



A GREAT VISIT!

Together with a number of community representatives, the City of Osawatomie hosted Kansas Senator Roger Marshall on Thursday, August 24th, 2023. Senator Marshall toured the John Brown Museum State Historic Site (for the first time!) and learned about the history of Bleeding Kansas and the role Osawatomie played in the lead-up to the Civil War.

While at the Museum, longtime community members Gordon Schrader (left) and Wes Cole (right) gifted Senator Marshall a shadowbox featuring a Minié ball that was found by Mr. Cole 60 years ago on the site of the Battle of Osawatomie.

Senator Marshall's brief visit to Osawatomie is part of ongoing efforts by City officials to engage the State of Kansas and federal governments in greater preservation of Osawatomie's historical sites, including the push to become a National Historical Park under the National Park Service.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS



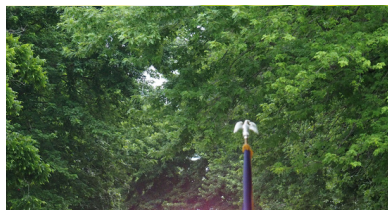
FREEDOM FESTIVAL

The annual Freedom Festival, part of the City of Osawatomie's Signature Event Series, heads back to John Brown Memorial Park on September 16th - 17th, 2023. This year's event includes fun for all ages and incredible, immersive experiences of frontier life. Admittance is FREE all weekend! Interested in volunteering?

Contact Grady Atwater at gatwater@osawatomieks.org.

Main Street is now open between 9th Street and 12th Street, which includes access to Memorial Hall, John Brown Memorial Park, and the O-Zone.

Stormwater improvements continue between 7th Street and 9th Street and that portion of Main Street remains closed to ALL traffic. Please continue to use the Pacific Avenue detour whenever possible!



PARTIAL REOPENING



NEWS AND REMINDERS

FOLK ART AND CHALK EVENT

The Osawatomie Arts Commission is working with the Freedom Festival on a fun new activity this year -- a Folk-Art Painting and Sidewalk Chalk Gallery! Kids of all ages are welcome to claim a piece of sidewalk surrounding the [John Brown Museum State Historic Site](#) on Saturday, September 16th, from 10:30am to 12:30pm to create their own personal masterpieces. Chalk is provided and the activity is FREE! For \$5.00, adults and kids aged 10+ can paint a scene on wooden canvases (donated by Dale Bratton!). Paint and boards are provided! Finished folk-art pieces donated back to the Arts Commission will be displayed at a future event. For an extra \$5.00, painters can take their masterpieces home! Registration is required for space and supplies! Contact Phyllis at 913-755-4384 or psharp@osawatomieks.org for more information. [Download a registration form on our website!](#)

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

September Calendar

6:30PM | MEMORIAL HALL
411 11TH ST, OSAWATOMIE

SEPT. 14TH, 2023

SEPT. 28TH, 2023



[city of osawatomie youtube](#)



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT! | We're breaking ground on the City of Osawatomie / Everygy solar array in the Northland on October 12th, 2023 at 5:00pm. City officials, Everygy representatives, and other special guests will give remarks before the golden shovel groundbreaking ceremony. More details will be available as we get closer to the date. [Visit our website for more information on this great event!](#)

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.](#)

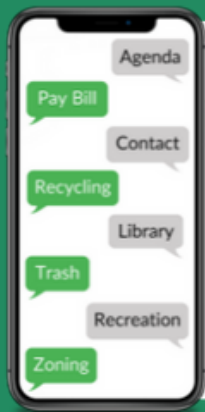
BROWN AVENUE/MAIN ST UPDATE

Construction teams have encountered unexpected delays on 8th Street between Brown Avenue and Main Street. These complications will require that portion of Main Street (between 7th and 9th) to be closed for longer than expected as engineers and contractors work with City staff on possible resolutions. While you may not observe active work in the area every day, progress is being made throughout the project and we ask that vehicular traffic still avoid the area and instead continue to utilize the Pacific Avenue detour. Saw cuts have been made across Main Street in preparation for impending stormwater improvements and there is a nearby open trench. Please contact Public Works if you have specific questions or concerns for continued access to the impacted residences.

CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS 2024 BUDGET

At its regular meeting on August 24th, 2023, the City of Osawatomie City Council reviewed and voted to approve the proposed 2024 budget after a comprehensive presentation by City Manager Bret Glendening. In front of a crowd of almost a dozen interested residents, Glendening explained the ways Osawatomie has worked to reduce strain on the overall budget (such as contracting services like mowing or eliminating positions where possible) and where money is being more efficiently directed (such as reducing transfers from utility funds). Though the City approved a budget that exceeds the Revenue Neutral Rate, the overall City mill rate is decreased for 2024. [For more information on the 2024 Budget](#), [please visit us online](#) or stop into City Hall to speak with Mr. Glendening anytime.





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