

COLD SPRING NEWS



The City of Cold Spring Administration
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October, 2015

Dear Cold Spring Residents and Business Partners:

I hope this newsletter finds all well with you and your family. Summer has flown by and it is hard to believe it's already time to prepare for the cold winter months ahead. And, as usual, our excellent Public Works Department is gearing up for any snow and ice Mother Nature may have in store for us!

*As you know – the Cold Spring Mayoral election is on November 3, 2015. **PLEASE VOTE.***

Early this year, after many years of stability, conservative methodical decision making by both the Mayoral office and City Council, in a mere 98 days the City of Cold Spring was left in disarray. The City Administrator and City Attorney were terminated first thing in the morning on January 2nd, the Police Chief was terminated on February 2nd, and the Mayor's attorney resigned on April 2nd. Then on April 8th the new Mayor resigned, leaving the City with no operational leadership, the inability to pay bills, and numerous other legal and technical issues. I commend Council for acting quickly and starting the road to stabilization and recovery in short order.

It is clear that the new Mayor acted within legal boundaries, but having the legal right does not make these actions right. Although this is an anomaly in our City's history, I want to put in place guidelines and laws that help assure there is not a recurrence.

Important actions were taken during the City's September 28, 2015 Council meeting. I issued two Executive Orders and City Council passed first readings of two ordinances that night.

The first Executive Order requires that the Mayor conduct a meeting with Council within 72 hours after the termination of a City administrative official (Police Chief, City Administrator, City Clerk, City Attorney). This is in response to the complete lack of communication by the Mayor with Council during the terminations earlier this year. The required meeting is to provide the opportunity for full transparency between the Mayor and City Council.

The second Executive Order establishes an order of succession in the event of a vacancy in the office of the Mayor where the vacancy is not "covered" by Kentucky regulations (K.R.S.). The Executive Order details: 1) who and how a vacancy is determined, 2) how and when (within 24 hours) it must be communicated to Council, and 3) the order of succession once a vacancy is declared. The succession hierarchy is as follows: the Police Chief unless that position is vacant; then City Administrator unless that position is vacant, and so on through the City Clerk, City Attorney, and finally highest ranking police officer. To resume authority, the "absent" Mayor simply informs Council in writing of his/her ability to govern. The reasons for a vacancy are numerous and wide ranging and the purpose is to avoid gaps in decision making and normal City operations.

The first ordinance passed (first reading) by Council requires the City Clerk, within 24 hours of an Executive Order issued by the Mayor, to publish all Executive Orders on the City website as well as provide Council with copies. Thus, if the above two Executive Orders (or any previous Executive Orders) are in any way amended by a successive Executive Order, Council and the public must be advised BY LAW. Again, the intent of this order is to ensure full transparency between the Mayor and City Council.

The second ordinance passed (first reading) by Council orders that the Mayor may not terminate a City employee "at will" for the first 90 days of his/her term (typically, four years). Such provides for a brief

period of time for the Mayor to settle into their job, get a first-hand view of how the City operates and its requirements, and how current staff is involved in those operations. Such "90-day" evaluation period is standard advice for business leaders. The Mayor can always terminate an employee for "cause"/violation of rules.

I am very pleased Council has joined me in establishing these important guidelines.

As I leave office, I want to again thank Council and our residents for their support during these last five months. The City is back to full normal operations. A good budget has been passed. All leadership positions are filled and again congratulations to Chief Messer for his promotion into the Chief position. On Monday, September 28, Chief Messer's vacated Sergeant position was internally filled via the promotion of Officer Andy Hyett, and the department was restored to full strength with the swearing in of Officer Irvin Davis.

VETERANS' DAY CEREMONY: The City will honor our veterans on Sunday, November 8, at 1:00pm. The ceremony thanking all those who protect and preserve our freedoms will be held at the City's Veterans' Memorial located in the beautiful grove of trees to the front right of the City building. Please thank those who serve/have served by joining us on Sunday, November 8, for the ceremony.

SNOW SAFETY/EMERGENCY REMINDER:

Should a snow emergency be declared due to severe weather, our City website (www.coldspringky.gov) and our City weather emergency line (859-441-9604, press "1" for a recorded message when the City offices are closed) will be updated. All local television stations will be advised so that their listings can be updated. During the year, the emergency line will also provide information regarding any other changes in City services.

Please remember: when a snow emergency has been declared by the City - **VEHICLES MUST BE REMOVED FROM CITY STREETS.**

In general, not parking on City streets during snow and ice events helps keep our City safe and helps our Public Works crew maneuver easier and clear the streets more effectively.

Your City departments work very hard to bring you excellent services and parks, and I am very proud of them. They have great pride in their jobs and are always ready to answer your questions, listen to your concerns and help however possible.

Speaking of PARKS: Bored? Cooped up? Kids or Grandkids need exercise or are creating a little "mental stress"? YOU need exercise? Visit one of our parks!

Municipal Park - on the grounds of our City building: 5694 East Alexandria Pike

Walking trails with benches and drinking fountain, newly remodeled restrooms, Nature Trail, play equipment, shelter, picnic tables, grill stations, checkers/chess table, beautiful grove of trees, and athletic fields.

