



**CORNEJO**  
FUNERAL HOME + CREMATORY

Coleen Faye Schaffer, 90, passed away on May 18, 2025. A graveside service was held on May 23rd at St. Paul Evangelical Church Cemetery in Bluff City, KS.

Helen Irene Mitchell, 74, passed away on May 19, 2025. Memorial services were held on May 24th and a private interment will be held at a later time in the Caldwell City Cemetery, Caldwell, KS.

Nancy Jean Colwell, 75, passed away on May 18, 2025. Memorial services will be held at 11am on Friday, May 30th at the First Christian Church in Wellington.

Jason Lee Jenkins, 51, passed away on May 19, 2025. Funeral services were held on May 28th at Cornerstone Church in Argonia. Interment took place at the Argonia Cemetery.



This week's Calendar from the Wellington Area Chamber of Commerce/CVB

#### Thursday, May 29

10am, Chamber Coffee at Memorial Auditorium. This week's host is Then & Now Mercantile | This 'n' That Emporium

2pm, Encore Dance Wellington, Sweet Sixteen Recital Dances on the big screen at the Regent Theatre. Free admission, concessions available. Prizes for dancers and non-dancers!

#### Saturday, May 31

Noon - 4pm, Free Concert on the lawn at the Masonic Lodge, 2129 N A St.

7pm, Decades of Rock Show with Big Fat Fun and Across the Pond, Memorial Auditorium, Doors open at 6pm. Tickets: bigfatfun.com - \$15, at the Door - \$20

7pm, Live Music with Zach Love at the NoWhere Grill

8pm, DJ & Dancing at the Wichita Union Stockyards, \$5

#### Sunday, June 1

1pm, Wellington Heat Mini Camp at Hibbs Hooten Field

#### Monday, June 2

Candidate filing deadline for City Council and School Board positions

#### Tuesday, June 3

7pm, Bingo at VFW, the kitchen will be open.

#### Thursday, June 5

10am, Chamber Coffee at Memorial Auditorium. This week the coffee is at Homestead of Wellington located at 500 N Plum St.

4-6pm, Ribbon Cutting & Open House: Jeri Hunt, Edward Jones Financial Advisor, 204 S Washington Ave. Come Join us!

#### Member News:

The Chamber Golf Classic is Friday, June 6, with 1pm shotgun start. Team Registration for Teams of 4: \$320 (includes greens fees, cart, meal, snacks & more) Registration is open for the 2025 Season for Wellington Youth Football & Cheer.

Wellington Recreation Commission Summer Camps, June 2-27, K-5th Graders \$25/session (week) or \$80 for all, M-F, 1-5p

Wellington Humane Society, May Cat Special: 1+ year old \$20, kittens under 1 year old \$30

# Wellington City Council Meeting – May 20, 2025

## By Ally Wysocki

The City Council meeting opened with the call to order and pledge of allegiance. Reverend Bob Nusser of First Baptist Church led the invocation.

Audience Participation opened with Zach Cooper, Director of Cowley College Sumner Campus. He thanked everyone for coming to the showcase in April. About 200 students participated in the Robotics Challenge competition and it was a big success. He shared that enrollment is still open for fall and summer classes. Camp Hype starts in June with high school students exploring different careers. KU med is hosting a training in August for Sumner Health Professionals.

Summer hours, June through July, for the Sumner Campus are Monday – Thursday from 7am to 5pm and closed on Fridays. Councilwoman Cyndy Antonich asked how the bees were doing since it was National Bee Day. Cooper stated that he installed two queens and they were doing well.

During Reports of Mayor and Council, Antonich thanked all of the department heads and the sanitation workers as they will now be working in the heat. She also thanked Adam Erber with the Street Department for cleaning out a ditch.

Councilman Kevin Dodds reminded everybody of the concert on May 31st at the Memorial Auditorium with Across the Pond and Big Fat Fun bands. Admission is \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

Councilwoman Jan Grace also thanked all of the departments for their hard work. She thanked Jason Newberry, Assistant City Manager for Utilities and IT, for replacing all of the downtown lights with LEDs, as it saves us money and gives more lighting throughout the downtown.

Mayor Joe Soria discussed putting up flags for Memorial Day weekend and taking them down. Volunteers are needed for Saturday morning around 8am and Monday evening around 4pm.

During reports of city officials, a street closing request for the Wellington Public Library Family Olympics on June 28, 2025 from 9am to 3pm was discussed.

Block Party Street closing requests were discussed.

Tishya Clemons-Brown

asked for a B Street Block Party closing on July 4, 2025 from 2pm to 11pm.

All street closing requests were combined and approved by a 6-0 vote.

No public hearing took place during the meeting.

There were no ordinances during the meeting.

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a purchase order with Vision Metering of York, SC for Electric Metering Equipment in the amount of \$33,750 was discussed. The company was willing to honor a previous price, even though it would have gone up by \$6,000 had the city not asked for an extension. The Resolution was approved by a 6-0 vote.

No future agenda items were discussed during the meeting.

The city council meeting was adjourned.

## City Council Work Session - April 29, 2025

By Heidi Theurer, City Clerk/Finance Director.

Council of the City of Wellington, Kansas, met in a Work Session on April 29, 2025 at 6:30

p.m., in the City Council Room, City Administration Center, with Mayor Joe Soria presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Joe Soria.

Council members Cindy Antonich, Kevin Dodds, Jan Grace, Mary Lucas, Rick Roitman and Mike Westmoreland were all present at roll call. Mayor Joe Soria was present at roll call.

Members of the Staff present were City Manager Jeff Porter, City Clerk Heidi Theurer, Public

Works Director Jeremy Jones, Cemetery Sexton James Hearlson, Park Supervisor Seth Henton, and City Attorney Matt Metcalf.

