

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

February 11, 2025

Visitors: Joseph Howell, Thomas Vanzant, Karen Pennington, Loretta Bell, Edgar Babian, Tim Verner, Stephen Chandler, Karri Buck, Barbara Thornton, Haley Duffey, Patrick Siano and Betty Mullis.

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 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. Sherrie Rinehart made the motion to approve agenda, a second from Jeff Wooden and a unanimous vote.

Haley Duffey, Executive Director of the Carl Perkins Center, spoke briefly to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen regarding how to recognize child abuse. The training is being offered to elected officials as well as the general public.

Public Hearings:

- A public hearing was held for Ordinance 2025-001, an Ordinance of the Town of Rossville, Tennessee amending the fiscal 2024-2025 budget passed by Ordinance 2024-010. There were no public comments and the hearing was closed.
- A public hearing was held for Ordinance 2025-002, an Ordinance revising/adopting various fees. There were no public comments and the hearing was closed.
- A public hearing was held for Ordinance 2025-003, an Ordinance amending Ordinance 2021-003 Schedule 3, Section A water system fees. There were no public comments and the hearing was closed.

Minutes from the January 14, 2025, Regular Board meeting were approved with a motion from Jeff Wooden, a second from Mike Swessel and a unanimous vote.

Department and Staff Reports:

- Loretta Bell presented the financials for January, 2025. Bobby Williams made the motion to approve the financials for January, 2025, a second from Sherrie Rinehart and a unanimous vote.
- Chief Chandler reported there were 33 police calls, 146 citation charges, 80 warnings, 0 crashes, 1 arrest and 7 incident reports for the month of January for the Police Department. Chief Chandler informed the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that he has promoted Eric Thomas and Kim Marsh to Sergeant. There are plans for both to attend classes for Police Detectives. He also updated the Board on the installation of Watson software which is scheduled to "go live" in approximately 45 days.
- Edgar Babian reported there were 7 fire calls, 4 medical calls and 2 service calls with a response time of 4:54 minutes for the Rossville Fire Department for the month of January.
- Joseph Howell updated the Board on water/waste water activities for January. Details included a water loss of 12.8%. He stated that they have completed 46 locates and 18 work orders. Mr. Howell informed the Mayor and Board that four lagoon aerators have been repaired with funds received from the American Rescue Plan.
- Engineering Updates:
 - Tim Verner provided updates to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen about the replacement pump for the lagoon. The pump broke during testing; however, it is currently being retested. Mr. Verner emphasized to Smith and Lovelace the urgency of completing this project due to the pending expiration date on the use of the American Rescue funds.

- The River Edge subdivision plat has been recorded and building should begin this Spring.
- The elevated water tower pre-construction meeting is scheduled and the contract is underway. The timeline defines a 480-day construction period for well installation. Visible progress is expected in early 2026.
- The Cotton Trail drainage easement will be out for bid in the next 30 days.

Old Business:

- Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen second reading of 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 second reading, a second from Bobby Williams and a unanimous vote.
- Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen second reading of 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 second reading Ordinance 2025-002, a second from Mike Swessel and a unanimous vote.
- Mayor Watters brought before the Board of Aldermen second reading of Ordinance 2025-003, an Ordinance amending Ordinance 2021-003 Schedule 3, Section A water system fees. Sherrie Rinehart made the motion to approve on second reading Ordinance 2025-003, a second from Mike Swessel and a unanimous vote.

New Business:

- No Parking Signs on Second Street: Mayor Watters asked the Board to approve a request to re-install No Parking signs on the east side of Second Street. Signs existed in the past and were removed at the requests of several residents who wanted to park in front of their homes. Parking is now taking place on both sides of the street which makes it difficult for emergency personnel and vehicles to access when necessary. Sherrie Rinehart made the motion to order and install new no parking signs for Second Street, a second from Jeff Wooden and a unanimous vote.
- Mayor Watters updated the Board on a conversation with Chickasaw Electric regarding the installation of fiber optics in Rossville. Chickasaw Electric understood the residents and the Town of Rossville concerns and agreed to repair the damage made during the fiber installation. Many residents' yards, sprinkler systems and the Town's streets were damaged. Loyd Muncy with Chickasaw Electric committed to make the repairs in the Spring when the weather improves. Mayor Watters stated that she hopes that commitment from Chickasaw Electric will resolve some of the concerns the residents have. Chickasaw Electric agreed to follow up on the issues caused.
- The CPI index for the calendar year 2024 was 2.9%. This rate is the index used for the annual adjustment to our water and wastewater rates. The Board was also informed that the automatic meter reading software increased by \$2,000 a year. As a result, total water/wastewater increase for 2025 will be 3.2% and the new rate will be effective on July 1, 2025.
- The Board received a budget calendar the FY26 planning.
- Rossville was selected as the host city for the Midsouth Balloon Festival. The 2025 dates are September 19th-21st. The festival was hosted by Collierville in the past and Rossville is very excited to have this event come to Rossville. The Mayor stated that the annual Smokin' on the Wolf BBQ Contest will be moved to the first week of October.

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