

# City ordinance 1471 on electric, water rates

## ORDINANCE NO. 1471

**AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO THE PROVIDING OF ELECTRIC AND WATER UTILITIES AND AMENDING AND REPEALING ARTICLES 1, 2, 3 AND 4 OF CHAPTER 17 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GOODLAND, KANSAS.**

### ARTICLE 1.

#### DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. The Governing Body shall review annually the rates for the utilities provided by the City of Goodland. Said rates shall be set by ordinance of the Governing Body of said City and shall be based upon the following categories and their respective definitions.

#### Section 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS:

- RESIDENTIAL shall include all residential dwellings containing less than twenty (20) individual dwelling units.
- RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC SERVICE. Service for residential is AC, 60 cycles, 120/240 volts, 3 wire, single-phase or 120 volt, 2 wire. Single-phase heating loads shall not aggregate over 25 KW except at the utility's option. Three-phase motors shall be on a separate meter, and may at the utility's option be assessed an additional charge.
- COMMERCIAL shall include but not be limited to all businesses, government operations, commercial enterprises, dwelling complexes containing twenty (20) or more dwelling units, offices, shops, hotels, churches, schools and institutions.
- COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL ELECTRIC SERVICE. Service for commercial is AC, 60 cycles, 120 volts or 120/240 volts single-phase 240 volts three-phase 3 wire, 120/240, 120/208 volts or 277/480 three-phase 4 wire, or at any of the City's standard distribution voltages as available. Customers requiring services at secondary voltages other than that already established by the City shall be required to provide suitable space for location of the City's transformation, metering and associated equipment. Secondary voltage other than that already established shall be provided by special permission of the utility. Single-phase motors and other single-phase power and heating units served under this schedule shall not exceed 10 horse power and single-phase motors shall not aggregate more than 15 horse power, except by special permission of the electrical department of the City of Goodland. Service for industrial is AC, 60 cycles, single or three-phase, at any of the City's standard voltage (13,800 volts or less) where the service may be supplied by a single power transformation location. Three-phase loads shall be balanced. All motors over 5 horse power are to be three-phased balanced loads.
- INDUSTRIAL shall include but not be limited to all businesses, government operations, commercial enterprises, dwelling complexes containing twenty (20) or more dwelling units, offices, shops, hotels, churches, schools and institutions and shall have a single meter at one location meeting or exceeding 2,000 KWH for three consecutive months, and said customers metered demand meeting or exceeding 40 KW per month for the same three consecutive months.
- CITY shall include all departments and operations of the City of Goodland, Kansas.
- LOW-INCOME shall include any household whose total annual gross income is \$9,000 or less. Total annual gross income shall be calculated by adding together the income of all members of said household.
- DWELLING. A building or portion thereof, designed exclusively for residential occupancy, including single-family, two-family and multi-family dwellings, boarding and lodging houses, apartment houses and townhouses, but not hotels or motels.
- DWELLING UNIT. A building or portion of a building that contains living facilities for not more than one family and that includes provisions for sleeping, cooking, eating and sanitation.
- GOOD CREDIT. Good credit is not being delinquent, or in arrears, for any and all utility charges, more than two times in the prior 24 months.
- SEASONAL CUSTOMER. Electrical service established for an agricultural use only during a seasonal period of time each calendar year.
- RETURNED CHECK FEE. There is hereby set a fee for the return of a check to the City in the amount of \$20 plus the amount of the check.

### ARTICLE 2.

#### ELECTRIC UTILITY

#### SECTION 1. UTILITY SERVICE FEE AND/OR DEMAND CHARGE:

All users in categories of commercial and industrial as defined in Section 2, Article 1 of this Ordinance having electrical service shall be subject to a customer charge and/or demand charge assessed and billed as set by ordinance.

