

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

May 13, 2025

Visitors: Karen Pennington, Loretta Bell, Edgar Babian, Steve Chandler, Jimmy Thomas, Betty Mullis, and Caroline Rhea.

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

Mayor Watters called the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to order at 6:30 p.m. Loretta Bell gave the invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Mayor Watters opened the public hearing for Ordinance 2025-004, an Ordinance for the Town of Rossville to adopt by ordinance State Traffic Offenses and Rules of the Road and amend Title 15, Chapter 1. There were no comments from citizens and the public hearing was closed.

Mayor Watters opened the public hearing for Ordinance 2025-005, an Ordinance amending current rates for water and waste water services for the Town of Rossville by adopting industrial rates for Waste Water. There were no comments from citizens and the public hearing was closed.

The minutes from the April 8, 2025, Regular Board meeting were approved with a motion from Sherrie Rinehart, a second from Matt Fulcher and a unanimous vote.

Department and Staff Reports:

- Loretta Bell presented the financials for April, 2025. Jeff Wooden made the motion to approve the financials for April, 2025, a second from Sherrie Rinehart and a unanimous vote.
- Chief Chandler reported there were 26 police calls, 134 citation charges, 55 warnings, 1 crash, 0 arrest and 3 incident reports during the month of April. Jimmy Thomas informed the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that they had a gentlemen driving on the wrong side of the road and had to "box him in" with a police cruisers to stop him. He was charged with five felonies. One of our officers being jarred due the impact of the stop. There was no damage to the police vehicle and the officer was released by doctors to return to duty.
- Edgar Babian reported there were 3 fire calls and 13 medical calls with a response time of 12:04 minutes for the Rossville Fire Department for the month of April. He stated that two of the calls were in the county.
- Joseph Howell reported the water loss rate for April was 13.3%. The Water Department completed 16 work orders and 29 locates during the same period.
- David Baker updated the Mayor and Board on the Planning and Zoning and Design Review Committee meetings. He the site plan for Browning Construction's proposed building, which will be located on Hwy 57 east of Wolf Port Way, were reviewed and approved.
- Tim Verner updated the Mayor and Board on the progress of the new water tower. The tank contractor has mobilized on the existing tank and it should arrive very soon. Additionally, there will be activity on Bailey Ridge water tower when work on the down spout begins by the end of the summer.
- Tim Verner updated the Mayor and Board that bids for the Cotton Trail drainage easement project will be opened on Thursday, May 29th at 2 p.m.

Old Business:

- The second reading of Ordinance 2025-004, an Ordinance for the Town of Rossville to adopt by reference state traffic offenses and rules of the road and amend Title 15, Chapter 1 was considered by the Board. Matt Fulcher made a motion to approved Ordinance 2025-004 on second reading, a second from Jeff Wooden and a unanimous vote.
- The second reading of Ordinance 2025-005, an Ordinance amending current rates for water and waste water services for the Town of Rossville by adopting industrial rates for waste water was considered by the Board. Sherrie Rinehart made the motion to approve Ordinance 2025-005, a second from Jeff Wooden and a unanimous vote.

New Business:

- The first reading of Ordinance 2025-006, an Ordinance of the Town of Rossville, Tennessee to amend the fiscal year 2024-2025 budget passed by Ordinance 2024-010 was considered by the Board. Sherrie Rinehart made the motion to approve the Ordinance on first reading, a second from Jeff Wooden and a unanimous vote.
- The first reading on Ordinance 2025-007, an Ordinance of the Town of Rossville, Tennessee to adopt the annual budget and tax rate for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 was presented to the Board. Mayor Watters stated that there are some things that need to be considered this year when we adopt the tax rate for the upcoming fiscal year. Information related to the reappraisal rates will be finalized by the county and the impact that Kelloggs' appeal to the State on their personal property valus is unknown. She suggested that we keep the same rate of 1.119% on first reading and schedule a meeting when all Board members are present for further discussion before second reading in June. Jeff Wooden made the motion to approve Ordinance 2025-007 on first reading with the current tax rate of 1.119%, a second from Sherrie Rinehart and a unanimous vote.
- The air conditioning unit at City Hall was struck by lightning and had to be repaired. This was an emergency repair and the cost was an unbudgeted expense of \$7,800. An insurance claim has been filed with Public Entity Partners (insurance company) and the Town hopes to recoup a portion of the expense. Sherrie Rinehart made the motion to approve the expense of \$7,800 to Global Central Air, a second from Matt Fulcher and a unanimous expense.
- Alderwoman Rinehart announced that the food trucks will return on Sunday, June 8th and will continue the second Sunday of each month through Septemer.

Being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made at 6:54 p.m. with all members in favor of the motion.

Karen Pennington, Town Recorder

Approved:

Judy B. Watters, Mayor

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

April 8, 2025

Visitors: Karen Pennington, Loretta Bell, Edgar Babian, Steve Chandler, Jimmy Thomas, Betty Mullis, Ron and Carol Watson, Caroline Rhea and Patrick Siano.

