

LEGAL NOTICES

(First published in the Western Kansas World Thursday, July 9, 2026)

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF TREGO COUNTY,
KANSAS
JOE GERSTNER OIL, LLC)
Plaintiff)

vs.)

Case No. TR-2026-CV-000018)

ANN M. KNIPP as
TRUSTEE OF THE WALZ
IRREVOCABLE)
HOMESTEAD TRUST
DATED JANUARY)
12, 2021; LEROY H. WALZ
as TRUSTEE OF THE
LEROY H.)
WALZ IRREVOCABLE
TRUST DATED)
MARCH 21, 2017; WAYNE
WALZ BLACKBURN, DE-
LORES WALZ)
BLACKBURN ELLIOTT;
DIANN WALZ BLACK-
BURN LANGLEY)
CLARENCE WIESNER;
DOROTHY SHUBERT;
LAWRENCE L.)

SHUBERT; HOMER E. EM-
MERTON; MARGARET
EMMERTON)
KELLY P. FOWLER; THE
WALZ FAMILY TRUST;
LAURA MCGEE;)
JEFF MCGEE; ANN M
KNIPP; MARK KNIPP)
and all the unknown heirs, ex-
ecutors, administrators, de-
visees, trustees,) creditors
and assigns of such of the
Defendants that may be de-
ceased; the) unknown spouse
of the Defendants; the un-
known executors,) adminis-
trators, trustees, creditors,
successors and assigns of such)
of the Defendants as are part-
ners or in a partnership; the
guardians,) conservators, and
trustees of such of the Defen-
dants as are minors) or in any-
wise under legal disability; and
trustees, members,) creditors,
shareholders and assigns of
such of the Defendants) as are
existing, dissolved, or dormant
corporations or associations)
Defendants.)

NOTICE OF SUIT
THE STATE OF KANSAS
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED
DEFENDANTS AND ALL
OTHER PERSONS WHO
ARE OR MAY BE CON-

CERNED:
You are hereby notified that a
Petition has been filed in the
District Court of Trego
County, Kansas, praying to
quiet title to all oil, gas and
other minerals in and under
that may be produced located
in Graham County, Kansas, in
so far as it encompasses the
following:
East Half of the Northwest
Quarter (E/2 NW/4) of Section
Twelve (12), Township Eleven
(11) South, Range Twenty-one
(21) West, Trego County,
Kansas and you are hereby re-
quired to plead to said Petition
on or before the 20th day of
August, 2026 in said Court at
WaKeeney, Trego County,
Kansas. Should you fail
therein, judgment and decree
will be entered in due course
upon said Petition.

Joe Gerstner Oil, LLC
Plaintiff

BAUER PIKE LAW, LLC
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Attorneys for Plaintiff

