

RUSSELL SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021
6:00 P.M.

The Russell Springs City Council held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, October 14, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Room at Russell Springs City Hall. Those in attendance were Mayor Eddie Thomas, Council Members, Timmy Hudson, Larry Skaggs, Ricky Barnes, Tom Holt, Sherry Daniel, and David Blakey, Police Chief Tim Pierce, Economic Development Director Jeramy Coffey, City Attorney David Smith, and City Clerk Christopher Ramsey.

Opening prayer was led by Pastor Rick Neff, New Victory Baptist Church

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Tom Holt

WELCOME: Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order and welcomed all those present.

ROLL CALL: City Clerk Christopher Ramsey performed the roll call. Council Members in attendance, Mr. Blakey, Mr. Hudson, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Holt, Ms. Daniel, and Mr. Skaggs.

MINUTES: Mayor Thomas presented the minutes from the regular meeting on September 9th. **Councilman Barnes made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Hudson seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

CASH DISBURSEMENTS & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: Mayor Thomas submitted cash disbursements and financial statements for August 2021 to be approved. **Councilwoman Daniel made a motion to accept the cash disbursements and financial statements with Councilman Holt seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

AUDIT REPORT: Mayor Thomas welcomed Andrew DeMoss with RFH, PLLC and turned the floor over to him. Mr. DeMoss went over the 2020 audit with the Council and stated that the City of Russell Springs has received a clean FY 2020 audit. Mr. DeMoss made a couple of recommendations to the Council for consideration. **Councilwoman Daniel made a motion to accept the FY2020 Audit as presented with Councilman Hudson seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 2021-04: AN ORDINANCE OF ACCEPTANCE OF HAMMER DRIVE AS A CITY STREET OF RUSSELL SPRINGS, KY (SPONSORED BY COUNCILMAN BARNES): Clerk Ramsey read Ordinance 2021-04 in its entirety. **Councilwoman Daniel made a motion to accept Ordinance 2021-04 as presented with Councilman Holt seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 2021-05: AN ORDINANCE OF LEVYING THE ANNUAL AD VALOREM TAX ON REAL, PROPERTY, MOTOR VEHICLES AND MOTOR (SPONSORED BY COUNCILWOMAN DANIEL): Clerk Ramsey read a summary of Ordinance 2021-05. Only one change that was made from the first reading was section six: The

City Shall Not Send Out a Tax Bill of Five Dollars or Less. **Councilman Blakey made a motion to accept Ordinance 2021-05 as presented with Councilman Holt seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

RUSSELL COUNTY TOURISM REPORT: Ms. Janette Marson gave an update of the past year's tourism activity in the City of Russell Springs & Russell County.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDERS KRS 61.810(1)(b) – DISCUSSION OF THE PURCHASE OR SALE OF PROPERTY: Councilwoman Daniel made a motion to enter into Executive Session under KRS 61.810(1)(b) for the discussion of the purchase or sale of property with Councilman Holt seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous. Executive Session was entered at 6:46 pm.

EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER KRS 61.810(1)(b) – DISCUSSION OF THE PURCHASE OR SALE OF PROPERTY: Councilman Barnes made a motion to exit Executive Session under KRS 61.810(1)(b) for the discussion of the purchase or sale of property with Councilman Skaggs seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous. Executive Session was exited at 7:38 pm. No Action was taken in Executive Session.

Councilwoman Daniel made a motion to give Mayor Thomas the authority to investigate and negotiate the sale of the property discussion in Executive Session with final approval of the City Council with Councilman Holt seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Skaggs made a motion to give Mayor Thomas the authority to negotiate and enter into an agreement to sale timber on property owned by the City of Russell Springs with Councilwoman Daniel seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Hudson made a motion to give Mayor Thomas the authority to negotiate and sign a letter of intent to purchase the property discussed in Executive Session with final approval of the City Council with Councilman Barnes seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.

Council Update: Councilman Skaggs asked about having handicap parking at the Festival of the Springs. Mayor Thomas said we did offer handicap parking. Mr. Skaggs said he was also reporting that a employee working the festival was rude to a citizen. Mr. Thomas said that concern would be addressed.

POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Chief Pierce wanted the council to know that the Police Department is parking police cars in different areas in town. Hopefully, this will help motivate drivers to slow down.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT: Economic Development Director, Jeremy Coffey stated that a lot of activity is happening right now. Hoping to have some more announcements in the coming months.

CLERK'S REPORT: Clerk Ramsey thanked the City Council for working with him on the FY 2020 Audit. It helped to make the process go smooth. Mr. Ramsey gave an update on Fire

Chief H.M. Bottom. Mr. Ramsey said he had spoken with H.M.'s family and they said that he is fighting as hard as he can against COVID. Mr. Bottom is still in the ICU-COVID Wing of Glasgow Hospital. The family is asking for continuing prayers and support.

MAYOR'S UPDATE:

Mayor Thomas said the Welcome to Russell Springs signage should be going back up shortly. We are waiting on the developer of the property to give us the go ahead.

Mayor Thomas thanked everyone who helped work and participated to make the Russell Springs Festival at The Springs successful.

Treat-or-Treat on Main will be October 30th weather pending.

KFC Update: The old Long John's building is now down and the new KFC should be going up shortly. The opening date has been pushed back to January 1, 2022.

Mayor Thomas announced that he has appointed Leah Cherry Anderson to fill the unexpired term of David Withers on the Code Enforcement Board. Mr. Withers submitted his resignation earlier in the month indicating he is moving to Florida for an advancement in employment.

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

Signed: _____

Eddie Thomas, Mayor

Attest: _____

Christopher Ramsey, City Clerk