



# the town crier

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Ellis, Kansas



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## Annual Sewer Rate Evaluation

Submitted by Verda Flinn, Assistant City Clerk

City Code states each customer's sewer charge must be reviewed annually and adjusted if necessary with the April 1st billing. The Code states that **a monthly average of the water used between the December meter reading and the March meter reading is computed, and that average is then applied to a sewer rate table.** The resulting sewer charge will remain in effect for the next 12 months starting with the April 1st billing. Water meters are read around the 10th of each month.

New residents who have moved into Ellis before December 2025 started their service with the base rate of \$27.49 for the sewer charge. Once the evaluation period is completed, the average water usage during that time period will determine your sewer rate change accordingly to the sewer rate table.

To the right is a brief sampling of the current sewer charges. To view the sewer rate table, visit our website at <https://ellis.ks.us/> and select Local > Public Works Department > Wastewater Treatment Plant > click on Sewer Rate Table (PDF).

thousands of gallons of water used	monthly sewer charge
1	\$27.93
2	\$28.37
3	\$28.81
4	\$42.21
5	\$58.04
10	\$92.59
15	\$125.14
20	\$157.69
25	\$180.24



## Lead Where You Live: Run for City Council

Submitted by Verda Flinn, Assistant City Clerk

Have you ever thought about serving your community or having a voice in local decisions? This November, voters will elect three City Council members. The seats are currently held by Council Members Dava Gaschler, Devin Henderson, and Jolene Niernberger.

Serving on the City Council is a meaningful way to influence local policies, address important issues, and represent your neighbors. Council members help guide decisions on budgets, infrastructure, public services, and community development.

If you're passionate about improving your town and ready to take on a leadership role, consider running in the next election. Public service is a rewarding way to give back and make a lasting impact.

### Here's how to get your name on the November ballot:

- File by **NOON on Monday, June 1, 2026**
- Submit your Declaration of Intent at the Ellis County Clerk's office in Hays
- Pay the \$20.00 filing fee

Make it official - don't leave it to a write-in. File today and take the first step toward shaping your community's future.





## Spring Cleaning

Submitted by  
Ashley Scheibler, City Clerk

Spring is almost here! Even though our winter has been fairly mild, most of us look forward to nicer weather where we can open the windows for fresh air and do some spring cleaning. The problem is, what do you do with everything you clean out? There are several options available:



The Community Thrift Shop is an excellent place to bring items that could be someone else's "treasure". The Thrift Shop accepts all types of clothing and household items for resale. Items that they are not able to use are sent to a recycling center.

- The Ellis Recycling Center accepts many types of recyclables. Items brought to the Center must be rinsed clean and flattened if possible. All kinds of paper are accepted as long as they are clean and dry. This includes newspapers (including inserts), magazines, office-type paper, books, and cardboard. Other items accepted include aluminum cans, steel cans (i.e., canned vegetables), plastic jars and bottles, and batteries. The Ellis Recycling Center is located east of the campground next to the sewer plant. The Center is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 8:30–11:30 a.m.; Wednesdays 3:00–7:00 p.m.; and the first and third Saturdays 8:30–11:30 a.m.
- If what you are cleaning out isn't resalable or recyclable, you may have a need for an extra trash pickup. Residents may call the City office to arrange for a special pickup of certain items. City crews are able to haul off numerous household items such as mattresses, furniture, appliances, tires, or even carpet. The City charges \$10.00 for the first 200 pounds, plus \$.05 per pound for additional weight for special pickups. Certain items, such as tires, may have an additional disposal charge.



## Grass Pickup Resumes

Submitted by Verda Flinn, Assistant City Clerk

Starting April 6th, the grass route will be run on Monday of each week, unless the Monday is a designated City holiday. Consult the *Holiday Trash Schedule* in this newsletter for the alternate pick up day.

Grass carts are available for \$2.43 per month, per cart, and only billed from May to November. Call the City Clerk's office to request a grass cart.

The grass cart has a number that is assigned to your address when it is delivered. **Please do not move carts from one address to another.** Also, respect the resident who chooses to rent a grass cart for their grass. Do not put your grass clippings in someone else's cart without their permission. Perpetrators may be charged with theft of service for doing so.

