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# Beaver BUZZ

November 1st, 2016  
Volume 1 Issue 9

City of Gaylord, Kansas, 509 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Gaylord, KS 67638  
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## Pumpkins, Pumpkins, Pumpkins

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Fall is a favorite time of year for many of us. Leaves are changing colors and falling from the trees. The weather is enjoyable, and the air has its own unique smell. Farmers are bustling in the fields harvesting their crops, and many of us who have gardens are busy as well canning away our own harvests. This is also the time of year the apples and squash, especially pumpkins are abundant, and are a favorite for dishes in the upcoming holidays. Pumpkin is very universal, and can be used to make a variety of goodies this time of year. Pies, cookies, bread, soups, and even just roasted plain. The aromas coming from the oven when pumpkins are baking are very heavenly as well!

Pumpkins originated in Central America and are members of the squash family. Most people believe pumpkins are a vegetable, but really pumpkins are considered a fruit. They are grown in every continent except for Antarctica. The largest pumpkin ever grown on record came in at 2,323.7 pounds. The largest pumpkin pie weighed 3,699 pounds, and was 20 feet in diameter. It used 80 pounds of cooked pumpkin, 36 pounds of sugar, 12 dozen eggs and took 6 hours to bake. The very first pumpkin pies were made by hollowing out the pumpkin and filling the shell with milk, honey and spices, then baking it. According to the American Pie Council (wonders how one can become a member?), pumpkin is America's second choice of favorite kind of pie: 19% prefer Apple as their favorite with pumpkin following at 13%. Today pumpkins can even be found made into candies, beers, even coffee.

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*Pumpkin Pie is Americans second choice, when compared to Apple for their favorite pie.*

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In the past, pumpkins were used as a remedy for snake bites and were recommended as a cure for freckles. Today evidence has shown, pumpkins seeds help avoid prostate cancer in men. Also pumpkin flour can be used in place of wheat flour. It has many health and medicinal benefits. Pumpkins are gluten free, and contain a good source of potassium and Vitamin A. When making your own pumpkin puree, you may notice the color is lighter than what you can buy in stores. This is because manufacturers use tan colored pumpkins to make the puree they sell in stores for its darker color. The pumpkin vines, seeds, and blossoms are also edible and contain many nutrients as well.

Morton, Illinois is considered the pumpkin capital of the world. This is the home of the Libby corporation's pumpkins industry. Over 80% of the pumpkin supply in the United States alone is available in the month of October. October is considered the month of the pumpkin. There is over 45 different varieties of pumpkins grown today. The United States produces more than one billion pounds of pumpkins each year.

So this holiday season enjoy your pumpkins!

## Our New Telemetry System

As part of the loan the City of Gaylord is applying for with Communities Unlimited, Inc., along with re-coating and repairs/updates to our water tower, an updated telemetry system was part of the upcoming water project members of council agreed upon. Well our telemetry system ended up being replaced earlier than expected. In late July of this year, a lightning strike damaged our telemetry system and rendered it non-operational. Our insurance company was contacted, a claim was submitted, and an investigation took place. The system council had previously researched and agreed to purchase was a system which included a dialer component, and wireless communication between water tower, wells, and control panel at the city office. During the insurance investigation, it was determined, 100% replacement cost coverage, would only be issued for a system similar to our old or damaged system and not fully cover the replacement cost of this upgraded system with the dialer component. Council discussed all options and agreed the benefits of the dialer component would prove to be irreplaceable and even in just one situation could potentially save the city the cost of system. The difference in cost between the upgraded system with the dialer and the similar system insurance would pay for is \$7,425.00. Also, a variable frequency drive (VFD) was going to be installed on Well #6 (the well in which the meter maid is located). A VFD allows for a well to override the system and keep the water system at a constant pressure. For example it will tell the motor of the well to speed up when water within the system is being used and for the motor to slow down when little to no water is being pulled from the system. This VFD already has been utilized, as when the water tower developed a leak and had to be taken offline, the new VFD was able to maintain the water system without having to manually turn the well on and off 24 hours a day. Also since the telemetry system has been installed the dialer, has already proven itself as being irreplaceable, as it has alerted us to things which were able to be taken care of before boil advisories were needing to be issued.

