

BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

Police officer, mosquito fogging begins this week

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Managing Editor

BURLINGTON — The Burlington City Council met June 17 for their second regular meeting of the month. They approved hiring a police officer and learned fogging for mosquitos would begin the week of June 22.

Governing body present were Mayor Stan Luke and council members Jerilyn Curtiss, Dallas Scothorn, J.J. Jasper, Lewis Lenard (by phone), Thomas Tschantz and Sharon Hall.

The council granted Steve Gifford's annual request to close off St. Lawrence Street between Eighth and Ninth streets. The street will be closed between 7 and 10:30 p.m. on Friday, July 3.

Kimberly Robrahn, representing TrustPoint/EMC Insurance, presented the city a \$38,229.73 dividend check, which is the largest dividend check presented to the city to date. Robrahn said over the past seven years, the city has received \$223,990 in total dividends as a result of their participation in EMC's Kansas Municipalities Safety Group program.

Citizen Paul Abendroth asked about the city's policy regarding picking up branches blown down after a storm.

Mayor Luke said the property owner is responsible for branches at any time other than the city's two scheduled brush pickup dates. Residents can take limbs to the city's burn pile; however, prior arrangement may be required to gain access.

Department Reports

Electric: Superintendent Alan Schneider said they have been changing power poles, while spending most of their time trimming trees in rights of way. Substations have been sprayed for weed control. At the electric plant, Generation No. 4 has returned to service.

Water and Wastewater: Superintendent Danny Hawkins said the pump stations were cleaned using a power washer. They tilled and seeded along Alleghany Street and other areas disturbed by past projects. Valve boxes sticking up from the ground were recessed in the areas of Niagara, Hudson and St. Lawrence streets. The water flow has been increased at the water plant and chemicals added to counter a fishy smell.

Street: Superintendent Mark Davidson said they finished pouring the walls for the new salt building. A small sink hole was reported at eighth and Neosho streets, which was caused from the

bottom of a culvert rusting out. The hole was patched and the culvert will be replaced in the fall. The Bowman Bridge on Kennebec Street reopened to traffic on June 15. Mayor Luke visited with the Board of Coffey County Commissioners, who indicated they would help with the final cost of the bridge, once the final cost is known. At Country Club Heights, 140 feet of curb and gutter were replaced.

The council approved the second-year evaluation for Kyle Dauber, and at Davidson's recommendation, granted Dauber a 4 percent raise from \$17.25 to \$18.00 per hour, effective June 27.

Police: Police Chief Doug Jones said the June 11 municipal court went well, after not being held since February. He described the July docket as being "massive." Jones recommended hiring Rachel Hale as a full-time officer at \$18 per hour and a start date of Tuesday, June 23, which the council approved. Hale has three years of experience in the Tennessee prison system and served as a part-time officer in Hugoton. Jones also said she has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice.

Parks: Superintendent Kevin Boyce said they continue to disinfect public restrooms daily, including during the week-

end. After attending a mosquito control workshop, he plans to increase the speed driven during spraying from 10 mph to 20 mph and to adjust accordingly the amount of chemical released. Fogging of mosquitos was to begin this week.

All permits have been secured for work on the wall at the city dam. The city has been saving money for the project, expected to cost more than \$300,000. Boyce will present the council additional information at the July 1 meeting.

Planning and Zoning: Zoning Clerk Jimmy Hugunin issued a couple of permits, fixed the walls in the vault and installed several phones. He said officer Black has contacted more than 26 nuisance property owners and many have taken care of their nuisance.

Legal: Mayor Luke said he had contacted the League of Kansas Municipalities about a possible list of city attorneys, since local attorney Tom Robrahn recently submitted a letter of resignation as city attorney. Luke found 38 legal firms located in Southeast Kansas within 100 miles of Burlington. He spoke with 14 mayors and three municipal judges and learned most firms recommend cities have a separate civil attorney and a separate litigation attorney. Most firms do not do both.

Luke learned litigation attorneys range from \$200 to \$350 per hour. The retainer for Class 2 cities, such as Burlington, ranges from \$1,000 to \$1,300 per month plus mileage. Some attorneys are receptive to electronic meetings.

"Basically, having a local attorney we had a sweetheart deal," Luke said.

Luke took recommendations from Robrahn, assisted city attorney Philip Wright, municipal court judge James Campbell and several out-of-town attorneys. They all recommended not getting the county attorney involved.

"We are probably looking at (spending) \$3,000 to \$4,000 per month rather than \$1,500," Luke said, adding cities are required by state statute to have an attorney.

Luke plans to bring back a recommendation to the council at the July 1 meeting.

"We are obviously going to be paying market when we had a local attorney," Lenard said. "Regardless, we need to heed to legal advice."

City Hall: City Clerk Regina Kewley submitted the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application to Kansas Department of Commerce. The first round of grants have been distributed. She said 106 municipalities applied for \$32 million in grants. A second wave of CARES money worth about \$7 million is expected to be distributed.

The council also approved Claims Ordinance No. 2020-11 in the amount of \$283,026.91 and Payroll Ordinance No. 2020-12 in the amount of \$90,171.72.

The next regular city council meeting will be 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 1, at city hall.

Fair

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and demolition derby at 7 p.m. Saturday. Admission will be charged Friday and Saturday night.

