



# the Lindsborg City View

Quarterly Newsletter - Issue 68 - FEBRUARY 2024

## *Mission and Shared Values Guide the Work of City Staff*

*By Kristi Northcutt, City Administrator*

Now into my third year as Lindsborg's City Administrator, the one constant that I've observed in a world of constant change is the work ethic of the city staff. Every employee on the team puts everything into their role and does more than what their job description prescribes – they have passion, purpose, and are guided by a core set of values. Until late last year, staff had never verbalized this. But during our professional development day, we spent an afternoon working in cross-departmental teams to define the set of values that guide our mission. From previous experience, this is an exercise that moderators spend much time conducting, and often at a very high price. However, we elected to do the process ourselves, and I am so proud of what the team produced.



**MISSION:** As employees of the City of Lindsborg, we are vigilant stewards of the community's resources, working together to preserve its history and enhance its future.

**Integrity:** We are fueled by professional accountability and social responsibility, which guide us to act in a manner that demonstrates our strong moral commitment.

**Collaboration:** Built on a foundation of tradition, we foster collaboration and teamwork to provide reliable services.

**Respect:** We provide service to the customer, fairness for the individual, and respectfully communicate with other employees and the community at large.

**Empathy:** We are humble in our work, which leads to a greater understanding and empathy for each other. We recognize that while every person is different, we all have the same basic needs.

**Responsibility:** We manage our time and resources responsibly, care for our surroundings, and recognize that the work we do is for the greater good.

**Innovation:** Using the strengths of the entire team, we seek out creative and purposeful solutions to issues that arise within the organization and throughout the city.

As you review the city's accomplishments (pgs. 3-5), I hope that you will see the staff's mission and values reflected in their work. 2023 was a big year, but knowing this team, 2024 will be every bit as big, if not bigger. Much is in the works, but the goal is not quantity of accomplishments, but rather the quality of them. On behalf of the staff, thank you for the opportunity to work as vigilant stewards of the community's resources; we look forward to another year of preserving Lindsborg's history and enhancing its promising future.





# CITY HALL - FEBRUARY 2024

## City Council

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Your feedback wanted about the newsletter



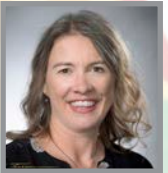
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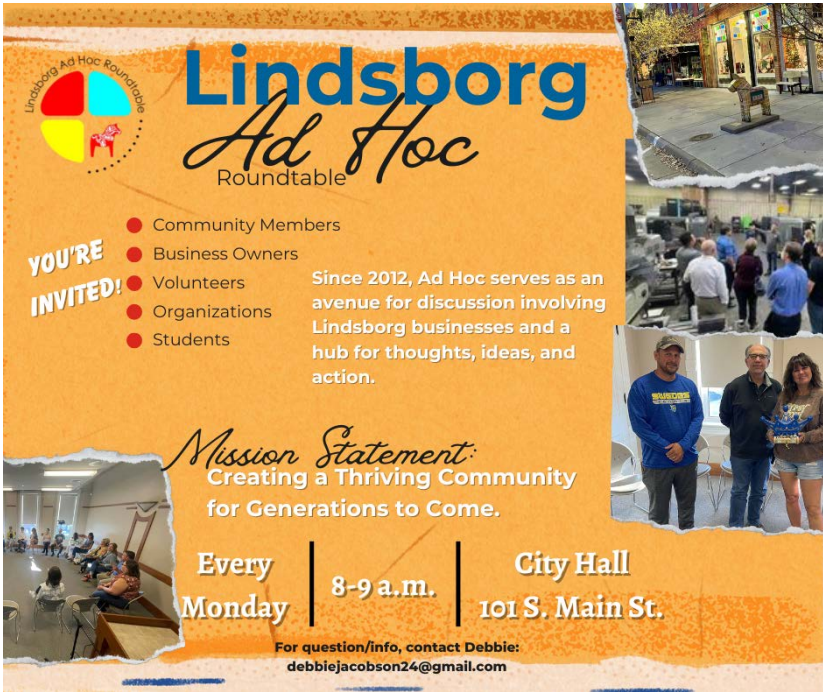
Joshua Swanson  
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Providing meaningful information in convenient and useful ways for residents is really important for the Lindsborg city staff. An informed citizenry is key to a healthy and happy community! Currently, four issues of the Lindsborg City View are produced each year and are mailed to homes in and around Lindsborg. There are also copies available at City Hall, and a digital version online at [Lindsborgcity.org](http://Lindsborgcity.org).



