

Admin . . .

were set at \$10,000.

In February 2024, weeks before the arrests, Lanter was terminated from his role with Atchison County. He was then appointed Valley Falls City Administrator following a Feb. 22 vote by the city council.

Following his arrest, the council released the following statement:

“The City of Valley Falls is aware of the recent arrest and criminal allegations against Wes Lanter, City Administrator.

“The City is presently investigating these allegations for actions of Mr. Lanter prior to his employment by the City. With respect to the individual in question, we are prohibited by law from discussing any potential disciplinary actions and matters pertaining to a specific employee.

“The City is conducting a full investigation and will follow established disciplinary procedures and take appropriate action, in accordance with City policy and State law.

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The City will have no other comment on this matter at this time.”

Adam Housh, Jessica Housh, and Umphenour-Nolan reached plea agreements with the court in October 2024, and were sentenced to 12 months jail, suspended with 12 months probation.

The case for the driver, Reiff, is scheduled to be heard via a 12-person jury trial beginning this coming Dec. 12.

No mention of Lanter’s plea was made during the most recent bi-monthly city council meeting, except during public comments, when local businessman Jerry Heinen, speaking as a “concerned citizen,” addressed Lanter directly regarding the charge of interference with law enforcement specifically.

“I understand that everyone makes mistakes, but we need to correct and honor the badge,” Heinen said. “That’s the way it has to be — they deserve it and they’ve earned it.”

He also voiced concerns about Lanter’s continued over-

sight of the police department, saying he believed Lanter no longer had the credibility to supervise law enforcement due to the charges he was convicted of.

“Man up, move on, and do what’s right,” Heinen added, urging Lanter to resign.

Neither Lanter nor the council responded to the comments. However, the meeting did include an executive session regarding non-elected personnel, which involved discussion of the city administrator. No action was taken following the closed session.

According to Kansas Statute 21-6002, “Upon conviction of official misconduct, a public officer or employee shall forfeit such officer or employee’s office or employment.”

It remains unclear whether this statute applies to past or current employment—leaving Lanter’s position open to interpretation pending further legal review or council action.

Lanter’s sentencing date has been set for Sept. 23.

Clerk . . .

county’s bills, matching each one to a receipt given to her by the department heads. Once vouchers are approved by the county commissioners, she writes the checks and matches the amounts up with the respective budget.

Department heads rely on this office to inform them of how much budget authority they have to spend throughout the year.

Roloff also works with the treasurer’s office to balance funds — a double balance on the money.

Farrell has a daughter and resides at Perry. She is an Olathe native and graduated from Olathe East. She has attended Johnson County Community College.

As the payroll clerk, she oversees the payroll for 225 county employees every two weeks. The county uses direct

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deposit.

This requires working with department heads who approve time cards and working with the treasurer to balance all accounts.

The human resources aspect amounts to keeping track of and making needed changes such as addresses and adjusting benefits and salary amounts.

Dunkle became the county clerk following the retirement of Linda Buttron April 1, 2024. She had been employed by the county for three years prior and was serving as Buttron’s deputy at the time.

After her appointment by the Republican precinct committee people, she filed for the office and was elected in November 2024.

Dunkle and her husband, Donn, reside in rural Perry. They have two children and

three grandchildren. She is a Nebraska City, Nebraska, native and attended a California business college.

Dunkle acts as secretary to the Board of County Commissioners, maintains the official records for that office, and serves as the County Election Officer.

Besides the duties listed, the County Clerk’s office issues a number of different licenses and permits; reviews budgets for all taxing entities; prepares the budgets for cemeteries; townships, fire districts; drainage and watershed districts, calculates and sets mill levies for all taxing units; maintains county inventory; keeps real estate ownership records; prepares and adds special assessments and state assessed utilities to the tax roll; and prepares the tax roll for the county.