July 23

(First published in the Western Kansas World Thursday, July 23, 2026)			
Trego County 2026 Expenditures April - June 2026			
(A FULL DETAIL OF THESE EXPENSES IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION AT THE TREGO COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, COURTHOUSE, 216 N MAIN, WAKEENEY, KANSAS)			
FUND	BEGINNING CASH April 1, 2026	ENDING CASH June 30, 2026	EXPENDITURES
General	\$1,565,017.41	\$1,667,402.07	\$671,608.92
General Equipment Reserve	\$94,201.46	\$94,201.46	\$0.00
Health Capital Outlay	\$9,741.97	\$9,741.97	\$0.00
Capital Building Reserve	\$603,946.49	\$603,946.49	\$0.00
Road & Bridge Capital Bldg Reser	\$150,412.96	\$150,412.96	\$0.00
Election Equipment Reserve	\$11,173.61	\$11,173.61	\$0.00
Landfill Equipment Reserve	\$168,121.00	\$168,121.00	\$0.00
Special Vehicle Reserve	\$49,435.68	\$49,435.68	\$0.00
Economic Dev Special Project	\$78,447.67	\$76,050.67	\$2,397.00
Airport Capital Outlay	\$231,351.63	\$231,351.63	\$0.00
Emergency Mgmt Equip Reserve	\$56,674.14	\$56,524.14	\$150.00
Road and Bridge	\$1,331,979.86	\$1,241,418.19	\$670,334.59
Special Machinery	\$404,142.95	\$404,142.95	\$0.00
Special Highway Improvement	\$756,166.87	\$756,166.87	\$0.00
Fair	\$27,546.78	\$32,808.25	\$17,887.47
Special Bridge	\$145,010.13	\$153,688.42	\$0.00
Health	\$206,619.91	\$208,765.80	\$63,491.66
Ambulance Capital Outlay	\$218,701.28	\$218,701.28	\$0.00
Ambulance Memorial	\$6,181.00	\$6,181.00	\$0.00
Wic	\$17,374.42	\$16,401.20	\$3,669.32
Ambulance	\$136,290.15	\$84,532.44	\$122,931.87
Historical Society	\$10,502.49	\$10,993.49	\$5,700.00
Noxious Weed	\$235,458.73	\$243,549.59	\$56,065.32
Noxious Weed Capital Outlay	\$113,836.82	\$113,836.82	\$0.00
Mental Health	\$11,706.10	\$12,388.12	\$6,474.99
Intellectually Challenged	\$9,620.90	\$10,088.94	\$5,499.99
Employee Benefit	\$1,178,430.86	\$1,201,197.86	\$330,231.16
Election	\$56,010.84	\$63,784.97	\$1,894.67
Appraisal	\$123,599.70	\$128,661.69	\$44,647.60
Hospital Maintenance	\$135,000.25	\$141,181.67	\$75,000.00
Economic Development	\$157,389.32	\$134,944.43	\$25,302.75
Bond & Interest	\$15,385.68	\$20,538.80	\$0.00
Special Alcohol	\$32,918.89	\$35,099.07	\$0.00
Special Parks & Recreation	\$1,490.20	\$1,393.61	\$379.32
Sanitary Landfill	\$156,863.28	\$158,315.30	\$22,054.46
Rural Fire Special Equipment	\$167,525.42	\$167,525.42	\$0.00
Wireless/Landline 911	\$177,328.24	\$191,794.13	\$2,984.61
Medical Cafeteria Plan	\$3,640.69	\$6,392.98	\$792.66
State of KS Hazmat Grant	\$2,204.26	\$2,204.26	\$0.00
Register of Deeds Technology	\$28,102.71	\$27,890.29	\$2,081.08
Exhibit/Livestock Building	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$0.00
Concealed Weapon	\$2,253.59	\$2,253.59	\$0.00
Health Care Sales Tax	\$1,111,118.44	\$1,146,116.70	\$103,150.00
Treasurer Technology	\$15,760.64	\$15,478.09	\$756.36
Clerk Technology	\$8,915.95	\$7,705.34	\$1,674.70
Fair Donation	\$4,627.99	\$4,627.99	\$0.00
Econ Dev Micro Loan	\$29,987.83	\$38,879.00	\$0.00
Municip Fight Addiction	\$12,681.83	\$13,056.26	\$0.00
LACTF	\$49,058.61	\$49,058.61	\$0.00
Motor Vehicle	\$48,914.54	\$23,882.96	\$2,403.17
Prosecuting Attorney	\$11,806.36	\$12,112.07	\$50.00
Special Prosecutors Trust	\$21,651.91	\$21,651.91	\$0.00
Federal Asset Forfeiture	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sheriff Asset Forfeiture	\$66,926.16	\$61,944.16	\$4,982.00
Special Law Enforcement Trust	\$19,914.05	\$19,914.05	\$0.00
Seizure Holding Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rural Fire General	\$197,847.32	\$205,942.19	\$43,024.93
Rural Fire Bond & Interest	\$11,679.37	\$11,679.37	\$0.00

CITY MINUTES

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODY 7 JULY 2026

The Governing Body of the City of WaKeeney, Kansas met in a regular session at City Hall 408 Russell Ave at 6:15 PM with the mayor presiding and the following members present:

Mayor F. Irene Dirks and Council Members Dave Anderson, Courtney Berning (via phone), Brent Deines, Curtis Flax and Shane Pfeifer

BEING ABSENT: None

The minutes of the previous meetings were approved as written, printed, and distributed.

