

EL DORADO

K A N S A S

TO: City Commission
FROM: David Dillner, City Manager
SUBJ: Weekly Report
DATE: August 2, 2024

Commission Priorities:

- The City plans to release a Request for Proposals (RFP) document next week in anticipation of the Moderate-Income Housing application process this Fall. The Kansas Housing Resources Corporation has yet to release information on the next round of funding through this competitive program.
- The Parks and Recreation Department is developing a plan to collect public input concerning five areas (Forest Park, R.I.O Park, Legion Park, West Park, and the Bike Path) in the park system. These parks were mentioned in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan completed in 2017, although many of these concepts are outdated or no longer relevant. The advisory board wants to get ideas from the public before putting together a plan for the City Commission's review.
- Phase I of the Ballfield Improvement Program is nearly completed. The Parks Department needs to complete repairs to the irrigation system in Central Park and will be planning the installation of irrigation and seeding at the new concession/restroom facility at East Park. The next phase will include an update to the seating at McDonald Stadium.
- Kevin is in the process of putting together a streetscape plan for the downtown area. Excess sales tax funds were allocated to banners, planters, and a speaker system. I have asked Kevin to develop a plan that balances all these elements while minimizing the need for maintenance and upkeep. We plan to engage downtown stakeholders soon to get input on the concept.

Operational Updates:

- Park staff is removing broken and worn-out split rail fence at the Walnut River Sports Complex.
- Recreation staff are adding shale and sand mix to the North Field at East Park and the warning track at McDonald Stadium.
- Staff met with Butler Athletic Director Todd Carter and Head Baseball Coach Ty Reece to discuss the upcoming fall season.
- The public may harvest apples from the Gordy Orchard (formerly the Numana garden).
- The Municipal Pool had approximately 365 swimmers at the final Twilight Swim of the season.
- Recreation staff attended the Back to School Bash sponsored by USD 490 to promote upcoming recreation programs.

- The Park and Recreation Board approved the placement of a memorial swing to honor the late Kevin Leinart. Kevin served the community in facilities maintenance with the Public Works Department. The memorial bench will be placed near the East Park Pond.
- Police officers responded to 167 calls for service during the week. Thirty-eight of those calls for service were criminal cases.
- Officers also completed a certification course on VIN Inspections.
- Progress continues the Central Avenue Improvement Project. Nowak Construction continues to install the water main and has started the installation of the stormwater infrastructure along the corridor near East Park.
- The auditors found a minor mistake in the Annual Financial Report that caused a change in the Net Position for Business-Type Activities (Proprietary Funds). A formula in one of the auditors' spreadsheets was not updated to reflect changes to new GASB standards. The revised figures did not create a significant change between restricted and unrestricted funds.
- The City Commission will meet to discuss the proposed 2025 budget on Wednesday, August 7. Management has worked to revise the initial mill levy from about 67 mills to about 57 mills, which is the equivalent of accepting the increased valuation. The primary means of reducing the mill levy is through a strategic spending down of fund balances that exceed the City's requirements.
- The City continues to get a great response from potential vendors and sponsors for this year's GoldFest now that we've released the entertainment performances. We anticipate this year's event will be quite the "smash."
- The National Crappie League discussed a significant change to its original proposal to host a tournament in 2025. The Experience El Dorado Committee recommended to not move forward with the tournament because of the proposal's modifications that drastically reduced the event's return on investment. The committee is now considering how to redirect those funds to make an impact at the lake. They plan to return with a recommendation in October.
- The Arnold Group will deliver the final compensation study to the City on August 8. They will present the recommendations to the City Commission on the September 25 work session.
- The Public Works Department replaced asphalt at Star Street and Central Avenue where the Utilities Department replaced some water mains. The department also repaired the downtown sinkhole and reopened the roadway on Wednesday.
- Chief Haag attended the North Task Force Fire Chiefs meeting.
- The Fire Department participated in the summer splash day at the Bradford Memorial Library.
- The volunteer firefighters participated in their second monthly fire training of July.
- The Fire Department completed fifty-five training hours and six fire inspections. Their statistics for the week included: Fires – 4, EMS/Resue – 13, and Hazardous Conditions – 4.

Upcoming Events:

- August 4 – Farmer’s Market at East Park from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.
- August 6 – National Night Out at East Park from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.
- Coffee with a Cop will be August 15 at 9:30 am at the Holiday Inn Express.

Personnel Update:

- *Vacant, advertised positions:* Patrol Officers (2), PW Maintenance Worker (7)
- *Vacant, not advertised:* None
- Position status: PU Maintenance Worker – Offer Pending
- Pending offers: Firefighter Nick Poe – August 7 start date

Commission Calendar: *Upcoming City Commission Items (subject to change):*

- **August 5 Regular Meeting** - Award of General Obligation Bonds; Main Street Quarterly Report; Constant Creek Sewer Interceptor Bid; Standard Traffic Ordinance; Uniform Public Offense Code
- **August 7 Work Session** – Budget Discussion; Commission Work Session Topics
- **August 14 Work Session** - Budget Discussion
- **August 19 Regular Meeting** – Chamber Quarterly Report; Haverhill and Central Water Main Bids