

RUSSELL SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023  
6:00 P.M.

The Russell Springs City Council held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, December 14, 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, David Blakey, Timmy Hudson, and Lisa Mann, Police Chief Bryan Shepard, Director of Facilities and Maintenance Brian Stephens, City Attorney David Smith, Economic Development Director Jeramy Coffey, Zoning Administrator Tommy Holt, Parks/Street Supervisor Daniel Buster, and City Clerk Christopher Ramsey.

The opening prayer was led by Taylor Evans, Senior Pastor – Church at the Springs.

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

**MINUTES:** Mayor Thomas presented the minutes from the previous meeting held on November 9<sup>th</sup>.  
**Councilman Barnes made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilwoman Mann seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

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

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF DONNIE WILKERSON:** Mayor Thomas presented Donnie Wilkerson with a plaque proclaiming Mr. Wilkerson as an Honorary Citizen of Russell Springs. Mr. Wilkerson thanked everyone and said he was very appreciative of the honor.

**CHRISTMAS PARADE WINNERS 2023:** Mayor Thomas presented the following winners of the 2023 Christmas Parade:

- BEST DRESSED WINDOWS ON MAIN STREET – PRETTY BOUTIQUE
- BEST ANTIQUE/CLASSIC CAR – BERNIE GERRY
- BEST YOUTH ENTRY – CLEAR SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
- BEST SMALL ENTRY – OAKLEY BURTON (JIMMY DUDGEON)
- BEST LARGE ENTRY – THE HIGGINBOTHAM QUARTET
- BEST OF PARADE – WEST 80 CHURCH OF GOD

**WJRS FOOD DRIVE CHECK PRESENTATION:** Mayor Thomas presented a check to Kern Bell with Laker Country 104.9 in the amount of \$1,500 for the WJRS Food Drive. Mr. Bell said he and the organization were extremely thankful for the donation.

**YULE LIGHT UP THE NIGHT 5K CHECK PRESENTATION:** Mayor Thomas presented a check to the Russell County Jaycees in the amount of \$3,612 for Toys for Tots. The funds were raised from the sign 5K sign up.

**RESOLUTION 2024-15 SWEEPER TRUCK PURCHASE:** Clerk Ramsey read Resolution 2024-15 in its entirety. Mayor Thomas and Mr. Buster spoke about the need for a sweeper truck. Mayor Thomas let the council know that the total cost of the sweeper truck is a total of \$45,000. **Councilman Blakey made a motion to accept Resolution 2024-15 as presented with Councilman Barnes seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

**RESOLUTION 2024-16 STREETS DEPARTMENT BUILDING CONSTRUCTION:** Mayor Thomas presented why the City needs a new Streets Department Building and instructed Clerk Ramsey to read the resolution. Clerk Ramsey read Resolution 2024-16 in its entirety. Mayor Thomas said all funds will come from ARPA Funds and will cost approximately \$75,000 to build. **Councilman Hudson made a motion to accept Resolution 2024-16 as presented with Councilwoman Mann seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

**POLICE UPDATE:** Police Chief Bryan Shepard presented the monthly activities report to the council. Also, Mayor Thomas and Chief Shepard presented Officer Mason Miniard with the Governor's Award for the most DUIs.


**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT:** Mr. Coffey presented his monthly economic development report for the previous month. Mr. Coffey announced that Tractor Supply is coming to Russell Springs and will be located in the old K-Mart Building. Mr. Coffey also stated that to his knowledge, Tractor Supply has not signed a contract for the building.

**MAYOR'S UPDATE:**

Mayor Thomas gave an update on the manhole project down by Russell County School Complex. It is now complete.

City Hall will be closed on Dec 25<sup>th</sup> & Dec 26<sup>th</sup> for Christmas and Dec 29<sup>th</sup> and Jan 1<sup>st</sup> for New Year's Day.

**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