

http://www

Beaver BUZZ

January 1st, 2018
Volume 3 Issue 1

City of Gaylord, Kansas, 509 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Gaylord, KS 67638
www.gaylordkansas.com cityofgaylord@gmail.com 785-697-2697

Making Gaylord Great Again in 2018

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** Making Gaylord Great Again in 2018
- 2** December City Council Meeting Minutes
- 3** The History of Christmas Lights
- 4** Online Payments
- 5** Council Appoints New Fire Chief

With 2017 coming to an end, and with 2018 quickly approaching, one finds themselves reflecting on the past, and planning for the New Year. Gaylord had many positive things happen this past year, as well as a few things we hope to forget!

In our Streets Department, after securing rock to build up our roads this past year we found ourselves better prepared for the spring season. Our roads this year were not the muddy, boggy mess they have been in the years past. Maintenance practices of our streets has changed over the years, as with less moisture, it's more dirt management and keeping it on the road! Projects for the New Year in the street department include clean-out an existing drainage ditch at 2nd Street & Lenau Street south. Also we will begin to work on cleaning out culverts and drainage ditches within town. Smith County will be installing a culvert east of the new Fire Station to help re-direct drainage in a more controlled manner.

In our Sewer/Trash Department, Council is thankful for another year of no major sewer events or issues occurring. Preventative maintenance practices continue to prolong our existing facilities and infrastructure. Council is aware in a few years a few major components will need to be replaced or upgraded and begin researching and planning for these items. One such item is our Lift Station. A Lift Station plays a vital role in our sewer system as it pumps all sewage from our system within the city into our lagoons.

In our Water Department, many great things took place. The largest obstacle of obtaining funding to have the water tower painted and repaired was finalized in May. Due to length of time the process of issuing general obligation bonds, by the time the process of was complete the company who was selected to work of the water tower was booked for the year. In the spring of 2018 is when crews will now be here for the water tower. A new system was purchased for the Bulk Water Fill Station. While the new system purchased for the bulk water fill station was installed in late 2017, council looks forward to the New Year and the added benefits this system will provide to all users. 2017 did not go without our share of issues, as we fixed several leaks throughout town, and had to replace a few meters which no longer worked. Plans for further improvements such as replace a few fire hydrants is on the agenda for 2018. Council is also grateful for the fact no Boil Advisories had to be issued in 2017.

Making Gaylord Great Again in 2018.....continued

In our Fire Department, members continued to work on completing the new Fire Station. While no major fires occurred during 2017, members still kept busy maintaining their fleet of trucks. Members hosted their annual Pancake Feed in March and included raffle and auction items. Fire Chief Stan Horning was surprised and honored with a hand-crafted wooden axe made by local resident Gerald Caspers for his 40 years of service with the Gaylord Volunteer Fire Department. In 2017 Fire Chief Horning announced his plans to retire as Fire Chief in November of 2017, but would continue to serve as a member of the fire department. Council approved Mayor Tucker's appointment of Adam Ifland as our new Fire Chief. Adam began his duties as Fire Chief in December.

In the Parks Department, the year did not bring any major changes. Council has noticed with more children in town once again, they intend to apply for grants in the spring of 2018 to acquire new playground equipment.

In the Housing/Community Center Department, the most noticeable change is the new Wheel Chair Assessable Door in the entrance of the Community Center. Along with a new sidewalk and ramp, this has been a welcome addition to our facility. Council has plans to complete a landscaping project on the front side of the Community Center in 2018. Council also would like to purchase and install a back-up generator at the Community Center, along with one at the new Fire Station, to allow these buildings to act as Emergency Shelters in the future. Other improvements to the Community Center include an outdoor light on the backside of the building was installed, all three toilets were replaced, and security cameras were installed around the building.

