

CITY

Continued from Page A1

a new draft charter ordinance for consideration.

Draft ordinance Section 2 on elections notes, among other things, that in case of a vacancy on the council occurring by reasons of resignation, death or removal from office or city, the council shall appoint an elector to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term. This must be done within 45 days. In the case any person elected as a council member neglects or refuses to qualify within 30 days after election, the council member shall be deemed to have refused to accept the office and a vacancy shall exist.

In case of a vacancy in the office of mayor, the president of the council shall become the mayor for the remainder of the term and a vacancy shall occur in the office of the council member becoming mayor.

In Section 3, appointment and removal, the new charter ordinance is amended as follows: the governing body may hire and employ a city administrator, police chief and city clerk and enter into an agreement for the services of a city attorney when a vacancy exists. A vote of a majority of all the members of the council may remove

these officers. The mayor shall not have the power to suspend any officer. All other employees will be hired and removed by the city administrator.

Mayor Dan Finnegan said he was against the draft resolution as presented.

“I think you’ve made some progress,” he said. “In my opinion, you really need to think about the mayor’s job and duties. You’re not giving the mayor any leverage, and I think we needed that last year. And I felt like I proved it.”

Finnegan raised concerns that “depowering” the mayor is a slippery slope.

Council member Don Panzer responded that he and council member Tyler Renard are in agreement that the draft contains everything they want. Panzer then asked Dinkel if the council could go ahead and vote on it.

Dinkel recommended the council review it, discuss it and make sure everything is in place first.

“I think if you are going to have a mayor, the mayor needs to have some level of authority in an emergency situation,” Finnegan said.

He recommended working on the draft in the next two weeks to get something that alerts people that there is a problem here. That, accord-

ing to Finnegan, would lead to a 6-0 vote.

“I’m going to do my job, and I think I’ve followed the law,” Finnegan said.

Panzer said he doesn’t like the way Finnegan conducts himself at meetings. He pointed to Finnegan recently saying he was not reappointing City Attorney Patrick Hoffman when there were five on the council who were in favor of reappointing him.

Renard said Finnegan was the reason for the discontent among the governing body.

“Because I follow the law,” Finnegan said.

“We’ve done it the one way forever, and when you show up, we have to change everything,” Renard said.

“Because I read the law,” Finnegan said.

“I like what we’ve got here,” Renard said regarding the draft ordinance. “I don’t care if we have a 5-1 vote on this. You (Finnegan) will be the one voting against it.”

During another brief interaction between Renard and Finnegan, Finnegan dared Renard to call him “a joke,” Renard then did so.

“You’re a joke,” Renard said.

That was when Council President Jessica Kootz stepped in and asked the council to get back on topic. She then moved further con-

sideration of the draft ordinance be tabled until June 23. Renard seconded the motion.

In other business:

- Deb Brown of T&R Cats requested the city apply for a grant to provide funds so she can continue to help assist stray cats in the community. Dinkel asked that she make an appointment with him to discuss the matter.
- A request by Ryan and Linda Webber, 1401 W. 12th St., for the city to fund a septic system project was denied.
- Approval was given to Supplemental Agreement No. 1 between the City of Ellsworth and BG Consultants, Inc. for the potable water preliminary engineering report, at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.
- Resolution 2025-20, extending the declaration of a water warning, was approved, with removal of the USD 327 football fields and to allow fundraising car washes conducted by youth and civic organizations.
- No action was taken after a 5-minute executive session with Dinkel and Hoffman to discuss the vacant city clerk position.

The next meeting of the Ellsworth City Council will be at 5:30 p.m. June 23, at city hall.

