OPINION

Meals follow MCC's budget request

by Rick Nichols

Two weeks after the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners tabled consideration of Midland Care Connection's budget request for 2026, Kerri Mosinski and Jessica Mays with the Topeka hospice were in front of County Commissioners David Christy, Richard Malm, and Doug Walbridge with both some statistics and some Meals on Wheels meals for them to digest, the former figuratively and the latter literally, at their convenience.

MCC, which is asking the county for \$10,000 to help fund its Meals on Wheels program next year, delivered 17,710 meals to Jefferson County residents at a total cost of \$134,773.10 during 2024, according to Mosinski, the hospice's chief administrative officer. That would put the cost per meal at \$7.61, but when the financial assistance provided under the Older Americans Act is taken into consideration, the cost per meal falls to \$3.11.

Of those 17,710 meals, 15,951 of them arrived at someone's home, the remaining

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in The Oskaloosa Independent June 12 and 19, 2025)2t

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-02 PURSUANT TO CITY OF WIN-CHESTER CITY CODE CHAP-TER 8, ARTICLE 5, § 505.

A RESOLUTION IN THE CITY OF WINCHESTER, KANSAS, PROVIDING FOR A TIME AND DATE CERTAIN FOR THE OWNERS, OWNERS AGENTS, LIENHOLDERS AND OCCUPANTS OF 617 PINE STREET IN THE CITY OF WINCHESTER, KANSAS, JEFFERSON COUNTY, KAN-SAS TO APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE THE STRUCTURE AT THAT ADDRESS SHOULD NOT BE CONDEMNED AND ORDERED REPAIRED OR DEMOLISHED.

WHEREAS, the City of Winchester building inspector inspected 617 Pine Street, Winchester, Kansas and determined the structure thereon is a dangerous and unfit structure used as a dwelling as defined in Winchester City Code § 8-408; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Winchester City Code § 8-504, the City of Winchester city inspector notified the Winchester,

1,759 at a congregate site. Mosinski told Christy,

Malm, and Walbridge the afternoon of June 2 that there were 70 individuals on the current waiting list for meals and that she was hoping to see an increase in the level of state funding for the program beginning July 1. She also told the trio that MCC has seen a greater demand for its meals ever since it began producing meals at its kitchen in the southwest part of the capital city.

According to Mosinski, MCC attempts to buy the food needed for meals from local sources as much as possible, and the menu includes numerous new items (e.g., shrimp, crab and mushrooms).

A three-page handout Mosinski made available to the commissioners and the paper revealed that MCC delivers meals to 13 congregate sites, maintains 77 routes across Jefferson, Shawnee, and Douglas counties, and utilizes the services of 814 volunteers at this time. It also revealed that 86 individuals receive frozen meals and 149 get weekend and holiday meals.

After Mosinski had proverbially served up a few facts for the commissioners to consider as they continue to ponder MCC's budget request, Mays, the director of the Meals on Wheels program, proceeded to remove several meals from a cooler and distribute them to the commissioners and others in the room. These meals included stuffed peppers, carrots, and chocolate cake.

In other business during the board's weekly meeting at the courthouse in Oskaloosa, Christy, Malm, and Walbridge approved a proposed contract between the county and Jefferson County North USD 339

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in The Oskaloosa Independent June 12, 2025)1t **ORDINANCE NO. 2025-04** AN ORDINANCE IN CITY OF WINCHESTER, KANSAS, AMENDING CITY OF WIN-CHESTER CODE CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE 3, §303(a) CHANG-ING DATES WHEN PEOPLE MAY FIRE OR DISCHARGE FIREWORKS WITHIN CITY LIMITS.

WHEREAS, the City of Winchester regulates firework use within city limits to protect the health, safety, peace and enjoyment of its residents and guests; and WHEREAS, the Code of the City of Winchester, Kansas Chapter 7, Article 3, §303(a) states, "Section 7-302 of this article shall not apply to the fire or discharge of fireworks in the city between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. on June 27th through July 5th of each year." WHEREAS, the Code of the City of Winchester, Kansas Chapter 7, Article 3, \$303(a)was enacted to reflect the fireworks statutes and regulations of the State of Kansas; and WHEREAS, the State of Kansas amended its statutes regarding fireworks to allow seasonal fireworks retailers to operate from June 20 to July 7 each year: and WHEREAS, the Winchester governing body understands it is reasonable to allow fireworks use in the city at times when seasonal fireworks retailers may legally sell fireworks. THEREFORE, BE IT OR-DAINED BY THE GOVERN-ING BODY OF THE CITY OF WINCHESTER, KANSAS: the Code of the City of Winchester, Kansas Chapter 7, Article 3, §303(a) is hereby amended to state: "Section 7-302 of this article shall not apply to the fire or discharge of fireworks in the city between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. on June 20th through July 7th of each year." PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON THIS DAY 4 OF JUNE, 2025. APPROVED BY THE MAY-OR ON THIS DAY 4 OF JUNE, 2025.MAYOR JARED PEMBERTON /s/ Jared Pemberton ATTEST: City Clerk of Winchester, Kansas Date:6/4/25 /s/ Whitney Bryant (SEAL)

covering the provision of nursing services during the 2025-2026 school year.

