

Missed information changes the story on valuations

BY ADAM STRUNK
HARVEY COUNTY NOW STAFF

Last week’s article didn’t provide a full picture of the state of assessed property valuations within Harvey County.

While it stated that most assessed valuations decreased in Harvey County, with more information available, that’s no longer the case.

Harvey County Now interviewed the Harvey County Appraiser’s Office last week and received a document containing the appraiser’s assessed valuations for property in 2025.

The point of the story was to see if assessed valuations went up or down compared to the year prior. We found the subject newsworthy, because the numbers

represent the overall tax base, as well as indicate trends property owners might be experiencing.

The reporter then compared the 2025 assessed valuations sent from the appraiser’s office with a prior list of valuations put out online by the Harvey County Clerk’s Office.

The clerk’s list included a county valuation at \$401,722,610. The abstract for 2025 listed an assessed valuation of \$359,305,024.

The numbers, when compared, showed a significant drop in assessed valuations, a reversal of a trend of regular increases.

As is commonplace when something sticks out, Harvey County Now reached out to the county appraiser, noted decreases in the numbers,

and set up an interview with the office.

When questioned about decreases, the appraisers’ office explained a drop in valuations was caused by a decrease in housing price sales, as well as other factors, such as lower agricultural land values.

This information formed the basis of interviews with local realtors, who had similar sentiments on housing sales.

On Thursday, after the article was published, County Finance Director Shannon Kingsley called the paper to inform us that the 2025 appraisers’ office valuations do not include valuations for utilities and other property, which are compiled by the State of Kansas.

She said the county clerk’s lists of valuations included state numbers.

The state’s valuations, according to Kingsley, are not available until June.

The result of this is that we compared apples to oranges in the article.

The final answer on what the size of the tax base will look like for the next year is not available.

However, we did ask for the same document from 2024 as we received for 2025 to at least provide an apples-to-apples comparison with the abstract from 2025.

Using both abstracts, the county valuation didn’t decrease for 2025 but instead increased by seven percent. That overall increase will likely persist once all the information is available from the state.

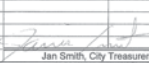
Cities across the board saw assessed valuations increase when looking

at just the county data, though most of those increases were smaller than in years prior.

Keep your eyes out

in June, when the state numbers come in and we’re able to provide an accurate picture of the overall situation.

HALSTEAD PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF HALSTEAD, KANSAS TREASURER'S QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT - UNAUDITED For the Period January 1, 2025 - March 31, 2025					
FUND	January 1, 2025 BALANCE	RECEIPTS AND TRANSFERS IN		EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS OUT	
					March 31, 2025 BALANCE
General & General Use Funds Investment	\$1,706,894.31	\$1,083,317.04		\$1,011,281.08	\$1,778,920.27
VMI Inspection Fund	31,676.36	\$1,480.00		\$2,162.75	30,993.61
Specialty Liability	48,170.83	\$168,060.24		\$200,000.00	14,231.07
Cemetery Perpetual Care CD	58,233.31	\$1,877.13		\$0.00	\$7,110.44
Drug/Alcohol Forfeiture	45.30	\$0.00		\$0.00	45.30
Special Park & Recreation	1,009.82	\$366.19		\$0.00	1,402.01
Libraries	2,486.14	\$65,118.75		\$68,786.23	10,818.66
Bond & Interest	106,224.01	\$202,330.40		\$38,828.13	269,926.28
Water	586,799.90	\$232,018.63		\$205,877.03	622,941.50
Storm Water	30,792.84	\$5,611.74		\$5,329.00	30,981.58
Wastewater	166,558.58	\$112,763.01		\$91,446.18	187,865.41
Gas	484,883.58	\$845,029.19		\$865,002.94	464,909.81
Reliance	60,190.45	\$47,867.33		\$36,297.76	71,770.02
Special Street & Highway	92,852.17	\$14,312.27		\$2,605.62	104,558.82
State Tax Revenue Fund	0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	0.00
Water & Sewer Reserve	768,452.70	\$51,000.00		\$0.00	817,452.70
Gas Reserve	478,642.00	\$19,000.00		\$0.00	498,642.00
Storm Water Reserve	56,000.00	\$4,500.00		\$0.00	60,500.00
City Equipment Fund	783,717.13	\$82,640.00		\$280,554.69	585,802.44
Capital Improvement Fund	480,551.60	\$192,325.00		\$42,091.00	630,785.60
State Plan Act (ASPA) Fund	0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	0.00
Opisid Settlement Fund	12,452.52	\$306.50		\$0.00	12,759.02
Temporary Notes Fund - Series 2023	190,828.18	\$0.00		\$0.00	190,828.18
Temp Notes G.O. Bond - Series 2023	0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	0.00
Halstead Land Bank	25,062.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	25,062.00
Total Cash all Funds	\$5,216,532.71	\$2,935,829.42		\$2,638,082.41	\$5,512,269.72
Less Investment Funds	-65,233.31				-65,233.31
Total Funds Cash less Investment Funds =	\$ 5,151,299.40				\$5,445,199.28
CITY INVESTMENTS					\$0.00
General Fund Use Funds - Certificate of Deposit at The Halstead Bank					\$7,110.44
Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund - Certificate of Deposit at Central National Bank					\$87,110.44
Total Investments					\$94,220.88
TOTAL ALL CASH AND INVESTMENTS =					\$5,539,420.16
LIABILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS					
General Obligation					\$505,000.00
G.O. Refunding Bonds, Series 2016, Maturity 10/1/2029 (Industrial Park/C. Meadows/Pond Control/Golf/Pool)					\$665,000.00
G.O. Refunding Bonds, Series 2016, Maturity 10/1/2030 (Refund majority of Series 2010 Bonds)					\$665,000.00
G.O. Bonds, Series 2018, Maturity 09/01/2033 (Cedar Meadows 2nd Improvements - 1400 Block Main St)					\$150,000.00
G.O. Temporary Notes, Series 2023 A, Maturity 12/01/28 (Cedar Meadows 2nd Improvements - Main/Stamen)					\$2,050,000.00
G.O. Taxable Bonds, Series 2023, Maturity 10/01/2035 (Purchase of Thelwell Property)					\$710,000.00
State Revolving Loans					\$916,812.89
City Utility Low-Interest Loan Program, Maturity 3/1/2031					\$56,610.80
Kansas Water Pollution Control, Maturity 3/1/2028 (Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades 2nd)					
Other					\$0.00
None					
Total Liabilities and Obligations					\$5,063,423.89
Signed:  Jan Smith, City Treasurer					

