# THE TOWN OF SPRING CITY

2024 Year in Review



# **City Manager Report**

- Property Tax:
  - 2023 Tax rate \$1.57 per \$100 assessed value
  - 2024 Tax rate \$.9938 per 100 assessed value
    - County Reappraisal Year
- Wholesale Beer Tax and Liquor Tax remains level



- Annual longevity pay / bonus \$30 per year of service
- Paid off Splash Pad Loan in June
- Loan in the amount of \$425,000 to pave the following roads
  - Kemmer Road Hillcrest to Broyles
  - Moon Circle
  - Laurel Drive
  - Lavender Street McGoffin to Piccadilly
  - Pocohontas Ave Lavender to Short
  - Ketchersid Ave Spring Street to Walnut
- Ordinances/Resolutions updated
  - Updated Personnel Policy
  - Tourism and Events Commission
    - Established by-laws
  - Planning Commission:
    - Zoning updated for Cemetery Road area
    - Language added for Telecommunication Structures

# **Current Open Grants**

- 2022 TDOT Multi-Modal Access Grant
  - Replace sidewalks along Hwy 27 from Kemmer Road to Murray Ave.
- 2024 TN Downtowns Grant
  - \$15,000 Catalyst Grant to go towards downtown revitalization efforts
- 2024 EPA Local Foods, Local Places Technical Grant
  - Planning assistance to help develop local food systems, revitalize downtowns, and boost economic opportunities for farmers and businesses
- 2024 Army Corp of Engineers Planning Assistance Grant
  - Army Corp will be doing a new hydraulic model of Piney
- 2024 TN Dept. of Tourist Development Video Production Co-op (50/50)
  - TN Dept. of Tourist Development \$19,281
  - Rhea County \$9,281
  - Spring City \$10,000
- 2024 TNECD Infrastructure Planning Grant (95/5)
  - Applied for \$200,000 to develop an Asset Management Plan (state required)
  - Awarded \$118,750 in January 2025 Local match \$5,937.50)

### **Current Open Grants continued**

- 2024 PE Partners Property Conservation Grant (50/50)
  - Awarded to go toward security system at City Hall
- 2024 Broadband Ready Communities
  - \$94,765 Zero local Match
  - Partners: Thrive Regional Partnership and Audrey Pack Memorial Library
    - Provide access and digital literacy training
- 2025 TDOT RAISE Grant (applied)



## \*\$10,450,000 total grants awarded since 2012\*

# PROJECTS

## Front Street Study completed

• Study to see waterflow in downtown to mitigate flooding and possible amenities

## Water Line Replacement Project

- TDEC Non-Competitive ARP Water Infrastructure Investment Grant
  - TDEC \$839,092
    - Rhea County \$713,229
    - Spring City \$125,863
  - State of TN \$838,009
  - Replace aged water lines along New Lake Road and the Broyles/Kemmer area

### **Projects continued**

- Resilient Communities Grant: Murray Ave.
  - \$20,000 Catalyst Grant from the Merck Family Fund and Footprint Foundation
  - We are half-way through the project
- Tennessee RiverLine (TNRL)
  - 652 to You
    - TNRL completed their initial concept drawing for Veterans Park
  - Steward Event in December

#### BEFORE





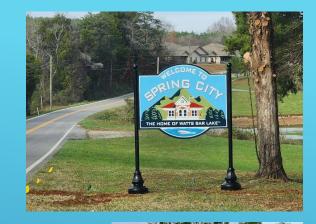






# Community

- Toestring Bridge dedication for Lieutenant Commander Miles Allen Thedford
- New Welcome to Spring City sign installed on New Lake Road city limits
- Depot Renovation
- Ricardo Knox created and installed signage in Nature Park as part of his project earning his Eagle Scout Badge





#### **Cumberland Trail Connector Project**

- 2018 Recreational Trails Grant (Phase I) declined
  - Converting old highway bed to a multi-use trail. Construct 11,610 square feet of ADA compliant slip resistant trail from an existing trailhead to Veteran's Park
  - Original Budget \$130,239
  - Lowest Bid Amount \$395,105
- Farmer Morgan is designing the connection between Veteran's Park to Nature Park (Phase II)
- TNRL conceptual drawing of Veteran's Park
- Applied for \$800,000 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Grant for both Phase I & Phase II



