## City of Osawatomie

# Weekly Update



October 20, 2023



#### **COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS**



At last week's groundbreaking ceremony for the solar array, Mayor Nick Hampson grabbed a photo with Commissioner George Pretz, Miami County Economic Development Director Janet McRae, and Allison Smith, a representative from Sharice Davids' office. Officials from the City and Evergy Energy **Partners** hosted the event at the solar site north of the State Hospital.

TALKING TOMBSTONES is back in 2023! Perfect for students or adults, this program helps you research, write, and perform first-person narratives of some of our earliest residents inside historic Oakwood Cemetery on the northern edge of town during the spookiest season! Interested in performing or assisting with the event? Email us!

- gatwater@osawatomieks.org
- mmenefee@osawatomieks.org



This friendly giant is located downtown in our new communal gathering space at 530 Main Street., known as Main Street Plaza. The larger-than-life design was created and executed by KC-based artist Alex Eickhoff (Eye Cough Art) and is the latest project from the Osawatomie Arts Commission. Funded by the Allen W. and Gladys Hawkins Foundation, the mural will be officially dedicated on October 21st during the community's monthly

"Third Saturdays" block party.

Members from Osawatomie City Council. Arts Osawatomie Commission. and the Hawkins Foundation will be at the Plaza at 5:00pm on Saturday, October 21st, to congratulate Alex on a job well done and officially dedicate this incredible work of art. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend! Meet the artist, snap a photo on the swings, and enjoy the last block party of 2023. It's all fun, it's all FREE!

# NEWS AND REMINDERS

#### SPOOK PARADE ON THE WAY

The Osawatomie Chamber of Commerce is hosting the annual SPOOK PARADE on Tuesday, October 31st, 2023 at 5:00pm. Lineup begins as early as 4:30pm out front of City Hall. Kids and families will walk down the 500 block of Main Street before turning around and trick-or-treating up the sidewalk at local businesses or from local groups. Is your group interested in hosting a candy station? Simply drop a table in an unoccupied space along Main and get ready for the horde! To amplify the fun, the Osawatomie Arts Commission is hosting another costume contest! Four categories Will be awarded: Best Baby/Toddler Costume, Best Elementary Costume, Best Middle Costume and Best Group/Family Costume. If vou'd like to be considered for one of the prizes, line up behind the right cones in the City Hall parking lot by 4:45pm. Commission members will be judging right before the crowd takes off down Main!

#### **CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**





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#### how to get alerts



We use "TextMyGov" to send notifications to residents who have subscribed to any of our three alert categories. Categories include Emergency Alerts (like boil water advisories), General Alerts (like event notifications), and Road Alerts (for real-time updates on road construction and detours). All alerts are sent via text message -- no internet and no social media required! <u>LEARN MORE HERE</u>

#### DID YOU KNOW?

The Osawatomie Police Department issues Calls for Service reports that track the type and number of services performed by officers. CLICK HERE to view the archive.

#### **ICYMI: BORDER WAR BBQ CANCELLED**

The committee behind the annual Border War BBQ competition, sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbecue Society, has announced the unfortunate cancellation of the 2023 event. The event requires a minimum of 25 teams in order to be sanctioned by KCBS and had only received 15 confirmed registrants by the deadline. Organizers hope to see a triumphant return in 2024.



### CONSTRUCTION WORK CONTINUES FOR BROWN AVE, MAIN ST



Crews have begun digging out Brown Avenue's road bed to cut down to a new subgrade. Because this creates dramatic drops in road height as the contractor works in sections, please avoid driving on Brown Ave during this time. Once the grade is established, the road will get 6" of rock. Weather and conditions permitting, concrete is tentatively scheduled to start on October 30th! Final storm sewer work resumed at 8th and Main earlier this week and is projected to last 2-3 weeks, weather permitting.





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