1. The users in these categories shall be subject to the following: The maximum metered; 15 minutes demand per month, to be read each month and reset.

a. Those customers having a 3 phase service to provide for but not limited to heating and or air conditioning and having a 450 KWH consumption for any 3 consecutive months shall be subject to demand metering.

b. Accounts with a three-phase service, to provide lighting and or heating and air conditioning, with a service voltage 120/208 pr 120/240, and having KWH usage of 2000, and a KW demand of 10 for any three consecutive months shall be subject to demand metering.

c. Accounts having a single-phase service and having a usage of 2,000 KWH and demand reading of 15 KW for any three consecutive month period shall be subject to demand metering, at the sole discretion of the utility.

d. After a demand meter has been installed, it shall govern all future demand charges and shall not be removed or it's use discontinued without approval and consent by the City Governing Body, unless the criteria for demand metering is not in excess of the minimums established by Ordinance.

e. All users in those categories having 199 amp service or less shall be subject to an additional customer charge or a demand metering assessment and billed according to the rates established by Ordinance.

#### SECTION 2. MONTHLY RESIDENTIAL RATE:

- Customer Charge \$ 2.00 per meter
- Energy Charge - In City \$ 0.085 per KWH
- Energy Charge - Outside City \$ 0.113 per KWH

#### SECTION 3. MONTHLY COMMERCIAL RATE - NON DEMAND:

- Customer Charge \$ 15.00 per meter
- Energy Charge - In City \$ 0.075 per KWH
- Energy Charge - Outside City \$ 0.0997 per KW

#### SECTION 4. MONTHLY COMMERCIAL RATE - DEMAND:

For those customers meeting the criteria as set forth by this ordinance to be classified as a commercial customer requiring demand metering the rates for electrical service shall be as follows:

- Customer Charge \$ 5.00 per meter
- Energy Charge - In City \$ 0.075 per KWH
- Energy Charge - Outside City \$ 0.0997 per KWH
- Metered Demand Charge \$ 5.00 per KW
- Metered Demand Charge - USD 352, \$4.90 per KW Sherman County, Northwest KS Technical College.
- All users in this section shall be subject to a demand charge. The current monthly demand charge shall be established by the highest measured demand (corrected for power factor if required) during any fifteen (15) minute period occurring during the current billing cycle, reset monthly.

#### SECTION 5. MONTHLY COMMERCIAL ACCOUNTS

##### - MULTIPLE METERS:

For those customers who have multiple accounts when the second and succeeding accounts are used for storage only and have usage of 1,200 KWH or less annually per account:

- Customer Charge, per meter, per month \$ 7.50
- Energy Charge None
- Those accounts that exceed 1,200 KWH per year, shall be charged .075/KWH used in excess of 1,200 KWH. Any additional charges shall be billed subsequent to the City's annual review of utility rates.

#### SECTION 6. MONTHLY INDUSTRIAL RATE:

For those customers meeting the criteria as set forth by this ordinance to be classified as an industrial customer the rates for electrical service shall be as follows:

- Customer Charge \$ 12.00 per meter
- Energy Charge - In City \$ 0.065 per KWH
- Energy Charge - Outside City \$ 0.0877 Per KWH
- Metered Demand Charge \$ 5.00 per KW
- Metered demand charge for USD 352, \$4.90 per KW Sherman County, Northwest KS Technical College

##### f. The industrial accounts shall have a choice of billing as hereinbefore provided or they may pay an even demand rate which will be an average of the previous twelve (12) months demand usage. That average will be used to determine the account rate tier. Said average would be determined utilizing the demand charge from January 1st through December 31st of the prior year as stipulated in the tier rate agreement. Each February 1st the average will be recalculated.

12 Month Avg. Usage	Dem. KW Charged	Monthly Cost	Annual Cost
A 41-55	47	\$ 235.00	\$ 2,820.00
B 56-65	60	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,600.00
C 66-80	75	\$ 375.00	\$ 4,500.00
D 81-100	87	\$ 435.00	\$ 5,220.00
E 101-115	105	\$ 525.00	\$ 6,300.00
F 116-140	125	\$ 625.00	\$ 7,500.00
G 141-180	155	\$ 775.00	\$ 9,300.00
H 181-220	195	\$ 975.00	\$11,700.00
I 221-306	259	\$1,295.00	\$15,540.00
J 307-392	345	\$1,725.00	\$20,700.00
K 393-478	431	\$2,155.00	\$25,860.00
L 479-564	517	\$2,585.00	\$31,020.00

g. All users in this section shall be subject to a demand charge. The current monthly demand charge shall be established by the highest measured demand (corrected for power factor if required) during any fifteen (15) minute period occurring during the current billing cycle, reset monthly.

