

the OUTLOOK

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE CITY OF SPRING HILL, KANSAS | FEBRUARY 2025

what's inside?

- 1 UTILITY RATE UPDATES
- 2 SNOWSTORM RECAP
- 3 OPEN POSITIONS

notices + reminders

BOOST DRIVE AT SHPD

SHPD is partnering with neighboring agencies for a Nutritional Drink Drive to support the Miami County Cancer Foundation. If you'd like to contribute, we're collecting Boost brand meal replacement drinks (any flavor) in the SHPD lobby through February 21. Thank you for your generosity!

DID YOU KNOW?

James B. Hovey founded the City of Spring Hill in 1857—before Kansas was even a state. Little did he know, our founding year would someday nod to 15 and 87, two legends of a team we love to cheer for.

ESTABLISHED
1857
SpringHill
KANSAS

SHPD earns national recognition—twice



The Spring Hill Police Department is celebrating two prestigious national awards in 2024 that highlight its dedication to community engagement:

- **Best Facebook Presence** – Government Social Media
- **Outstanding Participation** – National Night Out

These accomplishments showcase the department's ability to build trust, connect with residents, and share vital information.

With such strong momentum, Spring Hill is eager to find a Police Chief candidate who can build on this foundation. *Learn more on Page 2.*



Play by the rules & celebrate safely



It's an exciting time for the Kansas City area, especially for lifelong fans of our local sports teams. As you enjoy the big game, remember that safety comes first:

- **Be extra cautious behind the wheel.** Watch for pedestrians, avoid distractions, and always buckle up.
- **Fireworks are illegal in Spring Hill** outside of Independence Day and New Year's. Please celebrate responsibly and respect your neighbors.
- **Plan a safe ride home before kickoff if your gameday plans include alcohol.** Whether it's a designated driver, a ride-share, or staying the night, make the right call to get home safely.

contact us

CITY HALL

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday
401 N. Madison St. | P.O. Box 424
Spring Hill, KS 66083

Main Phone: (913) 592-3664

Community Development:

(913) 592-3657

Municipal Court: (913) 592-3624

Utility Billing: (913) 592-3626

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Lobby open 24 hours

Administrative Hours:
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday
418 E. Nichols St.
Spring Hill, KS 66083
Phone: (913) 592-2700

PUBLIC WORKS

8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday
502 E. Nichols St.
Spring Hill, KS 66083
Office: (913) 592-3317
After-hours emergencies:
(913) 247-3521

Online

www.springhillks.gov
 /springhillks + SpringHillKSPD
 @springhillks
 City of Spring Hill, Kansas
 City of Spring Hill, Kansas

Governing Body

Mayor Joe Berkey
joe.berkey@springhillks.gov

Council President Chad Young
chad.young@springhillks.gov

Kristin Feeback
kristin.feeback@springhillks.gov

Mike Grant
mike.grant@springhillks.gov

Brian Peel
brian.peel@springhillks.gov

VACANT SEAT

Letters of interest due to the City Clerk by noon, February 10.



(SHPD Awards cont.)

"The outgoing Chief, Cindy Henson, and current staff have established a legacy of strong community relationships, and we couldn't be prouder of what they've accomplished," says City Administrator, Lane Massey. "The next chief will have the privilege of leading a department that's already thriving and help shape its future."

BEST FACEBOOK PRESENCE

SHPD earned the "Best Facebook Presence" Golden Post Award from the Government Social Media (GSM) association, standing out among agencies nationwide. Despite being one of the smallest nominees, SHPD impressed with its ability to connect with residents. "The goal is never to 'go viral,'" says Captain Adam Khan, Interim Chief. "It's about sharing messages that resonate and benefit our community."

Each of the 18 SHPD team members contribute by sharing ideas or participating in posts. The city's Public Affairs Specialist, Kristen Boxman, collaborates with the department to craft social media posts. This ensures the messag-

ing remains genuine without compromising officers' duties.

From light-hearted posts to life-saving alerts, social media has been a powerful tool for SHPD. A Silver Alert shared via Facebook reached 80,000 people and helped locate a missing resident within hours. Community initiatives, like the Blue Elves project, also rely on this platform to make a meaningful impact.

OUTSTANDING PARTICIPATION: NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

SHPD was also honored with the 2024 National Award for Outstanding Participation in 'America's Night Out Against Crime,' recognizing their leadership in National Night Out events. Nine neighborhoods participated, fostering connections between officers and residents. A tip shared during these events recently helped solve a burglary case and recover stolen property. Community Liaison Officers Jeremy Johnson and Madyson McGill led these efforts, earning SHPD recognition as the only city in Kansas to receive this award.

JOIN THE SPRING HILL TEAM

Full-time positions:

- **Police Chief** – Accepting applications through February 8, 2025
- **Police Officer** – Open until filled

Part-time positions:

- **Aquatic Center Assistant Supervisor** – Accepting applications now
- *Additional seasonal positions with the Aquatic Center including **Deck and Grounds Attendant, Front Desk/Concession Worker, and Lifeguard** will be posted on February 10.*

Apply for full-time and part-time positions at

<https://www.springhillks.gov/Jobs.aspx>

Governing Body:

- **City Council member** – Letters of interest due by noon, February 10, 2025

Submit letters of interest at

<https://www.springhillks.gov/66/Governing-Body>

The winning game plan against winter storms

Spring Hill's Public Works crews remained on the front lines, tackling January's historic winter storm head-on.

