



City Administrator's Report

December 11, 2025

Highway 169 – Gas Line Strike

As you are aware, on Friday, December 5, a high-pressure gas line under Highway 169 was hit. The strike was by Precision Boring, a sub-contractor working for Epic on the 144th Street Pump Station Project. The City, MODOT, Spire, Epic, and HDR are meeting on Thursday to discuss highway restoration and work required on the road in order to reopen and the process/timeline for work on the force main boring.

According to MODOT, the current estimate for completion of all restoration work in the area and reopening of the roadway is estimated December 19, 2025.

Force main alignment will likely need to be changed. Engineering design for this new alignment will have to be resubmitted to MODOT for review and approval. Additional work may be necessary regarding the repairs. Precision Boring is responsible for all costs associated with this event.

Water Treatment Plant Improvements

Filter media continues to be replaced. It is anticipated that next week filter two, including the underdrain and areas including asbestos will be removed. Testing for asbestos continues to return as non-detect.

As the filter media is replaced, the contractor uses a vac truck to remove the filter media. The suction from the process creates a significant amount of noise. As filters are replaced, the media is removed, taking about a day to remove the materials. Work continues intermittently. With the holidays, this work may continue after the first of the year. Staff appreciate patience with this noise as we make improvements to the plant.

Commercial Street Sidewalk

The weather has cooperated and the Selby Construction has been able to make good progress. The northbound lane continues to be closed north of Hospital Drive. This closure is anticipated to continue through most of the duration of the project.

City Hall Sewer Repairs

Work is complete on the line repair, with some clean up to be completed. The west bound lane will remain closed on Main Street until Monday to allow the concrete to cure. Due to temperatures, asphalt was not available for the street repair, resulting in a concrete patch.

Personnel Updates

We are excited to announce that Sean Puterbaugh will be joining the team as our new Finance Analyst starting January 5. Sean brings valuable experience in economic forecasting, asset management, and customer service.

This week, we also extended three conditional officers: two Street Maintenance Worker positions and one Parks Maintenance Worker.

Interviews for the IT/GIS Technician position were held on Thursday, December 11.

Recruitment continues for the following positions:

- Police Officer vacancies
- Wastewater Plant Operator
- Recreation Coordinator

Senior Center Receives Award

On Wednesday, December 10, Matt Denton and Amy Alexander attended the Northland Professionals in Aging (NPA) Award Ceremony. NPA is a group designed to promote the health, wellness, and independence of seniors in the Kansas City Northland. The Smithville Senior Center received the Sandy Gardner Giving Back Award, which recognizes ongoing efforts in programs, fitness classes, and lunches provided for seniors in Clay County. The City of Smithville was nominated for this award by Clay County Senior Services. The award includes a \$3,000 donation to support Senior Center programs and services.



Holiday Schedule and Upcoming Meeting Schedule

City Hall will be closed for the Christmas and New Year Holidays on December 25 and 26 as well as January 1 and 2. The January 6 Board meeting has also been cancelled.

The February 17, 2026 meeting falls during the MML annual Legislative Conference. It is anticipated that there will not be a quorum for this meeting, so Mayor Boley has cancelled that meeting.

The September 15, 2026 meeting falls during the MML annual conference and has also been cancelled by the Mayor. This meeting will likely be rescheduled later in the month pending receipt of property tax assessed valuation information from Clay and Platte Counties in order to set the tax rate for the coming year.

Finally, the November 3, 2026 meeting has been cancelled as it falls on Election Day.