

# the FLAME

“We Have  
Tomorrow --  
Bright Before  
Us, Like A Flame.”  
-Langston Hughes

City information is available on-line at [lawrenceks.org](http://lawrenceks.org) and on cable Channel 25. The FLAME is published by the City Manager's Office, 832-3400.

## A Word From Our Mayor

When members of the New England Immigrant Aid Society came to Kansas more than 150 years ago they said, “We’re here to help you start the government.” Nowadays the saying is, “We’re from the government and we’re here to help you.” The latter is usually used in jest, but, I don’t think we’ve strayed from those founding efforts to establish a fair and just government. Through the years the form of Lawrence city government has changed. This is a snapshot review of those changes.

The form of municipal government for early Kansas cities was set by statute as it is today. However, Lawrence was first incorporated prior to any Kansas statutes. The town “constitution” adopted in September 1854 by the Lawrence Association provided for “the usual form of city government” according to one account. I don’t believe we would find the form “usual” today. The offices included President; Vice-President; Secretary; Treasurer; Register of Deeds and Claims, and Clerk of the Court; Surveyor; Marshal; three Arbitrators; and ten Councilmen.

The Kansas-Nebraska Bill in May 1854 established the Kansas Territory, and Andrew Reeder was subsequently appointed governor. The territorial legislature was elected in 1855 by pro-slavery voters, many from Missouri which added fuel to the free-state struggle.

Lawrence was incorporated by the first and second territorial legislatures but the citizens

refused to recognize their authority. In 1857 the citizens adopted a city charter for themselves which led to threats of serious trouble. Fortunately the election of a new free-state legislature on October 5, 1857 brought the conflict over city charters to a resolution. Of course, the territorial conflict was far from resolved.

In 1858 the first city election under the free-state legislature included offices of Mayor, Clerk, Treasurer, Marshal, and a Council with twelve members. Mayor-council was the only form of local government provided by statute until after the turn of the century.



Mayor Mike Rundle

Alternative forms of municipal government in the US came about in part as a response to corruption. That history covers decades and brings images of Boss Tweed and Tammany Hall. Reform innovations in the US include institutions we take for granted such as the council-manager and commission forms of government as well as at-large and non-partisan city elections.

The Kansas legislature authorized the mayor-commission form of government in 1907 and it was adopted by Lawrence in 1914. The elected officials included Mayor, Streets and Utilities Commissioner and the Finance and Revenue Commissioners and positions of Clerk, Attorney, Treasurer, Engineer, Marshal, and City Weight Master. This form remained in effect until 1935 when Lawrence returned to a city council structure.

This council had five posts elected by wards with a

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**The foundation of  
Lawrence local  
government was laid in  
a time of struggle and  
with great sacrifice by  
those early citizens.**

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president chosen by the council. The council appointed the Chief of Police, City Engineer, City Attorney, Fire Chief, and City Clerk. *The Journal-World* reported other appointive offices would be created including City Physician, City Nurse, Building Inspector, Milk Inspector and “probably” others.

SEPTEMBER 2004

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Kansas Statute authorized the council-manager form of government in 1947 adopted by Lawrence in 1951. The five commissioners were elected April 3, 1951. J.H. Wigglesworth assumed his duties as Lawrence’s first City Manager in August. Lawrence has had a total of five city managers. Wigglesworth served until 1957 and was followed by Harold E. Horn, serving 1957-1964; Ray S. Wells, serving 1964-1969; and Buford M. Watson, Jr., serving 1970-1989. Mike Wildgen has been our city manager since the untimely death of Buford Watson in 1989.

Of more interest to me is the political context and events surrounding the changes outlined above. That will take more research. What I can do is review our council-manager form

*(continued on back)*

o u r m i s s i o n :

We are committed to providing excellent city services that enhance the quality of life for the Lawrence community.

