

http://www

Beaver BUZZ

February 1st, 2017
Volume 2 Issue 2

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

Success – Funding Approved!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Success – Funding Approved!
- 2 Valentine's Day
- 3 January Council Minutes
- 4 February Facts

The City of Gaylord has started the New Year with great news; the loan application for the Water Tower Project has been approved! After many months of research and applying to numerous sources for funding, a resource has finally been secured. The City of Gaylord has been approved for two loans, to establish a \$150,000 line of credit to make improvements to our Water System. Our number one priority is to use this money for the water tower project. Recoating of the interior and exterior we have been seeking funding for will total around \$89,090.00. Last October, a leak developed in the bottom portion of the bowl of our water tower and until the process of recoating is underway we do not know the full extent of the condition of the bowl and what necessary repairs will all need to be done. Last October the leak was welded to fix the leak but until the interior of the bowl is fully sand-blasted as part of the recoating process we do not know the full extent of the condition of the bottom portion of the water tower. A new bottom portion of the bowl may be needed and this cost could be an additional \$20,000 or more.

After the water tower project is completed later this year, council will see how much remains on the line of credit and determine if the remaining funds can be applied to another project to complete within our water system. Even if the entire amount of \$150,000 is used by the City of Gaylord, the required payments on these loans will be manageable within our current water and sewer rates. The increase in rates council passed by Ordinance 358 in October 2014 was in preparation for future payments for improvements to our water and sewer systems. Either way the City is only obligated to make payments on the total amounts used, not the total amount available.

*Funding for the Water
Tower has been
secured!*

Other projects the City may consider once the Water Tower is complete are: water hydrants, meter maid, and water meters. The city does have work which needs to be competed to numerous water hydrants in town. Due to the age of the current hydrants some are now leaking and need to be either removed or replaced in the near future. Current fire protection requirements of the state insurance office (ISO) allow for fire hydrants to be removed as long as another hydrant is located within 300 feet of the hydrant to be removed. Gaylord is very fortunate as we have many hydrants located well within this 300 foot limit as many hydrants are located within each city block. The meter maid located on well #6 which allows for distribution of raw water used mainly by livestock producers hauling water to animals or by farmers. Currently we only are able to determine the total amount of gallons pulled from well #6 but are not able to distinguish how many exactly are just from the meter maid alone. Also the current coin collection system for the meter maid is non-functional and the city would like to look into options for tracking the water used and all users of this water better. Another option the city is looking into is replacing the older water meters for our customer accounts. It's been a number of years since many of our current water meters have been replaced.

Valentine's Day – Interesting

Red roses are the color of choice for Valentine's Day as the color red stands for love & passion.

- About 1 billion Valentine's Day cards are exchanged each year in the US.
- Women purchase 85% of all valentines.
- Parents receive 1 out of every 5 valentines.
- About 3% of all pet owners will give gifts to their pets on Valentine's Day.
- Worldwide, over 50 million roses are given for Valentine's Day each year.
- California produces 60% of American roses, but for amount sold on Valentine's Day, they are imported from South America.
- 73% of people who buy flowers for Valentine's Day are men, while only 27% are women.
- Men buy most of the million boxes of candy and bouquets of flowers given.
- In the Middle Ages, young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who their Valentine would be. These names were then worn on their sleeve for one week. Hence the term "You wear your heart on your sleeve" originated from.
- In the Italian city of Verona, where Shakespeare's lovers Romeo and Juliet lived, receives about 1,000 letters addressed to Juliet every Valentine's Day.
- Richard Cadbury invented the first Valentine's Day candy box in the late 1800's.
- The oldest surviving love poem till date is written in a clay tablet from the times of the Sumerians, inventors of writing, around 3500 B.C.
- In some countries, a young woman may receive a gift of clothing from a prospective suitor. If the gift is kept, then it means she has accepted his proposal of marriage.
- If an individual thinks of five or six names considered to be suitable marriage partners and twists the stem of an apple while the names are being recited, then it is believed the eventual spouse will be the one whose name was recited at the moment the stem broke.
- In Medieval times, girls ate unusual foods on St Valentine's Day to make them dream of their future husband.
- It is said the kind of bird a girl watches on Valentine's Day will predict her future husband. Sparrow – a poor man, Owl – remains spinster, Bluebird – a happy man, Blackbird – a priest, and a Crossbill – a argumentative man.
- If an apple is cut in half, the number of seeds inside will determine the number of children she will have.
- To be awoken by a kiss on Valentine's Day is considered lucky.
- On Valentine's Day, the first guy's name you read in the paper or hear on TV will be the name of the man you will marry.
- If you see a squirrel on Valentine's Day, you will marry a cheapskate who will hoard all your money.
- If you see a goldfinch on Valentine's Day, you will marry a millionaire.
- If you see a robin on Valentine's Day, you will marry a crime-fighter.
- If you see a flock of doves on Valentine's Day, you will have a happy, peaceful marriage.
- If you find a glove on the road on Valentine's Day, your future husband will have the other missing glove.



