

February 11, 2010

The Russell Springs City Council held their regular monthly meeting this date at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. In attendance were Derek Aaron, John Thompson, Joey Hoover, Raymie Hutchison, Jeramy Coffey, Richard Roy, Claradon Wilson, Joe Irvin, Ray Barrett, Ricky Barnes, Timmy Hudson, David Blakey, Eric Selby, Matthew DeHart, Athena Cooper, Hollis DeHart and Wendy Burton. Lisa Mann was absent.

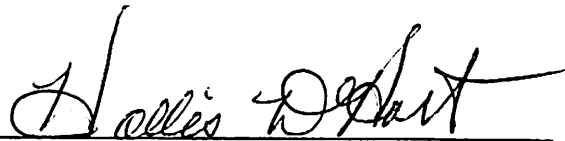
1. Mayor Hollis DeHart called the meeting to order.
2. **David Blakey made the motion to accept the January 14, 2010 minutes. Ricky Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**
3. **David Blakey made the motion to pay the bills. Timmy Hudson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**
4. The Council heard the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Ordinance 2010-01 Enacting and adopting a supplement to the Code of Ordinances. This update is done at least once every five years.
5. The Planning and Zoning Committee met and passed a zone change on Dowell Road, property located between Womack and Tucker Rd. belonging to Jack Hudson from R-2 to C-1 for possibly being a distribution center for dry goods. **Ray Barrett made the motion to accept the recommendation of Planning and Zoning Committee for zone change. Timmy Hudson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**
6. **David Blakey made the motion to reappoint H.M. Bottom to the Natural Gas Board for three (3) years. Eric Selby seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**
7. February 2009 The Council voted to give a donation of \$1,250 to the Russell County Baseball for upgrades to their field with possibly another \$1,250 after the new fiscal year started with revenue permitting. **Ricky Barnes made the motion to donate \$1,250 to Russell County Baseball. Eric Selby seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**
8. Mayor DeHart informed the Council that Mr. Don Byrom's contract with the City has not been renewed. Mr. Byrom has been the Attorney for the City for the last 5 or 6 years and has counseled the City in an appropriate manner. As I perceive it, this is no fault of Mr. Byrom nor the City of Russell Springs. Mr. Byrom is an honorable and very capable attorney and I like to count him as my friend. However, in my opinion, as a result of a ruling handed down by a special Judge, my position as Mayor and Mr. Byrom's position became untenable. I think Don Byrom is a gentleman in every respect and no shadow of inappropriateness should be cast his way. I have asked Attorney Athena Cooper to serve as Interim Council for the City. I call the position Interim because of the very nature of the position and as you may know Ms. Cooper is seeking the position of District Judge.
9. Discussion regarding a small street by the Methodist Church approximately 20' wide and 240' long. This is not a City Street, but the

Methodist Church would like to blacktop this area for their use. **Ray Barrett made the motion to sell the small strip of land to the Methodist Church for \$1.00. Timmy Hudson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

10. Mayor DeHart informed the Council that Ray Barrett had located a used vehicle for the Park from Aaron Motors-a 1997 Chevrolet 4x4. The City has approximately 8 – 10 tons of salt remaining. Our signed contract with Morton Salt was for approximately 120 tons this year up from last year's amount. All salt is being shipped to the Northeastern United States. Mayor DeHart asked for understanding on the use of the remaining salt-it will be used on intersections mainly. Next years contract will include a larger amount of salt than this year. A proposal for lettering for the New City Hall was introduced. Timmy Hudson had used Mr. Nate Parrish for a sign for his business and was well pleased.
11. Resolution 2010-02 was introduced to the Council. This is a 50/50 matching grant through the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the Leroy Rowe City Park. **Eric Selby made the motion to accept the Resolution 2010-02. David Blakey seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**
12. Mayor DeHart stated this was his yearly report of the State of the City. Continued endeavors to upgrade Main Street and make it very attractive to those who travel here and to those who might want to open and maintain a business. The New City Hall will soon be complete and we should occupy the building around the early part of March. Mayor DeHart commended Jeramy Coffey for his dedication to this project along with all City employees who have worked on the project. With all work not quite finished, the project should come in a bit under the estimated \$60.00 per square foot. The reason being our own employees have done a lot of the work on the project. The City has been awarded \$80,000 grant money to place sidewalks on Maple Street. As soon as the money is released construction will start. Also we have applied for funds to build sidewalks on Lakeway Drive. Also application will be made for the construction of a nice picnic area and new bathrooms for the City Park. Over \$1,000,000. has been secured by Terry Russell to replace existing water and sewer lines in town and work is currently underway on this. Be patient with the construction, and the cleanup which may take weeks depending on the weather. The Downtown Revitalization Committee continue to upgrade the facades of buildings in downtown. A New Park was established on Main Street with thanks to the family who so generously gave the property to the City, First National Bank, Monticello Bank, FRIENDS-a Ladies Christian Outreach group. Along with support from Jaycees for the use of the Fairgrounds on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, the Old Boys Car Club, the Masonic Lodge, Committee members and to the Community and the support of the Council. A Code Enforcement Board will be re-established with three members who have the authority to summon, issue citations and fine those who choose to ignore the citation. We have no intention of riding rough

shod over anyone, but every intention of continuing our efforts to clean up and spruce up and get rid of dilapidated and dangerous building. Last year we received \$26,466.00 in state road aid. A major portion will be used for mending pot holes and widening some streets this coming fiscal year. If you listen to the National News and Financial and Economic Gurus you know it is very difficult managing a small city's physical and financial needs. There are many challenges we must face almost on a daily basis. But let us be thankful for what we have and let us strive to do even better in the future.

13. **Timmy Hudson made the motion to let Nate Parrish provide a 4'x16' sign for the New City Hall. David Blakey seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**
14. **Ray Barrett made the motion to adjourn. David Blakey seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**



**Hollis DeHart, Mayor**

ATTEST: Wendy Burton  
**Wendy Burton, City Clerk**