PUBLIC NOTICE

GILLMORE & WILSON, GILLMORE LLC
HISTORIC NEWTON STATION
121 E. 5TH STREET - BOX 546
NEWTON, KANSAS 67114
PH: 316-283-1550
FAX: 316-283-3782

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF HARVEY COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE SECTION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF No. HV 2024 PR 000051

MICHAEL FRED JACKSON, DECEASED.
Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS, TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition was filed in said Court on the 14th day of April, 2025, by Lacey A. Littrel, Executor of the above entitled estate, praying for final settlement of said estate, approval of her accounts, acts and proceedings as Executor; allowance for her attorney fees and expenses; that the Court determine the heirs, legatees and devisees entitled to the estate and the proportion or part thereof to which each is entitled and distribute and assign the same to them in accordance with the Will of decedent; and you are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 30th day of May, 2025, at 8:00 a.m., of said day in said Court, in the City of Newton, Harvey County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein judgement and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

Lacey A. Littrel, Executor

Valuation changes per local government

The chart shows the increase or decrease in appraised valuations for 2025 compared to 2024. These numbers are based on the County's appraised valuations and do not take into account state valuations on utilities as well as other property. The chart is meant to provide an apples to apples comparison and clarify the information published last week.

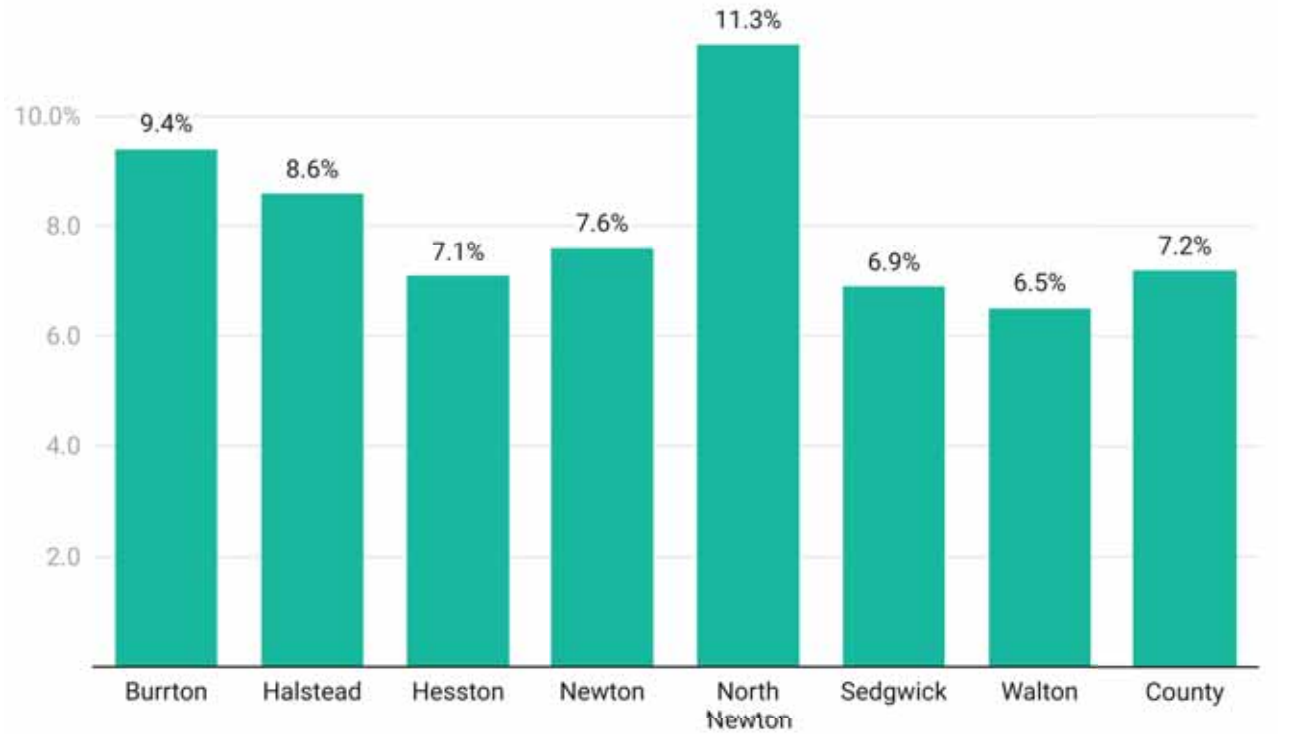


Chart: Adam Strunk • Source: Harvey County Appraisers Office • Created with Datawrapper

Kansas State students receive 2025-26 Legacy Scholarships

MANHATTAN—Braydon Blubaugh of Burrton was one of 150 K-State legacies recognized with the K-State Alumni Association’s Legacy Scholarship.

The \$2,000 scholarships were awarded to 150 students who are children and grandchildren of K-State alumni for the 2025-26 academic year.

K-State students receiving the scholarships are incoming freshmen, as well as incoming transfer students. The recipients include both