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in The Valley Falls Vindicator August 14, 2025)1t

ORDINANCE NO. 12-202

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VALLEY FALLS, KANSAS, ORDERING THROUGH THE EXERCISE OF EMINENT DOMAIN THE CONDEMNATION AND APPROPRIATION OF CERTAIN INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY FOR THE USE OF SAID CITY PURSUANT TO K.S.A. 26-501, AND ORDERING SAID INTERESTS TO BE CONDEMNED, ALL IN ACCORDANCE WITH K.S.A. 26-201, ET SEQ., AS AMENDED.

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Valley Falls, Kansas, did on April 2, 2025 adopt Resolution No. 2025-03, thereby finding, determining, and resolving it to be necessary and in the public interest to exercise its power of eminent domain to appropriate for public use and purpose certain real property interests in Jefferson County, Kansas, located at and commonly known as 18441 Jackson Rd, Valley Falls, KS 66088, Kansas, the legal description of which is set forth in Section 3, below, needed by the City for the purpose of acquiring certain property interests including a fee simple interest in real estate as well as a permanent easement as to real property located in Jefferson County, Kansas to access, maintain, use, and enjoy the City Lake, as declared in Resolution No. 2025-03; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has heretofore authorized and ordered a survey by a licensed land surveyor of the real property to be condemned and said survey has been made and filed with the City Clerk for the City of Valley Falls.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF VALLEY FALLS, KANSAS:

SECTION 1. The above-stated recitals are incorporated herein by reference and shall be as effective as if set forth in full.

SECTION 2. The Governing Body hereby affirms all of its prior orders and declarations regarding the necessity for the appropriation, through the exercise of eminent domain, of certain real property and interests therein located at and commonly known as 18441 Jackson Rd, Valley Falls, KS 66088, Kansas, the legal description of which is set forth in Section 3, below, for the purpose of acquiring certain property interests including a fee simple interest in real estate as well as a permanent easement as to real property located in Jefferson County, Kansas to access, maintain, use, and enjoy the City Lake, as declared in Resolution No. 2025-03.

SECTION 3. The real property and interests therein required to be taken for such public purpose are described as follows:

A Fee Simple Interest of the following:

A PORTION OF THE SOUTH HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 05, TOWNSHIP 08 SOUTH, RANGE 18 EAST OF THE SIXTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, JEFFERSON COUNTY, KANSAS, BEING DESCRIBED AND PREPARED ON 04/15/2025 BY GREGORY E. MCDOWELL PS #1393 AND PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS P.A., C.L.S. #65, AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SOUTH HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER; THENCE S88°01'14"W (BEARINGS BASED ON THE KANSAS COORDINATE SYSTEM 1983 NORTH ZONE) ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SOUTH HALF OF SOUTHEAST

OF 1471.30 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING S88°01'14"W ALONG SAID NORTH LINE A DISTANCE OF 717.00 FEET; THENCE S01°48'12"E A DISTANCE OF 81.39 FEET TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF A TRACT DESCRIBED IN BOOK 224 PAGE 395 IN THE JEFFERSON COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE; THENCE N88°11'48"E ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID TRACT A DISTANCE OF 717.00 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID TRACT; THENCE N01°48'12"W A DISTANCE OF 83.60 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

ENCOMPASSING 59,150 SQ FT OR 1.358 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

An Access Easement described as follows:

A PORTION OF THE SOUTH HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 05, TOWNSHIP 08 SOUTH, RANGE 18 EAST OF THE SIXTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, JEFFERSON COUNTY, KANSAS, BEING DESCRIBED AND PREPARED ON 04/15/2025 BY GREGORY E. MCDOWELL PS #1393 AND PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS P.A., C.L.S. #65, AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SOUTH HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER; THENCE S88°01'14"W (BEARINGS BASED ON THE KANSAS COORDINATE SYSTEM 1983 NORTH ZONE) ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SOUTH HALF OF SOUTHEAST QUARTER A DISTANCE OF 1471.30 FEET; THENCE S01°48'12"E A DISTANCE OF 20.00 FEET; THENCE N88°01'14"E PARALLEL WITH SAID NORTH LINE A DISTANCE OF 1471.27 FEET TO THE EAST LINE OF SAID SOUTHEAST QUARTER; THENCE N01°43'09"W ALONG SAID EAST LINE A DISTANCE OF 20.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

