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Beaver BUZZ

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Strategic Planning Workshops

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Strategic Planning Workshops
- 2 February Council Minutes
- 3 Water System Updates
- 4 Gaylord Volunteer Fire Department Pancake Feed

Have you heard about the Strategic Planning Meetings? These meetings began in January 2018 and are hosted by the Smith County Community Foundation and Dane G. Hansen Foundation. The facilitator for these workshops is Betty Johnson, a Smith County native. The first meeting in January had over 50 people from the county attending. Dane G. Hansen Foundation is giving Smith County an additional \$100,000 each year over a four year period for grants. These workshops are to help residents within the county to ban together to work on specific projects this money can be applied to. During the first meeting all attendees were spilt into groups of eight and began listing strengths, weaknesses, dangers, and opportunities we each felt about our county. These lists were then compiled into like groupings by Mrs. Johnson and sent back to all who attended. The goal from this first workshop was to bring ideas to attention which need to be worked on to benefit residents within our county. The second meeting was in late February attendees focused on these six projects; Wellness Center, Swimming Pool in Smith Center, Non-Profit Day Care, Recycling, Sidewalks for safe routes, abandon/vacated buildings. Each group then was given a packet of worksheets to then begin breaking down each idea into how to begin the process of working on a project we could then seek grant funding for to complete. Each project in itself is very exciting when you begin discussing ideas surrounding it, but ultimately the project that I chose to work on is the abandon/vacated building. With two residents from Gaylord in this group, the building we chose to focus on is the former Gaylord Grade School. Research by group members will be completed within the next 30 days to have inspections completed to determine the condition of the buildings and what costs will be associated with asbestos removal before any renovations or changes would be made to the building. Once this information is found then the next phase of planning and ideas can begin once the state of the building and property is determined. Many exciting ideas of possibilities to do with the former school included: restoring the gym for a community wellness center, using the kitchen as a commercial kitchen facility available to rent for people to use for catering or their own personal canning, or host cooking classes or community meals, with additional space

(continued from page 1)

City offices including the library could be moved into one building, community activities could utilize the auditorium facilities, spaces could be rented for small businesses, with the large lot a huge community garden could be maintained and process on site to be shared with residents, the ideas are endless.

If you would like to join in this project, our group plans on meeting at the Community Center in Gaylord at 7 p.m. the night of Thursday March 29th. We welcome any and all who would like to be a part of making Gaylord Great Again!

If your interested in participating in any of the other groups or more questions concerning this project please contact the City Office.



Spring Cleaning/City-Wide Garage Sales

It's that time of year again when many of us take on the daunting task of spring cleaning our homes. Once we have completed our purging of no longer needed items we are faced with the next challenge of what to do with all this stuff. One is faced with the decisions of having a garage sale and trying to sell your items or simply packing it up and dropping it off if the hardly used shop. Last year the city hosted city-wide garage sales and the city would do this again in conjunction when Smith Center is having their city-wide garage sales to have a better opportunity for more potential buyers. Please let the City Office know by March 30th if you would be interested in having a garage sale.

Minutes from the February City Council Meeting

City of Gaylord - Minutes of February 14th, 2018 Regular Meeting

The Gaylord City Council met in regular session in the Community Center at 7:00 p.m., February 14th, 2018.

Present Members: Barb Lehmann, Wendell Felsburg, Jim Muck, Gene Casteel, and Wil Neussendorfer

Absent Members: Treasurer Crystal Ifland

Presiding: Mayor David Tucker

Present also: City Clerk Aubrey Neussendorfer, and Utility Superintendent Ed Burt

Mayor Tucker called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Citizen's Report: no reports

The minutes of the January 10th Regular Meeting was read. Council Member Wendell Felsburg entered the meeting while minutes were read. Wil made the motion to approve the minutes as read. Barb seconded, motion carried.

Mayor Tucker called for the reading of the bills. After discussion, Barb made a motion, seconded by Jim, to approve payment of bills, including any routine bills outstanding. Motion carried. Bills paid out \$10,178.58.