# Water service has a history

## From wooden water mains to the latest advances



*A wooden water main that is said to have been installed between 1865 and 1870.*

A piece of a community's history can be found in the water and wastewater systems and that history is seen during new infrastructure improvements when pipe of various materials are excavated. As in other industries, the water and wastewater industries have seen many advances in materials due to advances in science and technology. Today, the Department of Utilities staff uses that technology to provide a more reliable and safer water and

wastewater service for the Lawrence community.

Important factors driving changes are laws such as the 1974 Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act. Other factors such as growth, regulations and reliability of existing infrastructure often dictate the how, when and where system improvements are made. One of the important facets of providing the service is planning for the future. The department completes master plans to project growth and required service

improvements. In the 2003 plan, the improvements were projected for a 20 year service and water supply resources were projected to a 50 year timeline.

The success of planning for future water and wastewater services is measured by many factors. One of the primary measures is the consistent service availability provided to citizens. The consistent and continual supply of these services is a valuable sign that utilities are successful.

# Collection system manages well during downpour

## Improvements prove valuable during July 2 rainfall

On Friday, July 2, city rain gauges recorded amounts from 3.75 inches to 4.5 inches. The unusually heavy rain fall provided the wastewater collection division a chance to review the performance of several capital improvement projects. The results showed that the investment in the collection system performed well and managed the heavy flow of water. During the event, crews were out inspecting channel crossings, previous high flow areas, vulnerable pump stations and locations where maximum capacity of a pipe might be expected. The crews observed water continually being

transported through the system as designed.

The city's storm water and wastewater collection systems work together to channel storm water into the river while wastewater is directed to the wastewater treatment plant for treatment. Rainfall can enter the wastewater collection system through leaks in pipes and manholes. The additional load of rainfall takes up valuable capacity in the wastewater collection system during rain events. Capital improvement projects are designed to reduce the amount of rain water entering the wastewater collection system.



*Crews worked on the construction of a southeast pump station.*

These projects also prolong the life of the collection system and ensure adequate capacity in the

system for both dry and wet weather periods.

## Recent capital improvement projects operated as designed

North Lawrence pump station—the 1996 project constructed a new pump station to manage flows throughout North Lawrence.

*Four Seasons pump station and force main*—the 1997 project constructed a new pump station and inline storage

basin in the Four Seasons area, south of 24th and Brushcreek.

*Memorial Stadium relief sewer*—the 1998 project upsized a line from Memorial Stadium to the waste water treatment plant. A second line was upsized on Connecticut Street between 8th St. and 13th St.

*Fall Creek Farms relief sewer*—the 1998 project constructed a relief line allowing three pump stations to be removed from service near Monterey Way and Peterson Rd.

*Southeast pump stations*—the 1999 project replaced two pump stations in southeast Lawrence in the Prairie Park Neighborhood.

*Trail Ridge/Greystone relief sewer*—the 1999 project constructed a relief line to remove two pump stations from service near 6th St. and Country Club Terr.

*Yankee Tank relief sewer*—the 2001 project constructed a relief line between 6th St. and 15th St. just east of the SLT.

# Fire Medical Department plans for the future

## Horse drawn ladder trucks are in its history and city growth is in its future

Lawrence Douglas County Fire Medical Department is responsible for more than handing the emergency calls that come in today. The department is also busy planning to fight fires in the future Lawrence, a community with a



Lantern from horse drawn ladder trucks used in the 1800's

larger population and more acres. LDCFM works closely with the City of Lawrence Planning Department to identify the predicted growth of the city both population and geographical

growth. By determining future sites of fire medical stations early on, land can be acquired while more readily available. The plans laid for water and waste water services are another indicator in determining the places where fire service will be needed in the future.

Annually, the department reviews patterns and possibilities of growth. In the second quarter of 2004, an internal study of growth south of the Wakarusa River and growth along Sixth St. west were reviewed to ensure that plans for fire service are in place to accommodate the growing number of residents and businesses.

Design work is currently underway for a new fire medical station at 19th St. and Stewart Ave. The construction of the new station follows the recommendations of the 1996 Public Safety Report, a planning tool for fire protection services that addresses growth.