ENCOMPASSING 29,426 SQ FT OR 0.676 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

An Operational Easement described as follows:

A PORTION OF THE NORTH 100 ACRES OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 8, AND A PORTION OF THE SOUTH HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 5, ALL IN TOWNSHIP 08 SOUTH, RANGE 18 EAST OF THE SIXTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, JEFFERSON COUNTY, KANSAS, BEING DESCRIBED AND PREPARED ON 04/15/2025 BY GREGORY E. MCDOWELL PS #1393 AND PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS P.A., C.L.S. #65, AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID NORTHEAST QUARTER; THENCE S87°54'54"W (BEARINGS BASED ON THE KANSAS COORDINATE SYSTEM 1983 NORTH ZONE) ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID NORTHEAST QUARTER A DISTANCE OF 1709.75 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EAST LINE OF A TRACT DESCRIBED IN BOOK 224 PAGE 395 IN THE JEFFERSON COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE, SAID POINT BEING THE POINT

OF BEGINNING; THENCE S07°59'45"W A DISTANCE OF 641.55 FEET; THENCE S19°24'14"W A DISTANCE OF 443.21 FEET; THENCE N72°40'19"W A DISTANCE OF 301.10 FEET; THENCE N01°47'48"W A DISTANCE OF 348.14 FEET; THENCE N19°39'40"E A DISTANCE OF 680.75 FEET TO A POINT ON THE WEST LINE OF SAID TRACT DESCRIBED IN BOOK 224 PAGE 395; THENCE S00°56'20"W ALONG SAID WEST LINE A DISTANCE OF 373.99 FEET TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF A TRACT DESCRIBED IN BOOK 108 PAGE 303 IN THE JEFFERSON COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE; THENCE S08°26'48"W ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID TRACT IN BOOK 108 PAGE 303 A DISTANCE OF 600.00 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID TRACT IN BOOK 108 PAGE 303; THENCE S81°33'12"E ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID TRACT IN BOOK 108 PAGE 303 A DISTANCE OF 165.00 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID TRACT IN BOOK 108 PAGE 303; THENCE N08°26'48"E ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID TRACT IN BOOK 108 PAGE 303 A DISTANCE OF 600.00 FEET TO NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID TRACT IN BOOK 108 PAGE 303; THENCE N21°44'48"E ALONG THE EAST LINE OF A SAID TRACT IN DEED BOOK 224 PAGE 395 A DISTANCE OF 401.38 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

ENCOMPASSING 198,965 SQ FT OR 4.57 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

SECTION 4. That certain real property interests therein described in Section 3, hereof, are hereby ordered condemned for the purposes and for the use described in Section 2, hereof.

SECTION 5. Attorneys for the City of Valley Falls, Kansas, for and in behalf of the Governing Body, are hereby authorized and directed to file, under the Eminent Domain Procedures Act, K.S.A. 26-501 et seq. a verified petition in the District Court of Jefferson County, Kansas, for the condemnation and appropriation of certain real property and interests described in Section 3, hereof, together with Resolution No. 2025-03 of the City of Valley Falls, Kansas, and to do all things necessary for the condemnation and acquisition of said real property and interests therein for the purpose of acquiring certain property interests including a fee simple interest in real estate as well as a permanent easement as to real property located in Jefferson County, Kansas to access, maintain, use, and enjoy the City Lake, as declared in Resolution No. 2025-03.

SECTION 6. This ordinance shall constitute the final order exercising eminent domain and setting forth the condemnation of the real property and interests therein described herein and the purpose for which the same shall be used.

