

Amended

**TOWN OF ROSSVILLE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE**

**MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
380 Morrison Road
Rossville, TN 38066**

March 10, 2026

Visitors Present: Karen Pennington, Loretta Bell, Edgar Babian, Steve Chandler, Joseph Howell, Melanie Willer, Jeanine Watts, Jeb Burgess, Carolyn Rhea, and Betty Mullis.

Board Members Present: Judy Watters, Jeff Wooden, Mike Swessel, Sondra Harris, Bobby Williams, and Gary York. Matt Fulcher was absent.

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

Mayor Watters introduced Jeb Burgess, who is running for Circuit Court Clerk. Mr. Burgess updated the Mayor and Board of Aldermen on his background.

Mayor Watters invited citizen comments limited to agenda items; none were offered. Mayor Watters amended the agenda by adding a reduction of the letter of credit for Villages of Lafayette Station and an Easter egg hunt for Rossville Church. Sondra Harris made a motion to approve the agenda with amendments, seconded by Bobby Williams. The motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the February, 2026 Regular Board Meeting were approved upon a motion by Jeff Wooden, seconded by Gary York, and passed unanimously.

The minutes of the February 24, 2026 work session were approved with a motion from Bobby Williams, seconded by Gary York and passed unanimously.

Department and Staff Reports

- **Finance:** Loretta Bell presented the financial statements for February 2026. A motion to approve was made by Sondra Harris, seconded by Bobby Williams, and passed unanimously.
- **Police Department:** Chief Chandler reported 11 police calls, 102 citation charges, 38 warnings, 2 arrests, 3 crashes and 7 incident reports for the month of February.
- **Fire Department:** Chief Babian reported 6 fire calls, 1 service call, and 10 medical calls, with an average response time of 9 minutes and 8 seconds for February. He informed the Mayor and Board that there was a fire at Rossville Manor caused by faulty electrical wiring. He stated that the department received significant assistance from Fayette County and Piperton.
- **Water Department:** Joseph Howell reported a water loss rate of 11.3% for February. The department completed 12 work orders and 15 locate requests during the month. He stated that he has begun purchasing the expellers approved at the January meeting. The cost is \$5,400 each, and he is replacing those at lift stations experiencing the most issues first. The total cost will not exceed \$21,000.

New Business

- **Ordinance 2026-001** - Mayor Watters presented the first reading of Ordinance 2026-001, an ordinance amending Title 1, Chapter 1, Section 101 of the Municipal Code to change the meeting time of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Rossville, TN to 6 p.m. Mike Swessel made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-001 on first reading, seconded by Sondra Harris. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Ordinance 2026-003** - Mayor Watters presented the first reading of Ordinance 2026-003, an ordinance amending the fiscal year 2025–2026 budget passed by Ordinance 2025-007. Mike Swessel made a motion to approve the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Sondra Harris. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Water Plant Funding** - Mayor Watters informed the Board of Aldermen that she has been working on funding recommendations for the water production plant. Alderman Wooden stated that the current water facility is over 50 years old and located in a floodplain, and that the new facility will be located on Knox Road. The City received \$3 million from the State for the new water tower and a TDEC matching grant to partially fund the water wells. He stated that Mayor Watters has reached out to TML Bond Fund and TDEC, and that the best option appears to be the Bank of Fayette County due to its favorable rates. Jeff Wooden made a motion to authorize Mayor Watters to pursue and negotiate funding with the Bank of Fayette County, up to \$4 million, as determined by the lowest or best bid. The motion was seconded by Sondra Harris and passed unanimously.
- **Villages of Lafayette Station** – Letter of Credit - the Town currently holds a \$100,000 letter of credit from Renaissance Realty on the Villages of Lafayette Station. The final asphalt layer on the streets in the subdivision have been installed and the \$25,000 will be held for a period of one year to ensure the asphalt does not fail at the final inspection. Mike Swessel made a motion to approve the reduction, seconded by Jeff Wooden. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Easter Egg Hunt** - Mayor Watters announced that the Town will sponsor an Easter egg hunt with Rossville Church on April 6.
- **Fire Chief Retirement** - Mayor Watters announced that Fire Chief Edgar Babian will retire on May 27 after 10 years of dedicated service to Rossville. She stated that he will remain available as a volunteer as needed.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made at 6:58 p.m. All members voted in favor.

Karen Pennington, Town Recorder

Approved:

Judy B. Watters, Mayor