

**TOWN OF ROSSVILLE  
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
MAYOR OF BOARD AND ALDERMEN**

380 Morrison Road  
Rossville, TN 38066

February 13, 2024

Visitors: Edgar Babian, Dave Hamric, Karen Pennington, Joseph Howell, Lorie Rice, Betty Ann Mullis and Carolyn Rhea.

The Board members present were Judy Watters, Mike Swessel, Sherrie Rinehart, Bobby Williams, Jeff Wooden and Matt Fulcher. Sondra Webb was absent.

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

Bobby Williams gave the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Watters asked for citizen comments regarding agenda items only. None were suggested. Sherrie Rinehart made the motion to approve the agenda, a second from Jeff Wooden and a unanimous vote.

Minutes from the January 9, 2024, regular Board meeting was approved with a motion from Jeff Wooden, a second from Bobby Williams and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters opened the public hearing for Ordinance 2024-002, an Ordinance to adopt the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code and the 2018 International Residential Code with amendments set out, with no citizens comments the public hearing was closed.

Lorie Rice presented the financials for January 2024. Bobby Williams made the motion to approve the financials for January 2024, a second from Matt Fulcher and a unanimous vote.

Chief Hamric reported there were 39 calls, 98 citation charges, 37 warnings, 3 crashes, and 2 incident reports for the month of January for the Police Department.

Edgar Babian reported a total of 9 fire calls, 17 medical calls and service call with a response time of 9:39 minutes for Rossville for the month of January. Chief Babian informed the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that the Fayette County Tactical Rescue Team had recently shut down and reached out to him and wanted to donate all the equipment that they had to the Fire Department. He is currently working on an inventory list of all the equipment donated.

Joseph Howell informed the Mayor and Board that the water loss for January 2024 was 12.9%. They replaced 8 AMR meters in the downtown district and completed 11 work orders during the month.

There were no Engineering/Planning updates.

Under old business, Chief Babian communicated that there was no new information on the interlocal agreement with the County for medical and service calls. The current agreement was signed in 2012 and requires a 90-day cancellation notice. The next meeting is scheduled for February 19<sup>th</sup> and will hopefully have additional information for the March Board meeting.

The next agenda item was the second reading on Ordinance 2024-002, an Ordinance to adopt the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code and the 2018 International Residential Code with amendments set out. Bobby Williams made the motion to approve Ordinance 2024-002 on second reading, a second from Matt Fulcher and a unanimous vote.

Under new business, Joseph Howell informed the Mayor and Board that a hydrant leak in Bailey Ridge needed immediate repair. The Water Department tried to isolate the problem during the freezing temperatures but leak the worsened. The result was that the entire hydrant had to be replaced immediately which resulted in an emergency purchase. The total cost for material and labor was \$6,750. Jeff Wooden made the motion to approve the invoice from M & M Solutions, a second from Matt Fulcher and a unanimous vote.

Resolution 2024-001 - a Resolution to repeal existing residential fee schedule for Residential Permit fees and adopt a fee schedule for the Town of Rossville, TN was considered by the Board. Mayor Watters stated that the schedules have not been adjusted since 2018 although the Town has experienced annual CPI inflation rates between 3%-8% for several years. Bobby Williams made the motion to approve Resolution 2024-001, a second from Jeff Wooden and a unanimous vote.

The first reading of Ordinance 2024-003, an Ordinance amending fiscal year 2023-2024 budget passed by Ordinance 2023-003 was considered by the Board. Sherrie Rinehart made the motion to approve on first reading on Ordinance 2024-003, a second from Jeff Wooden and a unanimous vote.

Ordinance 2024-005, an Ordinance amending Ordinance 2021-004, Schedule 3, Section 3, Sub-Section A-Water System fees was considered by the Board on the first reading. Joseph Howell stated that only one company sells these meters and prices recently increased from \$205 to \$255. Bobby Williams made the motion to approve Ordinance 2024-005 on first reading, a second from Matt Fulcher and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen Resolution 2024-006, a Resolution to appoint members to the Industrial Development Board of the Town of Rossville. Mayor Watters stated the application was approved by the State and appointing the members is the next step.

IDB orientation is planned for February 27<sup>th</sup>. Jeff Wooden made the motion to approve Resolution 2024-006, a second from Matt Fulcher and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters informed the Board of Aldermen the CPI for January, 2024 is 3.5%. She stated this rate that regulates our water/sewer rates and the increase would normally go in affect in July. She informed the Board of Aldermen that she recently received news of Kellogg's closing June 1<sup>st</sup>. Kellogg's closing will not only affect the Water and Sewer budget but will also impact revenues received from personal property taxes. She stated that the Board will meet and discuss this closer to budget review.

Mayor Watters informed the public that a new electric battery plant being built between Knox and Frazier on the Tennessee/Mississippi border resulting in approximately 2,000 new jobs. The ground breaking is targeted for mid-April. A meeting with the Marshall County Industrial Development Board is scheduled for February 28<sup>th</sup> to better understand potential impacts on Rossville as it relates to safety, police, traffic, and housing.

Mayor Watters informed the Board that House Bill #1892 and Senate Bill #2100 are being considered by the Tennessee legislature. This will place strict time parameters on inspections of residential homes and will potentially allow builders to complete their own inspections if the new timelines are not met. She said municipal Mayors will discuss later this month to get a better understanding of any ramifications.

Being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. was made with unanimous vote.

Karen Pennington, Town Recorder

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Judy B. Watters, Mayor