There is a cost, in both time and money, that goes into getting the newsletter made and distributed and it's important to reevaluate that process from time to time. So, we want your feedback about the newsletter. Is there info you'd like to see more of? Would you mind if you didn't receive it in the mail and picked up a copy at a local business or City Hall? Your opinion is welcome!

Email [marcusp@lindsborgcity.org](mailto:marcusp@lindsborgcity.org) with your input and thank you!



**Lindsborg Ad Hoc Roundtable**

**YOU'RE INVITED!**

- Community Members
- Business Owners
- Volunteers
- Organizations
- Students

Since 2012, Ad Hoc serves as an avenue for discussion involving Lindsborg businesses and a hub for thoughts, ideas, and action.

*Mission Statement:*  
Creating a Thriving Community for Generations to Come.

Every Monday | 8-9 a.m. | City Hall  
101 S. Main St.

For question/info, contact Debbie:  
debbiejacobson24@gmail.com



**David J. Nutt Grant**  
Large Grants Cycle Survey 2024

**Community Input Needed!**

Open Feb. 1 through 29

Your input helps to determine David Nutt grants for Lindsborg

Just a couple minutes and your feedback can benefit our community. Scan the QR code above to take a quick survey.

**Lindsborgcity.org**  
is always available 24/7!

# Lindsborg in review

# 2023

2023 was a busy year in Lindsborg! Over the next few pages, we highlight just a portion of the accomplishments, successes, and hard work of our staff and community.

## Local Government Day

City Administrator Kristi Northcutt, City Clerk Roxie Sjogren, and Councilmember Andrew Smith spent the day in Topeka meeting with state legislators and learning about bills that could impact Lindsborg.



## Tree City USA

For the 38<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, Lindsborg received this distinguished designation.



## Alma Swensson Memorial Garden

The Alma Swensson Memorial Garden was officially dedicated on April 29, 2023, and has been a popular spot in Swensson Park. This tribute garden to Dr. Alma Swensson, the first First Lady of Bethany College whose contributions to the college and community were transformative, is on the grounds of what was the Swensson residence.

## Volunteer Recognition Event

City of Lindsborg volunteers were recognized during Volunteer Month with a brunch and ceremony at the Sundstrom. The theme, "We Rise by Lifting Others," was a perfect fit for the work of volunteers who lift up Lindsborg.

## Fourth Grade Community Day

Students from USD400 spent a day outdoors learning about the importance of civic responsibility. Some of the topics included the importance of trees, water conservation, and the life cycle of Monarch butterflies.



## Swim Lessons Make a Splash

The Recreation Department's swim lessons were extremely popular in 2023. More than 200 participants took part in the lessons in June and July.

## Grants Making A Difference!

City staff brought in more than **\$1,000,000** in grant funds, making it possible for us to expand services and projects that benefit Lindsborg.

Bandshell: \$10,000 (Nutt Fund)  
Fire Decomination Shower/Eye Wash: \$10,000 (Nutt Fund)  
NE Ballfield: \$145,000 (Nutt Fund)  
AEDs: \$1,000; Targeted Enforcement/Holidays (\$3,800)  
Public Safety Center: \$163,000 (Patterson Family)  
Glass Dala Horses: \$3,800 (Dept. of Commerce)  
Bandshell: \$10,000 (Nutt Fund)  
Safe Streets for All (with McPherson County; \$560,000  
USDOT + \$140,000 State of Kansas)

### Bike Share Rolls Out in Lindsborg

The bike rental program debuted during the summer and was an instant hit. From July through the end of the year, the three bike stations averaged 171 rides every month, the most of any city participating in the program.



### Bethany College Resource Fair

Members of the City staff attended the back-to-school fair at Bethany in an effort to educate students about important public safety issues and helpful programs for them to utilize during the school year.



### City Hall Gets a New Paint Job

If City Hall looked a lot brighter at the end of August, your mind wasn't playing tricks on you. The historic building received a fresh coat of Falu Red paint before the Hyllningsfest festivities kicked off later in the year. A substantial portion of the cost of the project was paid for by tax credits awarded to the city.