Minutes from the January City Council Meeting

City of Gaylord - Minutes of January 11th, 2017 Regular Meeting

The Gaylord City Council met in regular session in the Community Center at 7:00 p.m., January 11th, 2017.

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

Absent Members: Wil Neussendorfer

Presiding: Mayor David Tucker

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

Mayor Tucker called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Citizen's Report: Donna Muck presented council with a report for the Library for 2016. A handout was prepared by Donna and given to council for review. The recent damage to the window on the front door was discussed.

The minutes of the December 14th Regular meeting were read. Gene made the motion to approve the minutes as read. Barb seconded, motion carried.

Mayor Tucker called for the reading of the bills. After discussion, Wendell made a motion, seconded by Gene, to approve payment of bills, including any routine bills outstanding. Motion carried. Bills paid out \$10,873.09.

Mayor Tucker asked for a report of utility arrears: Richard Bose, Darin Godsey with three accounts, Rory Landry, Dyania Palm, and Greg Jones. All were paid by the disconnect date.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Aubrey reported the application for the loan has been approved. They decided to award us two loans, a \$100,000 and a \$50,000 to be used for projects within the water system. After review to the terms of the loans council had a few questions before the paperwork was signed. How long after loans are signed do we need to request the funds before they are no longer available? Do we only pay back the amount we use or do we have to use the full amount? How long after a written request for funds is made do we receive the funds?
- After discussing the tree trimming project, council agreed a written permission must be on file in the office before any work will be done on the city right-a-ways.
- Council discussed the Christmas Party planned for January 14th. Kurt Ifland will prepare a smoked brisket and pork loin. All members bring sides of their choice and plan on dinner at 6:00 p.m.
- Aubrey reported the deed for the Farmers Bank is ready. After discussion council agreed to pay any fees and to file the deed once the property has been paid for.
- The Nativity Scene ended up not being sold and council agreed to list the items for sale later in 2017.
- After discussion concerning rental fees for the Solomon Valley Beavers 4-H Club council agreed to instead of charging rent for each usage, to instead have club members have a drive night at a meeting for commonly used supplies in the building. Members also provide many hours of volunteer work on various city projects each year and will apply towards rent as well.
- City-wide clean-up options were discussed by council. Letters need to be sent to get a better feel of what items residents have to get a better idea of what all needs to be planned and lined up.
- Council discussed the hydrants in town and the flushing schedule. All hydrants need to be flushed again during the next warm weather spell.
- The damage to the library window was discussed. Gene reported the replacement window was \$48.00.
- Council reported numerous complaints of roaming dogs in all areas of town.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Aubrey reported a new credit card was needed as the last statement showed fraudulent charges for airline tickets and two occasions totaling close to \$2100.00. The city will not have to pay these charges and paperwork has been filled out to begin their investigation into this matter.
- Aubrey reported four of the Cities CD's will mature 1-16-2017 and will automatically renew unless we take action before ten days after the due date.
- The garage disposal located in the sink in the Community Center was discussed. Council all agreed to remove the disposal and to replace the drain line under the sink. Also replacing the faucet in this sink was discussed and all members agreed to replace the faucet with one that allows for larger pans to fit underneath and a sprayer.
- The storage room in the community center was also discussed. This room needs a good sorting and cleaning this winter. Members of the community will be contacted as needed to review items stored before anything is discarded or given away.

