

PLAN GREENEVILLE

UTILITIES WORKSHOP

Held Aug. 20, 2015

PUBLIC INPUT

Section 1: Visioning

Utility Aspect Draft Vision Statement: Providing cost efficient, reliable, safe, and high quality utilities to the residents of both Greeneville and its urban growth area

Task 1: What will you like to see with respect to our utilities (water, sewer, electric power, solid waste disposal or garbage disposal, natural gas and telecommunication)

- Technological update and services
- Municipal fiber networking
- Put in place a system to fund infrastructure
- Investing in infrastructure to anticipate future growth
- Planning for infrastructural provision
- Good communication between utility agencies
- All utilities available to all residents in city limits and in urban growth area
- Coordinated installation of power lines and underground installations.
- Advanced internet technology to control utilities
- Alternative energy or utility sources.

Draft Goals:

Goal 1: Ensure utilities are provided in a timely manner to meet the needs of Greeneville and its future population (urban growth area, etc)

Goal 2: Provide utilities in an efficient and coordinated manner

Goal 3: Maintain and enhance utility service quality and safety

Goal 4: Minimize environmental and aesthetic impacts of utility services

Goal 5: Support and promote the conservation/sustainable use of utilities

Goal 6: Establish and support incentives for efficient use of utilities and disposal of solid waste

Section 2: Extension of utilities (to be completed by all working groups)

Task 2: Working with provided maps, identify and prioritize areas in the Town and its urban growth area that specific utilities should be extended to in the

- a) short term (0-4years),
 - b) medium term (4.1 to 10years), and
 - c) long term (10.1 to 16years)
- Serve all in Town limits within 4 years
 - Serve urban growth area within 4 to 10 years.
 - Urban Growth Area on US11-E towards Johnson City: Priority 1; Area to be served by Fairgrounds Connector should be Priority 2.
 - Change the moratorium law on extension of sewer outside of city limits so that sewer can be extended to the urban growth area especially in cases of subdivision and new businesses locating in the urban growth area – and use the extension as a motivation for annexation.

Section 3: Utilities Policies

Goal 1: Ensure utilities and related services are provided in a timely manner to meet the needs of Greeneville and its future population (urban growth area, etc)

Task 3: What is Greeneville doing at this time that it should continue doing in order to provide utilities and related services in a timely manner to meet the needs of today and the future?

- Light and power: adding substations
- Water: Continuous maintenance
- Fair & reasonable accounting
- Continue excellent customer service
- More automation

Task 4: What does the Town need to do that it is not doing now to provide utilities and related services in a timely manner to meet the needs of today and the future?

- Encourage new technologies to keep efficiency high
- Be proactive; not reactive
- Have a 20years plan
- Have a more defined capital improvement plan with specifics and timeframe.
- More automation

Task 5: What resources are available to Greeneville now to provide utilities and related services in a timely manner to meet the needs of today and the future?

- Collaboration with the state
- Quality of Nolichucky River
- Revenue from customers
- Borrowing
- Grants
- Grant write to handle all city grants
- Bonds

Task 6: Identify new sources of resources (financial, etc) that you will support the Town to tap in order to provide utilities and related services in a timely manner to meet the needs of today and the future?

- Tax increase
- Industrial expertise
- Public-private corporation
- Celebrate improvements
- Revenue from customers
- Borrowing
- Grants
- Grant write to handle all city grants
- Bonds
- Don't kill politicians for supporting rate increases

Goal 2: Provide utilities in an efficient and coordinated manner

Task 7: What is Greeneville doing at this time that it should continue doing in order to provide utilities in an efficient and coordinated manner?

- Look for grants and opportunities
- Keep up good work

Task 8: What does the Town need to do that it is not doing now to provide utilities in an efficient and coordinated manner?

- Utilities service plans where some tax goes to infrastructure
- Plan in future

Task 9: What resources are available to Greeneville now to provide utilities in an efficient and coordinated manner?

- Revenue from customers
- Borrowing
- Grants
- Grant write to handle all city grants
- Bonds

Task 10: Identify new sources of resources (financial, etc) that you will support the Town to tap in order to provide utilities in an efficient and coordinated manner?

- Industry buy-in

Goal 3: Maintain and enhance utility service quality and safety

Task 11: What is Greeneville doing at this time that it should continue doing in order to maintain and enhance utility service quality and safety?

- Continue efficient operations
- Maintain reliability standards
- GL&PS is ran well – continue
- Continue service
- Strategic planning

Task 12: What does the Town need to do that it is not doing now to maintain and enhance utility service quality and safety?