Many of our projects council approved last year, and are planning for next year would not be possible if not for grants. Many of these grants are from local sources and without these funds, most of our projects simply would not have occurred. Most of our grants are from the Smith County Community Foundation and the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. Council would like to thank all of our residents who contribute to our local foundation, who in turn allow projects like ours to be completed!

Winners of the November 2017 election for council members were Wendell Felsburg, Gene Casteel, and Wil Neussendorfer. They will be sworn into office on January 8th, 2018 and will begin duties at their first meeting on Wednesday January 10th, 2018. All three are currently serving on council.

A community Halloween Party was planned for the area children and was a huge success. Games, activities, and refreshments were enjoyed by all. With the large turnout for this event, council plans to make this Halloween Party an annual event. Council looks forward to continuing the annual Pumpkin Contest and enjoys seeing all the creative pumpkins each year.

A graphic with the words "Happy New Year!" in a large, blue, 3D-style font. The letters are decorated with colorful streamers and confetti, giving it a festive appearance.

Minutes from the December City Council Meeting

City of Gaylord - Minutes of December 13th, 2017 Regular Meeting

The Gaylord City Council met in regular session in the Community Center at 7:00 p.m., November 8th, 2017.

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

Absent Members: none

Presiding: Mayor David Tucker

Present also: City Clerk Aubrey Neussendorfer, Treasurer Crystal Ifland, City Man Ed Burt, and Fire Chief Adam Ifland.

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

Citizen's Report: Fire Chief Ifland asked council for a report to be given quarterly concerning the working status and flow rates of all fire hydrants in town. Also a consistent numbering system is needed so both entities use the same numbering system when discussing fire hydrants. Council agreed to use the current numbering system the fire department is using and will begin providing a quarterly report to the fire department. Adam also discussed options for the Holmes Addition Project of clearing the trees by using equipment from the conservation district to tear tree roots from the ground, and then he will use his head ditcher to create the ditch for drainage for this project. This option he believes would be the most cost and time effective option to finish this project.

The minutes of the November 8th Regular Meeting was read. A correction of the date was November 8th not October 11th was made. Barb made the motion to approve the minutes as read, with stated correction. Gene seconded, motion carried.

Mayor Tucker called for the reading of the bills. Barb made the motion, to pay all employees the same amount in bonuses as last year. Gene seconded, motion carried. After discussion, Barb made a motion, seconded by Wil, to approve payment of bills, including any routine bills outstanding. Motion carried. Bills paid out \$18,372.85.

Mayor Tucker asked for a report of utility arrears: Richard Bose, Darin Godsey with three accounts, AMI, and Adam Ifland. No accounts were disconnected.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Wil made the motion to accepted Adam's latest plan to clean-out the Homes Addition drainage ditch he proposed tonight using the ripper and the head ditcher. Barb seconded, motion carried. Aubrey will contact McDowell to have the easement prepared for David Horning to sign.
- Ed & Gene updated council as the new Bulk Fill Water Station has arrived. Darrel Vohs will begin pre-wiring for this system next Monday and Ed & Gene would then begin to install this system next Tuesday after trash pick-up. After they are completed they will have Vohs return to complete the final electrical hook-ups. The only piece of the system which is back-ordered is the receipt printer and once it arrives, the component will be switched out and the current piece returned. Council is looking forward to seeing the difference in monies collected at the metermaid moving forward. Gene has also made arrangements with Kaid Dannenberg at the former CPS location for users to obtain water during the days they are working on the system. Meter readings will be taken during this time so Dannenberg's are not billed for this usage.
- Aubrey reported David, Wil, Ed and herself attended the County Wide Emergency Management Meeting on November 20th in Smith Center. Most of the information covered was review from prior training sessions.
- Aubrey asked council if she could contact Nex-tech to have them come as switch the Telemetry System to the fax line number as currently it overrides the phone line and is becoming quite the nuisance while the phone is in use. Also while they are here to have another network hookup installed in the office for the security system. Council had no objections to these requests.
- Aubrey reported final reviews are still needed for the Water/Sewer Operational & Maintenance manuals that Mr. Fishburn had prepared for us.
- Council reviewed the Utility Superintendent Job Description and requested to add the verbiage of matching Smith County's schedule concerning paid holiday leave.
- Aubrey reminded council to vote concerning what council sends after a family member of council passes.
- Aubrey reported the city averages four transactions per week through the KANPAY system.
- Aubrey reported the Customer Appreciation on December 11th was well attended, even if Ed and Gene were the most frequent guests.
- Aubrey reported Saturday January 13th would work for Kurt to prepare the meat for the City Potluck Christmas Supper. Council agreed Happy Hour will begin at 5 p.m. with supper starting at 6 p.m.
- Aubrey reported after the Zabel funeral dinner two water pitchers, all washcloths, and the scrub brush with soap all were missing.
- Aubrey reminded council the next billing cycle would have the 3% increase for water and sewer rates.

