

Keiser City Council Agenda

February 19, 2026, Keiser City Hall

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. *Minutes (January 2026 Regular Council Meeting)*
4. Financial Report
5. Old Business
 - a. Drainage Grant Circle Update
 - b. City Property Insurance
 - c. Ordinance 2026-01 Speed Limit Main Street

6. New Business
 - a. Police Dept Update
 - b. Community Policing Update
 - c. Review 2026 Drainage Ordinance
 - d. 2026 Drainage Plans
 - e. Grants
 - i. Ordered Firehouse Sub Grant Equipment Shipping in March
 - ii. Submitted
 1. SCIP Police Grant
 2. AARP Community Challenge – Park
 3. AARP Demonstration Grant – Library Parking Lot
 4. AARP Mini Grant – Senior Disaster Training
 5. BCBS KPD AED Grant
 6. SRT Body Cam Grant

7. Other Business
8. Next regular meeting will be March 16, 2026 @ 6:pm Keiser City Hall
9. Adjournment

CITY OF KEISER

Council Meeting

January 19, 2026

The Keiser City Council met in regular session Monday, January 19, 2026 at Keiser City Hall @ 6 PM. In attendance were Mayor Rick Creecy, Recorder Penny Wilbanks and councilmembers Donna Bell and Lynn Skaggs. Absent from the meeting were Joey Jackson and Laura Smith. Mayor Creecy made up the quorum.

December council minutes were reviewed and approved with a motion from Bell, followed by a second from Skaggs; and all said aye.

December Financial Reports were reviewed and approved with a motion from Bell, followed by a second from Skaggs; and all said aye.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Drainage Grant Circle Update

1. The Drainage Project is in the finishing touches process. The Engineer is close to having things ready for a meeting with the town people. The digging of ditches and removing and placing new culverts will be out for bids. A meeting was held on January 9, 2026 about the flooding and drainage in our area. Those in attendance were Senator Dave Wallace, Judge Nelson, Executive Secretary Jeremy Bennett of Mississippi County Drainage and Road Districts, City Engineer Lance Powell, Public Works Director Neal Brown, and Mayor Rick Creecy. Drainage District committed to place Ditch 47 on rotation. Ditch 47 will be dug out in the next few months. Engineer Powell and Mayor Creecy will evaluate the town to find other ways to get water out of the town into Ditch 47. Mayor Creecy will meet with Judge Nelson to see what he can do to help with support in digging out the existing ditches or by adding new ditches. Current issues and recent improvements were discussed and what the next steps entail.

B. Bike/Walking Trail Update

1. Dirt and gravel work has been completed and has passed the compression test. At this point, we are waiting for acceptable weather conditions to pave the walking trail.

C. City Property Insurance

1. Mayor gave a printout on the new rates for the value of the city properties. A decision was made to prioritize what items we need to increase our coverage and what not to increase. This decision will be discussed later.
- D. Minimum Home Size
1. Mayor Creecy reviewed ordinances and minutes and couldn't find any restrictions on the size of a home. Lot size was the only thing referenced.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2024 Legislative Audit Results
1. Everyone received their copies of the 2024 Legislative Audit. We are happy to say there were no writeups on the 2024 Legislative Audit.
- B. FY2025 Final Year Ending Budget
1. The actual FY2025 budget was presented before the council. A motion to accept FY2025 Final Budget was made by Bell, followed by a second from Skaggs; all said aye.
- C. 2025 Customer Water Adjustments
1. A list of water adjustments made in 2025 was presented before the council. The council reviewed the list and accepted the adjustments with a motion made by Bell, followed by a second from Skaggs; and all said aye.
- D. Ordinance 2026-01 Speed Limit Main Street
1. All council members were not present at this meeting. Mayor cannot vote on an emergency clause; therefore, Ordinance 2026-01 was tabled until next council meeting.
- E. Grants
1. Mayor has submitted a ABD, Harbor Freight and another AARP grant to do phase 2 for the SR area for the park; more landscaping and park benches around the park. We were awarded a Firehouse Sub grant, \$37,857 for 3 SCBA's, 6 tanks, a thermal imaging gun and a gas detector for the Fire Department.