**We ask that you put only GRASS in the carts as it is fed to livestock.** We will not pick up leaves or branches in the grass carts, however, the City opened a compost pile area near the City's shooting range on the east end of town for you to take your leaves. See page six for more details about the compost pile.

If you would like the City to pick up your bagged leaves, put them in the TRASH carts to be hauled to the landfill. We will not pick up bags or other items left on the ground without a special pickup order.

If you have branches that need picked up, call the Clerk's office at (785) 726-4812 to schedule a special pickup. Remember branches need to be bundled and cut into 4-foot lengths.



## Flushable Wipes

Submitted by Steve Homburg, Public Works Director

"Flushable" wipes do not break down in the sewer system and can cause serious blockages and backups that overflow into streets and homes. These incidents, known as Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs), must be reported to KDHE by law and pose significant environmental and public health risks. In addition, wipes can cause major damage at wastewater treatment facilities, leading to repairs that can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.



Disposable wipes - even those labeled "flushable" - create problems for wastewater collection and treatment systems. Extra maintenance is required to remove wipes from sewer pipes, pumps, and treatment equipment.

Most sewer issues are caused by items that do not properly break apart, such as baby wipes, personal care wipes, paper towels, and feminine hygiene products. Because of how and where these items are used, they are often flushed down toilets. Once in the system, they can clog sewer mains, leading to SSOs and sewage backups into basements and homes. If they reach a pump, they can cause the pump to fail, resulting in further backups and damage.

Please remember to throw wipes and similar products in the trash, not the toilet. Doing so helps prevent costly repairs and keeps utility rates down for everyone.



## HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE

Monday, May 25  
Tuesday, May 26

NO trash or grass pickup on **MEMORIAL DAY**

Monday and Tuesday trash and grass routes will be ran together



**City code prohibits vegetation watering  
between the hours of  
Noon to 7:00 p.m. year round.**



## Accessory Structures in the Floodplain

Submitted by Steve Homburg, Public Works Director

When comparing aerial photos from year to year, one prominent trend is the abundance of sheds, barns, and other accessory structures that pop up like mushrooms after a spring rain. FEMA Technical Bulletin (TB) 7 explains that “Communities may allow wet floodproofing of [low-cost and small] accessory structures provided that they represent a minimal investment and are designed to have a low damage potential.” TB-7 further stipulates that “communities may allow wet floodproofing [of accessory structures] only through the issuance of a variance.” While accessory structures may not need to be elevated as securely as a new home, it is important for floodplain administrators to ensure that these structures are permitted, tracked, and built properly if they are located in a Special Flood Hazard Area. Failure to do so could result in probation or suspension from the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

In Ellis, projects under 120 square feet are exempt from obtaining a building permit. However, any improvement within the floodplain requires a Floodplain Development Permit, regardless of size. If your project exceeds 120 square feet, a building permit is required, and the fee is based on the total cost of the project. Additionally, many property owners with Letters of Map Amendment (LOMAs) may not realize that sections of floodplain can remain on their lot even after the principal structure has been removed.

One common question from property owners involves TB-7’s wet floodproofing requirements. These state that an accessory structure “must be anchored to resist flotation, collapse, and lateral movement...be constructed of flood resistant materials...[and] be designed to allow for the automatic entry of flood waters.” The latter provision can be satisfied by installing openings below the BFE as described in TB-1. For a chart classifying building materials based on their resistance to flood damage, developers can turn to TB-2.

Another common question occurs when property owners ask whether or not an Elevation Certificate (EC) is required. This can become a point of contention, as the survey work necessary for an EC can sometimes cost more than the accessory structure itself. A structure with no mechanical or utility equipment that is not elevated or dry-floodproofed would not need an Elevation Certificate or Floodproofing Certificate. A shed with utilities will need an Elevation Certificate.

If you wish to get a copy of FEMA’s TB-1, TB-2, or TB-7, or have any questions please contact the Public Works Office at 785-726-1741.



## Rabies Clinic a Success

Submitted by Danielle Schaus, Clerk 1

The City of Ellis held its annual rabies clinic in the City shop on February 7, 2026, where patrons could bring their dogs and cats to be vaccinated. Dr. Brandon Weidenhaft, DVM at Big Creek Veterinary, was present to conduct the clinic. Three customers took advantage of the event bringing one cat and two dogs. Rabies, Distemper and Bordetella vaccinations were offered for dogs and cats and Leukemia for cats only.