Mayor called the meeting to recess at 8:25 p.m. Council member Jim Muck left the meeting. Mayor Tucker called the meeting back to order at 8:35 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Aubrey reported Larry Feldman had contacted us to see if council would like to display Maynard Beckmann's 1941 salutorian's plaque and award from Gaylord High School. Council had no objections to this request.
- Barb made the motion to allow Aubrey to purchase new LED lights to replace the exterior Christmas Lights at the Community Center and new lights for the street light displays. Wil seconded, motion carried.
- Aubrey reported to council concerning the community bulletin board channel through Nex-tech is still available for businesses.
- Aubrey reported to council to see if there was interest in pursuing Bright Arrow Technologies as they provide services for mass communications via texts, voice mails, or emails and could be used for burn bans, boil advisories, etc in the future. Council would like to get pricing before decisions are made.
- Aubrey reported the Waste Tire Grants are available again in 2018.

REPORTS:

STREETS: David reported the culvert the county was going to install by the Fire Station had to be ordered and it may be the first part of next year before it would arrive and work would begin.

SEWER/TRASH: Aubrey reported a letter had been sent from the North Central Kansas Local Environmental Planning Group which is located in the Smith County Health Department concerning an out-of-town resident who is connected to the City of Gaylord's sewer system who recently had a blockage in their home and was seeking assistance. Ed reported he checked the manholes for proper flowage and completed the Wastewater Incident Report Form and turned this report into the state.

Gene reported Gerald Caspers still plans to build a display case for Gaylord memorabilia from Roy Dean Bell. Council had no objections to this request.

Gene reported no new bids had been received for the roof repairs at the old fire house. Gene estimates new tin for the roof will cost around \$5300.00. Council did not take action on this matter at this time.

Gene reported the survey completed on 2nd Street in Holmes Addition has been registered at the courthouse.

Gene reported the two main shut-offs by the elevator have issues. One does not work and the other leaks when opening and closing. After review it was determined the shut-off just on the north side of Highway 9 would be used instead of either one of these shut-offs if the need arises.

WATER: Barb made the motion to increase the new connection fee to \$150.00. Gene seconded, motion carried. Aubrey will prepare the updated ordinance and have it ready at the January meeting.

Ed reported the area by Nichols Feedlot water leak had a second leak and needed to be repaired. A fitting next to the prior leak was the culprit.

Aubrey reported Copper & Lead Survey's had been sent out to all water users as part of the new monitoring plan Ed was working on for future Copper & Lead water testing. Ed reported he is having a hard time locating any residents with any of the plumbing components which may leak lead into the water. If he is unable to find any, we still turn the plan into the State and continue with the regularly scheduled testing.

Aubrey reported a letter from KDHE stated due to the last testing for HAA's was at the higher end of the allowed range, we now will be required more frequent testing.

