

Russell City Council Meeting
September 11, 2023

Members present:

Tracy Klotz, Mayor
Diane Mayfield
Eugene Webber
Barbara Parks
Darrell Lutner

Robert Siegriest, Russell Volunteer Fire Department

Visitors: Jim Reilly, resident

The meeting was called to order with the pledge of allegiance and a prayer. The minutes were read with motion to approve by Webber and second by Diane and 4-0 vote to approve.

Public: Mr. Reilly asked why the water pressure was low some days. Mayor Klotz responded that it could be due to fixing leaks or other repairs, or the water is low in the tank.

Mr. Reilly was also concerned about speeding in the town and large trucks over the weight limit. Mayor Klotz confirmed that speed limit signs were on order. White County Sherrif Department has limited man power to patrol more than they have been.

Water Dept Update, Barbara Parks

Parks gave a reporting of the Water Department's accounts, both deposits and expenditures with handouts for the council members and Mayor Klotz to review.

Treasurer Update, Barbara Parks

Parks presented the council with the monthly bank statements and accounting reconciliation reports.

Old Business

Barbara Parks gave an update on the website. Everything is working including the payment portal, we're just waiting on the .gov domain name to be approved.

Mayor Klotz

Schoolhouse Vandalism: The second quote for window repairs using wood windows and frames was not within a reasonable range of the first quote.

New Business

Sewer Grant: \$499,928 was approved for the improvement of the sewer system. Work will likely start next year.

Barbara Parks recommends moving the Fire Tax Account from First Community Bank to Southern Bank to streamline accounting and banking. Webber made a motion to approve, Lutner seconded. Approved with a 4-0 vote.

Millage vote: Current rate is 1.7 Mill. Kading motioned to keep the current rate. Lutner seconded. Approved with a 4-0 vote.

Eclipse 2024: Other towns are having events. It was discussed if we host camping at the park, possible fundraising opportunities for the schoolhouse and fire department. Vote next meeting.

Fire Department: SkyFi is not working and the communicators need internet to function. Robert suggests we install a new paid internet service. We currently use Centurylink / Brightspeed at City Hall. Kading motions to approve, Lutner seconded. Approved by a 4-0 vote.

The fire department needs new hoses to go on the new truck. The cost estimate is \$10,000 plus tax and shipping. Kading motions to approve, Mayfield seconded. Approved by a 4-0 vote.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned, motion by Webber, seconded by Lutner, approved with a 4-0 vote.

[Approved and Signed Oct 13, 2023]

Tracy Klotz, Mayor

[Approved and Signed Oct 13, 2023]

Barbara Parks, Recorder/Treasurer