

# SPRING HILL



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## Letter from the Mayor: 2013 Review ~ 2014 Vision



Mayor Steven Ellis and Citizen of the Year Kim Thompson at lighting of the Mayor's Christmas Tree during Hometown Holidays.

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It is almost hard to believe that another year is coming to a close. As in years past, our community has much to be proud of, the most important of which is that no matter how much we grow we never lose our identity as a community. We remain as committed and compassionate toward one another today as we have for over a century and a half. This commitment to community is what attracts people to Spring Hill, and with over 70 new single family home permits issued this year alone (more than double the number in 2012), new families will be joining in that spirit of community with us.

A few other highlights of 2013:

- \* Construction began on our new police station. Located at the site of the former Post Office, this project not only brings police operations back into the City's core, it also demonstrates the City's commitment to our historic downtown district by making a significant investment in this important area ... an area of importance based upon your responses to our community survey.
- \* Planning for Project Connect, a series of community feedback sessions, began in 2013 and kicks off in January. Plans are being finalized to set up these sessions as a way to promote community involvement in providing specific areas of concern and interest that were highlighted in our citizen survey conducted earlier this year. This process is designed to help us improve service and responsiveness, and help to ensure that your tax dollars are being used in areas of importance to you.
- \* Spring Hill continues to attract a number of new small businesses, as well as a new industrial business from Omaha, Nebraska. Our businesses are critical community partners and we continue to work hard to provide support for new and existing businesses throughout Spring Hill.

These are just a few of the many accomplishments we have enjoyed as a community this year, none of which would have been possible without you! While there is always more work to be done, please know that the dedicated men and women who serve us every day are hard at work to keep Spring Hill the community you demand and deserve.

In keeping with the spirit of the season, I pray that God continue to bless and protect each of us, and our community. Please remember to keep our active duty service members and their families in your thoughts and prayers this holiday season and throughout the year.

Warm wishes for a prosperous 2014,  
 Steve Ellis

## SPRING HILL'S DEBT RATING RAISED TO A+ BY S&P



Mayor Steven Ellis is pleased to announce that Standard & Poor's Ratings Services raised its rating on all of the City of Spring Hill's outstanding debt, including the general obligation (GO) bond debt, up to 'A+' from its prior rating of 'A'.

The improved rating is a testament to Spring Hill's financial management as well as a revision of S&P's rating criteria.

City finance director Melanie Landis noted, "Along with indicating that the City is a good steward of public monies, this 'A+' bond rating for debt issuance will allow for lower interest rate bids in the future. Depending on the size of future projects, this could represent major savings over time, decreasing our total debt service."

A formal presentation of a framed certificate to the Mayor and Council was presented at the December 12, 2013 City Council Meeting by Bryan Kidney of the public sector advisor Springsted, the City's financial advisor. Celebratory cupcakes ~ arranged as the A+ rating ~ were heartily enjoyed! It is expected that this rating will remain the same within the next two years since the debt profile forecast will not likely change significantly.

## Ways to Conserve Water in the Home

### 1. Check faucets and pipes for leaks

A small drip from a worn faucet washer can waste 20 gallons of water per day.

### 2. Check your toilets for leaks

Put a few drops of food coloring in your toilet tank. If the color begins to appear in the bowl within 30 minutes, you have a leak that should be repaired immediately.

### 3. Install water-saving shower heads and low-flow faucet aerators

This single best home water conservation method is also the cheapest!

*Taking measures at home to conserve water not only saves you money, it also benefits the greater community.*



City of Spring Hill Public Works  
From the Office of the Superintendent of Utilities



Work on the Civic Center and Gym roof progressed according to schedule since we did have a week of nice weather that allowed for the drying of applied materials. The project was in response to the Citizen Survey that indicated maintenance of City buildings is a priority.

**Jan 20** City Hall closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

