

By Aubrey Neussendorfer

“We would like to Thank everyone who attended and made this year’s Pancake Feed a success!”

The members of the Gaylord Volunteer Fire Department would like to extend thanks to all area residents who came out and made our Annual Pancake Feed a SUCCESS! Auction items included handmade ink pens by Gerald Caspers from Purple Heart wood, deer antlers, wood from the Home on the Range Cabin and even wood from Canada. A handmade fishing pole made by a Fire Department Member David Tucker was also part of the auction. A handmade wooden Fire Truck by Gerald Casper’s was raffled off and Nolan Lehmann was the lucky winner.

The Department is still selling tickets for their raffle for two half hogs. The hog will be delivered to Kensington Locker but the winners will be responsible for all processing fees. Winners will be drawn April 6th, 2016. Tickets can be purchased from any Fire Department Member. Tickets are $10.00 each or 3 tickets for $20.00.

**Street Commissioner:** Wendell Felsburg is currently serving as Street Commissioner. Wendell has been a member of the governing body for over 20 years. As Street Commissioner, Wendell advises on maintenance and operations of the roads, culverts, and drainage ditches for the city of Gaylord. Wendell and his wife Ann have been lifelong residents of Gaylord. Wendell also operates his own trucking business.

**Fire Commissioner:** Wil Neussendorfer is currently serving his first term with the City of Gaylord as Fire Commissioner. Duties for this position are to act as a liaison between the Gaylord Volunteer Fire Department, in which he is also a member, and the City of Gaylord to coordinate efforts to establish practices and funding to obtain optimum fire protection services. Wil moved here from North Dakota in 2010 and married his wife Aubrey (Lehmann). Wil currently works for Landmark Implement in Smith Center, Kansas.

**Housing/Community Center Commissioner:** Barb Lehmann is currently serving her first term as Housing/Community Center Commissioner. As Housing Commissioner, Barb also serves on the Gaylord Housing Authority Board and acts as a liaison between the two boards to ensure policies, visions, and communication are established. As Community Center Commissioner, Barb oversees all aspects of the building to maintain its functionality and oversees improvements to ensure its availability to our residents for many years to come. Barb and her husband Dennis have been lifelong residents of Gaylord. Barb retired from teaching, after teaching in both USD 238 West Smith County and USD 237 Smith Center Districts.

# Pancake Feed was a SUCCESS!!

As elected members of the governing body, we would like to bring you this newsletter each month to keep all of our area residents informed of all the great progress and challenges we face in our wonderful little community we all like to call home. We hope the information we will share with you each month will help to give all our residents insight into what keeps our small town running. We hope to keep all of our residents well informed of all the good and bad challenges we face and to let you know of the decisions and changes we make and the reasoning behind them.

# City of Gaylord receives AED Machine.

Last fall the Gaylord Community Center received a grant from The Smith Center Community Foundation to purchase an AED. This device is an Automated External Defibrillator that helps revive one during a heart attack. We also used the monies to purchase a holding basket for the device and to buy a first aid kit. These items are free for public use when renting the community center.

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# Why a Newsletter?

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March 10th, 2016

Volume 1 Issue 1

Beaver Buzz

The Gaylord Library is located on Main Street and is open from 9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. For a small library, it has titles and authors of interest to everyone, including mysteries, romance and inspirational fiction. In addition to the library’s own books, the Central Kansas Library System book truck comes every 6-8 weeks and books are selected to supplement those belonging to the library.

Some of the titles added since January includes: “The Mistletoe Inn” by Richard Paul Evans; “The Choice” by Nicholas Sparks; “Streams of Mercy” by Lauraine Snelling; “The Beekeeper’s Son” by Kelly Irvin; and “Love Everlasting” by Tracie Peterson.

The library also has a nice collection of books for children of all ages.

If the library hours of 9-11 do not work for you and you would like to have reading material, call Donna at 697-2650 and arrange a more convenient time.

#  Tornado Watches and Warnings

With the season of severe weather just beginning, it’s a good time to remind everyone again the difference between watches and warnings. The peak times for severe weather are from March to October.

A watch is issued when conditions are favorable for either a thunderstorm or tornado to develop but does not mean severe weather is imminent.

A warning is issued by a meteorologist when evidence is indicated on radar for a severe thunderstorm or tornado to impact an area and also the evidence can be in some cases verified by trained weather spotters on the ground.