GUESTS: John Shubert, Darrell Hladek, Michael Ghumm, Sharon Stupelli, Amber McLaughlin, Tasha Malay, Travis Phillips, and Abraham Pfannenstiel

Joey McLiney, with McLiney and Company Municipal Advisors phoned into the meeting to review his findings on the proper ballot language for the city's proposed ½ cent sales tax election. Joey will meet with a bond attorney to re-

view the language before a final draft is produced. Joey was thanked by the council for his report.

Amber McLaughlin, representing the VFW Auxiliary came before the governing body to request the use of the in-town city bus to transport walkers on the evening of August 26, 2026, returning from the Veterans Cemetery. A motion was made by Curtis Flax and seconded by Shane Pfeifer to allow the use of the bus and volunteer driver annually for this event. Motion carried. Amber was thanked for attending.

Sharon Stupelli, WaKeeney City Librarian came before the city council to give her annual report and 2027 budget request. The library board is requesting a small increase in funding for 2027. Sharon was thanked for her report.

Darrell Hladek, City Fire Chief, came before the council to present the departments 2027 budget request. The department is also requesting a small increase in funding for 2027 in the city's public safety budget. Darrell was thanked

for attending.

CHIEF OF POLICE: Chief Travis Phillips presented his monthly departmental report. Officer Dallin Schneider resigned from the department and moved out of state. The department will be using part-time officers and SO deputies while shorthanded.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: Hardy Howard reviewed at length the 2027 city budget. The draft budget shows a slight decrease in the mill levy due to increased assessed valuation in the city. A budget and revenue neutral hearing will be held on September 15, 2026, at 6:15 PM.

At this time an ordinance making appropriation for the payment of claims for the month of June 2026 was read, whereupon Curtis Flax motioned to approve claims in the amount of \$282,443.67 Brent Deines seconded. Motion carried. No warrants were reviewed prior to approval.

FEMA Assistance to Firefighters grant has been submitted for city fire (SCBA's). The interior of the 250K water tower in

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(First published in the Western Kansas World Thursday, July 23, 2026)						
NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING						
The governing body of Northwest Kansas Library System Norton County will meet on August 24th, 2026 at 4:30 PM at Colby Event Center, 1200 S. Franklin Ave. Colby KS 67701 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to levied. Detailed budget information is available at nwkl.org and will be available at this hearing.						
SUPPORTING COUNTIES						
Norton County (home county) Cheyenne County , Decatur County, Gove County, Logan County, Sheridan County Sherman County, Thomas County, Trego County, Wallace County						
BUDGET SUMMARY						
Proposed Budget 2027 Expenditures and Amount of Current Year Estimate for 2026 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2027 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.						
FUND	Prior Year Actual for 2025		Current Year Estimate for 2026		Proposed Budget Year for 2027	
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Estimated Tax Rate*
General	701,355	1.201	750,230	1.209	961,566	683,181 1.213
Debt Service						
Employee Benefits	80,246	0.180	95,000	0.181	216,990	102,025 0.181
Capital Improvement	47,154				236,276	
Non-Budgeted Funds	106,606					
Totals	935,361	1.381	845,230	1.390	1,414,832	785,206 1.394
Revenue Neutral Rate **						1.394
Less: Transfers	64,242		49,300		101,787	
Net Expenditures	871,119		795,930		1,313,045	
Total Tax Levied	786,886		786,478		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	
Assessed Valuation	569,560,565		565,478,441		563,310,519	
Outstanding Indebtedness,						
Jan 1,	2024		2025		2026	
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0	
Revenue Bonds	0		0		0	
Other	0		0		0	
Lease Pur. Princ.	0		99,980		79,382	
Total	0		99,980		79,382	
*Tax rates are expressed in mills.						
**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988						
Mary Boller Director						
				Page No.	10	No assurance is provided