The plan redistributes facilities to match services with the city's growth and move closer to the goal of a four minute response time. National studies have identified that there is a critical timing point of four minutes when responding to a fire. LDCFM targets that four minute response time and plans for future responses using that same four minutes. The current average response time is 5.22 minutes.

The addition of a fire medical station at 19th St. and Stewart Ave. allows the remaining four stations to shift service areas and reach the growing edges of the city. Station No. 5 will provide quick responding and effective fire protection services to the center of the city and has been made possible with a property lease from the KU Endowment Association, which owns the property.

Planning is also underway to relocate Station No. 4 from

Lawrence Ave. to the 2200 block of Wakarusa Dr, just south of the Clinton Reservoir Water Treatment Plant. A 2.5 acre section of the property currently owned by the city that fronts Wakarusa Dr. has been identified for construction of a fire station. Targeting construction some time after 2006, the location, north and west of the existing Station No. 4 will allow coverage of the west area of the city.

Fire protection services including water, fire department and the communication system are evaluated by the insurance industry to determine the base rate for insurance in a community. A public safety agency that has adequate resources in all three categories impacts the citizens' opportunity to receive a better insurance rate. The LDCFM planning will ensure that adequate fire protection services are available to the Lawrence community in the future.

# 2005 Operating Budget

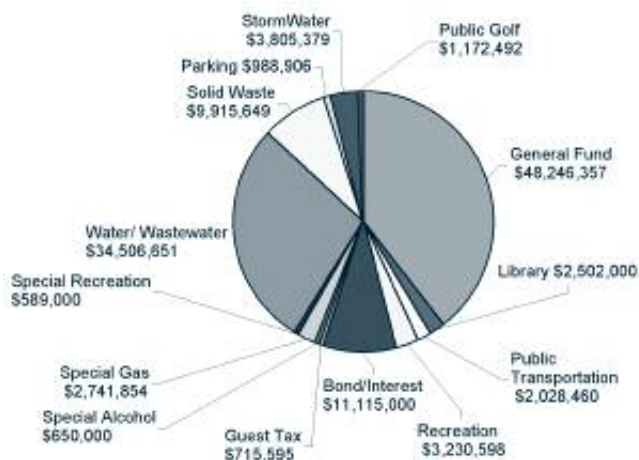
## City of Lawrence 2005 budget: \$122,207,941

Through the Operating Budget, the City Commission establishes priorities for spending public funds, the property tax rate, utility rates, and user fee policies. The

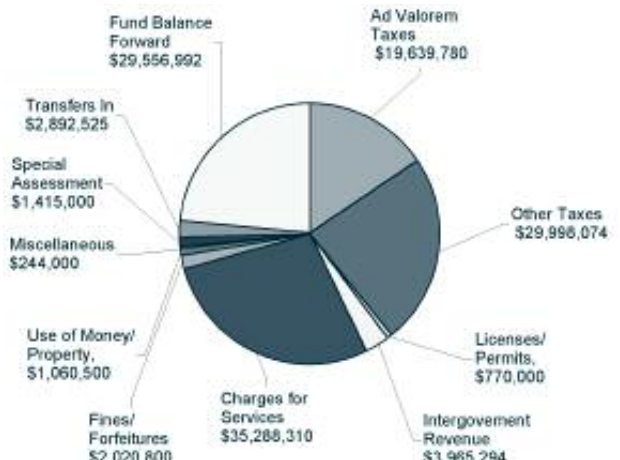
2005 Operating Budget provides for authorized expenditures of \$122,207,941. The mill rate decreases by .215 mills to 27.882 mills and is based on an assessed valuation of

\$717,553,891. This results in a property tax rate of \$27.88 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. This decrease in the mill levy is a result of higher than estimated

revenues, conservative budgeting of expenditures and based on the assessed valuation of taxable property within the City's limits.