#### SECTION 7. MONTHLY CITY RATES:

- Energy Charge \$ 0.065 per KWH
- Customer Charge None

SECTION 8. A monthly fuel adjustment will be added to monthly electrical utility bills for all classes of electric customers of the City of Goodland, Kansas. Said adjustment shall be known as the Fuel Adjustment Charge (FA) and shall be calculated as follows:

a. If the City's total purchase and/or production cost of electricity is greater than \$0.028 per kilowatt hour, then the adjustment charge shall be the difference, on a monthly basis, between \$0.028 per kilowatt hour and the actual increased cost of production and/or purchase multiplied by the actual meter produced and/or purchased kilowatt hours divided by total billed kilowatt hours. This figure determines the fuel adjustment multiplier which will then be multiplied by the customer's monthly kilowatt hour usage.

The fuel adjustment (FA) so determined shall be added to each customer's monthly utility billing and shall be identified as FA.

#### SECTION 9. CONNECTION FEE:

There shall be a utility connection fee assessed to all city electrical customers for the connection to the electric utility of the City. The connection fee shall be due and payable at the time the connection of the utilities is requested by the customer.

There is hereby set a utility connection fee for the connection of electrical utility by the City in the amount of \$10.00 plus any applicable state and local sales tax. There is hereby set a utility connection fee for seasonal commercial and industrial electrical customers in the amount of \$75.00 plus any applicable state and local sales taxes.

#### SECTION 10. TAP CHARGE:

A. Residential. A tap charge shall be assessed for the installation of a new service or modification, alteration, relocation, and or upgrade of an existing service, for whatever reason. The party requesting the new installation or modification shall pay said tap charge after work on the service has been completed by the City of Goodland, and an inspection of the service by the city building inspector has been made. Said electrical service shall not be energized until the above conditions have been met.

Tap charges for residential customers inside the city boundaries shall be as follows; the City of Goodland shall share the cost of installation or modification with the party requesting said service at a rate of fifty percent (50%) each, of the cost of equipment and materials required to install or modify the service from the secondary side of the transformation equipment to the mast or other point of connection on the residence, which will include but not be limited to: wire; butt connectors; poles; hangers; wraps; etc.

B. Commercial and Industrial Tap Charge. A tap charge shall be assessed for the installation of a new service or modification, alteration, relocation, and/or upgrade of an existing service, for whatever reason, from the point of connection at the primary energy source, to and including the transformation to the mast head or other connection point at the service. The party requesting the new installation or modification shall pay said tap charge after the City of Goodland has completed work on the service and an inspection of the service by the

city building inspector has been made. Said electrical service shall not be energized until the above conditions have been met.

Tap charges for commercial & industrial customers inside the city boundaries shall be as follows; the City of Goodland shall share the cost of installation or modification with the party requesting said service, in the following manner. The City of Goodland shall pay one-half up to fifteen-hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) of the cost of equipment and materials required to install or modify the service. All costs over and above this amount shall be the sole responsibility of the party requesting the service and or modification, which, will include but not be limited to: wire; transformers; conduit; butt connectors; poles; hangers; wraps; etc.

C. Tap charges for all customers outside city boundaries shall be as follows: All costs incurred in installing a new service and/or the modification, relocation, alteration, or upgrading of an existing service, shall be the sole responsibility of the party requesting said service. These costs shall include all materials and labor necessary to establish said service including but not limited to the following: poles; wire; conduit; connectors; transformers; labor; etc. All tap charges as set out in this paragraph C, shall be paid prior to the City of Goodland energizing the service. The installation of the service shall be at the sole discretion of the City of Goodland in terms of whether said installation shall be underground or overhead.

#### SECTION 11. OWNERSHIP OF ELECTRICAL SERVICE AND EQUIPMENT:

The City retains the title to the ownership of the electrical service, electrical meters, city service line and all service equipment used in connection with the supply of electricity to any premises or building. All service lines from the point of connection to the City's service lines to any premises or building shall be installed and maintained by the user.

