

RUSSELL SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 08, 2024
6:00 P.M.

The Russell Springs City Council held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, February 8, 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, Public Works Director Allen McQueary, and City Clerk Christopher Ramsey.

The opening prayer was led by Pastor Myles Wilson, Good Tidings Baptist Church.

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 January 11th. **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 December 2023 to be approved. **Councilman Wilson made a motion to accept the cash disbursements and financial statements with Councilwoman Daniel seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous.**

KEVIN WILLIAMS – KEVIN'S KIDS: Mayor Thomas welcomed Mr. Williams back to Russell County and turned the floor over to him. Mr. Williams thanked the City of Russell Springs for their continued support of his initiative that was started several years ago and it would not have been successful without the communities support. Mr. Williams invited everyone to the fundraising concert at First Baptist Church Russell Springs on April 27th at 6:00 P.M.

VETERAN BANNER PROGRAM: Mr. Brian Stephens gave a brief update on the banner program and let everyone know that registration is open. Flags will be on display from May to November, and we currently have 127 participants.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER KRS 61.810 (c) – DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED OR PENDING LITIGATION AGAINST OR ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC AGENCY: Councilwoman Mann made a motion to enter into executive session under KRS 61.810 (c) with Councilman Blakey seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous. The council entered into an executive session at 6:18 pm. Mayor Thomas requested that Mr. Damon Talley, Mr. Jeramy Coffey, Mr. Allen McQueary, and Mr. Christopher Ramsey join the executive session.

EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER KRS 61.810 (c) – DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED OR PENDING LITIGATION AGAINST OR ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC AGENCY: Councilman Blakey made a motion to exit executive session under KRS 61.810 (c) with Councilwoman Daniel seconding. Motion Carried. The vote was unanimous. The council exited executive session at 6:47 PM. Mayor Thomas stated that no action was taken while in executive session.

FIRST READING ORDINANCE 2024-01 WATER RATES: Mayor Thomas introduced Mr. Damon Talley with Stoll Keenon Odgen PLLC. Mr. Talley performed the first reading of Ordinance 2024-01. First Read. No Action Taken.

FIRST READING ORDINANCE 2024-02 SEWER RATES: City Attorney David Smith performed the first reading of Ordinance 2024-02. First Read. No Action Taken.

RESOLUTION 2024-03 AUTHORIZATION TO EXPLORE MODIFYING RCIDA: Mayor Thomas gave a history of the Russell County Industrial Development Authority and explained why he feels it needs to be updated to an

Economic Development Authority. He believes that converting it to an economic development authority would enhance economic opportunities for Russell Springs and Russell County. Mayor Thomas explained that the resolution is only to explore different avenues to enhance economic development in Russell Springs & Russell County. Mayor Thomas directed Clerk Ramsey to read the resolution. The motion was made by Councilman Barnes to adopt Resolution 2024-03 as presented with Councilman Blakey seconding. Motion Carried. Five members voted YES – Barnes, Mann, Blakey, Daniel, and Hudson. One member voted NO - Wilson

RESOLUTION 2024-04 AUTHORIZATION TO SALE OF POLICE DEPARTMENT SURPLUS EQUIPMENT:

Mayor Thomas said the police department had several items that they needed to surplus and requested permission from the council to proceed with the sale. Mayor Thomas asked Clerk Ramsey to read Resolution 2024-04 in its entirety. A motion was made by Councilman Wilson to accept and adopt Resolution 2024-04 as presented with Councilman Hudson seconding. Motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Police Chief Bryan Shepard presented the monthly activities report to the council.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT: Mr. Coffey presented his monthly economic development report for the previous month. Mr. Coffey said that Bargain Hunt and Tractor Supply had begun renovation of the old K-Mart Building.

MAYOR'S UPDATE:

Mayor Thomas presented the idea of possibly changing the City Council meetings to morning instead of the current time. After discussing the matter, it was decided that there would be no changes made to the meeting time.

Mayor Thomas invited the council to attend the Easter Egg Hunt next month at the fairgrounds on March 23rd starting at 11:00 AM.

ADJOURNMENT: Councilwoman Mann made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Councilman Wilson seconding. All was in favor.

Signed: _____

Eddie Thomas, Mayor

Attest: _____

Christopher Ramsey, City Clerk