### New Faces Around Town

Lindsborg was fortunate to have talented and skilled professionals join the staff in 2023: Lauren Doak (Recreation), Milton Collins (Community Development), Officer Mike Adams (LPD), Gavin Soukup (Electric), and Camden Meeks (Streets). All have been a welcome addition to an already fantastic staff!

### K-4 Separation Local Consult Process

Advocates for Lindsborg attended meetings hosted by the Kansas Department of Transportation in order speak on behalf of projects that would benefit our community. Letters of support, in-person, and virtual meetings over the span of a few months were involved in the process. Lindsborg had the most representation combined for all the meetings, which got the attention of Transportation Secretary Calvin Reed (*center*). If awarded, this would be an \$8 million+ project funded by KDOT.



### All Things Water

There was a lot of progress for Lindsborg water! A new water telemetry system upgrade was integrated with the wastewater SCADA system; completed installation of 40% of the new water endpoints as part of the conversion to the new Automated Metering Infrastructure; and made numerous water service installs at Stockholm Estates.



### Increased Stability for our Electric Power Grid

Work to add a second transformer to the electric substation took place. This work will provide additional capacity as well as added redundancy. The new transformer arrived in August and was set. This additional capacity will help all of Lindsborg for years to come.

### Everyone is Talking About Lindsborg

Lindsborg made appearances in more than 20 publications ranging from Best Small Towns to Retire in Kansas (World Atlas), Get Out There (USA Today Travel Midwest), 6 Great Places to Live (AARP).



### Fredrickson Family Fitness Park Opens

The fitness area, named after Dr. Duane Fredrickson, opened earlier in 2023 and offers about 20 different low-impact workout machines and a shaded, turfed area for more workout space. The park was designed to positively contribute to the overall health of all Lindsborg residents. Dr. Fredrickson was a beloved family physician, exercise enthusiast, and community volunteer.

### Fore! Lindsborg Golf Course in Full Swing

The golf course had a remarkable season in 2023. Golf course memberships reached 139, including a waiting list for golf cart storage. Youth programs, men's and women's nights, tournaments, and more kept the course jumping. The Clubhouse replacement campaign looks to gain steam heading into 2024. [GolfLindsborg.com](http://GolfLindsborg.com) has more course info if you're interested.



### Public Safety Center Renovation Project

Starting after Hyllningsfest with a projected completion date for spring of 2024, the public safety building project is moving right along. The new facility will provide all public safety staff a more efficient and secure area to work, updated technology infrastructure, updates to the exterior, and more. A portion of the project's cost will be offset by grants.



### Hyllningsfest 2023

Administration, CVB, Public Safety, and Public Works teams met throughout the year with the Hyllningsfest co-chairs, and city teams prepared and protected the city for another successful (albeit VERY cold) Hyllningsfest with terrific attendance. We're already looking forward to the next one in 2025!

The previous three pages offered just a glimpse of a very busy, and fun, 2023. We're fortunate to have such a skilled and wonderful group of people who work for the betterment of our community alongside many dedicated volunteers. Here's to a great 2024!

## staff spotlight

## Happy Anniversary!

A community is only as good as the people who call it home. 14 members of the City staff have worked in Lindsborg for more than 10 years. Their dedication and service is very much appreciated and we say THANK YOU!

### 20+ Years of Service

- Deputy Chief Delwin Koons (27 years)
- Lt. Scott Wolf (26)
- Chris Lindholm (25)
- Denny Walker (24)
- Thomas Haxton (20)
- \*Sgt. Terry Reed (20)

*\*Indicates dual role as employee & volunteer firefighter.*

### 10-19 Years of Service

- Jeff Peters (18 years)
- Chief Matt Clark (18)
- Erik Peterson (17)
- \*Matt Lloyd (15)
- Jay Jensen (13)
- Chris Venables (13)
- Holly Lofton (11)
- David Duncan (11)



## Lindsborg remains a hot spot for travel writers

CVB staff worked independently, and as a team with the Kansas Department of Tourism and the South Central Kansas Tourism Region to plan trips for several travel writers during the 2023 year. These writers spent valuable time in the Lindsborg community sharing their travel experiences with their online audiences and various publications.