Expenditures budgeted for 2005



Revenue projected for 2005 budget

# Meet six women serving the citizens of Lawrence

## Amy Jumisko is a detective with the Lawrence Police Department

**D**etective Amy Jumisko offers today's students a message, "If you have something you want to do, you can do it." And Jumisko hopes that students hear that message on a consistent base.

That was the message that took a 21 year-old college student to the role of police detective. Approached by a friend in 1995 with the news that the Lawrence Police Department was accepting applications for the academy, Jumisko made the application. She had always admired her dad,



a firefighter with an army background, who had always been pro-education. Knowing that she wanted the job but considering the possibility she wouldn't be hired, Jumisko applied, tested and

interviewed and then entered the academy in August 1995.

Today, Jumisko serves as a detective in the department's investigation unit focusing on sexual assault investigations. Continually challenged to figure out the why and seeing the uncensored emotions of individuals involved in crimes, she has a deep ownership in her cases and likes the opportunity to make a difference in someone's life. There is no typical day in a detective position. Each day brings shifting priorities and constant and continual adjustments to take a case through the steps of

investigation, follow up, interviews and reports. Each day also brings the chance to be called out any time night or day to work a case.

A detective is assigned a case when the investigation appears to require more time and effort than patrol can dedicate. One of 17 detectives in the division, Jumisko is currently working "numerous" cases. Being a detective has given Jumisko an opportunity to use her head in a different way. Rather than being a teacher like her mother, she is dealing with people in a role that brings resolution and keeps Jumisko learning.

## Shelia Hurst works for Public Works as a Maintenance Worker

**E**very city service has a face and the face of Downtown parking garages is Sheila Hurst. Her primary responsibility is caring for the New Hampshire Parking Garage and the Riverfront Parking Garage. She performs the custodial duties, light mechanical and electrical repairs along with painting and general maintenance at the facilities. Hurst finds the opportunity to prioritize her own work schedule a huge perk. It enables her to maximize the usage of each hour of the day. This benefit is only overshadowed by the opportunity to interact with the familiar faces of the patrons and merchants using Downtown parking.

Hurst began her career with the city in 1999 on the water distribution crew where she installed water lines and performed line restoration including concrete work and landscaping. Three years ago she transferred to the Public Works Department and assumed responsibility for the appearance and maintenance of the parking garages. This position is not out of character for Hurst. She has worked in a variety of field positions for various organizations over the past thirty years.

In 1974 Hurst found herself as a boiler operator for a private utility company, not only because she loves



the outdoors but as a survival tactic. As a single parent, she realized the need for wages that would sustain her family. That drive coupled with her philosophy of "If you can't do it right, don't do it at all" empowered

her to survive her first field position. Through the years Hurst's ability to work in diverse work teams has enhanced her skills and aided her in learning many concepts in maintenance.

Since joining the city, Hurst has gained an appreciation for other city service providers. Prior to her employment with the city she viewed them as individuals providing a service for her convenience. Now she realizes that, "Services are provided by people with names and feelings and it is important not to take those services and the people providing them for granted."

## Jeannette Klamm serves as the biosolids coordinator in the Dept. of Utilities

**W**hat do you do for a career if you have an interest in agriculture but don't want to take a position that has traditionally been offered to individuals with an agriculture background, a position in chemical or seeds sales? Try Biosolids Coordinator, that is what Jeannette Klamm did. "This is a career that you rotate into," Klamm explains.

Having graduated from the University of Nebraska with a degree in agriculture and not too interested in traditional "ag" jobs, Klamm headed to the east coast and worked for a land application contractor. Her first job was working with farmers to identify fields that would receive a



coating of biosolids, soil conditioner with nutrients and organic matter. That position opened the door to the industry and six years later a personal contact put her in touch with the job opportunity as Biosolids Coordinator with the city. Being from the Midwest, Klamm was interested in the Lawrence position.

