

R. GREGG REEP, Mayor
COUNCIL MEMBER
CHANEL HOOPER
MEMORY BURKS-FRAZER
DOROTHY C. HENDERSON

CITY OF WARREN
P.O. BOX 352
Warren, Arkansas 71671
TELEPHONE: (870) 226-6743
FAX: (870) 226-8301

JANICE NELSON, City Clerk
COUNCIL MEMBER
JOEL TOLEFREE
EMILY MOSELEY
LATANZA ATKINS

TO: The Warren City Council and the People of Warren
FROM: Mayor R. Gregg Reep
RE: 2024 Annual Report

It is my honor to provide a report on Warren Municipal Government for the year 2024. I believe our City has made progress in 2024, however, we face several challenges for the future.

It continues to be an honor to work with the day-to-day operations of Warren Municipal Government and to work on issues and policies to improve our community. These are important matters that deserve serious thought and action. To all Warren employees, please accept my sincere gratitude.

THE FOLLOWING IS A DEPARTMENT-BY-DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR 2024

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Shaun Hildreth reported a total of 1587 calls for the year. Increased efforts were made to reduce speeding and prevent crimes.

The Animal Control Division of the Department reported 116 dogs picked up, with 50 returned to owners. There were 354 calls answered and 24 dogs adopted out.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The Warren Fire Department responded to 148 emergency calls in 2024. This included 27 toned out structure fires and 5 vehicle extrication calls. New equipment and turnout gear was purchased.

Two new full time firefighters were hired to fill vacant positions.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT:

During 2024, the Department issued 50 building permits and collected \$31,341.51 in fees based on construction valued at \$3,665,193.09. There were 2 new commercial construction permits issued for \$218,596.00 in value.

Eight mobile home permits were approved in 2024. Five properties were rezoned.

SANITATION DEPARTMENT:

The City collected 2,665.34 tons of garbage.

Garbage collected included household garbage, limbs, leaves, and junk. The Class IV material was disposed of in the County Landfill. A new boom truck was purchased during the year and 300 trucks loads of junk and 200 loads of limbs were collected. The truck has increased the volume of junk the department collects and the speed of doing so.

The City recycled 42.83 tons of cardboard.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

The baseball/softball complex is owned by the City but serves as the home field for the Warren Lumberjack Baseball team and the Warren Lady Jack Softball team. The complex serves the Donald W. Reynold YMCA as well and is rented for tournaments and private events. It is

heavily utilized in the spring and summer. The Warren School District assists with maintenance. Major maintenance and upgrades were made during the year.

WARREN CITY PARK (Martin St) – We have worked to maintain the playground and equipment and the old locomotive engine. A new bridge was constructed to cross the Town Branch. This park is heavily used.

WARREN TRAIN DEPOT – The Depot is being regularly used for events such as reunions, birthdays, and other events. Maintenance and repairs were conducted during 2024. The building is undergoing additional repairs and updates using American Rescue Funds.

WARREN CITY POOL – The pool continues to function. The City is seeking grants to make major repairs in order to keep the facility available for our youth.

OLD ARMORY (Martin St) – The Old Armory houses several offices for individuals and organizations. The City collects rent for the offices. 4-H Archery practice is conducted in the large room and the facility is rented for various activities. The Old Armory also houses a training room for police and fire personnel.

WARREN PISTOL/RIFLE RANGE – (South of Warren) – This range is used for skeet and trap shooting and has a rifle and pistol range. Our youth clubs use it and organizations rent it. Upkeep of the range was conducted during the year.

JOHN SCHOBY DRIVE / TENNIS COURTS – The Park and tennis courts belong to the city and are used by the public and the Lumberjack Tennis teams. Maintenance was carried out in 2024 and money is being sought to resurface the courts.

STREET DEPARTMENT:

During the year the department conducted extensive ditch cleaning and chemical treatment for weed control throughout the City. Major drainage projects were completed, including parts of the town branch, E Cedar Street at Clingman and N. Bradley.

The department oversaw periodic work by State Prison Inmates in cleaning streets and ditches, picking up litter and cleaning out portions of the Town Branch. A new street sweeper was purchased and all streets are being periodically cleaned. This improves drainage and appearance of the neighborhoods.

WARREN WATER AND SEWER:

The Warren Water and Sewer Utility pumped 356,250,000 gallons of water in 2024. The peak month was January when 39,160,000 gallons were pumped. The daily average pumped in 2024 was 976,027 gallons.

Pipe infrastructure was repaired in several locations to reduce leakage and a new well was drilled.

Work continued to add a sewer line to the bypass and upgrades were made to the City's sewage treatment plant.

Maintenance and improvement were made to sewage lines and pump stations.

WARREN HOUSING AUTHORITY:

The Warren Housing authority manages 171 apartments plus the Twin Rivers and the Section 8 program. It serves low income and elderly citizens in need of safe housing.

OTHER:

A major undertaking of the City in 2024 consisted of efforts to clean up dilapidated structures and require owners to repair, cleanup, or remove junk for both residential and commercial establishments, in accordance to law.

Many old vehicles that were not licensed or insured were removed. In some cases the owners cooperated, but in many cases the City had to take legal action. This is an ongoing effort and much work remains.