Vanessa Whiteside's work was shared with Midwest Living Magazine, resulting in the only article featuring a Kansas community in their Best of the Midwest travel issue.

Online content provided by each of these writers continues to elevate Lindsborg's presence to others that write travel material, resulting in more written material about Lindsborg. Online content also continues to provide valuable travel reviews to those that consider making Lindsborg a future travel destination.



*Postcard Jar  
Steve and Ann Teget*



*One Delightful Life  
Vanessa Whiteside*



*Travel with Sara  
Sara Broers*

## Starry, Starry Night in Lindsborg

CVB Staff partnered with the Kansas Cosmosphere, Small World Gallery/Jim Richardson, and the Salina Astronomy Club to plan and carry out this new event. The November evening provided opportunities for participants to view the stars from Coronado Heights and Heritage Square and to listen to Jim Richardson's National Geographic program, "Glories of Our Night Sky: Wonders and Worries." The evening was a smashing success with numbers exceeding our wildest expectations. This was the largest event hosted by the Sundstrom Conference Center in 2023.

Special thanks goes to the Smoky Valley Historical Association (Coronado Heights) and the Lindsborg Old Mill & Swedish Heritage Museum. Both venues provided perfect dark environments for viewing the starry sky. Visitors traveled from as far as Kansas City to attend. Shuttle passes to Coronado Heights viewing were by reservation only (free) and 300 passes were reserved in less than 48 hours, with more adding their names to a wait list. The Cosmosphere ended the evening with an ask to do this again in 2024; the date will be announced later this year.

Learn more about all things tourism  
and Lindsborg at:

[VisitLindsborg.com](https://www.VisitLindsborg.com)



## Lift Up Lindsborg! continues its momentum

The application window for the next session of Lift Up Lindsborg! (LUL!) opened Feb. 1. There are three different programs; here is a recap of what those are:

- **Program 1:** Matching program which the city will match up to \$2,500 for exterior home upgrades.
- **Program 2:** Classic program for property maintenance and exterior home upgrades which the resident organizes.
- **Program 3:** Grounds program for lawn maintenance to clear any trash and/or debris with volunteer help.

Visit [lindsborgcity.org/departments/cd](http://lindsborgcity.org/departments/cd) for information on applying for the program.



## Rural Opportunity Zone offers unique possibilities

On Jan. 16, 2024, the Lindsborg City Council passed Resolution 01-2024 to continue its sponsorship of new residents in Lindsborg. This is a partnership with the Department of Commerce to provide student loan repayment assistance and 100% state income tax credit for new residents moving to town. New Lindsborg residents, after meeting the criteria by the Dept. of Commerce, are eligible for up to \$1,500 from the city (only three total per calendar year).

Visit [KansasCommerce.gov](http://KansasCommerce.gov) to learn more about eligibility and the application process.

## Update on Stockholm Estates development

It's been busy at Stockholm Estates, with more houses always being built and sold. Phase 1 construction on Dala Drive is near completion and homes on the west side of the street are in the finishing stages.

Three townhomes on Lingonberry Lane need minor finishes such as paint and flooring, another with plans to go up in 2024. Staff continue to work with the developer to meet the requirements of the Moderate Income Housing grant, including monthly, quarterly, and annual reports to the Department of Commerce.



## Substation transformer project update

In March of 2022, the City Council approved a Master Service Agreement with KMEA Mid-States and Task Order #1 for preliminary engineering for the addition of a second substation transformer. In August of 2022, the City Council approved the quote to purchase a second substation transformer and Task Order #2 through KMEA Mid-States for all work related to the installation of the second transformer.

The transformer was ordered in August 2022 and work on the project started in 2022 and continued through 2023. This has included the construction of a new pad and containment system for the new transformer, numerous amounts of conduits have been laid and new wires run, breakers were moved, and new relays and control system have been installed. The new transformer arrived in August of 2023 and was set in its new location. Two additional breakers arrived in November and have also been set in their new locations. The remaining work includes the excavation and installation of two junction boxes, a large amount of conduit, and primary wiring which will connect the old and new systems and allow for flexibility redundancy within the substation.

KMEA Mid-States anticipates having the new transformer in service by the early part of the summer of 2024.



