

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

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

May 12, 2026

Visitors Present: Karen Pennington, Loretta Bell, Steve Chandler, Joseph Howell, Joann Watts, Jason Stuart, Melanie Willer, Jeanine Watts, and Carolyn Rhea.

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

Mayor Watters called the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to order at 6:00 p.m. Bobby Williams delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Watters introduced Jason Stuart and Judge Mark McDaniel swore him in as the new Fire Chief for Rossville.

Mayor Watters invited citizen comments limited to agenda items; none were offered. Mayor Watters amended the agenda by removing the public hearing for Ordinance 2026-003, an Ordinance to amend Budget 25-26. Jeff Wooden made a motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Mike Swessel. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing

Mayor Watters opened the public hearing for Ordinance 2026-002, an Ordinance amending the municipal code of the Town of Rossville to amend certain provisions of Article VII, Section 3, related to sign regulations. With no citizen comments, the public hearing was closed.

Minutes

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 14, 2026, and the Special Called Meeting of May 6, 2026, were approved upon a motion by Jeff Wooden, seconded by Mike Swessel, and passed unanimously.

Department and Staff Reports

- Finance: Loretta Bell presented the financial statements for April 2026. A motion to approve was made by Bobby Williams, seconded by Mike Swessel, and passed unanimously.
- Police Department: Chief Chandler reported 9 police calls, 146 citations issued, 48 warnings, 0 arrests, 3 crashes, and 1 incident report for the month of April.
- Fire Department: Chief Stuart reported 3 fire calls, 1 service call, and 3 medical calls for April.
- Water Department: Joseph Howell reported a water loss rate of 12.1% for April. The department completed 9 work orders, 22 locates and installed 3 new meters during the month of April.

Old Business

- Mayor Watters presented the second reading of Ordinance 2026-002, an Ordinance amending the municipal code of the Town of Rossville to amend certain provisions of Article VII- Section 3 related to sign regulations. Jeff Wooden made a motion to approve the ordinance on second reading, seconded by Mike Swessel. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- Ordinance 2026-004: Mayor Watters presented the first reading of Ordinance 2026-004, an Ordinance of the Town of Rossville, Tennessee adopting the annual budget and tax rate for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027. Bobby Williams made a motion to approve the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mike Swessel. The motion passed unanimously.
- Ordinance 2026-005: Mayor Watters presented the first reading of Ordinance 2026-005, an Ordinance repealing the current rates for water and wastewater based on the CPI index for the Town of Rossville and adopting new rates for infrastructure improvements. Mayor Watters stated that the Town uses the CPI index to adjust water rates each fiscal year. The CPI increase for this year is 2.7%. Due to ongoing water and wastewater improvements, depreciation expenses, and repairs currently under construction, it is recommended that an additional \$1.00 be added to the minimum bill. This change will reflect an overall increase of \$5.04. Jeff made a motion to approve the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mike Swessel. The motion passed unanimously.
- Alderman Wooden praised Mayor Watters for her hard work in identifying financing options for the new water tower and water treatment plant. He stated a portion of the project was funded with grants but this is a \$9 million dollar project and projected borrowing will be approximately \$3,000,000. The \$3,000,000 loan will be paid off in not more than 12 years.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made at 6:30p.m. All members voted in favor.

Karen Pennington, Town Recorder

Approved:

Judy B. Watters, Mayor