ORDER OF MEETINGS FY2026

A motion to continue with past meeting format following the "Roberts Rule of Order" was made by Bell, followed by a second from Skaggs, and all said aye.

A motion to allow citizens up to 5 minutes each at council meetings for comments was made by Bell, followed by a second from Skaggs, and all said aye.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Changing Late Fees

A discussion was held about the due date, which is the 16th of each month, falling on the weekend or a holiday, and how everything has to be backdated and reports reran and rebalanced from the day before. A suggestion was made to make a public announcement that bills must be paid by the end of business on the 16th. If the 16th falls on a weekend or holiday, giving one more business day to pay was a suggestion.

B. One citizen had a complaint about this water bill; stating it wasn't fair to have such a high sewer bill, when the water didn't go through the sewer system. He suggested we need to have a flow meter on the sewer system.

C. Chief Police has been on the search for some part-time help with the police department. Chief has a couple of part time helpers in the making. Mayor is in the process of checking how many hours a part-time officer can work and be considered full-time; and seeing if our grant will pay out as full-time, even if an officer doesn't work 40 hours.

D. A verbal commitment was made about the changeover on the sewer lines in the West Main Subdivision. We can run the 2" line all the way down the front.

E. Questions arose about update on placing liens on old houses. Mayor stated he will have to get with the Chief Police to see where we stand with what can take place. Health Department will be the one to reach out to condemn old dilapidated or trashy properties.

Next regular meeting scheduled for February 23,2026.

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn this meeting was approved by Bell, followed by a second from Skaggs, and all said aye.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Rick Creecy, Mayor

Penny Wilbanks, Recorder

CITY OF KEISER

January 2026 Bank Balances

GENERAL	\$184,246.53
ACT 833	\$43,922.62
STREET	\$201,298.62
WATER/SEWER REVENUE	\$12,674.33
WATER/SEWER OPERATING	\$191,867.59
ONE-CENT WATER	\$193,286.40
ONE-CENT SEWER	\$137,493.16
SEWER LOAN DEPRECIATION RES	\$42,657.58
METER DEPOSIT	\$27,502.99

\$1,034,949.82

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT	\$63,489.90
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\$1,098,439.72

SQUARE PAY	\$1,615.54
FUN PARK GRANT	\$100.45
SEWER LOAN GRANT	\$194.34
COMMUNITY POLICING '25	\$72.13
COPS PROGRAM	\$771.14
PSEG	\$0.00
RURAL PARK GRANT	\$0.00
LIFT STATION GRANT	\$0.00
WALKING TRACK	\$72.13
DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS	\$100.00

