

## Council

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Council to approve the use of the City Hall during the week of September 22. The Council approved the use of the City Hall for this event.

**b. Renovation of Historic Scout House.** Jacques Ehrlich, on behalf of Girl Scout Troop 11130, Hayleigh Ehrlich, and Jordyn Cook, has asked the City to provide certain services for the renovation and restoration of the Scout House in the park. See the Story in Tiller today.

**c. Tiny Homes.** Due to rising costs nationally for housing, the interest in “Tiny Homes” has been significant. On May 14, the Larned/Pawnee County Planning Commission reviewed standards and regulations guiding the

construction, placement, and guidelines for tiny homes, both on wheels and on permanent foundations. The introduction of the “Tiny Home” regulations would require an ordinance amending the zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations for Tiny Homes. Any ordinance changes require a roll call vote by the governing body. The roll call vote was taken. The change will then need to be published.

**d. Consideration to replace the generator located at the Water Tower.** The generator is aging and not reliable. It is necessary to ensure the 911 Dispatch at the Police Department remains operational during a loss of electric power, as a faulty generator would exacerbate the problems in the county. The City Council discussed the different

options for a generator and will get prices on several models before proceeding.

**e. Safe Routes to Schools grant.** In October 2024, the City of Larned was awarded an \$850,400 Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) grant for FY 2026 by the Kansas Department of Transportation. The SRTS program is part of KDOT’s Transportation Alternatives program. The project was awarded at 100% of cost. However, the city is responsible for right-of-way acquisition, utility relocations, and other local adjustments. The city and the county will share those costs. The city approved the agreements between the participating entities, authorizing the mayor and city manager to sign as required.

**f. FAA Grant Agreement.** At the end of last year, the City Council voted to proceed with an FAA grant for the Replacement of Runway 17/35 and PAPIs, installation of Runway 17/35 REILS, replacement of the wind cone and segmented circle, replacement of the rotating beacon, replacement of taxiway lighting and signage, and construction of an electrical vault. This project was identified in the FY2025 Capital Improvement Program with an estimated cost of \$1,160,000. The FAA grant for major improvements at the airport requires only a 5% match from the city and county. The bid went to L&S Electric of Salina. This bid was 32% under the engineering estimate; therefore, the 5% local match was reduced from \$58,5479 to \$41,900, which, again, is split evenly between the City and the County, at \$20,950 each, an additional \$8,340 savings for both the City and the County. The motion was made to accept and was passed.

**g. The Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP)** is a property tax rebate incentive program intended to encourage private investment in targeted areas in a community experiencing “blight, underdevelopment, or economic stagnation” by offering financial incentives for new construction, rehabilitation, or improvements to existing structures. It is a program intentionally designed for long-term growth. The current PC NRP is countywide; however, in the past, individual communities have customized the plan to fit their needs. This is essential for the sustainability of Larned and Pawnee County. The council discussed the program and the next steps. Kim Barnes had attended one meeting regarding the NRP and explained the many options that different areas use to encourage the program.

The meeting was adjourned.

**DID YOU KNOW.....**That in 1909 the Tiller & Toiler print shop printed the Home Cook Book of the Ladies of the Christian Church in Larned? The book was sold locally and included advertising from area businesses like Hills Meat Market, J.W. Evans Livery and Feed Stable, Getty & Yeager Harness, Buggies and Stoves and “A Pull Without A Pain” by Riggs the Dentist whose office was over the Frizell Hardware Co.

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## LEGAL

(First published in The Tiller & Toiler, August 7, 2025) 1t

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING									
The governing body of Pawnee Watershed Joint District No. 81 Hodgeman County will meet on August 18, 2025 at 7:00 PM at 20476 SE Highway 283, Jernome, Kansas for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied. Detailed budget information is available at 20476 SE Highway 283, Jernome, Kansas and will be available at this hearing.									
SUPPORTING COUNTIES Hodgeman County (home county) Gray County, Ness County, Edwards County, Lane County, Rush County Finney County, Ford County, Pawnee County									
BUDGET SUMMARY Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of Current Year Estimate for 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.									
FUND	Prior Year Actual for 2024		Current Year Estimate for 2025		Proposed Budget Year for 2026		Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax		Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*	
General	795,920	2.667	826,000	2.731	3,089,226	601,367		2.831	
Debt Services									
Totals	795,920	2.667	826,000	2.731	3,089,226	601,367		2.831	
Less: Transfers	0		0		0				
Net Expenditures	795,920		826,000		3,089,226				
Total Tax Levied	601,367		601,367		601,367				
Assessed Valuation	226,394,988		220,148,316		228,981,999				
Outstanding Indebtedness:									
Jan 1,									
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0				
Revenue Bonds	0		0		0				
Other	0		0		0				
Lease Pur. Princ.	0		0		0				
Total	0		0		0				
*Tax rates are expressed in mills. **Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988									
Randy Still Manager									

## LEGAL

## Referee

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The officiating fraternity creates strong bonds between each other, athletic directors, coaches and others and the Shaver crew is no different. Yes, they get paid for their efforts but each of these guys will tell you it is about much more than the money. The friendships, the fun, the frustrations, the adrenaline that goes with a good game, all of that is part of what bonds them together.