#### SECTION 12. SHUTTING OFF ELECTRICITY:

The City may, at any time, shut off or require any consumer to shut off electricity for any of, but not limited to, the following reasons:

- Repair, install or extend electric lines and/or equipment;
- Make connections or disconnections from the City electric lines;
- For a violation of the rules and requirements governing the use of the City's electric power;
- For any major fire or other catastrophic incident.

#### SECTION 13. RIGHT OF ACCESS:

Authorized employees of the City may enter upon any premises at reasonable hours for the purpose of reading the electric meter or servicing or inspecting electric service and/or meters.

#### SECTION 14. MEASURE OF ELECTRIC SERVICE TO CONSUMER:

a. All electrical energy or current furnished by the city to any consumer shall be measured to said consumer thereof by a meter or meters as hereinbefore set out.

b. Electrical meters shall be read once per month for billing purposes. If the consumer requests that the meter be read more than once per month, except as provided in Section 17 of this Ordinance, then each additional reading shall cause a fee of \$20.00 plus any applicable state and local tax to be assessed to said consumer.

#### SECTION 15. SERVICE DISCONNECTION OR RECONNECTION:

Any person, firm, partnership or corporation who fails, neglects, or refuses to properly pay any electric utility charges when due, shall be deemed delinquent, and as such, service may be disconnected at the time and pursuant to the terms set forth in Article 5 of this Ordinance, as amended, and service shall be disconnected until such delinquent customers shall have paid all arrearages to the City, and if such customer then desires service he or she shall pay the City a sum as set by this Ordinance, plus any applicable state and local sales tax as a charge for reconnecting the service and he or she shall further deposit with the City an additional sum as set in this Ordinance as a guarantee that charges for electrical current or energy furnished by the City will be paid promptly when due.

It shall be unlawful for any person to reconnect electrical service or cause the same to be reconnected on any premises where electrical service has been shut off for any reason authorized under this article without the authority of the City.

There is hereby established a reconnection fee for reconnection of electrical utility for the City in the amount of \$20 plus any applicable state and local sales tax and an additional \$50 deposit for residential customers, or additional commercial deposit of twice the previous months utility bill or \$200, which ever is greater. Any customer that has been disconnected for non-payment two times or more in the previous twelve months shall pay a reconnection fee and deposit equal to twice the fees stated herein above.

#### SECTION 16. METER DEPOSIT:

All persons, firms, partnerships, corporations, contractors, sub-contractors, tenants or lessees desiring or proposing to use electrical current or energy shall make a deposit in an amount as set forth in this Ordinance. Said deposit will be required by the City as guarantee for charges for electrical current or energy furnished to the customer by the City and will be paid promptly when due. Such deposits are to be made prior to service by the City and are to be returned when electrical service ceases, less any sum due for electrical currents so furnished. Customers establishing good credit with the City will have their deposit returned. If said customers who have established good credit, discontinue service and then subsequently request a reconnection to electrical service within 24 months of previous disconnection, then that customer shall not be charged a deposit. If said customer's account has been delinquent, or in arrears, more than two times in the prior 24 months then the refund of the deposit shall not be returned until two years after the last date the account has been delinquent, and if a customer's account becomes delinquent after deposit has been returned for good credit or no deposit has been collected, subsequent to reconnection as hereinbefore set out, then a new deposit in an amount as set forth in the Ordinance will be required in order to re-establish service. The Customer will receive interest annually on the deposit using the State of Kansas rules as a guideline.

#### DEPOSITS

- Residential: \$ 50.00
- Commercial and Industrial:
  - Initial Meter \$200.00
  - Second Meter \$150.00
  - Third and Subsequent Meters \$100.00 per meter

#### SECTION 17. METER TESTING:

Any customer of electrical energy or current who believes that his or her meter is incorrect and desires the same tested shall make application to the City Clerk for the inspection of the meter. It shall be the duty of the electrical department to test such meter, and if such meter is found to be more than two percent (2%) fast, the customer shall have adjustment of electric utility charges covering the period of the preceding three months and if the meter is found to be running less rapidly than

is proper, the customer shall pay the proper adjustment to the City for the preceding three months; provided, that before any meter shall be tested as provided in this section, the party desiring the test shall deposit with the City \$20 and if the meter is shown by the test to be correct within two percent (2%), the deposit shall be forfeited to the City for costs of inspection.