\$2,925.73

GRAND TOTAL **\$1,101,365.45**

City of Keiser General Fund

2/9/2026 2:00 PM

Register: 1000 · BancorpSouth

From 01/01/2026 through 01/31/2026

Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
01/05/2026	45195	Demaruice D Edwards	-split-		332.38	X		188,955.88
01/05/2026	45196	Glenn A Dunn III	-split-		710.99	X		188,244.89
01/05/2026	45197	Rodney N. Brown	-split-		408.61	X		187,836.28
01/05/2026	45198	Howard V. Cross	-split-		183.65	X		187,652.63
01/05/2026	45199	Daniel Broughman	-split-		99.73	X		187,552.90
01/05/2026	45200	Penny L Wilbanks	-split-		676.51	X		186,876.39
01/05/2026	45201	Stacy F Burks	-split-		94.24	X		186,782.15
01/06/2026	D573485	Revenue	3100 · 5 Mill Property ...	settlement 2025		X	1,063.12	187,845.27
01/06/2026	D573486	Revenue	3100 · 5 Mill Property ...	settlement 2025...		X	212.61	188,057.88
01/06/2026	D573487	Revenue	3725 · Garbage Bag Sales	14 @ \$10		X	140.00	188,197.88
01/06/2026	D573488	Revenue	3700 · Sanitation Fees	12/28/25-01/03/...		X	2,736.10	190,933.98
01/06/2026		LOPFI	7200 · Fire Dept - Retir...	ACH, Withdra...	84.00	X		190,849.98
01/06/2026	45202	Arkansas Municipal L...	5001 · Legal & Audit	2026 AML & ...	1,181.52	X		189,668.46
01/06/2026	45203	Municipal League Wo...	5203 · Mun.League Wo...	2026 Worker's ...	5,235.16	X		184,433.30
01/06/2026	45204	Buffalo Island Services	6200 · Sanitation-Waste...	Inv 9435 - Dece...	90.00	X		184,343.30
01/06/2026	45205	Globe Life	3960 · Misc Expense	Acct 87672 - Pi...	13.85			184,329.45
01/07/2026		Entergy	5403 · Main Street #3 - ...	ACH, Withdra...	39.72	X		184,289.73
01/07/2026		Entergy	5401 · Main Street #1 - ...	ACH, Withdra...	44.18	X		184,245.55
01/07/2026		Entergy	5402 · Main Street #2 - ...	ACH, Withdra...	39.00	X		184,206.55
01/07/2026		Entergy	7400 · Fire Dept - Elec/...	ACH, Withdra...	305.49	X		183,901.06
01/07/2026		Entergy	7400 · Fire Dept - Elec/...	ACH, Withdra...	67.68	X		183,833.38
01/07/2026		Entergy	3756 · Dog Pound Elect...	ACH, Withdra...	38.12	X		183,795.26
01/07/2026		Entergy	5400 · City Hall-Electri...	ACH, Withdra...	128.98	X		183,666.28
01/07/2026		Entergy	9400 · City Park - Elect...	ACH, Withdra...	112.30	X		183,553.98
01/07/2026		Ritter Communication	5450 · City Hall - telep...	ACH, Withdra...	417.04	X		183,136.94
01/07/2026		Ritter Communication	8450 · Police Dept - Tel...	ACH, Withdra...	16.54	X		183,120.40
01/07/2026		Ritter Communication	7450 · Fire Dept -Telep...	ACH, Withdra...	71.94	X		183,048.46
01/09/2026	D573489	Revenue	3500 · State Turnback F...	Municipal - Ge...		X	768.54	183,817.00
01/09/2026	D573492	Revenue	3500 · State Turnback F...	Municipal - Pro...		X	747.93	184,564.93
01/09/2026		One-Cent Water Fund	2002 · One-Cent Water	November 2025	2,740.00	X		181,824.93
01/09/2026		Sewer Loan Debt Dep...	2001 · One-Cent Sewer	November 2025	2,740.01	X		179,084.92
01/12/2026	45215	Office of Child Suppo...	6560 · Payroll Expenses	VOID: S B		X		179,084.92
01/12/2026	45216	Office of Child Suppo...	2030 · Child Support/G...	S Burks - 8782...	80.00	X		179,004.92
01/12/2026	45206	Glenn A Dunn III	-split-		730.30	X		178,274.62
01/12/2026	45207	Penny L Wilbanks	-split-		720.71	X		177,553.91
01/12/2026	45208	Brenda K Creecy	-split-		154.93	X		177,398.98
01/12/2026	45209	Demaruice D Edwards	-split-		455.76	X		176,943.22
01/12/2026	45210	Dustin C White	-split-		377.23	X		176,565.99
01/12/2026	45211	Rodney N. Brown	-split-		423.87	X		176,142.12
01/12/2026	45212	Howard V. Cross	-split-		219.47	X		175,922.65

