

Ordinances

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ordinances.

The final legal offering from Barnes was to request the passage of a resolution that would require the city to pay for the extension of any utility service up to 150 feet beyond the last residence on the utility's line within the city limits. The resolution was passed by unanimous vote.

The final motion passage of the evening, as offered by Kelli Moore representing the Lions Club and voiced by Lister, was to allow a \$2,500 do-

nation to the Lions Club for use during the annual Fall Festival. The motion passed unanimously.

Bretsnyder approached the Council to offer road work needs and requested he make the projects available for bid. The projects include a four-inch overlay on South Kansas from First to Main streets, to the south end of David Street, and the possible extension of a two-inch overlay on South Kansas for the remaining distance of the city's obligation. The third need for an overlay (four inches) was a mill and overlay project of the Main Street parking.

In the end, the Council

decided to hire Sunflower Paving to do a four-inch mill and overlay of Tucker Avenue to the dead end. The other needs offered by Bretsnyder require further consideration.

Bretsnyder also offered the services of resident Bruce Overturf, who was willing to volunteer his time to mow the grass around the lake, as well as whatever is needed around town.

"I would be happy to do it," Overturf said. "Otherwise, I would just be sitting on the couch wondering what sort of trouble I could find."

"I agree with you, Bruce," Lister said in reply to a suggestion by Over-

turf that citizens should help better the community when they are available to do so. "Therefore, I motion we allow Bruce to mow city grass wherever it is needed." The motion was approved.

The evening wound down with discussion of the possibilities of the City of Carbondale acquiring a position available as city manager to oversee the day-to-day operations of the town's administration and, in turn, renaming the offices at city hall. In the event of such changes, the offices would hence be called the city administration office. The topic was tabled for further discussion.

Budget

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fund or cover insurance and retirement benefit costs.

Election costs were also discussed. County Clerk Michelle Morris noted that while 2026 is not a presidential election year, state-level races will drive higher turnout and costs, requiring more funding than currently allocated in the draft budget.

Commissioners discussed long-standing issues with the county's capital improvement fund. Lloyd explained that several years ago, department capital line items were stripped from their general fund budgets and centralized into one capital improvement fund, creating confusion and reducing transparency.

Lloyd and commissioners expressed a strong interest in revising the process to align with best practices. They discussed the possibility of creating separate equipment reserve and capital improvement funds governed by resolutions that clearly define their use. Lloyd noted that other counties allow departments to transfer unspent funds as incentives for efficient budgeting, subject to commission approval.

Commissioners said they would revisit the fund structure and coordinate with the county counselor to develop new resolutions.

The Board reviewed the county's 1-cent jail sales tax, which has produced a growing balance - now over \$1.6 million. Officials believe the fund is on track to cover bond payments and may reach full payoff ahead of schedule. It is unclear whether the sales tax sunsets upon repayment, though commissioners believe that was written into the ballot language.

Other fund reviews included the health department, road and bridge, noxious weed, special waste, and various smaller

grant or fee-supported accounts. The capital improvement and special bridge funds, in particular, were flagged for further review.

Lloyd will return for the next commission meeting to continue the budget process and work with department heads on final adjustments. Formal adoption of the budget is expected later in July.

Early in the meeting, commissioners approved the agenda with a minor amendment, as well as minutes from the previous session. Commissioners also accepted a personnel action form from the county treasurer's office and authorized the payment of bills totaling \$5,417.13. They also approved a separate payroll change form submitted by the sheriff's office later in the meeting.

Sherri Coffman of the Vassar Community Center publicly thanked commissioners for their support in relocating and installing a new playground behind the center, calling the completed project one of the fastest she had ever seen. She provided photos and invited the public to attend the community's July 17 meeting to view the site.

Kenny Graham also addressed commissioners, regarding enforcement of the recently adopted county comprehensive plan. He asked what action would be taken if construction began on a project contrary to the plan's zoning restrictions. Commissioners responded that no permits had been filed yet, and reaffirmed that any applications would be subject to denial if they did not comply with the plan. They emphasized that any development would first go before the zoning board before reaching the commission for final approval.

Sheriff Chris Wells presented a pair of action items. First, commissioners approved the purchase of a 2025 Ford Police Interceptor SUV from Superior Emergency Response Vehicles for

\$56,593.57. The vehicle will be paid for from the sheriff's vehicle fund.

Second, commissioners voted to approve the sheriff's request to transition his department into the Kansas Police and Firemen's Retirement System (KP&F) effective immediately. The shift to KP&F, available only to certified law enforcement officers, replaces the current KPERS plan and is intended to increase retention by offering enhanced retirement benefits and on-duty death life insurance coverage. Under KP&F, employees vest after 15 years instead of five, a change officials hope will encourage long-term careers in the county.

Sheriff Wells noted that several deputies have left for agencies offering KP&F benefits, and commissioners agreed the move would help Osage County remain competitive. While the shift will increase costs, commissioners said recent growth in assessed valuation and adjustments to other funds would help absorb the expense.

A formal resolution - 2025-16 - will be drafted by County Counselor Josh Ney for adoption at the next meeting.

