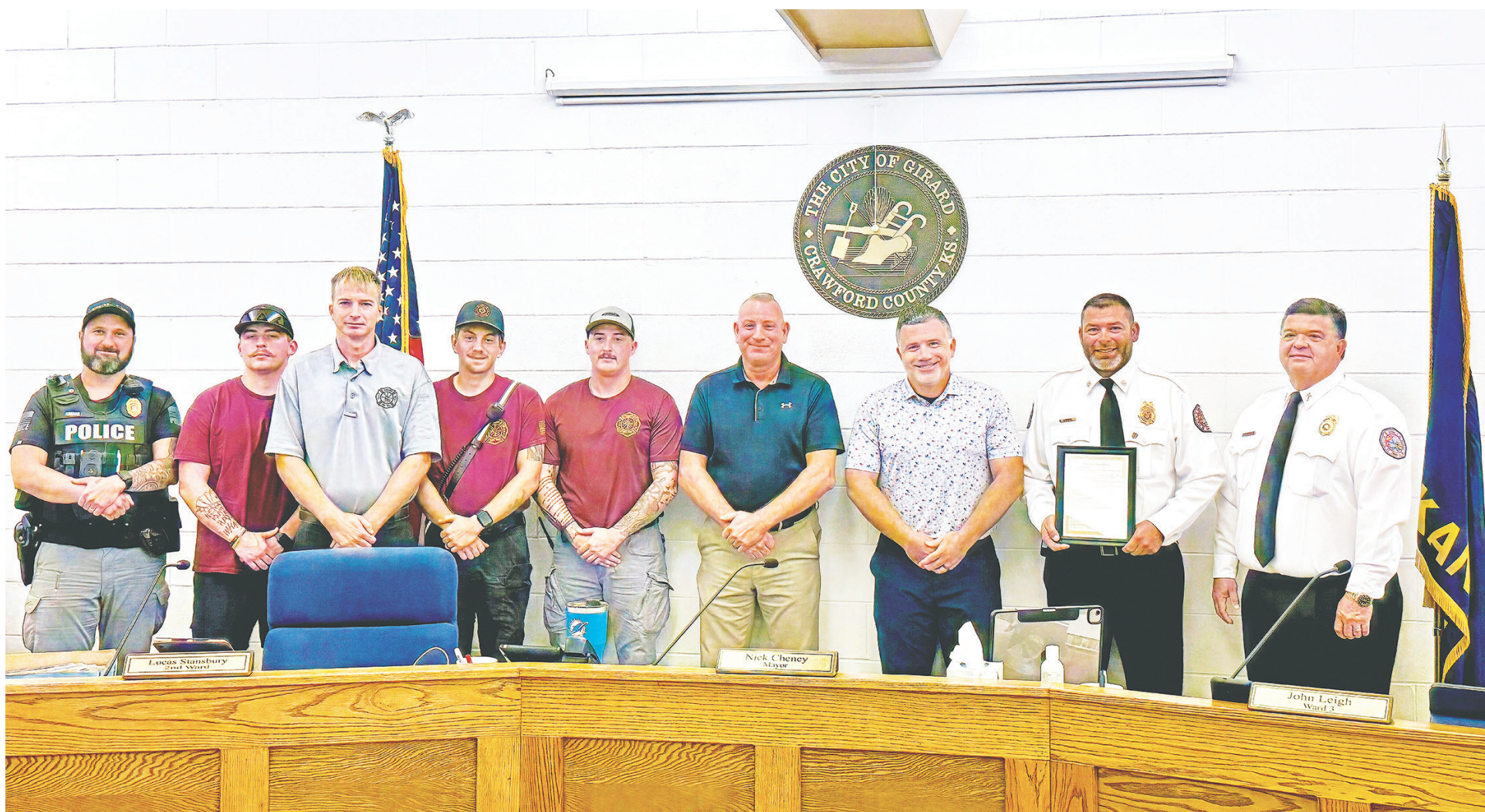


Girard City Council proclaims Blessing of First Responders for Sept 12, approves citywide garage sale for Sept 11-12

AUGUST 24, 2026 – COUNCIL ACCEPTS PHASE 3 SIDEWALK GRANT, SCHEDULES BUDGET HEARING, AND REVIEWS GOLF COURSE UPGRADES AND NEEDS



Girard first responders joined Mayor Nick Cheney following a proclamation recognizing the service and sacrifice of local firefighters, police officers, paramedics, emergency medical technicians and dispatchers during Monday's City Council meeting. The proclamation was presented ahead of the Blessing of First Responders, scheduled for Sept. 12 at 10 a.m. at the Girard Square in front of the county courthouse. PHILIP STEVENS/HOMETOWN GIRARD

BY PHILIP STEVENS
HOMETOWN GIRARD

►► The Girard City Council accepted a \$561,000 state transportation grant on Monday night for the final phase of the city's pedestrian improvement project, while also reviewing options to replace the golf course's aging cart fleet, advancing proposed sewer improvements and taking action on two properties identified for condemnation.

The Council also approved the city's fall citywide garage sale

dates, two upcoming street closures for celebrations and several other items during its August 24 meeting.

The meeting began with the Council amending the agenda to add the citywide garage sale request before unanimously approving the amended agenda and consent agenda. The consent agenda included Appropriations Ordinance 2026-17 totaling \$2,780,703.44, August 10 meeting minutes and the hiring of Malachi Melton as a full-time firefighter contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment paperwork.

The appropriations payments over \$10,000 included \$32,330.58 to BCBS for insurance premium; \$1,735,501.85 to Priority Power for the city's solar project; \$11,900.00 to Earls Engineering for 90% paving of S. Summit; \$35,991.00 to KMEA GRDA for operating account; \$176,597.00 to KMEA EMP3 for operating account; \$32,013.60 to Midwest Engineering for engineering services (Inv#20) related to the city waterline project; \$353,984.38 to the State Treasurer for GO Bond Series 2021 principle & interest; and \$347,935.62

to Shoemaker & Sons for the waterline project (payment #3).

Council members unanimously approved publishing the notice of a combined Revenue Neutral Rate and 2027 budget hearing to be held September 8. City Administrator Johanna O'Brien explained the residents will give residents an opportunity to comment before the Council considers the 2027 budget.

Mayor Nick Cheney also presented a proclamation recognizing first

See "GIRARD CITY COUNCIL" Pg 8

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Girard City-Wide Garage Sale
Sept 11-12

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DEADLINE - By Noon on Tuesday, Sept. 8!

See "KELCE, BESSE PROJECTS BRING PITT STATE STUDENTS INTO HEART OF DOWNTOWN" on Pg 7



Congressman Derek Schmidt joins Pittsburg State University and community leaders cut the ribbon Tuesday to mark the reopening of the historic Besse Hotel. The restored building now includes student housing on its upper floors and university and community programs on the first floor. COURTESY PHOTO



CRAW-KAN