

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

January 14, 2025

Visitors: Joseph Howell, Karen Pennington, Edgar Babian, David Baker, Tim Verner, Stephen Chandler, Jimmy Thomas, Carolyn Rhea and Betty Mullis.

Prior to the regular the meeting of the BMA the aldermen held a work session to discuss the purchase of software for the Police Department and Court. The board members attending the work session were Judy Watters, Mike Swessel, Jeff Wooden, Sherrie Rinehart, Matt Fulcher and Bobby Williams. Sondra Webb was absent.

Mayor Watters called the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen at 6:30 p.m. Chief Babian gave the invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance

The board members attending the meeting were Judy Watters, Mike Swessel, Jeff Wooden, Sherrie Rinehart, Matt Fulcher and Bobby Williams. Sondra Webb was absent.

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

Minutes from the December 10, 2024, regular Board meeting were approved with a motion from Jeff Wooden, a second from Bobby Williams and a unanimous vote.

Department and Staff Reports:

- Loretta Bell presented the financials for December, 2024. Sherrie Rinehart made the motion to approve the financials for December, 2024, a second from Mike Swessel and a unanimous vote.
- Chief Chandler reported there were 31 police calls, 107 citation charges, 61 warnings, 2 crashes, 1 arrest and 5 incident reports for the month of December for the Police Department.
- Edgar Babian reported there were 5 fire calls, 11 medical calls and 6 service calls with a response time of 9:58 minutes for the Rossville Fire Department for the month of December.
- Joseph Howell updated the Board on water/waste water activities for December. Details included a water loss of 13.3%. He stated that they have completed 148 locates for Chickasaw Electric related to installation of fiber optic cable and 18 work orders. Mayor Watters stated that there was a leak on Railroad Street during the snow that Joseph and Thomas worked on for almost 12 hours, this was an old line on the West Street lift station. She stated that she would like to brag on the dedication and hard work that they both put in. Aldermen Wooden made the motion to award Joseph Howell and Thomas Vanzant for their commitment to the Town by giving them a one-time stipend of \$500, a second was made by Sherrie Rinehart and a unanimous vote.
- Tim Verner provided updates to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen on the progress of the water wells/water tower. He stated that they have contracts on the new water tower and the fabrication drawings have started. The official start date was January 6th for the wells with a 480 day to completion.

- Tim Verner stated that the Cotton Trail drainage relocation is complete and that Chase will meet with the property owners to get final approval. He stated that once this is done, we can start the bidding process.

Under old business, Mayor Watters updated the Board of Aldermen that the ARP money of \$250,000 that we have received has been obligated to the installation of aerators and to fix the pump at the lagoon. We are still waiting on parts for this to be completed but the contracts are already in place.

Mayor Watters brought before the election of Vice-Mayor. She stated that this was brought before the Board last month to bring nominations and she has received 3 nominations for Bobby Williams to remain Vice Mayor. Matt Fulcher made the motion for Bobby Williams to continue as Vice Mayor, a second from Jeff Wooden and a unanimous vote.

Under new business, Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen first reading on Ordinance 2025-001, an Ordinance of the Town of Rossville, Tennessee amending the fiscal 2024-2025 budget passed by Ordinance 2024-010. Sherrie Rinehart made the motion to approve Ordinance 2025-001 on first reading, a second from Bobby Williams and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen first reading on Ordinance 2025-002, an Ordinance revising/adopting various fees. Mayor Watters stated that these fees have not been updated since 2018. Jeff Wooden made the motion to approve on first reading Ordinance 2025-002, a second from Mike Swessel and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen first reading on Ordinance 2025-003, an Ordinance amending Ordinance 2021-003 schedule 3, section A water system fees. Sherrie Rinehart made the motion to approve on first reading Ordinance 2025-003, a second from Mike Swessel and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen a request from Chief Chandler to purchase a cloud-based Report Management System (WATSON) this will help bring technology to our officers and improve the time they are on a traffic stop. She also included in the request the purchase of a Court software (CITRIS) that will improve the efficiency of the Courts and how tickets are being entered. The unbudgeted expense is \$28,549 and is included in the budget amendment. Bobby Williams made the motion for the purchase of WATSON and CITRIS in the amount of \$28,549, a second from Mike Swessel and unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen a donation of a 1994 Spartan/Smeal 75' Aerial Fire Truck from Fred Babian with a value of \$25,000. The Town will be able to use the truck for as long as they need and at anytime the need for the truck is no longer needed, they will return it back to Mr. Babian. Sherrie Rinehart made the motion to accept the donated Fire truck, a second from Bobby Williams and a unanimous vote.

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:54 p.m. with all members in favor of the motion.

Karen Pennington, Town Recorder

Approved: _____
Mayor

