

RUSSELL SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022  
6:00 P.M.

The Russell Springs City Council held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, December 8, 2022, at 6:00 p.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, David Blakey, and Larry Skaggs, Assistant Police Chief Bryan Shepard, City Attorney David Smith, Economic Development Director Jeremy Coffey, and City Clerk Christopher Ramsey.

Opening prayer was led by Pastor Donnie Emerson, Russell Springs Christian Church

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Larry Skaggs

**WELCOME:** Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

**ROLL CALL:** City Clerk Christopher Ramsey performed the roll call. Council Members Present: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Hudson, Mr. Holt, Mr. Blakey, and Mr. Skaggs. Absent: Sherry Daniel. A quorum was established.

**MINUTES:** Mayor Thomas presented the minutes from the previous meeting held on November 10, 2022. **Councilman Blakey 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 October 2022 to be approved. **Councilman Holt made a motion to accept the cash disbursements and financial statements with Councilman Barnes seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT AWARD – MICHAEL GRIMSLEY:** Leadership of the Russell Springs Volunteer Fire Department present an award to Mr. Michael Grimsley for donating four cars to the fire department for extrication training. On behalf of the Russell Springs City Council, Mayor Thomas presented Mr. Grimsley with a challenge coin for his service.

**APPRECIATION AWARD – MAGISTRATE LARRY HOLT:** Councilman Larry Skaggs on behalf of Mayor Thomas, City Council and City Employees presented Mr. Larry Holt with an appreciation award for his many years of service to the City of Russell Springs as the 5<sup>th</sup> District Magistrate. Mr. Holt had served as magistrate for four terms. Mr. Holt thanked everyone for allowing him the opportunity to serve the citizens of the City of Russell Springs and Russell County.

**SERVICE AWARD – COUNCILMAN LARRY SKAGGS:** Mayor Thomas presented Mr. Skaggs with a service award for his outstanding service as a long-time council member on the Russell Springs City Council. Mr. Skaggs won the recent election to become the next 5<sup>th</sup> District Magistrate on the Russell County Fiscal Court. Mr. Skaggs thanked everyone for trusting him to serve the citizens of Russell Springs and he is looking forward to continuing to serve the people on the Fiscal Court.

**2022 CHRISTMAS PARADE WINNERS:** Mayor Thomas and Clerk Ramsey presented the winners of the Russell Springs Christmas Parade.

- **Best Classic Car: Robbie Morgan 1968 Cadillac DeVille**
- **Best Youth Entry: Bella Musica**
- **Best Small Float/Vehicle: Bernie Gerry**
- **Best Large Float/Vehicle: Superior Battery**
- **BEST OF PARADE: West 80 Church of God**

- **Best Dressed Windows on Main Street: Griders**

**FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2022-06: AN ORDINANCE OF INTENT TO ANNEX PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNED BY TIMOTHY ABERNATHY AND KEITH OWENS (Sponsored by Councilman Blakey):** City Attorney David Smith presented the council with the first reading of Ordinance 2022-06. No action taken on the first reading.

**PIZZA MAN RUSSELL SPRINGS:** Mr. John Goch wanted to let everyone know that he has recently opened a pizza restaurant in the "Chop Shop" building on 178 Lakeway Drive, Russell Springs.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER KRS 61.810(1)(B) – ACQUISITION OR SALE OF REAL PROPERTY:** Councilman Skaggs made a motion to go into executive session under KRS 61.810(1)(b) with Councilman Holt seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous. Council entered executive session at 6:27 pm.

**EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Councilman Barnes made a motion to exit executive session under KRS 61.810(1)(b) with Councilman Hudson seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous. Council left executive session at 6:53 pm. Mayor Thomas stated that no action was taken in executive session.

**Councilman Holt made a motion to give Mayor Thomas the authority to negotiate the purchase or sale of property discussed in executive session with final approval to be presented to the City Council for ratification with Councilman Skaggs seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

**POLICE REPORT:** Assistant Chief Bryan Shepard presented the monthly police statistics.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT:** Mr. Coffey presented the monthly report to the City Council.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:** On behalf of fellow councilmembers, Councilman Holt thanked everyone that was involved in the Christmas Lights at the Park and the Christmas Parade. Mr. Holt said they are fantastic.

#### **MAYOR'S UPDATE:**

**CHRISTMAS PARADE –** Mayor Thomas thanked everyone for helping with the Christmas Parade, Donnie Emerson, Jason Davidson, Michael Scales, Ambria Aaron, Parade Judges, Marisa Ramsey, All City Workers & Volunteers. Christmas Parade was a success and look forward to it next year. The Parade raised \$1,075 for Food for the Needy.

**KLC CITY OFFICIAL'S ACADEMY ON JAN 25TH – JAN 27TH:** Please get with Mr. Ramsey if you intend on going.

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AT THE PARK:** Mayor Thomas thanked all the guys for working so hard to get the lights up. The City has been receiving positive remarks and hope everyone takes some time to go see them. Free to the public.

**YULE LIGHT UP THE NIGHT 5K RUN/WALK – DEC 17TH – 9:00PM:** Chris Coffey & Christi Wethington coordinating the event in conjunction with the City of Russell Springs. If anyone is interested in participating or need more information, give Mr. Ramsey a call at 270-866-3981 ext 6.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT NEW ADDITION AND RENOVATION UPDATE:** As of today, the project is about 80% completed. Mayor Thomas urged the Council to stop by and visit with the fire department.

**LAKE CUMBERLAND NATURAL GAS AUTHORITY APPOINTMENT:** Mayor Thomas appointed Mr. John Stivers – 3-year term (expires: December 2025)

**RUSSELL COUNTY PVA APPOINTMENT:** Mayor Thomas appointed Mr. Jim Edmonds - 3-year term (expires: December 2025)

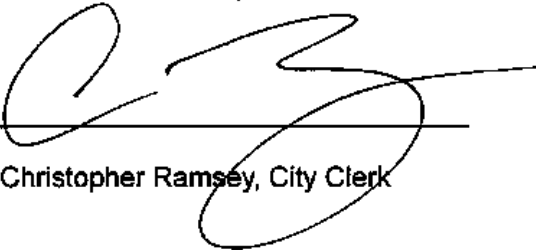
**Mayor Thomas congratulated Brian "Hooty" Stephens on being named the 2022 Russell Springs Volunteer Firefighter of the Year.**

**On behalf of the Russell Springs City Council and City Employees, Mayor Thomas wished everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.**

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

**Signed:**  \_\_\_\_\_

Eddie Thomas, Mayor

**Attest:**  \_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Ramsey, City Clerk