

RUSSELL SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023
6:00 P.M.

The Russell Springs City Council held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, April 13, 2023, 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, David Blakey, Lisa Mann and Cody Wilson, Police Chief Tim Pierce, City Attorney David Smith, Economic Development Director Jeramy Coffey, Zoning Administrator Tom Holt, Public Works Director Allen McQueary, Assistant Police Chief Bryan Shepard, and City Clerk Christopher Ramsey.

Opening prayer was led by Pastor Donnie Emerson, First Christian Church

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman David Blakey

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. Blakey, Ms. Mann, and Mr. Wilson. Absent: Ms. Daniel

MINUTES: Mayor Thomas presented the minutes from the previous meeting held on March 9, 2023. **Councilman Blakey made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Wilson seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

CASH DISBURSEMENTS & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: Mayor Thomas submitted cash disbursements and financial statements for February 2023 to be approved. **Councilman Barnes made a motion to accept the cash disbursements and financial statements with Councilman Hudson seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

WELCOME OF NEW MEMBER: Mayor Thomas welcomed Ms. Lisa Mann to the council. Ms. Mann was voted by the City Council to replace Mr. Tom Holt after his resignation.

SHERIFF DEREK POLSTON: Mr. Polston address Mayor Thomas, City Council and all present about the upcoming funding shortage for the School Resource Officers (SRO) at the local schools. Mr. Polston requested that the City of Russell Springs assist with this funding problem. Mayor Thomas addressed the matter and said that the city is already supplying Officer Clete McAninch to the Russell County High School/Middle School in conjunction with the Russell County School System & the Russell County Fiscal Court. Several council members had questions for Mr. Polston. At the end of the discussion, Mr. Polston thanked everyone for their time.

KEVIN WILLIAMS (KEVIN'S KIDS): Mr. Williams presented via a pre-recorded video to the city council requesting their continued support of the program that helps provide much needed help to kids in the Russell County School District. Mr. Williams also invited everyone to come to the concert this upcoming Saturday nights benefit concert. Mayor Thomas also encouraged everyone to attend the event and said he has enjoyed it immensely for years.

ACCEPTANCE OF FIRE DEPARTMENT STATE AUDIT: Mayor Thomas requested that Clerk Ramsey present the audit to council on behalf of the Russell Springs Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Ramsey stated that the Kentucky Fire Commission had come down the previous day to perform the annual audit and again this year, the fire department received a clean audit. **Councilman Barnes made a motion to accept and acknowledge the Fire Department Audit Report with Councilwoman Mann seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

PROPOSED ZONE CHANGE: COOPER ROAD (R-2 TO R-3) (MAP 033-80-02-009.00, 033-80-02-006.02, 033-80-02-006.03): Mr. Tommy Holt presented Cooper Road zone change to the City Council. Mr. Coffey informed the council that the Planning & Zoning Board had voted unanimously for the change at the last zoning meeting on April 6, 2023. Councilman Wilson asked if anyone had stated any opposition to the proposed change. Mr. Holt said that no one had filed any opposition or complaints about the proposed change. **Councilman Hudson made a motion to ratify the proposed zone change on Cooper Road with Councilman Wilson seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

RESOLUTION 2023-04: CITY ROAD LIST - Clerk Ramsey presented the reading of resolution 2023-04 to the council. Mr. Ramsey said that the attached road list was generated in conjunction with the Lake Cumberland Area Development District. **Councilman Wilson made a motion to accept Resolution 2023-04 as presented with Councilman Barnes seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

2023-2024 MUNICIPAL ROAD AID AGREEMENT & RESOLUTION: Mayor Thomas asked Clerk Ramsey to summarize the agreement between the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the City of Russell Springs. The Commonwealth of Kentucky has agreed to give the City of Russell Springs \$54,120.65 for road aid funding. **Councilman Blakey made a motion to accept the 2023-2024 Municipal Road Aid Agreement and Resolution with the Commonwealth of Kentucky, with Councilwoman Mann seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

RESOLUTION 2023-05 SALE OF CITY PROPERTY: Mayor Thomas asked Clerk Ramsey to read the resolution authorizing the sale of the "Murrell Property" a total of 14 acres to the Russell County Industrial Authority for \$200,000 and to pay off the loan at First National Bank of Russell Springs. **Councilman Wilson made a motion to pass Resolution 2023-05 as presented with Councilman Hudson seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

STATE OF CITY ADDRESS: Mayor Thomas presented his 2023 State of the City Address to the City Council. At the end of his Speech, Mayor Thomas introduced and welcomed Mr. Allen McQueary as the new Public Works Director.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT: Mr. Coffey presented his economic report and that included an update that the new Hardee's restaurant is now projected to open on August 1, 2023. Mr. Coffey let the council know that we have several different entities looking at the area.

POLICE REPORT: Chief Tim Pierce presented the monthly police statistics. After Chief Pierce presented his report, Mayor Thomas announced that Mr. Pierce will be retiring on July 31st and that Assistant Chief Shepard will take over the command of the Police Department on May 20th as Interim Police Chief.

MAYOR'S UPDATE:

New Playground for the City Park has been ordered and is scheduled for delivery & installation around the middle of July, pending weather.

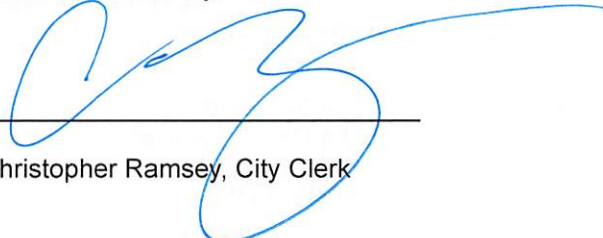
DAV Chapter 51 will be having their grand opening at 1:00 pm this Saturday, April 15th. The group's new location is 155 Owenstown Road (Old VFD Club). Everyone is invited to attend.

Kevin's Kids Benefit Concert will be held on April 15, 2023, at First Baptist Church in Russell Springs.

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

Signed:  _____

Eddie Thomas, Mayor

Attest:  _____
Christopher Ramsey, City Clerk