



Americus Newsletter

July 2026

*Let Freedom Ring! Happy
Independence Day!*

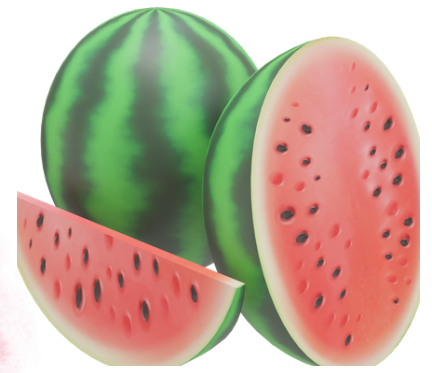
Reminders

- City Hall will be closed July 3rd in observation of independence day
- City Hall will be closed July 10th
- Fireworks may be discharged from July 2nd - 5th, from 10 am - 12 am

Contact Info

Hours: Monday- Friday, 9 AM- 3PM
Email: cityclerk@americusks.com
Phone: 620-366-5464
Fax: 620-366-5376
PO Box 526

July 2026



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 	2	3 Office Closed	4 Independence Day!
5	6 Food Pantry	7	8 	9	10 Office Closed	11
12	13	14 Council meeting	15 	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 	23	24	25 Food Pantry
26	27	28	29 	30	31	

LYON COUNTY RECYCLE TRAILER
 Located on the south side of the school gym

Recycle Items only.

**Please break down all boxes and
 rinse all containers**

AMERICUS RECYCLE TRAILER
 Located behind City Hall

Empty trash

**containers/bags into bins,
 do not dispose of plastic bags
 in the recycle bins**

Happy Birthday

1st - Elaina Wells
2nd - Stacie Horton
3rd - Stantanna Stewart, Cody Swanson, Steve Wyatt
4th - Elizabeth Hudlin, Kelsi Gadino, Christine Hultgren, Samantha Redelfs
5th - Jerry Voorhees
6th - Tyler Hinrichs, Cooper Hamlin, Kevin Schlimme, Cindy Shirley
7th - Cole Gerleman, Braxtyn Pierce
8th - David Good
12th - Taylor Redelfs, Leonard Crane
15th - Jesse Dains, Talynn Dains, Andrea Anderson, Jodi McCullough
16th - Joni Siess
17th - Jeff Centlivre, Joslin Cannon
20th - Connie Stewart
21st - Claire Hamlin Olsen, Belinda Carter
22nd - Steve Stewart, Jeff Shirley
23rd - Danielle McElfresh
24th - Arissa Kennedy, Kim Zeigler
25th - Dorothy Deweese
26th - Makenzie Riley, Dean Horton
26th - Mark Morgan
27th - Julisa Rose Mosby
31st - Kristeena Thompson

Happy Anniversary

July 1st - Jesse & Venessa Anderson
July 4th - William & Anna Crabtree
July 8th - Larry & Cindy Edmiston
July 18th - David & Vicki Jones
July 27th - Bob & Deb Ludlum

Call us to reserve a place for your party needs!



AMERICUS
Community Center

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.

Americus Township Library

710 Main Street

Phone: 443-5503 Fax: 443-5218

Email: americuslibrary@gmail.com

Preschool Story Time
Every Thursday
10:00-10:30 am
Starts Sept. 4th



The Crayon Initiative
Ask for details!

Library Hours:

Mon, Wed, Fri: 12:30-5:00pm

Tues, Thurs: 9a - 12p and 1p - 5:00pm

Sat: 9a—12p

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

FROM CITY HALL

The following minutes are from the TUESDAY, June 9th, 2026 business meeting. As of print time, the minutes have not been approved by council. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by WRIGHT. Council members present were BURTON, HARMON, and GERLEMAN. HINRICHS was absent until 7:29 pm. Also, present City Attorney Steve Atherton, City Clerk Dodie Doudna, Code Enforcement Justin Arb.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: John Birchmeier, Freda Birchmeier, Laverne Soetebier, Devin Hollaway, Tim Burton, Carri Stewart, Bruce Boettcher. John and Freda spoke in regard to notice the received. Code enforcement will revisit the issues and discuss further with council next meeting. Birchmeiers left at 7:07 pm. Roger Birchmeier signed in at 7:28 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 12, 2026, Business Meeting. Moved by BURTON to approve the May 12, 2026 Business Meeting minutes. Motion seconded by GERLEMAN. 4-0 Vote.