- The delay in arrival of the January Water Bills was discussed. Council agreed to extend the due date to the 20th of January. At this time, a late fee would be applied and a disconnect notice would be sent. Regular disconnection procedures would still take place on the 25th like normal. Letters would be sent to all with remaining unpaid balances stating this extension for January.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to recess at 8:26 p.m. The meeting was called back to regular session at 8:30 p.m.

- The returned check policy was discussed as to if an account is closed for the reason being the reason a check is returned instead of insufficient funds. Council agreed this was not a reason to forbid future checks on an account.

REPORTS:

STREETS: No complaints at this time had been received.

SEWER/TRASH: Gene reported bracing legs were needed for the electrical box on the lift station. After discussion council agreed to have Ed's bottle of CO2 filled and have him fix this himself; as opposed to hiring someone to come down and fix it.

WATER: Ed reported Doug with KS Rural Water would like to write an article on our Arsenic System we recently had installed. A water usage/water loss report was prepared from 2016 and after discussion council agreed to begin looking into options for a meter maid system that would allow for tracking all users of water.

FIRE: Ed reported one fire run at a residence on 1st street occurred during the past month. Work has begun on the Fire Station again as they are working in the interior walls of the meeting room/kitchen and bathroom. Heating units for the shop area have been installed. All rural fire trucks have been moved into the new building and after interior construction is complete the City Fire Truck will be moved to the new station.

HOUSING/COMMUNITY CENTER: 4 units are rented. Barb reported no issues have been brought to her attention with the Community Center and all appears to be clean. An open house is planned for early April at the Housing to showcase what they have to offer and seek new renters. They did have some water lines issues during a recent cold spell but have fixed all problems.

PARKS: none.

CITY MAN: Ed asked council if he could use his vacation time here and there on Friday afternoons if nothing else was going on. Ed reported a spare regulator for chlorine is needed to have on hand. Council agreed to have an entire spare kit on hand at all times so repairs can be made or temporarily fixed until parts can arrive. Complete inventory lists will need to be completed by March 1st. Gene and Ed reported new shelves were built in the pole shed and cost the city \$32.00.

TREASURER: no report.

CITY CLERK: no report

Gene asked council if they wanted the bench located in front of the Farmers Bank. Council agreed to place the bench on the south side of the community center.

Council would like agenda emailed or prepared for pick-up prior to the meeting each month to better prepare for discussion at regular council meetings.

Mayor Tucker stated the next council meeting will be February 8th, 2017 at 7 p.m.

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

Fun Facts of past Presidents for Presidents Day

- George Washington was the only president unanimously elected. Meaning all of the state representatives voted for him.
- John Adams died the same day as Thomas Jefferson, July 4th, 1826. This was also the day of the 50th Anniversary of the approval of the Declaration of Independence.
- Thomas Jefferson was an accomplished architect. He designed his famous home at Monticello as well of buildings for the University of Virginia.
- James Madison and George Washington are the only presidents who sign the Constitution.
- James Madison was the shortest president at 5 feet 4 inches tall and weighed 100 pounds. Abraham Lincoln was the tallest at 6 feet 4 inches.
- James Monroe was the 5th president, but the 3rd to die on the 4th of July.
- One the day he was shot, Lincoln told his bodyguard that he had dreamt he would be assassinated.
- Abraham Lincoln often stored things like letters and documents in his tall stove-piped hat.
- Franklin D. Roosevelt met President Cleveland when he was five years old. Cleveland said "I am making a wish for you. It is that you many never become president of the United States".
- Franklin D. Roosevelt was the first president to appear on television during a 1939 broadcast from the World's Fair.
- At 42 years, 10 months, 18 days old Teddy Roosevelt was the youngest man to hold the office of president. Ronald Regan was the oldest at 69 years 11 months. John F. Kennedy was the youngest to be elected president.
- Teddy Roosevelt was blind in his left eye due to an injury in a boxing match.
- When Ronald Regan was shot by an assassin in 1981, he joked "I forgot to duck".
- The "S" in Harry S. Truman does not stand for anything.
- John F. Kennedy was the first president who was a Boy Scout.
- Woodrow Wilson was buried at the Washington National Cathedral. He is the only president buried in Washington D.C.
- Andrew Jackson was shot in the chest during a gun dual, but managed to stay standing and shoot and kill his opponent. The bullet could not be safely removed and remained in his chest for the next 40 years.
- George W. Bush is the only president to have a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree.
- Barack Obama won a Grammy Award in 2006 for his voice in the audio book Dreams From My Father.
- After working at a Baskin-Robbins as a teen, President Obama no longer likes ice cream.
- Bill Clinton enjoys paying the saxophone and was a member of the band called "Three Blind Mice" in high school.
- Martin Van Buren was the first president to be born as a citizen of the United States. The presidents before him were born as British subjects.
- Martin Van Buren was the only president to speak English as a second language. His first language was Dutch.
- William Henry Harrison was the 9th president. His grandson, Benjamin Harrison, was the 23rd president.
- John Tyler has 15 children.
- James K. Polk was the first president to have his photograph taken while in office.
- William Henry Harrison died just 32 days after becoming president. He died from a cold he got while standing in the rain giving his inauguration speech.

