

COMMUNITY



Photo by Cecil Lawson  
Sharpsburg Mayor Dorothy Clemons, right, reviews the reasons for a proposed \$3 increase for the base sewer rate for residential customers. Shown from left, City Commissioners David Jones, Mary Beth Lane, and Patsy Richardson.

Sewer Rates  
cont. from pg. 1

rates. She said that sewer rates had not changed since 2017, that residential users at Pleasure Ridge Apartments are priced at a much lower rate than other residential customers, and that recent upgrades to the city's main treatment plant have caused the city to incur higher chemical treatment and maintenance rates for the sewer system. Waste from the sewer also has to be transported to Maysville at least twice a month, at \$400 per trip.

Clemons shared last month's sewer revenues and expenses, with \$5400 in revenues for 168 customers and \$5211 in expenses, with \$188 left over. "This cannot keep up the system," she said.

She said Pleasure Ridge Apartments customers are being charged \$15.99, plus \$4.29 per 1000 gallons, divided among 32 residents.

She proposed increasing the overall base rate by \$3, so that all customers would pay a \$21.95 base rate, with

Pleasure Ridge customers paying the same rate.

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve a first reading of the sewer base rate increase. A second reading will be held at the April 5 meeting, and it will take effect in May.

Mayor Clemons also discussed the agreement with the Sharpsburg Water District

Commissioners entered into a revised agreement with the Water District in June 2024 during the previous administration of the late Deborah Cole.

Clemons noted that the new agreement required much more work by both the City and the Water District. A shared savings account between the City and Water District has been converted to a checking account, Clemons said, and that City has to provide a list of checks written each month on that account to the Water District. Sharpsburg Water in turn has to provide water and sewer bills for each customer each month, and it also has to give a check for deposits by the 15th of each month for

customer sewer service deposits. In addition, the city pays the water district \$500 for postage, up from \$400 the previous year.

"We never had to do all of this work before," Clemons said. "They weren't taking anything out of the account illegally. You all didn't get the whole story."

Commissioner Patsy Richardson and David Jones said they were unaware at the time they voted for the agreement last year that this would happen.

Commissioners also voted during Saturday's meeting to use leftover \$6008 in leftover funds from the city's treatment plant upgrade to replace a valve box at the plant, estimated at \$1500; a new motor for the plant, \$3811; and a dolly for moving chemicals at the plant, \$428.

Mayor Clemons also noted that the city had to pay \$15,734 in 4th quarter payroll withholding in order to get caught up with the county, after she noted that withholding had not been paid in the previous two years.

Ladycats advance in 16th Region Tournament

The Menifee County Ladycats kept up their winning ways as they motored past Boyd County Tuesday evening in the opening round of the 16th Region Tournament at Johnson Arena at Morehead State University.

The Ladycats entered the tournament as 61st District Tournament Champions with a 19-9 record. They had previ-

ously faced Boyd County during the regular season, with a 66-64 loss on December 14.

The Lady Lions led 29-21 at halftime, but the Ladycats turned on the scoring, leading 40-34 at the end of the 3rd quarter and finishing with a 58-47 win.

Individual stats were not available at press time.

The Ladycats move to the semi-final round and

will face Russell, who defeated Morgan County in the opening round, 61-35. They previously lost to Russell on Jan. 31, 44-39. Russell is currently the top-ranked team in the 16th Region, with 27 wins and 4 losses.

Their game will be Friday night at 8 p.m. Go Ladycats!

Bath County Court News

3/4/25  
Hon. William W. Roberts

Kara Ann Bauer, improper use of left lane/overtaking veh, 6 mos div, nvl.

Homer E Colter, fail to wear seat belts, merge, no/exp reg plates, \$50 fine, no/exp Ky reg recpt, merge, fail to produce ins card, fail of owner to maintain req ins/sec 1st, \$500 fine, fail to register transfer of mc, dismissed.

Stephanie D Craycraft, leaving scene of accident/

fail to render aid or assistance, fail of owner to maintain req ins/sec 1st, pc 3/18/25 at 10am.

Joseph Earl Hunt, hindering prosecution or apprehension 2nd degree, facilitation escape 3rd degree, prh 3/11/25 at 10:30am.

Luis D Hunt, fail to wear seat belts, dismissed, no/exp Ky reg recpt, no/exp reg plates, fail of owner to maintain req ins/sec 1st, lic to be in possession, fail to register transfer of mv, rev 3/18/25 at 9am of prepaid

insurance for div.

Christopher Kyle Kimbrel, poss of marijuana, cfa, cn 3/18/25 at 9am.

Misty Moon, parent/custodian send child to school, 1st and 2nd, fta, cn 3/11/25 at 9am.

Chace Ray Thompson, no/exp Ky reg recpt, dismissed, no/exp reg plates, dismissed, fail to produce ins card, dismissed.

Elijah J Spillman, no tail lamps, \$25 fine, no/exp reg plates, dismissed, no/exp Ky reg recpt, dismissed.

