



COLD SPRING NEWS

The City of Cold Spring Administration
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APRIL 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

State of the City

First, I would like to express my many thanks to the past City Council. Together we worked hard to responsibly move the City forward. I am excited about continuing the partnership in 2021 with the newly elected council to provide Cold Spring residents with a city administration that operates with the resident's best interest in mind. I believe together we can accomplish many good things for the City in 2021!

Overview:

Staff: The City currently employs 17 full-time and four part-time employees in the following departments:

- Police Department: 14 full-time and one part-time employee.
- Public Works: 7 full-time employees.
- Administration: 2 full-time and 2 part-time employees.

Additionally, the City relies heavily on boards and commissions. On behalf of the City Council and myself, I wish to personally thank everyone who volunteers their time to our boards, especially during these times of COVID-19:

Growth:

- Residential growth: Although residential growth has slowed over the last year, additional properties were added to the tax roll.
- Commercial Growth: The City continues to see commercial growth with several establishments being completed or started in 2020. These commercial establishments contribute to our tax base.
- The combination of commercial and residential growth allowed the City to once again drop its property tax rates.

Financial Stability: The City continues to grow financially. Over the past year the City's revenues from Payroll, Insurance, and Occupational taxes have increased 8% allowing the City to maintain its budget. The City of Cold Spring remains one of the lowest taxing entities in Northern Kentucky; with NO increase in any residential taxes.

City's Expenses: The City has maintained good control of all city expenses. I am happy to share that expenses for the three main areas of the City--Administration, Police, and Public Works--combined were 11% under budget for the 2020 fiscal year.

City's Strategic Funds: The City has been able to maintain our strategic funds over this period and the funds remain healthy. The City continues to use some of these funds in order to sustain the road program. Rest assured, the City remains on plan and the reserves are where they should be.

Infrastructure: The City continues to invest in our infrastructure. Over the past year, the City has invested over \$1.8 million in roadways. This includes rebuilding sections of Glenridge, Henry, Shadow Lake, Charity Hill, Sturbridge, Springside, Spring House, and all of Cabin Creek. With these completions, the City has nearly finished its 20-year road plan, ahead of schedule.

The City really is moving forward: The City has faced a number of challenges and changes over the past year; however, it continues to move forward in a number of areas. In 2020, the City Council and I have accomplished the following:

- Passed or sponsored appropriate changes to aid businesses in our city to help during the pandemic, which has affected all of our residents and businesses.
- Passed a \$3.8 million operating budget for the 2019/2020 fiscal year that began July 1, 2019 and ended June 30, 2020 that remained flat to prior years.
- Approved and oversaw the reconstruction and expansion of over five miles of city streets.

CITY CLERK

Robin Morency

The city building is now open to the public and we are back to our normal operating hours of Monday through Friday 9am to 4pm.

If you have not already done so, you can request to be added to the Cold Spring Email Distribution List by emailing me at robin.m@coldspringky.gov.

Campbell County Clean-Up will be held on April 23 and April 24 from 8am to 5pm. Details and locations can be found at www.campbellcountyky.gov or by calling 859-547-1873. This is a FREE service for Campbell County residents (must bring ID).

We are very excited about the construction taking place here on campus! You can find progress videos and pictures on our Facebook or website at www.coldspringky.gov.

If you have questions or concerns about trash pick-up and the city building is closed, you can call Rumpke at 859-472-7339. You can also call this number to notify Rumpke of a large item that you need picked up.

Please keep in mind that the city building will be closed on the following days:

- May 31- Memorial Day
- July 5 - In observance of Independence Day
- September 6 - Labor Day
- November 11- Veterans Day
- November 25 and 26 - Thanksgiving
- December 24 and 25 - Christmas

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code Enforcement Officer Chuck Taylor

There are many different ordinances that relate to maintaining our city in a neat and orderly condition. Some of the most common violations are listed below:

- Unlicensed and inoperable vehicles in a residential zone shall not be stored unless it is in a completely enclosed building.
- Parking in the yard is prohibited.
- Recreational vehicles, including campers, boats and trailers etc. shall be stored in the rear yard on a hard surface, or in a completely enclosed building.
- Unkempt and deteriorated buildings are not allowed.
- Debris, litter, rubbish salvage materials, motor vehicle tires, or miscellaneous refuse shall not be openly stored.
- Weeds and unmowed lawns are not acceptable.
- Temporary signs will not be allowed unless a permit is issued from the City Building.
- No person who is the owner of any animal shall permit it to run at large in any public road, highway, street, lane, or alley, or upon an enclosure without the consent of the owner of the yard, lot, or enclosure.
- It is unlawful for any owner, keeper or walker of any animal to permit his or her animal to discharge such animal's excrement upon any public or private property, other than the property of the owner of any such animal within the city if such owner, keeper, or walker does not immediately thereafter remove and clean up such animal's excrement from the public or private property