City of Keiser General Fund

2/9/2026 2:00 PM

Register: 1000 · BancorpSouth

From 01/01/2026 through 01/31/2026

Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
01/12/2026	45213	Daniel Broughman	-split-		64.57	X		175,858.08
01/12/2026	45214	Stacy F Burks	-split-		80.09	X		175,777.99
01/13/2026	D573490	Revenue	3100 · 5 Mill Property ...	Treas & IRA Ex...		X	161.31	175,939.30
01/13/2026	D573491	Revenue	3100 · 5 Mill Property ...	Treas & IRA Ex...		X	32.26	175,971.56
01/13/2026	D573493	Revenue	3700 · Sanitation Fees	01/04/26-01/10/...		X	5,834.50	181,806.06
01/13/2026		IRS	6560 · Payroll Expenses...	Q4/2025	4,827.76	X		176,978.30
01/13/2026		Ark. Dept of Finance ...	2400 · Payroll Liabilitie...		680.92	X		176,297.38
01/13/2026		Ark. Dept of Finance ...	2031 · Ark Sales Tax		490.00	X		175,807.38
01/13/2026		Black Hills Energy	7151 · Fire Dept Gas (B...	ACH, Withdra...	185.84	X		175,621.54
01/13/2026		Black Hills Energy	5308 · City Hall Gas (B...	ACH, Withdra...	396.25	X		175,225.29
01/13/2026	45217	Cadence	9600 · Park Improvement	Park Improvem...	339.86	X		174,885.43
01/13/2026	45218	Debose Salvage & Cl...	7350 · Fire Dept - Repa...		1,200.00			173,685.43
01/13/2026	45219	University of Arkansas	8303 · Police Dept-Trai...	CST-21341	125.00	X		173,560.43
01/13/2026	45220	Kennemore Home Im...	6300 · Sanitation-Suppl...	Inv 165252	135.38	X		173,425.05
01/13/2026	45221	Mississippi County L...	6200 · Sanitation-Waste...	Acct 800	905.88	X		172,519.17
01/13/2026	45222	Auto Tire & Parts	-split-	Customer 53138	337.35	X		172,181.82
01/15/2026		Cadence	5006 · Bank Fees	Analysis	3.06	X		172,178.76
01/19/2026		American Express	-split-	4-61000	1,481.87	X		170,696.89
01/19/2026	45223	Glenn A Dunn III	-split-		730.31	X		169,966.58
01/19/2026	45224	Penny L Wilbanks	-split-		708.30	X		169,258.28
01/19/2026	45225	Brenda K Creecy	-split-		372.27	X		168,886.01
01/19/2026	45226	Demaruice D Edwards	-split-		513.89	X		168,372.12
01/19/2026	45227	Dustin C White	-split-		426.29	X		167,945.83
01/19/2026	45228	Rodney N. Brown	-split-		416.23	X		167,529.60
01/19/2026	45229	Howard V. Cross	-split-		170.99	X		167,358.61
01/19/2026	45230	Daniel Broughman	-split-		88.04	X		167,270.57
01/19/2026	45231	Stacy F Burks	-split-		28.56	X		167,242.01
01/20/2026		Cadence	3801 · Bank Charge Ref...	Deposit		X	3.06	167,245.07
01/20/2026	D573494	Revenue	3200 · Franchise Tax	Black Hills Ann...		X	1,566.82	168,811.89
01/20/2026	D573495	Revenue	3725 · Garbage Bag Sales	19 @ \$10		X	190.00	169,001.89
01/20/2026	D573496	Revenue	3725 · Garbage Bag Sales	3 @ \$10 Transf...		X	30.00	169,031.89
01/20/2026	D573497	Revenue	3700 · Sanitation Fees	01/11/2026-01/...		X	4,173.82	173,205.71
01/20/2026		Lowe's	7300 · Fire Dept - Supp...	Tables for Fire ...	312.39	X		172,893.32
01/21/2026	45232	Firehouse Subs Publi...	8009 · Grant Expense	VOID:		X		172,893.32
01/22/2026	45235	Matthew Bender & C...	8303 · Police Dept-Trai...	Inv - 48406767	214.34			172,678.98
01/23/2026	D573498	Revenue	3400 · Local Sales & U...	December 2025		X	15,334.88	188,013.86
01/23/2026	D573499	Revenue	3415 · One Cent Sewer	December 2025		X	3,039.95	191,053.81
01/23/2026	D573500	Revenue	3410 · One Cent Water	December 2025		X	3,039.95	194,093.76
01/23/2026	45236	Municipal League Wo...	5203 · Mun.League Wo...	Firefighters Sup...	400.00			193,693.76
01/23/2026	45237	Gibson & Thomas, P.A.	-split-	2019-54	300.00			193,393.76