SECTION 7. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication according to law.

PASSED by the Governing Body of the City of Valley Falls, Kansas, this 6 day of August, 2025.

APPROVED
/s/ Jeanette Shipley
Mayor

ATTEST:
/s/ Destiny Schrick
City Clerk
APPROVED AS
TO FORM:
/s/ Andrew Werring
City Attorney

PUBLIC NOTICE			
(Published in The Valley Falls Vindicator August 14, 2025)1t			
NOTICE OF REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE HEARING AND BUDGET HEARING			
The governing body of			
Valley Falls Recreation Commission			
will meet on August 27, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at USD #338 Library for the purpose of			
hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of funds.			
Detailed budget information is available at USD #338 Central Office and will be available at this meeting.			
SUPPORTING COUNTIES			
Jefferson (home county) Atchison, Jackson			
BUDGET SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES			
The proposed budget year expenditure amount is the maximum expenditure limit for the proposed budget			
Fund	Prior Year Actual 2023/2024	Current Year Estimated 2024/2025	Proposed Budget Year 2025/2026
General	92,011	88,262	150,000
Totals	92,011	88,262	150,000
Lease Purchases:	2022	2023	2024
July 1,	0	0	0
Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988			0.000
Total Proposed Estimated Tax Rate			1.000
Valley Falls Recreation Commission			
Recreation Commission Secretary			

Notice of Hearing 2025-2026 Budget									
The governing body of Unified School District 340 will meet on the 8th day of September 2025 at 8:15 PM at 619 Condray, Meriden, KS 66512 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied. Detailed budget information, including budget profile, building needs assessment and Board state assessments review is available at 3675 74th Street, Meriden, KS 66512 on the district website and will be available at this hearing.									
The Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied and Expenditures (published below) establish the maximum limits of the 2025-2026 Budget. The 'Est. Tax Rate' (column 7), shown for comparative purposes, is subject to slight change depending on final assessed valuation.									
	Code 99 Line	2023-2024 Actual Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	2024-2025 Actual Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	2025-2026 Proposed Budget Budgeted Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)	
OPERATING									
General	06	11,893,523	20.000	8,157,644	20.000	8,815,031	1,192,779	20.000	
Supplemental General (LOB)	08	2,506,094	14.145	2,705,454	12.769	2,929,686	1,053,190	13.663	
SPECIAL REVENUE									
Federal Funds	07	604,180		114,189		111,837			
Adult Education	10		0.000		0.000		0	0.000	
Preschool-Aged At-Risk	11					427,230			
Adult Supplemental Education	12								
At-Risk Education Fund	13	715,444		860,560		884,700			
Bilingual Education	14	250		280		7,699			
Virtual Education	15	4,109,090		28,016		34,000			
Capital Outlay	16	1,112,398	8.000	1,410,562	7.998	1,644,400	616,648	8.000	
Driver Training	18	14,817		3,949		37,230			
Declining Enrollment	19		0.000		0.000		0	0.000	
Extraordinary School Program	22								
Food Service	24	682,109		710,038		865,412			
Professional Development	26	14,008		20,190		30,901			
Parent Education Program	28								
Summer School	29								
Special Education	30	1,624,405		1,755,940		2,106,037			
Cost of Living	33		0.000		0.000		0	0.000	
Career and Postsecondary Education	34	257,808		326,262		354,700			
Gifts and Grants	35	15,923		20,260		10,000			
Special Liability Expense Fund	42		0.000		0.000		0	0.000	
School Retirement	44		0.000		0.000		0	0.000	
Extraordinary Growth Facilities	45		0.000		0.000		0	0.000	
Special Reserve Fund	47								
KPERS Special Retirement Contribution	51	784,893		749,647		806,807			
Contingency Reserve	53	42,667		121,333					
Textbook & Student Material Revolving	55	254,118		20,419					
Activity Fund	56			56,868					
DEBT SERVICE									
Bond and Interest #1	62		0.000		0.000		0	0.000	
Bond and Interest #2	63		0.000		0.000		0	0.000	
No-Fund Warrant	66		0.000		0.000		0	0.000	
Special Assessment	67		0.000		0.000		0	0.000	
Temporary Note	68		0.000		0.000		0	0.000	
COOPERATION									
Special Education	78								
TOTAL USD EXPENDITURES	100	24,631,707	42.145	17,062,611	40.767	19,065,670	2,862,617	41.663	
Less: Transfers	105	6,721,397		2,742,628		3,475,941			
NET USD EXPENDITURES	110	17,910,310		14,319,983		15,589,729			
TOTAL USD TAXES LEVIED	115	2,680,070		2,624,939		2,862,617			