Awarded the Excellence in Tourism from the Tennessee Municipal League

Gained Designation as a Destination Marketing Organization by the TN Dept. of Tourist Developm<u>ent</u>

### Equinox initial conceptual drawing (2019)



# **Events**

- Spring City Tourism and Events Commission
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spring Blooms Festival
    - Net Revenue \$3,436
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lighting the Way to Christmas Event
    - Net Revenue \$2,702
  - Net revenues will be pooled with the TN Downtowns Grant to go toward one project

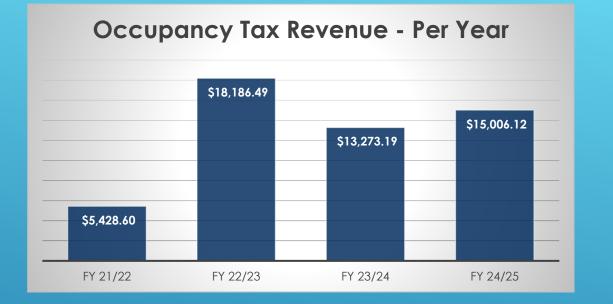












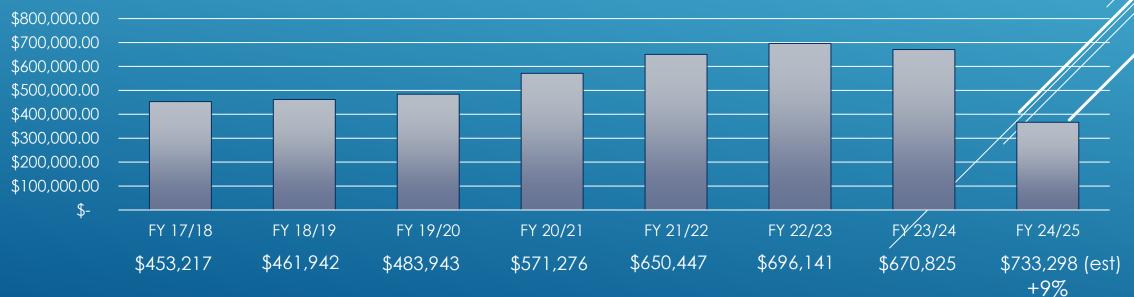
### **Tourism/Events**

Local Sales Tax Revenue: 2024-25 (July-Dec): \$366,649

**Occupancy Tax Revenue**: 2024-25 (July-Dec): \$15,006

\*Started focusing on tourism in 2021 – we have seen a 12% increase in sales tax collections

#### Local Option Sales Tax



# **Stats**

- 8,051 Incident Numbers compared to 6,188 last year (-23%)
- 86 Traffic Crashes (-20% from 2023)
- 259 Medical Calls
- 28 Fire Calls
- 233 Citizen Assists (including Welfare Checks)
- 86 calls where officers were at a high risk of danger (fights, domestics, and disorders)
- 151 arrests
  - 108 traffic-related offenses 58 drug related offenses
  - 20 alcohol related offenses
  - 26 Assaults
  - 2 Weapon Law Violations
  - 16 theft/larceny arrests, such as burglaries and stolen vehicles
- 6 drug overdose calls (down 40% from 2023)
- 7 CPR in progress calls





- 15 calls of unconscious persons (some of which were drug-related)
- 4,372 traffic stops (conducted or assisted)
- 1816 Municipal Court citations
- 7 vehicles seized and approx. \$40,006 cash seized for drug-related offenses

### MISC

- Reinstated the Safe Journey Program to give car seats to families in need (16 families were helped)
- Christmas initiative where we received donations and delivered toys to 76 children within the city limits
- Closed streets for Halloween to allow pedestrian traffic,
  - Est. 2,500 3,000 people attended
- October, received \$10,000 dollar no match high visibility grant through the Tennessee Highway Safety office.
  - Officer overtime
  - Help fund the start-up of e citation program
- Installed flashing redlights at the four-way intersection of Front street and Piccadilly Ave.
  - Greatly reduces risk of injury or property damage in that busy intersection.
  - Paid by drug fund at no cost to taxpayers.