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

Mayor Watters called the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to order at 6:30 p.m. Vice Mayor Bobby Williams gave the invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Minutes from the March 11, 2025, Regular Board meeting was approved with a motion from Mike Swessel, a second from Sondra Webb and a unanimous vote.

Department and Staff Reports:

- Loretta Bell presented the financials for March, 2025. Jeff Wooden made the motion to approve the financials for March, 2025, a second from Mike Swessel and a unanimous vote.
- Chief Chandler reported there were 26 police calls, 162 citation charges, 113 warnings, 0 crashes, 2 arrests and 5 incident reports during the month of March.
- Edgar Babian reported there were 9 fire calls and 11 medical calls with a response time of 8:33 minutes for the Rossville Fire Department for the month of March.
- Joseph Howell reported the water loss for March was 10.7%. The Water Department completed 18 work orders, set 3 new meters and completed 64 locates. Mr. Howell stated that they lost communication with the tower to the water plant during the recent storms and they had to run the pumps manually. Mayor Watters stated that she is proud of all the hard work that the guys did during the storms and blessed that Rossville was spared from the tornados.
- Tim Verner updated the Mayor and Board that wells will be drilled in June and should be completed within 2 months of start date. We are currently waiting on the pumps and should start erection by late summer.
- Tim Verner updated the Mayor and Board that the Cotton Trail drainage easement is coming close to being able to bid out

Under old business, Mayor Watters updated the Board of Aldermen that the numbers have been submitted for the Special Census. She stated that during Covid when the original Census was conducted the numbers were lower than actual. She stated with the new numbers of a population count of 1,351 the Town will generate \$40,000 extra in revenue.

Mayor Watters updated the Board of Aldermen on the walking trail around Spring Lake. She stated that we had budgeted \$50,000 for the repair but the numbers are actually coming in at a much higher amount and ask that this be something we address in the next fiscal year budget.

Under new business, Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen first reading of Ordinance 2025-004, an Ordinance for the Town of Rossville to adopt by reference state traffic offenses and rules of the road and amend Title 15, Chapter 1. Chief Chandler stated that this ordinance will correct the ordinance passed in 2006 where the Town adopted rules of the road and this new ordinance actually cites state law and will clear up any confusion. Sondra Webb made the motion to accept on first reading Ordinance 2025-004, a second from Mike Swessel and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen first reading of Ordinance 2025-005, an Ordinance amending current rates for water and waste water services for the Town of Rossville by adopting industrial rates for Waste Water. Tim Verner stated that the last several years we have discussed implementing separate rates for Commercial and Residential rates because it cost more for a Municipality to treat waste and with Kelloggs no longer here we need to break them out. He stated that the new rate will be \$7.58 per thousand gallons of wastewater discharged. Jeff Wooden made the motion to accept on first reading Ordinance 2025-005, a second from Bobby Williams and a unanimous vote.

Mayor Watters informed the Board of Aldermen that we will have a budget meeting for the FY 25/26 budget on April 15th.

Being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made at 6:57 p.m. with all members in favor of the motion.

Karen Pennington, Town Recorder

Approved: _____
Mayor

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

March 11, 2025

Visitors: Karen Pennington, Loretta Bell, Edgar Babian, Jimmy Thomas, and Patrick Siano.

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

Mayor Watters called the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to order at 6:30 p.m. Vice Mayor Bobby Williams gave the invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Watters asked for citizen comments regarding agenda items only. None were suggested. Sondra Webb made the motion to approve agenda, a second from Bobby Williams and a unanimous vote.

Minutes from the February 11, 2025, Regular Board meeting was approved with a motion from Jeff Wooden, a second from Sherrie Rinehart and a unanimous vote.

Department and Staff Reports:

- Loretta Bell presented the financials for February, 2025. Sondra Webb made the motion to approve the financials for February, 2025, a second from Bobby Williams and a unanimous vote.
- Assistant Police Chief Jimmy Thomas reported there were 59 police calls, 121 citation charges, 79 warnings, 2 crashes, 4 arrests and 13 incident reports during the month of February for the Police Department. Assistant Chief Thomas informed the Mayor and Board of Alderman that the salvaged police vehicles should be ready for auction and before the end of this fiscal year.
- Edgar Babian reported there were 0 fire calls, 9 medical calls and 3 service calls with a response time of 8:28 minutes for the Rossville Fire Department for the month of February.
- Mayor Watters reported the water loss for February was 12.8%. The Water Department completed 18 work orders, set 3 new meters and completed 48 locates.
- Mayor Watters informed the Board that work has begun on the wells for the new water tower and should be complete by June 2026.

There was no Old Business.

New Business:

- Alderwomen Sherrie Rinehart informed the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that she and Jeff Wooden are working with the TN Downtown Committee to determine if the food trucks will be offered this Spring/Summer. A final decision will be made before the next Board meeting

Being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made at 7:01 p.m. with all members in favor of the motion.

Karen Pennington, Town Recorder

Approved:

Mayor