

RUSSELL SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018
6:00 P.M.

The Russell County City Council held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Room at Russell Springs City Hall. Those in attendance were Mayor Eric Selby, Council Members David Blakey, Timothy Hudson, Eddie Thomas, Ricky Barnes, Sherry Daniel, Larry Skaggs, City Attorney Matthew DeHart, Police Chief Joe Michael Irvin, ABC Officer Jeramy Coffey, ABC Investigator Brian Stephens, and City Clerk Christopher Ramsey.

Opening prayer was led by Mr. Zak Wallace, Youth Pastor at Russell Springs United Methodist Church.

WELCOME: Mayor Selby called the meeting to order and welcomed all those present. Mayor Selby welcomed and introduced Christopher Ramsey as the new city clerk.

MINUTES: Mayor Selby presented the minutes from the December 14th & December 28, 2017 meetings. **Councilman Larry Skaggs made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Blakey seconding. The vote was unanimous.**

PAY BILLS: Mayor Selby submitted a list of regular bills to be approved. **Councilman Hudson made a motion to pay the bills with Councilman Barnes seconding. The vote was unanimous.**

MID- YEAR AUDIT: Councilwoman Daniel asked if there was going to be an audit performed due to the hiring of a new city clerk. Mayor Selby stated that the city auditor does not do mid-year audits and according to the auditor, to perform such an audit would be rather costly to the city. The auditor could not recommend such action being taken. Mayor Selby said the auditor's comments are on file.

PAYROLL DIRECT DEPOSIT: Mayor Selby explained he had requested Mr. Ramsey to look at different ways to streamline and modernize the operations of city hall and the clerk's office. One of those recommendations is to go to a direct deposit system for payroll. **Councilman Blakey made a motion to proceed with instituting a direct deposit payroll for city employees. Motion Failed**

After further discussion, **Councilman Blakey made a motion to proceed with instituting a direct deposit payroll system for city employees with Councilwoman Daniel seconding. The roll call: Voting Yes: Blakey, Hudson, Daniel Voting No: Thomas, Barnes, Skaggs. Mayor Selby voted Yes to break the tie. Motion Carried.**


HWY 127 FENCE REMOVAL: Mayor Selby explained that he, along with Jeramy Coffey and County Judge/Executive Gary Robertson, met with the Kentucky Highway District #8 office to discuss the removal of the fence along Hwy 127. This project originated from Governor Bevin's Red Tape Reduction Initiative at the request of Russell County citizens. The Commonwealth of Kentucky and Kentucky Highway District #8 will not provide any funding for this project. However, they will grant the city approval to remove the fence on Hwy 127. Mayor Selby stressed this is a one time shot with Kentucky HWY District #8 giving approval to green light this project. Mr. Coffey stated in order to do this project, the city would need to secure easements from all residents along the roadway and have each property surveyed. Councilwoman Daniel asked Mr. Coffey for a ballpark cost of this project. Mr. Coffey said it would be a total cost around \$20,000 dollars. Councilman Thomas asked if anything had

been bid yet. Mr. Coffey responded that nothing will be done until the council agrees to move forward with the project. Councilman Thomas suggested that Mr. Coffey speak with all of the property owners to get their feelings on this project. **Councilman Skaggs made a motion to give Jeremy Coffey the authority to proceed with the HWY 127 fence removal, obtaining easements and researching how much the actual dollar amount the project will cost and report back to the council with Councilman Thomas seconding. All was in favor.**

FARMERS MARKET: Councilwoman Daniel said she had been contacted by Darrell Andrew with the Farmer's Market in Columbia, KY. Mr. Andrew's group is interested in possibly setting up a farmers market here in Russell Springs once a week. Ms. Daniel went on to describe what the market in Columbia consists of and that it would be little to no cost to the city to host this group in Russell Springs. Mayor Selby said he was all for extending the invitation to this group as long as the council is on board with the idea. Mayor Selby asked Councilwoman Daniel to gather more information or perhaps have the group present to council.

CITY HEALTH INSURANCE: Mayor Selby presented the updated health insurance packets to the council. Mayor Selby said, in order to stay within our budget, the city, at the recommendation of insurance agent Gary Godby, choose to go with Anthem option #55. The new plan worked out to roughly an 8% increase and went into effect immediately.

ADJOURNMENT: Councilman Skaggs made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Councilman Hudson seconding. All was in favor.



Eric Selby, Mayor

Attest: 

Christopher Ramsey, City Clerk