**SECTION 18. PLACING METERS:**

All meters to be used for the purpose of measuring electric current or energy, shall except by special permission of the electrical department be placed between five and seven feet from the floor or ground, and in the nearest readily accessible place outside where the wires enter the building and/or any other point of attachment. The location of all meters must be approved by the electrical department before the meter is set.

**SECTION 19. LICENSED ELECTRICIANS TO DO WORK:**

No person except a licensed electrician shall be permitted to install or repair electrical service connections from the City service line to the individuals main breaker box and/or disconnect.

**ARTICLE 3  
WATER UTILITY**

**SECTION 1. MONTHLY WATER RATES:**

- a. The following monthly rates are hereby established and fixed for the consumption of water from the City's water system within the City's corporate limits.
  - 1. Meter Charge \$2.00 per meter
  - 2. Cubic feet water used per month
    - First 300, minimum charge \$3.60
    - All over 300, per 100 cubic feet 0.95
- b. The consumers of water consumed outside of the corporate limits of the city from the City's water system, all rates shall be fifty percent (50%) greater than the rates set out above for the consumers of water from the system within the corporate limits of the City.
- c. The following rate is hereby established for bulk sale of water from the dispensing site established by the City. Each one hundred (100) gallons or part thereof - \$ 0.25. This rate includes all applicable state and local sales tax.

**SECTION 2. CONNECTION FEE:**

There shall be a utility connection fee assessed to all consumers of water from the City's water system for connection to the water utility of the City. The connection fee shall be due and payable at the time connection of the utilities is requested by the consumer. There is hereby set a utility connection fee for the connection of water utility by the City in the amount of \$10.00.

**SECTION 3. DEPOSIT GUARANTEE:**

All persons, firms, partnerships, corporations, contractors, subcontractors, tenants or lessees desiring or proposing to use water shall make a deposit in an amount as set forth in this Ordinance. Said deposit will be required by the City as guarantee for charges for water furnished to the customer by the City and will be paid promptly when due. Such deposits are to be made prior to service by the City and are to be returned when utility service ceases, less any sum due for water so furnished. Customers establishing good credit with the City will have deposit returned. If said customers who have established good credit discontinue service and then subsequently request a re-connection to water service, then that customer shall not be charged a deposit. If said customer's account has been delinquent, or in arrears, more than two times in the prior 24 months, then the refund of the deposit shall not be returned until two years after the last date the account has been delinquent, and if a customer's account becomes delinquent after deposit has been returned for good credit or no deposit has been collected, subsequent to re-connection as hereinbefore set out, then a new deposit in an amount as set forth in the Ordinance will be required in order to re-establish service. The Customer will receive interest annually on the deposit using the State of Kansas rules as a guideline.

**DEPOSITS**

Meters one inch (1") or smaller	\$50.00 per meter
Meters larger than one inch (1")	\$100.00 per meter

**SECTION 4. TAP CHARGE:**

A tap charge shall be assessed for installing new water services by the City. The party requesting installation of water services shall pay said tap charge after work on the service has been completed by the City of Goodland, and inspection of the service has been made by, either the City Building Inspector, or a representative of the City's Water Department. Said water service shall not be turned on until the above conditions are met.

The tap charge shall include actual cost of material, labor and equipment utilized in the installation plus ten percent (10%) plus any applicable state and local sales tax.

**SECTION 5. WATER SERVICE UNDER CONTROL OF THE CITY:**

- a. The City shall have charge of the water lines in the streets and up to and including the water meter where-soever located, and all valves shall be under direct control of the Director of Public Works and Utilities. It shall be unlawful for any person to manipulate any valve in the City's water lines, without orders from the Director of Public Works and Utilities.
- b. The City shall tap the water main and supply all materials and labor for the installation of the standard water service connection, and shall run a service line to the property line, furnish and set water meter and enclose and cover the same. The City expressly retains the title to the ownership of the water service connection, the water meter, and all service equipment used in connection with the supply of water to any premises or buildings within the City. All such consumers and all other property owners whose premises are connected to the City water mains shall at their own expense repair, replace, remove all water service lines owned by them, or located on their own premises as may be required by the City in order to prevent loss or damage to the public at large.
- c. It is expressly stipulated by the City Governing Body that no claims shall be made against them, the City, or any agent, or employee of the City by reason of any break of any service line or other apparatus connected with the City water works, or if from any cause the supply of water should fail, or be disconnected, or shut off.

