

Cowboys, Cowgirls cheering section



The Goodland High School student body showed up to the basketball games Friday night against the Ulysses Tigers and showed their school spirit with improvised cheerleaders and cheers. During the boys game Ulysses supporters and Goodland supporters tried to out cheer each other. At times the cheerleaders with flags would run in front of the stands.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

City approves removing structures

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city has been working on.

Dechant said several commissioners had received calls on the structure at 214 N. Main.

He said he felt Brian did a good job about trying to keep the owners contacted.

Rasure said he agreed the city needs to make every effort to get things cleaned up.

Garcia made the motion and Rasure seconded. The vote was 4-0 with Rasure, Garcia, Dechant and Annette Fairbanks voting in favor. Commissioner Dave Daniels was absent.

In other business the commission:

- Approved a change order on the water project for \$15,907. A letter from Darin Neufeld of Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates who are handling the project said the change order was dealing with abandoning the old water line from Ninth to 10th on Kansas Ave.

Garcia asked if the project was under budget or if this would change that.

Neufeld said the project is under budget and would be about \$68,000 under after the change order.

- Approved a bid from Dan Brenner Ford for a new Crown Victoria police car at \$22,530.

Garcia asked about Brenner and a trade-in of the old car.

Chief Ray Smee said he had three bids with one from Shawnee Mission Ford, \$21,486, Brenner Ford, \$22,530, and Colby Dodge Chrysler Jeep, \$23,100.

Dechant asked if the card being traded in would be an 04 or 05. Smee said it is a 2006 with approximately 120,000 miles.

Dechant said he agreed with staying local, even if the bid was a bit higher. The motion passed 4-0.

- Approved appointment of Justin Bedore as the director to represent the city on the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency board of directors and Gerber as the alternate.

- Heard an update on the water project from Neufeld.

He said the big holes are getting filled in, and Van Kirk has completed all residential connections

across town. He said one connection remains to be made at College Ave., and then go back through and change the valves and abandon the old lines.

Fairbanks asked about the yards that have been torn up.

Neufeld said in many cases they will be coming back to fix those this spring. He said it depends on what lines are involved. He said some were done last fall, and those are basically done.

"If we have a problem with one of those yards," he said, "they need to call us. If it was since October we have not done a final clean up on those and will be doing those later this spring."

"If you get calls, get the address and we will go out and check them."

A question was raised about yard sprinkler systems.

Neufeld said to let them know when the owners start them up. He said they will have the sprinklers fixed.

He said the temporary patch at 10th and Caldwell Ave., and will be fixed in the upcoming mill and overlay.

He said APAC of Hays is just getting to 13th Street on the east side of Caldwell with curb and gutter replacement. He said they have to work their way back on the west side. He said it may be the middle of March before McCormick can start up his paving plant and get started on the mill and overlay.

- Heard and update on the housing grant the city received. Dechant asked was the next step was on the \$386,000 Community Development Block Grant the city had been awarded.

Volk said she went to a meeting in Hoxie. She said the commission will have to approve the agreement and the program outline, and would have that ready for the next meeting. She said the state cannot release the money to the city until April.

She said in the target area there are three who have applied for demolition and the others have applied for renovation.

The next city commission meeting will be at 5 p.m. on Monday, March 7.

Energy loan program being studied by city

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financier," she said. "The city is paying money out to the approved projects and collecting on the customer's bills."

"It is important to note the city is not obligated if anyone defaults. We have it set up with the state if anyone defaults on the loans our office is liable for that."

Rasure asked if the homeowner sells the house how is the new owner notified about the extra charge.

Lee said they have the city file a notification with the county that puts a lien on the title saying there is a loan through Efficiency Kansas, and the date when it started and when the loan would be paid off.

Volk said the program wants a usage fee document so it would show up for a title search.

Lee said if the house is old with that obligation the new owner would come in to the city and have a new obligation form for the new owner to sign.

She said the owner has the option to pay off the obligation and not have it be part of the home sale. She said in some cases if they are down to about \$5,000 or lower it may help them sell the house the owner may go ahead and pay the obligation off. That is a pretty good deal for the new homeowner.

Commissioner Annette Fairbanks asked if the notification has an address or legal description.

Lee said it is a legal description.

Johnson said she thinks it is a neat program because it is a revolving program so as the people pay it back and the city pays that money to the state the money is there to be used again for another person.

"As a revolving program it is something that is going to be around for awhile," she said, "Which I think is a good thing."

Lee said the biggest chunk of money has to be spent by April 2012, and right now the state has about \$25 million that needs to be revolved out. She said as the money comes back in there is no restriction on how long it takes to spend it estimating it would come back in about \$1 to \$2 million a year.

Rasure said new accounts down the road would be subject to available money.

Lee said that was correct, and expects the demand for the program to drop as you would have a large group in the beginning and have a huge demand.

"I guess right now the reason to do it is we have this big chunk of money to get out the door," she said.

She said the \$100 audit subsidy program may not continue forever, and it is funded until Oct. Because we have a lot of new utilities and have seen great participation in that program it is going well. We do not want to create a subsidized market and don't want to create a large number of energy auditors and then leave them high and dry because we are out of money, she said. We would like people to eventually value an energy audit.

The other special program is a \$500 rebate for everyone who takes out a loan. She said that is going to be extended to December.

The commissioners thanked Lee and Johnson for their information, and said they would consider the agreement at the next meeting when Daniels can be present to get all the input.

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TRACT 4: NE/4 of 1-6-38 - Stubble & CRP

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