BILLS TO PAY: Moved by BURTON to approve June 2026 bills in the amount of \$26,714.92. Motion seconded by NUESSEN. 4-0 Vote.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

PROJECT PLAYSCAPE:

MAINTENANCE: Working on mowing, too wet to chip seal, breaking down a lot. Work on the dump pile to get ready to burn. Mayor WRIGHT questioned last months bill to Hoyts regarding the Dump Truck, he requested that clerk look to see if the amount was approved by council. There was not a separate approval, however Legal advised that the May bills were reviewed and approved to be paid and it was included with those expenses.

CLERK: Clerk confirmed that maintenance will do all the work required to get the Community Center ready for the election in August. Reported that the cameras for city hall and the shop have been ordered but not installed.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: 35 notices been sent, 17 active right now. Work on condemnation list for next meeting.

ADOPT THE AGENDA: Moved by Harmon to amend the agenda moving item 11 to 3A and adopt. Motion seconded by Burton. 4-0 Vote.

1. FOOD TRUCK : Carrie Stewart- Park at the liquor store, approved by owner. Stewart requested the council to consider letting her park at the park. It was agreed that utilizing the park was the safest option for children, she is able to use the north or west side. Moved by BURTON to allow Carri Stewart to operate a food truck through October with proper permits secured. Motion seconded by GERLEMAN. 4-0 vote.

2. COLLEGE BLOCK : Devin Hollaway- Devin reported that all 3 houses he built have sold, looking at the other 2 lots. Harder to sell than had hoped. Would like to split into 3 buildable lots instead of the remaining 2. Asked if a variance for set back on corner lot could be approved, would require sending letters to the neighboring properties. Will present a more solid plan to review.

3. SEWER PROJECT : BG Consultants Bruce Boettcher here to discuss sewer upgrades. Discussed the time frame of major projects. Different options of upgrades were discussed. Council will review items from Bruce and have continued discussion.

3a. LIFT STATIONS: monitoring app- Bill discussed updating the alerting system at the lift stations. High tide- fully functioning monitoring system. SCADA- hooked to fiber. This system would allow maintenance weekends off- KDHE approved of this process. Charts pumps- 2-3 hours per week. This would monitor more than we can currently track. Quote \$10,400 installation, first year monitoring for free Moved by NUESSEN to approve the Haynes Equipment quote in the amount of \$10,400. Motion seconded by BURTON. 5-0 Vote.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION : Non-elected personnel matters. Moved by NUESSEN to go into executive session for 5 minutes starting at 7:54 pm with council, mayor, legal, clerk and Laverne Soetebier present. Motion seconded by BURTON. Out of session at 7:59 pm. WRIGHT accepted the resignation of Dakota Hamlin.

5. 2027 BUDGET REVIEW : Laverne Soetebier Discussed the highlights of the budget. She made the changes that were discussed in last meeting and increased the hours of the deputy clerk to 20 hours per week. Council agreed with items, Laverne will begin working on the final budget.

6. 2025 AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER Moved by BURTON to authorize Mayor Wright to sign the 2025 engagement letter. Motion seconded by NUESSEN. 5-0 Vote.

7. CHARTER ORDINANCE 15: Moved by BURTON to approve Charter Ordinance 15 changing the official newspaper from Emporia Gazette to the City of Americus Website. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. 5-0 Vote.

8. LIQUOR LICENSE: Moved by BURTON to approve the liquor license for Harry & Lloyds. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. 5-0 Vote.

9. REDBUD SIGN QUOTE: Moved by NUESSEN to accept quote for \$549.00 from Redbud Design for ballfield signs and Farmers Market sign. Motion seconded by GERLEMAN. 5-0 Vote.

10. EMPLOYEE EVALUATIONS: Nicky will look for the form. Discussed yearly reviews in April/May prior to budget.

FROM CITY HALL

11.Moved to 3A

12.MOWING ORDERS: Bill proposed that we get bids for mowing of properties instead of maintenance doing them. Nicky would like to keep it with Maintenance. Overtime was approved to get this mowing done. Authorize up to 8 hours a week overtime for mowing orders.

