

BIDS RECEIVED ON HIKING/BIKING PATH PROJECT

Kansas Department of Transportation received bids for 17 Kansas projects on December 18, 2019, including the North Newton Hiking/Biking Path. The apparent low bid was submitted by Vogts Parga Construction Company at \$634,806. Six other bids were received ranging from \$660,000 to over \$1,000,000. North Newton will be obligated to pay 20% of the construction. This is well within the amount included in our recent bond issue.

The path will begin on the north side of 30th Street just east of the Kidron Creek Bridge, proceed northward along the tree line and enter the woods behind North Woods Plaza. It will proceed westward and cross Kidron Creek on a manufactured bridge (such as the one across Sand Creek on Kansas Avenue) continue westward on the south side of 36th Street, turn south on the east side of Anderson, and then turn east on the south side of Kidron Bethel duplexes to join the existing path that proceeds to the southeast.



Construction will be underway this spring.



drop them in the night box and we will send your tags. Easy peasy!



UPDATED TELEPHONE NUMBERS NEEDED FROM UTILITY CUSTOMERS

Utility customers, please let the City know if in the last three years you have discontinued or obtained new phone numbers. We often need to contact utility customers and it can be to your detriment if we have no current phone numbers on record. Call 316-283-7633 or email depcc@northnewton.org.



No public dumping is allowed at the 36th and Anderson city-owned burn site.

You may be caught on camera like this guy!



MISCELLANEOUS

► North Newton continues to levy an **Intangibles Tax**. This is a tax on interest and dividend earnings. Persons who have such income are required to file with your Kansas income tax (Form 200) each spring and this gets posted to your property tax statement. Your accountant should be aware of this requirement. Take note if you have recently moved to town and/or if you prepare your own state income tax forms.

► In addition to the electric car charging station at City Hall, we are now offering a complimentary **tire filling station**. You can fill up your low bicycle or car tires at the southwest corner of City Hall anytime of day.

► 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 30, January 6 and 13.

► The first three **City Council meetings** of 2020 are January 13, February 10, and March 9 at 7:00 P.M.



2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

We have attempted to summarize the major accomplishments and events of 2019 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

- New housing building permits were issued for three Kidron Bethel duplexes valued at \$1,350,000.
- Participated in the Harvey County Council of Governments and various Chamber of Commerce committees.
- Provided funding for Hesston/Bethel Performing Arts, Bethel College Fall Fest, and Kauffman Museum for Kansas Day celebration.
- Approved grants from the Sher Klassen Neufeld, Jim and Shirley Goering, John and Diana Torline, and Jacob and Beth Goering endowment funds.

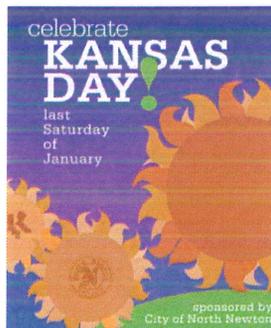
DONT FORGET YOUR 2020 PET TAGS

Dogs and cats are required by ordinance to have a City tag each calendar year. 2020 tags are available December 1 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



Kauffman Museum at Bethel College invites you to attend **Celebrate Kansas Day!** on Saturday, January 25, 2020; 1:00 - 4:00 P.M. The theme will be **Kansas Symbols** with food trucks in the parking lot, speakers throughout the afternoon, activities and crafts for kids, a bake sale and outdoor activities. For information contact Andi Andres at asa@bethelks.edu or 316-283-1612. In mid-January, information will be available at <https://kauffman.bethelks.edu/>.



