

# CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED

#### JANUARY 1ST FOR NEW YEARS

#### **PLANNING & ZONING BOARD**

City Hall

1st Monday @ 6.00 pm

#### **AMERICUS REC. ORGANIZATION**

**NLC Elementary** 

3rd Wednesday @ 6:30 p.m.

#### **CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING**

City Hall

2nd Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.

#### FIRE BOARD MEETING

Library

2nd Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.

#### **TOWNSHIP LIBRARY BOARD**

Library

4th Monday @ 5:30 p.m.

#### **MUNICIPAL COURT**

City Hall

2nd Wednesday @ 3:00 p. m.

#### **AMERICUS TOWNSHIP**

Library

Last Thursday @ 7:30 p.m.

#### RWD #1 BOARD

3rd Tuesday @ 7:30 Water Board Office

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

2nd - Kathleen Centlivre

Jody Meyers

3rd - Nathanial Ciero

Jack Hadley

4th - Lacie Succi

7th - Jordan Dains

8th - Stan Stewart II

Tami Romeis

13th - Hunter Smart

14th - Aaron Ross

Creek Gerleman

16th - Jason Westcott

Kent Dains

Cathy Birk

21st - Margene Crane

24th - Wilma Jeanne Dawes

25th - Travis Richard

26th - Molly & Maci Posey

29th - Faith Hamlin



Jeff and Cindy Shirley

January 1st

Roy & Nicky Nugssen

January 5th

Jeff & Becky Wells

January 14th

Trash Pickup will be Saturday, Jan. 4th because of New Years

# Americus Police Department Non emergency number: 620-487-5899





#### KNOW YOUR SPEED

The city has purchased a speed indicator sign. The sign will be moved to different location around town.





# From City Hall:

The following minutes are from the December 10th business meeting. As of print time the minutes have not been approved by the council.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Dustin Wright. Council members present were NUESSEN, HARMON, and HAMLIN, and Mayor Dustin Wright. Also present were City Clerk Lesley Harbaugh, Treasurer Dodie Doudna, and Maintenance Nick Gadino. Attorney Steve Atherton was absent.

**VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** Ronald Huffington, Sharon Huffington, Megan Dye, Jeremiah Weatherhead, Jeremiah Weatherhead, Jr., Merry Barker, Kelly Weatherhead, Cindy Jensen. John Freeman and Connie Freeman arrived at 7:04.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *November 12th, 2024 business meeting.* Moved by HARMON to approve the minutes from the November 12th business meeting. Motion seconded by HAMLIN. 3-0 vote.

**BILLS TO PAY:** Moved by HARMON to approve the accounts payable for December 2024 in the amount of \$17,934.28. Motion seconded by NUESSEN. 3-0 vote.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

PROJECT PLAYSCAPE: No Report

**MAINTENANCE:** Nick Gadino reports that the city has been working on acquiring salt and sand for the winter season as well as other preparations such as repairs and new parts for the sander. Nick has been working on burning at the lagoons. All Christmas decorations have been put up on Main Street and at City Hall.

**CLERK:** No report.

ADOPT THE AGENDA: Moved by NUESSEN to adopt the agenda. Motion seconded by HARMON. 3-0 vote.

**RONALD HUFFINGTON:** *Police encroachment violation on the masses* Ronald Huffington is here to speak about an issue with police officers enforcing the traffic laws within city limits. He believes citizens should be notified when officers are on duty in Americus. It was brought to Mr. Huffington's attention that Americus Police Officers have only written around 10 tickets in the past year and that when Lyon County officers issue tickets, the city has no authority or control over their decisions. Mr. Huffington does not agree with this and believes Americus should be able to control who polices the city and would like to start a Community Engagement Group to make changes.

Council Member HINRICHS arrived at 7:06

**CINDY JENSEN:** *Audit Report* Cindy reviewed the 2023 audit report with the council. Moved by NUESSEN to approve the 2023 audit report as presented. Motion seconded by HAMLIN. 4-0 vote.

**CONDEMNATION:** Resolution 303 & 409 Broadway Megan Dye is here to report that she has found a buyer for 409 Broadway. Jeremiah Weatherhead Jr. will be purchasing the property and is here to ask about the condemnation proceedings on the property once it is purchased. The sale will remove the property from the condemnation list, but it will remain on the watch list. The council agrees that as long as they make it safer, they are happy that it will be utilized but if no progress made, it will go back on the condemnation list. Megan Dye, Jeremiah Weatherhead, Jeremiah Weatherhead, Jr., Merry Barker, Kelly Weatherhead, John Freeman and Connie Freeman left at 7:26

NUESSEN moved to adopt Resolution 303 fixing the time and place and providing for notice of a hearing before the governing body of the city at which time the owner, its agent, lienholders of record, and occupants of 311 Elm may appear and show cause why such structures and conditions should not be condemned or ordered repaired, demolished or removed, or made safe as to said dangerous structures or dangerous conditions. Motion seconded by HARMON, 4-0 vote.

