

RUSSELL SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2021
2:00 P.M.

The Russell Springs City Council held a special called meeting on Friday, October 22, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., in the Council Room at Russell Springs City Hall. Those in attendance were Mayor Eddie Thomas, Council Members Ricky Barnes, Timmy Hudson, Tom Holt, Sherry Daniel, David Blakey, and Larry Skaggs, City Attorney David Smith, Police Chief Tim Pierce, and City Clerk Christopher Ramsey.

WELCOME: Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order and welcomed all those present with a reminder that this is a special called meeting and only items listed on the agenda may be discussed.

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

FIRE CHIEF NOMINATION: Mayor Thomas said a couple of months ago H.M. Bottom came to City Hall to have a meeting with him and Mr. Ramsey. Mr. Bottom disclosed that he was battling an illness and asked that on his passing, he requested that Mayor Thomas nominate Bobby Johnson to the role of Fire Chief. With that being stated, Mayor Thomas made the official nomination to the Council that Mr. Bobby Johnson be installed as the Fire Chief of the Russell Springs Volunteer Fire Department. **Councilman Holt made a motion to accept the recommendation of Bobby Johnson as Fire Chief with Councilwoman Daniel seconding. Motion Carried. Vote was unanimous.**

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Mayor Thomas said H.M. Bottom had also requested that Mark Barnett be moved to Assistant Fire Chief. Mayor Thomas said he would honor that request and will move Mr. Barnett up to the role of Assistant Fire Chief. This advancement does not require a vote by the council. Mr. Thomas told the firefighters present that they have his and the council's full support and that H.M. will be greatly missed. He also thanked the fire department, and all involved with Mr. Bottom's funeral. It was a great send off for a true Russell County public servant and legend.

ACCEPTANCE OF CDBG DOCUMENTS AND SIGNATURE AUTHORIZATIONS. Clerk Ramsey read the CDBG documents that needed acceptance from the council and that a separate bank account needs to be open. Mayor Thomas explained this was some housekeeping measures for the CDBG grant. The new bank account will be created at First National Bank of Russell Springs. **Councilman Hudson made a motion to give Mayor Thomas the authority to proceed with the CDBG Grant and sign any and all documents necessary to facilitate the grant including setting up a separate bank account if needed with Councilman Holt seconding. Motion Carried. Vote was unanimous.**

ACCEPTANCE OF KIA DOCUMENTS AND SIGNATURE AUTHORIZATIONS. Clerk Ramsey read the KIA documents that needed acceptance from the council and that a separate bank account needs to be open. Mayor Thomas explained this was some housekeeping measures for the KIA grant/loan. The new bank account will be created at First National Bank of Russell Springs. **Councilman Blakey made a motion to give Mayor Thomas the authority to proceed with the KIA Grant/Loan and sign any and all documents necessary to facilitate the grant including setting up a separate bank account if needed with Councilwoman Daniel seconding. Motion Carried. Vote was unanimous.**

ACCEPTANCE OF SIGNATURE AUTHORIZATIONS ON FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS: Mayor Thomas said to be in compliance with the audit recommendations, Ms. Wanda Burton would need to be removed from all financial accounts and Ms. Suzanne Hunter added. Mayor Thomas stressed that Ms. Burton did nothing wrong. This action is simply to be in compliance with the new audit standards. **Councilwoman Daniel made a motion per our auditor's recommendation to help facilitate segregation of duties that Suzanne Hunter be added as an authorized signer on all financial accounts and that Wanda Burton be removed from all financial accounts with Councilman Hudson seconding. Motion Carried. Vote was unanimous.**

CREATION OF POSITION IN STREETS DEPARTMENT: Councilman Barnes made a motion to create a Streets Supervisor position in the Streets Department with Councilwoman Daniel seconding. Motion Carried. Vote was unanimous.

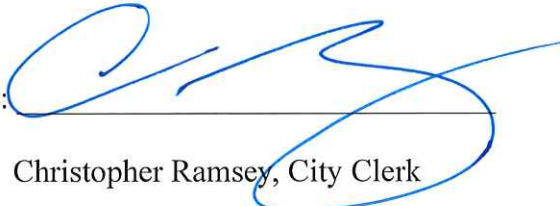
MAYOR'S UPDATE:

- Trick-or-Treat is still a go for October 30, 2021.
- Swearing in New Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief will be next Tuesday, October 26th at 6:00 p.m.
- Mayor Thomas announced that he will appoint Christopher Ramsey to fulfill the remainder of H.M. Bottom's term on the Natural Gas Board as requested per Mr. Bottom. His term is set to expire on Dec 1, 2021. Then Mr. Ramsey will begin a three-year term on the board ending December 1, 2024.

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

Signed:  _____

Eddie Thomas, Mayor

Attest:  _____
Christopher Ramsey, City Clerk