

Council holds off on accepting plan

The Oberlin City Council decided to hold off on accepting an agreement from one of two engineering firms to help the city to prepare a capital improvement plan until the council and staff can put some ideas together.

Mr. Riedel said when he read through the agreements, he didn't think they were what the city was looking for. The plan would list projects with one-year, three-year and five-year scopes so if money became available, the projects could be done.

The first company in the packet, HWS, has the tools in the proposal for the city to do the job themselves, he added.

Mr. Riedel said he thinks it's a necessity for the city to have a plan, and it needs an engineering firm or someone else to put a plan together.

It sounds like the city needs to do some work first, said Mayor Stanley.

Yes, said Mr. Riedel, adding that he appreciates what the city received, but thinks they need to make it a little clearer what the council wants.



SENATOR TIM HUELSKAMP talked with Jerry Lohoefer during a campaign stop in Oberlin on Saturday. Mr. Huelskamp is running for Congress in the "Big First" District covering central and western Kansas. — Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

Senator-farmer running for Congress

By KIMBERLY DAVIS
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With four elections behind him, Tim Huelskamp is running for the "Big First" District Congressional seat covering central and western Kansas.

Mr. Huelskamp, when he was elected to the state Senate in 1996, was the youngest senator elected to serve in the state in 20 years. He followed Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer and Rep. John Faber around Saturday during their town hall meetings, talking with people in each town where the men stopped.

Sen. Huelskamp took the opportunity to talk with constituents in St. Francis, Bird City, Atwood and Oberlin about issues facing them and to get his name out as the candidate to vote for to serve the 1st District.

Small-town rural America, he said, is where the values are. As a fifth generation Kansas farmer, he said he plans to take those values to Washington. Sen. Huelskamp said he will fight

to keep rural America alive and prospering.

The battle is in Washington, he said. The federal national deficit runs in the trillions of dollars, and that needs to be turned around. It's time to stop spending money that we don't have to spend.

In talking to people, he said that they tell him they're scared about the direction those in Washington are going. Congress and the president, he said, are trying to do a lot of things they don't have the power to do.

People want to make the local decisions locally, not be told what they can and can't do by the federal government. The people should be able to make those decisions on how to run their cities, counties and schools, he said.

In rural America, Sen. Huelskamp said, agriculture is the biggest industry. There are only 10 farmers in Congress out of 435 representatives and there should be more. Western Kansas is a wonderful place to live, he said, but people also have to be able to make a living. It's important

for people out here to have a voice.

Kansas is home to him. Although he went away to go to school for a few years, he returned. Mr. Huelskamp attended seminary in Santa Fe where he received a bachelor's degree in social science education at the College of Santa Fe. If elected, he said, he will keep his home in Kansas. Following graduation he pursued a doctorate at The American University in Washington D.C., studying political science with a specialization in agriculture policy.

Mr. Huelskamp was elected to the Senate in 1996 and again in 2000, 2004 and 2008. He's served on the Agriculture, Energy and Natural Resources, Education, Elections and Local Government committees and the Joint Committee on Information Technology.

He and his wife Angela have four kids, Natasha, Rebecca, Athan and Alexander, all of whom they adopted.

The family lives on a farm near Fowler, in southwest Kansas.

Water treatment options on agenda

The Oberlin City Council will review all the alternatives to building a water treatment plant, including putting a reverse osmosis unit in every house, when it meets Thursday.

The city received a consent order from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment at the Thursday, Feb. 4, meeting. The council signed that order and it's on

the way back to the department.

City Administrator Austin Gilley said Mayor Joe Stanley would like to review all of the city's alternatives for water treatment again.

Mr. Gilley said the city has received an offer from an oil and gas company to lease 134 acres at the airport. The company wants to do seismic testing to see if they can put in a well.

If the firm gets a producing well on the leased ground, the city would get part of the money, he said.

