

# Town of Spring City

*Mayor – Kelly Reed*  
*Vice Mayor – Conley McCulley*  
*Commissioner – Mary Sue Garrison*  
*Commissioner – Dwight Mathis*  
*Commissioner – Mike Jolley*

*City Manager – Walter Evans*  
*City Recorder – Robin Bolton*  
*Public Works – Dwight Mathis*  
*Police Chief – Jason Yuhas*

June 20, 2007

Tennessee Ethics Commission  
312 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, North  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor Snodgrass Tower  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

RE: Code of Ethics

Dear Sir or Madame:

The Town of Spring City has enclosed a copy of the Minutes where the City Commission has approved and the New Code of Ethics.

Please contact our office if you have any further questions at (423) 365-6441.

Sincerely,

  
Woody Evans  
City Manager

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TENNESSEE  
ETHICS COMMISSION

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## CODE OF ETHICS<sup>1</sup>

SECTION 1. Applicability. This chapter is the code of ethics for personnel of the municipality. It applies to all full-time and part-time elected or appointed officials and employees, whether compensated or not, including those of any separate board, commission, committee, authority, corporation, or other instrumentality appointed or created by the municipality. The words "municipal" and "municipality" include these separate entities.

SECTION 2. Definition of "personal interest." (1) For purposes of Sections 3 and 4, "personal interest" means:

(a) Any financial, ownership, or employment interest in the subject of a vote

by a municipal board not otherwise regulated by state statutes on conflicts of interests; or

(b) Any financial, ownership, or employment interest in a matter to be regulated or supervised; or

(c) Any such financial, ownership, or employment interest of the official's or employee's spouse, parent(s), stepparent(s), grandparent(s), sibling(s), child(ren), or stepchild(ren).

(2) The words "employment interest" include a situation in which an official or employee or a designated family member is negotiating possible employment with a person or organization that is the subject of the vote or that is to be regulated or supervised.

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<sup>1</sup>State statutes dictate many of the ethics provisions that apply to municipal officials and employees. For provisions relative to the following, see the *Tennessee Code Annotated* (T.C.A.) sections indicated:

Campaign finance—T.C.A. Title 2, Chapter 10.

Conflict of interests—T.C.A. §§ 6-54-107, 108; 12-4-101, 102.

Conflict of interests disclosure statements—T.C.A. § 8-50-501 and the following sections.

Consulting fee prohibition for elected municipal officials—T.C.A. §§ 2-10-122, 124.

Crimes involving public officials (bribery, soliciting unlawful compensation, buying and selling in regard to office)—T.C.A. § 39-16-101 and the following sections.

Crimes of official misconduct, official oppression, misuse of official information—T.C.A. § 39-16-401 and the following sections.

Ouster law—T.C.A. § 8-47-101 and the following sections.

A brief synopsis of each of these laws appears in the appendix of the municipal code.

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(3) In any situation in which a personal interest is also a conflict of interest under state law, the provisions of the state law take precedence over the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 3. Disclosure of personal interest by official with vote. An official with the responsibility to vote on a measure shall disclose during the meeting at which the vote takes place, before the vote and so it appears in the minutes, any personal interest that affects or that would lead a reasonable person to infer that it affects the official's vote on the measure. In addition, the official may recuse himself<sup>2</sup> from voting on the measure.

SECTION 4. Disclosure of personal interest in nonvoting matters. An official or employee who must exercise discretion relative to any matter, other than casting a vote, and who has a personal interest in the matter that affects or that would lead a reasonable person to infer that it affects the exercise of the discretion shall disclose, before the exercise of the discretion when possible, the interest on a form provided by and filed with the recorder. In addition, the official or employee may, to the extent allowed by law, charter, ordinance, or policy, recuse himself from the exercise of discretion in the matter.

SECTION 5. Acceptance of gratuities, etc. An official or employee may not accept, directly or indirectly, any money, gift, gratuity, or other consideration or favor of any kind from anyone other than the municipality:

(1) For the performance of an act, or refraining from performance of an act, that he would be expected to perform, or refrain from performing, in the regular course of his duties; or

(2) That might reasonably be interpreted as an attempt to influence his action, or reward him for past action, in executing municipal business.

SECTION 6. Use of information.

(1) An official or employee may not disclose any information obtained in his official capacity or position of employment that is made confidential under state or federal law except as authorized by law.

(2) An official or employee may not use or disclose information obtained in his official capacity or position of employment with the intent to result in financial gain for himself or any other person or entity.

SECTION 7. Use of municipal time, facilities, etc. (1) An official or employee may not use or authorize the use of municipal time, facilities, equipment, or supplies for private gain or advantage to himself.

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<sup>2</sup>Masculine pronouns include the feminine. Only masculine pronouns have been used for convenience and readability.

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(2) An official or employee may not use or authorize the use of municipal time, facilities, equipment, or supplies for private gain or advantage to any private person or entity, except as authorized by legitimate contract or lease that is determined by the governing body to be in the best interests of the municipality.

SECTION 8. Use of position or authority. (1) An official or employee may not make or attempt to make private purchases, for cash or otherwise, in the name of the municipality.

(2) An official or employee may not use or attempt to use his position to secure any privilege or exemption for himself or others that is not authorized by the charter, general law, or ordinance or policy of the municipality.