in-state students and out-of-state students. The K-State Legacy Scholarship is awarded based on legacy status, grade point average, and financial need. Students qualify as a legacy if their parents or grandparents graduated from K-State.

“This scholarship is a point of pride for our alumni association in many ways. It provides students an opportunity to attend K-State while continuing their family connection to the university,” said Adam Walker, president and CEO of

the alumni association. “It is supported by loyal K-Staters who are paving the way for the next generation of K-Staters. It’s an investment in the future for both our students and our univer-

sity.”

The scholarships are made possible through funds generated by the K-State License Plate program, administered by the alumni association for the university.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Published in Harvey County Now April 24, 2025

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SEEK PRIVATE PLACEMENT
CITY OF SEDGWICK, KANSAS
TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2025A
Notice is hereby given that the City of Sedgwick, Kansas (the "Issuer") proposes to seek a private placement of the above-referenced bonds (the "Bonds"). The maximum aggregate principal amount of the Bonds shall not exceed \$390,000. The proposed sale of the Bonds is in all respects subject to approval of a bond purchase agreement between the issuer and the purchaser of the Bonds and the passage of an ordinance and adoption of a resolution by the Governing Body authorizing the issuance of the Bonds and the execution of various documents necessary to deliver the Bonds.
DATED: April 24, 2025.
Shelia Agee, Clerk

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PUBLIC NOTICE

GILLMORE & WILSON, LLC
Historic Newton Station
121 E. 5th - P.O. Box 546
Newton, Kansas 67114
Ph: 316/283-1550
Fx: 316/283-3782

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF HARVEY COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE SECTION

IN THE MATTER OF THE
CONSERVATORSHIP
OF DEAN C. DRAGOO

Case No. 2022-PR-000053

Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59

NOTICE OF HEARING

The State of Kansas to All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that on the 5th day of April, 2025, a Petition was filed in said Court by Darren Drago, praying for the Approval to Transfer Funds into Irrevocable Trust.