Friendship Park - across from Cline Elementary behind City Police Station: 5589 East Alexandria Pike

Walking trails with benches and drinking fountain, restrooms, play equipment, shelter, picnic tables, grill stations, beautiful grove of trees and athletic fields.

Apple Orchard Park - a "pocket park" at the corner of Orchard Terrace and Winters Lane

Benches and drinking fountain, restroom, play equipment, shelter, picnic tables, and beautiful field of grass and plantings.

Sunshine Park - a "pocket park" in the Granite Spring community

Benches and drinking fountain, restroom, play equipment, shelter, picnic tables, and beautiful field of grass and plantings.

Patriot Park - a "pocket park" in the Glenridge community

Benches and drinking fountain, restroom, play equipment, shelter, picnic tables, and beautiful field of grass and plantings.

"SEE IT/CALL IT": Our Police Department does an excellent job in keeping our City safe; however, your involvement greatly helps our community be even safer. If something looks suspicious, it most probably is. If something appears "not right", it probably isn't. You are the "eyes and ears" of our City. If you see

something that you think our Police Department should know – WHATEVER IT IS! – simply call the Campbell County Dispatch at 859-292-3622. Our officers will be advised and respond quickly. Of course, 9-1-1 should be used for emergency calls for service.

Council meets the second and fourth Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. The second Monday meeting is a "caucus" where City business is discussed, however, no Council voting takes place. The fourth Monday meeting is "general" Council where City business is also discussed AND Council voting does take place. I urge each and every citizen to attend at least ONE meeting a year. If you cannot attend a meeting, our fourth Monday meeting is videotaped and shown regularly on Time Warner Cable Channel 16 / Cincinnati Bell Channel 806.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Mayor's office with any issues or suggestions. The Mayor can be reached at 859-441-9604, Extension 126, or mayor@coldspringky.com. I look forward to having you attend a Council meeting someday soon!

Wishing you a warm, safe autumn and winter.



Mark A. Stoeber
Mayor

STORMWATER

Adopt Your Watershed

The EPA has an Adopt Your Watershed program that challenges people to serve their community by taking part in activities to protect and restore their local watershed. A watershed is the area that drains to a common waterway, such as a stream, lake, estuary, wetland, aquifer, or even the ocean — and our individual actions can directly affect it. There have been over 2,600 watershed groups formed across America. Visit EPA's on-line Adopt Your Watershed [database](#) for more information and to learn about opportunities to get involved in activities such as [volunteer water monitoring](#), [stream cleanups](#), and [storm drain marking](#). Once you locate your watershed, simply click on "citizen-based groups at work in this watershed" to find a list of organizations. If you can't find a group to join or want to organize your own activity, below are eight things you can do to make a difference in your watershed.

What YOU Can Do to Make A Difference

1. **Become a volunteer monitor.** Monitor water quality conditions, build community awareness about water pollution, and help identify and restore problem sites. Visit our [directory of volunteer monitoring programs](#) or learn how to [start out in volunteer monitoring](#).
2. **Organize your own trash cleanup** or join a nationwide river cleanup campaign ([National Rivers Cleanup](#)) or an international beach cleanup campaign ([International Coastal Cleanup](#)).
3. **Build a Rain Garden** - Rain gardens planted with native vegetation help reduce the adverse effects of storm water runoff by soaking up excess rainwater.
4. **Organize a Stream Drain Marking Project:** Rain water that flows into storm drains goes untreated to nearby streams, lakes, and bays. Produce a flyer or door hanger to encourage pollution prevention. Visit [EPA's Stormwater Web site](#) for educational materials that can be downloaded or ordered for free.
5. **Greenscape Your Yard:** Greenscaping is a set of landscaping practices that can improve your lawn and garden while protecting and preserving natural resources.

6. **Educate Your Community About Water Quality Protection:** Use this collection of Public Service Announcements and downloads from effective advertising campaigns to raise awareness about water pollution and stormwater runoff.
7. **Advocate for Low Impact Development in Your Community:** Low Impact Development is an approach to land development (or re-development) that works with nature to manage the adverse impacts of storm water.
8. **Start a Watershed Organization:** If you are interested in starting your own watershed organization with partnerships, organizational priorities, a watershed plan and more, here are some things to consider before you get started.

Top Ten Watershed Tips

1. Conserve water every day. Take shorter showers, fix leaks and turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
2. Don't pour toxic household chemicals down the drain. Take them to a local hazardous waste collection center instead.
3. Use hardy plants that require little or no watering, fertilizers or pesticides in your yard.
4. Do not over apply fertilizers. Consider using organic or slow release fertilizers.
5. Recycle yard waste in a compost pile and use a mulching mower to leave grass clippings on the lawn.
6. Use surfaces like wood, brick or gravel for decks, patios and walkways. They allow rain to soak in and not run off.
7. Never pour used oil or antifreeze into the storm drain or the street. Visit www.earth911.org to find out where you can go to dispose of hazardous wastes properly.
8. Pick up after your dog, and dispose of the waste in the toilet or the trash.
9. Drive less—walk or bike instead. Many pollutants in our waters come from car exhaust and car leaks.
10. Adopt your watershed! Learn more at www.epa.gov/adopt.