Preparations began a day before the storm, with crews pretreating roads to slow ice and snow accumulation. When precipitation arrived, about one half-inch of ice coated the streets, followed by 10 inches of snow. With temperatures dropping below 20 degrees, salt became less effective at melting snow and ice, but crews remained consistent in their efforts to clear the roads.

"Winter storms like this one are a test for any city, but with the commitment of our Public Works team and the cooperation of our residents, we were able to navigate the challenges successfully," said Public Works Director Jacob Speer.

In addition to clearing streets, crews maintained sidewalks and parking lots at City facilities, including police and fire stations, ensuring access for essential workers and emergency vehicles. They also kept trucks running by refilling salt spreaders and performing maintenance to keep up with 24-hour operations.

"Every storm teaches us something new," Speer added. "We're already reviewing this storm's challenges to improve and continue delivering the best possible service."

Public Works extends its gratitude to residents for their patience and support during the storm.



300 TONS OF SALT USED
That's as heavy as a Boeing 747 airplane.



10.9 MILLION CUBIC FEET OF SNOW
Enough to cover 190 football fields with one foot of snow.



24-HOUR OPERATIONS
12 employees worked 12 hour shifts.



6 PLOW-EQUIPPED TRUCKS
2 full-size dump trucks, 2 small dump trucks, 2 pickups.



165 LANE MILES PLOWED
That's like driving from Spring Hill to Arrowhead Stadium 4.5 times.



PET SAFE ICE MELT
Spring Hill uses salt formulated to be gentle on animal paws.

Updated utility rates: Effective March 1, 2025

Beginning March 1, 2025, the City's utility rates will be as follows:

Sewer:

- Base rate (includes up to 2,000 gallons):** \$20.40

- Each additional 1,000 gallons:** \$10.20

Trash:

- Standard rate:** \$21.19
- Senior citizen rate:** \$20.19
- Late Penalty:** 10% fee

Customers will continue to receive the same trash, recycling, yard waste and bulky item service. Trash (95 gal) and recycling bins (65 gal) are provided to all customers at no additional cost. Water rates are not impacted.



**SPRING HILL, KS
SAFE STREETS
FOR ALL**

Exciting news! The Spring Hill Safe Streets For All (SS4A) public information website is now live!

Learn more about our efforts to gather feedback, improve road safety, and create safer streets for all travelers in Spring Hill. The site contains:

- ✓ Project goals and updates
- ✓ An interactive map
- ✓ A Public Engagement Survey
- ✓ Email Signup

Scan the QR code to watch a video about the project and use the interactive map to share your comments, ideas, suggestions, and concerns directly on specific locations in our city.



Your voice matters! Check it out and join us in shaping a safer Spring Hill. Visit: <https://tinyurl.com/2krdua87>

upcoming events

february

4 tues	Municipal Court 8:30 a.m. Civic Center (Building only open for regular business noon to 5 p.m.) Cemetery Board meeting 7 p.m. Civic Center	5 wed	Large Item Day — Miami County (Call (800) 964-8988 by the Friday before to schedule pickup.)
6 thurs	Planning Commission meeting 7 p.m. Civic Center View on YouTube: https://bit.ly/COSHYouTube	13 thurs	City Council meeting 7 p.m. Civic Center View on YouTube: https://bit.ly/COSHYouTube
13-14 thurs - fri	WM will collect yard waste during weekly pickup. Limit 8 bags/bundles. View guidelines: https://tinyurl.com/2w4hpyyr	18 tues	Municipal Court 8:30 a.m. Civic Center (Building only open for regular business noon to 5 p.m.)
26 wed	Large Item Day — Johnson County (Call (800) 964-8988 by the Friday before to schedule pickup.)	27 thurs	City Council meeting 7 p.m. Civic Center View on YouTube: https://bit.ly/COSHYouTube

march

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17 mon	Parks Advisory (Green Board) Meeting 6:30 p.m. Civic Center	18 tues	Municipal Court —CANCELED
20-21 thurs - fri	Weekly yard waste collection resumes. Limit 8 bags/bundles. View yard waste guidelines: https://tinyurl.com/2w4hpyyr	26 wed	Large Item Day — Johnson County (Call (800) 964-8988 by the Friday before to schedule pickup.)
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Note: Civic Center address is 401 N. Madison St., Spring Hill, KS 66083



CALL OR TEXT 988

JOCO CRISIS LINE: (913) 268-0156

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LINE: 1-800-273-8255 OR TEXT YOUR ZIP CODE TO 898211

NATIONAL CRISIS TEXT LINE: TEXT CONNECT TO 741741

IF YOU BELIEVE SOMEONE IS AT IMMEDIATE RISK, CALL 911.