In addition to the vaccinations, 2026 City dog tags were also available for purchase. One dog tag was purchased during the event and three vaccinations were administered.

City Ordinance requires any dog over six months of age to be registered each year with the City. The registration year runs from January 1st thru December 31st. **To purchase a dog tag, simply bring a certificate of rabies immunization to the Clerk’s office.** The tag fees are \$5.00 for spayed/neutered dogs and \$10.00 for intact dogs. Please note that tags purchased after March 1st will be assessed a \$2.00 per month penalty fee. Residents are encouraged to stop by City Hall



any time between the  
hours of 8:00 a.m. -  
5:00 p.m. to purchase  
tags.

Thank you  
for your con-  
tinued support  
of the clinic!



# calendar

## MARCH

- 
- 2 City Council 6:30 pm
- 4 Municipal Court 8:00 am
- 2-6 **WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK**
- 4 State-wide Siren Test 10 am
- 8 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 16 City Council 6:30 pm
- ST PATRICK’S DAY**
- 20 No Court
- 23 Planning Comm 7:00 pm

## APRIL

- 3 Municipal Court 8:00 am
  - GOOD FRIDAY** - *City offices open*
  - 5 **EASTER**
  - 6 Grass Pickup begins
  - City Council 6:30 pm
  - 15 Income Tax Filing Deadline
  - 20 City Council 6:30 pm
  - 27 Planning Comm 7:00 pm
- 

## MAY

- 
- 4 City Council 6:30 pm
- 3-9 **MUNICIPAL CLERK’S WEEK**
- 8 Municipal Court 8:00 am
- 10 **MOTHER’S DAY**
- 11-17 **NAT’L POLICE WEEK**
- 17-23 **NAT’L PUBLIC WORKS WEEK**
- 18 City Council 6:30 pm
- 25 **MEMORIAL DAY**  
*City offices closed*
- 26 Planning Comm 7:00 pm  
Public Works - Summer Hours Begin  
Swim Pool Opens 12:30 pm



## Library Updates

Submitted by Tracey Andrews,  
Ellis Public Library Director

The new year brings exciting updates to the Ellis Public Library! Thanks to the support of local grants, the library will soon be undergoing a short period of construction as several important improvements are made. While the exact timeline is still being



"hammered" out, planned upgrades include new windows, improvements to the heating and air conditioning system, and added insulation to enhance comfort and efficiency.

Following construction, the Ellis Public Library plans to refresh its interior décor and showcase artwork from local artists. With travelers frequently passing through our community, EPL is eager to highlight the creativity and talent that make Ellis special. Artists interested in displaying their work, or those who know someone who may be interested, are encouraged to contact Tracey at the library.

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## Local Incentive Policy

Submitted by  
Ashley Scheibler, City Clerk

**Did you know** that the City offers utility incentives to new businesses locating within the city limits of Ellis? A "new" business is defined as:

- A *new* business with a *new* owner;
- An *existing* business with or without a name change and a *different* owner; or
- An *existing* business was relocated with a *different* owner.

The application for local incentives must be received within 60 days of the new or existing business opening for business. Once the application has been approved by the City Council, the new business will receive free sewer and sanitation services for a period of 12 months. Free sewer services will be limited to \$500, and sanitation services will be limited to one dumpster (owner-provided) or two poly carts for no more than two pickups per week. Please see the City Clerk's office for an application or visit our website at [www.ellis.ks.us](http://www.ellis.ks.us).



## Electric Scooters & E-Bikes Survey Results

Submitted by Avery Smith, Chief of Police

The City of Ellis recently conducted a community survey to gather information on resident experiences and perspectives regarding the use of electric scooters and e-bikes. A total of 284 responses were received, with approximately 85% of respondents living within Ellis' city limits. Responses represented a broad range of ages, with most participants between 30 and 59 years old. Nearly all respondents indicated they are aware of scooter and e-bike use in Ellis, and about 75% reported seeing them at least weekly while driving or walking.

Safety emerged as a recurring theme in the survey. About 80% of respondents reported being very or somewhat concerned about the safety of children operating electric scooters or e-bikes on public streets or sidewalks. Just over half indicated they or someone they know has experienced a near miss or accident involving one of these devices. Frequent concerns included riding in vehicle traffic, failure to follow traffic laws, lack of helmet use, speed, and young children operating the devices.