In Gaylord, if a tornado warning is issued, our siren will sound in a long continuous blast. If a tornado warning is issued, please use the following guidelines to remain as safe as possible:

* Take shelter in the lowest interior room (best if no windows and in a basement)
* Lie flat and use a mattress to cover yourself if possible.
* If driving do not try to outrun a tornado, move away at a right or 90 degree angle from its path

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“I love books. I love that moment when you open one and sink into it you can escape from the world, into a story that’s way more interesting than yours will ever be”

Elizabeth Scott

By Donna Muck

# Gaylord Library News

**Mayor:** David Tucker is currently the Mayor for the City of Gaylord. This is David’s second term, but his first term as Mayor. As Mayor, David presides over council meetings and acts as a liaison between the members of council and our community to address the concerns, visions, and priorities of our residents. David also serves as Park Commissioner and advises council on the city and roadside parks. David and his wife Kelli were born and raised in Smith County. David currently works as the Supervisor for the Smith County Landfill.

**Water Commissioner/Council President:** Jim Muck is currently serving as Water Commissioner and Council President. Jim has been a member of the governing body for over 20 years. As Water Commissioner Jim advises council on all components of the water system to ensure the best quality of water is delivered to our residents in the most economical way. As council president, Jim would assume the duties of the Mayor in the Mayor’s absence. Jim and his wife Donna have been lifelong residents of Gaylord. Jim retired from teaching and coaching from USD 237.

**Sewer Commissioner:** Gene Casteel is currently serving his first term on the governing body as Sewer Commissioner. As Sewer Commissioner Gene advises council on all aspects of the sewer system and solid waste services in order to provide the most efficient and economical practices for the city to deliver these services. Gene and his wife Mary have been lifelong residents of Gaylord. Gene retired from his construction business and now spends his free time helping, Ed, our City Man, with daily tasks.

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By Aubrey Neussendorfer

# Who is our Governing Body?

“Get to know your Elected Officials.”

# Minutes from February’s City Council Meeting

The Gaylord City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, February 10th, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Gaylord Community Center. Mayor David Tucker called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the following Council members present: Jim Muck, Barb Lehmann, Wendell Felsburg, Gene Casteel, and Wil Neussendorfer. Also present where City Clerk Aubrey Neussendorfer, Treasurer Crystal Ifland and City Man Ed Burt.

Citizen’s Report: no report.

The minutes of the January meeting were read. Correction to omit Gene from the report of Ed explaining to council about the repairs to Randy Schamp’s meter leak as Gene was absent from the meeting. Barb made the motion to approve the minutes as read, with the stated correction. Wil 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 $68,771.45.

Mayor Tucker asked for a report of utility arrears: Richard Bose, Darin Godsey with three accounts, Clarence Bollig, Dyania Palm, and Victor Kirchhoff. Mayor Tucker issued notices of disconnect on said accounts on January 20th. Clerk Neussendorfer reported Dyania Palm was disconnected on January 25th and was reconnected on January 30th.

OLD BUSINESS:

Clerk Neussendorfer reported the following:

* The Easement with Frieling Grain for the sewage drainage line for the arsenic system has been signed and mailed to McDowell Law Office for him to file with the Register of Deeds office.
* John Beck’s utility account still remains unpaid.
* In the handouts for the meeting, Revenue and Expense Reports have been prepared for 2013, 2014, and 2015 and before meetings for the water tower and sheriff are scheduled and a purchasing policy are prepared these reported will be needed and reviewed.
* Community Center Rental Rates were brought to council’s attention as currently we are not generating enough income to cover expenses. Barb made the motion starting March 1st, 2016 to raise the rental rates of the Community Center to Personal Use $30.00, Business Use $50.00 and no charge for Funeral Dinners for past area residents. Anyone who has paid prior to this change the old rates will apply. Wil seconded, motion carried.
* Vickie Lehmann was not interested in cleaning the Community Center. After discussion council agreed to ask Janette Williams a resident at the Housing to clean.
* The Wastewater Workshop attended was very informative and interesting. A smoke test to check for problem areas within the sewer system is something the City should consider doing in the future. An approximate cost would be between $100 and $200. A Capital Improvement Plan is a major tool the city needs to begin working on and implementing to better plan for the future. Also a Newsletter sent to customers monthly is something the city should consider to keep everyone informed on what is going on and would help to explain changes we may need to make in the future. Gene made the motion to begin sending out a monthly newsletter and inform customers on the water bills in March a newsletter will be coming. Barb seconded, motion carried.

Mayor Tucker called for a recess at 7:58 pm and called the meeting back to regular session at 8:03 pm.

NEW BUSINESS:

Charter Ordinance #2 was read. Wil made the motion to adopt and pass Charter Ordinance #2. Jim seconded, motion carried. Vote: Yes – 5 No – 0

Barb made the motion to allow Aubrey and Ed to attend the KANCAP Board Training in Salina on February 18th with mileage reimbursement. Wendell seconded, motion carried.