SECTION 9. Outside employment. An official or employee may not accept or continue any outside employment if the work unreasonably inhibits the performance of any affirmative duty of the municipal position or conflicts with any provision of the municipality's charter or any ordinance or policy.

SECTION 10. Ethics complaints. (1) The city attorney is designated as the ethics officer of the municipality. Upon the written request of an official or employee potentially affected by a provision of this chapter, the city attorney may render an oral or written advisory ethics opinion based upon this chapter and other applicable law.

(2)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the city attorney shall investigate any credible complaint against an appointed official or employee charging any violation of this chapter, or may undertake an investigation on his own initiative when he acquires information indicating a possible violation and make recommendations for action to end or seek retribution for any activity that, in the attorney's judgment, constitutes a violation of this code of ethics.

(b) The city attorney may request that the governing body hire another attorney, individual, or entity to act as ethics officer when he has or will have a conflict of interests in a particular matter.

(c) When a complaint of a violation of any provision of this chapter is lodged against a member of the municipality's governing body, the governing body shall either determine that the complaint has merit, determine that the complaint does not have merit, or determine that the complaint has sufficient merit to warrant further investigation. If the governing body determines that a complaint warrants further investigation, it shall authorize an investigation by the city attorney or another individual or entity chosen by the governing body.

(3) The interpretation that a reasonable person in the circumstances would apply shall be used in interpreting and enforcing this code of ethics.

(4) When a violation of this code of ethics also constitutes a violation of a personnel policy, rule, or regulation or a civil service policy, rule, or regulation, the

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violation shall be dealt with as a violation of the personnel or civil service provisions rather than as a violation of this code of ethics. \*

SECTION 11. Violations. An elected official or appointed member of a separate municipal board, commission, committee, authority, corporation, or other instrumentality who violates any provision of this chapter is subject to punishment as provided by the municipality's charter or other applicable law and in addition is subject to censure by the governing body. An appointed official or an employee who violates any provision of this chapter is subject to disciplinary action.

Regular City Commission Meeting  
May 3, 2007  
7:00 P.M.

Be it remembered there was opened and held a regular City Commission Meeting of the Spring City Board of Commissioners on May 3, 2007 at the Spring City Municipal Building. Attending the meeting were Mayor Kelly Reed, Vice-Mayor Conley McCulley, Commissioner Dwight Mathis, Commissioner Mary Sue Garrison, Commissioner Mike Jolley, City Manager Woody Evans, and City Recorder Brenda Dodson. Also attending the meeting were Howard Gilliam, Robin Bini, Clifford Holloway, Billy Ray Thurman, H. B. Rankin, Burkett Evans, Kenneth Lemons, Ted & Diane Britt, Frances Starkis, Joe Lisa, and Pat Kirkland.

Roll Call was taken by the Recorder, and all members of the board were present.

Prayer was given by Commissioner Garrison, and the pledge to the American Flag was said.

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor McCulley, and seconded by Commissioner Mathis to approve the April 5, 2007 meeting minutes.

Vote as follows:

Garrison, Aye  
Jolley, Aye  
Mathis, Aye  
McCulley, Aye  
Reed, Aye

Motion was made by Commissioner Garrison, and seconded by Commissioner Jolley to approve the Municipal Code of Ethics as worded by the Municipal Technical Advisory Service, dated July 25, 2006.

Vote as follows:

Garrison, Aye  
Jolley, Aye  
Mathis, Aye  
McCulley, Aye  
Reed, Aye

Motion was made by Commissioner Garrison, and seconded by Mayor Reed to approve purchasing a sewer camera in this year's budget. The cost of the camera will be approximately \$7,800.00 to \$9,300.00. This will be purchased out of the sewer rehab account in water and sewer and will be used to camera manholes and sewer lines.

Vote as follows:

Garrison, Aye  
Jolley, Aye  
Mathis, Aye

McCulley, Aye  
Reed, Aye

Motion was made by Commissioner Mathis, and seconded by Mayor Reed to cash in a \$25,000.00 CD to repair the tennis courts and if any left to purchase playground equipment for Veterans Park. The CD is in the General fund and will not be cashed until we receive a cost estimate of resurfacing the tennis courts.

Vote as follows:

Garrison, No, because we have not discussed this at a workshop, and we don't know exactly what the cost are. I agree to make improvements in the parks, but I would like to know the specifics first.

Jolley, Aye  
Mathis, Aye  
McCulley, Aye  
Reed, Aye

Motion was made by Commissioner Garrison, and seconded by Commissioner Jolley to authorize the Spring City Park Board to take action on completion of the Ironwork Monument that has been donated by Condon Wasson. This ironwork was once placed at the Rhea Springs Community and will now be placed in front of the monument at the Veterans Park. The cost of this project will be donated by Mr. Wasson and his wife.

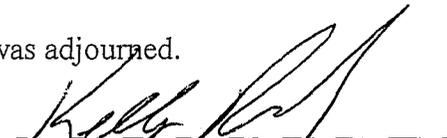
Vote as follows

Garrison, Aye  
Jolley, Aye  
Mathis, Aye  
McCulley, Aye  
Reed, Aye

With there being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

  
Brenda K. Dodson, Recorder

  
Mayor Kelly Reed