

June 29, 2006

The Russell Springs City Commission held a special called meeting this date at 8:00 a.m. In attendance were Joe M. Irvin, Jamie Rogers, Ray Barrett, Carla Grider, Eric Selby, Don Byrom, Brian Walters and Wendy Burton. Greg Wells arrived later in the meeting.

1. Mayor Brian Walters called the meeting to order.
2. Mayor Walters made the motion to accept the June 28 minutes. Eric Selby seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
3. The Commission was informed regarding the budget that the Clerk had amended several line items to include a new safety director position. Mayor Walters informed the Commission that KLC are requiring this position. Mayor Walters also said that employees had to be held accountable, wrote up and terminated if necessary. It will take everyone cooperating to make things work. Departments will need to prioritize needed lists; no equipment needs to be purchased; personnel is more important. Chief Irvin asked about firearm qualifications; and a list of recommendations for law enforcement required by KLC. Mayor Walters asked could it be discussed at next month's meeting. Mayor Walters suggested if additional officers were hired that the Chief or the Assistant Chief be on duty throughout the daytime. Chief Irvin also requested pay raises to be in line with adjoining cities pay. Mayor Walters asked if this issue could wait until a later time, not with the approval of a budget.
4. Eric Selby made the motion to accept the 2nd reading of budget ordinance 2006-03. Ray Barrett seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
5. Each Commissioner received a job description for Safety Director. Mayor Walters asked that each Commissioner look over the job description and have changes by next month's meeting.
6. Mayor Walters made the motion to establish a full-time director of safety position for the City of Russell Springs. Carla Grider seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
7. Carla Grider informed the Commission that it is not necessary for KLC to be involved with the interview process at this time.
8. Carla Grider made the motion to hire two (2) new police officers providing they pass a drug screening and a polygraph test. Eric Selby asked would it be better to give a raise to the officers employed or hire new people and then loose the officers because of pay? Mr. Selby suggested the list of priorities be completed, give raises and hire one officer without losing any officer. Chief Irvin informed the Commission that the officers are not performing all services needed for the City because of manpower; biggest problem is work-load; can't effectively operate without more help. Chief Irvin stated the Academy was for 18 weeks; but one officer interviewed would only need to attend 3 weeks. Ray Barrett said that in 2003 the Commission was told that overtime would be cut when additional officers were hired and overtime was not cut. Chief Irvin stated that overtime did decrease with additional officers,

but the Russell Co. Fair had caused overtime. Ray Barrett said that when police officers are hired they should know the responsibilities that come with the job. Chief Irvin stated that one situation was no different from another. Ray Barrett stated that the City had to hire a Safety Director to be in compliance. Chief Irvin stated that money was in the budget for two officers and that the officers needed help to accomplish their jobs. Carla Grider stated that she had asked for additional officers since 2005. Chief Irvin stated that he had been doing administrative work along with covering shifts; need double coverage to take care of workload. Mayor Walters stated that the Commission would need to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues. Chief Irvin asked would the Commission like to talk to any of the Police Officers? Mayor Walters said he didn't think that would be necessary, but would like to ask questions to any future employees.

9. Carla Grider informed the Commission she would table the motion.
10. KLC recommended an extended contract with the City Attorney beginning July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007. City Attorney Byrom presented a contract, same contract as before with the dates being July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007.
11. Mayor Walters made the motion to accept the contract as written. Carla Grider seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
12. Mayor Walters made the motion to adjourn. Ray Barrett seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.



Brian Walters, Mayor

ATTEST: Wendy Burton
Wendy Burton, City Clerk