FIRE: Wil reported the department had been on no runs during the past month. The Pancake Feed is scheduled for March 24th this next year. They plan on having a gun and wooden fire truck raffle again this year. The Kansas Forestry Service will be here the night of January 17th and will provide training for Wildfire Tactics and Strategy.

Wil reported the fire department would like to purchase a larger fuel barrel along with a meter and share this fuel with the city and when they use fuel for the department to be billed accordingly. They would like to keep this barrel at the pole shed. Council had no objections to this request.

Wil reported the tanker had been taken to Salina to be repaired and the military truck has been fixed with replacing the air compressor pump.

HOUSING/COMMUNITY CENTER: Barb reported 6 units are rented at the Housing Authority.

Aubrey reported cameras in use signs will be ordered for the Community Center and Library. Council asked for signs to be placed on the front and back of both buildings.

PARKS: no report

UTILITY SUPERINTENDENT: Ed reported a second chlorine scale will need to be ordered, and he will pick up more hydraulic fluid.

TREASRUER: no report

CITY CLERK: no report

Mayor Tucker stated the next council meeting will be January 10th, 2017 at 7 p.m.

With no further business before the council, a motion was made by Wil and seconded by Gene 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.

Burn Ban has been lifted

As of Tuesday December 26th, 2017 the Smith County Commissioners have lifted the burning ban for Smith County, Kansas.

Interesting Facts about Snow

- Snowflakes aren't the only form of snow. Snow can also precipitate as graupel or sleet. Not to be confused with hail, graupel (or snow pellets) are opaque ice particles that form in the atmosphere as ice crystals fall through freezing cloud droplets --- meaning cloud particles that are colder than the freezing point of water but remain liquid. The cloud droplets group together to form a soft, lumpy mass. Sleet, on the other hand consists of drops of rain that freeze into small, translucent balls of ice as they fall from the sky.
- Syracuse, New York tried to make snow illegal. America's snowiest major city has an impressive arsenal of plows, but in 1992 it tried a new trick to control the white stuff. The city's Common Council passed a decree that any more snow before Christmas Eve was illegal. As it turns out, Mother Nature is a criminal – as it snowed just two days later.
- It's a myth that no two snowflakes are exactly the same. In 1988, a scientist found two identical snow crystals. They came from a storm in Wisconsin.
- The largest snowflake might have been 15 inches wide. According to snow sources, the largest snowflakes ever observed fell during a snowstorm in January 1887 at Montana's Fort Keogh. While witnesses said the flakes were "larger than milk pans," these claims have not been substantiated.
- Snow is translucent, not white. Snow, like the ice particles it's made up of, is actually colorless. It's translucent, which means that light does not pass through it easily (like it would transparent glass), but is rather reflected. It's that light reflected off a snowflakes' faceted surface that creates its white appearance. But why white? The reason we see objects as colors is because some wavelengths of light are absorbed while others are reflected. The object takes on whatever color light is reflected. Since snow is made up of so many tiny surfaces, the light that hits it is scattered in many directions and will actually bounce around from one surface to the next as it's reflected. This means no wavelength is absorbed or reflected with any consistency, so the white light bounces back as the color white.
- Deep snow can often appear blue. This is because layers of snow can create a filter for the light, causing more red light to be absorbed than blue light. The result is that deeper snow appears blue. This about how your snowy footprints compare to the surrounding landscape. Snow can also appear pink. Snow in high alpine areas and the coastal polar regions contains cryophilic fresh water algae that have a red pigments that tints the surrounding snow.
- Each winter in the United States, at least 1 septillion ice crystals fall from the sky. That is 24 zeros or 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000.
- The most snow to fall in a 24-hour period in the U.S. is 75.8 inches. In 1921, over six feet of snow fell between April 14 at 2:30 p.m. and April 15 at 2:30 p.m. in Silver Lake, Colorado.
- Colorado also holds the records for the most snow to fall in a single calendar day. On December 4, 1913, 63 inches of snow fell in Georgetown, Colorado.
- Snow has never been reported in Key West. The coldest temperature on records for the Florida city is 41 degrees Fahrenheit. This was on January 13, 1981 and January 12, 1886.