**ORDINANCE** #622: *Proposed ordinance for telecommunication franchise agreement* HAMLIN motioned to adopt Ordinance No. 622. Motioned seconded by HINRICHS. 4-0 vote.

**2024 BUDGET:** *Encumbrances and amendments* The council and Nick Gadino discussed various items that could be replaced with encumbered funds. Nick would like to see the chip and seal broom replaced. It has been repaired many times and a new one is the best option. He also mentioned that the city maintenance truck is not in good shape. The last time a new truck was purchased was in 2006. The council has asked Nick to gather some quotes for a new truck and will hold a special meeting later in the month to review. HAMLIN motioned to approve the purchase of a new chip and seal broom not to exceed \$10,000.00. Motioned seconded by HINRICHS. 4-0 vote.

**ACCOUNT MODIFICATION FORM:** *Approval of 2024 form* Motioned by HAMLIN to approve the 2024 Account Modification Form. Motioned seconded by HINRICHS. 4-0 vote.

CITY OF AMERICUS: Employees PTO/Sick Leave/Short Term Disability/Holiday Schedule City Clerk Lesley Harbaugh reports that the City of Americus policies for PTO/sick leave and the holiday schedule have not been updated in almost 30 years. Lesley has shown the council comparisons to other 3rd class cities to show that the city's accrual policies are far less than others. The council agrees that the handbook should be reviewed and it will be added to a future meeting agenda. Lesley has also asked the council to waive the 6-month waiting period for employees to use their PTO time. Nick Gadino is also asking the council to approve him gifting another employee 32 hours of vacation that he will lose if it is not used by the end of the year. HINRIHS motions to waive the handbook policy to allow for 15.4 hours of PTO and 8 hours of sick leave to be paid out as well as approving 32 hours of Nick Gadino's PTO to be transferred to pending legal review and approval. Motioned seconded by NUESSEN. 4-0 vote.

**AMERICUS POLICE DEPARTMENT:** *Police car update* NUESSEN reports that Interim Police Chief, Brandon Early is worried about the state of the current police vehicle. The current car is a 2015 Ford Explorer. There is a 2020 Dodge Charger available from the City of Emporia or Lyon County and there are other places to look for available cars. The council will check with the accountant to see what is available in the budget and will revisit the police car update during the special meeting later this month. Ronald and Sharon Huffington left at 7:57.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** For non-elected personnel and real estate matters Motioned by HINRICHS to go into executive session for 30 minutes at 7:57 with council and city clerk present for the first 5 minutes and council present for the remaining 25 minutes for non-elected and real estate matters. Motion seconded by HARMON. NUESSEN motions to return to open session. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. HAMLIN motions to approve a 5% raise for all employees that have currently been with the city for 6 months or more and for employees that have not been employed for 6 months to receive the 5% raise at their 6-month anniversary. Motion seconded by HARMON. 4-0 vote. HAMLIN motions to approve a \$100 Holiday Bonus for all employees. NUESSEN seconds. 4-0. NUESSEN motions to approve a \$2.00/hour retroactive raise for Interim Police Chief Brandon Early. Motion seconded HAMLIN. 4-0. NUESSEN motioned to adjourn at 8:25. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. 4-0 vote.

#### **AGENDA**

AMERICUS CITY COUNCIL
BUSINESS MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: DECEMBER 10TH, 2024 business meeting

BILLS TO PAY:

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

PROJECT PLAYSCAPE:

MAINTENANCE:

CLERK:

ADOPT THE AGENDA

- 1. BOBBY THOMPSON: Flint Hills Gravel
- 2. 2024 AUDIT: GAAP Waiver Resolution and audit engagement letter
- 3. PERSONNEL POLICIES AND GUIDELINES: Update

#### M.A.D.

Plumbing & General

#### Licensed and Bonded

Maintenance Free Estimates



Mark Dixon 406 Hackberry Americus, Ks 620-443-5386 or 620-794-1417

# AMERICUS TOWNSHIP

#### **NEW POLICY**

in effect:

In an effort to improve the appearance of our cemeteries especially with mowing and weed-eating the Americus Township Board has adopted a policy banning the planting of

trees, shrubs, plants or flowers in the cemetery. Signs have been ordered and will be put in place in the near future. We also ask that when placing other items that they be placed in such a manner as to not interfere with maintenance.

