

Livestock: Conscientious culling

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Meadowlark District
Extension Agent, Livestock and
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Amongst the back-to-school first day photos that have been popping up on my social media, there have been photos of processing calves prior to or at weaning from folks across the United States.



Typically, this time of year the discussion around weaning stems from a lack of forage and ways to manage cows and calves on limited resources. The abundance of summer rainfall puts us in a different position now, but markets have had record prices, making one wonder if this isn't a good marketing window to capture value in. My focus today will be on the cow side of this discussion, particularly the cows' need to be considered for culling at weaning.

It is no secret that the nation's cowherd is at historically low levels. Many of the top economists in the business don't see this trend turning around soon for several reasons, such as higher slaughter weights, heifer retention numbers and geographic weather conditions ranging from drought to flooding.

All of this might make you wonder what to do with the current cows within your herd. Weaning time is a good time to assess and make management decisions.

The high value of slaughter and bred cows right now might make you think differently about a cull cow marketing strategy, but some basic considerations should still guide decisions.

One of the old adages around cull cows is utilizing the rule of "O's." This has been expressed with slight differences in dis-

cussion groups but basically revolves around culling out females that fall within one or more of the following categories: Open, old, ornery, oddball/ out/off.

One of the single most important links to profitability in a cow/calf operation is having bred cows that raise and wean a live calf each year. Those cows who are found to not be pregnant are the first category to cull against. Marketing strategies include selling the cows at weaning time, feeding them to increase body condition and potentially breeding them to sell as later bred females. There are pros and cons to each decision that vary by operation.

Cows will reach prime production between four and five years of age. Additionally, research has shown that a cow needs to produce four or five calves to get to a place of profitability, which makes getting cows to and through "middle age" a goal.

Although cows can live and produce calves for 15 or more years, by age 10 most start to wean smaller calves, are more likely to come up open and have health issues. Therefore, older cows become a second culling criteria.

Bullfighters may enjoy dealing with ornery cattle, but those cows with bad disposition, who are aggressive and hard to work with, need to be considered for culling. No matter how good her calves are, keeping an aggressive cow around is not worth the risk of injury. This is especially true for operations with older producers or young children. Disposition is a moderately heritable trait, so keeping daughters of ornery cows often propagates this issue.

The final culling criteria is for anything that doesn't fit the remainder of the herd or is a potential problem. This can be bad feet, bad legs, bad udder, bad eyes, missing teeth, poor health history, late breeder, hair coat diluter, doesn't shed hair, can't handle summer heat or really

anything that is non-conforming to the rest of the cowherd. Culling out these issues makes the cowherd better in the long term.

Utilization of cow production records can help make culling decisions. Checking pregnancy status and weighing calves and cows each year at weaning has several long-term benefits. The top cows wean off the highest percentage of their mature weight each year.

These more productive cows are those that combine genetic potential to conceive/calve early in the season, avoid health issues and have appropriate mature weight and milk potential relative to their production environment.

Potawatomi Community Church

By Tina Pugh

The Sunday morning worship service on Aug. 17 at Potawatomi Community Church was opened by Judy Thoman with 13 in attendance. Michelle Jones accompanied the four congregational hymns on the piano: "Because He Lives," "Holy, Holy, Holy," "To God Be The Glory" and "How Great Thou Art."

Gina Hegemann read the scripture, 2 Chronicles 26:16-20. Pastor Dave Jones delivered the sermon, titled "A Sad But Funny Story." Like King Uzziah, we can be cut off by God if we do not follow His precepts. Sunday's sermon is available on

the church group chat or through a link on the church Facebook site.

The adult Sunday school class continued with a study of 1 Kings. A time of fellowship with refreshments followed the worship service.

Next Sunday, Aug. 24, will be a "specials" Sunday, where all are invited to share, instead of having communion as originally scheduled. Communion will be held on Aug. 31 instead.

The church garage sale will be held Thursday and Friday, Sept. 18-19. This will be a colossal sale, starting with a bake sale on Thursday and smoked pulled pork sandwiches on Friday.

Please remember in prayer the family of Charlotte Utz in her passing, Leon Daugherty while he's in the hay field, Grace Bowser who is recovering from ankle surgery and the three individuals who are attending the Jacob Mafaro ministry.

Betty Bowser's upcoming birthday was acknowledged by singing her the birthday song. A thank you goes out to Chuck Jacobson for providing another table for the kitchen. We also appreciate the chairs he brought awhile back for the annex.

SEPTEMBER
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Public Notice

(Published in The Holton Recorder, Holton, Kan., on Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2025.)