Acting as the Public Building Commission (PBC), the Board approved a \$20,724.42 agreement with Kansas Gas Service for the installation of a new natural gas line to

the sheriff's annex building. The cost will be paid from the Law Enforcement Center (LEC) fund, and the county is expected to receive reimbursement over seven years.

The meeting adjourned without executive session. Commissioners expressed interest in continuing review of employee benefits, including insurance and sick leave policies, alongside the ongoing budget process. Commissioner Smith said realistic cost estimates should be incorporated into final projections to avoid budgetary surprises in 2026.

Events

Continued from 1

at 8 a.m. At 9 a.m., the 4-H Round Robin Showmanship, sponsored by Edward Jones, will kick off. From 9 until noon will be the Touch-a-Truck event, and from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., there will be an ultimate foam

party. The 4-H Exhibit Awards Ceremony will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the 4-H livestock sale at 6:30 p.m. in the Fredrickson Arena.

The 4-H horse show will be held at 9 a.m. Saturday, July 12, at Burns/Sky View Horse Farm.

A full event schedule is listed on Page 7. For more information, visit OsageCountyFair.org.

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Osage City

Parks & Recreation



Activity Schedule

OSAGE CITY AQUATIC CENTER

- OCAC Pool Hours (2025)
 - May 24-August 10
 - Monday-Friday, 1-6 p.m.
 - Saturday & Sunday, 1-6 p.m.
- Daily Admission
 - \$5 (Age 4 & Above)
 - Age 3 & Below FREE
 - Age 55 & Over FREE
- OCAC Swim Pass Booklets
 - Swim Booklets can be purchased at Osage City Hall
 - Swim Booklets will be on sale at OCAC (Starting May 24)
 - 50 Swim Card Booklet, \$75
- Deck and Pool Rental Reservation can be made with Corey Linton, prior to May 24
 - Deck & Pool Rental Forms are available at Osage City, the City of Osage City Facebook Page or sent out by request
- Water Aerobics
 - Instructor Marcy Zerr
 - Tuesday & Thursday, 6-7 p.m.
 - Week of June 2 through the Week of August 4
 - \$3 per class or One Swim Card

RED CROSS SWIM LESSONS

- Group Swim Lesson Forms available online at www.osagecity.com, the City of Osage City Facebook Page and Osage City Hall
- Starting May 24, Swim Lesson forms will be available at
 - Private Lessons
 - Session #6 - July 14-18
 - OCAC Staff will contact you about a time during the session selected
 - Other times may be available (Contact OCAC)
 - \$45 per week, per swimmer (One Week=Five, 30-Minute Lessons)
 - Contact OCAC (Starting May 24) to Sign Up
- Pre-School Sessions, Pre-K Swimmers MUST be Age 3 by the first day of class, to be enrolled in the session
- A minimum of 4 swimmers is needed for a class
- Swim Lessons are Monday-Thursday ONLY

- Friday will be used as a Make-Up Day (as needed)
- Lessons WILL NOT be held if the Air Temperature is Below 70 Degrees

Youth Football Camp

- K-6th Grades (2025-2026 School Year)
- August 5, 6, 7
- K-2nd Grades, 7-8 p.m.
- 3rd-6th Grades, 7-8:30 p.m.
- \$20 Per Camper - Tee Shirt Included
- OCPR is partnering with the OCHS MS/HS Football Teams and Coaches to offer this Youth Football Camp
- Sign Up Deadline - July 28

OCPR recognizes our Youth Baseball & Softball Umpires for 2025!

Sawyer Speece, Layken Peterson, Lillian Lohmeyer, Zach Green Emory Speece, Addison Watson, Peyton Pitts, Quenten Stark Austin Lamb, Dylan Theel, Madeline Renfro, Noah Lohmeyer Cooper Parsons, Brian Poertner, Dane Whalen, Tyler Buche Derrick Whalen, Michael Brown, Tom Green, Todd Starin, Rob & Cedric Geotz

OCPR appreciates EVERYONE who helped with Youth Baseball, Softball, and T-Ball in 2025!!

Kindergarten

Boys - Matt Tice & Kyle Hallgren
Girls - Lindsey Buckman & Jamie Keeffe

1st & 2nd Grade

Boys - Evan Faulkner, Justin Cook & Jerrold Parker
Girls - Brad Kooser, Amie Lohmeyer & Cody Britton

3rd & 4th Grade

Boys - Luke Buckman, Cody Britton, Josh Brabb & Corey Gile
Girls - Josie Johnson & Jennifer Traphagan

5th & 6th Grade

Boys - Tanner Treinen
Girls - Bryan Vandevord

7th-9th Grade

Boys - Robbie Noble and Ryan Vaughn
Girls - PJ Heptinstall, Josh Everhart & Nick Lyda

Tee Ball

Lacey Glover, Hannah Punches, Erin O'Keefe, Brad Kooser & Evan Faulkner, Kaitlin Vandevord

VISIT OCPR ONLINE

www.osagecity.com

Click City Departments, then Parks & Recreation.

Program information, printable sign-up forms, schedules and more! "Like" the Osage City Facebook Page

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