Other evening activities include Barnyard Olympics at 8 p.m. Wednesday in the show arena. Team roping will take place in the saddle club arena at 6 p.m. Thursday and at 7 p.m. Farm Bureau will host its pedal power tractor pull. After the parade Friday night, the Coffey County Chamber of Commerce will serve watermelon, the Burlington Jaynes will announce the winners of its Sweet 6 contest and the

Parade of Purples will be held west of Kelley Hall. The fair will conclude with a livestock sale at 6 p.m. Sunday night.

Coffey County Extension Agent Jill Barnhardt announced a number of changes regarding check in and trying to limit the number of people in buildings. The changes largely affect 4-H'ers, are being notified about specific changes.

Many of the judging conference will be by appointment. Only one parent/instructor and a 4-H'er will be allowed in at one time. The 4-H building will be closed to the public most of the day Wednesday as judging was expanded from morning to include all afternoon.

No bake sale will be held and

no club food table decorations will take place.

With all of the changes, Barnhardt expects Wednesday to be a hectic day. Extension also will be utilizing a new fair entry system.

Barnhardt said the bucket calf show, normally held on Saturday, has been moved to 10 a.m. Thursday, to minimize the crowd.

No rabbit show will be held this year, due to the presence of Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease (RHDV2) in domestic rabbits and wild cottontails and jackrabbits in neighboring states. Extension Agent Darl Henson said, at this time, RHDV2 has not yet been reported in domestic or wild rabbits in Kansas. However, due to the proximity and pro-

gression of RHDV2 cases and the highly contagious nature of the disease, which often causes sudden death in rabbits, the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Animal Health currently is recommending that rabbit shows and events be canceled, postponed, or held by virtual means to help stem the spread of the disease into the state. Henson said the virus causing rabbit hemorrhagic disease (a calcivirus) is not in any way related to the circulating COVID-19 novel coronavirus that primarily affects people.

Barnhardt said ribbons will not be handed out during livestock shows. Ribbons will be delivered to the 4-H'er after the show.

COVID-19

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or longer) or having direct contact with infectious secretions. CCHD will also actively monitor the close contacts for 14 days for symptoms.

Quarantine List Update

KDHE has added three states to the quarantine list, Alabama, Arizona and Arkansas, and removed six states, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island. This is effective for persons returning June 17 and moving forward. The state will review/update the list July 1.

Individuals in Kansas needing to quarantine for 14 days are those who have traveled to Maryland on or after May 12 or to Alabama, Arizona or Arkansas on or after June 17, been on a cruise ship or river cruise on or after March 15, traveled internationally on or after March 15 or received notification from public health officials (state or local) that they are a close contact of a laboratory-confirmed case of

COVID-19.

Governor's Recommendation

Governor Kelly announced June 22 her administration, as well as KDHE officials, recommend communities do not move into Phase Out of "Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen Kansas," which was originally planned to begin June 22, and instead stay in Phase 3 for at least two more weeks.

"Though many Kansans and communities have been social distancing, wearing masks and working hard over the past few weeks to mitigate the spread of the virus, we have unfortunately seen an increase in disease spread," Governor Kelly said. "After consulting with Secretary Norman's team at KDHE, I have decided our state is not ready to move into the final phase of the 'Ad Astra' plan until July 6, at the earliest."

"My administration is dedicated to getting Kansans back to work and back to school, in the safest way possible. We can't do that if every person and community does not follow the Phase 3 guidelines," Governor Kelly concluded. "Please wear a mask, socially

distance and wash your hands often. Our state's economic recovery depends on it."

The emergency disaster declaration issued May 26 transfers reopening decisions back to local officials, which means counties continuing with Phase 3 is only a recommendation. The State continues to monitor health metrics daily and remains committed to supporting local communities in a safe, gradual transition. Coffey County officials have opted to move into Phase Out.

Phase 3 highlights include mass gathering of more than 45 people are not recommended; all education, activities, venues and establishments may operate and are recommended to follow all public health guidelines; on-site staffing has no recommended restrictions; and non-essential travel may resume, provided travelers follow KDHE travel and quarantine guidelines for travel to high-risk areas.

Highlights of Phase Out include gatherings should maintain social distance where applicable, individuals should adhere to personal hygiene guidelines and remain home if feeling sick, employers should follow any additional

guidance for businesses and employees that is released and travel is unrestricted.

Hygiene and social distancing protocols include washing hands frequently, avoiding contact with one's face, remaining home when sick or running a fever, following isolation and quarantine orders issued by state or local health officers and wearing a cloth face mask when in public.

"Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen Kansas" is available in full at covid.ks.gov, in addition to industry-specific guidance for Kansas businesses.

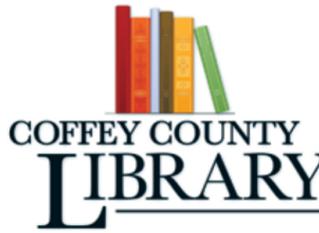
BBB

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didn't live up to the hype or the company did a shoddy job.

Beware: If a salesperson can't provide positive ID for themselves and their company. Watch out if they have no ties to the community.

For answers to other questions you may have about selecting a home security company, contact BBB at (800) 856-2417 or visit bbb.org.



COFFEY COUNTY LIBRARY
Burlington - Lebo - LeRoy - Gridley - New Straum - Waverly

Welcome Back!

Please follow these guidelines to protect yourself and others.

- Computers available during your visit for 1 hour
- Printer, Fax, copier are available
- Bathrooms and water fountains are available
- Wii is available
- Please observe social distancing (6 ft. space)
- Meeting rooms are available
- Curbside Available — Call us and we will bring items out to your car!
- Wearing a mask is recommended
- If sick or around someone sick, please stay home



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