

## What just happened.....

On July 25, 2006, the people of Grant-Valkaria chose to incorporate in order to protect and preserve the rural character and lifestyle they enjoy in their community. To quote the Preamble of the Grant-Valkaria Charter:

*"We, the people of the Town of Grant-Valkaria, under the Constitution and the Laws of the State of Florida, in order to secure the local benefits of self-government, preserve our history, protect our future, maintain a rural quality of life, and foster responsible, community controlled growth, have ratified this Charter by referendum for our Community. This document secures the benefits of home rule and affirms the value of representative democracy, strong community leadership, citizen participation and regional cooperation."*

The right to establish self-government is one of the great benefits of our democracy. Those residents who participated actively, those who attended meetings, those who studied the Charter and Feasibility Study, those who asked questions, those who challenged, and those who voted can consider this one of the most important things they've ever done. To have participated in this question is to have exercised a privilege not afforded too many people in the world. For the most part, our community participated in honest, thoughtful, and intelligent discussion. We should be proud of our community and the manner in which this decision was made. We can go forward with confidence that the people of Grant-Valkaria will make every decision facing our town with the same dedication.

## What happens next??

The Grant-Valkaria Charter recognizes that there is a transition period between the referendum and the November election in which the Town Council will be chosen. The Charter states that a 5-member, volunteer Interim Council will be appointed by the GVPC Steering Committee to serve until the November 7 election.

The Interim Council has very limited duties (Section 10.3(b)). These are primarily:

To coordinate the election of the Mayor and Town Council with the Brevard County Supervisor of Elections

To coordinate the qualifying of candidates for Mayor and Town Council with the Brevard County Supervisor of Elections

To schedule three Candidate Forums for Mayor and Town Council candidates

To file applicable forms and requests for revenue sharing and other funding sources

To enact emergency ordinances if needed to protect public safety

The GVPC Steering Committee will select the Interim Council within the coming week.

A Town Meeting will be scheduled to introduce the Interim Council to the community and to distribute information on how to qualify to run for Mayor or Town Council offices.

## In the meantime.....

Our Charter states and the County agrees that:

All services that were provided to Grant-Valkaria as an unincorporated area will **continue as normal**.

## If you have questions:

**Email: [gvpc@cfl.rr.com](mailto:gvpc@cfl.rr.com)**

**Phone: 952-7771**