February – Did you know?

February is named after the purification ritual Februa, which was a sort of early Roman spring cleaning festival.

In Old English, February was called Solmonath (Mud month) or Kale-monath (Kale or cabbage month).

February frequently occurs in lists of the most commonly misspelt words in the English language.

The Americans have trouble with the word February too - last year, a press release from the White House consistently spelt it as Feburary.

Much Ado About Nothing is the only Shakespeare play that mentions February.

Before Julius Caesar's calendar reform of 45BC, February was the only month with an even number of days. All the rest had 29 or 31.

February is the only month that can pass with no full moon. This will occur in 2018.

In the USA, February is National Pet Dental Health Month. It is also Hot Breakfast Month.

The birthstone for February is amethyst. The birth flower is the violet or iris.

The ancient Greeks believed that amethyst protected the wearer from drunkenness.

Groundhog Day - More winter or spring?

February 2nd is Groundhog Day as this is the day the groundhog awakes from hibernation.

If the groundhog sees its shadow when it emerges from its burrow, there will be six more weeks of winter.

If it does not see its shadow, spring will arrive soon.

This tradition was started in Europe as Candlemas Day. Germans who settled in Pennsylvania in the 1700s brought this custom to America.

Pennsylvania's Punxsutawney Phil is the most well-known, but more than a dozen states celebrate with their own groundhogs, such as Georgia's Gen. Beauregard Lee and Buckeye Chuck in Ohio.

Phil has correctly predicted the beginning of spring 100% of the time, according to his owners. However, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the groundhog shows "no predictive skill" for the last few years.

Community Clean-Up Days

Thank you, to all who returned the clean-up surveys from the October issue of our newsletter. Council was pleased with the amount of interest our residents have shown to pursue the Community Clean-Up Grants offered through the Smith County Community Foundation and Dane G. Hansen Foundation. With many of our residents who have graciously volunteered their time and the equipment for removal of larger items are involved with farming and with fall harvest in full swing this project will take place in the Spring of 2017. Sometime in late March or early April is when Council is tentatively looking at scheduling this project to take place. Also, this timeframe should give our residents plenty of time to sort and go through as many items as possible to fully take advantage of this project. Please keep reading the newsletters as we will keep you informed as details are added to this project.



Tree Trimming - Update

Letters will be sent to all residents who have trees the city wishes to trim within the right-of-ways. These letters will explain what trees and limbs the city is wishing to remove. Also these letters will contain a permission form the City will need to have returned before any work will be completed. If you would rather a representative from the City can come to your property and go over what trees/limbs which need to be trimmed or removed. The limbs and trees the city is focusing on are ones which prevent the passing of vehicles down the streets and limbs which overhang and prevent the streets from drying out quickly after moisture has fallen.

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.

Thank You

The City of Gaylord wants to thank Frieling Grain and Conrad Farms for their recent donations to help with the Santa Visit hosted by the City. Their donations helped to fill goodie bags kids received after telling Santa their wish list for Christmas. Many area kids had a chance to see Santa and overall the event was a great success. Thanks to all who participated and made the day for our local children.

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.

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

Get ready for when the snow flies, and come in to 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 cold winter days. 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!