Klamm now runs the biosolids program for the City of Lawrence. She is responsible for finding ways to use biosolids, the solids material left at the end of the waste water treatment process that contains organic material, as a soil enhancer. She manages all facets of the program including contract management, community representative and ensuring all regulatory requirements are met. Klamm appreciates remaining in touch with the agriculture industry and working in the Midwest in a community that is aware of the value of the land and the need to keep the land fertile and replenished.

As Biosolids Coordinator for the city, Klamm has had the opportunity to create a successful reuse program. The program provides a service to area farmers and offsets disposal cost for the city that would total an estimated \$200,000 annually.

Klamm has some wisdom for those interested in a non-traditional field, "Opportunities are out there but they are not always black and white." Klamm was able to blend an interest in agriculture with a program that services a community resulting in a position that she didn't see herself in eight years ago.

## Ann Basel drives a Solid Waste truck for Public Works

The growth of Lawrence has been witnessed by Ann Basel while she has been working in the Solid Waste division of Public Works. She started with the city in August 1995 as a solid waste loader and now is a truck driver.

Basel's number one priority on the job is safety. The safety of the two loaders on the back of her truck is her responsibility. She calls on patience to negotiate traffic safely. The second part of the job that she and the crews enjoy is the public relations. Interacting with the community and especially the

children on the routes who love the big trucks is an important part of the job. The crews always give a wave and an occasional honk to the kids.

To get started driving the diesel trucks, Basel got her commercial driving license and joined the pool of available drivers to substitute on regular routes. In a short time, a permanent driver position opened up and Basel got the job. Now, five years later she still hears the occasional, "Hey that was a girl driving." She attends career days at elementary schools along with other crew members and the truck is always a



hit at a local pre-school show and tell day.

Basel, who had farmed and worked on the school district's buildings and grounds crew before coming to work at the city, was not intimidated by manual labor or by working outside in

all the elements. She read the advertisement for a solid waste loader in the paper and knew that the \$2.40 an hour increase in pay would go a long way in supporting her family. She made the application, interviewed and completed a stress test before starting work.

Today she still has the same goal as nine years ago, to make the customer happy. And that goal is more difficult during certain times of the year Basel explained. "Student rush keeps us busy and we still do our best to make the customer happy."

## Diane Roberts, water treatment plant operator for the Department of Utilities

The people who make Lawrence water safe to drink also drink that water. Diane Roberts, water treatment plant operator explains, "I'm a water plant operator and I make a safe water supply for Lawrence. I drink the tap water too." Roberts has been making water drinkable since December 1991 when she started as a water treatment plant operator. Now, thirteen years later, she still enjoys the continual change required to keep up with the treatment process.

Weather such as rain, run off and drought are just a few of the factors



that send Roberts and other operators into action as they adjust the treatment process. Other events such as a water main break, high demand and the student rush also require alert operators to respond. During a twelve hour shift, Roberts takes samples and completes tests every two hours and makes

all the necessary adjustments to keep the water flowing out of Lawrence faucets.

Roberts started her stint with the city more than twenty years ago reading meters in the field then joined the customer service representatives before becoming a plant operator. To maintain her position, Roberts is certified by Kansas Department of Health and Environment and completes continuing education. During her time as a plant operator, Roberts has seen the benefit of technology. Computer aided monitoring has made it easier to identify patterns in the treatment

process. In the past, operators manually read wall gages and recorded information. Analysis of the data is much faster on a computer. Computers also help with a quicker response by sounding control pump alarms and allowing operators to shift supply between the two plants.

Roberts knows that the service of a plant operator, providing Lawrence with a safe and adequate supply of water, requires her to be alert and aware of the changing situation to make the adjustments to the treatment needs and that is what she enjoys.

## Sandy Herd serves as a Captain in the Lawrence Douglas County Fire Medical Dept.

Firefighters are the people you call when you really need help and if you are west of Iowa and north of 15th St., it is possible that Captain Sandy Herd will be one of the firefighters that answers your call for help. Herd made the decision to answer calls for help some eighteen years ago when a family member suggested that she apply for the position as a firefighter. A school teacher at the time, she began working out to get ready for the physical and also prepared for the interview.