The survey also asked whether the City should consider rules related to electronic scooter and e-bike use. Approximately 80% of respondents indicated they supported regulation of electronic scooter and e-bike usage, while others expressed opposition or no opinion. Commonly selected rule options included helmet requirements for minors, minimum age limits, speed restrictions, and limitations on where devices may be operated. Open-ended responses reflected a range of views, noting both perceived benefits such as recreation and transportation, as well as concerns related to safety and enforcement. Survey results were provided to City Council as informational input to support future discussion.

Ellis City Council began the process of developing an ordinance informed by community input, intended to address safety considerations while outlining potential regulatory and enforcement measures available to the Ellis Police Department. See page five for more information about the ordinance that was adopted. The Ellis Police Department will provide a structured overview of the adopted regulations and make that information available through the department's social media channels and local media outlets.



## Council Orientation

Submitted by Ashley Scheibler, City Clerk

The successful elected candidates were sworn in on December 1st and recently participated in the annual City Council orientation work session. City Clerk Ashley Scheibler and City Attorney Olavee Raub reviewed the roles and responsibilities of Council members, as well as proper procedures for conducting Council meetings. Council members received training on the Kansas Open Meetings Act, including potential sanctions for violations such as conducting serial communications outside of an open meeting or assembling a quorum outside of a properly noticed meeting. Ms. Scheibler and Ms. Raub also discussed conflicts of interest and the importance of abstaining from discussion and voting when a statutory or perceived conflict exists. The orientation concluded with an overview of the budget process and the State-mandated timeline for approval of the annual budget.

### City of Ellis **MISSION STATEMENT**

*The City of Ellis efficiently promotes infrastructure and beautification programs, supporting community growth while preserving its intrinsic small town charm.*



# Spring Severe Weather Preparedness

Submitted by Avery Smith, Chief of Police

Spring in Kansas brings warmer temperatures, but it also brings an increased risk of severe thunderstorms and tornadoes. Taking a few simple steps now can help protect lives and property when severe weather threatens.



- **Prepare Ahead of Time.**

Know your safest place before storms develop. Basements provide the best protection. If your home does not have one, choose a small interior room on the lowest level, away from windows. Make sure you have reliable ways to receive weather alerts, especially overnight. Weather radios with battery backup remain one of the most dependable options in rural areas. Keep shoes, a flashlight, and a phone nearby during severe weather season, and secure loose outdoor items when storms are forecasted.

- **When Storms Occur.**

Take severe thunderstorm warnings seriously, as they can quickly escalate into tornado warnings. Stay away from windows and avoid unnecessary travel, particularly on rural roads where debris or flooding may occur. If a tornado warning is issued, take shelter immediately and protect your head and neck with a mattress, helmet, or heavy blankets. Vehicles do not provide adequate protection from severe weather conditions. Have a plan in place to seek sturdier shelter if you are traveling during severe weather.

- **After the Storm.**

Use caution when leaving shelter. Watch for downed power lines, damaged structures, and other hazards. Check on neighbors who may need assistance and avoid driving through flooded roads or low-water crossings. Document damage only when conditions are safe.

Kansas weather can change quickly. Staying informed and having a plan in place before storms arrive helps keep our community safer.



# Pressure Pump Station Grant

Submitted by Verda Flinn, Assistant City Clerk

Through collaboration between the City of Ellis, the USD 388 School Board, and Wilson & Co., Inc., we completed a shovel-ready plan for the design and pre-engineering phase of the project by late summer 2025. Our objective was to be fully prepared to apply for grant funding for the next phase. With the assistance of Wilson & Co., Inc., the City submitted a grant application to the State of Kansas Water Office by the September 2025 deadline to help fund the construction phase. The Council has been setting aside matching funds annually in anticipation of this opportunity. At this time, grant funding is essential to move the project forward, and we expect to receive notice in March regarding the award.

If the grant is approved, the project will go out for bid within the next two to three months, with construction scheduled to begin after school concludes in May. The project includes construction of a new building to house and protect the pressure pumps, as well as improvements to the driveway at the south high school entrance and access to the new facility.

This partnership will position our community to support future housing development on the south hill, creating opportunities for additional families to relocate to Ellis and helping to increase enrollment within the school district.