## Lead & Copper survey reminder

Just a reminder that if you have not already done so, please take time to complete and submit the Lead & Copper Survey. This survey will help the Water Department collect data that is required by the EPA and the Kansas Department of Health & Environment as part of the Revised Lead & Copper Rule. These changes in this program have come about because of the events that occurred in Flint, Michigan in 2014.

The survey was sent out in the utility bills in February, and it can also be found online at [lindsborgcity.org/water](http://lindsborgcity.org/water). Thank you for your assistance.

DID  
YOU  
KNOW?

The Lindsborg Public Works team wears many different hats when it comes to keeping the community looking and functioning at its best. Director Chris Lindholm leads the team, which includes Streets Superintendent Jeff Peters, W/WWTP Superintendent Denny Walker, Electric Superintendent Rod Schrage, and eight other employees across three departments.



Chris Lindholm



Jeff Peters



Denny Walker



Rod Schrage



## Lindsborg Police Department engages the community

Every year, since the inception of the School Resource Program, Officer Eric Kruckenberg taught the D.A.R.E. decision-making process to the entire 6<sup>th</sup> grade class, along with the dangers associated with alcohol and drug use and abuse. This year, graduation included Chief Davis as the keynote speaker on good decision making (*right*).

Officer Kruckenberg resigned as the full-time SRO in the summer of 2023. Officer Mike Adams was hired in late 2023 as the new SRO and is scheduled to attend and become certified in D.A.R.E. in 2024.

The Lindsborg Police Department continues to participate in the Blue Santa program. The mission of the program is to provide toys to families in need during the holiday season. This year, LPD served about 34 kids who attend school in the Smoky Valley district area.

This year, significant donations were received from American Legion Post #140 (*right*) and the Lindsborg Masonic Lodge #397. The Police Department received over \$2,800 dollars in donations, making it the most received in donations in a single year.

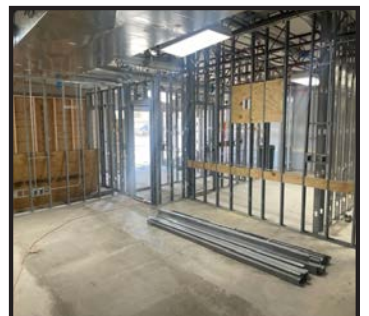


## Public Safety Center renovation project nearing completion

Work on the Public Safety Center started in October and progress has been steady and right on schedule to this point. The project is slated to be completed in late March or early April. While work on the building began just a few months ago, planning for the project started in late 2022. To help shift some of the responsibility of the project's cost off the taxpayers, staff aggressively sought grant opportunities to assist in covering the expenses of the work. More than \$170,000 has been awarded to the city to help pay for the project.

Some highlights of the project and work so far include:

- Old flooring removed and work continues on installation of new flooring;
- New drain lines have been installed for the new restroom and locker room;
- New walls and framing for new doorways ongoing;
- Water lines for the eyewash station in the fire bay installed;
- HVAC, plumbing, and electrical work includes measuring for the gas and water piping needed, electrical lines and panels continue to be placed, ductwork is ongoing; and
- Sidewalk and the approach for the east side entrance was poured.



## Viking Valley playground beautification update

The Parks Department has continued to complete different tasks at Viking Valley Playground. The mural project was completed and installed in November. They have been well received by the community.

This past winter, the department has been working on several aspects of the play area. A few new pieces of equipment were installed; two new tot seats replaced two old seats that had fallen into disrepair. A new metal table canopy with seating will be added near the middle of the playground as well. The grounds also received updates to the painting details spread across the space to emphasize different play areas. The new paint is colorful and utilizes the same design and themes. Mulch will also be added to the playground area later this spring for cushion.



Restroom facilities next to the playground also received attention. Fresh paint was applied to the interior of the facility to modernize and give a more playful feel to the restroom area. New, modern, and more robust appliances were also installed. The roof of the facility was also inspected and repaired. Water leaking around the skylights has become an issue over time and caused a variety of problems. Repairs were made and new paint in the interior has increased the light reflecting in the facility to give a light and airy feel. Once all these items are finished later this year, the Viking Valley Playground will feel like a whole new space!

