



The Basehor Quarterly

Bringing City of Basehor information to our community's mailboxes since 2022

2023 Quarter 2 Volume 6

www.cityofbasehor.org

Sales Tax Special Election

The City of Basehor will hold a special mail ballot election on June 8, 2023, to determine whether or not to impose a 1% general citywide sales tax for the purpose of enhancing police, improving parks, and bettering roads. All eligible registered voters within the city limits of Basehor will be able to vote. The 1% general sales tax would include a 10-year sunset, requiring the sales tax to expire after 10 years, and could only be renewed upon approval by a vote of the people.

Recently surveyed residents of Basehor identified the top priorities for improvement as sidewalks/trail connections, walking and biking trails, streets, and park amenities. If approved, the funds generated would only be authorized to go toward the purposes of improving parks, bettering roads, and enhancing police. The 1% general sales tax is estimated to generate \$1.4 million in average annual revenue over 10 years.

The City has published a lot of information regarding the upcoming



sales tax election and continues to post weekly updates. To stay up to date, please visit our website at www.cityofbasehor.org. From the menu, you'll select, "I want to... Learn about City projects."

The City will host its second and final **Open House** from **5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on May 11** at Basehor City Hall (2620 N 155th Street). Residents are encouraged to attend to learn more information and ask questions.

Message from the Mayor

Spring is officially here and, just like the flowers and vegetation, growth is popping up all around Basehor! I feel privileged to have been a part of so many recent events showcasing the wonderful developments underway in our City. From breaking ground at the future Civic Campus to opening Phase I of Tomahawk Park (and a Chiefs' Super Bowl win!), it really is a great time to be a member of our community. You can read more about both those noteworthy events in this issue.

Also featured in this issue is an article regarding the upcoming election for a possible 1% general citywide sales tax. City staff members have been sharing details about the sales tax election and the possible improvement projects that would be permitted with the funds. The City Council and I want to stress the importance of our qualified, eligible voters having the opportunity to determine if these expenditures are in fact the priorities of the community. City staff members recently hosted an Open House, and a second one is scheduled for May 11th. More details can be found in the article about the sales tax election. I encourage you to attend and ask any questions you may have.

Lastly, I would like to thank all our community members, as well as the members of City Council, for their support at our recent celebratory events and also to those who attended my second State of the City address. On behalf of the City Council, we hope everyone continues to stay active in our community, including making sure your voice is heard by casting your vote in the upcoming sales tax election. Thank you all for making Basehor such a wonderful place to call home!



Changes to Trash Billing

The City was recently notified by the current trash and recycling provider that changes are coming soon to the billing structure that will impact monthly rates charged to the City. As a reminder, the majority of fees paid by residents for this service are sent directly to the contractor. The City is actively negotiating to maintain our current service at the most reasonable price, on behalf of our residents. We will communicate the changes with our residents, once a resolution is established.





Civic Campus Groundbreaking

We are excited to have officially broken ground on February 11 for the City's new Civic Campus. Thank you to Mayor Drennon, City Council members and residents who braved the cold to attend the momentous event.

Crews are now busy at work on the project that, upon completion, will encompass 37.6 acres of land with plans to include a splash pad, a playground, a retention pond, an event lawn and walking trails.

In Phase I, the City began the mass grading at the site needed for a pond, the trail network, the splash pad, the playground and the event lawn.

The Civic Campus will be located on land starting at the southwest corner of 158th Street and Parallel Road, continuing along 158th Street south to the Basehor Community Library and Gray Hawk Elementary. The property then extends from 158th Street to Garden Parkway respectively.

This project ties in with the trail improvements underway along 158th and Parallel and promotes our effort to provide safe connecting trails and sidewalks in Basehor.

Mayor's State of the City

We would like to take a moment to thank all our community members who attended the recent State of the City address presented by Mayor Dick Drennon. If you didn't have the opportunity to attend, the video is available for viewing on

the City's Facebook page (@cityofbasehor) and the PowerPoint presentation is available to view online on the City's website www.cityofbasehor.org.

From the menu, you'll select, "Community... State of the City."

Thank you



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Tomahawk Park Ribbon Cutting

On March 6, a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrated the completion of Phase 1 of Tomahawk Park. The Mayor and City Council members officially opened the park that currently includes a playground, internal trail loop, and open green space.

Plans for Phase II include a parking lot, a park shelter and restrooms and are expected to begin in 2024.

An additional trail connection is being constructed as part of the Metro Green Trail project in 2024, which establishes a connection between 155th Street and 158th Street through Tomahawk Park. This is being constructed in 2024 as a result of external grant funding the City was awarded.