Mayor Tucker asked for a report of utility arrears: Richard Bose, Kirwin Irrigation, Darin Godsey with three accounts, Ron Peterson, Denny Hanks, and Jeremy Burnett. No accounts were disconnected.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Aubrey reported she obtained an updated from our attorney concerning the easement for the Holmes Addition Drainage Project. He was still waiting on information from the courthouse and from Collier Abstract. He anticipated to have information towards the end of the week and would let us know when progress was being made. He also stated he has spoken with the attorney advising the party who is concerned about this project and at this time they are willing to work with the city moving forward with this project.
- Ed reported the Bulk Fill Water Station is still on occasion overflowing customers at around 30%. This overflowing is not a consistent error and he will continue to contact the company to work out the issues. Aubrey reported the printer has arrived and is only for printing receipts from when cards are charged in the office and not for when water is purchased at the well house. Currently this printer is not working and believes since hand written receipts currently are being offered with no problems we can return this printer and save \$1900.00. Council agreed and advised to return the printer.
- Wil made the motion to approve the revised Utility Superintendent Job Description as presented. Barb seconded, motion carried.
- Ed reported all Fire Hydrants in town were flushed in December. All were flushed for until water ran clear. Ed reported five inch numbers for the hydrants were agreed upon and will be ordered. Council agreed red paint for the hydrants and a bright reflective yellow would be best for the numbers. Paint will be ordered closer to the time frame the actual painting will occur.
- The current water tower leak was discussed. Council agreed to continue to keep the road closed until the water tower has been fixed. Ed reported some damages have been done by the falling ice chunks and enforced barriers are in place to prevent further damage as needed.
- Aubrey on her research for charges for emergency leaks other towns have a wide range of \$10.00 to \$100.00 for each time the city turns water on or off when residents are fixing leaks. After discussion council decided to leave the policy to only charge for turning water back on after a leak if its during afterhours of 5 p.m. on **regular work days or on weekends or holidays**.
- Aubrey reported she will begin working on the Asset Management & Capital Improvement Worksheets once the inventory is completed. Ed reported the inventory he had started in the past and would need to finish.
- Barb made the motion to apply for \$1700.00 grant for playground equipment for the city park from the Smith County Community Foundation. Any additional fund would be matched by the city and labor and tools would be volunteered as part of this project. Jim seconded, motion carried. Council agreed to make sure the equipment had a warranty before one is chosen for this project.
- Council discussed millings would still be obtained to place in front of the Community Center to allow for a cleaner approach and entry into our building. Council also hoped this will cut down on the amounts of dirt and mud tracked into the building.
- Aubrey reported all W-2's had been prepared and mailed.
- Council was informed they had won the bid for the fuel barrel and pump from the Smith County Landfill for \$250.00.
- Aubrey reported Wil and she attended the first Strategic Planning Meeting in Smith Center in January and the next meeting will be February 21st at 7 p.m. at the VFW in Smith Center. She had provided handouts to all council concerning the areas and topics resident felt needed attention from this meeting.

Mayor called the meeting to recess at 8:09 p.m. Mayor Tucker called the meeting back to order at 8:18 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Aubrey had prepared handouts for the 2017 fund totals for council to review. After reviewing Aubrey reported with these figures she would begin perform a water and sewer rate study to determine if we are currently charging enough to maintain our current funds and to prepare for future expenses. One area is the sewer fund which in the past few years has consistently had more expenses than revenue and no major expenses have occurred in these years. Rates may need to be adjusted in the future.

- Questions concerning unsafe or dangerous properties and if an event such as a fire would occur what is the policy council would wish for the acting incident commander to follow. Council agreed to follow the advice given by the KLM that these would be a case by case incident and the acting incident commander would determine the property to be unsafe at the time of the event.
- Aubrey reported she had found possible funding to help with being able to enforce our ordinances in town. The current Fire Protection and Safety Grants offered through FEMA which are available from February to the middle of March one of the criteria to apply for funding is to be able to create, publish and enforce fire codes within municipalities. Council would like to spend a year researching this option and if things still are available and look promising to apply for these funds next year.
- Aubrey reported 4th quarter interest on the CD's for the city was \$93.34.
- Aubrey reported the annual water usage report is due March 1st and will begin to work on this report.
- Water leaks procedure was discussed by council. In the future council agreed for Utility Superintendent to provide the City Clerk with a listing of homes or a map of homes which will be turned off from water services during the event of a water leak repair. They way efforts can be made to all residents who will be affected by their water services temporarily unavailable during this time.
- Aubrey reported she had recently been made aware of the current policy for actions taken by council members outside of meetings. Council members can only make decisions as a group in open meetings and can no longer act as individuals outside of the meeting unless given the authority from a motion is made by the council within a meeting.
- Aubrey reported a letter was sent by KDHE concerning our arsenic testing has now consistently been lower than the maximum levels and after this year's requirements are met the schedule will become testing every three years for arsenic.

REPORTS:

STREETS: Wendell asked Ed to begin cleaning out ditches and culverts with leaves and dirt before the spring rains begin.