# Electronic-Assisted Scooters within City Limits

Submitted by Ashley Scheibler, City Clerk

The City of Ellis Governing Body has officially adopted Ordinance No. 1504, establishing guidelines for the safe and responsible use of electric-assisted bicycles and electric-assisted scooters within the community.

As the popularity of alternative transportation continues to grow, City officials recognized the need to create clear regulations that promote safety while allowing residents to enjoy these convenient and eco-friendly modes of travel. Ordinance 1504 provides a framework to ensure riders, pedestrians, and motorists can safely share public spaces.

### What Residents Need to Know

Under the new ordinance:

- **Where They're Allowed:** Electric-assisted scooters are permitted on streets, highways, roadways, sidewalks, and designated bicycle or multi-use paths within approved areas of the city.
- **Helmet Requirement:** Riders under the age of 16 must wear a helmet when operating an electric-assisted scooter or electric-assisted bicycle.
- **Pedestrian Safety:** When crossing a street or traveling along a crosswalk, operators must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians. Riders are also required to give an audible signal before overtaking or passing a pedestrian.
- **Nighttime Restrictions:** Operation of electric-assisted scooters and bicycles is prohibited between dusk or 9:00 p.m. (whichever occurs first) and sunrise.

City leaders encourage residents to review the ordinance in full on our website at <https://ellis.ks.us/city-government/> and to practice courtesy and awareness while riding. These regulations are designed to enhance safety, reduce conflicts between pedestrians and riders, and maintain the welcoming atmosphere Ellis is known for.

As always, the City appreciates the cooperation of our residents in helping keep Ellis safe, accessible, and enjoyable for everyone. For questions regarding Ordinance 1504, please contact the Police Department.

### City of Ellis

## VISION STATEMENT

A truly unique Kansas community, Ellis celebrates its rich heritage of friendly people that value family and strong work ethics while actively promoting quality education and public services.



## West 2nd St. Project

Submitted by Verda Flinn, Assistant City Clerk

West 2nd Street, from Washington west to Dorrance Street, is in serious need of repair. The roadway was not designed to handle the current level of heavy truck traffic, and drainage has become a concern with new development in the area. Recognizing the importance of these improvements, the City Council has been setting aside matching funds and monitoring grant opportunities suited to this project. The City applied for the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) Cost Share grant, and after applying three times - strengthening both the application and the local match each time - we were successfully awarded a matching grant for the construction phase.

Wilson & Co., Inc. is now finalizing the shovel-ready plan, funded through SLERF dollars allocated to the City. Once we receive the contract from the State of Kansas for the KDOT Cost Share grant - expected within the next month or two - we will submit the completed plan to KDOT for final approval. If approved, the project is scheduled to go out for bid in early fall 2026, with construction anticipated to begin in spring 2027.

We would like to thank the many businesses and organizations that provided letters of support for our grant application. Your support played a key role in securing this funding opportunity.



## Compost Pile

Submitted by Verda Flinn, Assistant City Clerk

It's the season to clean up our yards! Don't forget the City of Ellis has a compost site available for residents to dispose of their yard and garden waste. The compost site will be open 24 hours/seven days a week, as long as everyone respects the type of materials that are allowed to be disposed of at the compost site. The compost site is located at 386 Old Hwy 40, near the shooting range on the east end of town along Highway 40.

**Yard waste accepted  
at the compost site includes:**

**Garden Waste ❖ Leaves  
Grass Clippings ❖ Mulch**

**Do not take branches, shrubs or  
twigs to the compost site. These items  
need to be disposed at the City's Burn  
Site at 900 East 8th St.**



## Cemetery Decorating Regulations

Submitted by Verda Flinn, Assistant City Clerk

*Per Ordinance 1402:*

Toys, boxes, banners, balloons, alcoholic or non-alcoholic beverage containers meant as decorations, shells, objects made of glass, wood, tin, porcelain or clay, baskets, and unapproved containers will not be permitted as long-term grave decorations, and when used, will be removed without notice.

No permanent urns, decorations, ornaments, organizational emblems, or embellishments such as decorative statues, or decorative stones shall be permitted on or around a grave space, unless they are permanently anchored in a concrete foundation that is aligned with the monument foundation; provided that the total foundation, including monument and decorative item does not exceed the maximum foundation length allowed.

