



Sporer Land Development of Oakley began tearing out the asphalt from the south side of 17th Street from Cherry to Clark as the first phase of the street project began on Tuesday. The street is down to one-way traffic until the project is completed. Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

# City requests \$1 million to pay for 17th Street project

By Tom Betz  
The Goodland Star-News

Crews removed asphalt from the south half of 17th Street from the railroad crossing to Clark this week as the first step to replacing the storm sewer, and the city commission Monday requested \$1 million from the sales tax bonds to pay for the street projects.

Darin Neufeld, engineer from Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, who is handling the city projects said \$1 million of the \$1,010,610 being requested is to prepay material costs to Sporer Land Development (\$400,000) for Caldwell and APAC Paving of Hays for 17th Street (\$600,000). The other payments were for engineering costs on Caldwell, 17th Street and Eighth Street from Cattle Trail to D'Lao Drive.

City Commissioner Dave Daniels asked Neufeld how he had arrived at the material payment figures.

Neufeld said the contracts with the two companies included a provision to allow the city to prepay up to 50 percent of the material costs. "I got together with Mary Volk, City Clerk, and Janet Rumpel, County Clerk," Neufeld said, "to be sure we are going to reach the spending level required in the bond issue this month."

Daniels asked if the prepayment was for asphalt and concrete?

Neufeld said it is for material to be used in the project, and would include the raw materials for each project.

The total estimated cost of the 17th Street project with the addition of concrete for a section of Eighth Street is \$1,488,121, and APAC's cost for Caldwell is \$863,798.

Neufeld said the 17th Street project is moving ahead with crews from Sporer Land Development removing the asphalt on the south

side of the street, and traffic is down to one way westbound from north of the railroad crossing around to Clark. He said this section is where the new storm sewer is to go, and it will connect with the existing storm sewer at Clark.

The first phase of the project is to replace the south half of the street all the way to Main with concrete, and is expected to take about six weeks. Phase two is to replace the intersection at Main and 17th beginning the middle of April. The third phase will be the north side of the street from Main to Cherry.

He said the project is expected to take about four months.

City Manager Wayne Hill said the request for payment will be forwarded to the county commissioners to have the bills paid.

In other business the commission:

- Approved a bid from Dan Brenner Ford Mercury for \$15,334 to purchase a Ford Fusion SE sedan to be used by the city building inspector Steve Criswell. Criswell said he wanted to replace the pickup he has been using with a sedan. Commissioner Dave Daniels asked why not keep the pickup? "Economy," Criswell said. "The sedan gets 24 miles per gallon." The second bid from Dan Brenner Ford was the only one of the four bids that met the specifications of having a lay down front seat. Criswell said that was to allow him to carry a short ladder if needed. The other bids included Finley Motors, \$16,817;

Yost Ford Mercury of St. Francis, \$14,887; and Dan Brenner Ford \$14,675. Mayor Rick Billinger asked about not taking the lowest bid in this case. Hill said the difference is the second bid from Dan Brenner is the only one that met the specifications for the lay down front seat.

- Approved reappointment of Dick Hayden and Sharon Mann to the cemetery board for 3-year terms, and appointment of Darwin McClung and Cameron Paxton to the board of appeals for 3-year terms.

- Tabled the Aquila franchise agreement to allow the company attorneys to go over the suggested changes. Hill said the city had inserted 5 percent for residential and suggested 3 percent for industrial. He said Aquila wanted a 20-year term, and the explained how the other franchises were done, and said he added the rights-of-way ordinance. Billinger asked where the figures came from, and Hill said he took the figures from what the other franchises were.

- Approved renewal of a lease for the land at Renner Field where First National Bank has a hangar. Hill said the date was the only change in the lease, and that it is for a few months more than five-years so all the airport leases will expire at the same time.

The next city commission meeting will be 5 p.m. on Monday, March 19, in the commission room upstairs in the Administration Building, 204 W. 11th.

# City, county table fire agreement

By Tom Betz  
The Goodland Star-News

A proposed city-county fire protection agreement was tabled Monday night by the city commission, and the county commissioners tabled the agreement Tuesday morning.

There is an existing mutual aid agreement for fire protection between the city and county, but the recent resignation and replacement of 12 city volunteer firemen caused a review of the existing agreement. The new agreement does not include rescue calls outside the city limits or hazardous materials spills. Those have been taken over by the county rural fire department.

Both commissions had questions about details in the agreement and some proposed changes including a provision there would be a zero

tolerance of alcohol level of anyone responding to emergency calls.

City Attorney Jeff Mason told the city commission on Monday he received the proposed county changes late last week, but was not able to discuss them with County Attorney Bonnie Selby.

Mason said he felt the zero tolerance section was an attempt to dictate city employee policy, and said while that might be a change the city considers in the future it should not be in the fire protection agreement. The city commission tabled the issue until Mason had time to discuss the changes with the state insurance department and Selby.

County commissioners Tuesday morning decided to table the fire protection agreement because they found a conflict with the zero tolerance section.

County Commissioner Kevin Rasure asked Selby about the zero tolerance section and how it affected people on medication?

"That is why we specifically did not go into anything except alcohol," Selby said. "Our own policies cover the other things."

Rasure asked what the county policy said about alcohol levels?

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said the county alcohol policy has a tolerance level of .02. "We are the same as the city," Selby said. "I think that is wrong. I think it should be zero."