Preparation paid off for Herd and she was offered the position of firefighter. She had passed a challenging written examine that eliminated half of the applicants and she passed the fitness

testing where another half of the candidates were eliminated. She was one of five individuals to be interviewed and be hired during the 1986 recruitment. Today, Herd is a Captain at Station 3 where she is responsible for the station and for the seven people working in the station during her twenty-four shift.

Herd's first structure fire came during her third shift and after just 40 hours of training. She answered the call and "made" the hydrant. The next step on the ladder for Herd was acting officer followed by lieutenant from 1991 to 1997 when she was promoted to the position of captain. She went on to complete paramedic training in 1998. All along she has valued the breadth of the fire



department. She explains, "The position has the ability to satisfy many different people with the opportunity for people to specialize in many areas." Lawrence firefighters have specialized in numerous areas ranging from roof collapses to rescue and extrications to fire science instructors.

Emergency services are a mix of routine activities interjected with large

adrenaline-filled events. Those routine activities are a necessary part of the preparation for the emergency events. Information gathered during routine inspections, is critical when a station answers a call for a specific business. While in route, the crew is retrieving specific data such as hydrant locations, entrance location, materials storage and contact person. Technology is managing more of that information retrieval as the department places laptops that access the data and offer timely retrieval of the details in trucks. Gathering this type data is just one of the many necessary duties that fill the day of firefighters while they wait for the opportunity to use their skills in a time sensitive situation providing a service to the community.

Address Service Requested



## SESQUICENTENNIAL WEEK

Lawrence, Kansas

*Celebrate 150 years  
of Life in Lawrence!*

September 12-19, 2004  
[www.lawrenceks.org](http://www.lawrenceks.org)

## Mayor's Column (cont. from p.1)

drawing primarily on International City Management Association (ICMA) materials (see: <http://icma.org>)

Born of the turn-of-the-century progressive reform movement, the council-manager system is an original American contribution to political theory. Staunton, VA first defined the broad authority and responsibility associated with today's professional city manager in 1908. Today the majority of American cities with a population over 25,000 follow the council-manager plan.

Under the council-manager plan an elected city council (commission in Lawrence) is responsible for making policy, passing ordinances, voting appropriations and having overall supervisory authority in the city government. Mayoral duties are typically ceremonial and the mayor may be a member of the commission and may preside over meetings.

The manager, hired by the commission supervises day-to-day government operations and implements the policies adopted by the commission. Ideally, the manager is apolitical, but maintaining this stance is often among the many challenges of this

complex and demanding job. Each city service has a department head. However, the manager is ultimately responsible for the full array of city services. In Lawrence those include city planning, water supply and sewer systems, streets, city parks and recreation programs, police, fire, ambulance, public transportation, accounting, human resources and legal matters.

The council-manager system in theory places all power in the hands of the commission and the city manager has a role similar to that of corporate CEO in providing professional management. The city commission depends on the manager and staff for research and recommendations about topics of interest. The commission has the expectation that the manager's leadership will encourage good performance by city workers and that under professional management all city functions will operate together to their best effect. That is no small order.

It is a tall order to achieve the ideals outlined above, and it is always a work in progress for any city. The employee and image surveys completed in 2003 were part of a City Commission initiative to be more systematic in efforts to ensure that the delivery of city services is accountable and

responsive to the public. The management team has pursued preliminary efforts to address key issues raised in the survey including a presentation on performance management in March, and by later creating a management team subcommittee on customer service.

My goal is to continue these efforts either through ICMA's Center for Performance Measurement identified in the Customer Service Sub-Committee report, or by using resources closer to home. The foundation of Lawrence local government was laid in a time of struggle and with great sacrifice by those early citizens. Our sesquicentennial provides an opportunity to rededicate ourselves to the goal of providing a better government.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Mike Rundh'.