

TOWN OF ROSSVILLE
MEETING OF THE
MAYOR OF BOARD AND ALDERMEN
380 Morrison Road
Rossville, TN 38066

October 13, 2020

Visitors: Edgar Babian, Dave Hamric, Tim Verner, David Baker, Karen Pennington, Betty Mullis, Sherrie Rhineheart, Joseph Howell, Doug Swink, Richard Mills, Mary Etta Hallewell, Naomi Mills, Lorie Rice, and Tom Minor.

Present members were Judy Watters, Zach Moore, Suzy Gray, Mike Swessell, Bobby Williams, and Doug Kranz. Cindi Rutledge was absent.

Mayor Watters called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. to have an audit review with Godwin and Associates with the Board members. Mark Godwin went over the 2018-2019 financial audit.

Mayor Watters ended the meeting with Mr. Godwin at 6:00 p.m. and called executive session with attorney Tom Minor and the Board members. Executive session ended at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Watters called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Watters introduced all Board members and department heads to the public.

Bobby Williams did the Innovation and the pledge.

Mayor Watters asked for citizen comments regarding agenda items only. None were suggested.

Mayor Watters asked for non-agenda items, none were suggested from the Board. Mayor Watters added the Licensing agreement of the Lafayette Parking Lot to the agenda. Suzy Gray made the motion to approve the amended agenda, a second from Mike Swessell and a unanimous vote.

Minutes from the September 8, 2020 regular Board meeting were approved with a motion from Mike Swessell, a second from Doug Kranz and a unanimous vote.

Lorie Rice presented the financials for August and September. Zach Moore made the motion to approve the financials for August and September, a second from Mike Swessell and a unanimous vote.

Chief Hamric reported there were 71 calls, 126 citation charges, 22 warnings, and 7 incident reports for the month of September for the Police Department. Mayor Watters asked Chief Hamric when the new police car was expected and Chief Hamric stated that the car was ordered in July and should be delivered late November or early December.

Edgar Babian reported a total of 3 fire calls, 18 medical calls and 1 service call with a response time of 6:19 minutes for the Rossville Fire Department for the month of September.

Joseph Howell reported there was a 13.2% water loss for the month of September. Mr. Howell stated that we were calibrating the loss at 3% and now the calibration is 2%. Mr. Howell updated the Mayor and Board that there was an 8-inch water main burst on Main Street in front of the Post Office. He stated that the repair of the area will be completed when the concrete is available.

David Baker updated the Mayor and Board of Aldermen on the Bailey Ridge drainage project. He stated that the contracts have been signed and the project will begin on October 19th weather permitting. Mr. Baker stated that the contractor Fowler Paving and they are scheduled to add reflective paint to the speed humps on High Street. Mr. Baker updated the Mayor and Board on the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. He stated that this will show a breakout percentage of residential and commercial. He stated that the most recent Census had been pulled and the next step is to combine infrastructure maps and land use options. Mr. Baker stated that he spoke with TDOT and they have brought together some additional improvements and suggestions.

David Baker updated the Mayor and Board on the planning and zoning meeting for September. He stated that they met to review plans to remodel of a house on a Second Street in the historic district. This was approved. Mr. Baker stated they also met with the Headmaster of Rossville Christian Academy to review a proposal to relocate the sign from High Street to Cotton Bend. He stated that this was reviewed and approved but after some discussions with the headmaster it was decided to be put on hold pending for their discussions with the public. Mr. Baker stated this item will be tabled for now. Citizens from the Cotton Bend Subdivision addressed their concerns on the relocating of the RCA sign. Mr. Richard Mills stated he felt that the speed bumps on High Street were too big and that this was causing traffic to be diverted through the Cotton Bend Subdivision. He was also concerned about the speeding. Aldermen Zach Moore asked if they would be opposed to having speed bumps on Cotton Bend. The residents attending opposed. Mary Etta Hallelwell stated that she was concerned that if the sign had a light that it would be a nuisance. Naomi Mills asked where the sign would be located and why they want to relocate the sign. David Baker stated the sign would be placed in the TDOT right away. Zach Moore stated that there is a long-term plan for the school and the aesthetics. Mayor Watters stated that High Street is too narrow and with the school growing the replacement of the sign would divert traffic. She stated that the headmaster wants to include the resident's opinions on the matter of the sign. The Board has decided to table this until all concerns are addressed. Zach Moore stated that Mayor Watters has been listening to all the residents and is trying to make sure that there is a way they can come up with something to meet in the middle.