# **Stats**

- 38 landing zone calls
- 1 boat/standby
- 4 traffic control calls
- 14 fire alarm call

# MISC –

- Replaced the 1994 Fire Truck with a 2020 Fire Truck
  - Delivered on June 13
  - Put in service July 8
  - Sold 1994 Fire Truck to Rhea County
- Fire Prevention Event
  - Oct 24 Mother's Day Out
  - Oct 25 Spring City Elementary
- 2 members moved from Junior member to Service Technician

- 8 structure/dryer fire calls
- 1 gas leak/fuel spill alarm calls
- 1 lift assist calls
- 3– brush/dumpster fire calls

Total 15 Fire Fighters 7 Service Technicians 1 Junior Member



#### **Public Works**



#### Highways and Streets:

- 350' Paving of Toestring Valley Road Bridge to Intersection at East Jackson Avenue
- Replaced 24" X 20' Culvert on McGoffin Avenue at Cemetery Road.
- Replaced 18" X 40' Culvert on Walnut Street at Forrest.

#### Veterans Park:

- Repaired Walking Bridge Decking, Hand Railing and Stone Column.
- Installed (X2) new 20" Flag Poles and Message Board.
- Installed New Message Board.
- Repaired and Refurbished Park Benches.
- Installation:
  - Approximately 425' X 4' Black Chain Link Fence (X2)
  - Double Drive through Gates, (X1) 20' (X1) 12' (X3) Walk through Gates.

#### Nature Park:

- Repaired and Refurbished Park Benches.
- Installed new Message Board
- Relocated Nature Park Sign.
- Stained Fence at Entrance.

#### MISC:

• Installed new Public Works sign with street address at the shop on Hilleary Street







Before



After



Splash Pad Improvements - Replaced Operation Controller, VFD Drive, Motor and Float.
Piney River Boat Ramp: Installation of Approximately 210' X 4' Black Chain Link, (X2) Cantilever Gates.
Dixie Youth Boat Ramp / Trailhead: spread leveled and packed 22.36 tons of gravel.

#### Water:

- Annual Water Meter Audit; Total water meters audited = 1,219
- Replaced / Installed 80' feet of 12" PVC Water Main and (X1) Air Pressure Relief Valve in Nature Park
  - This updated our water system to help improve water quality and frequent repairs.
- Installed Water Booster Pump on Price Road to comply with the State of Tennessee Minimum 20 psi Standard Regulation.
- New services = 4
- Water Main Repairs = 14

#### Sewer:

- Bought 70 grinder pumps with leftover CDBG grant funds totaling \$19,845.38
- New services = 4
- Sewer Main Repairs = 3
- Grinder Pumps Replaced = 23
- Jetted Approximately 1475' of Sewer Main
- Monthly Manhole Inspections: Total inspected = 1476,
- Annual Manhole Inspection: Total inspected = 249
- Annual Grinder pump audit; Total Grinder pumps Audited = 193

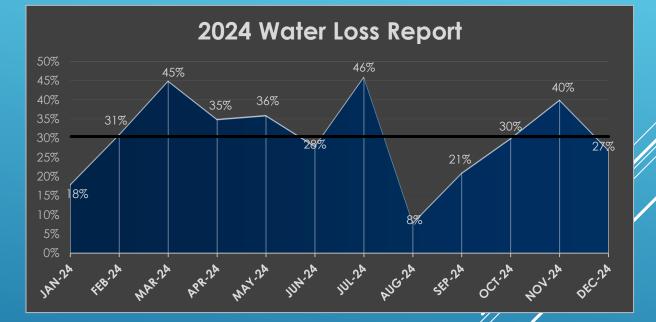


SPRING

PUBLIC WORKS DEPAR



- 112,191,000 total gallons produced for 2024
  - 12% decrease from 2023
  - 19,594,700 North Rhea Utility District (-27% from prior year)
- Water loss for the year averaged 30%
- Cleaned both sedimentation basins in the spring and fall.
- Pressure washed all sidewalks and clear well,
- Painted the overflow pipe on the Back Valley Tank and installed new duck bill.
- Pulled all required samples for the state compliance schedule.
- Had both tanks externally inspected.
- Had repairs done to the roof of the Hillcrest tank.