We appreciate your cooperation.

#### Remember

ALL Dogs must be registered with the City.

Dogs must have a current rabies vaccination certificate on file.







#### Americus Township Library

710 Main Street/PO BOX 404 Phone: 443-5503 Fax: 443-5218 Email: americuslibrary@qmail.com Webpage: americus.lib.nckls.org

**Library Hours:** 

Mon, Wed, Fri: 12:30-5:00pm Tues, Thurs: 9a - 12p and 1p - 5:00pm Sat: 9a—12p (afternoon closed) Sunday: closed

The library is collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northeast Kansas (Topeka). When aluminum pop tabs are sent they are taken to a recycling center. The money then to goes back into the House for general operating expenses.

Watch our Facebook page and signs on the front door for information on closure and times.

> Check out our **BOOK SALE** Free will donation

> > appreciated

Thursdays 10:00 to 10:30 am

**Preschool Story Time** 



Ask us about our puzzle exchange

The Crayon Initiative is a wonderful organization. When you donate your unwanted or broken crayons, they will recycle them into new ones. These new crayons are then donated to schools, hospitals, or art p<mark>rograms. The library ha</mark>s a drop-box!

# Big Brothers



#### Choose how you want to mentor:

#### Community-Based

- Individual, couple, or family match options
- Plan your own activities in the community or at home with your Little
- Flexibility in scheduling hangouts
- Meet 2 times a month

#### Site-Based

- Visit your Little on a designated day once a week at their school
- Play games, go outside, do homework, or talk
- Meet for an hour or less each week

## **Small Engine** Repair

2348 Rd F4 Across the road from the Baptist Church

We service lawn mowers, chainsaws, weed eaters, tillers, and small engines. Chainsaw sharpening, mower blades and parts available.

PICK-UP AND DELIVERY AVAILABLE. WE ARE REASONABLY PRICED.



443-5993 or 794-4501



516 Locust Street ~ Americus, KS 66835 For reservations call City Hall at 620-443-5655

For more information on renting the **Americus Community Center** call Americus City Hall at 620-443-5655.

Scan to become a Big or learn more









1201 W 6th Ave, Emporia KS

Lacie Birk-Hamlin Team

Thinking of buying, selling, or investing in land or homes? Put us to work! Contact The Lacie Birk-Hamlin Team, where we combine local expertise with a global network. Lets make your real estate dreams a reality!



702 Main Street (620) 443-5163



(620) 481-0213 laciebirkhamlinteam@gmail.com

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LACIE HAMLIN REALTOR® | ASSOCIATE BROKER (620) 481- 0213 LACIEHAMLIN@GMAIL.COM

#### Cindy's Leather Repair

2348 Rd F4 across the road from the Baptist Church

All types of leather repairing: Now rebuilding Birkenstocks from the bottom up

\*Belts \* Purses

- \*Saddles \* Boots/Shoes
- \*Zipper Repair
- \*Replace Shoe Heel
- \*Prescription Shoe Lifts

Call Cindy Edmiston
443-5993 Leave a Message





#### Meet **Kevin Hadley**

See how **Kevin** can help protect what matters most to you.

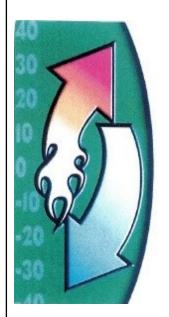
#### Call today to learn more.

Sales Associate for Perry Ott 2606 West 12th Avenue Emporia, KS 785.491.1953



Registered Representative/Scurities & services offered through FBL Marketing Services, LLC, "5400 University Ave., West Des Moines, IA 50266, 877/860-2904, Member SIPC. Farm Bureau Property & Casually Insurance Company: "Western Agricultural Insurance Company: "Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company: "West Des Moines, IL Affaliates." Company on Life Insurance Company: "West Des Moines, IL Affaliates." Company on Life Insurance Company: "West Des Moines, IL Affaliates." Company on Life Insurance Company: "West Des Moines, IL Affaliates." Company on Life Insurance Company: "West Des Moines, IL Affaliates." Company on Life Insurance Company: "West Des Moines, IL Affaliates." Company on Life Insurance Company: "West Des Moines, IL Affaliates." Company on Life Insurance Company: "West Des Moines, IL Affaliates." Company of Life Insurance Company: "West Des Moines, IL Affaliates." Company of Life Insurance Company: "West Des Moines, IL Affaliates." Company: "West De

# Air Conditioning Specialists



- ~ Heating
  - ~ Cooling
  - ~ Refrigeration
- ~ Free Estimates

Casey Crist **620.343.0889** 



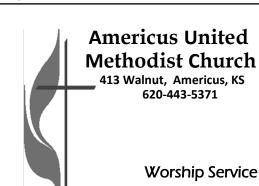
WE ARE A SMALL FAMILY BUSINESS AND WE HAVE MOVED TO AMERICUS/EMPORIA AREA FROM NORTH DAKOTA AND ARE NOW TAKING ON JOBS.

