

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

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

April 14, 2026

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

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

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 invited citizen comments limited to agenda items; none were offered. Sondra Harris made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mike Swessel. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing

Mayor Watters opened the public hearing for 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. With no citizen comments, the public hearing was closed.

Minutes

The minutes of the March 10, 2026, Regular Board Meeting were approved upon a motion by Jeff Wooden, seconded by Bobby Williams, and passed unanimously.

Department and Staff Reports

- Finance: Loretta Bell presented the financial statements for March 2026. A motion to approve was made by Gary York, seconded by Matt Fulcher, and passed unanimously.
- Police Department: Chief Chandler reported 29 police calls, 115 citation charges, 41 warnings, 2 arrests, 4 crashes, and 7 incident reports for the month of March.
- Fire Department: Chief Babian reported 3 fire calls, 4 service calls, and 13 medical calls, with an average response time of 7 minutes and 41 seconds for March.
- Water Department: Joseph Howell reported a water loss rate of 13.5% for March. The department completed 17 work orders and set no new meters for the month.
- City Planner: David Baker stated that the Planning Commission met to review and revise the sign ordinance to bring it into compliance; the revisions were approved.
- Engineering: Tim Verner informed the Mayor and Board that steel has been delivered for the new water tank, and erection should begin soon, with painting scheduled for late fall. He also stated that well construction has been completed, and motor assembly should take place in the next few weeks. Plans for the water plant will be submitted to the State for review by the end of April.

Old Business

- Mayor Watters presented the second 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. Sondra Harris made a motion to approve the ordinance on second reading, seconded by Mike Swessel. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- Ordinance 2026-002: Mayor Watters presented the first reading of Ordinance 2026-002, an ordinance amending certain provisions of Article VIII, Section 3 of the Municipal Code related to sign regulations. She noted that the changes primarily address political signs and special event signs. Jeff Wooden made a motion to approve the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Bobby Williams. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mayor Watters stated that repairs are needed for the walking trails and that funds from the BBQ event have been allocated for this project. David Baker reported that an estimate of \$75,000 was submitted for the trail behind Saunders Creek Subdivision, which includes tree removal and pipe installation to prevent future erosion. Mayor Watters requested that the project be rebid to include the west side of Huntington Pointe as well as and the Saunders Creek walking trail. This item was tabled pending a revised estimate.
- Mayor Watters informed the Board that the Comptroller issued a memo regarding a requirement for all local governments to ensure that web content and mobile applications are ADA accessible. Governments with populations under 50,000 must comply by April 26, 2027. She will attend a meeting with other county mayors in June to discuss this matter.
- Mayor Watters informed the Board that new laptops are needed for administrative staff and the new Fire Chief. This unbudgeted expense is estimated at \$5,000. Sondra Webb made a motion to approve the expenditure, seconded by Jeff Wooden. The motion passed unanimously.
- Alderman Jeff Wooden gave a presentation on a program allowing residents to purchase banners honoring local veterans, which will be displayed downtown along Main Street. The cost is \$80, and applications are available on the Town's website.

Mayor's Announcements

- Mayor Watters advised that the Town will receive a \$10,366 dividend from Public Entity Partners for workers' compensation and liability coverage.
- Silver Hills Bakery was recognized by the Greater Memphis Chamber and received the 2025 CiCi Community Impact Award from Trade & Industry Development.
- Work has begun on the FY 2026–2027 budget and proposed a workshop with Board members and department heads is scheduled for April 28th at 6:00 p.m.

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