Upon final completion of both phases, the park will encompass a total of 12 acres of land that was generously donated by Steve and Darla Miles. Once Tomahawk Park is fully constructed, it will connect to the improvements planned for 155th Street and the pedestrian and bicycle improvements on 158th Street.

While visiting the park, please remember:

1. Due to the planned improvements for 155th Street, parking for Tomahawk Park was unable to be completed during Phase 1, as the scheduled improvements would have required the brand new parking lot to be torn out. We did not want to delay the community's ability to enjoy the park in the interim.
2. City officials are currently working on short-term solutions to control parking for the park, including possible "no parking" signs along certain sections of the streets near the park, and working with a recently donated piece of land adjacent to the park for possible stall parking.
3. Please be sure to obey the signs, including being respectful of the park's neighbors. Be aware of parking signs and do not park in unauthorized areas.

Be sure to make your way over to enjoy this great new park, located just west of the intersection of 155th Street and Chestnut, and celebrate this perfect addition to our City with us!

Assistance Programs Now Available to Residents

The City of Basehor is pleased to offer financial support to qualifying residents through three types of Assistance Programs.

Applicants for these approved assistance programs must meet certain requirements to be eligible. Additional information and applications can be received by visiting the City's website at www.cityofbasehor.org. From the menu, you'll then select, "I want to... Apply for Assistance."

The assistance is available on a first-come first-served basis and will be awarded until the funds are depleted.

The Utility Assistance Program strives to provide relief to eligible residents by providing financial assistance that can be applied to their monthly trash and recycling bill and/or their sewer bill.

The Exterior Grant Program provides funding to enhance the exterior appearance of homes and can be utilized towards such areas on the home as the driveway, gutters, roof, decks and more. Certain restrictions may apply, and projects must be on the list of eligible improvements, abide by the City of Basehor Municipal Code, and may require a building permit.

The Franchise Fee Rebate Program will provide a rebate of up to 50% of the City portion of franchise fees paid from the previous year for electric, gas, telephone, and cable services to qualified senior citizens in our community.



Chief's Corner

Please join us in giving a huge congratulations to our School Resource Officer LeManske who received a Life Saving Award for her recent efforts in assisting a severely injured motorcyclist.

On Feb. 21, 2023 Officer LeManske was traveling north on K7 when a serious accident occurred in front of her that involved a motorcycle and a pickup truck. Officer LeManske provided immediate actions, which included utilizing the motorcyclist's own belt as a tourniquet for a severed ankle/foot, while requesting for medical and additional police assistance. Her efforts undoubtedly made it possible for the rider to be transported to a hospital for further treatment.

On March 22, Officer LeManske was recognized at the Basehor City Council Meeting and received the Life Saving Award for her heroic efforts. Great work, Officer LeManske!

The crime statistics displayed in the above graphic are for the first quarter of 2023.





City of Basehor
2620 N. 155th Street
Basehor, KS 66007

Events Calendar

May 11, 2023:

Second Open House to discuss Mail Ballot Election for General Sales Tax from 5-7 pm at City Hall.

City Council Work Sessions:
2nd Wednesday Monthly

City Council Regular Meetings:
4th Wednesday Monthly

Planning and Zoning Commission Meetings:
2nd Tuesday Monthly

For the most up to date calendar of events, including community events and special meetings, please visit our website at www.cityofbasehor.org and see the City Calendar.



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Did you know you can sign up for email or text alerts from the City of Basehor about upcoming projects or events happening in the community? Please visit our website at www.cityofbasehor.org and select the option "I want to... Sign up for Notifications."

Have questions? Please contact City Hall at 913-724-1370 or info@cityofbasehor.org

Survey feedback? Please use this QR code to take our Newsletter Survey



Survey Feedback

Want to opt out? Issues of the *Basehor Quarterly* are mailed to all Basehor residences and businesses every quarter. If you no longer wish to receive issues of the *Basehor Quarterly* mailed to you, please email info@cityofbasehor.org and include your address in the email. All issues of the *Basehor Quarterly* will be available on our website at www.cityofbasehor.org.

City Park Improvements

Just in time for summer, improvements at City Park have begun. New gutters and a roof were recently added to a park shelter in addition to new gutters to the restrooms.



In addition, the City applied for a grant for trail improvements to be made at the City Park. We are anxiously awaiting the results!



Funding from the 1% general sales tax featured in this issue would be used for additional park improvements as well as walking trails and parks.