13.TREE TRIMMING: Clerk will bid it out city right of way tree trimming and bid for park tree removal as well.

14.POLICE DEPARTMENT: Police car was sold at the minimum. Evidence will be picked up by Lyon County to be destroyed.

15.ARO: Discussion was had if the ordinance in question was still active. Burton would like to utilize youth betterment fund to help fund

ARO. Concerns were had about council and ARO not having a good working relationship. Clerk will reach out to ARO to set up work session with council, to be scheduled in next 30 days.

16.REZONING PROPERTY: Reach out to register of deeds for updated property lines. Variant use for commercial. 3 lots west of the property. Moved by HARMON to issue variance use at: (AMERICUS, SO2, T18S, R10E, ACRES 2.6, LTS 1 & 4-15 BLK 7 & E1/2 VAC 6TH ST & N1/2 VAC HICKORY ST & VAC ALY ADJ.) 3 lots on northwest of the property. Motion seconded by NUESSEN 4-0-1

17.RV/CAMPER ORDINANCE : storage refers to all trailers on any property- 15 feet off property lines road side. Use of easements for parking was discussed. BURTON will bring the other details from planning and zoning to July Council Meeting for review.

18.CONDEMNATION LIST: 311 Elm has sold, they are securing the property and hopefully starting to remedy some of the issues. 408 Oak- Roger Birchmeier discussing what the letter that was sent to his parents was referring to. Stuff is being removed from the property. Selling the property to the State of KS. Code Enforcement will revisit and bring to council in July.

19.EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by BURTON to go into executive session for 20 minutes starting at 9:04 pm with council, attorney and clerk present for non- elected personnel matters and account modification approval and 10 minutes with council, mayor, and legal present for non-elected personnel matters. Motion seconded by HARMON.

Motion to adjourn at 9:26 pm by BURTON. Motion seconded by GERLEMAN. 5-0 Vote.



WE'RE HIRING IN AMERICUS!



CITY MAINTENANCE STAFF

Full-Time • 40 hours per week

Help maintain and improve city infrastructure

**Job description and pay range available upon
request**

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Part-Time • 15-20 hours per week

**Provides support to the City Clerk and serves in the City
Clerk's role during their absence.**

\$15-\$18 per hour based on experience.

AGENDA

AMERICUS CITY COUNCIL

BUSINESS MEETING

TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026- 7:00 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 9, 2026, Business Meeting

BILLS TO PAY:

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

PROJECT PLAYSCAPE

MAINTENANCE:

CLERK:

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

ADOPT THE AGENDA

1. 2027 BUDGET : Draft of 2027 Budget

2. ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY : Tract in the Southwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 18 South, Range 10 East of the 6th P.M., Lyon County, KS.

3. REZONING PROPERTY: AMERICUS, SO2, T18S, R10E, ACRES 2.6, LTS 1 & 4-15 BLK 7 & E1/2 VAC 6TH ST & N1/2 VAC HICKORY ST & VAC ALY ADJ

4. RV/CAMPER ORDINANCE:

5. TREE TRIM BIDS:

6. CONDEMNATION LIST:

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Non-elected personnel matters

Doo Little TRAILER MFG. **LOAD TRAIL**

Diligent Trailers

Sales & Service

Open Monday-Saturday
Diligenttrailers.com
1521 Road 175 Emporia, KS
620-342-6456

New beginnings bloom here.

Open new Equity Bank Checking and Savings accounts and use code **BLOOM** in person or online* to earn \$400.

Three simple steps:

1. Open a new Checking and Savings account
2. Receive \$1,000 in Direct Deposits
3. Activate and use your Equity Bank debit card

