

Lebo City Council approves budget, honors longtime clerk

Ida Wilson
Reporter

LEBO — The Lebo City Council held a budget hearing ahead of its regular meeting Monday, Sept. 8. Clerk Carrie Sloan reported the proposed 2026 mill levy at 24.510, slightly below the revenue-neutral rate of 24.592. The levy will generate just over \$222,000 in property taxes, compared to about \$223,000 this year. The council later approved the budget.

Mayor Eric Ferguson presided over the meeting with council members Will Baker, Troy Friend, Amanda Hopkins and Jim Jones present. Councilman Nick Sanchez was absent.

During the meeting, Lesa Robke of the Floyd Lewis Foundation Board presented the Citizen of the Year award to Sloan, who has served as city clerk for 33 years and plans to retire at the end of the year. Sloan was recognized for her dedicated service to the city, her support of the larger Lebo community, and her assistance to clerks in surrounding municipalities.

Coffey County Economic Development Director Jenny Tatman discussed a proposed housing devel-



Photo submitted

Lesa Robke, right, presents the Floyd Lewis Foundation Citizen of the Year Award to Lebo City Clerk Carrie Sloan, who plans to retire in November after serving the community for 33 years.

opment by 70five Development Group LLC, located east of U.S. 75 and north of Old Highway 50. The council approved a resolution supporting submission of an application to the Kansas Moderate Income Housing Program, though since the meeting the Coffey County Commission has replaced the city as the MIH sponsor.

Coffey County Chamber of Commerce Director Chari Bauman also spoke, emphasizing the chamber's role in promoting tourism, supporting new businesses, and encourag-

ing economic growth.

The council approved a special use permit for a telecommunications tower south of town near the lagoons, following Planning Commission review earlier in the month.

Utility supervisor Javier Muro submitted a report noting lift station maintenance, mowing and weed eating, hydrant flushing, draining and chlorinating the east water tower, and removal of dead fish from Kid's Pond. The department also placed trash

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Applications sought for U.S. Military Academy nominations

WASHINGTON, DC — Congressman Derek Schmidt (KS-02) has announced that his office is accepting applications from Kansas students seeking nominations to attend the United States military service academies for the Class of 2030.

Each year, Members of Congress may nominate a limited number of candidates for appointment to the U.S. Military Academy (West Point), the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy and the U.S. Merchant Marine

Academy. Students who receive a nomination are considered for appointment by the respective academy's admissions board.

"Service academies provide exceptional opportunities for young Kansans to pursue higher education while preparing to serve our country as officers in the Armed Forces," Schmidt said. "I encourage all qualified students who are interested in military service to apply."

Applicants must be U.S. citizens, at least 17

years old but not yet 23, unmarried and without dependents. Applicants seeking nomination from Congressman Schmidt also must reside in the 2nd Congressional District. A complete application packet must be submitted to Congressman Schmidt's Topeka office by Oct. 15.

Detailed instructions, eligibility requirements and application materials are available on Congressman Schmidt's website at schmidt.house.gov/services/military-academy-nominations.

Give blood with the Red Cross this fall

LEBO — Fall into donating blood. Make an appointment to give 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Oct. 6, at the Lebo Community Building, 320 N. Ogden St., Lebo by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

All who come to give blood, platelets or plasma will receive a \$10 Amazon.com

gift card by email. For details, visit RedCrossBlood.org/Fall.

As fall officially begins, the American Red Cross urges people to mark the new season with a lifesaving blood donation to help keep the blood supply strong. Donors of all blood types, especially those with types O positive and B negative blood, are needed

now.

For many, daily routines shift as the seasons change, but blood and platelet donations must remain top of mind. Every single donation is key to making sure all patients relying on critical transfusions, including car accident victims, those living with sickle cell disease and those facing cancer, get the care they need.

ECF community grant applications

EMPORIA — The Emporia Community Foundation (ECF) is accepting grant applications from community organizations in Lyon, Chase, Coffey, Greenwood, Morris, Osage and Wabaunsee counties for innovative community projects. Applications are due by Sept. 30, with funds to be awarded in January.

Grants are intended to support new initiatives in health, social services, education, recreation and cultural affairs, not ongo-

ing operations. In its most recent cycle, ECF awarded about \$26,000 to area groups.

Since its founding 29 years ago, ECF has distributed more than \$26 million and currently manages nearly 400 funds with assets totaling \$48 million. The foundation also provides scholarships and supports programs such as Match Day.

Executive Director Linda Kehres-Schmidt said the grants aim to address

changing community needs. More information and applications are available at www.emporiacf.org or by calling 620-342-9304.