City of Keiser General Fund

2/9/2026 2:00 PM

Register: 1000 · BancorpSouth

From 01/01/2026 through 01/31/2026

Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
01/23/2026	45238	Gunn's Supermarket	5208 · City Expense	1019	61.97			193,331.79
01/23/2026	45233	Glenn A Dunn III	-split-		730.30	X		192,601.49
01/23/2026	45234	Penny L Wilbanks	-split-		705.35	X		191,896.14
01/23/2026	45239	Demaruice D Edwards	-split-		499.01	X		191,397.13
01/23/2026	45240	Dustin C White	-split-		327.26	X		191,069.87
01/23/2026	45241	Rodney N. Brown	-split-		520.98	X		190,548.89
01/23/2026	45242	Howard V. Cross	-split-		191.41	X		190,357.48
01/23/2026	45243	Daniel Broughman	-split-		70.42	X		190,287.06
01/23/2026	45244	Stacy F Burks	-split-		91.38	X		190,195.68
01/28/2026	D573501	Revenue	3700 · Sanitation Fees	01/18/2026-01/...		X	852.48	191,048.16
01/28/2026		One-Cent Water Fund	2002 · One-Cent Water	December 2025	3,039.95	X		188,008.21
01/28/2026		Sewer Loan Debt Dep...	2001 · One-Cent Sewer	December 2025	3,039.95	X		184,968.26
01/30/2026	45247	Rick Creecy	6400 · Travel Exp	January Mileag...	266.08			184,702.18
01/30/2026	45245	Penny L Wilbanks	-split-		55.41	X		184,646.77
01/30/2026	45246	Rickey J Creecy	-split-		400.24			184,246.53

Water & Sewer Fund

2/9/2026 2:05 PM

Register: 1200 - Bancorp - Operating Fund

From 01/01/2026 through 01/31/2026

Sorted by: Date and Order Entered

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
01/05/2026	12568	S. Don Ray, CPA MBA	5850 - Legal Expense	2025 Water/Se...	1,450.00	X		183,074.69
01/06/2026	D416521	Revenue	3100 - Water Sales Rev	12/28/25-01/03/...		X	3,052.53	186,127.22
01/06/2026	12569	Arkansas Democrat-G...	5850 - Legal Expense	VOID: Advertis...		X		186,127.22
01/06/2026	12570	WEHCO Newspapers...	5850 - Legal Expense	Advertising AD...	334.80	X		185,792.42
01/07/2026		Entergy	5400 - Electricity:5410 ...	ACH, Withdra...	186.32	X		185,606.10
01/07/2026		Entergy	5400 - Electricity:5415 ...	ACH, Withdra...	85.48	X		185,520.62
01/07/2026		Entergy	5400 - Electricity:5420 ...	ACH, Withdra...	150.58	X		185,370.04
01/07/2026		Entergy	5400 - Electricity:5425 ...	ACH, Withdra...	144.16	X		185,225.88
01/07/2026		Entergy	5400 - Electricity	ACH, Withdra...	782.14	X		184,443.74
01/13/2026	12571	Environmental Servic...	-split-	001825	525.00	X		183,918.74
01/13/2026	D416522	Revenue	3100 - Water Sales Rev	01/04/26-01/10/...		X	2,606.10	186,524.84
01/13/2026		Ark Dept of Finance ...	4001 - Ark Sales Tax		287.00	X		186,237.84
01/13/2026		Mississippi County El...	5400 - Electricity:5401 ...	ACH, Withdra...	384.04	X		185,853.80
01/20/2026	D416526	Revenue	3100 - Water Sales Rev	01/11/26-01/17/...		X	2,637.39	188,491.19
01/28/2026	D416524	Revenue	3100 - Water Sales Rev	01/18/26-01/24/...		X	3,547.20	192,038.39
01/30/2026	12572	U S Post Office	5470 - Postage	VOID: Feb 1st ...		X		192,038.39
01/30/2026	12573	U S Post Office	5470 - Postage	Feb 1st bills - 2...	170.80			191,867.59

