

GREENSBURG Matters

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City Receives Clean Audit Report for 2015 Fiscal Year

The City of Greensburg heard from their independent auditing firm, Baldwin CPA's of Richmond Kentucky, at a special-called meeting conducted on February 17th. During the report the Council was presented the City's 2015 Audit and was given a clean review. A copy of the complete audit can be found online at www.GreensburgOnline.com.

In the report's Management Discussion and Analysis portion the Mayor made the following statements and observations. "The future for our community has many wonderful opportunities opening up to it. However, there are severe challenges facing Greensburg, Green County and rural communities all across the country that will have to be confronted together as a community if we are to avoid much tougher decisions in the future. Some of these challenges, just to name a few, are an aging and declining population base, the training and retraining of our local work force to meet today's demands, and how to attract business and investment into Greensburg and Green County. From time to time this will require hard choices to be made, however I am happy to report Greensburg will be facing those challenges on strong financial footing." He went on to point out, "In the past thirteen years we have seen an over all cut in full-time employment within the City's various departments of nearly 33% from 33 to 22 full-time employees. The City relies more and more on the use of part-time employees to make up the difference in order to manage the ever-increasing costs of pensions and health care."

2015 Fiscal Year Overview

The first item I would like to address is what I consider our General Fund base revenue – taxes, franchise fees, license and other permit fees. The 2015 fiscal year saw a very slight increase of just over \$6,000 versus the 2014 audit year, which had seen an increase of nearly \$36,000, in these revenues. Over all when excluding fluctuations in grant revenue and other inter-agency transfers, the City of Greensburg recognized \$2,652 in over all revenue growth or .2% increase in total revenue.

As for Operations & Maintenance, the 2015-year was not as positive. The last three years were the first out of the last 15 that the Water and Sewer Department had turned a small profit. However, after adjusting for depreciation and grant activity the Water and Sewer Department saw a loss of just under \$79,000 in the 2015 fiscal year. Fortunately, this loss was off set by a one-time gain of just over \$101,000 on the settlement of debt service. And it should be noted that 2015 was another year where basic maintenance expenses continued to grow, a symptom of an aging infrastructure. In 2015 basic maintenance cost were over \$96,000, a large portion of which will be avoided in the future as the new Water Treatment facility goes on line in early 2016. This facility will replace the current plant, which has reached its 50th anniversary of service to Greensburg and Green County, and is expected to run much more efficiently with lower energy, labor and chemical cost.

Without a large financial cushion in place, the City must remain vigilant that the current rate structure is sufficient to cover the cost of operating and maintaining the quality and service of both the water and wastewater systems. This will remain a key to our ability to grow and attract residents as well as business and industry to our community.

Conclusion to Financial Highlights

The City of Greensburg turned in a solid financial performance for the fiscal year of 2015 – increasing its over all net asset value by nearly \$598,000. Over the past thirteen years, the City of Greensburg has seen its total net asset value increase by over 278% - from just fewer than \$3 million in 2003 to just under \$8 million today.

However, going forward - given the projected explosion in pension, insurance and utility cost -the City will have to focus more attention to managing our cash flow, prioritizing and thinking outside the box when it comes to looking for ways to cut cost and increase revenue opportunities, if we are to continue growing and improving our community. The political wrangling and inaction being experienced at both the federal and state levels will only exacerbate these issues.

I do believe both the financial future and the overall future for Greensburg can be bright, provided we continue to plan and manage our assets in a conservative manner and focus on our opportunities and our strengths. But we must be willing to invest in ourselves. Therefore, it is more important than ever that our community continue to come together and work with a common vision and purpose. We can be either our own worst enemy or our own best friend; it is up to each of us. As Abraham Lincoln said, "The best way to predict your future is to create it." Therefore we must continue to make deliberate decisions based on our long-term vision for our community. As the plaque that hangs in the City Council Chamber reads, "The greatest risk is not taking one."

As always, the City of Greensburg looks forward to working toward the brightest future possible for our residents and our community!

"Bridging the Past and the Future."



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Lifeline Home Health Care Open House and Ribbon Cutting



Lifeline Home Health Care has moved! Their new location is at 212 Industrial Drive, Suite A, in the Shuffett Medical Building across from the Golden Living Center. Join them for an Open House and Ribbon Cutting at their new location on Wednesday, March 23rd from 9:00am - 11:00am CST. Lifeline Health Care provides high-quality home health services in the comfort of home to their patients across South Central Kentucky. Lifeline Home Health Care is 5-Star Rated by CMS.



The Greensburg Post Office has a new number!
Call 270-932-7794 to speak with a clerk.

View the Green County Center for Seniors
March Activities & Lunch Menu at
www.greensburgonline.com/GCSeniorCenter



March Recycling
Saturday, March 26th:
8a - Noon

Greensburg 20/20 Dinner Theater Continues Thursday, March 3rd

Greensburg 20/20 presents Kevin Hardesty as Daniel Boone in the second chautauqua performance of the Spring series. The performance will begin at 6:30pm central time at Longhunters Coffee and Tea. The show is free and open to the public. In addition, Longhunters Coffee and Tea will be providing dinner prior to the show for \$15 per person. Dinner reservations must be made by noon on Tuesday, March 1st. Call Greensburg

City Hall at (270) 932-4298 today to make your dinner reservations or email K.Henderson@GreensburgOnline.com.

Daniel Boone is the quintessential Kentuckian, having blazed the trails that would become the map of Kentucky through courage, a love of the newfound beauty and abundance of the region, and his cunning facility with the land and its native peoples.

Born November 2, 1734, to Pennsylvania Quakers, Boone quickly demonstrated a preference for the outdoors – rather than the schoolhouse – and established himself as an accomplished hunter and explorer at a young age. In 1767, Boone first visited Kentucky on a hunting trip with his brother, Squire. They found this new territory as beautiful as it was dangerous, as it was hotly contested by both native populations and the ever-advancing British colonists. Throughout his life, Boone was an intrepid adventurer and natural leader whose exploits amply justify his larger-than-life reputation.

The last chautauqua performance of the Spring series will be on April the 7th featuring Dick Usher as Baseball Hall of Famer Pee Wee Reese.

SPRING CHAUTAUQUA SERIES AT LONGHUNTERS COFFEE AND TEA
The First Kentuckian
DANIEL BOONE
Thursday, March 03 at 6:30p CT
SHOW IS FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!
DINNER AT 6P PREPARED BY:
\$15 per person **LONGHUNTERS COFFEE AND TEA COMPANY**
RSVP: 270.932.4298
OR: K.HENDERSON@GREENSBURGOONLINE.COM
A GREENSBURG 20/20 PROGRAM & THE KENTUCKY HUMANITIES COUNCIL
DINNER RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY NOON TUESDAY, MARCH 1ST

T&B **Q104** **PBI BANK** **K105.7** **Forcht Bank**
KU **BEST** **Cowherd & Parrott Funeral Home**
Nancy J Stearman, CPA, CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
Selby Asphalt - Almos Energy - Pizza Hut - Nally & Haydon - Fivestar - Community Trust Bank
Greensburg - Green County Chamber of Commerce - Snappy Tomato Pizza - Dairy Queen, Greensburg KY