



City of Philippi

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Jeremy Drennen, *City Manager*
Phil Bowers, *Mayor*

October 2, 2019

Residents of Philippi,

My name is Jeremy Drennen and I am the City Manager here in Philippi. I was appointed in January and would like to introduce myself and provide you with regular updates about what we are doing here at the City.

I am a CPA by trade which is what brought me to Philippi. I audited many municipalities across West Virginia but always enjoyed my time here in Philippi. I eventually started working at the City of Philippi in June of 2013 as the finance director.

Since taking over as City Manager, the City has put a large emphasis on infrastructure improvements. A City cannot grow or prosper without proper infrastructure in place. The City is currently wrapping up an over \$2.75 million water tank project. Some of the water tanks that we replaced were installed over sixty years ago and were in very poor condition.

The City has also recently hired a contractor to perform an upgrade to our major electric substation and perform critical upgrades to several distribution sites around the City. This project has been needed for over ten years and we are pleased that it is under contract. The total cost for this project is \$2.5 million. Our electric in the City is very reliable and this project is critical in sustaining that reliability.

This summer, the City paved fourteen separate streets. This paving project was one of our largest paving projects in the last decade. The total cost of this project was over \$150,000. Unfortunately, we have many more roads that need paved. I'm sure a large amount of you were upset that your road wasn't paved and that is understandable. Please know that we are currently patching streets and working on a solution to pave streets more regularly.

I want to thank everyone that has pitched in around Philippi to make things look better. I was on vacation the week before the Blue and Gray Reunion. When I came back to work on Monday, I was amazed at the transformation. The flower pots and hanging baskets were full of flowers. Parking lots were cleaned and weeds pulled by volunteers. I had so many compliments on how great Philippi looked during the Reunion.

I also want to thank all of our employees. Our employees truly care about making sure our residents have the best services we can provide. They have gone above and beyond countless times. If you see them around, please thank them for all they do for us.

We have a long road ahead but I am very confident that the City will prosper once again. If you would like to get involved in helping the City reach its potential, please contact me. It is going to take everyone working together to make Philippi the place we all want and know it can be.

Sincerely,

Jeremy D. Drennen
Jeremy D. Drennen, CPA
City Manager