Flowers, wreaths, and other temporary decorations will be permitted during the grass-mowing season (April 1 until October 31) provided they must be placed in an approved permanent receptacle or hung from an approved shepherd's hook which shall not exceed forty-eight (48) inches in height on regular grave spaces.

Artificial and fresh flowers, wreaths, and other temporary decorations are permitted for Valentine's Day, Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, Independence Day, Veteran's Day, and Christmas Day with seven (7) days allowed before the holiday for decorating and seven (7) days after for pickup of decorations. All decorations shall be placed within six (6) inches of the memorial marker and secured in a manner that they will not become dislodged or scattered by the winds. No holes may be dug in and around a grave to support flower vases or any other type of container. After the designated decoration time, all decorations not in approved permanent containers will be removed by the City.

### To all persons decorating graves at **Mount Hope Cemetery**

The Cemetery maintenance personnel will begin trimming and mowing soon. If you wish to retain any decorations that are not permanently mounted,  
**please remove those decorations by**

**MAY 10, 2026**

After that date, the maintenance personnel will Discard them without any further notice as part of the spring cleanup process.

If you have any questions, please contact the

**Public Works Department**  
785.726.4741 785.726.1741  
pw@cityofellisks.gov

*Thank you for your cooperation.*



While doing your yard work, please remember that the City's **BURN SITE** is open Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 7am-3:30pm, Wed. 7am-7pm and 1st & 3rd Sat. 8:30am-11:30am **and accepts ONLY tree limbs, branches and brush.** The site does *NOT* accept grass, leaves, lumber, or miscellaneous wooden items. **Take your grass, leaves and garden waste to the COMPOST SITE,** which is open 24 hours/7 days per week.



# Play Train

Submitted by Verda Flinn, Campground Committee Member

The Campground Committee is excited to share that a new piece of playground equipment will be arriving soon at the campground!

During Phase 2 of the expansion project, one piece of equipment had to be removed to keep the project within budget. We intentionally left the space open with hopes of adding something new in the future - and we're thrilled to see that plan come to life.

Thanks to the Community Foundation of Ellis for spearheading an October Match Month, and to the Patterson Foundation for generously matching up to half of the funds raised, we were able to purchase a new train-themed play structure. Once it is assembled and installed, children will be able to climb, play, and let their imaginations roll down the tracks.

It truly does take a community to make projects like this happen. We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed and helped make the match a success. Your generosity continues to make a lasting impact for families in our community.



## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

begins at 2:00 a.m. **Spring**  
on Sunday, March 8th. **Ahead**

Turn clocks forward one hour and check the batteries in Fire, Smoke and CO2 detectors.



## Downtown Historical District Update

Submitted by Verda Flinn, Assistant City Clerk

The City of Ellis continues to move ahead with plans to establish two small historic districts - one located north of the railroad tracks and one south of the tracks. The City Council has approved moving forward with Phase II, which includes preparing and submitting a detailed nomination application to the Kansas Historical Society for review and approval of the proposed districts.

To help offset project expenses, the City will pursue grant funding. A grant opportunity through the Kansas Historical Society is expected to open this spring, and we plan to apply to support this next phase of the project.



# FUN at the POOL

Submitted by Ashley Scheibler, City Clerk

### Open Swim

12:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. everyday  
5 and Under.....Free  
Age 6 - 12.....\$1.50  
Age 13 and over.....\$2.00  
15-day & 30-day passes are also available!

### Pool Parties

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Fri., Sat., & Sun. Evenings  
Must be booked at least two weeks in advance!  
**Without Slide ... \$75.00**  
**With Pool Slide. \$100.00**  
A \$25 non-refundable deposit will secure your pool party date, with the balance due the day of the party.

Thank you for your continued support!



### Adult Open Swim/ Water Aerobics

6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.  
Mondays & Wednesdays .. \$3.00/session

### Swimming Lessons (Price per Session)

**1st Session: June 15 - June 26**  
**2nd Session: July 6 - July 17**  
\$25.00...First Child in Immediate Family  
\$20.00...Second Child in Immediate Family  
\$15.00...Third Child & Subsequent Children in Immediate Family  
\$20.00/hour...Private Lessons (Scheduled through Pool Manager)  
**Deadline for swimming lessons signup:** Session 1 - June 12, 2026 and Session 2 - July 3, 2026. All Family Sessions must be paid for at the same time in order to receive the discount. Class sizes may be limited.