"We cannot enter into an agreement that requires something different than what we have for our own people."

The commissioners tabled the agreement until Selby talks to Mason and to the people in Topeka.

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## SPORTS TELEVISION SCHEDULE

### Saturday

9:30 a.m. 7/11 CBS Conference USA Basketball Championship From Memphis

10 a.m. 23/29 ESPN2 College Basketball America East Championship Albany Great Danes vs Vermont Catamounts from Burlington, Vt.

11:30 a.m. 22/28 ESPN College Basketball ACC Tournament: Semifinal #1 from Tampa, FL

11:40 a.m. 7/11 CBS Big Ten Basketball Tournament A semifinal

12 p.m. 23/29 ESPN2 College Basketball Big 12 Tournament: Semifinal #1 from Oklahoma City, OK

1 p.m. 4/6 ABC NASCAR Racing Busch Series in Las Vegas

3/9 NBC Golf Pods Championship

1:30 p.m. 22/28 ESPN College Basketball ACC Tournament: Semifinal #2 from Tampa, Fla.

2 p.m. 7/11 CBS Big Ten Basketball Tournament A semifinal

23/29 ESPN2 College Bas-

ketball Big 12 Tournament: Semifinal #2 from Oklahoma City, OK

2:45 p.m. 5/ HBO World Championship Boxing Klitschko vs. Austin

4 p.m. 7/11 CBS Pac-10 Basketball Championship From Los Angeles

22/28 ESPN College Basketball Atlantic 10 Championship from Atlantic City, NJ

5 p.m. 23/29 ESPN2 College Basketball MAC Championship from Cleveland, OH

30/27 FXSP Women's College Basketball Big 12 Tournament Championship from Oklahoma City

7 p.m. 22/28 ESPN College Basketball Big East Tournament: Championship from Madison Square Garden, New York

23/29 ESPN2 College Basketball WAC Championship from Las Cruces, NM

9 p.m. 23/29 ESPN2 College Basketball Big West Conference Championship from Anaheim, CA

Hockey Teams TBA

11 a.m. 7/11 CBS SEC Basketball Championship From Atlanta

22/28 ESPN College Basketball ACC Tournament: Championship from Tampa, Fla.

12 p.m. 23/29 ESPN2 College Basketball Southland Conference Championship from Houston, TX

60/79 UNIV F'bol Liga Mexicana Guadalajara Chivas at UNAM Pumas from Universitario

1 p.m. 22/28 ESPN College Basketball Big 12 Conference Championship from Oklahoma City, Okla.

3/9 NBC Golf Pods Championship

1:30 p.m. 4/6 ABC NBA Basketball Teams TBA

7/11 CBS Big Ten Basketball Championship From Chicago

2 p.m. 30/27 FXSP MLB Baseball Spring Training Kansas City Royals vs Colorado Rockies from Hi Corbett Field

7 p.m. 22/28 ESPN NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks vs Los Angeles Lakers from Staples Center

### Sunday

10:30 a.m. 8/8 NBC NHL

# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Old St. Nik

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- American Profile Hometown Content 070304
- ACROSS**
- "Half-off" event
  - Surrender
  - possession of
  - Scarecrow innards
  - Elvis \_\_ Presley
  - Skater's jump
  - Whittle away
  - "Gil \_\_" (Le Sage novel)
  - Mineral that splits into sheets
  - Type of battery
  - Never-say-die slogan
  - Green light
  - Gave a 23-Across, perhaps
  - "Alley \_\_!"
  - Suffix with chariot
  - Lines of praise
  - Better equipped
  - Bruins' sch.
  - Archaeologist's site
  - Confrontation avoider's words
  - Admiral Zumwalt
  - Umpire's cry
  - Beyond plump
  - Major TV maker
  - W-2 ID
  - \_\_ de plume
  - \_\_ Tuesday (Ash Wednesday preceder)
  - Serenades the villain
  - Classic race-against-time TV show
  - Cyber-messages
  - Parade spoiler
  - Soothing stuff
  - "The Devil and Daniel Webster" writer
  - Pastry chef's aide
  - Halftime entertainment
  - World-weary
  - Letter part
  - Cheap pads, for short
  - Slow on the uptake
  - World leader formerly in the KGB
  - Oscar winner
  - Burstyn
  - Parroting sorts
  - It may warrant an "Excuse me!"
  - Truman's Missouri birthplace
  - Prefix with friendly
  - Web video gear
  - Hold up
  - In a muddle
  - "Dilbert," for one
  - Like a runway model
  - "The Gift of the Magi" author
  - Big Apple awards
  - Bacon hunks
  - Like some eclipses
  - Low-budget prefix
  - Depot postings, for short
  - Chicago daily, for short
  - Snack in a shell
  - Hotfooted it
  - Fall back
  - Alice's sitcom boss
  - Santa \_\_ winds
- DOWN**
- Native Israeli
  - Van Gogh painted here
  - Slacks off
  - Come next
  - Woke up
  - Parking lot sign
  - Art \_\_ (retro style)
  - Flier to Ben-Gurion
  - Electric eye, e.g.
  - Took a stab at
  - Fabled flier
  - Oral health org.
  - Hitched, so to speak
  - Bunk annoyance
  - Hoopster Shaq
  - Pour water on
  - Prime to fit say

The crossword puzzle brought to you by:

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