Adopt Your Watershed is part of the President's UNITED WE SERVE initiative. Share your community service success story.

Source: United States Environmental Protection Agency



POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Colonel Brian Messer

The police department is excited to announce some changes in the personnel within the department. First we are very pleased to announce the promotion of Andy Hyett to Sergeant. Andy has 20 plus years of law enforcement experience that he offers to the department. Sgt. Hyett was responsible for developing the DARE program that is being taught at the three elementary schools within the city. The success of the DARE program is only a small portion of the talent and skills that Sgt. Hyett offers to the department.

The second announcement is the hiring of Irvin Davis as a patrol officer. Officer Davis comes to the department from the Livingston County Sheriff's Office. Officer Davis has a total of three years law enforcement experience. He also has experience in corrections and has served in the Kentucky National Guard. We are very excited to have him with the department.

Remember to be on the lookout on Halloween night. Trick or Treat will be in the evening hours and there will be plenty of kids walking around the neighborhoods. Safety is our number one priority and we want all of our kids to have a great night.

Some quick reminders to make your Halloween experience more enjoyable and safer:

Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats made by strangers.

Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.

Examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them.

Look both ways before crossing the street. Use established crosswalks wherever possible.

Try to avoid dark clothing if going out at night - reflective clothing is the best

COLD SPRING'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY—Mark your calendar for June 25, 2016. That is the day that we will have the celebration of the 75th anniversary of our city. We have a number of fun activities planned. Also we are excited to have the Country Cruisers car show as one of the features on this day. If you would like to volunteer for this exciting event, please phone Councilwoman Lisa Cavanaugh through the city office at 441-9604. Also if you have any historical information about the City of Cold Spring that you can pass along to us, we would love to receive your input



CITY CLERKS NOTES:

City offices will be closed for the Holidays on November 26th and 27th for Thanksgiving; on December 24th & 25th for Christmas, and on January 1st for New Years



Holiday Trash Pickup:

Thanksgiving—no change. Trash pickup will be on Friday, Nov. 27th

Christmas—There will be a one day delay in trash pickup, which will occur on Saturday Dec. 26th

New Years Day—There will be a one day delay in trash pickup, which will occur on Saturday, January 2nd.

COLD SPRING PROPERTY OWNERS: Your 2015 property tax bills are included in this mailing. Please note that all tax payments are due by December 31st. After that date, a 10% penalty and 1% interest per month (12% annum) will be applied. You may make your payment (cash, check, or money order) by mail or by stopping by our office. Office hours are from 9 am to 4 pm Monday thru Friday.

Only cash, checks, or money orders will be accepted.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Your Public Works Team has been very busy getting your streets ready in preparation for the cold and snowy weather.



Sometimes it is necessary for the city to declare a snow emergency, which requires that you remove your vehicles from the city streets. This allows our public works team to plow from curb to curb to clear as much snow as possible from the city streets to protect our residents and property.

As always we remind our residents to drive slowly in adverse conditions and allow for greater stopping distances; when encountering a snow plow, please be patient and stay back 50 feet, for your safety.

City Ordinance 91.50 states that residents must "NOT encumber any street or sidewalk with any substance", which would include any snow plowed from a resident's driveway onto the city street.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

HALLOWEEN—Trick or Treat will be celebrated in the City of Cold Spring on Saturday, October 31st, between 5 and 7pm. Please be very alert for excited children crossing back and forth along the streets of your neighborhood .



★ ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3TH. It is your constitutional right to vote and we urge
★ each and everyone of you to exercise your rights! The polls in Kentucky are open from 6 am to
★ 6 pm. If you are not sure where your voting location is, call the Campbell County Board of Elec-
★ tions at 859-292-3885 or check the Ky. State Board of Elections website, www.electky.gov and
★ click on the "where do I vote" icon.
★

PARKS RECREATION AND TREE COMMISSION

VISIT WITH SANTA

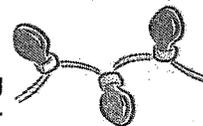
Mark your calendars for the popular Visit With Santa event, which will be held on Saturday, December 12th at the Cold Spring First Baptist Church, 4410 Alexandria Pike, in their Activity Center. The hours are from noon to 3 pm.



Children will have the opportunity to visit with Santa, and there will be free games, prizes, and treat bags along with refreshments for the children. Bring your own camera and take photographs.

LIGHT UP COLD SPRING

The annual Light Up Cold Spring Contest will be held on Sunday, December 13th, beginning at 6:00 pm. This year, our Council members will tour the city and view the various Holiday light displays on our residents' properties.



A winner will be selected for the best Christmas light display, and a small token of our appreciation will be awarded. Runners up will also be named. Remember to turn on your outside lights by 6 pm on December 13th.