There was no Old Business to address.

Under New Business, Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen a CPI increase with Waste Management. Mayor Watters stated a contractual agreement that is analyzed every year. Bobby Williams made the motion to accept the CPI increase with Waste Connections, a second from Suzy Gray and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen an application for the vacancy on the Planning Commission to replace Caleb Hollingsworth whose term will expire in November. Mayor Watters nominated Jeff Wooden to be added to the committee. Zach Moore made the motion for Jeff Wooden to be the Planning Commission member, a second from Bobby Williams and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters also brought before the Board to replace a vacancy on the Design Review Board and stated that Peyton Dungan on Second Street was interested in filling the position. Zach Moore made a motion to table the decision, pending the Board being able to meet Mr. Dungan, a second from Suzy Gray and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen that the fence around the water tower in the Bailey Ridge Subdivision needs to be repaired. Public Works Director Joseph Howell has been looking into options to fix the fence. Mr. Howell stated that to replace the whole fence he would have to get some prices. The front of the fence is the worst part and that estimates are about \$7000 for that portion only. Mayor Watters stated that this would be a water fund expense. We need to watch this fund carefully to avoid overspending. Zach Moore made the motion to replace the front of the fence only and get prices to repair the remaining fence in the Spring, a second from Mike Swessell and a unanimous vote. Mayor Watters stated the increase to the Town is approximately \$500 a month and can be absorbed by the current fee's charges to residents. She recommended to the Board that the increase be paid with current fees.

Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen a request to allow Zach Allen Landscape to do the maintenance of Lafayette Park every three months in the amount of \$500 per quarter. Mayor Watters stated that the Public Works employees will continue to cut the grass in the park, but Zach Allen would be maintaining the flower beds and landscaping. Suzy Gray made the motion to allow Zach Allen to Landscape Lafayette Park for \$500 each quarter, a second from Bobby Williams and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen first reading on Ordinance 2020-009, an ordinance to amend the 2020-2021 budget for the Town of Rossville. Mayor Watters stated the expenses for the Solid Waste and General funds have increased and we need to include the audited financials for the 18/19 fiscal year. A motion to approve on first reading Ordinance 2020-009, a second from Doug Kranz and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters asked the Board how they would like to handle the upcoming Holiday schedules. She stated that Halloween is coming up and although the Town does not sponsor this event but wants the Boards opinions on Trick-or-Treating. All members of the Board agreed that Rossville will allow trick-or-treating in the Town. Mayor Watters stated that this will be posted in the Falcon and on Facebook. Mayor Watters stated that Christmas is a sponsored Town event. The Board was in favor of having Santa for the children and other Holiday activities, this will be an outdoor event. Zach Moore made the motion to proceed with scheduling the holiday activities, a second from Suzy Gray and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters brought before the Board a License agreement for Lafayette Park that designates certain parking spots for Holiday events hosted by the Town and other spots designated for the Wolf River Café. Town attorney Tom Minor has reviewed this agreement and informed the Mayor and Board the property owner of the Café will receive written notice that those spaces will not be able to be used during a Town event. Zach Moore made the motion to accept the Real Property License Agreement, a second from Mike Swessell all in favor. Suzy Gray and Bobby Williams abstained.

Mayor Watters made the motion to adjourn at 8:05 p.m., all in favor.

Karen Pennington
Town Recorder

Motion: Suzy Gray
November 10, 2020

Second: Mike Swessell
November 10, 2020

Approved: Judy Watters, Mayor