- Purchased and installed new chlorine analyzer.
- Purchased and installed new turbidimeter analyzer.
- Had variable frequency drive installed at the Piccadilly Pump Station.
- Scored a 99 on the annual Sanitary Survey of Community Water System Inspection.
- Spent 5 months out the year conducting the service line inventory that was required nationwide by the EPA. During this inventory every meter in the city was checked for potential lead service lines. Letters were mailed to the customere with service lines that could not be determined upon inspection. We are currently working on these unknown lines and will continue to update the service line inventory list once each of the lines are identified.



# • Stats

- Overall, the wastewater plant operated normally
- 54 inches of rainfall fell during 2024 (down by 4 inches from 2023)
- We had only 1 overflows Twin View Drive
- We had zero bypasses at the plant this year.
- 237,000,000 total gallons of treated wastewater passed through the plant
  - Down 5,000,000 from 2023

# • Testing

- 1,680 pH READINGS
- 1,680 CLHORINE READINGS
- 1,320 DISSOLVED OXYGEN READINGS
- 1,632 BIOCHEMICAL OXYGEN DEMAND TESTS
- 576 SETTLEABLE SOLIDS TESTS

360 TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS TESTS 168 E. COLI TESTS 864 WEIGHT MEASUREMENT READINGS 1,080 TEMPERATURE READINGS



"The Audrey Pack Memorial Library connects and enriches lives in our community by providing equitable access to diverse cultural and educational experiences. We celebrate imagination, promote creativity, connect people, and encourage lifelong learning."

	FY22-23	FY23-24
Library Members	2300	2840
Physical Circulation	19045*	30125*
Library Visits	5173	8833
Website Visits	757	1026
Programs Offered	113	209
Program Attendance	654	1514
Take Home Activities	93	167
	Total Increase	10%

\*Includes Chattanooga Zoo and Creative Discovery Museum pass, VR book & goggle sets, board games, Ozobot (coding robot), Snap Circuits sets, and Library of Things items.

Summer Reading Program	FY22-23	FY23-24
Programs Offered	32	74
Program Attendance	295	505
Reading Challenge Participants	88	101
	Total Increase	2.14%



#### Programming @ a glance:

#### • 1<sup>st</sup> Monday Wiggle Worms Storytime, 10:00

A low light, low noise environment for children ages 4 and younger and those who prefer smaller groups and a calmer story time. Participants will enjoy a short story, yoga and songs; sensory play and experiences will be made available.

#### • 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday Adult Craft Hour, 1:00

A great way to recharge and relax all while meeting new people and creating something special that's uniquely yours. This activity is limited to participants 16 years old and older. All supplies and instruction are supplied free of charge to participants.

#### • Pints & Pages Book Club (in partnership with Watts Bar Beer Works), 6:00

A different approach to books clubs; a theme is chosen; members are free to read a book to their choosing that supports the month's theme. A great way to learn about new authors, subjects, and genres.

#### • 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 9:30 Lil Llamas Storytime

Storytime that promotes school-readiness skills by allowing children to actively participate in their own learning.

Saturdays, 10:00-2:00

Spanish translation services available by library staff; services are also accessible during the week by appointment.

#### Our Lil Llamas Storytime is award-winning!

AUDREY PACK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

2024 TN Library Association Making a Difference Award Winner

2024 TSLA Spotlight Library











### **Community Programming**







Janice is passionate about seeing women who are grieving the lost of their husbands find their inner appiness and peace. Her handbook will be a resource to individuals and groups of widows who are wanting more fulfilment, purpose, and joy in their lives as they face life without their earthly husbands.







## **Childrens Programming**







# THANK YOU!