Submission deadline
for legals:
Noon on Fridays

Name change request: Piper Crombie

(First Published in the Ellsworth County Independent/Reporter, June 12, 2025)

(First Published in Ellsworth County Independent Reporter June, 12, 2025)

IN THE 20th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT ELLSWORTH COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF

Piper Willow Wren Crombie
Present Name

Case No. EW-2025-CV-000066
Div. No. _____

To Change Her Name to:

Piper Willow Wren Anderson
New Name

PURSUANT TO K.S.A. CHAPTER 60

NOTICE OF HEARING - PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL WHO ARE OR MAY BE CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that Piper Willow Wren Crombie, filed a Petition in the above court on the 25th day of March, 2025, requesting a judgment and order changing her name from Piper Willow Wren Crombie to Piper Willow Wren Anderson.

The Petition will be heard in Ellsworth County District Court, 210 N Kansas, Ellsworth, Kansas, on the 3rd day of July, 2025, at 9:00a.m.

If you have any objection to the requested name change, you are required to file a responsive pleading on or before July 3, 2025 in this court or appear at the hearing and object to the requested name change. If you fail to act, judgment and order will be entered upon the Petition as requested by Petitioner.

P. Crombie
Petitioner, Pro Se

Name: Piper Crombie
Address: 336 Main St.
City, State, Zip: Lorraine, KS, 67459
Telephone Number: 785-531-1700

3t 6/26

USD 327

Continued from Page A5

rent unit, but would cost about \$11,000.

“They all agree because the unit is 11 years old, it doesn’t make a lot of sense to replace the compressor for \$11,000,” she said.

The item was not presented for action because Hilbig does not have firm numbers from contractors and suppliers. The ballpark estimate is between \$50,000-\$70,000 to fully replace the unit.

“I didn’t have enough information because everyone is working as fast as they can,” Hilbig said. “We talked about single units. We’re not able to do that because it was not built structurally

to support individual units. We would have to redo duct work and reinforce structure.”

Hand recommended as the district moves forward, purchasing HVAC units from the same manufacturer would simplify repairs and access to parts.

- Hilbig discussed the Fastbridge assessments with the board.

She said some grades had students slide into the high-risk category toward the end of the year, which supports the need for an additional interventionist in Kanopolis Middle School.

“It will be so nice to have someone to help focus on the data and provide the interventions with them,” Hilbig said.

- Hilbig presented another update for the student handbook for grades K-6.

The board approved a change that stipulates a parent or parent-designee needs to come into the school to sign a student in or out for appointments or when picking up outside of regular pickup or drop-off times.

- The board went into executive session for 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel.

Following the session, the board accepted the following hire: Jennifer Uridel, EES, student teacher agreement and kindergarten teacher beginning in January 2026.

The board also accepted

the following resignations: Jessica Endsley, EES, Title I Aide; Laken Vondracek, substitute; Sabrina Bourbon, EES, interventionist; Dan Magie, director of curriculum & instruction.

- The board went into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss the superintendent contract. The board previously extended Hilbig’s contract and used the time to review the details.

The board will meet for its final business meeting of the year at 7 p.m. June 23.

The board will hold a work session at 5:30 p.m. July 10 to review the findings from HTK Architects regarding the needs assessment.

(First Published in the Ellsworth County Independent Reporter, May 29, 2025)

(First published in Ellsworth County Independent Reporter on May 29, 2025)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that Luetta Mae Havlik died on April 9, 2025 . All of her property and assets were titled in The Ladislav E. and Luetta Mae Havlik Trust dated November 25, 2003 (“Trust”). The successor trustee of the Trust is Advantage Trust Company, 227 S. Santa Fe Ave., Salina, KS 67401, and all lawful debts of the decedent may be paid from the Trust upon receipt of proper proof thereof.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Trust within the later of four months from the date of the first publication of this notice or if the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, thirty days after receipt of actual notice, as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

The Ladislav E. and Luetta Mae Havlik Trust
dated November 25, 2003

Advantage Trust Company, Trustee

Joshua C. Howard, KS 24129
CLARK, MIZE & LINVILLE, CHARTERED
129 S. Eighth - P.O. Box 380
Salina, Kansas 67402-0380
Tel. (785) 823-6325 - Fax (785) 823-1868
jchoward@cml-law.com
Attorney for Petitioner

3t 6/12

USD 112

Continued from Page A5

- The board approved a motion to renew the KASB workers’ compensation contract for \$16,943.
- The discussion turned to acquiring a new bus for the trans-

portation rotation.