The agreement calls for the school district to pay the county \$30,932 (\$38 an hour for 814 hours) for nursing services from July 1 through the end of next May.

The contract was brought forward by Health Department Administrator Crystal /anHoutan.

After the vote had been taken, VanHoutan told the commissioners that she anticipated having a proposed contract between the county and Keystone Learning Services for them to act on in the near future. KLS operates the John Dewey Learning Academy, which serves students with special needs from eight different school districts.

VanHoutan reported that since the start of the year 64 Kansans have contracted the measles. She said the "large majority" of the individuals comprising this group hadn't been vaccinated against the measles and that this group included 40 children 13 years old or vounger.

According to VanHoutan, all of the measles cases are confined to 11 counties, none of which is close to Jefferson County.

VanHoutan announced that the Health Department would be holding a Drug Take Back Day from 9 to 11 a.m. on June 14 (i.e., this Saturday) at the Law Enforcement Center in Oskaloosa. She went on to report that Public Health nurse Stephanie Cox, R.N. would be on hand for the event and that the first 25 individuals who

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in The Oskaloosa Independent June 12, 2025)1t ORDINANCE NO. 2025-03 AN ORDINANCE IN CITY OF WINCHESTER, KAN-SAS, AMENDING CITY OF WINCHESTER CODE CHAP-TER I, ARTICLE 2, §203(a) CHANGING REGULAR MEETING TIMES OF THE GOVERNING BODY FROM 7:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M. ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

WHEREAS, the City of Winchester governing body holds regular meetings each month to conduct city business; and

WHEREAS, the Code of the City of Winchester, Kansas Chapter 1, Article 2, \$203(a)states, " Regular meetings of the governing body shall be held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. In the event the regular meeting day shall fall on any legal holiday, or any day observed as a holiday by the City offices, the governing body shall fix the succeeding day not observed as a holiday as a meeting day."

show up with expired medications they want to dispose of will receive a goody bag.

Sheriff Jeff Herrig complemented the Health Department administrator's announcement by reporting that the Health Department also would be accepting illegal drugs from individuals.

VanHoutan informed the commissioners that one of her nurses had completed the Safe Kids car seat safety training and went on to say she would have more information to share with them later.

The Health Department administrator announced that a community baby shower would be held at Oskaloosa City Hall Saturday, Aug. 23 from 9 a.m. to noon. She also announced that the Health Department would be organizing some school immunization events during the summer.

The commissioners learned from the Health Department administrator that Beth Brown, R.N., who used to head up the Health Department, is now the Public Health Director for the county. She replaces Debbie McNary-Naumann, who retired earlier this year.

Voting 3-0, the board OK'd two travel requests that had been presented to it by Van-Houtan. The move clears the way for the Health Department administrator to go to the midyear meeting of the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments in Manhattan in late June and for her and Fiscal Officer Wanda Agnew to take in the 2025 National Alliance for Care at Home Financial Summit in Chicago, Ill., in late July. Public Works Director Ben

Domann informed the commissioners that the Road and Bridge Department had taken delivery on both of the road grooms the county purchased from Road Groom Manufacturing, Grundy Center, Iowa. One of the grooms is 8.5' wide and came at a cost of \$20,000, as previously reported in the paper.

The other groom is 11' wide and was upgraded by RGM for \$5,000, as previously reported in the paper.

Domann told the commissioners that Road and Bridge crews were patching paved roads with asphalt as needed in anticipation of chip-andsealing these same roads later this summer. According to him, this year Road and Bridge will

attending a meeting two days later in connection with the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan for Jefferson and

Douglas counties. County Appraiser Janet Allen, R.M.A. informed the board that she had certified the real estate and personal property valuations for 2025 to the County Clerk's Office and that her real estate staff was busy and had returned to the field to tackle assorted tasks, including parcel maintenance, building permits, and sales validations. She said the land analysis for 2026 would get underway in July.

According to Allen, there are now 15,505 parcels of land in Jefferson County. In 2024, she related, there were 99 fewer parcels.