You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 9th day of May, 2025, at 8:00 a.m., of said day, in said court, in the City of Newton, Harvey County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein judgement and decree will be entered in due course.


MARIA GARCIA
Notary Public - State of Kansas
Not. Exp. 08/01/2025


Darren Drago, Petitioner

PUBLIC NOTICE

Annual Report of Emma Township
Harvey County, Kansas

RECEIVED

JAN 31 2025

Harvey County Clerk

The undersigned treasurer and trustee of Emma Township, submit the following report for the year ending December 31, 2024.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Name of Funds	Cash Balance Jan. 1, 2024	Total Receipts	Total Expenditures	Cash Balance Dec. 31, 2024	Unpaid Bills Dec. 31, 2024
General	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Road	0.00	122,366.79	122,366.79	0.00	0.00
Special Machinery	94,274.80	1,588.82	64,672.60	31,111.02	0.00
Fire Protection	180.67	57,715.82	55,874.88	2,021.61	0.00
FEMA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Totals	94,455.47	181,591.43	242,914.27	33,132.63	0.00
Total Cash Balance for all Funds				33,132.63	
Does the Total Cash Balance for all Funds equal to Cash Balance Dec. 31?					Yes

I certify that this financial report is a correct summary of all money received and expended as well as all unpaid bills for the township during the year ending December 31, 2024.


Township Treasurer

PUBLIC NOTICE

Annual Report of Lakin Township
Harvey County, Kansas

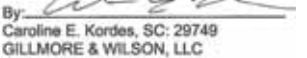
The undersigned treasurer and trustee of Lakin Township, submit the following report for the year ending December 31, 2024.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Name of Funds	Cash Balance Jan. 1, 2024	Total Receipts	Total Expenditures	Cash Balance Dec. 31, 2024	Unpaid Bills Dec. 31, 2024
Road	15,966.61	139,569.51	121,939.34	33,596.78	0.00
Special Machinery	46,939.12	38,884.00	35,104.39	50,718.73	0.00
Fire Protection	0.00	34,583.34	32,560.00	2,023.34	0.00
FEMA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Totals	62,905.73	213,036.85	189,603.73	86,338.85	0.00
Total Cash Balance for all Funds				86,338.85	
Does the Total Cash Balance for all Funds equal to Cash Balance Dec. 31?					Yes

I certify that this financial report is a correct summary of all money received and expended as well as all unpaid bills for the township during the year ending December 31, 2024.


Township Treasurer

By: 
Caroline E. Kordes, SC: 29748
GILLMORE & WILSON, LLC
121 E. 5th St., P.O. Box 546
Newton, Kansas 67114
(316) 283-1550
kordes@szizemorelaw.com
Attorney for Petitioner

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF SEDGWICK, KANSAS
Section 1. Authorization of Site Acquisition. The purchase and acquisition of the Site is authorized at a maximum acquisition and financing cost of \$390,000, all upon terms and conditions deemed advisable by the governing body of the City.
Section 2. Authorization of Bonds. The costs of purchasing and acquiring the Site and associated financing costs may be paid from the proceeds of the sale of general obligation bonds of the City, which are authorized to be issued for such purposes pursuant to the authority of the Home Rule Amendment, in an amount not to exceed \$390,000, and which may be issued in one or more series, in such principal amounts as are determined by subsequently enacted ordinances of the governing body of the City.
Section 3. Reimbursement Authorization. The proceeds of such bonds may be used to reimburse the City for funds expended in purchasing and acquiring the Site on or after the date that is 60 days before the date of passage of this Ordinance, as provided in U.S. Treasury Regulations §1.150-2.
Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by a majority of the governing body of the City, its signature by the Mayor, and its publication once in the official City newspaper as provided by law.
600957.20016\PROJECT AUTH V.1
PASSED and APPROVED by a majority of the governing body of the City of Sedgwick, Kansas and SIGNED by the Mayor on April 16, 2025.
CITY OF SEDGWICK SEAL STATE OF KANSAS
BRYAN CHAPMAN Mayor
SHELIA AGEE Clerk
(Signature Page to Ordinance)
SCHEDULE 1
The Northeast Quarter (NE/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE/4) of Section Thirty-four (34), Township Twenty-four (24) South, Range One (1) West of the 6th P.M., Harvey County, Kansas. 600957.20016\PROJECT AUTH V.1 S.1