

wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. in Topeka, KS. He specializes in fee-based financial planning and asset management strategies and has been in practice for 25 years. To contact him, [www.ameripriseadvisors.com/todd.m.orton/](http://www.ameripriseadvisors.com/todd.m.orton/), 785-357-6125 x18 and 601 S. Kansas Ave., Topeka, KS 66603.

Ameriprise Financial, Inc. and its affiliates do not offer tax or legal advice. Consumers should consult with their tax advisor or attorney regarding their specific situation.

**Investment products are not insured by the FDIC, NCUA or any federal agency, are not deposits or obligations of, or guaranteed by any financial institution, and involve investment risks including possible loss of principal and fluctuation in value.**

Ameriprise Financial cannot guarantee future financial results.

Securities offered by Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. Member FINRA and SIPC.

© 2025 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.

## McFarland

### Unapproved McFarland City Council Minutes August 11th, 2025

The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Ron Nehring with the following city council members present; Darrin Dillingham, Joel Green, Avery Trecek, Lori Senne and Spencer Parker. City Officials present were City Clerk Larry Senne, City Superintendent Jeff Osif, City Treasurer Tracy Logan and City Attorney Tim Liesmann. Public attending the meeting were Ron Nolan, Susan Chapen, Lisa Coon-Beightol, Shawn Lynch, Danielle Abrams, Jessie Bayless. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Nehring opened the meeting with comments from the public. Lisa Coon apologized for their dog getting loose and explained the circumstances that led up to the dog leaving the yard. Mayor Nehring commented that he understood that the festivities of the Fourth of July can make dogs a little "gun shy". Lisa commented that everything should be under control now. With no other public comments, Mayor Nehring closed the comment period.

Under City Attorney News; Compliance Officer Lori Senne reported on Municipal Court proceedings. Kenny Bayless, Vera Gilbert and Josh Chamberlin all had court this past month. Bayless have moved one truck and the other is still questionable about its mobility. Vera Gilbert had a bench trial and was found guilty of nuisance violations. Lori reported that assistance was offered to Vera to help move the heavy / bulky items from in front of the Schoolhouse. Since then, some items have been removed; court is scheduled for August 22nd. Josh Chamberlin has complied by paying his dog taxes. Lori reported that a letter had been sent to John Morway regarding a part of his shed being on top of the gas feeder line. Superintendent Jeff Osif provided additional information for the record that he did a locate at the property at the shed. Jeff stated that he visited with Alma Superintendent Michael Slobodnik and "we are able to take leak tests".

We both agreed that it wasn't necessary to remove the shed and it does have a dirt floor. Michael will send a letter stating such to KCC.

Lori reported that Shawn Lynch claims not to have received his letter of non-compliance. Lori stated that she and Shawn talked earlier in the day about the letter and an extension of time will be given. A copy of the letter sent will be provided. It was stated that no tires are allowed, they must go. Lori reported Clark's at 500 Main St. have done some work by removing items of non-compliance, but still have a ways to go, they too have tires. And Landon Geisler at the trailer court has removed his brush pile but still has tires too. Mayor Nehring announced that the city will have a tire amnesty day and collect tires on Sept. 20-21 at the maintenance building. The tire shredding company will stop by and collect them. Cost is \$2 per tire and \$3 if the tire is on a rim. Sept. 19th will be the fall clean-up day; the city will have one last roll-off dumpster for this event. Notice will be placed at the Post Office, the fall newsletter and on Sept. utility bill.

Lori reported that Danielle Abrams of 607 Main St. was asked to attend the meeting to discuss her attempts to keep her property mowed in a timely fashion. Danielle's partner Jessie stated that they are trying but it's a large property and they are mowing using a battery powered mower, but should have it done this week. Lori stated that she would be by on Saturday to take photos of the progress / compliance.

Mayor Nehring asked Jeff Osif to give his monthly maintenance report, Superintendent Osif reported on the following;

**Gas:** Had one locate on Hwy 99 for WTC. The quote was higher than expected by Northern Pipe Line for gas line work at the trailer park, \$18,410. The city's share of the project is \$12,800. Michael Slobodnik will contact them to discuss the quote. It was reported to Superintendent Osif by the Mayor and City Clerk that it needs to be placed out for bid per city procurement policy.

**Water:** All is well at the water plant. All the galvanized pipe at the water plant has been replaced with the exception of about 2 feet. We received a quote of \$2,585 from Frank's to add a shut-off valve just outside of the water plant allowing for the remaining galvanized pipe to be replaced. This will be scheduled in Sept. when water usage drops in the city.

**Sewer:** All is good at the lift station, no discharge this month.

**Retention Dam:** The dam was mowed on the 7th of this month.

**Streets:** Pavecraft came out and got measurements for the side wings of Main Street for a bid to pave the city's portion of Main Street. He ended up getting called out of town and will not have a quote until our next work session.

**Park:** Nothing new.

**Equipment:** Our locator that was sent out for calibrations has been returned, will be using it tomorrow for a locate.

**Misc.:** We have a quote from Hurla for trees to be removed totaling \$8,100. Jeff Osif reported that after this Wednesday he will be on vacation for a week.

City Clerk Larry Senne reminded city council that when it reviews the Treasurer's Report that a major portion of the gen-

eral fund has already been spent and to be aware of its spending going forward. Mayor Nehring commented tree removal was tabled for now.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on July 14th, 2025 were read. Council member Darrin Dillingham made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Joel Green, motion carried with all voting yes. The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Council member Spencer Parker made a motion to approve the report. Seconded by Lori Senne, motion carried with all voting yes. The monthly bills were reviewed for payment. Council member Avery Trecek made a motion to approve the bills for payment. Seconded by Joel Green, motion carried with all voting yes.

