



**OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE**  
**STATE OF IOWA**

Rob Sand  
Auditor of State

State Capitol Building  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0006  
Telephone (515) 281-5834

**NEWS RELEASE**

Contact: Pam Bormann  
515/281-5834

**FOR RELEASE**

**January 17, 2025**

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Auditor of State Rob Sand today released an agreed-upon procedures report on the City of Springville, Iowa, for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The agreed-upon procedures engagement was performed pursuant to Chapter 11.6 of the Code of Iowa.

Sand reported seven findings related to the receipt and disbursement of taxpayer funds. They are found on pages 9 and 10 of this report. The findings address issues such as a lack of segregation of duties, disbursements exceeding budgeted amounts and disbursements including sales tax and not adequately supported by invoices. Sand provided the City with recommendations to address each of the findings.

Five of the findings discussed above are repeated from the prior year. The City Council has a fiduciary responsibility to provide oversight of the City's operations and financial transactions. Oversight is typically defined as the "watchful and responsible care" a governing body exercises in its fiduciary capacity.

A copy of the agreed-upon procedures report is available for review on the Auditor of State's website at [Audit Reports – Auditor of State](#).

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**CITY OF SPRINGVILLE**  
**AUDITOR OF STATE'S INDEPENDENT REPORT**  
**ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**  
**FOR THE PERIOD**  
**JULY 1, 2023 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024**

**City of Springville**



**OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE**  
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January 2, 2025

Officials of the City of Springville  
Springville, Iowa

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council:

I am pleased to submit to you the agreed-upon procedures report for the City of Springville, Iowa, for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The agreed-upon procedures engagement was performed pursuant to Chapter 11.6 of the Code of Iowa and in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards for attestation engagements contained in Government Auditing Standards.

I appreciate the cooperation and courtesy extended by the officials and employees of the City of Springville throughout the agreed-upon procedures engagement. If I or this office can be of any further assistance, please contact me or my staff at 515-281-5834.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Sand", written in a cursive style.

Rob Sand  
Auditor of State

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**City of Springville**

**Officials**

**(Before January 2024)**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Lyle Andersen	Mayor	Jan 2026
Bart Barner	Mayor Pro Tem	Jan 2026
Jeff Baych	Council Member	Jan 2024
Karla Blakely	Council Member	Jan 2024
Brad Merritt	Council Member	Jan 2024
Cindy Kilburg	Council Member	Jan 2026
Deanna Wagaman	City Clerk/Treasurer	Indefinite
Mark Parmenter	Attorney	Indefinite

**(After January 2024)**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Lyle Andersen	Mayor	Jan 2026
Bart Barner	Mayor Pro Tem	Jan 2026
Cindy Kilburg	Council Member	Jan 2026
Jeff Baych	Council Member	Jan 2028
Karla Blakely	Council Member	Jan 2028
McKenna Hollandsworth	Council Member	Jan 2028
Deanna Wagaman	City Clerk/Treasurer	Indefinite
Mark Parmenter	Attorney	Indefinite

**City of Springville**



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Rob Sand  
Auditor of State

Auditor of State's Independent Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council:

We performed the procedures below, which were established at Iowa Code Chapter 11.6, to provide oversight of Iowa cities. Accordingly, we have applied certain procedures to selected accounting records and related information of the City of Springville for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, including procedures related to the City's compliance with certain Code of Iowa requirements identified below. The City of Springville's management, which agreed to the performance of the procedures performed, is responsible for compliance with these requirements and for the City's records.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards for attestation engagements contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. The City of Springville's management has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose to report, in accordance with Chapter 11.6 of the Code of Iowa, recommendations pertaining to selected accounting records and related information of the City including the City's compliance with certain Code of Iowa requirements. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures we performed are summarized as follows:

1. We observed selected City Council meeting minutes for compliance with Chapters 21, 372.13(6) and 380 of the Code of Iowa.
2. We obtained an understanding of the City's internal controls to determine if proper control procedures were in place and incompatible duties, from a control standpoint, were not performed by the same employee.
3. We observed surety bond coverage for compliance with Chapter 64 of the Code of Iowa.
4. We obtained and observed the City Clerk's financial reports and selected bank reconciliations to determine whether the bank balances properly reconciled to the general ledger account balances, journal entries and monthly financial reports provided to the City Council.
5. We scanned City funds for consistency with the City Finance Committee's recommended Uniform Chart of Accounts (COA) and to determine required funds and fund balances were properly maintained and accurately accounted for.
6. We observed the City's fiscal year 2024 Annual Financial Report to determine whether it was completed timely and accurately reflected the City's financial information.
7. We scanned investments to determine compliance with Chapter 12B of the Code of Iowa.
8. We observed depository resolutions, the City's investment policy and reporting of unclaimed property to the State of Iowa to determine compliance with Chapters 12C.2, 12B.10B and 556.1(12) of the Code of Iowa.



9. We scanned debt, including general obligation and revenue bonds/notes, and related transactions for proper authorization and compliance with Chapters 75, 384 and 403.9 of the Code of Iowa and to determine whether the debt and related proceeds and repayments were properly accounted for.
10. The City had no TIF.
11. We traced selected receipts for accurate accounting and consistency with the recommended COA.
12. The City had no voter approved levies.
13. We traced selected disbursements to proper approval, adequate supporting documentation, accurate accounting and consistency with the recommended COA and compliance with the public purpose criteria established by Article III, Section 31 of the Constitution of the State of Iowa.
14. We traced transfers between funds to proper authorization and accurate accounting and to determine whether transfers were proper.
15. We traced selected payroll and related transactions to proper authorization and accurate accounting and determined whether payroll was proper.
16. We observed the annual certified budget for proper authorization, certification and timely amendment.