Earn
\$400



equitybank.com/bloom

Americus
702 Main St.
(620) 366-5086

*Bloom Bonus Offers are available for a limited time and may be canceled without notice. Promotion is available from April 1, 2026, to June 30, 2026. One Bloom offer permitted per household, available for new Equity Bank households only, and subject to review and approval. A new Equity Bank household for the Bloom Bonus Offer is defined as applicant(s) not linked as an owner to an open Equity Bank consumer checking, savings or Money Market account within the past 180 days. The incentive may be paid for opening both a new checking and savings account during the promotion period. Incentive amount will be directly deposited into the customer's qualifying checking account after approximately 45 days of checking account opening, assuming all qualifications are met. To qualify for offer, customer must (1) open and fund both a new checking and savings account within 45 days of each other and no later than June 30, 2026, (2) maintain Equity Bank accounts in active and good standing at time of incentive payment, (3) receive a minimum of \$1000 in combined qualifying direct deposits into the new checking account within 45 days of account opening; (4) activate and use Equity Bank debit card within 45 days of account opening; and (5) When opening accounts online, enter "Bloom" under "Enter Promotional Code." If customer opens the accounts at an Equity Bank location, mention "Bloom" offer at time of opening. Promotion not available to current employees and employee household members of Equity Bancshares, Inc. or its subsidiaries. Customer will be issued a 1099-INT form for tax value of the incentive amount. Minimum \$100 deposits may be required to open Equity Bank checking account. Member FDIC.

Amish Woodwork



As we celebrate this 4th of July, we are reminded of how fortunate we are to live in a country where we can gather with family, friends, and neighbors to enjoy our freedoms. These freedoms were made possible through the sacrifices, courage, and dedication of the brave men and women who have served and continue to serve our nation. While we enjoy the festivities, it's also important that we do our part to keep our community clean and safe. Please remember to pick up and properly dispose of fireworks debris and any other trash left in our streets, alleys, and ditches. Working together, we can show pride not only in our country but also in our town by leaving it better than we found it.

HARDWOOD
Furniture
Bedroom Sets
Dining Tables
Chairs
Rockers
Gliders
Ottomans
Jewelry Cheval
Storage Benches
TV Stands
End Tables
Hall Trees

Amish Food
Puzzles
Pictures
Bird Houses
Soaps & Lotions
Candles
Rocking Horses
Wind Chimes
Sheds
Portable Garages
Livestock
Shelters
Green Houses

Amish Built To Last

1521 Road 175 Emporia, KS
620-208-7433
www.amishwoodwork.com

Americus United Methodist Church

413 Walnut, Americus, KS
620-366-5074

Email: pastor.americus@gmail.com

Worship Service
Sunday at 8:00 am

During services a nursery is available.
We invite all to join us.



Facebook: Americus UMC

Americus Community Food Pantry

Pre-Boxed
Pick Up Only



Tuesday
July 7th
6:00pm- 7:30
pm

Saturday
July 25th 9:30
am-11:00am

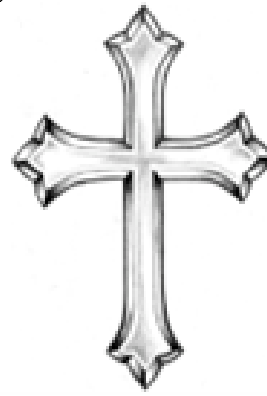
We welcome any nonperishable donations.
drop off on the parsonage porch or contact
the church at 620.366.5074
Thank You to the community for all
donations.



**Fridays 4:00 to 6:00
pm**

We look forward to seeing you
on the west side of the park.

*Buy Healthy, Eat Healthy,
Live Healthy*



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

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship (nursery available)

Pastor Rich Arnold

Call 620-343-1546
For more information.

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

SOLD BY
THE BOX
OR BY THE
POUND!

We're startin'
EARLY
this year!

CELEBRATING 26 YEARS!
in
2026!

L&C PRODUCE
<https://www.lc-produce.com>

Rocky Ford
Cantaloupe!



Watermelon
& other
Fresh Produce!

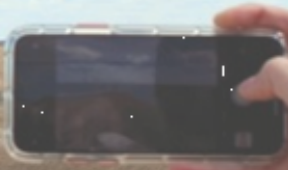
**COLORADO
PEACHES
COMING
JULY 10 & 11**

Fridays 9 am - 6 pm

Saturdays 9 am until sold out

L&C Produce in the Mall Parking Lot

NEXTECH
wireless
KEEPING KANSAS CONNECTED



WE ARE KANSAS



www.nex-techwireless.com

Questions? Contact Customer Care – 877-621-2600

Air Conditioning Specialists



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

Casey Crist **620.343.0889**



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

FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES

Registered Representative/Securities & services offered through FBI Marketing Services, LLC - 5400 University Ave., West Des Moines, IA 50266, 877/860-2904, Member SIPC, Farm Bureau Property & Casualty Insurance Company - **Western Agricultural Insurance Company - **Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company - **West Des Moines, IA - Affiliates. *Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services. FR-GB-C (2-24)



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.



