

weather report

54°
noon

Thursday

Today

- Sunset, 8:13 p.m.
- Sunrise, 5:20 a.m.
- Sunset, 8:14 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 62 degrees
- Humidity 76 percent
- Sky mostly cloudy
- Winds north 10 mph
- Barometer 29.99 inches and steady
- Record High today 102° (1952)
- Record Low today 41° (1997)

Last 24 Hours*

- High Wednesday 80°
- Low Wednesday 54°
- Precipitation none
- This month none
- Year to date 7.31
- Below normal 0.61 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly sunny with patchy fog before 10 a.m., a high near 75, winds out of the north from 10 to 15 mph and a low around 50. Saturday: Partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers or thunderstorms after noon, a high near 79, winds breezy out of the south at 10 to 30 mph and a low around 54.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of shower and thunderstorms, a high near 86 and a low around 58. Monday: Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers or thunderstorms at night and a high near 88.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400.MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$7.99 bushel
- Posted county price — \$8
- Corn — \$7.51 bushel
- Posted county price — \$7.23
- Milo — \$7.25 bushel
- Soybeans — \$12.81 bushel
- Posted county price — \$13.38
- Millet — \$5 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$32.40 cwt.
- Confection — no bid
- Pinto beans — \$28 (new crop)
- (Markets by Scoular Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today

More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News



Camp gets girls going

The fourth, fifth and sixth grade girls did dribbling drills at the basketball camp run by Goodland High School Coach Andy Scheopner and his assistant coaches. See photos on Page 12.

City, FAA reach lease agreement

By Tom Betz

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The Federal Aviation Administration office will stay at the Renner Field with a new lease agreement with a higher rent the city commissioners heard at the meeting on Monday.

City Manager Doug Gerber said he had talked to the FAA representative and had come to a verbal agreement on all the items.

He said the FAA representative had agreed to a raise in the rent to \$14,000 a year. He said that is about \$8.43 per square foot and is closer to what the city average is for commercial property. The FAA has been paying \$11,200 a year or about \$6.73 a square foot.

Gerber said the five year lease is for approximately 1,663 square feet of office space in the south portion of the terminal building plus 144 square feet of T-Hangar storage space provided under the lease at no cost to the FAA.

He said the lease has been updated to reflect the cleaning the city employee handles, and the language about subleasing the space.

Gerber said the other change is to clear up and make the utilities more accurate.

He said the current lease talks about the city providing all utilities, but that is not what has been happening. He said the FAA pays water and the city has paid electricity and sewer.

City Clerk Mary Volk said actually that is opposite what has been happening. She said the FAA pays the electricity and sewer and the city pays the water as it is all on one meter in the terminal.

Among other items listed in the current lease the city is to provide daily trash removal, daily janitorial service and supplies including daily dusting and painting of the area every five years. Gerber said as far as he can find out the city has not painted the area, and the existing lease has been in place for at least 10 years.

Another item Gerber said he felt needs to be changed is about subleasing the space. The existing lease allows the space to be subleased without any permission. Gerber felt it ought to include subleasing with written permission.

He said the proposed lease is for five years beginning on Oct. 1, and the services and utilities section has been changed to reflect current practice. He said the language on subleasing has been changed to require written permission from the city.

Mayor John Garcia asked if Gerber had any idea what it costs the city on a monthly basis for janitorial service. Garcia wondered if it was as high as \$1,500 a month.

Gerber said it was not even close to that. He said Joyce Sanderson, who does the cleaning goes out there every day, but it is probably less than \$150 a month.

Commissioner Josh Dechant said he was glad to see the increase in the rent and made the motion to approve the lease. Commissioner Annette Fairbanks seconded and the vote was unanimous with Commissioners Bill Finley and Chris Zimmerman voting in favor.

In other business the commissioners approved delaying a demolition bid on the house at 520 W. 16th until Friday to give

Shirley Barnhart, who lives across the street, a final chance to sell the house. The house has been on the city list for more than six months, and in May Barnhart told the commissioners she had given up trying to sell the house. On Monday as the commissioners were considering the demolition bid, Barnhart said she had someone who wanted to buy the house and asked for a delay in the demolition to see if she can get the house sold.

"I know you have it in the list to demolish the property," Barnhart said. "I had a gentleman come to ask to buy it. I am asking for a week or two to get the paperwork done. I would be able to let you know by Friday or next week."

Mayor Garcia asked if the potential buyer was ready to take immediate action to repair the house.

Barnhart said the man had looked at the house twice, and said he was ready to get to

See LEASE, Page 5

City receives grant for playground equipment

By Tom Betz

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Goodland has received notice of an award of \$24,500 for playground equipment from the Kansas Health Foundation the city commissioners heard at their meeting on Monday.

City Manager Doug Gerber said the city had received a letter from the Kansas Health Foundation saying the city had been approved for a Recognition Grant with a check for \$24,500.

Gerber said in the grant the city had designated Chambers Park, but felt that could be changed to a different park if the commissioners decided. He said the effort was by the city staff, and after the suggestion from Commissioner Chris Zimmerman about handicap equipment Amy Thorson has been talking to the playground manufacturers.

He said from what Thorson has heard the handicap playground equipment is significantly higher cost.

Commissioner Josh Dechant asked how the city heard about the grant program.

Gerber said the staff was looking for places and this jumped up on the screen. He said he thought they had heard about it at a Kansas League of Municipalities meeting.

"Job well done," Dechant said.

In his manager's report

• Gerber reminded the commissioners of a change in meeting date in July moving the first meeting to Tuesday, July 5. He reminded the commissioners of the budget workshop to be held following the regular meeting on Monday, July 18.