CITY OF HOLTON

ORDINANCE NO. 25-010

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING GIANT COMMUNICATIONS, INC. A LICENSE TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IN THE PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY OF THE CITY OF HOLTON, KANSAS, PRESCRIBING THE TERMS AND CONDITION OF SAID GRANT.

Whereas, The Governing Body of the City of Holton seeks to:

1. Adequately compensate itself for occupancy and maintenance of the City Right-of-way by all Communications Services,
2. Fully protect the public and the City from any harm caused by private, commercial use of Right-of-way, including but not limited to reducing the risk of loss of service or personal or property injury from errant excavation,
3. Protect the regulatory authority of the City in a manner consistent with federal and State law, and
4. Promote the entry and occupancy of Right-of-way by communications providers in a competitively neutral manner, maximize the available space for such providers by requiring coordination, co- location, and planned construction of infrastructure in the Right-of-way;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF HOLTON, KANSAS:

SECTION 1. Definitions. For the purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivatives shall have the meanings set forth in this Section, unless the context clearly indicates that another is intended. Words used in the present tense include the future tense, words in the singular number include the plural number, and words in the plural number include the singular. The words "shall" and "will" are mandatory and "may" is permissive. Words not defined shall be given their common and ordinary meaning.

A. "City" means the City of Holton, Kansas.
B. "Facilities" means any portion of a Communications System located in, along, over, upon, under, or through the Right-of-Way.
C. "Agreement" means the license agreement that is governed by this Ordinance and agreed to by Licensor.
D. "Licensor" means Giant Communications, Inc. which is granted a license pursuant to this Ordinance and that entity's agents and employees.

E. "License Fee" means the fee imposed by the City on a license pursuant to this Ordinance.

F. "Public Project" means any project planned or undertaken by the City or any governmental entity for construction, reconstruction, maintenance, or repair of public facilities or improvements, or any other purpose of a public nature.

G. "Public Project for Private Development" means a Public Project, or that portion thereof, arising solely from a request or requirement of a third party (non-City or governmental) primarily for the benefit and use of a third party.

H. Right-of-Way" means only the area of real property in which the city has a

dedicated or acquired right-of-way interest in the real property. It shall include area on, above and below present and future streets, alleys, avenues, roads, highways, parkways or boulevards dedicated or acquired as right-of-way. This term shall not include any county, state, or federal right-of-way or any property owned or controlled by any person or agency other than the City, except as provided by applicable laws or pursuant to an agreement between the City and any such Person or Agency. Right-of-Way shall not include property owned or held by City and not typically considered Right-of-Way such as City Parks and City Buildings. The term does not include easements obtained by private easements in platted subdivisions or tracts.

I. "Communications System" or "System" means the cables, wires, lines, optic fiber, and any associated converters, equipment, or other facilities designed, constructed or occupied by a Licensor or others for the purpose of producing, receiving, amplifying or distributing wireless information communications service to or from locations within the City.

SECTION 2. Nonexclusive. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as giving to the Licensor any exclusive privileges, nor shall it affect any prior or existing rights of the Licensor to maintain a Communications system or related business within the City.

SECTION 3. Grant.

A. The City hereby grants to Giant Communications, Inc., (hereinafter referred to as "the Licensor" or "the Company") a license which conveys the right, privilege, and authority to construct, operate, and maintain Facilities in, through and along the City's Right-of-Way for the purposes of supplying wired or wireless Communications Services on a nonexclusive basis within the City.

B. The Company shall continue to operate its Communications System and all business incidental to or connected with the conducting of its business and system in the City. The plant, construction and appurtenances used in or incidental to the offering of Communications and other services and to the maintenance of such system and business by the Company in the City shall remain as now planned and constructed, subject to such changes as may be considered necessary by the City in the exercise of its inherent powers and by the Company in the conduct of its business.

C. The Company shall continue to exercise its right to place, remove, construct and reconstruct, extend and maintain its plant and appurtenances along, across, on, over, through, above and under all the public streets, avenues, alleys, bridges, utility easements and all public grounds and places within the limits of the City.

SECTION 4. Excavations; Underground Facility Locating Service.

A. Prior to any underground excavations by Licensor in the public streets, roads, alleys, sidewalks or other public places, Licensor must submit written plans for approval by the City.

B. The City shall promptly, and in no event more than 30 days, with respect to facilities in the public right-of-way, process each valid and administratively complete application of a provider for any permit, license or consent to

excavate, locate lines, construct facilities, make repairs, effect traffic flow, or for other similar approvals, and shall make reasonable effort not to unreasonably delay or burden the Company in the timely conduct of its business.

C. If there is an emergency necessitating response work or repair, the Company may begin that repair or take any action required under the circumstances, provided that the Company notifies the City promptly after beginning the work and timely thereafter meets any permit or other requirements, had there not been such an emergency.