## Dog Park awareness

Warmer days are ahead, and the Scentral Dog Park will be busy with pups. Just a reminder, with the influx of traffic, certain rules should be followed to keep Scentral Bark healthy and clean. The rules to use the dog park are listed at both entry gates.



Key items to keep our dog park looking great:

- Owners must clean up after their pet.
- Owners must fill holes dug by their dog.
- Owners are responsible for their pet.
- Only park on the concrete adjacent to Scentral Bark Dog Park (not on or near the trail).

## Park shelter reservation info

As spring approaches, the appeal of having a graduation or birthday party, family reunion, or just a fun weekend get-together outdoors grows. Some of the parks within Lindsborg might just be a great option to consider for your outdoor gathering. If you're interested in reserving a shelter at one of Lindsborg's parks, visit [Lindsborgcity.org/departments/Parks](http://Lindsborgcity.org/departments/Parks) and click on the 'Park Shelter Reservation Requests' link. Complete the request form and submit it through the site. Contact info is also available if you have further questions.



## Spring means lots of recreation activities in Lindsborg

Springtime means action ramps up in the Rec Department. Youth league signups begin, pool prep is underway for its opening, and the golf course starts to come to life. Be sure to bookmark the [Lindsborgrec.org](http://Lindsborgrec.org) page to stay informed on what's coming up next!



Last season was a huge success for both baseball and softball, and we're looking forward to keeping up that momentum! A total of 184 kids took to the diamond last year, and we'd love to see that number grow. Registration opens April 4 on [Lindsborgrec.org](http://Lindsborgrec.org). More details on price, age requirements, and dates/time will be released closer to the opening of registration.

Speaking of momentum, youth soccer is on the rise in Lindsborg! 179 kids signed up for soccer in 2023, the second highest number in the last 10 years! Registration opened on Feb. 12, visit [Lindsborgrec.org](http://Lindsborgrec.org) to sign your child up. Practices start March 18, and the season runs through April 18. Games are scheduled for Monday and Thursday evenings.



As the weather gets warmer and the days longer, the allure of the golf course grows! Coming off a very successful 2023, the Lindsborg Golf Course (LGC) will be a hub of drives, birdies, and putts this spring and summer. Golf course membership reached 139, including a waitlist for golf cart storage. The good news is you don't need a membership to golf at LGC, since it is a public course. Everyone is welcome to enjoy this nine-hole gem! The course is set to open on April 1, so get those clubs ready to go! Membership applications are now available at City Hall and the golf course; membership available at [GolfLindsborg.com](http://GolfLindsborg.com).

**EGG**  
*Shellabration*  
 Saturday  
 March 23  
 2-4 p.m.  
 Riverside Park

**Lindsborg Recreation**  
 Spring/Summer  
 Brochure

Pick up your copy at City Hall or view online at [Lindsborgrec.org](http://Lindsborgrec.org)

**Spring is right around the corner and it's going to be a busy season for Recreation! Brochure and registration available April 10.**





The City of Lindsborg  
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PO Box 70  
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PRSRRT STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
LINDSBORG, KS  
PERMIT #1

ECRWSS

Local  
Postal Customer

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

[www.visitlindsborg.com/lindsborg-calendar-of-events](http://www.visitlindsborg.com/lindsborg-calendar-of-events)  
[www.lindsborgcity.org](http://www.lindsborgcity.org)

**City Council Meetings:** Feb. 5 & 19, March 4 & 18, April 1 & 15; 6:30 p.m. at City Hall  
*Meetings are streamed on our Facebook and YouTube channels.*

**Planning Commission Board Meeting:** Feb. 27, March 26 & April 23  
6 p.m. at City Hall

**Design Review Board Meeting:** Feb. 20, March 19 & April 16  
6 p.m. at City Hall

**Tree Board Meeting:** Feb. 20, March 19 & April 16; 8:30 a.m. at City Hall

**Recycling Center:** Open 24/7; please be considerate with noise levels.



Visit [Lindsborgcity.org](http://Lindsborgcity.org) for city-related news, online bill pay, and more.  
*Scheduled events are subject to change.*

## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Police, Fire and Ambulance:	911 or 785.227.2988 (non-emergency)
Water, Sewer, Electric, Streets:	785.227.3428
Water, Sewer, Electric, Streets:	785.227.3469 (after hours, weekends and holidays)