

**CITY OF RUSSELL SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026  
6:00 P.M.**

The Russell Springs City Council held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, January 8, 2026, 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, Lance Huckaby, Cody Wilson, Sherry Daniel, Timmy Hudson, and Gary Frost; Fire Chief Bobby Johnson; Assistant Fire Chief Mark Barnett; Police Chief Bryan Shepard; Economic Development Director Jeramy Coffey; City Attorney David F. Smith; and City Clerk/Treasurer Christopher Ramsey.

**OPENING PRAYER**

The opening prayer was led by Mayor Eddie Thomas.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Police Chief Bryan Shepard.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

City Clerk/Treasurer Christopher Ramsey conducted roll call.

Present: Mr. Wilson, Mr. Frost, Mr. Hudson, Ms. Daniel, Mr. Huckaby, and Mr. Barnes.

A quorum was declared.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Thomas presented the minutes from the previous meeting for review. There were no additions or corrections.

Motion: Councilman Barnes made a motion to approve the minutes.

Second: Councilman Wilson

Vote: Barnes – Yes; Daniel – Yes; Frost – Yes; Hudson – Yes; Huckaby – Yes; Wilson – Yes

Motion Carried.

## **CASH DISBURSEMENTS & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Mayor Thomas presented the November cash disbursements and financial statements, which had been provided to Council in advance.

Motion: Councilman Hudson made a motion to approve payment of the bills.

Second: Councilman Huckaby

Vote: Daniel – Yes; Hudson – Yes; Barnes – Yes; Wilson – Yes; Huckaby – Yes; Frost – Yes

Motion Carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business brought before the Council.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Thomas presented Kentucky League of Cities City Government Training Awards.

- Councilman Ricky Barnes was recognized for achieving Level I City Government Training.
- Councilwoman Sherry Daniel was recognized for achieving Level III, Master of City Government.
- City Clerk/Treasurer Christopher Ramsey was recognized for achieving Level III City Government Training.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Fire Chief Bobby Johnson reported the Russell Springs Fire Department responded to 435 total calls during the past year and participated in 19 special events, including school and daycare fire safety programs. The department completed 66 total training hours and maintained staffing coverage for over 3,775 hours. Chief Johnson also reported that the new fire truck has been ordered, and construction will begin once the chassis is received.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Police Chief Bryan Shepard reported that for the month of December, the department recorded three DUI arrests, four drug arrests, served 14 warrants, conducted 86 traffic stops, investigated 22 accidents, made 28 total arrests, and responded to 467 calls for service.

Chief Shepard also provided year-end statistics, noting 731 citations written, 465 total arrests, 24 alcohol DUIs, 13 drug DUIs, 237 warrants served, and 584 calls for service during 2025.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

Economic Development Director Jeramy Coffey reported one request for information during the month of December, noting holiday-related slowdowns were typical. He reported that grant funds are expected to be released on January 12 for the cast iron and asbestos cement waterline replacement project, with bidding anticipated in February. He also noted continued work on the booster pump station and pending grant components.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Cindy Fields addressed the Council on behalf of Homemakers of Russell County to discuss the Yellow Dot Program, which provides emergency medical information decals for vehicles. She explained the purpose of the program and provided informational materials for distribution. The Mayor indicated the information would be shared with Council and city staff.

Members of the public also attended to observe and listen regarding potential sober living facilities in areas outside the city limits. Mayor Thomas explained that issues outside the city's jurisdiction should be addressed through the Russell County Fiscal Court, applicable deed restrictions, or homeowners' associations.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Thomas thanked Daniel Buster, Allen McQueary, and their crews for installing and removing the Christmas lights at the city park. He reported that 9,290 vehicles passed through the display, generating \$2,208 in donations, marking another successful season.
- Mayor Thomas reported that KU and LG&E completed their audit for the LED streetlight conversion, with installation expected to begin next month.
- He announced that funding for the \$2.3 million cast iron and asbestos cement waterline replacement project is expected to be released on January 12, with bidding anticipated in early February.

- Mayor Thomas reminded Council members that Kentucky League of Cities City Day and City Night will be held February 25, with travel planned for February 24 and return on February 26.
- He thanked Elvis and Judy York for their annual holiday outreach to local families and thanked Councilman Gary Frost for assisting with gift distribution.
- Mayor Thomas announced City Hall will be closed Monday, January 19, 2026, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- He concluded by wishing Councilman Timmy Hudson a happy upcoming birthday.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Councilman Wilson made a motion to adjourn.

Second: Councilwoman Daniel

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:23 p.m.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

Eddie Thomas, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Christopher P. Ramsey, City Clerk/Treasurer