• Reported the inspection for the water treatment plant is planned for Monday, June 20. He said there are some kinks, and contractors were back into town to work out the kinks.

Rich Simon, public works director, said the contractors were working on it.

• Said the brick street project will



Visitors driving into town on K-27 will be greeted by the new City of Goodland sign erected on the east side of the highway south of the K-27 and Business U.S. 24 intersection. The sign is of similar design to the one at the entrance of Pioneer Park at the intersec-

tion of Cherry Ave. and Business U.S. 24. City commissioners are considering erecting a similar sign on the north edge of the city along K-27 where the turn is onto Caldwell Ave. north of the airport.

Photo by Ava Betz/The Goodland Star-News

have to be a commission decision. He said it might be best to push it back to next spring. He said trying to get it done between the alumni reunion in August and Flatlander Fall Festival would be optimistic, but did not believe it is realistic.

Commissioner Bill Finley asked if the city would lose any money by delaying the street project to next spring.

Gerber said not that he knew and meeting with the state transportation department representative Eric Oelschlager he said that should not be an issue. He said the plans could be ready next week, but it would take 60 days to be reviewed by KDOT and take another 30 days for bids.

"I appreciate that perspective," Mayor John Garcia said. "You have the weather elements to think of as well. As much as I would like to see it done, I understand."

Jeff Mills, of Evans, Bierly, Hutchinson and Associates handling the engineering, said the city could be lucky and have a firm come in and do the project quickly, but if the bid goes to a smaller contractor it would take more time and could be delayed by weather.

Gerber said he felt it was unlikely the large company would come in and get the bid.

Dechant asked if the city was going to proceed with the bids.

"After we jump through the KDOT hoops," Gerber said.

Mills said they have some of the process done, but it will be up to KDOT for their review.

Dechant asked under the worse case scenario when would the city know about the bids.

Gerber said it would be the first of August. He said he has a hard time seeing the timing work out.

• Economic development highlights from May were presented by Michael Solomon about the contacts he had made.

He said he felt one of the important programs is the Rural Opportunity Zone. He said he feels this is a huge thing for Sherman County and rural western Kansas.

An example was if a young person were to move to Goodland from a

dent school in Colorado the person would not have to pay income taxes for five years, and could get up to \$15,000 to help pay off college loans. He said in Sherman County with the neighborhood revitalization program if the person built a home or added \$5,000 in assessed value to an existing home they could get a property tax rebate.

He said this is a tremendous opportunity, and that he will be going to the county commissioners to encourage them to opt into the tuition reimbursement program. He said this program does include Kansas kids who go to college and come back. They can get the credit

See CITY, Page 5

City grants incentive to Cowboy Xpress

By Tom Betz

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Plans are for Cowboy Corner Xpress to open in July at the corner of Main Ave. and 17th Street the city commission was told on Monday, and were asking for economic development incentives from the city.

Michael Solomon, director of economic development, said Jayson Woofter has purchased the old Cowboy Loop property and plans to reopen the convenience store and gas pumps as Cowboy Corner Xpress with an opening in mid July to mid August.

Solomon said Woofter is expecting to have eight full time and part time employees.

Woofter is planning to offer Hot Stuff Pizza as well as fresh made-to-order subs and salads, Solomon said.

He said Woofter was not able to attend the city meeting, and he was

presenting their request for incentives. Solomon said his recommendation was a six month utility rebate based on the average bill the store had after the completion of the first 12 months of operation.

He said looking at the previous utility bills the average for a month was \$1,650. He said it will depend on how many coolers and ovens the business uses and the average could be higher or lower.

He said Woofter said the convenience store will have a large selection of retail merchandise to give variety to the customers. He said the plan is to put in new gas pumps that will handle credit cards.

Mayor John Garcia said the utility rebate is what the commission has been granting in most cases for economic development incentives.

Commissioner Annette Fairbanks said she felt the six month rebate was in line with what the city has been doing.

Schedule changes for Legion Levi Hayden baseball tourney

The Goodland American Legion will host the 13th Annual Levi Hayden Memorial Tournament at Memorial Field Saturday and Sunday.

People will have a chance to watch 10 baseball games over the two days with teams from Burlington, Colo., Garden City, Goodland, Lakin, and WaKeeney competing.

Tammy Freeman, Goodland Outlaws Manager, said Wednesday morning things were a bit confused because of conflicts with high school students taking the ACT tests on Saturday. Freeman had rearranged the schedule to accommodate the five teams and Thursday morning was waiting for details from a couple of teams about the ACT tests that might delay the start of the first game on Saturday.

Games are scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday, but Freeman said with the ACT tests the first game may be moved to 11 a.m.

The schedule for Saturday is Lakin against Garden City in the opening game.

Goodland is scheduled to play the second game against Lakin.

Third game will be WaKeeney playing Burlington.

Fourth game will be Burlington playing Garden

City.

Fifth game will be Goodland playing Wakeeney. For Sunday the first game is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. with Burlington playing Lakin.

Second game is Goodland playing Burlington.

Third game is Lakin playing WaKeeney.

Fourth game Goodland playing Wakeeney.

Fifth game Goodland playing Garden City.

The tournament champion will be determined by the best record, Freeman said. If there is a tie the tie breaker will be the fewest runs allowed by a team, and if still a tie will be most runs scored.

At the end of the tournament, coaches, umpires, and the announcer will vote on the most inspirational player.

A special opening ceremony with the American Legion will be held before the first game on Saturday.

The tournament is named for Levi Hayden, a Goodland High student who loved baseball. He played his final game Feb. 21, 1997, and died as result of an automobile accident that spring.

The Hayden Memorial Scholarship of \$500 will be given at the first Goodland game. Proceeds from the tournament fund the scholarship, which is given to a Goodland American Legion senior player.