To report code violations you can visit our website www.coldspringky.gov/code-enforcement

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Director Ronnie Hitch

Welcome to warmer weather! First, I want to thank the Public Works crew for their commitment to the city everyday during this pandemic. We experienced one tough February this year with snow. Thanks to the residents for making our jobs safer by keeping cars off streets when snow was forecasted, and during snow emergencies. Looking ahead after a uncertain year for everyone, we continue to work for you. You will see us around in your neighborhoods pouring street sections, sidewalks and curbs, and maintaining our storm water system. We will continue to keep parks clean and manicured for the enjoyment of everyone. Maintenance is something that is always ongoing! Weather is always the biggest factor in working outside. We prioritize anything unsafe and work backwards. Let us know of any hazards we need to address! Enjoy your summer and be safe!



The City of Cold Spring
5694 E. Alexandria Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076

STORMWATER

What is Stormwater Runoff?

Stormwater runoff is the rain that does not soak into the ground. It picks up pollutants as it passes down the roofs of homes and buildings, across parking lots and driveways, through the gutters, across the ground and then into the storm drain inlets. Unfortunately, this stormwater runoff does not go to a waste-water treatment plant and can end up in the local creeks and rivers. The various pollutants that can be picked up along the way include metals, oils, chemicals and bacteria.

Stormwater runoff is a leading cause of water pollution!

What Can You Do?

While we certainly cannot stop the rain from falling, we can recognize and prevent stormwater pollution to protect ourselves, our wildlife, streams and rivers.

One excellent rule of thumb is “If you wouldn’t want to swim in it, don’t put it down the storm drain.”

Here are a few ways to prevent stormwater pollution:

- Dispose of and store trash and chemicals properly. Some of the most popular items that can be stored or disposed of the wrong way are: paint, garbage, mislabeled containers, uncovered chemicals, detergent, leaves and medications.
- Never apply pesticides immediately before rain is forecasted and try using organic rather than synthetic fertilizers.
- Recycle your motor oil with an authorized dealer, and maintain your vehicle to prevent leaks.
- Place rocks or shrubs across a slope to interrupt water as it flows downhill.
- Remove visible debris from drains and do not litter.
- Clean up after your pets.
- Don’t empty ashtrays in parking lots or other areas, empty them in their proper containers.

Together we can protect our stream and rivers. Remember only rain should go down the storm drain!

- Approved the building of a new Police Department, Community Center, and Amphitheater.
- Worked diligently to recruit new business opportunities to the city.

Department updates:

- Finance and Administration:
 - Maintained a flat, year-over-year budget of \$3.8 million for fiscal 2019/ 2020.
 - Through diligence and strict budget oversight, for the first six months of the fiscal year, the City is running \$285,000 UNDER budget.
 - Your city clerks, Robin and Ann, sent out city tax bills and collected the revenues in November and December. 3,250 tax bills were sent out and only 48 bills remain unpaid – thank you residents!
 - Secured another private donation for the Robert J. Barth Park.
 - Secured over \$600,000 of grant monies for the City.

In closing, I would like to thank all of you, our residents, for the opportunity to serve as your Mayor. I continue to be available in the office, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 am and 4 pm. Please feel free to stop in or call the city building at any time.

With your support, the Council, the City Administration teams, and I look forward to the rest of 2021. There are many exciting possibilities and opportunities in front of us!



D. Angelo Penque, Mayor
City of Cold Spring

COLD SPRING POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Steve Collinsworth



Let me begin with reminding everyone that the quickest way to get assistance for an emergency is to **call 911**. If it is a non-emergency then 859-292-3622 should be used. The number to our department is 859-441-6289.

Telephone scams still exist and I want to remind everyone to never send cash, gift cards or even checks to an unknown recipient. Do not give them any personal information, simply hang-up to avoid becoming a victim. The most recent scam will involve a phone call from a “family member” that has been arrested and is seeking bail money. Then they send a “bail bondsman” to pick up the cash. **We do not have bail bondsmen in the state of Kentucky.**

As we enter the warmer weather, please be aware of your surroundings while driving. The largest excuse we receive from the driver is “I was not paying attention”, and that is why they were speeding or entering an intersection when their light was red.

We have had a couple instances of unlocked vehicles being gone through and items removed. To avoid being a potential target of this type of theft, please take the simple step of locking your vehicle

Do not forget our service of checking on your residence when you are out of town. Please contact our office to arrange for this service.

Department Update:

- Hired new full-time officers to replace officers that retired or resigned for personal reasons.
- Continue our public outreach to the community through the use of social media and networking.
- Traffic accidents increased by 10% from 314 in 2019 to 349 in 2020.
- Due to COVID-19, overall traffic offenses declined from 2019 to 2020.