

No new developments in city discussion of Tosh Farm’s gas line extension request

By GAYE BENCINI

Clinton City Council met in regular session Monday night, Jan. 5 at Clinton City Hall. Present were Mayor John Kelly, Council Members Wynita Dillard, Betty Morrow, Tommy Kimbro, and Jerome Jenkins; Clerk Kaitlin Wilson, Chief Tom Dickson, Attorney Heather Johnson, and visitors Kenny Wilson, Billy Kimbro, and Gaye Bencini. Council Member Laura Poole was absent.

City Clerk Kaitlin Wilson said she had emailed Corey Damron with New Commonwealth Gas for any updates concerning Tosh Farms’s request for a gas line extension to the new truck washing/sanitizing facility to be built at the property Tosh owns that formerly served as the Harper’s Hams location. Wilson said Damron has hit a snag trying to get information from the railroad company, which has a train rail that runs across St. Rt. 1540, and involves the path of the proposed extension from Hwy. 58. The gas main ends on Hwy. 58 near the end of St. Rt. 1540. It would need to cross over to connect to Hwy. 51 N. The information from the railroad is a key factor in the cost of the natural gas line extension and until that is received, estimated project costs can’t be given to the City of Clinton or to Tosh Farms. The City of Clinton’s possible involve-

ment comes from Clinton’s 23 percent ownership in New Commonwealth Natural Gas, along with some other cities.



The City of Clinton is replacing Orangeburg pipe like the one shown above (Wikipedia photo) which was laid years ago and deteriorates over time.

Old Infrastructure

Talk turned to the city’s old sewer system and how the way things were done many years ago are causing problems today. Tom Dickson and crew have been repairing and replacing collapsed Orangeburg sewer line in the main along Mayfield Road. (Editor’s note: I had to google Orangeburg. It is “a brand name for bituminous fiber sewer pipe material made from compressed wood pulp and asbestos fibers. It was used to connect homes to public sewer lines from the 1940s to the early 1970s. The material

deteriorates over time, causing the pipe to flatten and lose its round shape.”) Council Member Tommy Kimbro noted that Orangeburg pipe was put in by a property owner who developed the lots from the city limits out along Mayfield Hwy. He recalls when it was put in, in the early 1960s, that the long term effects of using Orangeburg were not taken into consideration at that time and that was before the days of plumbing inspections. “That old Orangeburg is falling apart layer by layer,” he said. He said instances like that are the reason he votes, as a city councilman, for or against some things, because of the long-term effects. Also, on Moss Drive, when that area was developed, several residences were put on one sewer line and still share a tap today. Dickson and crew spent last summer working on sewer system issues in the subdivision near First Baptist Church and now they deal with it on Moss Drive and have issues on North Jefferson. While it seems at times they are tackling a mountain, Dickson said the inflow and infiltration, referred to as I&I, numbers, are getting better and progress is being made.

City of Clinton Police, Streets, and Wastewater Reports:
The following was submitted by Police Chief Tom Dickson:

Police: The city police department recorded 66 CAD calls during the month of December. These included but were not limited to:
3- reckless driver calls
3- unknown situation calls
3- burglar alarm calls
4- motorist assist calls
3- complaint/unwanted subject calls
2- disturbance calls
1- motor vehicle collision
2- civil cases from complaint
There were two citations issued for speed over 10 mph., one citation for expired registration (over six months), one arrest for felony assault, one arrest for DUI. The department recorded a total of 686 calls for 2025.
We received tactical response ballistic helmets through the Kentucky AG’s office. This gives the department up to date ballistic vests, rifle plates and tactical helmets all through the grants program.
All training requirements were met for 2025, and all year’s end reporting has been completed and sent in.

Wastewater: We had three separate situations with the current lift station going off-line for different reasons and requiring us to utilize the in-lace bypass. Three separate mains required Jetter service to open the main lines. We completed repair/replacement of another 20 feet of collapsed Orangeburg sewer line in the main along Mayfield Road.

IT’S ALL ABOUT COMMUNITY

By SHERRY ALLISON

Before we begin on the New Year, the Hickman County Chamber of Commerce would like to correct an oversight made in the final 2025 edition of the Hickman County Times. In our ad thanking our members for sponsoring and supporting us, the name of The Hillandale Farmhouse was inadvertently left out. We apologize to Julie and Michael Wilson and want them to know we appreciate not only their support of the Chamber, but once again thank them for bringing a wonderful addition to our community, especially for tourism, with their lovely Airbnb. As the new year begins, as you know this community is a very active community. KYGRRO director, Lindsay

