

SEBREE BANNER



VOLUME EIGHTY-NINE

SEBREE, WEBSTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025

NUMBER TWENTY-ONE



Chad Townsend

Local Man Elected President Of Funeral Directors' Association

On June 3-4, 2025, the Funeral Directors Association of Kentucky (FDAK) held its 143rd Annual State Convention & Mid-West Regional Funeral Trade Show at the Kentucky Expo Center and the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky with FDAK President Brandy Harwood of the Bob Hunt Funeral Home in Cave City and the Bartley & Sons Funeral Home in Tompkinsville presiding. The Convention Theme was The Roaring 20's Coming Alive in 2025.

During this year's convention Chad Townsend of the Townsend Funeral Home in Dixon, was sworn in as President of the Funeral Directors Association of Kentucky for the 2025-2026 Association Year on Wednesday afternoon by his best friend Billy Butcher. Townsend and his family have long served the Webster County area, with Chad initially entering the business with his father Wendy Townsend and his mother Connie Townsend.

Sebree Council Meets In Short Session

The Sebree City Council met in regular session on Monday night with Mayor Billy Smith presiding and four council members present. Council members Jana Forker and Kathy Edwards were not in attendance.

Following approval of the minutes from the May meeting, the council addressed a short agenda that included the first reading of the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget and one appointment.

The new budget was presented by City Clerk Monte Davenport. Council

members reviewed the budget in the amount of \$3,585,576.61 for the first reading. A called meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, June 23 for second reading and passage of the budget.

The city clerk then addressed the council with a letter informing them of his resignation effective July 31, 2025. According to the letter, Davenport has accepted a position with the Green River Area Development District and will assume those duties on

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Webster Grand Jury Returns Indictments

Thirteen individuals saw indictments returned against them when the Webster County Grand Jury convened on June 11, 2025.

A single indictment was returned against Dennis Howard Alfred who faces a charge of first degree sexual abuse.

Ten indictments, nine of which were for first degree wanton endangerment, were returned against Marsha L. Ball. Ball was also indicted on a charge of reckless driving.

In the case of Kimberly Dawn Belt, the defendant saw four indictments for custodial interference returned against her.

Joshua Michael Boaz was indicted for flagrant non-support.

Three indictments were returned against Mellody Lee Braddam who faces charges of possession of marijuana; drug paraphernalia-buy/possess and first-degree possession of a controlled substance, third or greater offense, methamphetamine,

Drake K. Frye was indicted for possession of marijuana; first-degree possession of a controlled substance, first offense, drug unspecified; instructional permit violations; no/expired Kentucky registration receipt; instructional permit violations and first -egree possession of a controlled substance, first offense, methamphetamine. On a charge of receiving stolen property, firearm, no true bill was returned. A charge of vehicle headlamp/tail light color violation was amended to failure to illuminate headlights and a charge of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, first offense, aggravating circumstances was amended to no aggravating circumstances.

Joseph Lee Kellems was indicted for procuring or promoting the use of a minor by electronic means and procuring or promoting the use of a minor by electronic means.

Indictments on four counts of custodial interference were returned

against Sherry Lynn Lindle.

Five indictments were returned against Felipe Lucas Perez who is charged with no operators/moped license; failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security first offense; no/expired registration plates; display of illegal altered registration plate and second- degree criminal possession of a forged instrument.

Kenny Dalton Potts saw three indictments returned against him. He was indicted on charges of obstructing a highway; driving a motor vehicle while license suspended for DUI, third or greater offense; and failure to produce insurance card.

A single indictment for flagrant non-support was returned against Steffany Leann Teague.

Graham Collins Watson was indicted on charges of possession of marijuana; first-degree possession of a controlled substance, first offense, drug unspecified; and first-degree possession of a controlled substance, first offense, methamphetamine.

A single indictment for receiving stolen property \$10,000 or more was returned against Michael Steve Wilson.

WCWD Board Approves Line Replacement

The Webster County Water District Board met in regular session Thursday, June 12, with a number of items on the agenda for discussion and approval.

Water superintendent Trevor Baldwin reported that the district recently experienced some power outages at the plant that caused damage to a computer. According to Baldwin the district's SCATA technology "was fried" and the computer and the software had to be replaced. During the process of replacing the equipment, the plant was temporarily run via a laptop computer. The new computer was programmed through a West

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Providence City Council Passes 2025-26 Budget; Approves Resolution

The Providence City Council met in a productive session on Monday night, passing a resolution authorizing the mayor to apply for funding through KIA and okaying the second reading of the fiscal year 2026 budget.