**SECTION 6. MEASURE OF WATER SERVICE TO CONSUMER:**

- a. All water furnished by the city to any consumer shall be measured to said consumer thereof by a meter or meters as hereinbefore set out.
- b. Water meters shall be read once per month for billing purposes. If the consumer requests that the meter be read more than once per month, except as provided herein, then each additional reading shall cause a fee of \$20.00 to be assessed to said consumer.

**SECTION 7. SHUTTING OFF WATER:**

The City may, at any time, shut off or require any consumer to shut off water for any of, but not limited to, the following reasons:

- a. Repair, install or extend water lines;
- b. Make connections or disconnections from the City water lines;
- c. For a violation of the rules and requirements governing

- d. the use of the City's water;
- e. For any major fire or other catastrophic incident;
- f. Failure to repair a water leak due to defective plumbing.

**SECTION 8. SEPARATE WATER SERVICE:**

It shall be unlawful for any person to connect more than one structure used as a dwelling unit or place of business to the same water line of the City, without having each structure properly metered by a separate meter.

**SECTION 9. METERS ACCESS:**

- a. Authorized employees of the City may enter upon any premises at reasonable hours for the purpose of reading the water meter or servicing or inspecting water meters or utility service. No person shall cover, block, hide, conceal, or any other manner hinder access to any water meter.
- b. Each individual water meter reading will be the basis of charge regardless of the number of meters.

**SECTION 10. CHARACTER OF WATER PIPES:**

All water pipes or lines connected with the water mains of the City for the purpose of conducting water from the mains, through or across any street, lot or alley, or for the purpose of connecting with any hydrant, or for any other purpose shall be of a type approved by the Director of Public Works and Utilities.

**SECTION 11. NEGLIGENCE:**

Any consumer or person who through his or her negligence or careless disregard allows the damage of his or her water meter shall be liable for the same and shall pay to the City the cost of labor, materials and repairs for the damage plus any applicable state and local sales tax.

**SECTION 12. WASTING WATER:**

Any person, firm, partnership or corporation that shall allow or cause any unreasonable waste or diversion of water of whatsoever sort or kind shall be guilty of a violation of this Article.

**SECTION 13. TAKING OF WATER FROM FIRE HYDRANTS AND OTHER SOURCES:**

- a. No person or persons, except the City Fire Department for fire fighting purposes, shall take away from any public watering place, fountain, hose pipe or fire hydrant, or in any way use or take away water for any use without the authorization of the Director of Public Works and Utilities.
- b. If the Director of Public Works and Utilities authorizes the taking of water, as outlined herein, the person or persons desiring to use water shall make application to the City Clerk for a hydrant meter to measure the amount of water used. A deposit of \$750.00 will be required, before the hydrant meter may be obtained.
- c. After the application has been approved by the City Clerk, the Director of Public Works and Utilities, or his or her designee, shall supply the hydrant needed to the applicant and record the beginning meter reading. When the person or persons have completed the use of the hydrant meter, the Director of Public Works and Utilities, or his or her designee, shall be contacted to take charge of the hydrant meter and record the final reading. The release of the deposit shall be done by the City Clerk only after all charges for water usage, billed at the current water rate, and any damage to the hydrant meter have been paid in full to the City.

**SECTION 14. ALTERATIONS:**

No addition, alteration, or change whatsoever in or about any water lines, except on the owners premises and after the water shall have passed the water meter, shall be made or caused to be made by any consumer without notice or a permit from the Director of Public Works and Utilities, and any and all additions, alterations or changes shall in all cases be made under the supervision, direction and control of the Director of Public Works and Utilities and in accordance with the Ordinances of the City. No person, except the duly authorized employee of the City Water Department, shall tamper with any meter or break the seal of any meter.