New components including electronic panels and antennas have been installed on the water tower, both wells, and at the community center.

## Jack-o-Lantern Contest

The City Council Members would like to see your decorated or carved pumpkins! The City of Gaylord will provide the pumpkins and will be available in the City Office starting October 1<sup>st</sup>. Please submit your photos on our Facebook page (City of Gaylord, Kansas) or email to [cityofgaylord@gmail.com](mailto:cityofgaylord@gmail.com) or drop a picture by the City Office by 5 p.m. Monday October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Prizes will be given to the top three pumpkins. Winners will be chosen the night of our Council Meeting on Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact the City Office at 785-697-2697. We look forward to seeing your creations!

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*Wishing everyone a  
safe and bountiful  
Thanksgiving Holiday!*

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## Minutes from the October City Council Meeting

### City of Gaylord - Minutes of October 12th, 2016 Regular Meeting

The Gaylord City Council met in regular session in the Community Center at 7:00 p.m., October 12th, 2016.

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

Absent Members: none

Presiding: Mayor David Tucker

Present also: City Clerk Aubrey Neussendorfer, Treasurer Crystal Ifland, and City Man Ed Burt

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

Citizen's Report: none

The minutes of the September 14th Regular meeting 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. Barb made a motion, seconded by Gene, to approve payment of bills, including any routine bills outstanding. Motion carried. Bills paid out \$6,243.16.

Mayor Tucker asked for a report of utility arrears: Richard Bose, Darin Godsey with three accounts, Gaylord Service, Dyania Palm, and Greg Jones. Mayor Tucker issued notices of disconnect on said accounts on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Four accounts were paid by the disconnect date and one was paid on a pre-arranged date of September 27<sup>th</sup>. No accounts were disconnected.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- Aubrey updated council on the Loan Application with Communities Unlimited, Inc. With the recent leak in the water tower, Aubrey recommend to council to ask for the full \$150,000 for the loan at this time to cover additional expenses the city may have with fixing this leak. After discussion, Barb made the motion to increase the loan amount to \$150,000. Any extra funds will be paid back as a lump sum payment if not used to fix the water tower. Wil seconded, motion carried.
- Council discussed the recent water leak discovered on October 9<sup>th</sup> in the bottom of the bowl of the water tower. Maguire Iron was contacted on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> and was onsite later that same day. Mr. Frankforter would have crews in Kansas with 1-2 weeks and would have them scheduled to be here during this time to fix the leak. A contract was reviewed from Maguire Iron for \$1700.00 for cleaning, inspecting, and disinfecting the bowl. At a rate of \$475.00 per hour with a three hour minimum to weld the leak in the reservoir. After discussion Jim made the motion to sign the contract for Maguire Iron to perform the proposed leak to the water tower as the contract states. Gene seconded, motion carried.
- Ed updated council on the new Telemetry system which Sargent Drilling has recently installed. Things are running as smoothly as possible with the new system and a few minor adjustments have been made since the installation.
- The Arsenic System is still off line as after Tracy Kingsbury was here to install the seals, he determined the specialized tools are needed. Tracy also recommend that three shut-offs be installed on the system in order to allow for future maintenance/repairs can be done without having to put the system into a backflush cycle. After Tracy's visit, Chris Miller was contacted about the tools and they will get back to us with when the parts will be ready for installation.
- The City Burn Site road has had rock hauled to it to fill the large hole. More rock is still needed to be placed on the entire road and will be done as time allows.
- The Community Clean-up Grant was discussed. With the surveys the city has returned it appears there is enough interest for the City to pursue this grant. With most of the volunteer labor and equipment coming from residents who are heavily involved with farming this project would be best if we waited until spring. Waiting until spring will give everyone plenty of time to prepare and plan for this event.
- Aubrey reported she is still waiting to hear from Center Glass as to the price for the Handicap Assessable door. Numerous calls have been made with no follow-up from Center Glass concerning this project.
- Ed reported the old city trash truck's weight is 8,840 pounds. After discussion council agreed for the minimum asking price for the truck should be \$300.00 and the truck will be placed on NetBidz's October online auction.
- Aubrey reported about half of the pumpkins have been picked up for the contest, but no pictures have been received yet. Upcoming events such as Santa Claus were discussed and council agreed to table this matter until the November meeting.
- The two benches are ready for delivery the city is getting through the Waste Tire Grant Program offered through the State of Kansas.
- Ed and Gene reported they met with Mr. Giese concerning his rock pit. Robert has offered full access to all areas within his pit for the city to obtain rock. Currently Ed has been hauling numerous loads from his pit to town and at this point has many of the streets in town are covered with new rock. He plans to have all the areas which were very muddy this spring built up enough before winter arrives to prevent a repeat this next spring.
- Aubrey reported the Builder's Rick Policy needs to be renewed on the Fire Station. Council wanted a second opinion on this before they agreed to renew this policy. Aubrey will get back to members of council for a decision to be made before coverage on the building would lapse.

