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# Beaver BUZZ

February 1st, 2019  
Volume 4 Issue 2

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## February Estimated Water Bills

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Estimated Water Bills
- 2 Unusual Valentine Traditions
- 3 January City Council Minutes
- 4 Housing Board Minutes

Due to the amount of snow that has fallen in the past month the water meters will not be able to be read this month for water bills. When this occurs we estimate the usage for individual accounts in order to process and mail out our billing statements for the current billing cycle.

For this month's billing statement in February you will notice on your bill we have the previous month meter reading of September 2018 and the current month's meter reading of January 2019. This will give three months' worth of usage to be averaged, in order to figure usage for February's bill.

By estimating usage this allows for a more consistent billing each month instead of having one very large bill due once meters can be read again. We hope by estimating bills this will help our residents who are on a fixed income to continue to budget and plan accordingly each month, instead of having a very large water bill and not have the funds available to pay and then end up having services disconnected.

Once meters are read again adjustments will be made accordingly so all accounts will only be billed for their actual usage amounts. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the City Office at your convenience.



## Unusual Valentine's Day Traditions

In Argentina they do not dedicate only a single day to honor one's love but instead in July they celebrate love with an entire week. This week is called "Sweetness Week", from July 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Lovers will exchange kisses for candy and towards the end of this week they include a celebration of friendship day.

China celebrates its own version of Valentine's Day for centuries. Their Qixi Festival is derived from folklore of two star-crossed lovers. The lovers were a cow-herder and a King's daughter are forced apart and only allowed to see each other one day a year on the seventh day of the seventh month in the Chinese lunar calendar. During this festival, couples go to temples and pray for prosperity, and at night they look to the heavens for the stars of Vega and Altair which were named from the two lovers in the folklore tale. During this time the two stars cross paths and are one bright light in the night sky.

Both Finland and Estonia do not celebrate a day for lovers but instead a day of friendship. On this day people exchange presents and cards with the greeting "Happy Friends Day".

In France, the country known for having the city of love in Paris was home to a very unusual practice. Hopeful singles would line up in houses facing each other and call through the windows until they eventually were paired with a lover. Those women who never partnered up would then build a bonfire and burn the pictures of men who rejected their calls, all while screaming insults into the night sky. Sadly this event no longer occurs after things became too unruly and the French government banned this event.

In Japan, it's the ladies spoil their lovers with chocolates on February 14<sup>th</sup> each year. But depth of one's love is shown by the quality of chocolate that is given. The highest quality chocolate of honmei-choco or "true feeling" is hand delivered. Co-workers or good friends would receive giri-choco or "obligation chocolate" which is then delivered by a courier service. There is even chocolate that is delivered to men who one would consider the most unpopular called cho-giri choco or "ultra-obligation chocolate" This ceremony of chocolate giving is then followed up with the White Day ceremony on March 14<sup>th</sup> and if a male is gifted the highest quality of chocolate they must repay the loved one with presents worth 2-3 times the price of the chocolate such as jewelry or lingerie.

In Norway Valentines are not exchanged, instead "joke letters" are composed and sent. This tradition dating back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century is far more romantic than it sounds. Secret admirers pen poems to their crushes, and then cut intricate patterns into the paper and press a small white Snowdrop flower inside. The "joke" comes from the lack of a signature in this letter. Instead they sign with simply a dot for each letter of their names. Ladies then guess who this letter is from and if she guesses correctly she will receive an Easter Egg from her admirer, if not the "yolk" is on her and she must give him one instead.



## Minutes from the January City Council Meeting

### City of Gaylord - Minutes of January 9th, 2019 Regular Meeting

The Gaylord City Council met in regular session in the Community Center at 7:00 p.m., January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Present Members: Barb Lehmann, Jim Muck, Dennis Lehmann, and Wil Neussendorfer.

Absent Members: Wendell Felsburg and City Clerk Aubrey Neussendorfer

Presiding: Mayor David Tucker

Present also: Utility Superintendent Ed Burt and Treasurer Crystal Ifland.

Mayor Tucker called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**Citizen's Report:** Donna Muck reported to council her 2018 Library report. Donna is concerned the tax share during the past year was \$500.00 less than the previous year, while utilities were higher. The traveling library truck is still running but once it mechanically fails they do not plan to replace this truck and we will no longer have this service.

The minutes of the December 12th Regular Meeting was read. Corrections were noted as the minutes were read. Barb made the motion to approve the minutes with the noted corrections. Dennis seconded, motion carried.

Mayor Tucker called for the reading of the bills. Dennis made a motion, seconded by Jim, to approve payment of bills, including any routine bills outstanding. Motion carried. Bills paid out \$7,818.27.

