

# KFC RIBBON CUTTING



Above, representatives from KFC gathered with local dignitaries to celebrate a ribbon cutting last Wednesday for Russell County's newest eatery. Below, local KFC Manager Kim Taylor, center, is flanked by Russell County Chamber of Commerce Vice-President Mark Blasko, left, and Chamber President Marisa Ramsey. The new KFC is located at 598 South U.S 127, adjacent to the Russell County Hospital in Russell Springs.



## 911,

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the basement of the Russell County EMS building in Jamestown since 2007, Robertson said.

“(They) do not have a lot of room there,” the judge said. “I hope we can get them out of there and build this new facility.”

The judge said a new, 3,000 square foot facility “should be sufficient,” and would cost around \$650,000.

The building could also include an office for Russell County Coroner Mark Coots.

The coroner is working with limited space, the judge said, and has been considering minor renovations at a present facility adjacent to the Russell County Detention Center.

Judge Robertson said the court could “use the guidance of our financial advisors (Ross, Sinclair & Associates, LLC, of Lexington) to sort of lead us through this.”

“There’s a lot of federal money, a lot of things that have to be met,” the judge said.

Adopting a resolution “would sort of get the process started,” he said, “and if we decide to do this, if we decide to put it at that location, we need to vote to accept this proposal from the City of Russell Springs on this acre of land.”

“Since we’ve got this money (ARPA) here, I think it’s a no-brainer,” Fifth District Magistrate Larry Holt

said.

Holt made a motion to accept Russell Springs’ offer.

The motion was seconded by Second District Magistrate Mickey Garner, and unanimously approved by the entire court.

Robertson said the project would have to “bid out,” and a construction management firm would be involved.

Thursday, at the regular monthly meeting of the Jamestown City Council, Councilman Barry Coffey queried the council about the 911 Center.

“They (Russell Springs) got the jail from us actually,” he said, “now they’ve got the 911 Center. We need to get in line here, and we’ve got property we can give them.”

Jamestown City Clerk Tyler McGowan said there was intention for the city “to give them (911 Center) land.”

Coffey said he felt Jamestown and Russell Springs are “getting along good.”

“But we’ve got to do something,” he said. “We’d like to be in line on keeping stuff in Jamestown.”

Questions arose over the existence of, and participation in a 911 Board, and any input the entity would have on the location of the 911 Center.

Councilman Tony Wright said the city

“funds 25 percent of the dispatch.”

“I think we need to have a voice on the dispatch board, myself,” he said. “What representative do we have from the city on the board to represent our interests?”

“We may need to find out something about that board,” Jamestown Mayor Regena Hinton said.

Coffey said he was aware the 911 issue is “a done deal.”

“And I might be nitpicking a little but, but i like to keep everything in Jamestown we can,” he said. “In the future, we need some kind of representative for our interest.”

## GOVERNOR,

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From left, First District Magistrate Terry Waddell, Fifth District Magistrate Larry Holt, Second District Magistrate Mickey Garner, Russell County Judge Executive Gary D. Robertson, and Gov. Andy Beshear posed Friday with a \$58,900 check to be used for resurfacing portions of Glover Rd. and Fairview Church Rd.

300,000-gallon elevated water storage tank will be constructed along KY 55 in Russell County. The new tank will replace two, aging water tanks - the Clifty Creek and Maynard tank - built in the 1980’s.”

RUSSELL SPRINGS: “Mt. Eden/Salem Area Water System Improvements. This investment will include a new pump station, solenoid station, and telemetry. The pump station and telemetry will be used to fill and turn the water over more frequently in the Salem water tank. The new solenoid station will replace an existing station in the Eli area.”

Russell County was also presented \$58,999 in Kentucky Transportation Cabinet funding for resurfacing portions of Glover Road and Fairview Church Road.

Area development districts submitted the funding requests for all projects to the Kentucky

Infrastructure Authority (KIA).

Funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and administered by the KIA, \$250 million was appropriated through a bipartisan agreement at the close of the 2021 General Assembly for clean drinking water and wastewater grants to fund projects across Kentucky.

The investments in infrastructure were praised by officials.

“Strong communities need sound infrastructure and clean water,” Sen. Rick Girdler said. “I am grateful for the funding for this project and for the strong leadership in Russell, Wayne, Clinton and Cumberland Counties seeing it through.”

“The funding announced for the improvement of the water infrastructure will help improve the lives of the communities of Russell, Clinton, and Cumberland Counties,” State Representative

Josh Branscum said. “Safe drinking water is something everyone should have access to. I am proud to be a member of the General Assembly who voted to include ARPA funds in SB 36 in the efforts of funding programs like this.”

“Clean water is a resource that many people take for granted,” Russell County Judge Executive Gary D. Robertson said. “Those of us that live in these rural communities are very appreciative of that assistance that is being provided by these federal ARPA funds through the Beshear administration.”

During his visit, Beshear boasted of a robust economy, and claimed the state is strong as “post COVID” status appears likely.

Beshear said recent developments such as the lowering of the state sales tax, and correction of vehicle tax increases should help the citizens of the Commonwealth.



Magistrates Terry Waddell, Mickey Garner, Larry Holt, Russell County Judge Executive Gary D. Robertson, Gov. Andy Beshear, Senior Adviser to Gov. Beshear Rocky Adkins, Russell Springs Mayor Eddie Thomas, Russell Springs Economic Development Director Jeremy Coffey, and Russell Springs City Clerk Christopher Ramsey celebrated the awarding of over \$300,000 to be used for improvements of the water system in the Mt. Eden/Salem area.

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