- Lift moratorium on Greeneville Water Commission
- All department managers to have more training
- Water department to be more proactive in upgrading infrastructure
- Local presence of ATMOS gas
- New technologies – Do not be scared
- Examine what other cities are doing

Task 13: What resources are available to Greeneville now to maintain and enhance utility service quality and safety?

- Bonds and grants
- Rate payers
- Tax payers
- Current employees
- Employees
- Educated/trained employees
- Underground utilities

Task 14: Identify new sources of resources (financial, etc) that you will support the Town to tap in order to maintain and enhance the quality and safety of utilities?

- Developer buy-in
- Board buy-in
- Low interest loans
- Guaranteed payments for utility extensions by property owners: make them “contract” customers
- Tax base
- Searching for more grants

Goal 4: Minimize environmental and aesthetic impacts of utility services

Task 15: What is Greeneville doing at this time that it should continue doing in order to minimize environmental and aesthetic impacts of utility services?

- Underground utilities
- Continue to follow rules and regulations outlined by state and federal government
- Continue doing a good job

- Continue to upgrade infrastructure
- Continue round-up program with GL&PS

Task 16: What does the Town need to do that it is not doing now to minimize environmental and aesthetic impacts of utility services?

- Underground conversion plan
- Maintain property to minimize impact on stormwater system
- Stop directional pruning
- Tree replacement program
- Increase green spaces
- Investigate incinerators

Task 17: What resources are available to Greeneville now to minimize environmental and aesthetic impacts of utility services?

- Rate payer money
- Developer money
- State of Tennessee
- MTAS
- Planning Department
- Explore what other municipalities are doing on handling utilities
- Volunteer organizations

Task 18: Identify new sources of resources (financial, etc) that you will support the Town to tap in order to minimize environmental and aesthetic impacts of utility services?

- Coordination between utility agencies (dig in same ditch if possible)
- Water shed alliance participation
- Include aesthetics in budget
- Grants
- Bonds
- Look at moving tax exempt property to tax base

Goal 5: Support and promote the conservation/sustainable use of utilities

Task 19: What is Greeneville doing at this time that it should continue doing in order to support and promote the sustainable use of utilities?

- Continue TVA conservation plans
- Drought management plan
- Emergency power rotation plan
- Emergency plan
- Continue to promote recycling
- Continue to promote conservation program

Task 20: What does the Town need to do that it is not doing now to support and promote the conservation/sustainable use of utilities?

- Encourage alternative sources
- Face the cost & maintenance of infrastructure: handle as ongoing expense.
- Those who use more utilities of any sort should pay more.
- Cost-benefit analysis should drive action
- Access needs and base decisions on them
- Expand education about utilities
- Solar/wind power (storage system)
- Trash > energy
- Update infrastructure of water department

Task 21: What resources are available to Greeneville now to support the conservation/sustainable use of utilities?

- Benchmarking
- Understand the technology in the discipline
- Examples in other areas
- Continue TVA conservation plans
- Drought management plan
- Emergency power rotation plan
- Emergency plan
- Continue TVA conservation plans
- Drought management plan
- Emergency power rotation plan
- Emergency plan
- Sustainability Expo
- Local media
- Utility bills
- TVA
- State of Tennessee
- Technology
- Think tanks

- Data (3)

Task 22: Identify new sources of resources (financial, etc) that you will support the Town to tap in order to support and promote the conservation/sustainable use of utilities.

- Grants (state/federal)
- Tax
- Tap into corporate America
- Work with state on regulations, pilot plans, and demonstration projects
- Research
- Federal subsidies
- Technology

Goal 6: Establish and support incentives for efficient use of utilities and disposal of solid waste

Task 23: What is Greeneville doing at this time that it should continue doing in order to support incentives for efficient use of utilities and disposal of solid waste?

- Collecting recyclables
- A system of pay for what you use
- Enterprise fund for solid waste to cover cost: offset of property tax and encourages efficiency
- LED lights

Task 24: What incentives can the Town put in place towards efficient use of utilities and disposal of solid waste?

- Education
- Machines for recyclable credits (payments)
- Income credit based on measurements of disposed recyclable items
- Charge fee for garbage collection so that people can separate their waste and deposit recyclables free of charge where they should be deposited.
- County cooperative (learn from county to enforce waste disposal and force people to separate recyclables from non-recyclables)
- Fee based waste disposal/collection system
- Property tax abatement
- Time of use electric rates

Task 25: What resources are available to Greeneville now to support the efficient use of utilities and disposal of solid waste?

- Educate people on benefits of sustainability and how it reduces cost in taxes
- Water savers
- Motion detection

Task 26: Identify new sources of resources (financial, etc) that you will support the Town to tap in order to provide incentives for efficient use of utilities and disposal of solid waste.

- What other cities are doing
- Grants
- Challenge the businesses