The resolution allows Mayor Tom Glover to sign the necessary documents to apply for Kentucky Water/Waste Water Assistance Program funds through the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority. The funding, should it be awarded, will help the city continue to move forward with its plans to upgrade water and sewer infrastructure throughout the community. Presently, the city has the funds to improve water and sewer lines in about 30 percent of Providence.

After passing the resolution, the council heard from code enforcement officer Rick Mills who reported on the condition of several commercial buildings he has inspected. Mills noted that some of the buildings have "serious public safety issues" and he has made several attempts to contact owners but is having difficulty receiving responses.

Mills said he has completed walkthroughs of the buildings to get a better assessment and some of the structures are salvageable, he said. In addition to the building walkthroughs, Mills said he has issued 18 notices of violation to city residents,

most of which have been addressed,

When asked by the mayor about specific buildings, Mills went over a list of six or seven buildings of concern and gave an update on each. He also responded to questions about a house on Cedar Street that has been condemned as well as a building on Cedar Street that Mills says the owner has tried to give away but has had no success in doing so.

Following Mills' report, Glover opted, with the council's agreement, to move a budget session and vote on the budget to the latter part of the agenda and moved into "other business."

The mayor reported that the swimming pool at the golf and recreation area is open and was busy over the weekend. He noted that tourism provided funding for repairs and Eddie Gooch spearheaded the pool improvements and repairs along with several city employees.

Per a request from citizens, Glover also pointed out that microphones and speakers have been added to the council chambers, and the lease has been signed between Green on the Greens and the city for lease of restaurant space at the golf course. The mayor also told the council that Michael Woodring has asked for permission to make improvements to Legion Field so it is in playable condition.

Glover then moved to an-

other matter of concern for the city—tree limbs interfering with electrical service. The mayor told the council that in just the few weeks he has held the mayoral seat there have been three power outages in the city. "The best money we can spend in the electrical department is to trim our rights of way." Glover provided a quote of \$336,999 for the work city-wide to trim trees from power lines, but told the council that the city cannot afford to have the work done all at once. The contractor from who he received a quote has agreed to work on a week by week basis and be paid by the hour. He asked the council to allow the city to move ahead with the project; however, due to state spending guidelines, the project may have to be bid.

During the public appeals portion of the meeting, Steve Gooslin, who addressed the council several weeks ago, asked for an update on his request for a crosswalk near his business. Glover responded that a request has been sent to the state, but the city has not received a response. Gosslin also asked who is responsible financially for the condemned properties cited by the city. Attorney Bobby Murray provided Gooslin with information regarding the process that is followed by the city.

Willie Torrain expressed concern about a ditch that overflows when it rains with

the Mayor noting that he believes that is a state issue but the city will make a request to the state highway department for the issue to be addressed. Torrain also raised questions about the sewage odor in the area where he lives. Glover said he has a meeting scheduled with Judge/Executive Steve Henry and will try to get information on some of the issues and concerns of the citizens of Providence.

Following the public appeals, the council went into a working session to further discuss the FY 2026 budget. During the first reading of the budget, councilmember Jimmy Crowell asked the council to consider giving a three percent salary increase to eligible fulltime employees. On Monday night, Clerk Tiffany Conrad said she has spoken with department heads and reworked the budget to make the raise possible.

Crowell had also asked about small equipment purchases and a chipper truck purchase. Glover said Monday night that the county has a chipper truck the city is allowed to use, and he called on department heads to briefly discuss the need for small equipment. Terry Rice, who oversees the public works department, responded that in the last five months the city has spent about \$20,000 on repairs to mowers and other equipment and they have seven operable weed eaters

but not enough manpower to use all seven of the devices plus the mowers.

Councilman Jeff Marshall asked about fire hydrant replacement. According to Rice 15 hydrants will be replaced during the sewer and water line work. The council briefly discussed replacing other hydrants a few at a time annually. In the interim Jamie Harkins will work with Green River Area Development District in an effort to secure grants and will also work with Delta Regional Authority on funding.

James "Chip" Palmer said the budget reflects that the golf course/recreation area will fund itself except for the annual donation from tourism.

With no further comments or questions on the budget, the council moved to approve second reading of the city's \$11,890,236 FY2026 budget. That budget includes \$3,666,490 in special revenue; \$5,113,337 in the utility fund; \$2,977,121 in the general fund and \$133,288 for the Providence golf and recreation fund. The budget does include a three percent pay raise for eligible fulltime employees. Copies of the budget are available at the city office.

With no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m. The next meeting of the council is scheduled for July 7, at 6:00 p.m.