In Old Business; Mayor Nehring commented to council member Darrin Dillingham, after Jeff gets back from vacation they will take out the sidewalk between Carol Dillingham's house and his. Mayor Nehring also said to Jeff Osif when he gets back they need to discuss the security cameras. Superintendent Osif stated that he wants to stop the internet service charge for all the security cameras. And instead, he will buy additional sim cards for each camera and replace them periodically with new ones, if no activity they will be re-used again. City council heard discussion on Schillings paving in town. Mayor Nehring commented on the great job they did placing gravel along the edges. However a couple of places were missed, one area because people had not removed their vehicles. Mayor Nehring asked Superintendent Osif to add some of the city's gravel to along the edge of the pavement on the corner of Main Street & West Market Street and between First & Second Street on the east side of the pavement. Mayor Nehring reported that one of the watershed members did reach out to him; they have another meeting this month in Alma at the ASCS office at 1 pm. It was reported that the State has encouraged them to help out McFarland in areas that it can, and Ron encourage any council member that can attend to do so. Mayor Nehring said any help the city can get in maintaining the detention dam will be helpful.

In New Business; Mayor Nehring commented that the city needed to prioritize spending with the projects of an overlay, curbing & guttering and tree removal. All these items should be discussed at the next work session.

Under Property Concerns; Compliance Officer Lori Senne stated that she will send an email to the new owners of property located at 509 Main Street; conditions still exist with the new owners as they did with the previous owner. Mike Newton's property is still a work in progress.

Mayor Nehring reported to the city council; he had a quote from Alex Gnadt for stone along the ditch by Torneden's property. The quote of

\$7,500 for 14 inch ledge stone laid up on both sides or \$3,500 for crushed 3 to 5 inch stone. Wabaunsee Co. Road & Bridge supervisor Josh Hinch gave a quote after looking at the north drainage ditch of \$15,000 minimum for two 48 inch tubes. City council heard discussion on a proposed Temporary Use Permit (TUP), Mayor Nehring explained the purpose for having a TUP giving applicants more time to become compliant. He went on to say that it is a one-time use only and there needs to have a cost per day or fee for time allotted. He asked council members to review the application for any changes, it will be discussed at the next work session.

Council member Spencer Parker said that he has spoken to Fred Beavers about both his properties on Magnolia and E. Market St. about the "wildlife" living under the mobile homes. Fred has hired Josh Chamberlin to set traps for the animals under his trailer and cut the vegetation around the properties. City Clerk reported that all known dogs in town (83) have tags. The pro-

posed 2026 budget was printed for each council member to review. The notice to exceed the revenue neutral rate and budget hearing will be next month at the city council meeting on Sept. 8th, at 6:30 pm.

Mayor Nehring mentioned to the city council members that he would like the City Clerk and Treasure to set up the CD accounts and have them staggered at Bank of the Flint Hills as soon as possible. City Council heard discussion on the matter, council member Avery Trecek made a motion for City Clerk Larry Senne to ladder the CD's however seen fit for future expenses. Seconded by Lori, motion carried with all voting yes. Superintendent Jeff Osif wanted to thank council member Joel Green for mowing the south drainage ditch "hard to reach" areas with his sickle bar mower and brush hog.

At 7:05 pm, council member Joel Green made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Spencer Parker, motion carried with all voting yes.

Larry Senne  
City Clerk



Summer is a good time for road trips, and the Flint Hills is a good destination for folks from a hundred miles around. When you live in a place, you have your own thoughts about what it's like, but it is fascinating – and sometimes surprising – to see our place through others' eyes. What catches their fancy? What intrigues them? What do they think?

You may know Ann Vigola Anderson. She has a big following on the Facebook page of Friends of the Flint Hills, and if there is one through line in her work, it is her admiration and love of the Flint Hills. She recently wrote about a road trip retracing some of her favorite places in the Flint Hills.

Memories of summer visits with cousins on the Fix Ranch next to Volland drew Ann back to Wabaunsee County shortly after the Volland store reopened in 2015. She was thrilled to be back, and she became a loyal friend and advocate of the "new Volland Store." It was clear those summer days with her cousins at Volland were a favorite memory of her childhood.

Here is an excerpt from her "road trip" that gives some insight into how at least one person sees this place we call home.

*"There's something magical in hearing rolling, continuous thunder in the morning. My little brother was frightened of thunder and my grandma would comfort him, by saying it was the sound of God bowling in Heaven. That seemed to work for him. And I still think of it when the thunder booms and thunks across these bluestem hills."*

*"On these past hot August days, I found myself checking in with favorite places in the Flint Hills. Next to Volland, A Place for Art and*  
**CONTINUED ON PAGE 18**



**SEPT.  
5-14**  
HUTCHINSON,  
KS

## NEX-TECH GRANDSTAND ENTERTAINMENT

<b>Sept. 5</b>	Sam Barber with Avery Anna
<b>Sept. 6</b>	Jeff Dunham
<b>Sept. 7</b>	Josh Turner with Jason Scott & The High Heat
<b>Sept. 8</b>	Demolition Derby
<b>Sept. 9</b>	Tuesday Night Fairified Pro Wrestling
<b>Sept. 10</b>	Josiah Queen with Ben Fuller
<b>Sept. 11</b>	Hairball
<b>Sept. 12</b>	Ludacris with DJ Infamous
<b>Sept. 13</b>	The Fray with Plain White T's
<b>Sept. 14</b>	Lorrie Morgan with Mason Ramsey

Nex-Tech Grandstand is sponsored by Nex-Tech Wireless and Nex-Tech.

**KansasStateFair.com**