

Community CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 20TH
9am- Veterans Coffee The Pin Up Cafe

Friday, December 22nd
9am- Veterans Coffee The Pin Up Cafe
6:30 - 7:30pm VFW Bingo 101 E Main St

Wednesday, December 27th
9 - 10am Veterans Coffee The Pin Up Cafe

WINTER BREAK IS DECEMBER 21ST TILL JANUARY 4TH

For More Events please visit School or City Facebook/Website

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New state trail coordinator started on Flint Hills leg

By Gail Parsons
For DCNT

Networking and a passion for hiking has landed Ryan Stevenson, of Herington, a position as the Kansas State coordinator for the American Discovery Trail.

Discovery Trail is a coast-to-coast trail covering more than 6,800 miles through cities, small towns, forests, mountains, and desert. It stretches from Cape Henlopen State Park, Delaware, to Point Reyes National Seashore, California.

"I started working on the Flint Hills Nature Trail that goes from Herington out towards Kansas City," Stevenson said. "That kind of led me into bigger, better things."

The ADT trails are designed for hiking, bicycle and equestrian use. The Kansas portion of the trail is 570 miles long and begins in Johnson County just west of the Watts Mill area on the Indian Creek Bike Trail. The trail enters Colorado near the town of Coolidge in Hamilton County. The Lawrence to Herington leg of the trail follows, for the most part, the route of the Santa Fe Trail. The trail winds through downtown Lawrence before moving into the Flint Hills.

Between Ottawa and Council Grove the route uses the Flint Hills Nature Trail. Leaving Herington, the trail takes users on back roads to the Maxwell Wildlife Refuge in McPherson County.

Stevenson said the trailhead in Herington is just west of Barnes Grocery Store and is currently undeveloped but it is part of a development plan.

"It travels east through town, goes under highway 77 and then out towards Council Grove," he said. "It's an old rail

line they have converted. The State of Kansas took over the property probably two or three years ago ... Their five-year plan includes the development of the Council Grove section."

As the coordinator of the Kansas stretch, Stevenson said he is responsible for development and coordination, event planning and promoting the Discovery Trail.

"I don't really maintain (the trail), I find other organizations that will maintain sections of the trail," he said. "I get out there and find sponsorship programs. And then, as travelers come through, not so much in the wintertime but mainly in the summertime, we'll support them with whatever they need while they're in Kansas."

As an experienced hiker, Stevenson knows some of what it will take to support travelers and how to ensure the Kansas trails give them a positive experience.

"I was working out in the Pacific Northwest and I started hiking and being a part of the trails out there," he said. "When I retired I moved this way and settled down. There really wasn't any trails. So, I started helping develop the Flint Hills Nature Trail from Herington to Council Grove."

Being part of the American Discovery Trail project gives Stevenson a chance to engage in a favorite pastime while helping others who either already enjoy the trails or are ready to explore them.

"I wanted to provide an opportunity for not only myself but other people with like-minded interests to have an opportunity to just get out and walk," he said. "I love being out there — walking, hiking, just being out there in nature. It's therapeutic and it's just something I enjoy."

To learn more about the American Discovery Trail, visit <https://discoverytrail.org/>

Herington City Commission Meeting

Regular Meeting November 21, 2023 6:00 p.m.

Public Forum – None. Additional Agenda Items – 7a D&A Variance for Ampride Cooler Expansion.

Approval of Agenda – Commissioner Gares made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Urbanek. Motion carried 4-0.

Consent Agenda – Commissioner Urbanek made a motion to approve the following consent agenda items Minutes of the Regular November 7, 2023, Approval of the September 20, 2023, CVB Minutes, Approval of the October 10, 2023, Library Board Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Gares. Motion carried 4-0.

Presentation from Memorial Health System on potential Downtown Health Clinic – Harold Courtois, Elgin Glanzer, Lease has been signed at former eye doctors. Working to get approved from CMS and the state of Kansas, also working on staff credentials. Anticipate 90 days. Equipment is currently being purchased. March/April time frame to open.

7a - D&A Variance for Ampride Cooler Expansion – Maggie Eades had submitted a variance on 9/22, revisited James in October, and spoke with Thatcher. On 11/19 she refiled the variance, city will deed over property. Planning and Zoning won't meet until January 2024.

