

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2025 | Vol. 119, No. 27 | \$1.00

Happy Independence Day
Our office is closed today.

The Telegram office will be closed Fri., July 4

Norton City Council June 18 meeting: Speed bump on Woods Drive is completed

The Norton City Council met in regular session Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., with Mayor Jerry Jones presiding. Council members present were Dale Jacobson, Andrew Black, Jim Miller, Gerald Jones and Jason Jones. Others present were Abigail Horn, Dallas Gosselin, Dru Kasson, Natalie Eveleigh, Caydence Corman, Cody Land, Eli Garcia, Mitch Lowry, James Moreau and Alex McKenna.

Motion was made by Dale Jacobson and seconded by Jim Miller to approve the June 4th, 2025, City Council meeting minutes. Vote taken. Motion carried 5-0.

The following building/demolition permits were presented:

Dave Harshbarger - \$15,987 - Roofing/Reroofing at 302 N Graves

Toby Nickell - \$4,950 - Roofing/Reroofing at 812 N Wabash

Tim Graham - \$6,800 - Accessory Building at 605 E Main

Marj Allen - \$6,500 - Roofing/Reroofing at 1114 N Second

Robert Daniels and Kendra Baker - \$15,000 - Dwelling Addition at 410 N State

Nicole Rushton - \$2,000 - Dwelling Addition at 112 S Archer

A motion was made by Andrew Black, seconded by Gerald Jones to approve the street closures of East Main from State Street to South Norton Avenue; East Washington from State Street to South Norton Avenue; and Kansas Avenue from Penn to East Main for the car show on July 12, 2025. Vote taken; motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Jason Jones, seconded by Dale Jacobson to approve the use of the city's dirt for the demo derby pit. Vote taken; motion carried 5-0.

Dallas Gosselin presented the proposed 2026 budget for economic development. A motion was made by Andrew Black, seconded by Dale Jacobson to approve the proposed 2026 economic development budget. Vote taken; motion carried 5-0.

As part of Gerald Jones'

report on old business, James provided an update on the following items: the electric department is still working on relocating the birdhouse siren; the Woods Drive speed bump is completed and will be open on Friday; signage for the vacated street has been ordered and should be in soon; the meter and shutoff switch has been installed at the Senior Center Garage.

Jason Jones reported on old business. Regarding the council room camera, James stated he is still having difficulties with the software. The city now has the prison crew every two weeks so there should be improvement with the mowing and trimming of city properties.

Motion was made by Andrew Black, seconded by Dale Jacobson to recess the council meeting in order to hold the public hearing regarding the neighborhood revitalization plan.

Mayor Jones opened the public hearing at 5:45 p.m. for the purpose of hearing and answering objections from citizens relating to the adoption of a neighborhood revitalization plan for the City of Norton. The public hearing was closed at 5:46 p.m.

Council resumed regular session at 5:46 p.m. Police Chief Mitch Lowry gave a report from his Chamber board meeting.

City Administrator James Moreau reported interviews were held for the opening in the electrical department and the opening in the water/sewer department. He stated the interviews went well and an offer was made to both candidates.

Andrew Black scheduled a finance committee meeting at 3:00 p.m. on July 7th.

Motion was made by Andrew Black and seconded by Gerald Jones to adopt Ordinance No. 1776 an Ordinance approving adopting a Neighborhood Revitalization Plan for the City of Norton, Kansas, and all provisions, terms and conditions thereof, and authorizing the execution of a certain agreement for interlocal cooperation with Norton County, Kansas, and all

participating public agencies for the purpose of providing a program for Neighborhood Revitalization. Vote taken. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Jason Jones, seconded by Dale Jacobson to approve Resolution No. 10-2025 A Resolution Making Additions and Amendments to the City of Norton Employee Handbook and Norton Personnel Rules. Vote taken; motion carried 4-1 with Andrew Black voting no.

Motion was made by Jason

Jones, seconded by Jim Miller to approve Resolution No. 9-2025 A Resolution Making Additions and Amendments to the City of Norton Employee Handbook and Norton Personnel Rules. Vote taken; motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Jason Jones and seconded by Dale Jacobson for the Council to enter into executive session with the City Clerk, City Administrator and City Attorney to discuss non-elected personnel for a period

of 10 minutes to end at 6:32 p.m. Vote taken. Motion carried 5-0.

The council resumed regular session at 6:32 p.m.

Motion was made by Jason Jones and seconded by Dale Jacobson for the Council to enter into executive session with the City Clerk, City Administrator and City Attorney to discuss non-elected personnel for a period of 10 minutes to end at 6:42 p.m. Vote taken. Motion carried 5-0.

Council resumed regular session at 6:42 p.m. There was no action taken as a result of the executive session.

Motion was made by Andrew Black and seconded by Dale Jacobson to approve Appropriating Ordinance #12 as a whole. Vote taken. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Dale Jacobson and seconded by Gerald Jones to adjourn. Vote taken. Motion carried 5-0. Council adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Equity Bank supports Girl Scouts with commemorative coin donation

On June 12, local Daisy and Brownie Girl Scout Troop Leader, Lisa Pasilas, posted online to request assistance from Norton bank employees and community members by asking them to please keep an eye out for some of the commemorative 2025 Juliette Gordon Low quarter-dollar coins that were recently manufactured and put into circulation by the United States Mint to honor the life of the founder of Girl Scouts of the United States of America. Low is best remembered for her dedication to helping others. Lauren McGinnis, Personal Banker at the Equity Bank in Norton, immediately responded to Pasilas and advised her that she and the other bank employees would be happy to look out for the commemorative coins.

