

Russell City Council Meeting
January 13th, 2025

Members present:

Tracy Klotz, Mayor
Barbara Parks, Treasurer/Recorder
Brenda Poole, Secretary

Robin Meachum
Renee Garr

Robert Seigriest, Fire Chief
Public Visitors: None

The meeting was called to order with the pledge of allegiance and a prayer.
The minutes were read with motion to approve by Garr and seconded by Meachum, 3-0 vote to approve.

Fire Dept Update, Rober Seigriest

Calls: 1 structure fire and one call for a downed power line. 4,500 gallons of water used for December.
Robert bought physical wellness equipment, paid for by Act 833 funds for training and fitness.

Water Dept Update

Mayor Klotz met with Tommy. The sewer pumps are working but not great, he had to make some repairs.

Treasurer Update

Barbara Parks gave an update of revenue and expenditures for the month of December with reports and bank statements.

Old Business

The Sewer Grant is on schedule to begin work in February, weather permitting. Once the pumps are in, it will only take a few days to have them up and running.

Water Audit Update: The town is in compliance with the State of Arkansas. The audit is being completed. We will be preparing for the next audit in the next couple of months to avoid being late.

New Business

Road Repair: Two sewer/water repairs are needed with minor road work that will be included. Dan James has worked on the roads in the past, he is a Russell resident.

Street Signs: Stop signs have to be reflective according to state law. We need to replace 18 stop signs in town. We have 3 in stock and 15 will need to be ordered.

AC/Heat Unit: The city hall building has a very inefficient unit installed that costs a lot to run. The water office unit has been not working properly as well. Barbara Parks will look into the cost difference between replacing the current wall-mounted units versus installing a more efficient mini-split.

City Computer Purchase: The current desktop computer cannot be updated any further and the accounting software needs a more stable unit. Replacing just the tower with a newer Dell unit will cost just over \$1,400. Garr made a motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Meachum. Approved with a 3-0 vote.

Schoolhouse – Cleaning & Rentals: Terry is now cleaning and renting the space. Garr makes a motion to pay Terry \$250 a month for this service. Seconded by Poole. Approved with a 3-0 vote.

Old Playground Equipment: The plastic slide and stairs are left from the old wooden structure. It's recommended to donate these pieces to Central Baptist church, contact Alissa Ledford.

Water Rate Increase: A rate increase will take effect March 2025 is recommended. The base rate for water and sewer will increase by 10%. The additional water used above the minimum amount will increase by 20% as will the rates for both apartment complexes. Motion was made to approve by Garr, seconded by Meachum. Approved with a 3-0 vote.

The following council members were sworn in: Renee Garr, Robin Meachum, Brenda Poole, and Darrell Kading.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned, motion by Meachum, seconded by Garr, approved with a 3-0 vote.

[Approved and Signed Feb 10, 2025]

Tracy Klotz, Mayor

Date

[Approved and Signed Feb 10, 2025]

Barbara Parks, Recorder/Treasurer

Date