

Little River City Council

The Little River City Council met in regular session Friday, June 13, at 7 am. The meeting was called to order by mayor Don Teeters. Council members present were Jason Crotinger, John Tietjens, Randy Burdick, and Barry Porter.

The minutes of the May 12 meeting were approved as presented.

Public Comments: A representative of SAM, a managed geospatial services company spoke to the council about the company's services. They are a survey company for mapping of utilities, zoning and planning for utilities. The council will consider this service.

Departments:
Maintenance: Bob Weis reported the new lift station pump has been installed. He also replaced the radiator and water pump on the city pickup.

City Clerk: Brooke Oakley reported the monthly compensating

use tax was \$3472.52 and Sales tax was \$6168.90.

New Business:
The council approved readopting Ordinance #536 on mowing.

The Little River city will provide mosquito spraying for the City of Windom again this year. Fess were approved.

The council approved shooting fireworks from July 1-5, ending at midnight each night.

Unfinished Business:
The council approved continued membership in KMGA.

Reports of City Officials: Security cameras are back up and running.

Bills were approved as presented.

Committee Reports:
CJ's Backhoe will start demolition on 240 Eagle soon.

After an executive session to discuss personnel the meeting was adjourned. The next regular session will be Monday, July 14 at 7 pm.

Windom City Council

The Windom City Council met in regular session Wednesday, June 11, at 5:45 pm. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Janis Bernd. Council members present were Debbie Gadberry, Alice Taylor, and John Ratzlaff.

Public Comments: The Community Foundation presented a park update. The plumbing is done on the park bathroom. Still need to finish: paint inside and out, and gutters. Other items in discussion, include 3 hole disc golf and a putting area and replacing some trees.

Departments:
Police: Jeremy Rodriguez was not present.

City Consultant: Gail Lauderdale suggested getting forms printed for city officials to take when out inspecting to get signatures from both parties. A copy will be kept in the city office. A motion passed to do this.

City Clerk: Lisa McNichols asked for dates for fireworks in July. The council said July 1-3 from 9 am to 11 pm and

July 4 from 9 am to midnight. A property owner wants to contest a report from the city. Little River city will be spraying for mosquitoes soon.

Council Member remarks:

Alice Taylor remarked she knows of properties with tall weeks. The city clerk will send the message on to Jeremy Rodriguez.

Debbie Gadberry will continue to mow on both sides of Main Street in the business district.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 9 at 5:45 pm.

Renken selected for All State Baseball Team

Logan Renken was selected as one of the players for the 2A/1A All State Baseball Team. He was chosen for the first team as an Mid Infield player and one of the Players of the Year.

He was also chosen to play in the KABC Senior All State Game held on June 18.

Little River Community Library



Roxanne Nelson and her husband, Thomas Hays, will host the final event of the summer reading program.

Come to the Little River library Wednesday, June 25th, 10:00 -11:30. We hope to have a great turn out for a delightful morning with Roxanne Nelson and Thomas Hays. Mark your calendars now and plan on coming.

Little River native Roxanne Nelson, daughter of David and Debra Nelson, will return to her hometown alongside her husband, Thomas Hays, to host the final event of the 2025 Summer Reading Program at the Little River Library. This year's theme, "Color Our World," has encouraged children and families to explore art, creativity, and imagination through books and hands-on experiences.

Roxanne is a board-certified music therapist and adaptive

music teacher at Heart-spring, a therapeutic school serving children with neurodevelopmental differences. Her husband, Thomas—known musically as Thorn Haze—is a singer-songwriter and multimedia professor at Bethany College.

Together, they will lead an engaging and interactive music experience that brings creativity to life through rhythm, movement, and sound—inviting children and families to discover how music can be a vibrant, expressive way to add color to our lives and connect with one another.

This joyful musical celebration is the perfect way to wrap up a summer filled with imagination, learning, and community fun."

Storm Report

It seems that we have hit a rainy season in our area. Monday night, June 16, in Little River we received 2 inches of rain overnight. Along with the rain we had high winds which did cause some tree damage, and power was out for at least 2 hours overnight.

Windom has reported some wind damage with trees down on streets and a transformer blew. A tree was on fire and was put out by the rain. Some power lines were also down. The city pond is full and overflowing.

But we are thankful for the rain. Please keep the farmers in your prayers as wheat harvest is pending dry weather.



Emporia State University Honor Roll

Lily Boughfman of Marquette, Kansas, was one of more than 650 Emporia State undergraduate students named to the university honor roll after the spring 2025 semester.

To qualify for the university honor roll, students earned a minimum 3.80 semester grade point average in at least 12 graded hours.