Bowles has announced that with a line of sponsors already in line, bands are lined up with room for one more for Bluegrass on the Bluff. Scheduled for Saturday, June 6, Bluegrass on the Bluff is a totally free bluegrass music concert. Besides the always great snack shop, attendees will have access to food trucks. More information will be available forthcoming. Hickman County Chamber of Commerce Chairman Deena Pittman is announcing that the board of directors is in the process of lining up events for the year with a couple of changes. Because of the conflict concerning dates for the Chamber dinner and a school fundraiser, we are looking for an alternative annual meeting to be announced soon. The Chamber is also in the works plan-

ning a farm to fork event. When we meet next week, some of these plans will be finalized. There is also a legislative breakfast being planned for May 7. More information will be forthcoming. Chicken Fest will be held on the fourth weekend in April, the 24th & 25th. Other activities and events will be announced closer to the dates. As the Hickman County Memorial has said goodbye to Smithsonian exhibit, director Laura Poole declared the “Americans” exhibit to be a hit. She expresses her thanks and appreciation to the many people who helped make the exhibit happen. On to the next adventure! Now for something more eminent. Melissa Goodman has shared with the community, an upcoming Coffee Hour

sponsored by the Hickman County Extension Office featuring native Hickman Countian, Amie Tooley. Amie is the founder of Connective Consulting, who will lead us in Community Connect: “Coffee and Conversation,” The focus of this Coffee Hour will be on reflection and intentional community connection. Beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, January 9, the Hickman County Extension is sponsoring this inaugural Coffee Hour to help make space for community members, entrepreneurs, and small business owners to learn, connect and grow together. What better way to start the new year of 2026 than by showing up, connecting and investing in your growth and the growth of the community! After All. It’s All About Community.

Coffee and Conversation this Friday at the Hickman County Extension Office



Amie Tooley

There’s no better way to start the new year than by showing up, connecting, and investing in your growth. Join us for a free Coffee Hour in Clinton on Friday, Jan. 9 at 8:00 a.m.

as we kick off the year with fresh energy and intentional conversation. Our guest speaker, Amie Tooley, founder of Connective Consulting (and Hickman County native), will lead us in “Community Connect:

Coffee and Conversation,” focused on reflection and intentional community connection. Hickman County Extension is sponsoring this inaugural Coffee Hour to help make space for com-

munity members, entrepreneurs, and small business owners to learn, connect, and grow together. We hope to see you at 8:00 a.m. at the Hickman County Extension Office as we kick off 2026 together!

Kentucky Court Appointed Special Advocates recognized

The Kentucky CASA Network announced the winners of the Awards of Excellence during the volunteer appreciation dinner of the 2025 Kentucky CASA Conference on November 17, 2025, in Covington. The award recipients are as follows:
Statewide Partner of the Year – Commissioner Jonathan Shell, Kentucky Department of Agriculture
Board Member of the Year – Ryan Toombs, CASA of Graves County & Southwest KY
Judge of the Year – The Honorable Terri Schoborg, Kenton Family Court, 16th Judicial District, Div. 2
Staff Member of the Year – Liz Hansen, CASA of the Northern Bluegrass Region
KCN Spotlight Award – CASA of the Gateway Region
Bob Babbage CASA Volunteer of the Year – Paula Cooper, CASA of the Wilderness Trail
CASA All-Star Awards:
Legacy of Service – Sandy Rogers, CASA of Graves County & Southwest KY
Determined Driver –



Cynthia Phillips, CASA of Lexington
Lifelong Learner – Karen Proctor, CASA of West Kentucky
Community Connector – Jim Gearhart, CASA of West Kentucky; Martha Steil, CASA by the Lakes
Unsung Hero – Bill Renda, CASA of the River Region
Notable Newcomer – Katie Welch Beyl, CASA of the Heartland
Kentucky CASA Network Values Collaboration * Service * Accountability * Gratitude *

Transparency * Fairness
“We commend these award recipients for their work to advance the CASA mission in the Commonwealth,” said Andrea Bruns, State Director/CEO of the KCN. “They exemplify the unwavering commitment and compassion that define CASA’s mission to stand with children navigating the child welfare system. Their dedication strengthens Kentucky’s communities and inspires all of us to continue advocating fiercely for every

child’s right to safety, stability, and hope.”
The 2025 Awards of Excellence were presented during the 2025 Kentucky CASA Conference, which took place November 17-18. Keynote speakers included Kentucky Supreme Court Justice Pamela R. Goodwine, Gaelin Elmore, and Shi-maine Holley. The conference also featured a judges panel with family court judges from across the state, and 25 breakout sessions over the two days. The KCN is grateful

to ARH Foundation, Kossair for Kids, Aetna Better Health of Kentucky, CasaManager, AT&T, Kentucky Bar Foundation, WellCare of Kentucky, Nielsen Training & Consulting, and United Healthcare Community Plan of KY for sponsoring this year’s conference.
The Kentucky CASA Network is the state association for Court Appointed Special Advocates, as recognized in the Kentucky Revised Statutes, with a mission to support the develop-

ment, growth, and continuation of local CASA programs in Kentucky. CASA programs recruit and train volunteers to advocate on behalf of children who have come into the court system as a result of dependency, neglect, or abuse. In 2024, nearly 1,400 CASA volunteers served 3,376 children. Kentucky currently has a network of local CASA programs that cover 99 counties. For more information, please visit www.kentucky-casanetwork.org.