SEWER/TRASH: Gene reported he had contacted Ed Hickman with Hickman Environmental to come and give an estimate of options for replacing our current lift station. At this time he thought a complete new lift station would cost around \$50,000, a refurbished one around \$25,000. He also mentioned he had a program in which a larger city replaces their lift station every so many years and he could take one of these lift stations, check it for issues and set this new lift station in place in a smaller community such as ours for \$7,500. Gene stated he also offers a service contract for \$500 annually to come on site to review the lift station and make any minor repairs at this time. Any major repairs would be an additional cost. Barb made the motion to apply for a grant through the Smith County Community Foundation for a lift station using the program of a larger city giving to a smaller city for \$7,500 through Hickman Environmental. Wil seconded, motion carried.

WATER: Jim had no report as all known issues had been discussed.

FIRE: Wil reported the department had been on one run to a stubble fire in the past month. The training hosted by our department put on by the KS Forestry Service was well attended with over 30 members there. Wil reported the fire department would like to take the shared fuel barrel purchased from the Smith County Landfill and now trade this in at Pro-Ag Marketing for a new 500 gallon barrel. For this trade it would cost the city an additional \$175.00. Gene made the motion to allow the fire department to trade the 1,000 gallon fuel barrel for the 500 gallon fuel barrel from Pro-Ag with the city cost share of \$175.00 additional dollars. Barb seconded, motion carried. Council agreed the elevated 100 gallon tank they currently are using they would place on Nex-tech one the new tank is on-site and usable. After discussion, Gene made the motion to allow a shared laptop computer be purchased between the Fire Department and the City for the treasurer to use for financial reports and grants. The cost would be split 50-50 between the two entities. Jim seconded, motion carried.

HOUSING/COMMUNITY CENTER: Barb reported 8 units are rented at the Housing Authority.

PARKS: no report

UTILITY SUPERINTENDENT: Ed reported will be attending a Dig Safe Meeting in Phillipsburg on Wed. February 28th. He had priced options for a sonic start on the lift station and they run around \$1,000 per motor. Ed reports he continues to work on inventory and expects to be done by the end of the week. He informed council he will be out of town all day Saturday February 17th and is planning vacation in May of this year.

TREASRUER: no report

CITY CLERK: no report

Mayor Tucker stated the next council meeting will be March 14th, 2018 at 7 p.m.

With no further business before the council, a motion was made by Wil and seconded by Barb to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting so adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

(City Clerk)

Approved:

(Mayor) (Date)

Disclaimer: These minutes are unofficial and not official until the Gaylord City Council approves them and are signed by the Mayor.

Burning Ban has been placed

As of Monday, February 26th, 2018 the Smith County Commissioners have placed Smith County, Kansas in a burning ban. In accordance with Ordinance 360, this includes within the city limits of Gaylord, Kansas.



News from Gaylord Parkview Manor

The Manor has 8 apartments rented at this time, with several more prospects on the waiting list. Again, if anyone has used furniture that is no longer needed, some residents could always use extra dressers, end tables, beds and mattresses, etc. Call Sue Kirchhoff 785-697-2690 at the Manor if you have anything to donate.

Water Tower Repairs Update

March has finally arrived and it appears we can see the finish line on the horizon to our water tower project. Crews from Maguire Iron are scheduled to be here this month to begin working on the water tower. Once the weather warms up and continuous freezing temps are no longer threatening throughout the days, crews will arrive and begin the process of preparing the inside and outside surfaces for new epoxy coatings, and other minor safety repairs/upgrades will be completed to the tower components. Council has been working on this project since an inspection completed in the fall of 2014. Securing enough funding for this project was the biggest obstacle and this was finally achieved with the services provided from the Midwest Assistance Program and they were able to point us towards the direction of issuing general obligation bonds for this project. Enough funds were also secured in case the city will need to replace the entire bottom portion of the bowl of the water tower as the last two leaks we have had develop have been in this area of the water tower. Council hope this second leak can just be repaired and with the proper inside and outside coatings restored this major fix will not need to be performed. Exact dates have not been given yet from the company but as soon as council is informed information will be passed along to all residents. Council does not anticipate any issues with water services during this time, but if anything changes all efforts will be made to let all residents know as soon as possible. Council would like to thank all residents for their patience and understanding with this project.

Bulk Fill Water Station – Printer Update

The new Bulk Fill Water Station has now been up and running for just over two full months now. As you can see the difference in numbers is not quite as drastic as it was last month, but still a significance difference between the old system and the new system.

