City of Osawatomie

Weekly Update



September 8, 2023



COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS



Our friends at Miami County, Kansas have given notice that Old Kansas City Road from Osawatomie City Limits to 335th Street will be closed Saturday, September 9, 2023, through Friday, September 15, 2023, as the county performs work on that section.

Alternate route options are 169 Hwy or 327th Street to Plum Creek Road. Our friends at Osawatomie State Hospital's Little Farm on the Hill stopped by City Hall on Friday afternoon with an enormous delivery of beautiful fall mums for the downtown corridor. The mums will be planted in along Main Street thanks to Osawatomie PRIDE and our Public Works crew members. We're certainly looking forward to welcoming the fall season and cooler temperatures!



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. including a reenactment of the Battle of Osawatomie (complete with real cannon fire!). Other events and performances include the nationally renowned folk duo Magpie who will be showcasing two unique sets. John Brown Memorial Park will be abuzz all weekend with artisans, crafters, vendors, and other activities available all day between scheduled performances.

A full schedule of events can be found on our website. As always, this is a FREE EVENT and great for ALL AGES!

Interested in volunteering? Contact Site Administrator Grady Atwater at gatwater@osawatomieks.org.

NEWS AND REMINDERS

COUNCIL APPROVES BUDGET

At its regular meeting on August 24th, 2023, the City of Osawatomie City Council reviewed and voted to approve the proposed 2024 budaet after 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.

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS





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city of osawatomie youtube



Event season never ends in Osawatomie -- there's always something going on! If you'd like to volunteer to help with any upcoming events, like the Freedom Festival, Border War BBQ, Miracle on Main Street, please contact our offices at 913-755-2146 or info@osawatomieks.org. We'd love as many helping hands as we can get to help make our events a safe and welcoming experience.

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.

COMING SOON - SOLAR ARRAY!

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT - We're breaking ground on the City of Osawatomie / Evergy solar array in the Northland on October 12th, 2023 at 5:00pm. City officials, Evergy representatives, and other special guests will give remarks before the golden shovel groundbreaking ceremony. The site is situated at the intersection of Osawatomie Road and 335th Street. This 40-acre array is slated for development in the City's long-held "Northland" property, which was given to the city by the State of Kansas for use toward large-scale economic development. City officials began working with Evergy in 2021, with a formal agreement coming to life early in 2022. More details will be available as we get closer to the date. Visit our website for more information on this great event!

BROWN AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction teams encountered complications on 8th Street between Brown Avenue and Main Street which will require that portion of Main Street (between 7th and 9th) to be closed for longer than originally expected. Engineers and contractors are working with City staff on resolutions and, 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. Please 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.







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