

Daniel Hinderliter

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South Pittsburg, TN 37380

sthrngntdh@live.com

954-790-1886

May 18, 2025

Heather Pickett, City Recorder

City of South Pittsburg

204 W. Third Street

South Pittsburg, TN 37380

Email: [hpickett@southpittsburg-tn.gov](mailto:hpickett@southpittsburg-tn.gov)

Subject: Public Records Request for Financial Data Related to the Annual National Cornbread Festival

Dear Ms. Pickett,

Pursuant to the Tennessee Public Records Act (T.C.A. § 10-7-501 et seq.), I am requesting access to public records held by the City of South Pittsburg concerning the financial activities related to the Annual National Cornbread Festival for the fiscal years 2022 through 2025, with a particular focus on the 2024 festival held on April 27-28, 2024. As a resident of South Pittsburg, I am seeking these records to better understand the city's financial involvement with this significant community event and to ensure transparency in the use of public funds.

Specifically, I am requesting the following records:

1. All financial documents detailing revenues received by the City of South Pittsburg related to the National Cornbread Festival, including but not limited to grants, sponsorships, donations, ticket sales, vendor fees, or other income sources associated with the festival.
2. All financial documents detailing expenditures by the City of South Pittsburg related to the National Cornbread Festival, including but not limited to payments for infrastructure, public safety (e.g., police or fire services), utilities, maintenance, marketing, or other festival-related costs.

3. Any contracts, memoranda of understanding, or agreements between the City of South Pittsburg and National Cornbread Festival, Inc., Lodge Cast Iron, or other entities involved in organizing or funding the festival, particularly those outlining financial obligations or in-kind support.
4. Records of any federal, state, or local grants received or applied for by the city to support the National Cornbread Festival, including grant applications, award letters, expenditure reports, and compliance documentation.
5. Budget documents, general ledger entries, or financial reports showing festival-related transactions, including any transfers to or from the General Fund, Sanitation Fund, or other city funds.
6. Any correspondence (e.g., emails, letters) between city officials (including the mayor, commissioners, or city recorder) and National Cornbread Festival, Inc., regarding the festival's financial management or city support from January 1, 2022, to the present.
7. City council meeting minutes or resolutions from January 1, 2022, to the present that discuss or approve funding, support, or financial oversight for the National Cornbread Festival.

Please provide these records in electronic format (e.g., PDF or Excel) via email to [sthrgntdh@live.com](mailto:sthrgntdh@live.com) if possible, or in paper form if electronic delivery is not feasible. If any records are available on the city's website ([www.southpittsburgtn.org](http://www.southpittsburgtn.org)), please provide specific links to expedite the process.

I understand that the Tennessee Public Records Act allows for reasonable costs associated with copying or labor to produce records (T.C.A. § 10-7-503(a)(7)(C)). Please notify me in advance if the estimated cost exceeds \$25, so I can confirm whether to proceed or narrow the request. If any requested records are exempt from disclosure, please provide a written explanation citing the specific statutory exemption, as required by T.C.A. § 10-7-503(a)(2)(B).

If certain records are not maintained by the City of South Pittsburg (e.g., held by National Cornbread Festival, Inc.), please indicate this in your response and, if possible, provide contact information for the appropriate entity.

I request a response within seven business days, as required by T.C.A. § 10-7-503(a)(2)(B), indicating whether the records are available, the estimated time to produce them, or any reasons for denial. Please contact me at 954-790-1886 or [sthrgntdh@live.com](mailto:sthrgntdh@live.com) if you need clarification or additional information to process this request.

Thank you for your assistance in providing access to these public records. I look forward to your prompt response and appreciate your commitment to transparency in South Pittsburg's financial operations.

Sincerely,

Daniel Hinderliter

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Hinderliter", with a stylized, cursive script.

Resident of South Pittsburg, Tennessee