Pool Update and Schedule City Manager Porter announced the original open date for the pool is not attainable based upon a revised schedule distributed to the Mayor and Council. He explained he wanted everyone on the same page.

Mr. Brian Hill from Water's Edge and Mr. Zach Newell from Dondlinger Construction were both present to answer questions. Mr. Hill stated that they wanted to fix the pool correctly, and not have to come back later to make more repairs. He stated the

recirculation pump has been replaced. The above grade pump was changed to a flooded pump system, and the chemical controllers had been replaced.

The filters will be done at the end of the 2025 season. Additionally, he added they would be replacing the wading pool with a splash pad.

Mr. Hill shared they have had a 16-day delay due to the weather. The new anticipated completion date is June 16, 2025; he shared pictures. Mr. Zach Newell, Project Manager from Dondlinger Construction, who has been overseeing the pool project, believed with two more pours they will be two-thirds complete.

Council member Kevin Dodds asked if it would be possible to focus on the main pool for now and then the splash pad. Mr. Newell responded they had been focusing on the pool as well as utilizing overtime to accomplish more. On weather delay days, they work on the splash pad. Mr. Hill expressed that Dondlinger Construction was good about completing projects correctly.

Council member Rick Roitman asked Mr. Cody White of the Wellington Recreation Commission (WRC) if the pool could open in mid-June. Mr. White responded that if the timeline remained the same, then the opening date would be July 1st.

Potential pool staff expressed concern at a recent staff meeting, and may in turn look for other jobs. Council member Roitman conveyed a July 1st opening date would leave only a 30-day season. Mr. White stated that most of his staff this year will be going to college in

August. Additionally, for eighth graders, the pool concession stand is one of the only places they may work because of their age. So overall, the delay could affect approximately 40-50 people across all the WRC's summer operations.

Mr. Newell from Dondlinger stated they got their notice to proceed on February 9th; however, the cold temperatures and snowy weather caused delays at the onset. Additionally, the floor was much thicker than plans indicated. More piping had to be replaced than was planned. The filter delay is due to supply chain issues; plans have been adjusted to use the existing filters for this pool season.

Council member Mary

Lucas expressed the City should have held Water's Edge to the original date committed in order to keep the schedule on-track.

Council member Cindy Antonich asked about the extra time to remove the concrete. Mr.

Newell stated that each slab weighed 600-900 pounds. High winds slowed down the progress with the crane, which allowed them to work on the splash pad.

From Water's Edge standpoint, they based the designs on the original construction plans, but the file plans were not accurate or other undocumented changes were discovered in the demolition phase. Contract documents aside, the contractors took a lot of responsibility

in inspecting every item and variable to make sure the repairs were done properly.

Additionally, Mr. Newell discovered earlier today that the gutter drains may also need repairs. He indicated that even after the one-year warranty Dondlinger would not walk away, but would come back and make additional repairs. Any additional labor would of course be billed to the City.

Council member Jan Grace expressed frustration that Water's Edge did not circulate information to the Council in a timely manner. Mr. Newell stated that what separates a good design team and contractor from the rest, is they push for the best results for the client.

Council member Dodds asked if the City could subsidize the pool staff until it opens, especially since the City normally subsidizes the pool every year anyway. Mr. White said he could have further discussions with potential staff.

Public Works Director Jones suggested that the pool be open on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to help with staffing issues. However, with this plan, Mr. White stated season passes could not be offered, which is one of the main revenue generators. Additionally, concession revenue would be affected. Mr. White suggested that two rounds of swimming lessons may be possible plus some private parties.

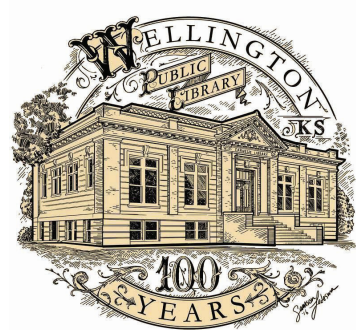
Mr. Hill apologized that the timelines were not met, but reiterated they want the pool to be in the best condition when construction is complete.

With no other items the meeting was adjourned.

## Rick's Rain Report

PRECIPITATION AS OF  
MONDAY MORNING,  
MAY 26, 2025

This week: .221"  
This month: 3.43"  
YTD: 10.33"



Thursday, May 29  
YA Spanish Club at 6pm

Tuesday, June 3  
Fearless Fireflies  
William Shakespeare - paint a rock to add to William Shakespeare - Youth  
Colorful Crusaders at 2:30pm  
Messy Art Day for Youth  
Silent Movie Night at 6pm

Wednesday, June 4  
Raising Readers Storytime at 10:30am  
Crazy Hair Day for youth  
Adult Cricut Crafts at 5pm

Thursday, June 5  
Family Movie at 2pm

## Wellington Daily News

Sumner County's largest circulated newspaper  
PO Box 368, Wellington, KS., 67152



PUBLISHER Jeremy Gulban  
973-541-4278  
jgulban@cherryroad.com

LOCAL EDITOR Laura Lombardi  
llombardi@cherryroad.com

EDITOR Jennifer Fischer  
jfischer@cherryroad.com

Advertising: Meredith Tompson  
mthompson@cherryroad.com  
913-682-0305 x2155

Circulation: Debra Jacobsen  
djacobsen@cherryroad.com

(USPS 441-500 ISSN: 1048-3675)

Published Wednesdays by CherryRoad Media. Periodicals postage paid at Pratt, Kan., and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to

Circulation Department,  
Wellington Daily News  
214 S. Washington Avenue, Wellington, KS., 67152

By submitting your address and/or email, you understand that you may receive promotional offers from CherryRoad and its related companies. You may cancel your subscription at any time for a refund of the unused portion of your subscription.