• **HEARING** Continued from page one

Natural Resources and Recreation

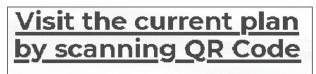
 Partnered with Green River Valley Water District to acquire 5 acres at Rio Park, creating a public access point for boats, canoes, and kayaks, while preserving open space.

Infrastructure **Improvements**

- •Green River Valley Water District assumed Hart County's portion of Edmonson County Water District to support expansion and improvement.
- Increased water capacity from 5 million gallons per day in 2020 to 8 million gallons today, with current usage averaging 4.5 million gallons.

Community **Facilities**

•Established the Hart County Animal





Community members can review the current plan by scanning the QR code above, which is provided by the Planning Commission.

Shelter on fairgrounds property.

 Supported a new initiative through Animal Haven, a nonprofit exploring the development of a new shelter on Veterans Committee property.

accomplishments demonstrate the progress Hart County has made since 2020," Judge Choate said. "As we now turn to shaping the next comprehensive plan, the most valuable resource we can rely on is community input. We strongly encourage residents to participate in upcoming meetings, share their ideas, and help guide Hart County's future growth and development."



The Hart County Planning Commission will host its second public hearing regarding the Hart County Comprehensive Plan on Tuesday, September 10, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Horse Cave City Hall.

• ARRESTED Continued from page one

the use of a minor under the age of 16 in a sexual performance, and distributing material portraying a sexual performance by a minor under the age of 12.

The investigation reportedly began after the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children provided a tip to law enforcement. Tĥe Kentucky Attorney

General's Office later determined that Hawkins had used an app on his cellphone to upload a video which contained material of child sexual abuse.

The video, which reports say was uploaded on June 27 of this year, was traced back to Youngstown Street, and the app account used to upload the video belonged to

Hawkins. Reports state that Hawkins admitted to recording the child, instructing the victim to engage in sexual acts, and inappropriately touching the child.

Hawkins is currently lodged in the Hart County Jail and remains in custody on a \$150,000 cash bond.

*Re-Elect PROVEN I L CAVE ● HARDYVILLE

• QUESTIONS Continued from page one



Deputy Jailer Paul Gentry gave the jail

report at last week's court meeting.

in the county jail. Sheriff Jeff Wilson informed the court that the sheriff's office had received new body armor plates and carriers, the New Durango had been assigned to Andra Barbour, Phase II is scheduled for court security officer Tim England, and Tim Nichols and Bruce Neville had participated in Red Dot optics training in Provo, Utah. Road Supervisor Kelly Rosser reported that road patching was continuing, along with right-of-way and boom mowing.

In other business the court approved: 2nd reading of Ordinance #520 relating to street-Legal special



Coral Linder questioned why she didn't receive a registered letter from the

Elaine Diggs from the Solid Waste Board, appointed Daniel Hawkins and Ethan Moore to the Solid Waste Board term ending 12/26; re-appointed Carolyn Short and Andrew Hawk to the Hart County Library Board term ending 10/29; acknowledged the Hart County Conservation District's 24/25 annual report, and in final business the approved to purchase land behind the Hart County Road Department from Owen Harp for \$12,000.

The court's next meeting will be Tuesday, September 9 at 9:00 am in the Courtroom.

ORDINANCE #520.135 AN ORDINANCE OF THE HART FISCAL COURT RELATING TO STREET-LEGAL SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES

purpose vehicles;

claims by ACH;

Judge Executive

River Consortium

Agreement with

Barren and Allen

County; apply for

grant to help pay

appointed Matt

Dennison to the

for the Consortium;

Consortium Board;

the library tax rate

at 9.1% which is the

same as last year;

the ambulance tax

rate at 6.9% which

is also the same as

last year; appointed

Carla Wuertzer, Bo

Chenoweth, Alesia

Johnson, Judge Joe

Choate, and county

to score RFQs for

multiple purpose

Coral Linder and

building; removed

attorney Justin Baird

to sign Barren

to pay all approved

WHEREAS, 2025 Ky. Acts ch. 89 (hereinafter "the Act") became law on March 26, 2025 and allows for the operation of street-legal special purpose vehicles on certain highways within the Commonwealth of Kentucky if allowed by ordinance of the local government within whose jurisdictional boundaries the highway is located; and

WHEREAS, the Act becomes effective on Friday, June 27, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Hart Fiscal Court has determined that it is appropriate to allow the operation of street-legal special purpose vehicles on specified highways within the jurisdictional boundaries of Hart County in accordance with the Act and this ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED by the fiscal court of county of Hart Commonwealth of Kentucky:

SECTION 1:

Definitions

The definitions set forth in Section 1(1) of the 2025 Ky. Acts Ch. 89 (hereinafter "the Act"), and as may be amended in the future by the Kentucky General Assembly, are adopted and incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein.

SECTION 2. Designated Highways

Street-legal special purpose vehicles shall be allowed to the extent permitted by the Act on all highways that are located within the jurisdictional limits of Hart County.

SECTION 3. Exceptions

Street-legal special purpose vehicles shall not be allowed to operate: (a) On any highway, or portion thereof, located within the jurisdictional limits of

- Hart County unless allowed by this ordinance.
- On any highway, or portion thereof, that is a controlled access system, including but not limited to an interstate or parkway; or
- On any highway, or portion thereof, where the United States Department of Agriculture prohibits special purpose vehicles.

SECTION 4. Prohibitions

- (a) Street-legal special purpose vehicles are prohibited from traveling a distance greater than twenty (20) miles on a highway displaying centerline pavement
- Minitrucks shall not be operated as street-legal special purpose vehicles on a highway that has been constructed pursuant to a federal highway program.

SECTION 5.

Effective Date This ordinance shall be effective on August 26, 2025.

The forgoing ordinance having received its first reading on the 12th day of August 2025, was given its second reading and passed y the fiscal court of Hart County on this the 26th day of August 2025.

/s/Tresia Weber ATTEST: Hart County Fiscal Court Clerk /s/ Joe Choate Hart County Judge/Executive

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