

RUSSELL SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024  
6:00 P.M.

The Russell Springs City Council held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, January 11, 2024, 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, Cody Wilson, Sherry Daniel, 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, Fire Chief Bobby Johnson, Assistant Fire Chief Mark Barnett, and City Clerk Christopher Ramsey.

The opening prayer was led by Councilman Timmy Hudson.

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, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Daniel, and Mr. Hudson.

**MINUTES:** Mayor Thomas presented the minutes from the previous meeting held on December 14<sup>th</sup>. **Councilman Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Barnes seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

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

**RESOLUTION 2024-01 (ACCEPTANCE OF DISCRETIONARY ROAD AID):** Mayor Thomas explained that the City would need to adopt a resolution to receive \$80,850 in FD39 funds from the Commonwealth of Kentucky Transportation Department for the Bluebird Drive repaving project. Clerk Ramsey then read the resolution in its entirety. **Councilman Wilson made a motion to accept Resolution 2024-01 as presented with Councilwoman Mann seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

**RESOLUTION 2024-02 (ACCEPTANCE OF PROPERTY FROM RUSSELL COUNTY FISCAL COURT LOCATED ON BRIAN WALTERS DRIVE):** Mayor Thomas informed the council that the Russell County Fiscal Court has returned the property, initially designated for the new Russell County 911 Center, to the City of Russell Springs. Additionally, the Russell County Fiscal Court has canceled the construction of the 911 center. Clerk Ramsey read the resolution in its entirety. **Councilman Blakey made a motion to accept Resolution 2024-02 as presented with Councilman Barnes seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

**E911 FUNDING:** Mayor Thomas said that he has been in discussions with Russell County Judge Executive Randy Marcum concerning the 911 funding. Mayor Thomas stated that he and Judge Marcum have agreed to continue the funding at \$35,000 per year, with the hope of a five-year ongoing agreement between the entities. **Councilman Blakey made a motion to fund E-911 at \$35,000 per year and gave Mayor Thomas the authority to agree to a multi-year agreement with Councilwoman Daniel seconding.**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE:** Fire Chief Bobby Johnson gave a 2023 year-in-review report. Chief Johnson stated that the department responded to 414 calls for assistance last year. The City Council thanked the Fire Department for everything it does.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE:** Police Chief Bryan Shepard presented the monthly activities report to the council. Mayor Thomas let everyone know that Officer Jeremie West retired on December 31<sup>st</sup>. He Thanked Mr. West for his service to the City of Russell Springs.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT:** Mr. Coffey presented his monthly economic development report for the previous month. He announced that Tractor Supply is coming to Russell Springs and will be located in the old K-Mart Building along with Bargain Hunt. Mr. Coffey also stated that, to his knowledge, neither Tractor Supply nor Bargain Hunt have signed any contracts for the building. Mayor Thomas informed the council of his direct

conversation with the gentleman appointed as the manager of Tractor Supply in Russell Springs, expressing that this individual was enthusiastic and optimistic about the company's new store opening in the city.

**IDA APPOINTMENT RESIGNATION:** Mayor Thomas announced that Christopher Ramsey had resigned from serving the Russell County Industrial Board due to increased responsibilities at City Hall. Mr. Ramsey has two years remaining on his term. Mayor Thomas asked for a motion to accept his resignation. **Councilman Wilson made a motion to accept Mr. Ramsey's resignation from the Russell County Industrial Development Authority with Councilman Barnes seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

**IDA APPOINTMENT:**

Mayor Thomas has appointed Mr. David Turner to serve the remaining two-year term on the Industrial Development Authority, following the vacancy left by Christopher Ramsey. **Councilman Hudson made a motion to accept Mayor Thomas' nomination of Mr. David Turner to the Russell County Industrial Development Authority, with Councilman Barnes seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

**MAYOR'S UPDATE:**

Upper gates at the park will be reopening for walkers at the City Park.

This year's Christmas Lights event was a triumph, with an estimated 8,448 vehicles passing through the park to view the light displays.

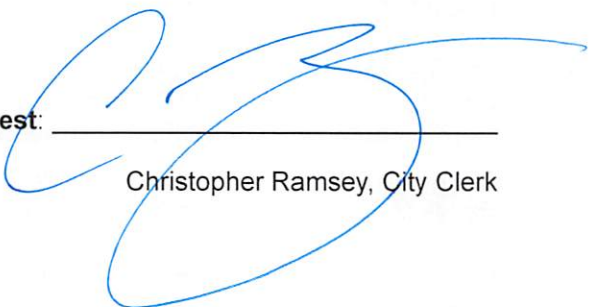
The 2023 Yule Light Up The Night 5K Run generated \$3,612 in funds to support the Russell County Jaycees' Toys for Tots campaign.

City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 15th, in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

**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