- City Clerk Redding attended the Municipal Clerk's Institute in Wichita.
- Conducted Council Retreat.
- As a result of the 2019 election, Mayor Braun and Councilman Ron Ratzlaff were reelected to 4 year terms, Kurt Friesen was elected to a 4 year term. Councilman Paul Harder was recognized for his 12 years (3 terms) on the Council.
- Adopted the 2019 Standard Traffic Ordinance and 2019 Uniform Public Offense Code.
- Issued 1.6 million dollars in general obligation bonds to finance various city projects.
- Provided \$20,000 in matching funds for the North Newton Community Foundation.
- Continued membership in the Public Wholesale Water Supply District # 17.
- City staff and Mayor participated in various committees, educational opportunities, and peer group associations sponsored by the League of Kansas Municipalities.
- Mayor Braun was interviewed on a BBC radio program comparing North Newton UK to North Newton, Kansas.
- Approved amendments and finalized plans for the KDOT hiking/walking path. Received notification of increased funding from KDOT. Selected the firm of Bartlett and West to provide inspection services for the project. Project went to bid December 18.
- Continued in an agreement by and between the cities in Harvey County to participate in a drug task force.
- Continued to take advantage of improved rates to maximize interest earnings on idle funds.
- Overlaid Bluestem Street between Main and Anderson Streets.
- Approved a franchise agreement with IDEATEK for high speed internet access for Bethel College.
- Implemented a new telephone system at City Hall.
- Authorized a flood study by Bartlett and West.
- Engaged in mitigation training with Harvey County Emergency Management Department.
- Conducted a fall tree planting program.
- Installed a charging station for electric vehicles at City Hall and offered to the public at no charge.
- Continued to defend a lawsuit arising from a previous rezoning.
- Continued airing promotional spots on KPTS television.
- Continued working with Kauffman Museum for design and construction of the entry way signs project.
- Negotiated with Harvey County for the annexation and/or permission to use 36th right of way for North Newton projects.

- Continued negotiations with Newton for emergency discharge of sewage.

PUBLIC WORKS

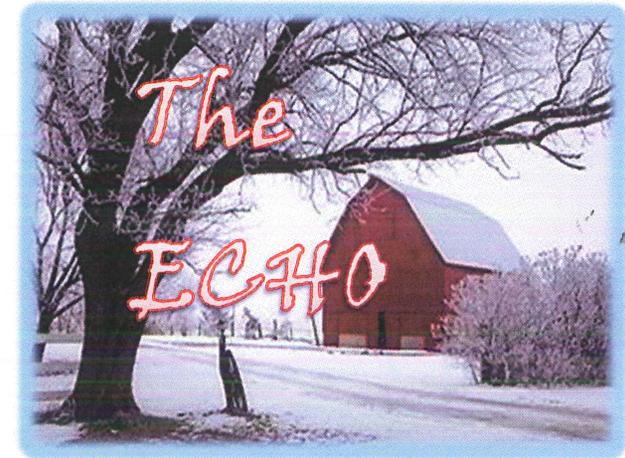
- Offered both spring and fall annual clean up weeks to assist citizens with landfill of special items.
- Provided annual curbside Christmas tree pickup.
- Provided wood chips for the Sand Creek Trail walk paths.
- Resurfaced all gravel streets with asphalt millings.
- Applied 59 tons of salt/sand mix and 1,120 gallons of brine mix on city streets during the winter of 2018-19.
- Maintained water and wastewater certifications as required by KDHE.
- Produced approximately 51,000,000 gallons of potable water and pumped approximately 65,000,000 gallons of wastewater to Hesston.
- Chip sealed various streets (34,000 square yards of surface).
- Danny Bisoni retired as Director of Public Works; Danny Entz was promoted to the position and Justin McBeth was hired into the Public Works Department.

POLICE AND MUNICIPAL COURT

- Purchased Hybrid Honda Clarity.
- Hosted a barbecue for Bethel College football coaches, managers and players.
- Case load exceeded 300 in 2019.
- Made various repairs to patrol vehicles and purchased technology and equipment for the police department such as service weapons and optic sights.
- Continued K-9 program; Officer Josh Lowe completed annual certification for Heart of America Police Dog Association. Officer Lowe also participated in Harvey County Drug Free Coalition and completed certification to interview trauma victims.
- Deputy Chief Bethards completed certification to become armorer for Tavor patrol rifle.
- Received grant funding to open interview room for trauma victims.
- Built a radar trailer for collecting traffic and speed data on city streets.
- Provided training for Kidron Bethel staff.
- Partnered with LEXIPOL to revise and update Standard Operating Procedures.
- Continued as partner agency in Harvey County Drug Task Force.
- All full time officers completed 40 recertification requirements as per state statute.



January 2020



CITY OF NORTH NEWTON

**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**



[Facebook.com/northnewton](https://www.facebook.com/northnewton)



**Police Department: (316) 283-3191
Twitter: @NorthNewtonPD**

*A quarterly newsletter for
the people of North Newton*