

THE ONAGA HERALD

ONAGA JOURNAL, Established May 9, 1878
ONAGA DEMOCRAT, Established October 1, 1885
ONAGA HERALD, Established April 1, 1890

ONAGA, POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY, KANSAS 66521
(USPS 408-500)

Thursday, August 27, 2026
Vol. 136, No. 22

Civil Engagement Starts At A Young Age



Photo provided by Dr. Cathi Wilson

Stella Weiser (right) is pictured with Dr. Wilson (left) with some of the playground equipment that she donated to USD 322. Stella is seven years old and sold cookies and lemonade all summer to help purchase the equipment.

Onaga Elementary students enjoyed a great first day of school, thanks in part to the generosity and hard work of one of their peers.

At just seven years old, Stella, daughter of

Dr. Marcus and Meghan Weiser, proved that kindness has no age limit. Over the summer, Stella set out to raise money by selling cookies and lemonade so she could purchase new sports balls

for the students at Grade School to use during recess. Her goal was simple but heartfelt: make sure every class had something new and fun to enjoy on the playground. In May, Stella ap-

proached Dr. Cathi Wilson, USD 322 Superintendent and proposed her plan. She wanted to use money raised from a lemonade stand and summer cookie sales

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FFA Tractor Drive A Success



Photo provided by Gayla Figge

The Onaga FFA Alumni tractor drive was held on August 23, 2026. Drivers stopped for lunch at Elliott Construction. The money raised goes to local scholarships. This year eighteen drivers registered and four additional riders. There was over \$1000 raised for the occasion.

Commissioners Review Name Change

Lily Hansen
The Times

The Commission reviewed a proposal to change the eastbound portion of Nature Avenue of Heritage Hills to Fork Drive.

A property owner objected to the proposed name change but the developer would still like to continue.

"Besides the location, we also chose this property as we love the name of the street," read the letter the property owner sent to the commission, "It does not easily roll off the tongue, is easily misheard, and does not represent the beauty that abounds on the street."

"Out of respect for the developer, for me, I think I would lean towards going ahead and allow the name change," said Commissioner Terry Force. The name change passed unopposed.

Commission Reports
Commissioner Dee McKee reported that "this week was just going to meetings and following up on things." She attended the Lawrence Transportation meeting

as well as the Investors meeting alongside the rest of the Commission on Wednesday. Commissioner Merl Page reported a "pretty good week" attending a chamber meeting on Tuesday and an EcoDevo meeting on Thursday. He complimented all those involved with putting on the Hoo Haw shows in Wamego this week. "For those of you that haven't gone, it's worth going to," he said of the event. Commissioner Bill Drew reported attending the Planning Commission on Tuesday, a public hearing at Saint Bernard, and the Friday EcoDevo Investors meeting. Commissioner Gary Yenzler reported feeling ill. "I'm slowly recovering," he said. He was able to drive a few roads landowners called in about and attend the Juvenile Detention Hearing on Wednesday in White City. Commission Chair Terry Force reported attending the EcoDevo meeting as well as the Onaga Historical Society's presentation on newspapers.

Wheaton City Council Meets For July

by Amanda Taylor

Mayor Kay Zeit called the June meeting to order at 7:00pm in the Wheaton City Fire Department. Councilmen in attendance were: Roger Magnett, Scott Kufahl, Dustin Blow, Jim Bailey and Lonnie Kufahl, Amanda Taylor City Clerk and City Treasurer Bailey Starns. Guests were Deputy Dale Rice and Kari Kufahl.

The minutes of the June meeting were reviewed and there being no changes, Roger made the motion to approve and Lonnie seconded the motion to approve the minutes; motion carried.

The treasurer's report Income and expenses for the period of June 18, 2026 to July 15, 2026, including the sewer account, were reviewed. Lonnie made the motion to approve the treasurer's report and Jim seconded the motion to pay the bills as presented and accept the treasurer's report as submitted. Motion carried.

Community Concerns:
Kari Kufahl – would like to see seats of the swings replaced due to safety concerns and noticed a broken step at the top of the slide and a couple boards at the top of the structure that need replaced.

Dustin moved and Lonnie seconded the motion to utilize park funds from the budget to make safety improvements. Motion carried.

Code Enforcement Re-

port:

The report from Procode Compliance was reviewed.

Contract for Procode Compliance was renewed for one additional year.

Old Business:

Mid States has been issued a contract for street work to start in 30-40 days.

Wheaton City needs to prep the streets. Work day for volunteers will be scheduled for August 8th with August 15th as a backup date. Community members are encouraged to help!

Cost for the Linebackers Policy for City Council members was discussed.

Jim made the motion and Dustin seconded the motion to purchase the policy.

Status of Repair of tube at Summit Street

Will be repaired this Saturday, July 18th 2026

Status of finishing playground

Dustin will be making safety improvements in the coming weeks (swings and boards on play structure)

New Business

Report on the WIDC events

Donation to WIDC from the city: Lonnie motioned and Dustin seconded the motion to send \$400 donation.

Review next year's budget and revenue neutral rate information

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