D. The Licensor must continue to participate fully in Kansas One Call to ensure that damage and/or interference with other underground facilities' occupants is minimized. The City will notify the Company either directly or through voluntary participation in Kansas One Call of its excavation plans in public Right-of-way, to avoid damage to Company facilities pre-existing in public Right-of-way.

SECTION 5. Relocation of Facilities.

A. The Licensor shall not be responsible for the expenses of relocation to accommodate any new Public Project for Private Development. The expenses attributable to such a project shall be the responsibility of the third party upon the request and appropriate documentation of the Licensor. Before such expense may be billed to the third party, the Licensor shall be required to coordinate with the third party and the City on the design construction to ensure that the work required is necessary and done in a cost-effective manner. Upon the request of the Licensor or the third party, the allocation of expense attributable to the project shall be made in the reasonable determination of the City. Eligible third parties may request to have the City specially assess those expenses billed by the Licensor under this section.

B. The City will use its best efforts, but is not required, to continue to provide a location in the Right-of-Way for the Licensor's Facilities as part of a Public Project, provided that the Licensor has cooperated promptly and fully with the City in the design of its Facilities as part of the Public Project.

SECTION 6. License Fees.

A. The City requires the Company as a provider of information Communications, and not a local exchange service provider subject to the franchise provisions of K.S.A. 12-2001(c), to contribute to city rights- of-way maintenance. Accordingly, the company will annually pay \$.07 per foot of communication facility toward such maintenance. No sales, excise, use or other tax shall be included in the calculation of such taxes.

B. The Company shall submit payment to the City each August 1 based on its internal property records as of the previous December 31. The City maintains a right to review these records on notice to the Company.

SECTION 7. Term. The License shall remain in effect for 15 years from the anniversary of its adoption, or until August 1st, 2040, whichever date is the earlier, unless either party shall notify the other in writing of its intention to terminate this agreement. The notice of intention to terminate shall be served by either party on the other at least six (6) months prior to

the date of such termination.

SECTION 8. Non-assignable. Neither Party may make any assignment of this Agreement or any interest herein, by operation of law or otherwise, without the prior written consent of the other; provided, however, that the Company may assign its rights and obligations under this Agreement without the consent of the City in the event that the Company shall hereafter affect a reorganization, consolidation or merger or in the event the Company transfers all or substantially all of its properties or assets. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the Company and the City, their respective successors, executors, administrators, heirs and permitted assigns.

SECTION 9. Enforcement; Attorney Fees.

The City shall be entitled to enforce this Ordinance, and, any License granted pursuant to it, though all remedies lawfully available, and Company shall pay City reasonable attorneys' fees in the event that the Company is determined judicially to have violated the terms of this Ordinance or License.

SECTION 10. Indemnification.

A. The Company shall indemnify and hold the City and its officers and employees harmless against any and all claims, lawsuits, judgments, costs, liens, losses, expenses, fees (including reasonable attorney fees and costs of defense), proceedings, actions, demands, causes of action, liability and suits of any kinds and nature, including personal or bodily injury (including death), property damage or other harm for which recovery of damages is sought, to the extent that it is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be caused by the negligence of the provider, any agent, officer, director, representative, employee, affiliate or subcontractor of the provider, or their respective officers, agents, employees, directors or representatives, while installing, repairing or maintaining facilities in a public right-of-way. The indemnity provided by this subsection does not apply to any liability resulting from the negligence of the City, its officers, employees, contractors or subcontractors.

B. If Licensor and the City are found jointly liable by a court of competent jurisdiction, liability shall be apportioned comparatively in accordance with the laws of this state without, however, waiving any governmental immunity available to the City under state law and without waiving any defenses of the parties under state or federal law.

SECTION 11. Effective date; procedures.

A. This ordinance shall become effective upon publication, or September 1, 2024, whichever comes first.

B. Publication costs shall be reimbursed by the Company to the city, upon presentation of publication costs' receipts.

/s/ Tim Morris
Tim Morris, Mayor

[SEAL]

Attest:

/s/ Michelle V. Raaf
Michelle V. Raaf,
City Clerk

L34t1

Police Calls

The following calls were handled by the Holton Police Department between Thursday, July 31 and Wednesday, Aug. 13.

