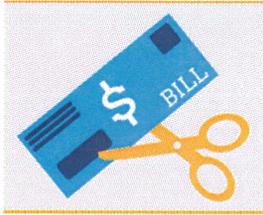


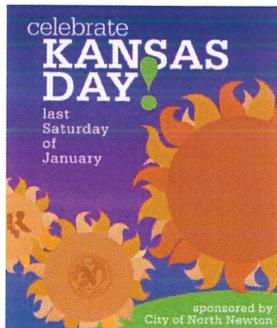
IN CASE YOU MISSED THIS NEWS...

In November the North Newton City Council approved amending the minimum rates for sewer and water charges. The minimum sewer charge, at \$55.66 since 2014, will be **lowered** to \$36.00. The minimum water charge, at \$14.65 since 2014, will be **raised** to \$30.00. While this is being done to shift more revenue into the water fund and better reflect the cost of doing service, customers will actually see a **reduction** by \$4.31 on every bill that includes a sewer and water charge. This change takes effect on this January 2019 bill.



LAKWOOD CIRCLE PROJECT NEARING COMPLETION

The completion of the paving of Lakewood Circle with accompanying water and sewer lines is complete. An adjacent pickleball court will be finished in the spring. While the pickleball court is owned and will be maintained by Kidron Bethel, it will be available for use by the general public, as the City helped finance a portion of its construction. Other than this expense, the cost of the project will be borne by Kidron Bethel.



Kauffman Museum at Bethel College invites you to attend **Celebrate Kansas Day!** on Saturday, January 26, 2019, 1:00 - 4:00 P.M. The theme will be **Collectors, Collections, Collecting** with a car show, collectors with displays, crafts for kids, food trucks and outdoor activities. At 11:00 history teacher Keil Hileman will present at the Bethel College Fine Arts Center. For more information contact Andi Andres at asa@bethelks.edu or 316-

283-1612. In mid-January, information will be available at <https://kauffman.bethelks.edu/>.



GET YOUR 2019 PET TAGS

Dogs and cats are required by ordinance to have a City tag each calendar year. 2019 tags are available December 3 through March 1 for just \$3.00 (spayed/neutered pets) or \$5.00 (unaltered pets). Don't forget to bring proof of an unexpired rabies vaccination.

After March 1, a \$15.00 penalty is applied. However, citizens adopting new pets throughout the year may get tags at any time without any penalty.



Unable to get to City Hall during business hours? Mail us your fee and valid Rabies Certificate(s) or drop them in the night box and we will send your tags. Easy peasy!



2019 TO BE BUSY WITH IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

There are several projects planned in this new year that will be noticed by everyone in the community. They will include the following:

- Hiking/walking path across Kidron Creek and along 36th Street (fall 2019 construction expected).
- Entry signage at various entrances to the community (late spring construction planned).
- Water line construction to connect a main water line to the water tower (spring construction anticipated).
- Overlay of Bluestem from Anderson to Main Street (contingent upon collaboration with Harvey County and approval of City Council).

While part or all of the cost for these projects will be included in a city general obligation bond issue,

we do not expect a significant increase in the mill levy to cover the debt. This is due to reduction of the current bonded debt, use of water revenue to pay for water line improvement debt, and a \$400,000 grant from KDOT for the bike path project.



MISCELLANEOUS

► Please remove cars from the street during moderate to heavy snowfalls to allow for more efficient **snow removal**.

► Curbside **Christmas tree pick up** dates will be December 28, January 8 and 15.

► The next three **City Council meetings** are January 14, February 11, and March 11 at 7:00 P.M.

Online payments accepted
24 hours a day, 7 days a week

www.northnewton.org

click "Pay Online"

or

call toll-free

1-888-604-7888

If prompted for a Pay Location Code:
Utility bill payment code - #a001w5
Court costs/fines code - #a001w6
Miscellaneous payment code - #a001w7



YEAR IN REVIEW

We have attempted to summarize the major accomplishments and events of 2018 in North Newton. The daily responsibilities of Public Works, our Police Department, utility billing, accounting and administration are what drives the City and provides service to our citizens.

GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

- As a result of the 2017 election, Councilmen Jim Goering and Gregg Dick were reelected. Dennis Campbell was elected to his first term. Outgoing Councilwoman Jane Schmidt was recognized for her service.
- Conducted a Council Retreat.
- Provided funding for Hesston/Bethel Performing Arts, Bethel College Fall Fest, and Kauffman Museum for Kansas Day celebration.
- Building permits for two duplexes at Kidron Bethel and one custom home totaled \$1,300,000. Permits for other new improvements were in the amount of \$314,000.
- \$20,000 in matching funds provided for the North Newton Community Foundation. Approved grants from the Sher Klassen Neufeld, Jim and Shirley Goering, John and Diana Torline, and Jacob and Beth Goering endowment funds.
- Approved the completion of Lakewood Circle and a pickleball court – project completed in December.
- Approved amendments to the plans for the KDOT hiking/walking path. Approved the issuance of general obligation bonds to pay for the project.
- Negotiated with Harvey County for the annexation and/or permission to use 36th Street right of way for North Newton projects.
- Approved an agreement by and between the cities in Harvey County to participate in a drug task force.
- Engaged in mitigation training with Harvey County Emergency Management Department.
- Took advantage of rising interest rates to maximize earnings on idle funds.
- Adjusted water and sewer utility rates that resulted in savings on customers' monthly bills.
- Implemented health insurance coverage for employees.
- Landscaped the east side of City Hall.
- Began taking online debit and credit card payments through GovPayNet.
- Implemented the Itron meter reading system that streamlines the process for utility personnel.
- Continued to defend a lawsuit arising from a previous rezoning.
- Continued airing promotional spots on KPTS television.
- Approved an agreement with Kauffman Museum to provide design and construction oversight for an entry way signs project.
- Began membership in the Regional Area Partnership (REAP).
- City staff and Mayor participated in various committees, educational opportunities, and peer group associations

sponsored by the League of Kansas Municipalities.

PUBLIC WORKS

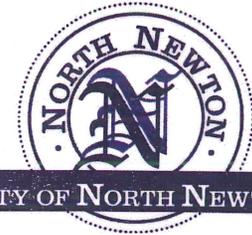
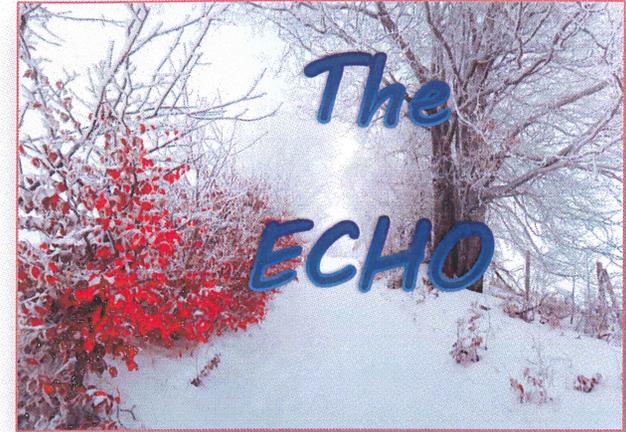
- Offered both spring and fall annual clean up week to assist citizens with landfill of special items.
- Replaced a culvert at Goldenrod Road and Anderson.
- Supervised students during Bethel College service day.
- Provided wood chips for the Sand Creek Trail walk paths.
- Resurfaced all gravel streets with asphalt millings.
- Applied 28 tons of salt/sand mix on and 1000 gallons of brine mix on city streets during the winter of 2017-18.
- Employed scuba divers to clean the interior of the water tower.
- Provided inspection services for the Lakewood Circle water, sewer and street construction.
- Maintained water and wastewater certifications as required by KDHE.
- Produced approximately 48,000,000 gallons of potable water and pumped approximately 43,000,000 gallons of wastewater to Hesston.

POLICE AND MUNICIPAL COURT

- Police caseload under 300 in 2018; municipal court had 60 new cases—down from 101 in 2017.
- Deputy Chief Bethards completed certification as a Crisis/Hostage Negotiator and attended active shooter training. He was a member on the Harvey County planning committee for active shooter incidents.
- Continued K-9 program; Officer Josh Lowe completed annual certification for Heart of America Police Dog Association.
- Hired a fourth full time police officer.
- Made various repairs to patrol vehicles and purchased technology and equipment for the police department.
- Continued bicycle patrol program.
- Provided escort for the Flatlanders Bicycle Ride.
- Continued as partner agency in Harvey County Drug Task Force.
- Participated in Harvey County Emergency Management Active Shooter table top exercise.
- All officers attended training through Prairie View for mental health first aid.
- Provided training for Kidron Bethel staff.
- Maintained a good and improving working relationship with Bethel College faculty, staff, and students.
- Provided service to Bethel College during Fall Fest.
- Hosted a barbeque for Bethel College football players and City Council.
- Updated standard operating procedures.



January 2019



**2601 North Main; P.O. Box 87
North Newton, KS 67117**

Office Hours

**8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Mon. – Thurs.
8:00 A.M. to Noon, Friday**

City Hall: (316) 283-7633

www.northnewton.org



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Police Department: (316) 283-3191

Twitter: @NorthNewtonPD

*A quarterly newsletter for
the people of North Newton*