Water & Sewer Fund

2/9/2026 2:01 PM

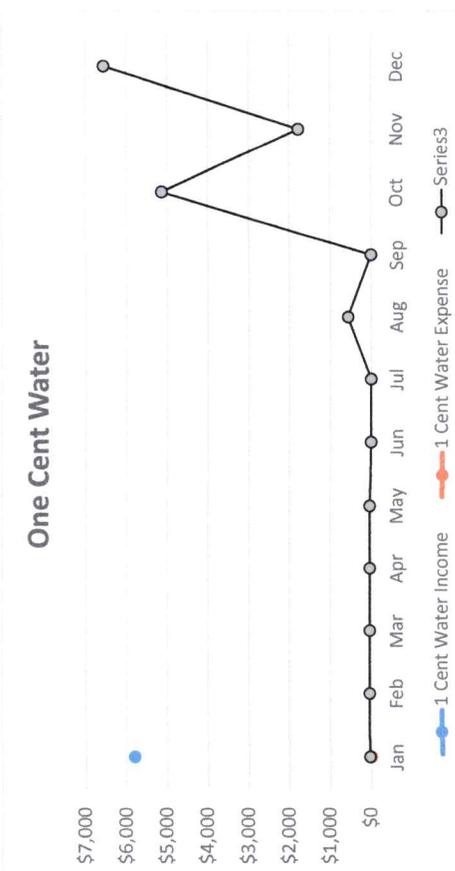
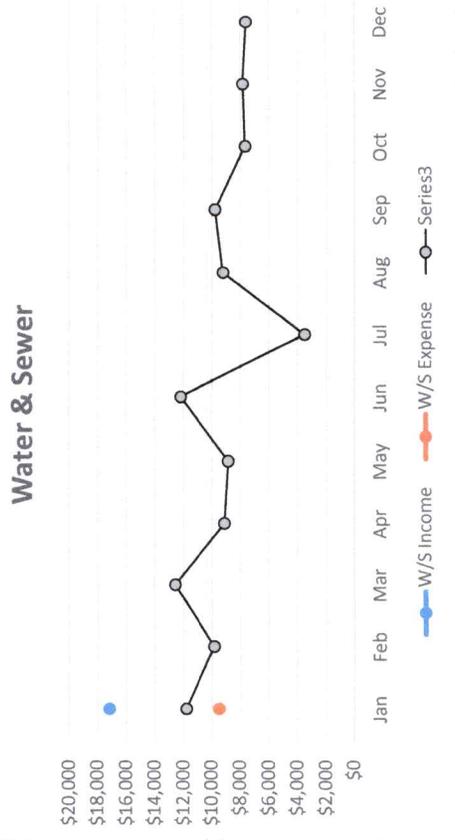
Register: 1000 - Bancorp - Revenue Fund

From 01/01/2026 through 01/31/2026

Sorted by: Date, Type, Number/Ref

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
01/05/2026		USDA/Rural Develop...	1975 - Well Construction		2,339.00	X		9,986.80
01/06/2026	D406112	Revenue	3102 - Surcharge	12/28/25-01/03/...		X	928.00	10,914.80
01/13/2026	d406113	Revenue	3102 - Surcharge	01/04/26-01/10/...		X	2,128.00	13,042.80
01/15/2026		Arkansas Department ...	SRFKEISER - 02330-...	Loan Sevicng ...	401.47	X		12,641.33
01/15/2026		USDA/Rural Develop...	1976 - New Water Proj...		2,239.00	X		10,402.33
01/20/2026	D406114	Revenue	3102 - Surcharge	01/11/26-01/17/...		X	1,632.00	12,034.33
01/28/2026	D406115	Revenue	3102 - Surcharge	01/18/26-01/24/...		X	640.00	12,674.33

Month	Gen Income	Gen Expense	W/S Income	W/S Expense	1 Cent Water Income	1 Cent Water Expense	1 Cent Sewer Income	1 Cent Sewer Expense
Jan	\$43,994	\$48,839	\$17,171	\$9,480	\$0	\$5,804	\$5,798	\$0
Feb								
Mar								
Apr								
May								
Jun								
Jul								
Aug								
Sep								
Oct								
Nov								
Dec								
Variance	\$43,994	\$48,839	\$17,171	\$9,480	\$0	\$5,804	\$5,798	\$0
	(\$4,845)		\$7,691			\$5,804		\$5,798



ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01

AN ORDINANCE VOIDING ORDINANCE NO. 2025-06; REDUCING THE SPEED LIMIT ON EAST AND WEST MAIN STREET FROM THIRTY (30) MILES PER HOUR TO TWENTY (20) MILES PER HOUR; AUTHORIZING TRAFFIC CONTROL SPEED BUMPS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the City of Keiser has a responsibility to promote public safety and protect the wellbeing of residents, pedestrians, and motorists; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that reduced speeds on East and West Main Street are necessary due to pedestrian activity, residential traffic, residential homes and overall public safety concerns; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to void Ordinance No. 2025-06 and clarify that speed limits on all other city streets shall remain as currently posted; and

WHEREAS, the installation of traffic-control speed bumps on certain city streets is necessary to further reduce hazardous speeding and protect the public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KEISER, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. VOIDING OF PRIOR ORDINANCE

Ordinance No. **2025-06** is hereby **voided in its entirety** and shall have no further force or effect.

SECTION 2. SPEED LIMIT ON EAST AND WEST MAIN STREET

The posted speed limit on **East Main Street and West Main Street**, from city limits to city limits, is hereby reduced from **thirty (30) miles per hour** to **twenty (20) miles per hour**. All other speed limits within the City of Keiser shall **remain as currently posted**.

SECTION 3. AUTHORIZATION FOR TRAFFIC CONTROL SPEED BUMPS

- (a) The City of Keiser is hereby authorized to install **traffic-control speed bumps** on any city street where speeding creates a safety hazard.
- (b) Speed bumps may be installed based on recommendations from the Police Department, Street Department, or Mayor.
- (c) All installations shall comply with accepted roadway and safety standards.

SECTION 4. SIGNAGE AND PUBLIC NOTICE

The City shall install necessary signage to inform motorists of reduced speed limits and speed-control devices. Public notice shall be provided through the City's normal communication channels.

SECTION 5. ENFORCEMENT

The Keiser Police Department is authorized to enforce this ordinance, including issuing citations for speeding or unsafe driving.

SECTION 6. REPEALING CLAUSE

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 7. EMERGENCY CLAUSE

The City Council finds that speeding on East and West Main Street poses an immediate danger to residents, pedestrians, and motorists. Immediate implementation of reduced speed limits and speed-control authority is necessary for the preservation of public peace, health, and safety.

Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 23rd day of February 2026.

CITY OF KEISER, ARKANSAS

APPROVED:

Rick Creecy, Mayor

Penny Wilbanks, Recorder

CITY OF KEISER, ARKANSAS

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-02

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING DRIVEWAY CULVERTS, SUBDIVISION DRAINAGE DITCHES, RESIDENTIAL DRAINAGE DITCHES, AND CITY-OWNED DRAINAGE DITCHES; PROVIDING FOR MINIMUM DITCH STANDARDS; REFERENCING ARKANSAS LAW; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KEISER, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish uniform standards for driveway culverts, subdivision drainage ditches, residential drainage ditches, and city-owned drainage ditches within the City of Keiser, Arkansas, to ensure proper stormwater flow, prevent flooding, protect public infrastructure, and promote public safety.

This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authority granted to municipalities under Arkansas law, including Arkansas Code §14-121-804 regarding drainage ditches and rights-of-way.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Ordinance:

- **Culvert** – A pipe or structure that conveys stormwater under a driveway, road, or access point.
- **Drainage Ditch** – Any open channel, swale, or man-made ditch designed to convey stormwater.
- **Subdivision Drainage System** – All ditches, swales, culverts, and stormwater features constructed as part of a platted subdivision.
- **City-Owned Ditch** – Any ditch located within a public right-of-way or drainage easement accepted and maintained by the City of Keiser.
- **Property Owner** – The owner of record of the parcel adjacent to the ditch or driveway.

SECTION 3. DRIVEWAY CULVERT REQUIREMENTS

A. Permit Required

No driveway may be constructed, altered, or replaced across a drainage ditch without first obtaining a **Driveway Culvert Permit** from the City of Keiser.