The offer is being updated, said Mr. Gilley, so he wasn't sure how much information there would be on the topic. Also on the agenda is an agreement between the city and the Last Indian Raid Museum for records management. The city has stacks of paperwork, some of which

QUARTERLY STATEMENT OF

Jean Ann Hale, County Treasurer of Decatur County, Kansas, Showing Balance on hand for the Quarter ending January 31, 2010

FUND		SP ROAD		S.WASTE	
County General	349,410.61	Special Park & Rec.	3,509.73		
SW Bell Rural 911	27,173.85	Summer Rec.	69.99		
Wireless E-911	7,400.51	Public Trans.	5,347.98		
Recycling	685.26	Special Jail Equip.	3,762.21		
Landfill	29,291.41	PATF.	386.00		
Road & Bridge	720,123.79	Sp Fire Equip.	119,001.77		
Special Bridge	166,750.34	Bond & Interest	51,454.53		
Home for Aged	66,234.44	RFD Memorial	2,798.14		
Conservation District	5,300.76	Economic Devel.	6,361.50		
County Health Nurse	50,740.51	CORE	1,873.28		
Noxious Weed Sp Eq	12,959.00	RFD	79,571.15		
Golden Age Bond	237.21	Bad Check Trust Fund	2,523.97		
Mental Health	13,010.23	Stray Animals	392.95		
Ambulance Memorial	1,197.72	Hospital Rev. Bond	56,285.69		
Ambulance	176,739.86	Historical Books	1,479.00		
Co. Health Sp Equip	22,343.00	Corp. Plan Emp. Trust	27,320.49		
Noxious Weed	50,003.88	Current Tax	98,468.52		
Special Road Mach	114,874.75	Motor Vehicle Tax	7,714.85		
Election	63,950.96	Delq. Personal Tax	1,484.31		
Ambulance Sp Equip	98,820.94	Good Sam Mem. Prin.	550,483.56		
Deeds Tech. Fund	6,667.42	Treasurer Special Auto	5,237.21		
Employee Benefit	591,802.12	Motor Vehicle License	5,408.00		
Conceal & Carry	1,980.00	Sales Tax	16,625.79		
Juvenile Detention	2,710.00	Rv Tax	52.50		
Summer Rec. Mem	3,087.50	Cash Over & Under	-43.68		
Senior Citizens	22,290.16	Partial Pay	4,847.36		
Employee WH	26,708.95	Redemp. & Assign	35,543.46		
Cafeteria 125	24,599.35	Suspense Acct	9,852.05		
Sp Alcohol Program	7,267.83				
		Total	3,870,240.42		

State inspection goes well for ambulance

The Decatur County ambulance department received a good report after the yearly state inspection, with only minor fixes needed, Tuesday.

Director Linda Manning said the inspector found that the license-tag

light was out on car No. 5, so she needs to get it fixed.

Other than that, she said, there were a few supplies that were outdated in the Jennings barn. Those have been replaced.

The state inspector, said Ms. Manning, wants to go through the logs and figure an average response time.

That's the time from when the ambulance crew is paged to the time the car leaves the barn.

If there are any calls where that's an abnormally long time, said Commissioner Ralph Unger, it might be a good idea to find out why.

The commissioners approved the purchase of two portable suction machines for the ambulances.

State to survey three bridges

Crews with the Kansas Department of Transportation will be out next week surveying three bridges on U.S. 36 that have been posted with lower weight limits since last year.

The three bridges are 2.2, 4 and 6.8 miles east of town.

Eric Oelschlager, area 2 engineer, said the bridges are on the list to be

redone, but not until at least 2013. The surveys need to be done so that to rebuild each bridge plans can be done. The plans are the first step, he said, then the department will have to find money to do the work.

The survey work won't stop traffic on U.S. 36, said Kristen Brands, public affairs manager for north-west Kansas.