McGinnis and her colleagues began to inspect every single quarter that came through the branch and also dumped over \$1,000 in quarters from the bank's coin machine onto their desks to manually inspect each coin that had been brought in from local and area businesses. Despite their efforts, they were unable to find even one of the commemorative coins. That's when the team at Equity Bank came up with a plan to do something friendly, generous, and considerate - traits that are all found within the Girl Scout Promise and Law - to ensure that each local Girl Scout would have the opportunity to receive



~ TELEGRAM PHOTO BY VICKI HENDERSON

her very own Juliette Gordon Low commemorative quarter. On Monday, June 23, Pasilas was asked to stop by the bank, where McGinnis and her colleagues presented her with a coin bag filled with 100 uncirculated Juliette Gordon Low quarters they purchased directly from the mint facility in Philadelphia, Penn.! A likeness of Juliette Gordon Low appears on the reverse (tails side) of each new quarter, shown alongside the original Girl Scout Trefoil, which Low designed and patented. The Juliette Gordon Low quarter marks the seventeenth design in the United States Mint's four-year, 20-coin quarter series honoring the accomplishments

and contributions of women in American history. Pasilas is pictured above on the far right accepting the commemorative coins from the Equity Bank employees who made the donation possible. They are, from left to right: Janette Callaway, Loan Assistant; Savannah Odle, Branch Manager; and Lauren McGinnis, Personal Banker. Not pictured is Rylee Burns, Teller, who also collaborated with Callaway, Odle, and McGinnis to inspect every quarter-dollar coin that was brought into the bank. "I can't thank the Equity Bank employees enough for their incredible kindness and generosity," Pasilas said.

"This summer, every Norton County Girl Scout and registered troop leader will be presented with her very own Juliette Gordon Low commemorative coin thanks to the community-minded employees at the Equity Bank." Once all Norton County Girl Scouts and troop leaders have been presented with a coin, Pasilas plans to present the remainder of the coins to all Girl Scouts and troop leaders who are active members of the Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland's Service Unit 73 (Marigolds), which includes troops from Decatur, Graham, Osborne, Phillips, Rooks, Sheridan, and Smith Counties.



Dallas Gosselin gave report on Neighborhood Revitalization Plan . . . Norton County Board of Commissioners

Chairman Marvin Matchett called the meeting of the Norton County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. on May 30, 2025, in the Commission Room. Those in attendance included: Chairman Marvin Matchett, Commissioner Garrett Beydler, Commissioner Richard Thompson, County Attorney Abigail Horn and County Clerk Craig Renner.

General Discussion
Weekly correspondence, past minutes, a 2026 funding

Current activities at the Norton Library

"Mother Goose Moments," an interactive story-time for babies through age 2, will be held at the Library Tuesday, July 8, 10:30 a.m. Bring your little ones for musical games, stories, and snacks.

This week's 2025 Summer Reading Program, "The Bandage Queen", will be hosted by Marsha Granberry, at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 10. Come join the fun!

request, 2025-000063 Tax Abatement, Proposed RNR mailer bid, Solutions North Grader lease, year-to-date expenditures and fund balances were distributed to the commissioners. Chairman Matchett inquired how the advertising responses were on the County Road and Bridge open positions. Clerk Renner reported that he had only posted on the Chamber website, County website and at the colleges back in January. Chairman Matchett requested that Clerk Renner advertise in the regional papers.

Landfill
Ted White, Solid Waste supervisor, joined the meeting at 9:10 a.m. Ted presented a bid for a new computer. The bid is \$1,475.00 from C.K. Technology. The computer will replace the main computer with the replaced computer being moved to the scale computer that is used to track customer invoices. Commissioner Beydler moved to accept the \$1,475.00 bid to purchase the new computer. Commissioner Thompson seconded the

motion. With no discussion the motion carried 3-0. Ted left the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

Economic Development

Dallas Gosselin, Economic Development Director, joined the meeting at 9:55 a.m. He signed invoices and answered questions regarding specific invoices. He gave a report on the current Neighborhood Revitalization Plan. James Moreau joined the meeting at 10:09 a.m. Dallas left the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

City/County Inmate Work Crew

James Moreau City Manager, joined the meeting at 10:09 a.m. He requested that the agreement between the City and County be modified during

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Prayer
Dear heavenly Father, thank you for caring for us. Help us to see the new thing you are doing in our lives. Amen.



Twin Creeks Extension District - held a Meet and Greet on Friday, June 20 to welcome Jessica Butters the new Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent for the District and Serenity Harting the new Office Professional. Pictured are, front row, Lenny Jurgonski who was sharing information on his 4-H projects; back row: Serenity Harting, Crystal Tatkenhorst, Program Coordinator; and Jessica Butters. ~ TELEGRAM PHOTO BY VICKI HENDERSON