“Our hope was not to look at purchasing a bus this year, but the timetable on these things keeps getting pushed further and further back,” Murphy said.

He said that Transporation Director Jamie Zink was able to

secure a reimbursable grant for the bus in the amount of \$41,245.75 and recommended the purchase of a bus from MidWest Transit. The cost of the bus is \$164,981 before the grant deduction.

With the length of time it takes to get a

bus, Murphy said it could be 16-24 months before the district receives it.

The item was unanimously approved.

The end of fiscal year board meeting will be at 7:30 a.m. June 25, at the district office in Claflin.

PennyMac Loan Civil Suit

(First Published in the Ellsworth County Independent Reporter, June 12, 2025)

Millsap & Singer, LLC
8900 Indian Creek Parkway, Suite 180
Overland Park, KS 66210
(913) 339-9132
(913) 339-9045 (fax)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF Ellsworth County, KANSAS
CIVIL DEPARTMENT

PennyMac Loan Services, LLC

Plaintiff,

vs.

Sarah Ranker, Terry M. Ranker, Jane Doe, John Doe, Mary Frances Hutton (Deceased), and Unknown Heirs of Mary Frances Hutton (Deceased), et al.,

Defendants

Case No. EW-2025-CV-000010

Court No.

Title to Real Estate Involved

Pursuant to K.S.A. §60

NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS to the above named Defendants and The Unknown Heirs, executors, devisees, trustees, creditors, and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants that are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown executors,

administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendants that are or were partners or in partnership; and the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or are under any legal disability and all other person who are or may be concerned:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in the District Court of Ellsworth County, Kansas by PennyMac Loan Services, LLC, praying to foreclose a mortgage on the following described real estate:

LOT 17 AND 18, BLOCK 34, CITY OF HOLYROOD, ELLSWORTH COUNTY, KANSAS. Parcel ID No. 027-162-10-0-40-16-003.00-0. Commonly known as 107 W Concord Ave., Holyrood, KS 67450 (“the Property”) MS 214364

and *all those defendants who have not otherwise been served* are required to plead to the Petition on or before July 23, 2025 in the District Court of Ellsworth County, Kansas. If you fail to plead, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the request of plaintiff.

MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC

By:
Dwayne A. Duncan, #27533
dduncan@msfirm.com
612 Spirit Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63005
(636) 537-0110
(636) 537-0067 (fax)

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

MS 214364.453381 KJFC

MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
ELLSWORTH COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of

Case No. EW-2025-PR-000011
Paula Schneider, Deceased

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition for Determination of Descent and Approval of Valid Family Settlement Agreement has been filed in this Court by Edward A. Schneider, heir of Paula Schneider, deceased, requesting:

Descent be determined for certain real estate owned by the deceased in Ellsworth County, Kansas, and that the Valid Family Settlement Agreement of the heirs regarding the division of the descent property and trust real estate and personal property be approved and that such property and all other Kansas personal property and real estate owned by the decedent at the time of her death be assigned pursuant to the Kansas law and the Valid Family Settlement Agreement as requested in the Petition. The real estate includes a tract of land 16 feet by 20 feet, in the Southeast corner of the Southwest Quarter of Section Thirty (30), Township Fifteen (15) South, Range Seven (7) West in Ellsworth County, Kansas. You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition, in this Court, on or before July 3, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. in the City of Ellsworth, Ellsworth County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Edward A. Schneider, Petitioner

Sherman Law Office, LC
PO Box 83
Ellsworth, KS 67439
785-472-3186
Attorney for Petitioner

3t 6/26