NOTICE OF SEALED BIDS

The Gove County Road Department is seeking sealed bids for one 1979 5600 Special Ford Tractor with a tiger side mount mower, hydraulic driven. We also have a 1970 1170 Case Tractor. To view the equipment contact David Mendenhall @ the Gove County Road Department, P.O. Box 156, 502 Broad Street, Gove, KS. 67736, 785-938-4450 or 785-673-9122. The sealed bids must be received by mail, or hand delivered by 4:00 p.m. central standard time on Feb. 19, 2010. Gove County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

NOTICE OF SEALED BIDS

The Gove County Road Department is seeking sealed bids for two John Deere CX 15 Flex Wing Rotary Mower, Serial # W0CX15F006124 and Serial # W0CX15F005510. These mowers are two years old, have air bags, and new blades. To view the equipment contact David Mendenhall @ the Gove County Road Department, PO Box 156, 502 Broad Street, Gove, KS 67736, 785-938-4450 or 785-673-9122. The sealed bids must be received by mail, or hand delivered by 4:00 p.m. central standard time on Feb. 19, 2010. Gove County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

New Listings



- All main floor living
- 3 Bedrooms • 1 1/2 baths • 2 lots
- Central heat and air 2004
- New roof 2008 • Masonite siding



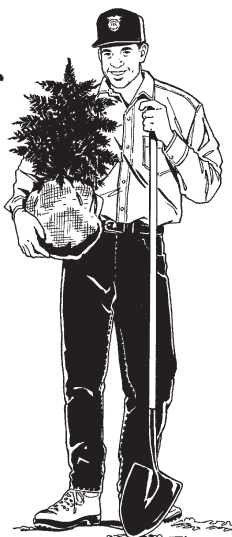
- All main floor living
- Attached garage • 2 large bedrooms
- Big closets • Ceiling fans
- 1 full bath • Large living room

Several houses between \$10,000 and \$115,000

"Home Sweet Home" is sweeter when you own it!

Home Range Real Estate, Inc.
157 S. Penn Ave., Oberlin, KS 67749
www.homerangerealestate.com
Gary Richards, Broker
785-475-3740 • 785-475-8324

It is not too early to plan and place your TREE ORDERS.



Please call the Decatur County Conservation District Office at 785-475-3131 Ext. 101 OR stop by our office, located on South U.S. Hwy. 83 in Oberlin, Kansas. (Order deadline is March 26)

TOWNSHIP	GEN'L REVENUE	ROAD	SP ROAD	S.WASTE
Allison		294.75		
Altory		255.03		
Bassetville		25,158.25	53,885.55	
Beaver		254.34		
Center		270.36		
Cook		281.51		
Custer		245.28		
Dresden		283.60		630.00
Finley		22,240.20		
Garfield		308.69		
Grant		275.24		
Harlan		324.02		
Jennings		325.41		
Liberty		303.81		
Lincoln		304.51		
Logan		6,375.30		
Lyon		346.32		
Oberlin		24,410.31	2,154.20	
Olive		8,993.75		
Pl Valley		347.01		
Prairie Dog		285.69		
Roosevelt		250.16		
Sappa		220.89		
Sherman		7,522.86		
Summit		15,171.61		
TOTAL	0.00	115,048.90	56,039.75	630.00

CEMETERY	
Norcatour	623.77
Dresden	1,035.04
Hawkeye	1,537.55
TOTAL	3,196.36

FUND	
County Funds	3,870,240.42
Township Funds	171,718.65
Cemetery Funds	3,196.36
TOTAL	4,045,155.43

CASH:	
Investments	1,945,072.08
The Bank Oberlin	936,347.31
Cash	625.00
The Bank MM	262,087.04
The Bank Oberlin MM	100,310.94
TBO Corp Plan	27,330.49
FNB-Wireless E911	7,400.40
Farmers Bank & Trust	660,333.48
TB MM-Good Sam Mem	105,411.48
TB-Golden Age Bond	237.21
TOTAL	4,045,155.43

State of Kansas, Decatur County, ss
I, Jean Ann Hale, Treasurer of DECATUR County, Kansas, do solemnly swear that the above statement is complete, true and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.
SO HELP ME GOD. Jean Ann Hale, County Treasurer
I HEREBY CERTIFY, That the foregoing statement was subscribed and sworn to before me, and in my presence, by the above named, this 31st day of January, 2010. Nora Urban, Deputy