The four-page report Allen shared with both the commissioners and the paper indicated that overall, appraised real estate valuations for 2025 were 6.6 percent higher than last year's valuations. Meanwhile, assessed real estate valuations increased by 5.5 percent overall.

More information about this year's appraised and assessed real estate and personal property valuations will be published in a future issue of the paper.

At the request of Emergency Manager Keith Jeffers, and on a 3-0 vote, the board passed Resolution 2025-019, which included a proclamation declaring that a State of Local Disaster Emergency exists in Jefferson County as a result of severe storms that were to have started later in the day and continued.

The action was taken after Jeffers had made the commissioners aware of the National Weather Service's forecast for northeast Kansas for that evening and the following day. According to him, the federal agency was predicting winds of around 60 miles per hour, hail up to an inch or larger in diameter, and anywhere from half an inch to two and a half inches of rain.

The resolution will be in effect for 14 days unless the board extends it or terminates it before two weeks have elapsed.

Resolution 2025-018 was approved by the board on a 3-0 vote. This resolution contains an order vacating all of the platted setbacks and the westpublic hearing.

A corrected version of Resolution Z2025-05 was passed by the board on a 3-0 vote. This resolution basically confirms the action the commissioners took on May 19 when they approved a request from Don and Mary Hurd to rezone part of an existing tract at 2926 Linn Road, Perry, to facilitate the creation of a seven-lot subdivision covering 160.41 acres.

On a 3-0 vote, the board authorized Christy to sign seven Quit Claim deeds on behalf of the governing body. The deeds were for lots that had been controlled by the Jefferson County Land Bank and then sold to private citizens.

The commissioners signed the final plat of Porter Estates.

Voting 3-0, the board OK'd a travel request it has received from Register of Deeds Delia Heston, clearing the way for her to attend the Kansas Register of Deeds Association's Annual June Seminar in Wichita. The event began June 3 and ended this past Friday.

Finally, County Counselordesignate Jonathan Ehrlich introduced Thomas Fergus, a 2021 graduate of Perry-Lecompton High School, to the commissioners. A second-year student at the Washburn University School of Law, Fergus will be working as an intern in the County Attorney's Office in June and July.

Fergus graduated from Baker University in Baldwin City earlier this year with a degree in history.

Executive Sessions

At the request of VanHoutan, the commissioners met privately with her for nine minutes for the stated purpose of discussing personnel matters relating to non-elected personnel. "Recruitment and retention" was identified as being the subject that was to be discussed.

At the request of VanHoutan, the commissioners ultimately met privately with her for a total of 15 minutes for the stated purpose of discussing personnel matters relating to non-elected personnel. "Recruitment and retention" was identified as being the subject that was to be discussed.

At the request of Christy, the commissioners met privately with County Counselor Josh Ney for 10 minutes under the attorney-client privilege exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act. "Interagency issues" was identified as being the subject that was to be discussed. When the meeting reopened to the public, Christy announced that no binding action had been taken behind closed doors.

Kansas governing body of his inspection and determination of the dangerous and unfit dwelling at 617 Pine Street, Winchester, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of Winchester, Kansas protects the health and welfare of its residence by designating, and ordering repair or condemnation of dangerous or unfit structures; and

WHEREAS, the 617 Pine Street dwelling structure has not been repaired despite being in a state of dangerousness and unfitness; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 8-505, the City of Winchester must fix a time and place at which the owner, the owner's agent, any lienholder of record and any occupant of the structure may appear and show cause why the structure should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WINCHESTER, KANSAS: pursuant to Chapter 8 of the Winchester City Code, any owner, owner's agent, lienholder of record, and any occupant of the structure at 617 Pine Street, Winchester, Kansas 66097 must appear at the Winchester Community Building at 411 Spruce St. on August 6, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. to show cause why that structure should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished. PASSED BY THE CITY COUN-CIL ON THIS DAY 4 OF JUNE, 2025.

APPROVED BY THE MAY-OR ON THIS DAY 4 OF JUNE, 2025.

MAYOR JARED PEMBERTON /s/ Jared Pemberton ATTEST: City Clerk of Winchester, Kansas Date:6/4/25 /s/ Whitney Bryant (SEAL)

WHEREAS, the governing body has determined holding regular meetings at 6:00 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m. allows more citizens to participate in governance of the city; and

WHEREAS, the governing body has determined holding regular meetings at 6:00 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m. allows the governing body to conduct city business more efficiently and effectively: and

THEREFORE, BE IT OR-DAINED BY THE GOVERN-ING BODY OF THE CITY OF WINCHESTER, KANSAS: the Code of the City of Winchester, Kansas Chapter 1, Article 2, §203(a) is hereby amended to state: "Regular meetings of the governing body shall be held on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. In the event the regular meeting day shall fall on any legal holiday, or any day observed as a holiday by the City offices, the governing body shall fix the succeeding day not observed as a holiday as a meeting day."