Update from Police Chief – There were 321 calls for service with 78 traffic stops, 6 misdemeanor arrests and 1 felony arrest. Officer Walker is almost complete with FTO process. The department is looking for maintenance projects around the public safety building to use remaining 2023 budget funds. Update from Fire Chief – There were 62 calls for service including 1 grass fire, 42 medical assists, 3 motor vehicle accidents with injuries, 1 extrication of victim from vehicle, 1 gasoline spill, 1 gas leak, 1 oil spill, 1 electrical problem, 1 smoke odor, 1 unauthorized burning, 2 good intent calls, 1 dispatch/cancelled enroute, 4 authorized burnings and 1 unintentional smoke

detector activation. The department is still looking for volunteers. Equipment updates: KSFM office turnout gear application was awarded one set of turnout gear valued at \$4,932.27. Tender arrived, total cost with equipment and fees approximately \$55,000 for the city, would be \$369,000 purchased new. Rescue is in service total cost for the city \$44,000, total paid for the vehicle \$220,000, if purchased new \$1.8 million.

Update from Neighborhood Services Director – There were 4 complaints and 56 inspections. There were 12 grass inspections with 4 violations written, 3 cut orders issued and 4 yards mowed. There was one no-occupancy violation. There were 13 building permits issued with 24 inspections. There were 7 inspections to connect utilities. There were 6 structural building inspections. James attended the Kansas Association of Code Enforcement classes from November 1-3 for continuing education points, classes covered were Residential Framing, Effective Local Government Management, Hoarding and Vacant Buildings and 4th Amendment Search and Seizure.

Executive Session – Mayor Bell made a motion that the Herington City Commission recess into Executive Session, pursuant to the consultation with an attorney on matters that would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship exception K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2) in order to discuss potential litigation to include the following: Governing Body, City Manager, and City Attorney with the open meeting to resume at 6:47pm, seconded by Commissioner Gares. Motion carried 4-0. The regular meeting resumed with no action taken.

Unseal and Award Bids for Demolition Properties – Commissioner Urbanek made a motion to award 507 N F and 211 N E to Dalkey for \$3,500 and \$10,500 respectively, seconded by Mayor Bell. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Gares made a motion

to award 315 S A to Feist for \$17,985 and authorizes the 1/3 down payment, seconded by Commissioner Urbanek. Motion carried 4-0. Consider Authorizing Purchase of Transformers for Electrical Department in the amount of \$46,249.00 for a total of 29 Transformers – Commissioner Gares made a motion to approve the purchase of 29 Electrical Transformers, seconded by Commissioner Urbanek. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Session – Mayor Bell made a motion that the Herington City Commission recess into Executive Session, Pursuant to the Personnel matters of non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75- 4319(b)(1) in order to discuss personnel matters to include the following: Governing Body, City Manager and City Attorney if needed with the meeting to resume at 7:10pm, seconded by Commissioner Gares. Motion carried 4-0. The regular meeting resumed with no action taken.

City Manager Comments – Christmas tree lighting December 2nd. Will be at KS Association of City Managers Wednesday and Thursday next week. Filed the Logan Pointe grant for the 2nd time. Staff is working hard on winter weather preparations. Casey's progressing nicely. Concrete was poured at Homestead garage entry. City hall closed Thursday and Friday. Utility bills will be due Monday by close of business.

Commissioner Comments – Commissioner McDonald – Wants staff to look at animal at large policies. Commissioner Urbanek – None. Commissioner Gares – Asked about entries into the public safety. Brought up moving the transformers to a fenced in location. Status of grant that was possibly received for Father Padilla. Mayor Bell – Light at school is excellent. Thanked all city workers who participated. Branches near the lake roads. Adjourn – Commissioner Gares made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Urbanek. Motion carried 4-0.

Legal Notice

(First Published in Dickinson County News Times on Wednesday, December 20, 2023)

CITY OF HERINGTON FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE OFFICIAL NOTICE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN AND TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. at City Hall, 17 North Broadway, Herington, Kansas, the City of Herington Planning Commission will hold a public meeting to consider:

Revisions to Floodplain Regulations in Ordinance 1732

For more details or to see flood maps in advance of the meeting, call the City of Herington Floodplain Manager at (785) 258-2271.

IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION (I.E. QUALIFIED INTERPRETER, HEARING ASSISTANCE, ETC.) IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, PLEASE NOTIFY THE CITY OF HERINGTON CLERK (785) 258-2271 NO LATER THAN 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING

Certified this 20th day of December 2023
James Masters, City of Herington Floodplain Manager

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Chapman VFW Post 10509, Dale Nelson and Chris Mandic, delivering hams to Chapman Valley Manor and Enterprise Estates on a December 18.



Merry Christmas

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