

# Chamber celebrates local first responders

**BY JEFF SOPLAND**  
THE SPENCER MAGNET

On May 15, the Spencer County-Taylorsville Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual first responder luncheon at Driscoll Estates. The luncheon is held yearly to recognize and honor local first responders. This year's special guest

speaker was Ryan Neill. Neill retired as a Captain after a long career in law enforcement in South Carolina. The special non-profit presenter was the Spencer County Public Safety Foundation, with Spencer County Sheriff Andrew Ware speaking on behalf of the foundation. The meal was provided by

Shack in the Back, and special gifts were given to each agency, hand-crafted by chamber member KraftWerx Studios. The Chamber would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the sponsors who help make this event possible, and to all the first responders who bravely serve this community.



Members of Spencer County High School's Jr Army Guard were on hand to take part in the festivities. Photo submitted

# Reflecting on Memorial Day: A Time to Honor, Remember, and Recommit

In recent months, my column has focused on updates from the 2025 Regular Session. This week, I want to step back from policy and politics to reflect on something profoundly significant: the meaning and enduring importance of Memorial Day. Kentucky boasts a deep and proud military heritage. Even before our Commonwealth officially achieved statehood, the pioneers of this region stood firm in the French and Indian War. Kentuckians played crucial roles in the American Revolution and the War of 1812, with a greater proportion of our citizens answering the call to service than from any other state. This legacy of dedication has carried through generations—from the sands of Normandy to the deserts of the Middle East. Time and again, Kentuckians have stepped forward to defend liberty, often at the ultimate personal cost. In our fast-paced world, Memorial Day can too easily be reduced to a long weekend—the unofficial start of summer. While enjoying time with loved ones is natural and welcome, we must remain steadfast in honoring the day's true purpose: to pay tribute to the American service members who laid down their lives in defense of our freedoms. Each year, Memorial Day gives us the opportu-

nity to pause and honor the men and women who gave their lives in service to our country. Their sacrifices have preserved the freedoms we enjoy—and the government role I am privileged to serve in. For those of us entrusted with elected office, Memorial Day is not only a time of remembrance—it is also a call to duty. Every debate we have, every law we craft, and every decision we make must be grounded in a deep respect for the freedoms secured by their sacrifice. Memorial Day reminds us that our work in the General Assembly is not about personal ambition or partisan gain. It is about protecting the liberties, rights and opportunities that so many gave their lives to defend. Memorial Day is more than an act of remembrance—it is a powerful call to responsibility. Our work must consistently strive to honor their legacy by safeguarding the very values they gave everything to protect. The men and women we honor today believed in the ideals of fairness and justice. They stood for a nation where every voice matters, where government serves the people, and where freedom is protected for future generations. Their sacrifice demands that we, as legislators, be worthy stewards of that legacy.



JAMES ALLEN TIPTON

We owe our fallen heroes more than just words or solemn ceremonies. We owe them leadership rooted in principle, a vision shaped by gratitude and a future built on the values they died defending. We must also ensure that future generations understand the profound significance of this day. By teaching our children the true meaning of Memorial Day, we not only preserve the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice—we also instill in them the lasting importance of service, sacrifice and civic duty. As we lay wreaths and lower flags, let us also recommit ourselves to a higher standard of public service. Let our debates be respectful. Let our policies be thoughtful. And let our vision for the future reflect the hopes and dreams of those who never came home. President Ronald Reagan wisely reminded us: “Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn’t pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected and handed on for them to do the same.” As always, I welcome your thoughts and questions. You can reach me on my mobile at (502)639-7079 or through the toll-free message line at 1-800-372-7181 or by email at James.Tipton@kylegislature.gov. You can also track our work at legislature.ky.gov.