Ed reported the inspection for the Water System went well as the only improvements needed at this time were new Chlorine Danger Signs for the well houses as the current signs are faded.

Aubrey reported a copy of the agreement which would need to be signed with Kansas Municipal Utilities was given to each council member to review and would discuss at our meeting in March.

Interest on CD’s totaled $92.36.

If anyone was interested a workshop would be offered in Salina by the Salina Supply Company on the latest technology for meter reading systems.

Barb made the motion to allow Aubrey to bid up to $100.00 on a paper shredder on the online Auction for Computer Solutions on NetBidz ending on February 21st. Jim seconded, motion carried.

Aubrey reported postcards will be sent on behalf of the Gaylord Fire Department offering free Smoke Detectors for home owners who qualify. More information would be shared the night of the departments Pancake Feed on March 5th.

Gene made the motion to purchase marking flags and marking paint for both water and sewer. Wil seconded, motion carried.

Ed and Gene discussed a locator from Salina Supply in excess of $3500.00 they would like to have for locating underground lines especially for the upcoming Nextech fiber project this year. Gene made the motion to apply for a grant to purchase the locator with the City matching up to $900.00. Wil seconded, motion carried.

Gene asked council if they would like to purchase meter foam pads for the remaining meter pits at this time. No action was taken at this time.

REPORTS:

STREETS: Wendell reported streets are slowly drying out.

SEWER/TRASH: no report.

WATER: Ed reported they have begun installing the components for the arsenic system within Well House #7. They had asked Ed if they could either have Ed use the cities backhoe to themselves use the cities backhoe to dig the trench for the sewage line. After discussion, council agreed to not allow the use of the city equipment in any way for this project.

FIRE: Wil reported the Fire Station building construction is underway. The Pancake Feed will be March 5th starting at 5 p.m.

HOUSING/COMMUNITY CENTER: 8 units are rented. Barb reported the Housing is going to construct an area outside with a bench/table under a roof to allow an outdoor area and be far enough away for smokers to use. They would also like to include a permanent grill in this area for residents to use.

PARKS: no report

CITY MAN: Ed reported he would be cleaning out water shut offs during this next month. Also the tractor is still having issues with idling. Diesel has been ordered and should arrive within the next week.

TREASRUER: no report

CITY CLERK: no report

Mayor Tucker stated the next council meeting will be March 9th, 2016 at 7 p.m. Hospital Town Meeting will be February 11th at 7pm at the community center.

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

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

# Did you know????

In February 1872, a prairie fire started near the Republican River and burned clear to the Solomon River. The settlers sat back fires and plowed fire guards to protect their buildings and possessions.

In July of 1879 another big prairie fire started north of the Republican River and was carried across the river by high winds and burned clear to the North Solomon River, but was not as disastrous as the first fire in 1872, as people learned how to fight prairie fires better by plowing fire guards around their buildings and setting back fires.

Gaylord was incorporated as a third class city on July 7th, 1886, with a population of 850 which caused the boast it was the largest town in the county.

(These facts are from the Early Memories of Gaylord Booklet, 2007)

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.

# Gaylord Fire Station Update

You may have noticed things are beginning to look quite different on the northeast side of town, just north of the former Gaylord Grade School, as construction has begun on the new Fire Station. Last year, the Fire Department began their campaign, to seek donations from all landowners who reside within the townships they currently provide fire protection services too. At this time the estimated cost of the project was $186,000, after construction began, a larger stem wall was need along the base of the structure on three sides and increased the total cost of the project by $17,000. The firemen have donated their own equipment and volunteered many hours already in preparing the site for construction and are planning on doing as much of the finishing work as they can, themselves. Currently the building is erected and now is waiting for the overhead doors and openers to arrive. Once the doors have been installed the firemen can begin to work on plumbing, electrical and heating within the building.

If you would like to donate to the Fire Station Project please contact: Gaylord Volunteer Fire Department, c/o Stan Horning, PO Box 613, Gaylord, KS 67638.

# Rental Rates of Community Center

As of March 1st, 2016 the rental rates for the Community Center have increased. Council voted to increase the rates to the following:

Personal Use: $30.00

Business Use: $50.00

Funeral Dinners for past area residents: No Charge

After council reviewed the past three years’ worth of reports, for expenses and revenue, for the Community Center it was determined the rental rates were in need of a raise in order to cover the expenses of hiring a person to clean the building before events, utilities when its rented, and supplies to keep the kitchen and bathrooms stocked with supplies. Any funds remaining after these expenses are covered with rental fees are used to purchase new equipment or items for the community center.

# City Council

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