintenance of official documents including but not limited to Board bylaws, Board policies, and Board decisions.
- J. The Secretary shall discharge any other duties or responsibilities required by law or otherwise imposed upon the Secretary of the Board.
- K. In the absence of the Secretary, it shall be the duty of the Chair-Elect to assume duties of the Secretary.

VII. Committees & Appointments

- A. An Executive Committee composed of the Board Chair, Chair-Elect, Past-Chair (when continuing to serve on the Board) and Secretary will work with the Greenville Utilities Commission staff on policy issues, represent Greenville Utilities Commission in joint discussions on potential growth and regionalization and provide for continuity of knowledge for the chair position.
- B. On an annual basis, the Chair shall appoint two members to a Joint Pay & Benefits Committee to meet jointly with a City Council Joint Pay & Benefits Committee to make recommendations for employee benefits and compensation issues for the upcoming fiscal year. These two members should include at least one member (if available) that served the previous year.
- C. On an annual basis, the Chair shall appoint 3–4 members to serve in conjunction with the Board Chair, on a Finance/Audit Committee to provide “policymaker” input to staff and auditors on the enhancement or implementation of financial procedures or issues. The Chair shall designate a Chair and a Vice-Chair of the Committee.
- D. On an annual basis, the Chair shall appoint 3–4 members to serve in conjunction with the Board Chair on an Economic Development, Marketing and Public Relations Committee to provide policymaker input to staff and consultants in the development of criteria, guidelines, and strategies for the economic development of Pitt County and report to the Board of Commissioners as appropriate. The Chair shall designate a Chair and a Vice-Chair of the Committee.
- E. On an annual basis, the Chair shall appoint 3-4 members to serve in conjunction with the Board Chair on a Legal and Legislative Committee to provide policymaker input to staff on legal and legislative matters that may impact the operations and business of the Commission and report to the Board of Commissioners as appropriate. The Chair shall designate a Chair and a Vice-Chair of the Committee.
- F. Ad Hoc Committees of the Board shall be appointed annually by the Chair, as needed, and shall function until such time as their purpose has been accomplished. The Chair shall designate a Chair and a Vice-Chair of the Committee.
- G. The Board shall appoint an Executive Secretary and Assistant Executive Secretary from the staff. These positions are normally held by the Executive Assistant to the General Manager/CEO and Director of Financial Services and Accounting, respectively.

VIII. Methods of Operation

- A. Board Meetings: The Board shall regularly meet on the third Thursday of each month to consider its business. Notice of the meeting and its agenda shall be made available to the media as provided by law. Other meetings, including special sessions, emergency sessions or workshop sessions may be held as needed and must follow notification provisions as described by law.

- B. Agendas: Before actions by the Board are requested or recommended, the Board should be provided with documentation to assist members in reaching decisions consistent with established goals and policies. To request additional information, Board members shall contact the General Manager/CEO. The Agenda for regular monthly meetings shall be as follows:
1. Call to order and ascertain the presence of a quorum
 2. Approval of the minutes for the previous month's meetings
 3. Any additions or deletions and acceptance of the (revised) agenda
 4. Presentations of awards and recognition of outstanding achievement
 5. Acceptance of the financial statement for the previous month
 6. Award of Bids
 7. Other items requiring action by the Board
 8. Informational items
 9. General Manager/CEO's report – This portion of the meeting is set aside for the General Manager/CEO's reports on any item of information which he wishes to present to the Board.
 10. Board Chair remarks
 11. Board members' remarks
 12. Closed Session, if required
 13. Notice of next regular or special meeting
 14. Adjournment
- C. Quorum: The Greenville Utilities Commission may only conduct business in a regular, emergency or special meeting attended by a quorum of the Board. A quorum shall consist of five (5) Board members, who are either physically present or able to participate by telephone or video-conference or other electronic means.
- D. Conduct of Meetings: Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the Board's Bylaws and otherwise by the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order.
- E. Voting: The Chair of the Board shall determine the vote of any motion by asking each member to respond by voice vote or if necessary, a show of hands may be required.

1. Each member of the Board, except the Chair, shall have one vote on any recommendation, motion, proposal, or any other action item coming before the Board.
 2. Each member, other than the Chair, must vote unless excused by the remaining members. A member who wishes to be excused from voting shall so inform the Chair who shall take a deciding vote of the remaining members present. No member shall be excused from voting except on matters involving his/her own financial interest or official conduct. In other cases, a failure to vote by a member who is physically present or has withdrawn without being excused by a majority vote of the remaining members present, shall be recorded as an affirmative vote.
- F. Closed Sessions: Closed Sessions may be called upon a motion made and adopted at an open session for any of those permitted purposes described in Section 143-318 of the General Statutes of N.C., commonly known as the "Open Meetings Law", as amended from time to time. The motion shall state the purpose of the Closed Session and must be approved by the vote of a majority of those members present.
- G. Board Members' Compensation and Reimbursement: Members of the Greenville Utilities Commission shall receive compensation for performance of official utility business at the rate of \$200 per month. The Chair shall receive \$350.00 per month. The City Council may, at its own discretion, increase these caps from time to time as is appropriate to reflect inflation. The City Manager shall receive no compensation as a member of the Greenville Utilities Commission.
- H. Public Hearings: The Greenville Utilities Commission believes that from time to time additional public opinion is necessary. This opinion is generally sought through the use of a public hearing. When such hearings are scheduled, the Greenville Utilities Commission will ensure that the date, time, and location are properly advertised well in advance of the hearing date. The Commission will receive comments and information at public hearings but not take any formal action during the public hearing. The Commission will take under advisement comments offered at the public hearing and normally consider these comments for future action.
- I. Public Expression: Upon motion of any Commissioner, and approval by a majority of the Board, any ratepayer may be allowed to address the Board within the time restrictions (and upon such other conditions) as may be set by the Chair.
- IX. Change in Bylaws: These Bylaws may be amended from time to time. The procedure for amendment is by giving notice of the proposed amendments at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. The amendments will be considered at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting and must be approved by the vote of a majority of the members.

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