These five gents truly love athletics and drive miles and get home late on Friday nights. Yes, they “Have Whistles.....Will Travel” but the fun and the memories are a big part of why they put on those striped shirts on Friday nights whether it is hot, cold, windy or raining and snowing. The officials don’t get applauded at the games but maybe they should. Especially for this crew!

## Solar

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construction would be approximately \$13.7 million and about \$2 million would be spent each year to operate the facility. It is expected that the project would provide four full-time jobs and five part-time jobs. Tenaska would receive a 10-year tax abatement but would yearly make a payment to the County that would offset any lost tax revenue from the land. That pilot phase is expected to produce, at a minimum, \$400,000 a year in revenue for the County, Keysville Township and Pawnee Heights USD 496.

Following Mr. Roth’s presentation, he addressed questions from

the crowd of approximately fifty persons that included some that were for the project and some that were against it. Some of the landowners in the area affected stated that they were for it but there were several that cautioned against approval.

Following the question and comment session the Pawnee County Joint Planning Commission voted on the two proposals. There was one vote no for each item that was considered so both passed easily.

The next step requires approval from the Pawnee County Commissioners. That discussion, and vote, is expected to be held on Monday, August 18, 2025.

## LEGAL

First Published in the Tiller and Toiler on August 7, 2025 (3ts)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT PAWNEE COUNTY, KANSAS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
**SHARON HIRSCHMILLER**, DECEASED  
Case No. PN-2025-PR-000016

**NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PESONS CONCERNED:  
You are notified that on August 5, 2025, a Petition was filed in this Court by KELSI WILLIAMSON, a devisee, legatee, and Executrix named in the “Last Will and Testament of SHARON HIRSCHMILLER”, deceased, dated July 16, 2024, requesting the will be admitted to probate; petitioner be appointed as Executrix, without bond; petitioner be granted Letters Testamentary. You are required to file your written defenses to the petition on or before **September 12, 2025 at 10:30 am** in the District Court, Pawnee 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.  
All creditors of the decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from first publication of this notice under K.S.A. 59-2236 and amendments thereto, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

KELSI WILLIAMSON, Petitioner

HAGERMAN & COLGLAZIER, LLC  
By: Brenda West Hagerman, #10459  
102 West 6th Street, P.O. Box 360  
Larned, Kansas 67550  
620-285-3157  
Attorneys for Petitioner

## LEGAL

(First published in The Tiller & Toiler, August 7, 2025) 3ts

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 PAWNEE COUNTY, KANSAS  
CIVIL DEPARTMENT**

Freedom Mortgage Corporation

Plaintiff,

vs.

Estate of Edward G. Whitesell (Deceased), Jane Doe, John Doe, Charles E. Simpson aka Charles Edward Simpson III, Joyce R. Whitesell (Deceased), Michelle Lusk fka Michelle Whitesell, Pamela Diamond aka Pamela Whitesell, Susan Kovach, and Unknown Heirs of Edward G. Whitesell (Deceased), et al.,

Defendants

Case No. PN-2025-CV-000020  
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 Pawnee County, Kansas by Freedom Mortgage Corporation, praying to foreclose a mortgage on the following described real estate:

ALL OF THE FOLLOWING-DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE IN PAWNEE COUNTY, KANSAS, TO WIT:  
COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF BLOCK FORTY-TWO (42), OF THE ORIGINAL TOWNSITE OF THE CITY OF LARNED, PAWNEE COUNTY, KANSAS, FOR A PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH ONE HUNDRED FEET (N 100’); THENCE WEST ONE HUNDRED FEET (W 100’); THENCE SOUTH ONE HUNDRED FEET (S 100’); THENCE EAST ONE HUNDRED FEET (E 100’) TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO EDWARD G. WHITESSELL AND JOYCE IT WHITESSELL, AS JOINT TENANTS AND NOT AS TENANTS IN COMMON, WITH FULL RIGHTS OF SURVIVORSHIP BY DEED FROM NANCY LYNN MCCONNELL, AS SUCCESSOR CO-TRUSTEE OF THE KENNETH E. MCCONNELL REVOCABLE TRUST DATED JUNE 3, 1999, AND RE-STATED MAY 5, 2005 RECORDED 6/28/2007 IN DEED BOOK D81 PAGE 576 RECORDED IN THE PAWNEE COUNTY, KS. Parcel ID No. 109-32-0-40-42-004-00-0. Commonly known as 223 E 2nd St., Larned, KS 67550 (“the Property”) MS 227919

and *all those defendants who have not otherwise been served* are required to plead to the Petition on or before September 17, 2025 in the District Court of Pawnee 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 227919.457661 KJFC

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