

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

March 9, 2021

Visitors: Edgar Babian, Dave Hamric, Lorie Rice, Karen Pennington, David Baker, Tom Minor, Guy Moore, Connie Chambers, Mary Etta Hallewell, Betty Mullis, and Carolyn Rhea.

Present members were Judy Watters, Sondra Webb, Mike Swessel, and Sherrie Rinehart. Zach Moore and Bobby Williams called in virtually. Doug Kranz was absent.

Mayor Watters called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Watters opened the Public Hearing for citizens comments/concerns on Ordinance 2021-001, an Ordinance amending the Town of Rossville's Municipal Code Chapter 3, Section 4-304, Travel reimbursement rate schedules. No comments from citizens were suggested.

Chief Hamric gave the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

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 monthly fire report from Fire Chief Babian. Sondra Webb made the motion to approve the agenda as amended, a second from Mike Swessel and a unanimous vote.

Minutes from the regular Board meeting on 2/9/21 were approved with a motion from Sherrie Rinehart, a second from Sondra Webb and a unanimous vote made by roll call.

Lorie Rice presented the financials for February. Mike Swessel made the motion to approve the financials for February, a second from Sondra Webb and a unanimous vote.

Chief Hamric reported there were 69 calls, 112 citation charges, 26 warnings, 1 crash, and 8 incident reports for the month of February for the Police Department.

Edgar Babian reported a total of 6 fire calls, 16 medical calls and 3 service calls with a response time of 10:49 minutes for the Rossville Fire Department for the month of February. Chief Babian informed the Mayor and Board that he has recently applied for the Forestry Grant and was informed by the State that to receive the funds of \$2900 the Town would need to adopt Title VI language and discrimination policy. Chief Babian stated that he has started the process and the Town will have to register with a language translator service that other Towns currently use called AVAZA. Chief Babian stated the upfront cost is \$200 which will cover the first calls and after that it is .55 cents a minute thereafter. Mayor Watters informed the Board that this would bring us into compliance with the Title VI policy and we will have more information at the next Board meeting.

Mayor Watters reported the water loss for the month of February at 17.2 %. Mayor Watters stated that this is not unusual with the small leaks from the cold weather and recent water tower leak. Zach Moore stated that he would like to mention that the Public works department did an amazing job staying on top of keeping the Towns water in order during the week of freezing temperatures. Mayor Watters informed the Board that the guys had to spend each night at the Water plant to keep the generator going sleeping on cots and never leaving. She wanted to thank everyone for their dedication to the Town.

David Baker reported the Planning Commission updates to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Mr. Baker stated they met to review a sign application for Rossville Express and different alternatives were discussed with the owner. The application was accepted with the suggested modifications.

Under Old Business, Mayor Watters brought before the Board the second reading on Ordinance 2021-001, an Ordinance amending the Town of Rossville's Municipal Code Chapter 3, Section 4-304, Travel Reimbursement Rate Schedules. Mike Swessel made the motion to approve on second reading Ordinance 2021-001, a second from Sondra Webb and a unanimous vote made by roll call.

Under New Business, Mayor Watters stated that we are in the process of renewing our lease agreement with Norfolk Southern. Attorney Tom Minor stated that he has reviewed the proposed contract and he has submitted it to the Town's insurance carrier as well. Mr. Minor stated that the Town is already providing liability insurance. However, Public Entity Partners had a problem with the language required the Town to completely indemnify the railroad for any negligence on the part of the railroad. Mr. Minor stated that a request has been submitted to the NSR for indemnification to not exceed the limits imposed by the Tennessee Governmental Tort Liability Act. This act limits the exposure that governments have in Tennessee. Mr. Minor stated that Public Entity Partners was also concerned with a change in the level of the subrogation waiver. Under the former agreement the Town agreed to waive any subrogation claims regarding property claims. Mr. Minor stated that we have submitted a more limited form to NSR that will align with the Insurance company's concerns. Mayor Watters asked permission from the Board to execute the contract with the revisions suggested by the Town's attorney and insurance provider. Mike Swessel made the motion, a second from Sherrie Rinehart and a unanimous vote made by roll call.

Mayor Watters made the motion to adjourn at 6:57 p.m.

Karen Pennington
Town Recorder

Motion: Mike Swessel
April 13, 2021

Second: Sherrie Rinehart
April 13, 2021

Approved: Judy Watters
Mayor