We are super excited to welcome everyone back as we kick off the 2026 pool season on **Tuesday, May 26th at 12:30 p.m.!** Please contact the Pool Staff to sign up for swimming lessons, to purchase pool passes or to schedule a pool party. There is something for everyone at the Ellis Municipal Swimming Pool!

We can't wait to welcome everyone back this summer!



# Flood Safety Tips

Submitted by Steve Homburg, Public Works Director

*Because much of Ellis lies within a floodplain or floodway, we'd like to share a few important flood safety tips to keep in mind.*

**Keep all brush and debris out of streams**

**Store valuables and insurance papers in a waterproof container**

**Call (937) 859-5783 to find out if your property is in a flood risk zone**

**Get a building permit before building in a FLOOD PLAIN**

**If the road is underwater, TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN**

**Ask your insurance agent if you are covered for flood damage**



# Online Bill Pay Update

Submitted by Verda Flinn, Assistant City Clerk

We would like to inform our customers that, due to an increase in insufficient e-check returns, this payment option is no longer available on our website or in person. These returns created significant accounting challenges for City staff. The company that provides our online bill pay service has deactivated the e-check option. If you attempt to select it, you will receive an error message and will not be able to proceed with an e-check payment. However, you can still make payments online using a debit or credit card by following the instructions below.

To pay your utility bill online, visit our website at [www.ellis.ks.us](http://www.ellis.ks.us). Go to **City Office > Resident Info/Pay**, then click **Online Bill Pay** to access the KanPay portal. **Please use this link only - other websites are not connected to the City of Ellis and cannot process your payment correctly.**

When submitting your payment, be sure the ZIP code entered matches the one on file with your debit or credit card company. If it does not match, the payment will be rejected.



# The City of Ellis Cares!

Submitted by Verda Flinn, Assistant City Clerk

Our town participates in a TNR Program for our Community Cats. This means caring helpers in our town work together to make sure outdoor cats are healthy, safe, and part of a kind community.

## Why is TNR Important?

- 🐾 It keeps cat families from growing too large
- 🐾 It helps cats stay healthier
- 🐾 It makes neighborhoods quieter and cleaner
- 🐾 It shows kindness to animals

## Look for the Ear Tip!

If a cat has a small piece missing from the tip of one ear, that means they've already been helped through the TNR program. That's their "I've been cared for!" badge!

## How You Can Help

- 🐾 Be gentle and kind to outdoor cats
- 🐾 Never chase or scare them
- 🐾 If you see Community Cats that need care, please contact the Clerk's Office at 785-726-4812 for more information on how you can participate in the TNR Program.



**TNR helps community cats, helps people, and helps our whole community!**

*Every kind act makes a difference!*



# Meet Our Newest Employees

Submitted by Anthony Heroneme and Devin Sun

Hello, my name is Anthony Heroneme and I am the newest Public Works Employee. After a hiatus of several years, I am glad to be back at the City of Ellis Public Works. I have 9 years' experience in the City of Ellis Public Works before I moved to Colby. I am looking forward to the next years of employment with the City of Ellis.



Hello, my name is Devin Sun. I recently joined the Ellis Police Department and by the time you are reading this, I will be at the Police Academy learning everything they have to offer. Raised in Glen Elder, KS, I lived most of my life in a small community, so I am very excited to be back in a smaller community to begin my career in law enforcement. Some of my hobbies that I enjoy are playing video games and card games, fishing, watching movies, and spending time with friends and family.



# Swimming Pool Passes

Submitted by Ashley Scheibler, City Clerk

The City offers 15-day and 30-day pool passes for all ages!

**Passes will be available for purchase at the pool.**

Students 6-12 .....	15-day pass .....	\$21.00
Students 6-12 .....	30-day pass .....	\$40.00
Adults 13 and Up .....	15-day pass .....	\$28.00
Adults 13 and Up .....	30-day pass .....	\$54.00

Passes are no longer maintained by the pool staff. Each pass is a business card-sized laminated punch card that will need to be presented for entry. Passes are no longer designated by person, but simply adult or child.