Interesting Facts About Snow Continued.....

- Not every big snowstorm is a blizzard. In order to be classified as a blizzard, a snowstorm must meet a very specific set of qualifications. Winds must blow at least 35 miles per hour and the snowfall must reduce visibility to less than 1.25 miles for a period of at least three hours.
- Igloos can be more than 100 degrees warmer inside than outside. They are also warmed entirely by body heat. Since fresh, compacted snow is approximately 90 to 95 percent trapped air, meaning it can't move and transfer heat it acts as a great insulator. Many animals, such as bears, dig deep holes in the snow to hibernate through the winter.
- Nova Scotia holds the record for the most snow angels ever made simultaneously in multiple locations. In 2011, 22,022 residents in Nova Scotia in 130 separate locations all plopped down in the snow to make snow angels.
- North Dakota holds the records for the most snow angels made simultaneously in one place. Back in 2007 it was 8,962 people in North Dakota who plopped down in the snow to waggle their arms and legs to make snow angels.
- The largest snowball fight on record took place in Seattle. Exactly 5,834 fighters' came together to exchange frozen barrages to create the largest snowball fight in the world on January 12, 2013.



Bulk Fill Water Station

Council is pleased to announce that our new Bulk Fill Water Station System has arrived. This new system has been installed and is currently in use. The only component of this system which has yet to arrive is the receipt printer. Once this component arrives it will be installed. Installation began on Monday, December 18th, and was completed in just a few days. Users have begun using this new system and all things appear to be running smoothly. We have discovered one of the meters which were sent originally is not reading 100% accurately and a new meter has been shipped. Water users have slowly begun to trickle into the City Office to purchase their cards. Since this system has been in use for just under a week now, by checking the meter reading of how much water is used just from this bulk fill water station, compared to how much money was being collected before this system was installed it is shocking how much prior usage was not being fully paid for. In just five days of usage 37,000 gallons of water was dispersed though the meter maid meter which would average out to 7400 gallons per day. $7400 \text{ gallons} / 1000 = 7.4$ $7.4 \times \$3.00 = \22.20 we should be collecting per day. $\$22.20 \times 30 = \666.00 month. Prior to this system begin installed we averaged \$133.20 per month. That is a difference of $\$666.00 - \$133.20 = \$532.80$ we were not collecting per month. This calculates out to show an 80% loss. Or 5,920 gallons of water was not paid for each day.

Tuesday Morning Trash Collection

Council would like to remind all residents to have all trash to the curb by no later than 8:30 am on Tuesday mornings or your trash will not be picked up. Also to please have your trash securely bagged or placed into boxes for pick-up. If your trash is not out by the time Ed routinely goes by your residence for pick-up or your trash is not securely bagged or boxed your trash will not be picked up. Also, if animals have ripped into your trash and scattered your trash, we will no longer be spending time picking this trash up.



Water Tower Update

Due to weather delays the crews who will be working on our water tower will not be here now until the Spring of 2018. Council will keep you updated as soon as they are made aware of anything. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.

Public Notary Services – Now Available

Our City Clerk, Aubrey has now received all the necessary documents to allow her to officially notarize documents. City Council will not charge for this service, and are glad to offer this additional service to our residents.

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.



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 ready 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

509 Main Street - P.O. Box 548
Gaylord, KS 67638

Phone:

785-697-2697

Fax:

785-697-2221

E-mail:

cityofgaylord@gmail.com

Website:

www.gaylordkansas.com

Facebook

Like us on Facebook, under the page City of Gaylord, Kansas.

Newsletter

Copies of this newsletter can be found by the following methods:

- By postal mail
- On the web 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.

WATER BILL IS ENCLOSED IN THIS NEWSLETTER!

Return Service Requested