Mayor Tucker asked for a report of utility arrears: Richard Bose, Brett Pletcher, Darin Godsey with three accounts, and Ron Peterson. Accounts 18, 23, and 30 were disconnected. All disconnects at the time of this meeting have been paid in full and services active.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- Gaylord was awarded a \$4,500 SCCF Grant to apply towards the lift station project. The grant for the HVAC system was not awarded but Joan Nech with the SCCF called and recommends we apply directly to Hansen for funding for this project and ask for a minimum of \$10,000 for this project. SCCF will also send us a letter of recommendation for this grant.
- Christmas Party will be this Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> at the Fire House.
- Discussed of Ordinance 370 was tabled until the February meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- After discussion council agreed to list our trash truck on Purple Wave auction and councilmember Dennis will take care of the listing and have his phone number listed on the ad for questions. A few maintenance issues need to be completed before it sells.
- Dennis and Wil went to see the mower in Kearney, NE and sent pictures to the dealer for determining a trade in value on our current mower. Kearney would offer \$2,095 on our mower and with this applied the mower would then cost \$7,400. Dennis made the motion to trade in our grasshopper mower and purchase the John Deere mower in Kearney, NE for \$7,400.00. Barb seconded, motion carried.
- Discussion of the hole in the culver at 4<sup>th</sup> and Main Street and the site needs to be dug up and evaluated at the best option to fix this reoccurring issue.
- Barb made the motion to hire Ken Neussendorfer as maintenance/mowing person at \$11.00 an hour. He will report to the City Clerk, and will receive work orders from City Clerk. Seconded by Dennis, motion carried.
- Discussion of options for CD options was discussed by council. Dennis made a motion to place all CD's in 91 Day CD's with a higher interest rate. Also take \$20,000.00 for our current checking account and place into a 91 Day CD as will to gain a higher interest rate of 2.38%. Seconded by Wil, motion carried.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to recess at 8:16 pm. Mayor Tucker called the meeting back to regular session at 8:24 p.m.

**REPORTS:**

**STREETS:** Waiting for a county grader to work the streets in town. Council member Jim did use the harrow and his pick-up to try and break-up the ruts and dry out the street this past week. Council hopes once the weather permits we can improve the streets with Ken's help. Council discussed cutting a ditch by the fire station.

**SEWER/TRASH:** All accounts are currently updated and current with V & K for contracted services. During the last cold snap the lift station froze up and discussion of usage of a heater moving forward in the colder weather. There is a crack on the lid of the lift station and will need to get supplies and fix in the future.

**WATER:** Ed reported the chlorine will be needed and he will order in the next week or two. All other system components appears to be running smoothly.

**FIRE:** Wil reported one run of a deer vs. vehicle in the past month.

**HOUSING/COMMUNITY CENTER:** Barb reported all 11 units at the housing are now rented. Wil made the motion be keep the storage room at the Community Center locked at all times unless the building is rented. Dennis seconded, motion carried. Barb will let the coffee ladies know to keep their stuff out of the storage room.

**PARKS:** no report.

**UTILITY SUPERINTENDENT:** Ed plans to read water meters either January 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>.

**TREASRUER:** no report

**CITY CLERK:** no report.

Mayor Tucker stated the next council meeting will be February 13th, 2019 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.

## Minutes from the January Parkview Manor Meeting

The Gaylord Parkview Manor Commissioners met January 10, 2019 @ 9:00 a.m. in their regular meeting room with all board members present.

The board reviewed expenses and voted to pay all bills including outstanding ones for the month of January.

Maintenance issues were discussed and prioritized. Accounts receivable were reviewed and as of January 1, 2019 there are 11 apartments rented with interest renting the last remaining apartment.

Angel Care Home Health stopped by the office with information and pamphlets. This month's emphasis is tips on medication management, if anyone is interested in the Angel Care program and all they do, their phone number is 785-445-3500, and their office is in Russell.

Government Commodities will be distributed January 30<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m. in the meeting room of the Housing. Food to be distributed are Fresh Apples, Oranges and grapes, frozen blueberries, applesauce, dried plums, Beef Stew, Split Peas, Shredded Cheese, Red Kidney Beans and Frozen Strawberry Cups. The requirement to qualify is if a household of 1 makes less than \$1,316, if household of 2 makes less than \$1,784, household of 3 makes less than \$2,252, household of 4 makes less than \$2,720 and household of 5 makes less than \$3,188 you qualify. Call me before the day of distribution and I will be happy to include you on distribution day. Cell phone number 785-282-5425.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 14<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 a.m. in the Gaylord Housing office meeting room.



## PART-TIME POSITION AVAILABLE

The City of Gaylord is accepting applications for a part-time utility/maintenance person.

Duties may include maintenance of streets, parks, sewer collections system, storm drainage, water distribution system, and building and vehicle maintenance. Must be able to work in different types of weather conditions and will have flexible hours.

Qualifications: Must have a High School Diploma, GED or equivalent or able to attain by the start of employment. Must be able to work independently or with a team and with little or no supervision. Knowledge of confined spaces and be able to operate heavy equipment. Also must be able to obtain a Class Small System Water Certified Operator and Class Small System Wastewater Certified Operator certification. Certification of Water and Wastewater can be achieved after the start of employment within the state requirements.

Starting hourly rate will be based upon experience. Please contact the City Office at 785-697-2697 or Mayor David Tucker 785-282-0228 for more information. Applications will be available at the Community Center on the front lobby table.





## 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

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**