*Tax Rates are expressed in Mills

	Code 99 Line	2023-2024 Actual Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	2024-2025 Actual Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	2025-2026 Proposed Budget Budgeted Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)
OTHER								
Historical Museum	80	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Public Library Board	82	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Public Library Board Employee Benefits	83	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Recreation Commission	84	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Rec Comm Emp Benefits & Spec Liab	86	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
TOTAL OTHER	120	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
TOTAL TAXES LEVIED	125	\$2,680,070		\$2,624,939		\$2,862,617		
Assessed Valuation - General Fund	128	\$58,038,471		\$55,204,276		\$59,638,962		
Assessed Valuation - All Other Funds	130	\$67,785,776		\$72,507,727		\$77,081,011		
Assessed Valuation - Capital Outlay	129	\$67,785,776		\$72,507,727		\$77,081,011		
Outstanding indebtedness, July 1								
		2023		2024		2025		
General Obligation Bonds	135	0		0		0		
Capital Outlay Bonds	140	84,000		84,000		84,000		
Temporary Note	145	0		0		0		
No-Fund Warrant	150	0		0		0		
Lease Purchase Principal	153	0		0		0		
TOTAL USD DEBT	155	84,000		84,000		84,000		
Tax Rates are expressed in Mills								
Exceeding Revenue Neutral for the 2025-2026 School Year								
The governing body of Unified School District 340 will meet on the 8 day of September 2025 at 6:00 PM at, 619 Condray, Meriden, KS 66512 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied. Detailed budget information, including								
Revenue Neutral								
		2024-2025				2025-2026		
		Actual Taxes	Actual Revenue	Revenue	Revenue	Proposed	Proposed	
General		\$1,104,086	20,000	\$1,104,086	18,540	\$1,192,779	20,000	
Supplemental General (LOB)		\$935,124	12.769	\$935,124	13.220	\$1,053,190	13.663	
Adult Education		\$0	0.000			\$0	0.000	
Capital Outlay		\$585,729	7.998	\$585,729	7.480	\$616,648	8.000	
Cost of Living		\$0	0.000			\$0	0.000	
Special Liability Expense Fund		\$0	0.000			\$0	0.000	
Extraordinary Growth Facilities		\$0	0.000			\$0	0.000	
Bond and Interest #1		\$0	0.000			\$0	0.000	
Bond and Interest #2		\$0	0.000			\$0	0.000	
No-Fund Warrant		\$0	0.000			\$0	0.000	
Special Assessment		\$0	0.000			\$0	0.000	
Temporary Note		\$0	0.000			\$0	0.000	
Historical Museum		\$0	0.000			\$0	0.000	
Public Library Board		\$0	0.000			\$0	0.000	
Public Library Board Employee Benefits		\$0	0.000			\$0	0.000	
Revenue Neutral Calculation								
Total Taxes Levied Including General Fund		\$2,624,939	40.767	\$2,624,939	39.240	\$2,862,617	41.663	
Total Taxes Levied Excluding General Fund		\$1,520,853	20.767	\$1,520,853	20.700	\$1,669,838	21.663	
Matt Williams Board President								
Erin Watson Clark of the Board								