(First published in the Western Kansas World Thursday, July 16, 2026)			
NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING			
The governing body of USD 208 Recreation Commission will meet on July 29, 2026 at 6:00 PM at 512 Caroline Ave, WaKeeney, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of funds. Detailed budget information is available at 512 Caroline Ave, WaKeeney, KS and will be available at this meeting.			
SUPPORTING COUNTIES			
Trego County (home county)			
BUDGET SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES			
The proposed budget year expenditure amount is the maximum expenditure limit for the proposed budget year.			
Fund	Prior Year Actual 2024/2025	Current Year Estimated 2025/2026	Proposed Budget Year 2026/2027
General	274,757	298,796	356,950
Employee Benefit Fund	45,239	47,953	51,304
Totals	319,996	346,749	408,254
Lease Purchases:			
July 1,	2023	2024	2025
	0	0	0
Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988			2.891
Total Proposed Estimated Tax Rate			2.762
Kyle Level Recreation Commission Director			

KNOW YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

The following officials are locally-elected representatives for WaKeeney City Council, Collyer City Council, USD #208 School Board, Trego County elected positions, and State & US officials

WAKEENEY CITY COUNCIL		
WAKEENEY CITY COUNCIL MEETS THE 1ST & 3RD TUESDAYS OF EACH MONTH, 6:15 P.M. AT WAKEENEY CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS MEETINGS ARE ALSO LIVE STREAMED ON THE CITY OF WAKEENEY FACEBOOK PAGE		
IRENE DIRKS MAYOR TERM TO 2028	BRENT DEINES COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2030	CURTIS FLAX COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2028
COURTNEY BERNING COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2030	DAVID ANDERSON COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2030	SHANE PFEIFER COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2028
USD 208 BOARD OF EDUCATION		
USD 208 BOE MEETS THE 2ND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH, 5:30 P.M. AT TREGO GRADE SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM		
CLAYTON WILSON PRESIDENT TERM TO 2028	ERIC KINDERKNECHT BOARD MEMBER TERM TO 2028	BECKY WINDHOLZ BOARD MEMBER TERM TO 2028
SETH ALBERS VICE PRESIDENT TERM TO 2030		CAREY FOSE BOARD MEMBER TERM TO 2030
UNFILLED UNEXPIRED 2-YR TERM TERM TO 2028	ASHLEY CONNESS BOARD MEMBER TERM TO 2030	

COLLYER CITY		
COLLYER CITY COUNCIL MEETS THE 1ST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH, 7:30 P.M. AT THE CITY BUILDING		
LARRY WALT MAYOR TERM TO 2028	ROBERT HARDMAN COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2028	JENNIFER RICKER COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2028
JEFF KNOP COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2030	ADAM SCHNEIDER COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2030	LANE KEITH COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2030

TREGO COUNTY COMMISSION		
TREGO COUNTY COMMISSION MEETS EVERY TUESDAY AND THE LAST DAY OF EACH MONTH, 5:00 P.M. AT THE TREGO CO. COURTHOUSE - COMMISSION ROOM, WAKEENEY		
KURTIS BROCK CHAIRMAN, DIST. 1 TERM TO 2027	JERRY WHITE COMMISSIONER, DIST. 2 TERM TO 2029	JARED HAGER COMMISSIONER, DIST. 3 TERM TO 2029

TREGO COUNTY OFFICIALS		
EDWARD PRITCHARD SHERIFF TERM TO 2029	LORI AUGUSTINE CLERK TERM TO 2029	RENEE NEFF TREASURER TERM TO 2029
ABRAHAM PFANNENSTIEL ATTORNEY TERM TO 2029	BRENDA BROCK REGISTER OF DEEDS TERM TO 2029	RICHARD HANKS DIST. MAGISTRATE JUDGE TERM TO 2027
	ADAM WILSON APPRAISER APOINTED	TIFFANY GILLESPIE CLERK OF DIST COURT APPOINTED

US SENATE	US HOUSE OF REP.
JERRY MORAN SENATOR HAYS: 785-628-6401	TRACEY MANN US HOUSE, KS-1 DODGE CITY OFFICE: 620-682-7340
DR. ROGER MARSHALL SENATOR SALINA: 785-829-9000	
KS SENATE	KS HOUSE OF REP.
RICK BILLINGER DIST. 40 EMAIL: RICK.BILLINGER@SENATE.KS.GOV	JIM MINNIX DIST. 118 REPRESENT. EMAIL: JIM.MINNIX@HOUSE.KS.GOV

Voters in Trego Co.
US House Kansas District 1
Senate District 40
House of Representatives
District 118