2017 Bulk Fill Water Station Data ----- 2018 SmartVend SmartCard System

Gallons Sold Per Month = 55,657

Gallons Metered/Month = 126,250

Total Monthly Revenue = \$160.82
(Average)

Total Revenue Collected = \$378.75
(Actual Meter Reading)

Gallons Avg. Sold Per Week = 12844
Avg. Weekly Rev = \$37.13

Gallons Avg. Per Week = 31,563
Avg. Weekly Rev. = \$94.69

Gallons Avg. Sold Per Day = 1830
Avg. Daily Rev. = \$5.29

Gallons Avg. Per Day = 4209
Avg. Daily Rev. = \$12.63

Council would like to apologize as we misunderstood the printer component of this system. The only part of the system which would be capable of producing receipts would be when cards are charged at the City Office. Council was under the impression the receipt printer would generate receipts once water is purchased at the fill station but this is not the case. At this time hand written receipts can be provided at the City Office when credit is purchased on your cards and council believes at this time the additional costs for the printer would not be feasible.

Clues to spotting fakes

Documents can easily be faked and will appear to look like the real thing, but here are a few red flags which indicate this document is a fake;

- Generic rather than personal greeting
- Names of organizations that don not exist
- Poor quality presentation
- Poor grammar and spelling
- Overly official or forced language

Scammers can easily fake an official-looking email, by using the same logo and design as the real company. Often your guard is down when you receive and email from a company you have dealt with before. If you are not expecting and email, always be alert to a fake before clicking on any links or opening any attachments.

Scams target everyone and are successful because they look like the real thing and catch people off guard when you are not expecting it. Scammer are getting smarter all the time and take advantage of new technology, new products or services and major events to create believable stories that will convince you to give them your money or personal information. Protect yourself but knowing scams do exist, know who you are dealing with, do not respond to phone call are your computer asking for remote access, keep your personal details secure, keep your mobile devices and computers secure and be wary of unusual payment requests.

Fire Department Annual Pancake Feed

The Gaylord Volunteer Fire Department will host their annual Pancake Feed on Saturday March 24th, 2018. Serving will begin at approximately 5 p.m. The department will have a free will offering for your meals, and have items to raffle off. This year's raffle will include a Handmade Wooden Fire Truck by local resident Gerald Caspers and a TriStar Raptor Semi-Automatic 12 Gauge Shotgun. Tickets for the Wooden Fire Truck are \$1.00 each and for the shotgun of \$10.00 per ticket or 3 tickets for \$20.00. You may contact any fire department member to purchase tickets or stop by the City Office. Members of our Fire Department spend many hours each year volunteering their time and equipment to provide this service to our community. Their annual pancake feed is currently the only fundraising activity the department hosts and the funds raised during this event helps the department purchase new equipment or make upgrades to existing equipment to better provide fire protection to our area, and to purchase fire personal protection equipment to keep members safe while on duty. Tours will also be given of the new fire station throughout the evening of the pancake feed and this will give all area residents a chance to see what the fire department members have been hard at work completing!



Community Calendar

We would like to add a calendar to this newsletter each month containing local birthdays and anniversaries for area residents and their families. We would also like to include, upcoming local events. In memoriam of loved ones may also be included. Please submit your information to Abby at the City Office at any time, but no later than the third Friday of each month, so this information can be placed in the following month's newsletter. You may submit your information by calling the City Office at 697-2697, mail to: City of Gaylord, PO Box 548, Gaylord, KS 67638, drop in the box located in the City Office, or e-mail to cityofgaylord@gmail.com.

★ HAPPY ★
BIRTHDAY!



City Council

The Gaylord City Council meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. in the Gaylord Community Center. The public is *always* invited and can attend the entire meeting, except during Executive Session. If you wish to discuss a particular concern, please let our City Clerk, Abby Neussendorfer; know by the first Friday of the month, so she can add your name to the monthly meeting agenda. We WELCOME the public, and wish we had more citizens attend our meetings. The City Council does their best to address the issues of our citizens, and tries to provide our citizens with a healthy, safe environment with the funds available. Please join in and help our decisions. Please do your part to maintain the quality of our community.

Contact Information

Please make sure to keep your contact information current with the City Office, as when events occur such as Boil Advisories you can be informed as soon as possible. By which ever means you prefer to be contacted: phone, text message, e-mail or via Facebook, please keep this information current with the City Office.

Gaylord Library

Hurry in and check out a large stack of books to read during these cold winter days! Stop in and see the latest additions. We also have a great traveling book selection. Gaylord Library Hours are 9am to 11am on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

City of Gaylord

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WATER BILL IS ENCLOSED IN THIS NEWSLETTER!

Return Service Requested