



Jason E. Mumpower, Comptroller of the Treasury

October 30, 2024

Oliver Springs Wastewater Operator Indicted for Theft

An investigation by the Tennessee Comptroller’s Office, working in conjunction with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, has resulted in the indictment of Travis Thrasher, the Chief Wastewater Operator for the Town of Oliver Springs, which is located in Anderson, Morgan, and Roane Counties.

The investigation began after town officials reported concerns of questionable financial activity.

Investigators determined that Thrasher misappropriated town funds totaling at least \$1,022 by making personal purchases. These purchases included a new set of tires for his personal vehicle, hardware, and other auto parts. The purchased tires and other auto parts did not fit any town vehicles.

Additionally, Thrasher made questionable fuel purchases for his personal vehicles totaling at least \$2,448 using a town fuel card. Thrasher claimed a former supervisor authorized him to use the fuel card to purchase fuel for his personal vehicles if it was used for town business; however, both the former town manager and former water/wastewater department supervisor stated they did not authorize fuel purchases for personal vehicles.



The investigative report also identifies \$3,010 in other questionable purchases made by town employees. These purchases included food, auto parts, gift cards, and supplies that were not supported with itemized receipts or other documentation.

On September 5, 2024, the town received a check from Travis Thrasher totaling \$3,471 for “repayment” of his personal purchases using town funds. He resigned from his employment with the town on September 13, 2024.

Based upon this investigation, in October 2024, the Roane County Grand Jury indicted him on one count of theft over \$1,000 and one count of official misconduct.

“Our investigators identified a number of deficiencies withing the town’s operations that must be corrected,” said Comptroller Mumpower. “These include adopting a written credit card policy, maintaining invoices for purchases, and establishing more control over gift cards. The town must also enforce its disconnect policies for water and wastewater service and reconcile bank statements to its general ledger each month.”

To view the investigative report, go to tncot.cc/doireports. To view a map depicting Comptroller investigations, go to tncot.cc/mappinginvestigations

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