100th birthday card shower

BURLINGTON — The community is invited to help celebrate Wanda Freund's 100th birthday on Oct. 3 by sending a card to Wanda Freund, 1201 Martindale, Burlington, KS 66839.

4-H Clubs

Blue Ribbon 4-H

Jesse Durst
Club Reporter

LEBO — The September meeting of the Blue Ribbon 4-H Club was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, by Junior President Wyatt Dorr at the Lebo United Methodist Church. Brylee Hopkins and Jayden Wolfe led the club in the flag salute and the 4-H pledge.

Secretary Rachael Barnhardt took the roll call, which asked, "What is your favorite season?" Reports of officers were given by Treasurer Daniel Rausch and Reporter Jesse Durst. Jesse Durst gave a council report telling the club important dates. Parliamentarians Brayden and Brycen Hopkins explained and showed the club how to make and vote on a motion.

This month's program was the election of officers. The officers for the 2025-26 4-H year are President Daniel Rausch, Vice President Jesse Durst, Secretary Rachael Barnhardt, Treasurer Logan Rausch, Reporter Wyatt Dorr, Council Representatives Rachael Barnhardt, Rebecca Barnhardt, Jesse Durst, Daniel Rausch, Junior President Rebecca Barnhardt, Junior Vice President Ariya Wilkerson, Junior Secretary Rebekah Born, Junior Treasurer Isaac Rausch, and Junior Reporter Raegan Barnhardt.

Joseph and John Lohmann led the club in singing "I've Got That 4-H Spirit." Mason and Addison Wood led the club in

playing the number game. This month's community service project is to write thank-you notes to the county resource officers.

Refreshments were served by the Shoemaker family. The next meeting will be Oct. 8, at the Lebo United Methodist Church.



Photo submitted

2025-26 Blue Ribbon 4-H club officers are, from left, back row: Wyatt Dorr, Rachael Barnhardt, Daniel Rausch, Jesse Durst, Ariya Wilkerson, Logan Rausch; front row, Rebekah Born, Rebecca Barnhardt, Isaac Rausch, Raegan Barnhardt.

2619 Garner Road, Lebo, Kansas - 6 bedroom, 4.5 bath brick home with over 5000 square feet located on 20 acres with 30x60 outbuilding and pond. **\$759,000**

403 W. Broadway, Lebo - 2 building sites (1) 75x140 corner lots w/older garage; (2) 100x140 middle lots. Each **\$30,000**

129 N. Cedar, Lebo - 2 story 5 bedroom, 3 bath home on corner lots w/2 car attached garage. **CONTRACT PENDING \$54,500**

1019 Hudson, Burlington - 2 story, 4 bedroom, 2 bath home with extra lots that included 24x32 shop. **\$108,000**

NEW - 814 Garretson St., Burlington - 3 bedrooms, 2 bath ranch style home w/2 car attached garage and a separate 12x20 outbuilding **CONTRACT PENDING \$186,000**

NEW - 702 Weaver St., Emporia - 4 bedrooms, 2 bath ranch home & detached 3 car garage located on edge of town w / extra lot. **PRICE REDUCED - \$248,000**

NEW - 1020 Wanamaka Road, Emporia - 5 bedroom, 3 bath ranch home on 2.94 acres w/2wood burning fireplaces, separate family room & movie room in basement. Beautiful wrap around covered porch - 4 stall barn and 30x50 insulated outbuilding - **PRICE REDUCED - \$539,000**

710 Cottonwood, Emporia - 2 bedroom, 1 bath w/detached garage. New soffit and porch siding, **CONTRACT PENDING PRICE REDUCED \$80,500.**

816 Congress, Emporia - 6 unit complex and every unit completely remodeled. Gross rent \$3,500. **PRICE REDUCED \$195,000**

NEW - 0 Route 1, Yates Center - 118.30 acres of mostly native and mixed grass hay meadow and large mature wooded areas. **\$449,540.**

Commercial Listing at 314 Neosho, Emporia with offices, meeting room, storage and workspace with large overhead doors on 2 lots. **PRICE REDUCED \$195,000.**

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Picks

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all contestants. All seven contestants correctly predicted Santa Fe Trail, El-linwood, Osage City, Olpe, Butler Community College and the Kansas City Chiefs as winners of their respective games. Of the remaining six games, three were missed by three contestants and the remaining three were missed only once.

The contest games for week four are printed in sponsor ads on page B3 of today's newspaper. The rules are printed on the form. More great high school, college and NFL games are on tap for this week, and another \$20 and \$10 are up for grabs, so find a pencil and join the fun.

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