American Legion Auxiliary

The regular monthly meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit #258 met at the Little River American Legion at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday June 11, 2025. Vice President Hazel Hodgson called the meeting to order. Chaplain, Lisa Linder, was not present. Vice President Hazel Hodgson gave the prayer. Members repeated the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and the Preamble to The Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Roll call was answered by "vacation plans and what is their destination". 8 members and 1 guest answered roll call.

Secretary Connie Nichols presented the Minutes of the May meeting to all the members to read. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Treasurer Meredith Davis presented the May Financial Statement. A motion was made and seconded to accept the May Financial Statement. Motion passed. Expenses for materials used for the float were presented.

Committees:

Poppy: Meredith Davis reported we received a monetary donation for the Poppy's on Poppy Day and Memorial Day.

Monetary donation was collected for the Praying Hands flags.

Library:

Nancy Hayes reported that the Library continues to have a wonderful group of children attending the summer reading program.

Constitution and By Laws:

Our Unit needs to review these documents on yearly basis.

Old Business:

The Auxiliary members and volunteers did an amazing job decorating our float for the All Schools Reunion Parade. What an honor it was to recognize Marcie Crandall for her 68 years as an Auxiliary member. Our Units float received First place. Thank You to all that helped decorate, make banners, and furnished the truck and trailer.

The Memorial Day service was well attended; approximately 100 people attended and a wonderful lunch was served.

A letter was received from Friends University recognizing the scholarship we awarded to Reece Erickson.

New Business:

Flag Day is June 14
The following members have accepted new positions:

President: Connie Nichols

Secretary: Nancy Hayes

Sargent of Arms: Angela Larson

Outgoing President Dorothy Stagner swore in the new officers. Congratulations to the new officers.

There will be no meeting in July. A meeting in August is pending.

Annual Fireworks sales will be from July 1 through July 4. Hours for the Auxiliary to work are: 10-2 and 2-6. Nancy Hayes will be working out a schedule.

A motion was made and seconded that we give out 2 awards, 1 to an outstanding member and 1 to an outstanding community member. Motion Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Next meeting will be held on Sept. 3, 2025
Secretary Connie Nichols

History of Little River

FIRST WHEAT IN RICE COUNTY

Geo. W. Hodgson helped sow the first crop in Little River District.

The following is taken from the Hutchinson Daily Herald:

"George W. Hodgson, now 84 years old, who sowed the first wheat in Rice County, or at least in the Little River section, is still living at his home in Little River.

He has been invited to be a guest of honor at the Farm and Home Week picnic this week, as one of the pioneer wheat growers of this section.

Mr. Hodgson located in Rice county in 1870, taking a pre-emption claim five miles southeast of where the town of Little River stands now. The town did not exist then. In 1871 he took a homestead which he still owns there.

"I lived in a half dugout, and also a sodhouse," he remarked. "I walked and carried groceries from Lindsborg, a distance of 25 miles. There was not a woman within ten miles of us then.

"Salina was our trading point. I went to Salina and bought seed wheat and my brother and I sowed the first wheat in this part of the county in 1872."

Mr. Hodgson farmed with ox teams. He says they used buffalo chips for fuel, He hunted buffalo out on the range in 1871."

For your information:

Mr. George Washington Hodgson was grandfather to the late Irvin Hodgson. Irvin's daughter, Dr. Becky Dillon and her husband Dwight, still live in the area, as does his daughter-in-law Edith Hodgson. Thank you to the person who put this in the slot in the Monitor Journal door. It was noted on the clipping that the date of the article was unknown.



The next covered dish will be Monday, June 23, 6:30 P.M. note date, 5 Mondays in June.

Everyone welcome all ages 0-100+ any time we're open. Not a closed activity.

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Juneteenth is Thursday, June 19, a celebration marking the end of Slavery.

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May is Elder Law Month—a time to focus on the systems and ser-

vices that shape how we age with dignity in Kansas.

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Sat. June, 14, members of the Roy Long family gathered at the Windom Sr. Center for the annual Long Reunion. The event was hosted by Bert Long, Bobbie Rawson, Robyn Wilson and Rusty Long. A good time was had by all.

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Sat. eve. June 14 the family of Pattie Arnold

gathered at the Windom Sr. Center for a remembrance time. Sincere sympathy to the family.

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**CALENDAR**  
•Sats. Breakfast, (Sats. only) Windom Sr. Center, 7:30-10:30 A.M.  
•Tues.-Fri. Coffee, Windom Sr. Center, 7:30 A.M.-10:00 A.M.  
•Thur. June 19 Juneteenth  
•Mon. June 23 Covered Dish, Windom Sr. Center, 6:30 P.M.