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON THIS DAY 4 OF JUNE, 2025.

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be chip-and-sealing the roads in the western third of the county.

The Public Works director updated the board on the Mc-Call Drive bridge replacement project, telling the commissioners that two of the four drill shafts the new structure will require had been drilled and the concrete poured, and that one of the other two drill shafts had been drilled. He said he hoped the third shaft would be poured by the end of that week and that the fourth shaft would be drilled and poured, too.

According to him, each shaft is 40' deep and 3' round.

Domann reported that the replacement of the floor in the Auxiliary Services Office had been completed.

Domann made the board aware of a "plumbing issue" involving the building just east of Oskaloosa that houses his office. He told the commissioners that the septic tank needed to be pumped out and that one of the septic lines was "sagging."

Asked by Christy who would be doing the work that would be involved in order to correct the problem, the Public Works director said county employees would be doing part of it.

The board opened two sealed bids on 500 tons of deicing road salt and then turned them over to Domann so that he could review them prior to this week's meeting of the governing body.

The apparent low bid was submitted by Kansas Salt LLC, Louisburg, which priced its salt at \$69.50 a ton.

The other bid was supplied by Central Salt LLC, Lyons. It wanted \$70.15 a ton for its salt. A third business, Compass Minerals of Overland Park, also was invited to turn in a bid but ultimately was unable to do

Domann informed the board that he and Walbridge would be

ernmost five feet of the eastern utility easement on Lot 2 of Roe Addition, which is located at 11091 46th Street, Perry.

The vacation of the setbacks and a portion of the easement had been requested by Daniel and Linda Foltz by way of a petition. Their petition was approved by the commissioners May 12 following a required

The meeting adjourned at 2:21

McLouth High School announces second semester honor roll

announced its second semester honor roll list.

Principal's (4.0 G.P.A.) -

Seniors - Cresinda Bandel, Drennan Cantrell, Jerrick Chenhall, Makade Daniels, Gage Fields, Judd Holwick, Dani Lee, Lilly Mahon, Calleigh McColley, Uchenna Orji, Piper Sheeley, Henry Wahl, and Lucille Zachariah.

Juniors - Cheiton Bandel, Alexis Barnes, Gavin Cloyd, Charlesey Coffin, Mya Folsom, and Charlee Nehl.

Sophomores - Trevor Carleton, Eloise David, Kaelyn Finneran, Ace Gill, and Brooklvn Mahon.

Freshmen – Caleb Burnett, Evylin Chowning, Makinley Daniels, Ned Forsberg, Beau Harsh, Jaxon Holloway, Emery Kramer, Reese McMeans, Macey Schempp, and Kinlee Wolfe.

Gold (3.5 to 3.99) -

Seniors – Ryan Anderson, Carter Coit, Zoey Delaet, Wyatt Enright, Leanna Larson, Abbygayle Patz, Noah Shanks, and Bailey Wiehe.

Juniors – Braden Blowers, Brooklynn Ellis, Alexander Null, and Alison Null.

Sophomores – Amora Cheek, Gage Coit, Brayden Durkes,

Oskaloosa Office Information Oskaloosa, KS 66066 Phone (785) 863-2520 Fax (785) 863-2730 www.JeffCountyNews.com

McLouth High School has Taylor Edmonds, Gracie Gallagher, Colten Jansen, Drayton Kessler, Sophie Little, Gabriella Peerson-Quijas, and Jaxson Plake.

Freshmen – Austin Barden, Zachary Blitch, Aaliyah Dlugopolski, Courtney Gallet, Landon Hellman, Lily Leonard, Duncan Murphy, Madison Turner, and Dalton Wilson.

Purple (3.0 to 3.49) -

Seniors - Kamrin McCowan. Juniors-Gretchen Copeland and Trinity Dale.

Sophomores – Brayden Fraser, Jude Hollingsworth, Wyatt Karmann, Emma Lasher, Halev Luse, Justin Patz, Garrett Sheehan, Blake Sullivan, Bryce Williams, and Peyton Wyatt.

Freshmen-Kooper Buckley, Brooke Coffey, Sabrina Dlugopolski, Trinity Gallet, Nathan Kessler, Gertie Matile, Lillian Perkins, Bricen Ray, Riley Robinson, and Wyatt Sullivan.



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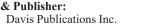
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