## NEW BUSINESS:

- Aubrey reported the printer in the office getting to the point it will need to be replaced in the near future, but would like approval to order a new one for less than \$200.00 whenever the need arises. Wendell made the motion to purchase a new printer for the City Office. Barb seconded, motion carried.
- A letter was read from resident Terry Manning concerning interest in the old Farmer's Bank Building the City owns. Council at this time would like to research the process of selling property and what this all entails.
- Aubrey asked council if they wanted to have letters sent to all residents concerning the current status of the water system and what the plans are to correct them. Council agreed this was a good idea.
- Mayor Tucker asked if the 4020 is still having idling issues. Ed reported yes. Wil will check into the price on a pump and obtain an estimate of labor costs to have it fixed before winter.
- Council asked for a Thank You note to be sent to the Solomon Valley Beavers 4-H Club for all the painting and work they recently did to the city park.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to recess at 8:31 p.m. and the meeting was called back to regular session at 8:40 p.m.

## REPORTS:

**STREETS:** Drainage around the new Fire Station was discussed and it was agreed to allow the water to drain to the west the entire length of the fire station and then south to Main Street.

**SEWER/TRASH:** Gene reported the copper sulfate is soaking and are planning to begin treating the sewers in early November. Gene reported he will going to Salina the next week and would like to have copies made of the original maps to have extra copies on hand from Copy Co. Gene believed it would cost between \$80-90 for these maps. Council had no objections on this matter.

Gene and Ed would like to work on getting the Gaylord limestone rock in the roadside park back in place. Arrangements were made with Wil for two Saturdays in October to get this work done.

Ed reported the Hydrant on 8<sup>th</sup> & Parker had water within it. A cordless drill pump had been obtained and he will drain the water and see if it refills. If it does refill, the hydrant will need to be insulated before winter arrives. Council asked to have Kingsbury look over this hydrant when he is in town working on the arsenic system.

Wil made the motion to purchase 50 of the meter foam pads at \$12.50 each. Barb seconded, motion carried.

Ed reported the new trash truck is working great and with the increase in capacity he only anticipates having to go to the landfill every three to four weeks.

**WATER:** Ed reported with the water tower currently offline the chlorine levels are slightly higher than normal. He has the chlorine turned down and low as possible and is testing numerous times daily to monitor. Also he let council know that with the VFD running the well meter reading on well #6 is going to be way off as at time there is simply not enough volume of water moving through the meter to ensure a correct reading is obtained. After verify this with KRWA this is a common issue when a well is running on a VFD. Usage will just have to be estimate during this time for our yearly report.

**FIRE:** Wil reported no runs occurred in the past month.

**HOUSING/COMMUNITY CENTER:** 5 units are rented. Barb reported no issues have been brought to her attention with the Community Center and all appears to be clean. Barb reported she is still planning on purchasing a Nativity Scene for the Community Center as the one council choose last year ended up being sold out.