B. Culvert Specifications

1. Minimum diameter: **12 inches**
2. Minimum length: Sufficient to allow safe driveway width and maintain ditch flow
3. Approved materials:
 - Reinforced concrete pipe (RCP)
 - Dual-wall HDPE
 - Asphalt-coated corrugated metal
 - Galvanized metal pipes
4. Culvert must be installed at proper grade to maintain **positive drainage**.
5. Headwalls or flared end sections may be required.

C. Installation

Culverts shall be installed by the property owner or their contractor, subject to inspection and approval by the City.

D. Maintenance

The property owner is responsible for maintaining the culvert in good working condition, including removal of debris, sediment, or obstructions.

E. Non-Compliance

If a culvert becomes blocked, damaged, or improperly installed, the City may order repair or replacement. Failure to comply may result in the City performing the work and assessing costs to the owner.

SECTION 4. SUBDIVISION DRAINAGE DITCHES

A. Developer Responsibilities

All new subdivisions shall include a drainage plan prepared by a licensed engineer showing ditch grades, culvert sizes, easements, and stormwater flow direction, consistent with Arkansas Code §14-121-804.

B. Acceptance by the City

The City will not assume maintenance of subdivision drainage ditches until all improvements are completed, inspected, and accepted by resolution of the City Council.

C. Maintenance Prior to Acceptance

The developer or property owners' association shall maintain all subdivision drainage ditches until acceptance.

SECTION 5. CITY-OWNED AND RESIDENTIAL DRAINAGE DITCHES

A. City Responsibility

The City of Keiser shall maintain drainage ditches located within public rights-of-way, dedicated drainage easements, or areas historically maintained by the City.

B. Prohibited Actions by Property Owners

No person shall:

1. Fill in, obstruct, or alter a city-owned ditch.
2. Install pipes, boards, landscaping, or structures that impede flow.
3. Redirect water in a manner that causes flooding or erosion.

C. Prohibition on Replacing Ditches with Culverts

1. **It is prohibited to replace any existing open drainage ditch within the City of Keiser with a culvert or enclosed pipe system.**
2. **Existing culverts located within drainage ditches are grandfathered; however, if such culverts are ever replaced, removed, or fail, the ditch shall be restored to a traditional open-ditch configuration.**
3. No new enclosed drainage systems shall be installed in place of open ditches unless specifically authorized by the City Council upon written engineering justification.

D. Minimum Ditch Standards for Residential Properties

1. **Minimum depth:** 18 inches
2. **Minimum bottom width:** 12 inches
3. **Maximum side slope:** 3:1 (horizontal:vertical)
4. Ditches must maintain a continuous, unobstructed grade to ensure **positive drainage**.
5. Property owners shall keep residential ditches free of debris, vegetation overgrowth, sediment buildup, or any obstruction that restricts stormwater flow.
6. No residential ditch may be filled, enclosed, or altered in a manner that reduces capacity.
 - **Grandfathered culverts must revert to open ditches when replaced.**

SECTION 6. PRIVATE DITCHES AND ARKANSAS CODE §14-121-804

Pursuant to Arkansas Code §14-121-804:

- A landowner may construct a ditch to drain into a public ditch.

- If another landowner blocks access, the builder may seek a right-of-way through circuit court.
- Damages must consider benefits gained by the intervening landowner.
- The intervening landowner may also use the ditch for their own drainage.

SECTION 7. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

1. Violations of this Ordinance may result in fines not exceeding **\$250 per day** until corrected.
2. The City may issue written notices, stop-work orders, or require removal of non-compliant installations.
3. Costs incurred by the City to correct violations may be assessed as a lien against the property.

SECTION 8. SEVERABILITY

If any section or provision of this Ordinance is found invalid, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. REPEALER

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 10. EMERGENCY CLAUSE

Because proper drainage is essential to public safety and the prevention of flooding, an emergency is declared, and this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage.

Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 23rd day of February 2026.

CITY OF KEISER, ARKANSAS

APPROVED:

Rick Creecy, Mayor

Penny Wilbanks, Recorder