Based on the performance of the procedures described above, we identified various findings and recommendations for the City. Our findings and recommendations are described in the Detailed Findings and Recommendations section of this report. Unless reported in the Detailed Findings and Recommendations, no exceptions were noted during the performance of the specific procedures listed above.

We were engaged by the City of Springville's management to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards for attestation engagements contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on specific accounting records and related information of the City, including compliance with specific Code of Iowa requirements. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the City of Springville and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

The purpose of this report is to report, in accordance with Chapter 11.6 of the Code of Iowa, certain agreed-upon procedures and the resulting findings and recommendations pertaining to selected accounting records and related information of the City, including the City's compliance with certain Code of Iowa requirements. This report is not suitable for any other purpose.

We would like to acknowledge the many courtesies and assistance extended to us by personnel of the City of Springville during the course of our agreed-upon procedures engagement. Should you have any questions concerning any of the above matters, we shall be pleased to discuss them with you at your convenience.



Pam Bormann, CPA  
Deputy Auditor of State

January 2, 2025

## **Detailed Findings and Recommendations**

City of Springville

Detailed Findings and Recommendations

For the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

(A) Segregation of Duties – Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal control. A good system of internal control provides for adequate segregation of duties so no one individual handles a transaction from its inception to completion. In order to maintain proper internal control, duties should be segregated so the authorization, custody and recording of transactions are not under the control of the same employee. This segregation of duties helps prevent losses from employee error or dishonesty and maximizes the accuracy of the City’s financial statements. Generally, one individual has control over each of the following areas for the City:

- (1) Accounting system – performing all general account functions and having custody of assets.
- (2) Cash – handling, reconciling and recording.
- (3) Investment – recordkeeping, investing, custody and reconciling earnings.
- (4) Receipts – opening mail, collecting, depositing, recording, reconciling and posting.
- (5) Disbursements – invoice processing, check writing, mailing and recording.
- (6) Payroll – entering rates and new employees into computer system.

Recommendation – We realize segregation of duties is difficult with a limited number of employees. However, the City should review its control procedures to obtain the maximum internal control possible under the circumstances utilizing currently available staff, including elected officials. Independent reviews of reconciliations should be documented by the signature or initials of the reviewer and the date of the review.

(B) Certified Budget – Disbursements during the year ended June 30, 2024 exceeded the amounts budgeted in the public works, cultures and recreation and general government functions. In addition, disbursements exceeded the amounts budgeted in the culture and recreation and community and economic development functions prior to the budget amendment. Chapter 384.20 of the Code of Iowa states, in part, “Public monies may not be expended or encumbered except under an annual or continuing appropriation.”

Recommendation – The budget should have been amended in accordance with Chapter 384.18 of the Code of Iowa before disbursements were allowed to exceed the budget.

(C) Computer System – The following weaknesses in the City’s computer system were noted:

The City does not have written policies and procedures for:

- Requiring a time out/log off function or screen saver passwords to protect computer terminals when not in use.
- Password privacy and confidentiality.
- Requiring password changes every 60 to 90 days.
- Requiring password history to be maintained to prevent employees from reusing the same password.
- Restricting access to the computer system through the use of unique user IDs.
- Requiring password length to be at least 8 characters.

City of Springville

Detailed Findings and Recommendations

For the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

- Requiring a computer lockout function if passwords are incorrectly entered more than three times.
- Personal use of computer equipment and software.

Also, the City does not have a written disaster recovery plan.

Recommendation – The City should develop written policies addressing the above items in order to improve the City’s control over its computer-based system. A written disaster recovery plan should be developed, and back-ups should be performed.

- (D) Disbursements – One credit card transaction observed included sales tax totaling \$15. As a government entity, the City maintains a tax-exempt status. As a result, the City should not incur sales tax. In addition, one of 30 disbursements observed, which was paid to the Assistant Fire Chief, totaling \$190 did not include supporting documentation.

Recommendation – The City should establish procedures to ensure all payments are reviewed to prevent the payment of sales tax. In addition, the City should ensure all disbursements are properly supported by a vendor invoice or other supporting documentation.

- (E) Reconciliation of Utility Billings, Collections and Delinquent Accounts – Although utility billings, collections and delinquent accounts were reconciled throughout the year, the preparation of the utility reconciliation and the independent review of the reconciliation were not performed timely.

Recommendation – The City should establish procedures to ensure the utility reconciliation is prepared timely. The City Council or other independent person designated by the City Council should review the reconciliations. The review should be documented by the signature or initials of the reviewer and the date of the review within one month of the close of the reconciliation.

- (F) Bank Reconciliations – The June bank reconciliation was not reviewed timely by an independent person. In addition, the preparation of the December bank reconciliation and the independent review of the reconciliation was not performed timely.

Recommendation – The City should establish procedures to ensure bank and investment account balances are reconciled to the general ledger monthly and variances, if any, are reviewed and resolved timely. An independent person should review the reconciliations and document the review by the signature or initials of the reviewer and the date of the review on the monthly reconciliations. The review should be conducted within one month of the close of the reconciliation.

- (G) Payroll – For two of the 14 employee timesheets observed, there was no documentation the timesheets were reviewed and approved by supervisory personnel prior to preparation of the payroll.

Recommendation – The City should establish procedures to ensure all timesheets are reviewed and approved by supervisory personnel prior to the preparation of payroll. The review should be documented by the supervisor’s signature or initials and the date of the review.

City of Springville

Staff

This engagement was performed by:

Pamela J. Bormann, CPA, Deputy  
Katherine L. Rupp, CPA, Manager  
Enoch Duval, Staff Auditor  
Kacie J. Rickels, Intern Auditor