\$3.00 / Dozen

Robert and Linda Clark 620-794-6145 or 785-709-0101. Please leave a message if no answer.

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



210 Hickory St, Americus, KS, 66835



Lacie Hamlin
 620.481.0213
 Legacy Group
 Listing Agent



4 beds
 2 baths
 1,623 SQ FT

price improved

214 AND 206 HICKORY ST, AMERICUS, KS,
 66835
 \$264,500



Lacie Hamlin
 620.481.0213
 laciehamlin@gmail.com
 Legacy Group
 RE/MAX EK Real Estate



Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

Hello & Welcome

Jessica and RJ to Americus!



This young couple recently closed on a home and are excited to start this new chapter in the Flint Hills. Jessica is from Iola and RJ is from Halstead and they love small town living. They are Christ centered and thankful to welcome their first child in May!

Lacie Hamlin
 620.481.0213
 laciehamlin@gmail.com
 Legacy Group



TAKING AMERICUS WITH ME

There's something about July in a small town that's hard to explain.

The evenings stretch out a little longer, conversations last a little later than planned, and familiar faces seem to appear everywhere you go. Kids ride bikes until the streetlights come on. Neighbors gather in driveways. People stop to talk outside the grocery store and somehow turn a quick hello into a half-hour conversation—the typical midwestern goodbye.

Then there are the nights that bring everyone together.

Fireworks lighting up the sky. Backyard barbecues filled with laughter, music, and the smell of hotdogs and homemade ice cream. Families sitting shoulder to shoulder in lawn chairs waiting for the show to begin.

That's July here.

Nothing fancy. Just together.

Growing up, I assumed every place felt this way. It wasn't until later that I realized how special it is to live somewhere where people still show up—not just for celebrations, but for each other.

They gather at ball games, after church, during good times, and during difficult ones. They check in on neighbors. They simply show up.

That's the kind of community that shaped me.

Lately, I've found myself noticing those things a little more than I used to. I catch myself driving through town with my son in the back seat, pointing out places and saying, "This is where I used to..." or "Right over there is where we..."

And somehow the stories come back easier than I expect.

It's funny how a place can hold onto your memories for you until you're ready to tell them again.

Maybe that's what happens when you realize seasons change—not just on the calendar, but in life.

As many of you know, my family and I will soon be heading to Tennessee as we begin our next chapter through military service.

It still feels a little surreal to say out loud. Not because I'm uncertain about what's ahead, but because it has me appreciating all the things I once took for granted: the people, the places, and the rhythm of everyday life that makes this community what it is.

Because when I think about where I come from, I don't think first about roads or buildings. I think about people. People who wave when they pass you on the road. People who look out for one another. People who work hard, raise families, and continue showing up for their neighbors.

That kind of place stays with you.

It becomes part of who you are, no matter how far you go.

So as this chapter comes to a close, I'm not really thinking in terms of goodbye. I'm thinking in terms of gratitude. For the summers. For the fireworks. For the county fairs, ball games, and ordinary days that turned out to mean more than

I realized at the time.

And most of all, I'm grateful for Americus.

Small Town USA.

A place that helped shape who I am, a place my son will always know as part of his story, and a place I will carry with me wherever life takes us next.

There's a line in Montgomery Gentry's song *My Town* that says, "This is my town."

The older I get, the more I understand what that means.

Because a hometown isn't just a dot on a map. It's the people who helped raise you, the memories tucked into familiar streets, and the feeling you carry with you long after you've gone somewhere else.

No matter where life takes us next, Americus will always be my town.

And I wouldn't trade that for anything.

-Dakota Hamlin

Postal customer
Americus, Kansas 66835

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail



To stay informed on the latest updates & news within the city please visit our website:
cityofamericus.municipalimpact.com or scan the QR code

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
2501 W. 18th, Emporia