- 3:09 a.m. July 31, 400 block of Arizona Avenue, outside agency assist.
- 4:06 a.m. July 31, 700 block of Nebraska Avenue, non-injury accident.
- 8:21 a.m. July 31, 400 block of Arizona Avenue, citizen assist.
- 1:55 p.m. July 31, 300 block of West Fourth Street, theft.
- 11:35 a.m. Aug. 1, 400 block of South Arizona Avenue, injury accident.
- 10:44 p.m. Aug. 1, Southern Heights, disturbance.
- 4:31 p.m. Aug. 2, 200 block of Ohio Avenue, no peddler's permit.
- 2:02 p.m. Aug. 3, 300 block of East Ninth Street, juvenile matter.
- 8:11 p.m. Aug. 3, 1000 block of New Jersey Avenue, animal complaint.
- 2:58 a.m. Aug. 4, 200 block of Arizona Avenue, outside agency assist.
- 9:15 a.m. Aug. 4, 300 block of West Fourth Street, outside agency assist.
- 6:52 p.m. Aug. 4, 600 block of Kansas Avenue, animal complaint.
- 8:48 p.m. Aug. 4, 900 block of West Fourth Street, citizen assist.
- 10:20 p.m. Aug. 4, 900 block of West Fourth Street, outside agency assist.
- 2:16 a.m. Aug. 5, 27800 block of U.S. Highway 75, outside agency assist.
- 5:04 p.m. Aug. 5, 400 block of Pennsylvania Avenue, special event (National Night Out).
- 11:43 p.m. Aug. 5, 400 block of South Arizona Avenue, outside agency assist.
- 12:45 a.m. Aug. 6, 700 block of Idaho Avenue, outside agency assist.
- 12:39 p.m. Aug. 6, 500 block of Indiana Avenue, disturbance.
- 6:21 p.m. Aug. 6, 200 block of Summit Drive, disturbance.
- 8:21 p.m. Aug. 6, 500 block of West Fourth Street, traffic problem.
- 8:53 p.m. Aug. 6, 600 block of New York Avenue, traffic problem.
- 12:26 a.m. Aug. 7, 400 block of Arizona Avenue, suspicious activity.
- 4:29 p.m. Aug. 7, 300 block

- of Iowa Avenue, juvenile matter.
 - 6:44 p.m. Aug. 7, 300 block of Iowa Avenue, juvenile matter.
 - 8:45 p.m. Aug. 7, 700 block of Idaho Avenue, speak with officer.
 - 3:17 a.m. Aug. 8, 100 block of West 10th Street, outside agency assist.
 - 10:48 p.m. Aug. 8, 100 block of South Pennsylvania Avenue, suspicious activity.
 - 2:06 p.m. Aug. 9, 200 block of Dakota Avenue, suspicious person.
 - 8:43 p.m. Aug. 9, Southern Heights, disturbance.
 - 10:27 p.m. Aug. 9, 100 block of South Pennsylvania Avenue, suspicious person.
 - 10 a.m. Aug. 10, 300 block of South Arizona Avenue, non-injury accident.
 - 1:01 p.m. Aug. 10, 800 block of New Jersey Avenue, unattended death.
 - 4:31 p.m. Aug. 10, 400 block of Arizona Avenue, citizen assist.
 - 7:25 p.m. Aug. 10, 100 block of Iowa Avenue, utility issue.
 - 8:30 p.m. Aug. 10, 400 block of West Fourth Street, traffic problem.
 - 5:22 a.m. Aug. 11, 400 block of Arizona Avenue, suspicious person.
 - 8:04 a.m. Aug. 12, 300 block of Topeka Avenue, disturbance.
 - 2:08 p.m. Aug. 12, 400 block of Arizona Avenue, non-injury accident.
 - 11:46 p.m. Aug. 12, 1100 block of Columbine Drive, outside agency assist.
 - 4:07 a.m. Aug. 13, 1100 block of Columbine Drive, juvenile matter.
 - 12:40 p.m. Aug. 13, 500 block of Wyoming Avenue, outside agency assist.
 - 12:51 p.m. Aug. 13, 600 block of Vermont Avenue, outside agency assist.
 - 3:43 p.m. Aug. 13, 800 block of Vermont Avenue, citizen assist.
- Police also handled 189 area checks (67 at parks and recreation facilities, 50 at local businesses, 22 at local apartment complexes, 20 in the Holton Community Hospital/Industrial Park area, 16 at Holton schools and 14 on the Town Square), 60 traffic stops, 39 warnings, five citations, one case follow-up, three medical assists, two 911 misdials, four welfare checks and four police escorts during the reporting period.

Recent addition to your family?

Let The Recorder help you spread the news about the latest addition to your family! Send us your baby's name, birth date and place, weight and height, and names of parents, siblings and grandparents. A photo will be published for a fee.

Bring news to the office at 109 W. Fourth St. in Holton; mail to The Holton Recorder, P.O. Box 311, Holton, KS 66436; fax the news to 364-3422; call 364-3141; or e-mail holtonrecordernews@gmail.com (photos may be attached to the e-mail). Please include name and telephone number with news.