Bath County Property Transfers

Feb. 24 – 28, 2025

Total Quality Homes, LLC, to CMH Homes, Inc., Lot 17 of Mason Heights Subdivision, \$22,000

Samuel Lee Purvis to David King and Anna King, parcel on Hwy 36 near Reynoldsville, \$55,000

Johnny M. Conyers to Samuel Lee Purvis, tract on water of Washington Branch, \$1and other considerations

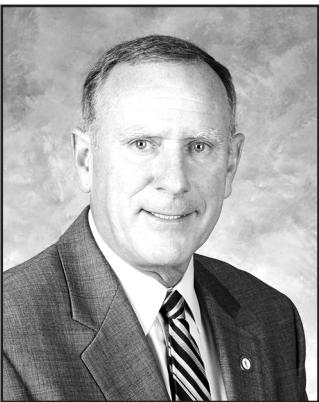
Owingsville Banking Company to Justin Ray Means and Chelsy Paige Lawill Means, parcel in Treadway Subdivision in

Owingsville, \$45,000

Janice Wells to Charles D. Black, Lot 2 of Riverside Estates, \$70,000

William E.R. Girod and Lucinda A. B. Girod to Stephen Girod and Naomi Girod, Lot 8 of Riveside Estates, \$1 and other considerations

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Representative David Hale

The importance of reining in administrative overreach

Kentucky's constitution is abundantly clear that the authority to make laws for the Commonwealth is vested in the state legislature. It was important to its writers that the duly-elected members of the Kentucky House and Senate make the state's laws, determine the duties and services of the government, provide for their execution, and levy taxes and appropriate funds. The legislature is elected to set public policy for the state, and we are held accountable for our actions by voters at each and every election.

However, over the years and through the administrations of multiple governors, countless policies have been implemented by unelected individuals who work for state agencies and programs. These policies are referred to as administrative regulations and often hold the power of law but lack the democratic safeguards of transparency, debate, and public input that are built into the legislative process. Lawmakers elected by the people, not government employees, should be responsible for making laws because they are elected by the people and directly accountable to their constituents. When unelected agencies impose regulations with the force of law, they bypass the checks and balances that prevent overreach and unintended consequences.

Kentucky taxpayers bear the financial burden of costly administrative regulations that are implemented without sufficient legislative oversight. This session, House Bill 6 (HB 6) and Senate Bill 23 (SB 23) represent critical efforts to rein in the unchecked power of administrative agencies, ensuring that regulatory decisions are made with accountability and transparency. They are both aimed at

protecting Kentuckians from excessive costs and unnecessary burdens, while promoting economic growth and restoring the constitutional balance of power between the legislative and executive branches. SB 23 passed into law earlier this session and HB 6, dubbed the Kentucky Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act, cleared the House on February 28.

The problem with unchecked administrative regulations: Administrative regulations are necessary for implementing laws. However, they can often lead to unintended consequences when agencies are allowed to create rules without proper scrutiny. In many cases, these regulations impose overly burdensome requirements on individuals and heavy costs on taxpayers and businesses, while discouraging investment. Without clear checks and balances, administrative agencies have the power to establish costly mandates that do not undergo the same process as traditional legislation. Essentially, they are able to make laws without lawmaking.

HB 6 and SB 23 directly address this issue by requiring increased oversight of administrative regulations. These bills ensure that new regulations undergo thorough review to determine their economic impact, necessity, and alignment with legislative intent. By doing so, they prevent agencies from enacting rules that result in excessive costs without legislative accountability.

Protecting Kentucky taxpayers: One of the most pressing reasons to support HB 6 and SB 23 is the financial impact that unchecked regulations have on Kentuckians. Many regulations increase the cost of goods and services, drive up operational ex-

penses for small businesses, and lead to higher prices for consumers. When agencies implement costly mandates without legislative approval, taxpayers ultimately foot the bill.

For example, regulatory overreach in areas such as energy, healthcare, and business licensing can lead to increased costs that burden working families. These unnecessary expenses place an additional strain on the economy, making it harder for businesses to thrive and for residents to afford essential services. By implementing stronger legislative oversight, HB 6 and SB 23 ensure that new regulations are justified, fiscally responsible, and truly serve the public interest.

Restoring legislative authority: Administrative agencies have expanded their authority beyond their original purpose, enacting regulations that function as laws. Elected officials understand the needs of their communities and can weigh the economic and social impact of new policies before enacting them. Government employees, on the other hand, may create rules based on narrow expertise or, in some instances, political agendas rather than broad public interest. HB 6 and SB 23 reaffirm the role of the Kentucky General Assembly in lawmaking by requiring agencies to seek legislative approval for regulations that impose significant economic burdens. This shift restores the constitutional principle of separation of powers, ensuring that the creation of laws remains within the purview of the elected legislative body rather than being delegated to administrative agencies.

All three branches of our government have clear and distinct duties and authority. The people of Kentucky expect us to work together, but also to hold each other

accountable as we strive to serve them. Both HB 6 and SB 23 are important to ensuring that happens.

As always, I can be reached

anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181. You can also contact me via email at David.Hale@kylegislature.gov and

keep track through the Kentucky legislature's website at legislature.ky.gov.

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Flemingsburg Gazette \* Bath County News-Outlook \*



PUBLIC NOTICE

Second reading of a proposed ordinance amending the Menifee County budget for fiscal year 2025, to include unanticipated receipts for the following funds: General, Road, which totals \$51,185.10 will be held on Friday March 14, 2025 at 8 a.m. at the Menifee County Courthouse. A copy of the ordinance with full text is available for public inspection at the office of the county judge/ executive during normal business hours.