

TOWN OF ROSSVILLE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
380 Morrison Road
Rossville, Tennessee 38066
July 14, 2026

Visitors Present: Karen Pennington, Steve Chandler, Joseph Howell, Jason Stuart, Keith Saunders, Betty Mullis, Ann Aukerman, Kelly and Tim Malone, Ray Malone, Suzy Gray, Emily Chambers, Patrick Siano, Mark Loftin, Tracy Duggin, and Carolyn Rhea.

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

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

Vice Mayor Williams invited citizen comments limited to agenda items; none were offered. He amended the agenda to add the public hearing concerning the proposed Riversedge lot reduction and to remove both the introduction of the new police officers and the executive session. Jeff Wooden moved to approve the agenda as amended, and Sondra Harris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing

- A public hearing was held on a proposed amendment to the Riversedge planned development concerning lot-size reductions. City Planner David Baker stated that the proposed revisions would lower the minimum lot size for certain lots from 3,000 square feet to 2,500 square feet. He explained that the change would allow the developer and builders to construct smaller houses without affecting the quality of the homes. Several residents asked whether the proposed lot reductions would affect their property values, and developer Mark Loftin addressed their concerns. The public hearing closed at 6:27 p.m.

Minutes

The minutes of the June 9, 2026, regular meeting were approved upon a motion by Jeff Wooden, seconded by Sondra Harris. The motion passed unanimously.

Department and Staff Reports

- **Finance:** Loretta Bell presented the financial statements for June 2026. Gary York moved to approve the financial statements, and Sondra Harris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Police Department:** Chief Chandler reported 22 police calls, 175 citation charges, 57 warnings, eight arrests, one crash, and nine incident reports for June.
- **Fire Department:** Chief Stuart reported 15 calls for June, including three fire calls and 10 medical calls.
- **Public Utilities:** Joseph Howell reported a June water-loss rate of 13.4%. The department installed two new meters during the month.
- **Engineering:**
 - Tim Verner informed the Board that the water-plant advertisement had been issued and that the bid opening was scheduled for August 6. A pre-bid meeting was scheduled for the following day. He also reported that rain had delayed the painting of the water tower, but work was expected to resume within the next few days.
 - The State completed its final inspection of the wells. The contractor was expected to complete the installation of the wellhead and pump within the next few weeks.
 - David Baker reported that the walking-trail bid plans were complete and that the Town was awaiting a response from TDEC.

- **Planning Commission:** The Planning Commission reviewed and approved signage for Silver Hills Bakery. It also reviewed and approved an amendment to the Browning Construction site plan to add storage tanks.

Old Business

Joseph Howell informed the Board that the contractors had retrofitted the new aerators and returned five of the six units to the lagoon. He stated that the emergency repair was expected to take an additional three weeks to complete.

New Business

- David Baker informed the Board that the State had updated its planning and zoning requirements. An online seminar was scheduled for July 29, and the new laws were expected to take effect in January 2027.
- Vice Mayor Williams recognized Chief Stuart for completing the Executive Fire Officer Program, a two-year program focused on executive leadership and relationship development with other fire departments.

Upcoming Events

- Vice Mayor Williams informed the public that early voting for the August election would be held from July 17 through August 1 and that the deadline to pull a petition was noon on August 5.

With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. All members voted in favor.

Karen Pennington, Town Recorder

Approved:

Bobby Williams, Vice Mayor