



Osage City gets a visit from Santa during Christmas on Market



Flinda D. Long/Contributor
Santa Claus was escorted into Osage City Nov. 22 by members of Osage County Fire District No. 2-Osage City, for the annual Christmas on Market event, sponsored by the Osage City Chamber of Commerce. Old Saint Nick was welcomed by Osage County Sheriff Chris Wells and Undersheriff Scott Brenner, along with many excited members of the community. Throughout the day, a steady stream of kids of all ages shared their wish lists with him.



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Board and was a member of Bearcat Pride. Kris and Tricia are proud to call Burlingame home, and they remain committed to supporting the people, businesses, organizations, and traditions that make their community so special. For more information about the event, or with questions, contact the Burlingame Chamber of Commerce at burlingame-chamberks@gmail.com. Also during the Burlingame Country Christmas event, the Burlingame Historic Preservation Society will hold its holiday home tour from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person and may be purchased at any of the homes on the tour, or at Schuyler Museum Dec. 6. Homes on the tour include a 1948 ranch-style

home at 435 Dayton; a second-story apartment (with 23 steps) in the 1903 building that houses Council City Coffee Co., located at 110 West Santa Fe; and a historic 145-year-old house at 106 West Dayton, across from Sumner Park.

Public Notice

If it's not in the newspaper how will you know?

It's the government's responsibility to notify you of public information; zoning changes in your neighborhood, proposals to increase your property taxes, information on how public officials are spending your tax dollars

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Commissioners agreed to make annual payments, rather than paying in full, noting the sheriff's vehicle fund held more than \$162,000 as of mid-November. They approved Purchase Order 4055 for the \$23,000 first-year payment from that fund. Wells also discussed the looming need to replace body cameras and in-car cameras, and suggested that unexpected jail housing revenue, currently deposited into the general fund, may help cover that future cost. Commissioners requested a detailed report breaking out the specific line item for housing reimbursement.

A significant portion of the meeting was spent in two attorney-client executive sessions. Early in the meeting, they met with Ney and Wells to discuss "ongoing agency operations," returning with no action taken. Later, they entered another session for "legal advice for policy and procedure," which was extended three times, with no action taken after each return to open session.

Two tied city council races from the November general election were decided "by lot," as required by Kansas law. For the City of Melvern, commissioners assigned heads to Frank Warner and tails to Jerry Beeman, with Beeman taking the seat. For the City of Scranton, heads was assigned to Tim Nedeau and tails to Allison Vanderord, in which Nedeau earned the seat. Certification forms for both were signed. Commissioners ap-

proved Purchase Order 4112 for the county's "No Wait Inside" annual appointment-scheduling subscription in the amount of \$5,400. Harrison said the system is used by several offices for scheduling and queue management. Commissioners asked for usage statistics ahead of future renewals.

The board also approved two emergency vehicle designation applications for vehicles used by Dylan Filkins.

Commissioners reviewed four applications for the county appraiser vacancy. With Morris absent, Harrison provided documents for review. Commissioners agreed that one applicant did not meet their needs, and directed staff to schedule interviews next week with two candidates - one by phone and one in person - during the commission meeting.

In other action, commissioners:

Approved a payroll action form converting County Counselor Josh Ney from independent contractor to a full-time county official at an annual salary of \$71,200, effective Dec. 12.

Agreed to seek proposals for the 2024 county audit rather than immediately accepting an engagement letter from The Lloyd Group. Ney will draft an RFP for review next week. The clerk's office will receive submissions, with Ney listed as the contact for technical questions.

Approved corrected minutes from the Nov. 12 meeting.

Approved paying bills totaling \$119,993 for the Nov. 25 batch.

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Osage City

Parks & Recreation

Activity Schedule

K-BALL

- Pre-K & Kindergarten Basketball (PK3, PK4, and Kindergarten Boys & Girls)
- K-Ball is an instructional program for Pre-K and Kindergarten boys and girls.
- The program is designed to teach basketball fundamentals. Players are grouped by age/gender and rotated through shooting, passing, and dribbling sections let by OC MS/HS students and parent volunteers.
- Sundays, Jan 11, 18, 25 and Feb 1
- 4-5 p.m., OC HS/ES Gyms
- Players receive a shirt and participation medal
- \$20 per player
- SIGN UP DEADLINE - JANUARY 7

1ST & 2ND GRADE BASKETBALL

- 1ST & 2ND Grade Basketball Boys & Girls
- The program is designed to teach basketball fundamentals - Shooting - Passing - Dribbling - Good Sportsmanship. Players are grouped by grade/gender (1st/2nd grade girls and 1st/2nd grade boys) led by parent volunteers.
- GIRLS (Sundays, Jan 11, 18, 25 and Feb 1, 15, 5-6 p.m., MS Gym)
- BOYS (Sundays, Jan 11, 18, 25 and Feb 1, 15, 5-6 p.m., MS Gym)
- Both groups skip February 8
- Players receive a shirt and participation medal
- \$25 per player
- SIGN UP DEADLINE - JANUARY 7

OCHS DANCE CLINIC

- Pre-K-8th Grade
- Theme - "I Love the 80's"
- Cost - \$25 per dancer
- Dancers will learn technique performance routine and have longer dances
- Practice Dates - January 21 & 27 (6-7:15 p.m., both days)
- Performance - January 29, during the halftime of the HS Boys Varsity Home Basketball Game.
- Sign Up Deadline - January 16

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