# Big changes for 502 area code? what to know and how to speak up

You may have heard by now that the 502 area code, which serves Louisville, Frankfort, and surrounding communities in central Kentucky, is projected to run out of phone numbers by the end of 2027. This isn’t just about population growth; it’s also about how many devices we use these days. Between smartphones, tablets, smart watches, and business lines, it’s easy to see how the demand for numbers keeps growing. So what’s the solution? The Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) is looking at two main options. One is called a geographic split. That would divide the current 502 area into two parts—one keeping 502, the other getting a brand-new area code. The second option is called an overlay. That means everyone with a 502 number gets to keep it, but new numbers would be assigned a new area

code. The catch with an overlay is that it requires 10-digit dialing for all calls, even if you’re just calling your neighbor across the street. While those are the two main options, a few other ideas were considered, but most agree they aren’t very practical. One of those would eliminate area code boundaries across the state. That would mean new numbers in any part of Kentucky could be assigned any of the state’s existing area codes. While that might sound like a simple fix, it could confuse and erase the local identity that area codes like 502 carry. Another idea is a service-specific overlay, which would assign a new area code just for certain services, such as cell phones or internet-based calls. This approach has almost completely disappeared because it’s confusing for



SENATOR JIMMY HIGDON

SEE **CHANGES /PAGE B3**

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

1. INVITATION: Sealed bids for the construction of the following CONTRACT 26 – MT. WASHINGTON ROAD (S.R. 44) WATERLINE REPLACEMENT will be received by the City of Taylorsville, at City Hall Annex, 70 Taylorsville Road, Taylorsville, KY 40071, until 11:00 A.M., local time June 12, 2025 for furnishing labor and/or materials and performing all work as set forth by this advertisement, conditions (general, supplemental, and special), specifications, and/or the drawings prepared by Sisler-Maggard Engineering, PLLC, 220 East Reynolds Road, Suite A3, Lexington, Kentucky 40517. Bids will be publicly opened and read at above time.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project includes but is not limited to the following:

CONTRACT 26 – MT. WASHINGTON ROAD (S.R. 44) WATERLINE REPLACEMENT

a) 18,400 LF 8" C900 DR14 PVC Waterline

b) 200 LF 10" HDPE (DR9) HDD Stream Crossing

c) 3,700 LF 1" CL 200 HDPE Service Line

d) 24 EA 8" / 6" / 4" Gate Valves

e) 6 EA Fire Hydrants

f) 2 EA Air Release Valves

g) 82 EA Reconnect Existing Meters

3. OBTAINING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND BID DOCUMENTS:

Contract documents may be reviewed and obtained at the following locations:

Lynn Imaging Lexington....(859) 255-1021  
328 Old Vine Street.....(800) 888-0693  
Lexington, KY 40507.....(859) 233-1558 fax

Lynn Imaging Louisville.....(502) 499-8400  
11460 Bluegrass Parkway.....(502)499-0022 fax  
Louisville, KY 40299

A non-refundable deposit will be required for each set of documents as follows:

Contract 26 – Mt. Washington Road (S.R. 44) Waterline Replacement: \$200.00

Deposit includes standard UPS shipping. Partial sets of plans or specifications will not be issued. Contract Documents may also be reviewed at the following locations:

Sisler-Maggard Engineering, PLLC  
220 East Reynolds Road, Suite A3  
Lexington, Kentucky 40517  
(859) 271-2978

City of Taylorsville  
70 Taylorsville Road  
Taylorsville, Kentucky 40071  
(502) 477-3235

Builder's Exchange  
2300 Meadow Lane  
Louisville, Ky. 40218-1336  
(502) 459-9800

4. METHOD OF RECEIVING BIDS: Bids will be submitted in the manner and subject to the conditions as set forth and described in the Instructions to Bidders and Contract Documents.

5. METHOD OF AWARD AND RIGHT TO REJECT: The Contract will be awarded by the Owner to the low responsive, responsible, best and qualified Bidder. Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive all informalities and/or technicalities should it be in the best interest of the Owner.

6. BID WITHDRAWAL: No Bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of (30) thirty calendar days after receipt of bids. Errors and omissions will not be the cause for withdrawal of bid without forfeit of bid bond. Bids may be withdrawn in person prior to the closing time for receipt of bids.

7. FUNDING: This project is being funded by the City of Taylorsville.

8. WAGE RATES: State and Federal wage rates **WILL NOT** apply to this project.

9. BID SECURITY: Bidders shall furnish (with bid) bid security equal to 5% of bid. A bid bond on Kentucky Resident insurance carrier or certified check is acceptable.

10. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

a) Bidders who submit a Bid **must** be a Plan Holder of record at the issuing Office (Lynn Imaging). Bids from Bidders, who are not on the Plan Holders List, may be returned as not being responsive.

b) Plan Holders are requested to provide an e-mail address with their purchase of plans if they wish to receive addenda and other information electronically.

11. PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BOND: A Performance and Payment Bond each in the amount of 100 percent of the Contract Price issued by a responsible surety, will be required of the successful Bidders.

"EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY"

OWNER: City of Taylorsville

By Karen Spencer Mayor  
Karen Spencer, Mayor

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF TAYLORSVILLE, KENTUCKY  
ANNUAL BUDGET  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 07/01/2024 THROUGH 06/30/25  
ORDINANCE No. 466

WHEREAS, an Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 07/01/2024 through 06/30/2024 has been compiled and delivered to the Mayor and Board of Commissioners for the City of Taylorsville, Kentucky.

WHEREAS, that the Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year 07/01/2024 through 06/30/2025 was duly adopted by the said Commission and enacted by City Ordinance 447 on or about the 22nd day of June, 2024.

WHEREAS, that due to the current availability of certain grant funds and other unforeseen budgetary opportunities, the Board of Commissioners has reviewed the aforementioned Budget and has determined that such Budget requires certain specified modifications and amendments.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDANINED BY THE CITY OF TAYLORSVILLE, KENTUCKY as follows:

SCRIVNERS NOTE: Numbers in **BOLD** & which are underlined are new revised numbers. Numbers with strikethrough are previously appearing numbers and are revised hereby. Numbers appearing in regular font are unchanged.

SECTION I:

That City Ordinance 462, the Annual Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, is hereby amended as specified herein and hereafter shall read as follows:

	GENERAL FUND BALANCE		WATER & SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND	MRA FUND
	Original	Addition		
Restricted Fund Balance	~	~	3,555,475	58,544
Unrestricted Fund Balance	1,992,680		19,211,555	~
TTL Fund Balance	1,992,680		22,767,030	58,544
ESTIMATED REVENUES				
Property Taxes	285,000		~	~
Licenses & Permits	380,000		~	~
Occupational Licens Tax	460,000		~	~
Intergovmntal Revenue	30,000		~	16,000
Franchise Fees	83,000		~	~
Charges for Services	150,417		6,703,720	~
GRANT PROCEEDS				
UoIL Health	750,000		~	~
UL Health EDA		75,000		
School Resource Off.	182,157		~	~
HB 413 Court Costs	8,000		~	~
Sidewalk Project	290,000		~	~
Project Funds			~	~
Interest, Rent, Misc.	110,500		275,000	100
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	2,729,974	2,804,074	6,978,720	16,100
TOTAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION	4,721,754	4,796,754	29,745,750	74,644
APPROPRIATIONS				
General Government	281,725			
Public Safety				
Police	1,156,154			
Contract Services	~	~	~	~
Contract Services	~	~	~	~
Public Works				
Streets	204,005			60,000
Sanitation	150,417			
Public Utilities			6,725,589	
UL Health Facility	750,000			
UL Health EDA	75,000			
Sidewalk Project	362,500			
Project Expense	111,000		493,500	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	3,915,901	3,090,801	7,219,089	60,000
ESTIMATED FUND BALANCE, END OF FISCAL YEAR	4,705,953	1,780,953	22,526,661	14,644

SECTION II:

All information and numbers appearing in City Ordinance 466 not specifically amended or altered hereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION III:

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its adoption, recordation, and publication as required by Law.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Board of Commissioners for the City of Taylorsville, Kentucky at a special called meeting of the Commission on this the 13th day of June, 2025.

Given First Reading on: The 8th day of May, 2025

Given Second Reading and Passed on: The 13th day of May, 2025

Published in The Spencer Magnet on: The 22nd day of May, 2025

APPROVED: ATTEST:

Karen Spencer Mayor  
City of Taylorsville, Kentucky

Stephen A. Biven, City Clerk  
City of Taylorsville, Kentucky