



City of Lansing
800 First Terrace
Lansing, Kansas 66043

City Administrator's Report
August 21, 2025

Agenda Items:

A public hearing to exceed the revenue neutral rate and approval of Resolution B-8-2025 is included on the agenda. The proposed mill levy is 41.909, identical to last year. Staff recommends the City Council open, hold the public hearing, close the public hearing, and approve Resolution B-8-2025. The City achieved a revenue neutral rate for the 2023 and 2024 budgets, while last year's budget was essentially flat (nine mills absorbed from LCFD#1).

The public hearing and consideration of the proposed 2026 budget is on the agenda. The budget maintains a flat property tax rate, which would generate an additional \$287,148 in 2026. Of that portion, \$225,000 is included to update the Comprehensive Plan. Other items that are included in the budget that do not impact the General Fund include library parking lot repairs, an in-car camera system for law enforcement, SCADA system updates for the Wastewater Treatment Plant, a Jet/Vac unit, and upgrades to the traffic signaling system at 4H & Main Street.

Staff may seek guidance and feedback regarding enforcement of political yard signs. The City's current procedures are outlined in a flier included in the Council materials.

Updates on fire department calls, library, and fleet reports are included on the agenda.

Library:

The Library is pleased to share that they will receive a \$35,000 grant from the Northeast Kansas Library System (NEKLS) for 2026 and 2027. Staff is planning to utilize the grant for new library shelving. The shelving will be longer and narrower than our existing shelves, allowing the library to have more space more books and materials, expanding our catalogue within our existing footprint. The shelves also will not have a solid back, meaning it will be easier for parents to keep an eye on their children. This will also bring in more natural light into the library. The anticipated cost of the 2026 shelving project is \$40,000. This will likely be a two-part project, with the second half taking place in 2027.

Parks & Recreation:

The aquatic center sold 315 season passes. Of these, 219 are household passes, 57 are individual passes, and 39 are senior passes. Hours for the pool will begin declining as students go back to school. Repairs to the twister slide, installation of light poles, and other final repairs are slated to take place in the off season. While the pool itself closes, the splash pad may remain open as long as weather permits.



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Public Works:

J.M. Fahey, the contractor for this summer's Capital Improvement Plan, has completed all asphalt work. Pavement markings are on pace to be completed in the next month, with yard restoration likely taking place this fall once grass can grow. This year's budget for capital improvements totals \$822,000. This maintenance work was approved at the April 17th City Council meeting.

Staff is hoping to bid repairs for the bridge at Bernard Park. We have engineered plans for repairs and are hopeful we can bid the work later this summer, with repairs to occur in fall/winter to minimize the impact. We have a gravel secondary entrance to Bernard Park that was created during the park improvements of 2022-2023. We expect these bids to be on the September 18th City Council agenda.

Staff is working with the property owner to repair a lingering drainage issue near Nine Mile Creek on Robin Road. We are hopeful to bid the repairs this August and have the contractor make the repairs this fall.

The West Kansas streambank stabilization project approved earlier in the summer is slated to begin once the Town Center sewer project slows down.

Wastewater:

Linaweaver Construction is making steady progress on the Town Centre Trunk Sewer Replacement Project. The temporary bypass for West Kansas has been closed and residents are able to drive a similar alignment until the street can be repaired. The depth of rock has decreased, so as long as the weather cooperates, crews can continue to work. As they approach W Kay Street, that intersection will need to be closed while the last connections for the project are completed. The project is scheduled to wrap up by mid to late September.

The Ida/Gable sewer project was wrapped up on August 16th, with the roadway opening for traffic. This project relocated sewers near the intersection that are oversized for current flows to the new 7 Mile 36" interceptor. Westland Construction was the general contractor for the project, with a total project cost of \$351,236, paid for from the Wastewater Utility Fund.

All major fieldwork for this project is now complete. The consultant is compiling and reviewing the data in preparation for a draft report submittal. A preliminary meeting will be scheduled in August or September to review their findings, prior to briefing the city council.

Year End Sales Tax Update:

| | 2024 YTD | 2025 YTD | Difference |
|--|----------|----------|------------|
|--|----------|----------|------------|



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|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Local Sales & Use Tax (1.9%) | \$1,590,990 | \$1,783,031 | \$192,041, 12.07% |
| County Sales Tax | \$520,334 | \$554,643 | \$34,309, 6.59% |
| County Use Tax | \$218,017 | \$247,197 | \$29,180, 13.38% |
| Guest Tax | \$56,126 | \$58,290 | \$2,163, -3.85% |

The total non-food sales tax rate in Lansing is broken down as follows:

- 6.5% State Sales Tax (varies on food)
- 1% Countywide Sales Tax
- 1% City General Sales Tax-General Fund
- .45% DeSoto Road & Park Improvements (20 years)
- .45% Aquatic Center (20 years)
- 9.4% TOTAL
- 1% Community Improvement Dist. (Mainstreet Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram property only)

The special sales tax to pay for the Aquatic Center generated \$427,927 this year. The special sales tax to pay for DeSoto Road and Bernard Park Improvements also generated \$427,927 (both special sales taxes are for the same amount, .45%). At this rate, both special sales taxes would generate \$733,589 by the end of the year.

Meetings & Announcements:

The City is receiving opioid settlement money through the Kansas Attorney General's Office to treat and fight opioid addiction. Government agencies throughout Kansas will receive over \$340 million over the next 18 years to treat and fight opioid addiction. Lansing is on pace to receive over \$166,000 over the life of the opioid settlement. Thus far, the City is considering utilizing these funds to fund AEDs and mobile radios to assist our first responders in responding to overdoses. The City can also utilize funds to partner with agencies that fight the opioid crisis at its root cause, mental health/homelessness, etc.

There are multiple openings for Police Officer I/II. Starting pay for police officers is competitive, with abundant opportunities for overtime. Officers with experience, education, or certification can be started higher on the pay scale. Additionally, the City offers a \$3,000 sign-on bonus for new, uncertified police officers! The City also has seasonal Parks & Recreation Laborer positions available. Interested candidates can apply by clicking on the "How Do I?" tab under the website and selecting Job Opportunities.



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Delaware Township has expressed an openness to partner on the cost of a slide-in unit for a brush truck to fight grass fires. Based on this potential cost-share, as well as the desire to accomplish this in the fall/winter when there are fewer grassfires, we may attempt to purchase the slide-in unit for the brush truck later this year rather than 2025. Bids will come before the City Council prior to any purchase.

- Wednesday, August 20 Planning Commission Meeting, City Hall
 - Rezone Monroe Manor to R-2 Single Family
- Thursday, August 21 City Council Meeting, 7:00pm, City Hall
 - Budget Public Hearing
- Thursday, August 28 City Council Work Session, 7:00pm, City Hall
 - Presentation from Mid-America Regional Council and benefit to the City of Lansing
 - Representatives from City of Leavenworth, Transfer station discussion
- Monday, September 1 Labor Day Holiday, City Offices Closed
- Thursday, September 4 City Council Meeting, 7:00pm, City Hall
- Thursday, September 18 City Council Meeting, 7:00pm, City Hall
- Thursday, September 25 City Council Work Session, 7:00pm, City Hall
- Thursday, October 2 City Council Meeting, 7:00pm, City Hall
- Monday, October 13 Columbus Day-City Offices Closed-Staff Training Day

Sincerely,

Tim Vandall