**PARKS:** Crystal reported to council the 4-H kids painted the benches, tables and some of the playground equipment on a recent work day in the City Park. They also have planted some flowers around the archway. Crystal asked council if they had any objections if they would purchase new swings. Council had no objections.

**CITY MAN:** no report.

**TREASRUER:** no report.

**CITY CLERK:** Aubrey asked council if they had any objections to her taking vacation from Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> through Nov 26<sup>th</sup>. This would mean moving the November disconnection date from the Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> to Monday the 28<sup>th</sup>. Council had no objections on this matter.

Mayor Tucker stated the next council meeting will be November 9th, 2016 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.

## Thanksgiving Facts

- In 1953, Swanson overestimated the number of frozen turkeys that it would sell on Thanksgiving Day by 26 tons. The company then decided to slice up the extra turkey and repackage it, creating the first ever TV dinner.
- Black Friday is the busiest day for not only retail stores, but Roto-Rooter, a major plumbing service. They are called in to clean-up “overwhelmed” sewer systems.
- The night before Thanksgiving is the biggest drinking night of the year, even bigger than St. Patrick’s Day or New Year’s Eve.
- Pilgrims did not wear buckled hats or dress only in black and white. Buckles did not come into fashion until later in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and Pilgrims usually saved their formal black and whites colors for Sunday.
- The average American will consume about 4,500 calories on Thanksgiving Day, or about 3,000 for the meal and an additional 1,500 for snacking.
- The Butterball Turkey hotline answers over 100,000 questions every November and December.
- The Song “Jingle Bells” was originally written as a Thanksgiving song.
- President Jefferson call a federal Thanksgiving proclamation “the most ridiculous idea ever conceived.”
- Held every year on the island of Alcatraz since 1975, “Unthanksgiving Day” commemorates the survival of Native Americans following the arrival and settlement of Europeans in the Americas.
- The turkeys typically depicted in Thanksgiving pictures are not the same as the domestic turkeys most people eat at Thanksgiving. Domestic turkeys usually weigh twice as much and are too large to fly.
- The average long-distance Thanksgiving trip is 214 miles, compared with 274 miles over the Christmas and New Year’s holiday.
- Now a Thanksgiving dinner staple, cranberries were actually used by Native Americans to treat arrow wounds and dye clothes.
- Americans eat roughly 535 million pounds of turkey on Thanksgiving.
- Sarah Josepha Hale (1788-1879), who tirelessly worked to establish Thanksgiving as a national holiday also was the first person to advocate women as teachers in public schools, the first to advocate day nurseries to assist working mothers, and the first to propose public playgrounds. She was also the author of two dozen books and hundreds of poems, including “Mary Had a Little Lamb.”
- The first Thanksgiving football game was held in 1876.
- Baby turkeys are called poults. One male turkeys gobble and, therefore, are called gobblers.
- Thanksgiving is the busiest travel day of the year.
- The Friday after Thanksgiving is called Black Friday largely because stores hope the busy shopping day will take them out of the red and into positive profits for the year. Black Friday has been a tradition since the 1930’s.
- Thanksgiving is often considered the site of the first cultural war because it contains both a narrative of the birth of freedom and democracy as well as an account of racism, mistreatment of Native Americans and a conflict.

## Thankful Turkeys

Enclosed in the newsletter are instructions for an activity for your kids to create a “Thankful Turkeys”. We would really like for your kids to complete their turkeys and bring them to display within the Community Center for our area residents to read and enjoy! If you do not have the construction paper, or foam circles, stop by the City office and pick up your packets for this project.



## Traditions of Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is normally a time when families come together to enjoy a feast of plentiful goodies including a turkey, leaving the dinner table and having to unbutton your pants followed by an afternoon of sleeping off a food coma and watching your favorite team play football. Many Turkey Day customs have deep roots in American history.