WE SPECIALIZE IN SEAMLESS RAIN GUTTER FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION. GIVE US A CALL OR TEXT AND WE CAN COME TO YOU ANYWHERE.

WE ALSO ENJOY DOING HANDYMAN WORK. SUCH AS DOORS, WINDOWS, DECKS, SIDING, POLE BUILDING WORK ETC.

PLEASE CALL/TEXT US FOR ANY NEEDS YOU MAY HAVE

JON & NICKI EATON 701-770-0158



#### Americus Community Food Pantry

Sunday at 8:00 am

The pantry will be pre-boxed pickup only
Tuesday
Saturday

January 7th 6:00pm. - 7:30 pm.

January 18th 9:30 am. - 11:00am.

We welcome any nonperishable donations. Drop off on the parsonage porch or contact the church at 620.443.5371. Thank you to the community for all donations

**DURING SERVICES A NURSERY IS AVAILABLE.** WE INVITE ALL TO JOIN US.



## Countryside Baptist Church

6 First Street, P.O. Box 524 Americus, KS 66835

#### **SUNDAY**

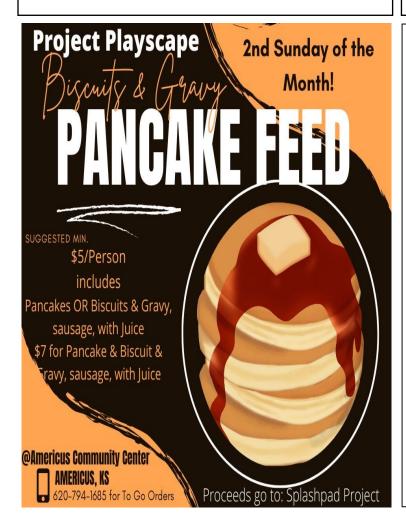
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

Morning Worship (nursery available) 10:30 a.m.

**Pastor Rich Arnold** 

Call 620-343-1546, For more information.

For a Bus Ride to Church, call (620)443-5177



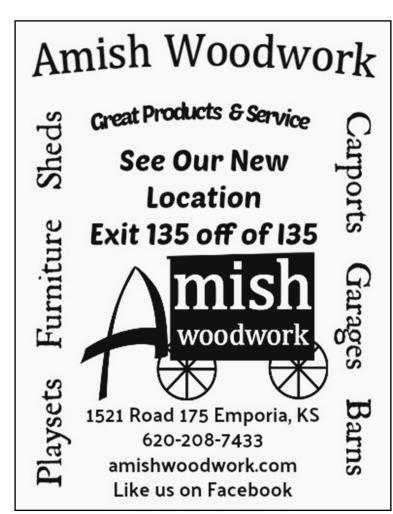


#### Check out our calendar online americusrec.org

Or for more information contact: Ashley Darbro (620) 794-1119 darbroa@usd251.org



9



Simplify sewer and trash
Payments
Use automated bank payments!
Forms are available at
City Hall

Checking account required



Postal customer

Americus, Kansas 66835

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

**Harry & Lloyds** 

Sports Bar 608 Main Street ~ Phone 443-5066

Give us a call for carry-out service



Call us to schedule your <a href="Patio Party">Patio Party</a>

- \* Graduation, \* Birthday,
- \* Reunion \* Just a get together

We are your party headquarters.



Tuesday - Thursday 5:00 p - 8:00 p Friday & Saturday 5:00 p - 2:00 a

CHECK US OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR

## Lyon County Recycle Trailer

The recycle trailer is located on the south side of the grade school gym.

January Schedule 8th & 22nd February Schedule 5th & 19th



# City Hall

Hours:

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

PO Box 526 Americus, KS 66835

Phone: 620-443-5655

Fax: 620-443-5644

www.cityofamericus.municipalimpact.com

Americus Police Department invites you to visit their Facebook page

# Americus Recycling Trailer

Located behind City Hall

Recycle items only.

Please break down all boxes and rinse all containers.

Empty trash containers/bags into bins, do not dispose of plastic bags in the recycle bins.