

MUNICIPAL HOME RULE PROGRAM

Town of Alderson

2025
PROGRESS
REPORT

WV Municipal Home Rule Board
1900 Kanawha Blvd. E
Bldg. 1, Ste. W-300
Charleston, WV 25305
MunicipalHomeRule@wv.gov
304.558.3356

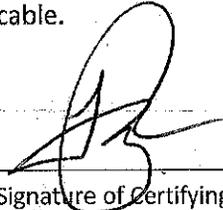
Rev. 08.01.24

West Virginia State Code §8-1-5a (m) provides:

“Commencing December 1, 2015, and each year thereafter, each participating municipality shall give a progress report to the Municipal Home Rule Board and commencing January 1, 2016, and each year thereafter, the Municipal Home Rule Board shall give a summary report of all the participating municipalities to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance.”

The Municipal Home Rule Board has developed this standard format for Home Rule Program participating municipalities to prepare and submit their respective Annual Progress Reports. The intent of this standard format is to gather and compile information in a consistent, easily understood, and efficient manner that will be used to develop a concise and practical summary report to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance.

Annual Progress Reports must be submitted electronically as an individual file in PDF format no later than the close of business on the first business day of December, by emailing to WV Municipal Home Rule Board at MunicipalHomeRule@wv.gov.

A. General Information		
Name of Municipality: Town of Alderson		
Certifying Official: Travis L. Copenhaver	Title: Mayor	
Contact Person: Corianna Spinks	Title: Municipal Clerk/Treasurer	
Address: PO Box 179 – 311 Monroe Street, South		
City, State, Zip: Alderson, West Virginia 24910		
Telephone Number: 304-445-2916	Fax Number: 304-445-7248	
E-Mail Address: mayor@aldersonwv.org		
2020 Census Population: 975		
B. Municipal Classification		
<input type="checkbox"/> Class I <input type="checkbox"/> Class II <input type="checkbox"/> Class III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Class IV		
C. Attest		
I hereby confirm that I am the authorized official for this municipality and certify that the information submitted herein and attached hereto is true and accurate and that this report addresses each and every initiative included in the original Home Rule Pilot Program Plan Application for this municipality and any subsequent amendments, if applicable.		
Travis L. Copenhaver, Mayor		11/25/2025
Type Name of Certifying Official	Signature of Certifying Official	Date

Please use this page to report progress on each **non-tax related initiative** included in your Home Rule Application and Amendment(s). Each non-tax related initiative must be listed on a separate page.

Initiative: "Disposition of Equipment/Property Without Public Auction"
Was this non-tax initiative a part of your original plan application <input checked="" type="radio"/> or a plan amendment <input type="checkbox"/> ?
Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? March 10, 2022
If no, please describe challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).
SUCCESES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative which highlights successes realized through the implementation of this initiative and any metrics used to track performance. This ordinance was adopted in March of 2022. From that time until now, we have realized \$76,510.25 in sales of municipal property via online public bid process through www.govdeals.com This ordinance has put our sales on a global market helping to realize the real value of the asset, not in a poor circulation as before with the seal bid process.
LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities. Placing liquidated assets on www.govdeals.com has helped us to meet matches for grants for new police vehicles, backhoes, dump trucks, and a host of other revenue we would never have been able to capture before. This has been a win for us to replace vehicles and equipment on a good cycle to not only get the best resale value out of it, but to help keep our equipment in good modern working order.

Please use this page to report progress on each **non-tax related initiative** included in your Home Rule Application and Amendment(s). Each non-tax related initiative must be listed on a separate page.

Initiative: "Party Membership Requirement for Election Boards."
Was this non-tax initiative a part of your original plan application <input checked="" type="radio"/> or a plan amendment <input type="checkbox"/> ?
Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? January 13, 2022
If no, please describe challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).
<p>SUCSESSES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative which highlights successes realized through the implementation of this initiative and any metrics used to track performance.</p> <p>Previous to the adoption of this ordinance, it was very difficult for the Recorder to fill our Municipal Poll worker election officials. Since passage, we have had no issued filling the number of Municipal Poll workers for any of our town elections.</p>
<p>LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities.</p> <p>This ordinance and action fixed a serious issue that hindered municipal elections based on the partisan requirements of the WV Code.</p> <p>This has been a win!</p>

Please use this page to report progress on each **tax related initiative** included in your Home Rule Application. Each tax related initiative must be listed on a separate page.

Initiative: "Implementation of the 1% Municipal Sales Tax"
Was this tax initiative a part of your original plan application <input checked="" type="radio"/> or a plan amendment <input type="checkbox"/> or N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? January 13, 2022
If no, please describe challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).
<p>REVENUES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting revenue amounts and revenue categories realized; revenue amounts and revenue categories reduced; net revenue gain; and, any metrics used to track performance.</p> <p>1% Municipal Sales Tax Revenue (based on Accufund Accounting Revenue Reports): FY23 Collection \$124,564.24 FY24 Collection \$160,733.54 FY25 Collection \$157,215.57</p> <p>Wholesale B&O tax reduced to \$0 for the FY reported.</p>
<p>SUCSESSES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting projects, improvements, programming, etc. realized through the implementation of this revenue initiative and any metrics used to track performance.</p> <p>This revenue has been crucial and honestly, without it would have resulted in reduction in our police department (after substantial means to collect fines and costs have been taken away from municipalities), not funding our fire department as well, and not being able to survive during tight budget times.</p> <p>We have remitted B&O taxes that were stopped after implementing this ordinance back to businesses that were faithfully remitting it, so it has contributed to business sustainment as well.</p>
<p>LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities.</p> <p>This is one of the toughest processes to implement from the ground up, however, detail driven and focused staff made it much easier. The work has paid off to help us help our municipality to continue to offer vital services that otherwise and without this revenue we would have definitely not been able to continue.</p>

Please use this page to report progress on each **non-tax related initiative** included in your Home Rule Application and Amendment(s). Each non-tax-related initiative must be listed on a separate page.

Initiative: "On Spot Zoning Citations"
Was this non-tax initiative a part of your original plan application <input checked="" type="radio"/> or a plan amendment <input type="checkbox"/> ?
Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? June 11, 2020
If no, please describe challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).
<p>SUCCESES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative which highlights successes realized through the implementation of this initiative and any metrics used to track performance.</p> <p>Through the process of changing our enforcement of the zoning code by "on spot" citations being issued we have been able to quickly eliminate structures that were not mitigated after being cited for their conditions. Further, used in conjunction with the REAP program, we were able to demolish 16 properties that were threats to public health and safety.</p>
<p>LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities.</p> <p>The changes to the enforcement, in conjunction with the funding from the state gave us an opportunity to shine with the use of the REAP program. We further were able to obtain another CDBG grant through HUD and demolished two other structures that were owned by the municipality.</p> <p>This progress is proof that ordinances have to be established and in place to make effective change.</p>