### First Feast

Many of us learned in school, Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth Rock in 1621, starving and are taught by locals to farm and survive, and after the first harvest, everyone enjoys a gratitude-filled meal to celebrate. But settlers may have celebrated the first Thanksgiving feast was celebrated in 1598 by Spanish explorer Juan de Onate. After he and 500 fellow travelers gulped down water from the Rio Grande and enjoyed a Thanksgiving feast of fish and wild game to celebrate. America's first Thanksgiving feast may have even older roots still: Spanish admiral Pedro Menendes de Aviles is said to have celebrated the first Thanksgiving feast with 500 soldiers and hundreds of the local Timucuan Indians in the 1565 in St. Augustine, Fla.

### Turkey pardon

Every year, the president frees one lucky turkey while millions of friends are consigned to the dinner table. Though turkey farmers have been sending Presidents the choicest birds since the 1800s, President John F. Kennedy was the first one on record to spare a turkey. In 1963, he sent back a turkey mailed by the National Turkey Federation, saying, "We'll just let this one grow." President Nixon sent turkeys to a Washington, D.C., petting farm but didn't officially pardon them, according to the White House Blog. President George H.W. Bush gave the first official pardon to a turkey in 1989. The survivor lived out its days at a Virginia petting zoo called Frying Pan Park.

### Official holiday

While Thanksgiving festivals were informally celebrated throughout the 1600's, they didn't become an annual event until the 1700's, when each state set aside a different day for the holiday. By 1775, George Washington, then commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, declared the first national celebration of Thanksgiving, and he issued a Thanksgiving Day proclamation in 1789. But the holiday didn't get a fixed date until 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln set aside the last Thursday in November for the day of thanks.

### Turkey and seafood?

Turkey Day should probably be called Surf'n Turf Day if the historical celebration is any guide. Turkey may have been present of the very first Thanksgiving but it was not the centerpiece of the meal. This honor would have gone to deer meat brought by the Wampanoag Indians.

## Winterizing Your Home

With winter approaching there are a few things a person can do in order to ensure their home is ready for the cold days ahead.

- Seal off drafty windows and patios doors with clear plastic or if needed replace your windows with energy efficient ones.
- If your furnace is more than 10 years old, there's a good chance that it wastes a lot of fuel. Consider upgrading to a newer one.
- Insulate the hot water lines around your hot water heater and turn down the temperature of the water heater to warm setting (120 degrees F)
- Wrap any hot water pipes that run through your house in unheated areas of your house.
- Keep all vents and baseboards heaters clean and free of lent.
- Install foam insulators behind the face plates of light switches and electrical outlets.
- Consider hanging thermal curtains to help prevent drafts.
- Install a dryer vent seal to prevent cold air from traveling back into your home.
- Check windows for leaks. Windows with wooden frames often warp and become inefficient. Caulk both sides of the trim around your windows. This is an area where a lot of air can get in.
- Remove any window-unit air conditioners.
- Try to use the clothes dryer for consecutive loads of laundry. This conserves the energy that would need to heat up the dryer several times.
- Replace the caulking around showers and bathtubs.
- If your home has a sliding glass door, check the seal along the bottom to make sure it's not leaking.
- Use the oven for baking during the colder hours of the day to help heat your home.
- Dress appropriately when indoors so you are not tempted to turn the thermostat up.
- Wear socks and slippers when indoors, as when your feet are war, you will feel warmer and keep the thermostat lower.
- Close off rooms that aren't used and shut the vents.




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*Please remember to have all trash in secure boxes or bags placed out for pick-up on Tuesday mornings. Any loose trash in containers will not be picked up and left in the container.*

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## 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 memorandum 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](mailto:cityofgaylord@gmail.com).

## 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

Fall is in the air! Come check out the latest books added to our selection at the Library, as there is nothing better than curling up with a good book on these cooler fall days. 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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- By postal mail
- On the web [www.gaylordkansas.com](http://www.gaylordkansas.com) under the Newsletter Tab
- City Office

If you would prefer a copy of this newsletter e-mailed to you instead of postal mail, please contact Abby at the City Office 697-2697 or via e-mail at [cityofgaylord@gmail.com](mailto:cityofgaylord@gmail.com).

**WATER BILL IS ENCLOSED IN THIS NEWSLETTER!**