**SECTION 15. MUTILATION OF WATER PROPERTY:**

No person shall remove, obstruct, alter or injure any fire hydrant, valve, valve box or cover, water meter, water meter box, or cover, or in any manner injure any building, machinery or other appurtenances belonging to the water works system of the City, or carry off, or injure any pipe, tools, fixtures, apparatus or property pertaining to the water works system of the City.

**SECTION 16. SERVICE DISCONNECTION OR RE-CONNECTION:**

Any person, firm, partnership or corporation who fails, neglects or refuses to properly pay any water charge, when due, shall be deemed delinquent and as such service may be disconnected at the time and pursuant to the terms set forth in Article 5 of this Ordinance and service may be disconnected until such delinquent customer shall have paid all arrearage to the City and, if such customer then desires service, he or she shall pay the City a sum, as set by this Ordinance, as a charge for reconnecting the service and he or she shall further deposit, with the City, an additional sum as set in this Ordinance as a guarantee that charges for water furnished by the City will be paid promptly when due.

It shall be unlawful for any person to re-connect water service or cause the same to be re-connected on any premises where water service has been shut off for any reason authorized under this article, without the authority of the City.

The City reserves the right, in lieu of disconnecting the water utility, to disconnect the electric utility and such shall remain disconnected until all fees, as specified herein, and arrearages have been paid.

There is hereby established a re-connection fee for re-connection of water utility for the City in the amount of \$20.00 and an additional deposit of \$50.00. Any customer that has been disconnected for non-payment two times or more in the previous twelve (12) months shall pay a re-connection fee and deposit equal to twice the fee stated hereinabove.

**SECTION 17. METER TESTING:**

Any customer of the City's water utility who believes his or her meter is incorrect and desires the same to be tested shall make application to the City Clerk for the inspection of the meter. It shall be the duty of the Water Department to test such meter and, if such meter is found to be more than two percent (2%) fast, the customer shall have adjustment of water charges covering the period of the preceding three (3) months and, if the meter is found to be running less rapidly than is proper, the customer shall pay the proper adjustment to the City for the preceding three (3) months; provided, that before any meter shall be tested, as provided in this section, the party desiring the test shall deposit, with the City, \$20.00 and, if the meter is shown by the test to be correct within two percent (2%), the deposit shall be forfeited to the City for the cost of inspection.

**SECTION 18. EXCAVATIONS:**

No person or persons shall be permitted to make any excavation in any street or alley within the corporate limits of the City for purpose of laying any pipes for water service without having first procured a permit in writing to do so from the Building Official of the City, nor make excavation in any street or alley within the City within six feet (6') of any water pipe, while the ground is frozen, or to dig up, or uncover so as to expose to frost any water pipe or sewer of the City, except under the direction of the Director of Public Works and Utilities. No person or persons shall leave any excavation made in any street or alley, within the City, opened at any time without barricades and during nights warning

lights must be maintained at such excavations during all the time when the same are open or partially opened and when any excavations are made in the streets or alleys, within the City, the streets, sidewalks and pavements must be restored to as good condition as they were previous to the making of the excavation by the parties making or causing the same to be made, and should any person or persons leave any street, alley, sidewalk or pavement in a condition not as good as before such excavation was made, or should the work be improperly done, or the rubbish caused thereby not properly cleared away, the Director of Public Works and Utilities shall have the right to finish or correct the work and the expense shall be charged to the permit holder.

**SECTION 19. CONTRACT:**

The rates, rules and regulations herein set forth shall constitute and shall be considered part of the contract with every person, company or corporation who is supplied with water from the water works system of the City and every such person, company or corporation who accepts and uses water shall be held to and consent to be bound thereby.

**ARTICLE 4**

**LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS**

**SECTION 1. LOW INCOME ELECTRIC UTILITY RATE:**

Any household whose total annual income is \$9,000.00 or less shall be eligible for a monthly low income electric rate, which shall be charged as follows:

1. Energy Charge	\$0.065 per KWH
2. Customer Charge	None

**SECTION 2. LOW INCOME WATER UTILITY RATE:**

Any household whose total annual income is \$9,000.00 or less shall be eligible for a monthly low income water rate. The monthly low income water utility rate shall be fifteen (15%) percent lower than the monthly water rates currently set out in the Code of the City of Goodland, Kansas. There shall be no meter charge for low income customers.

**SECTION 3. APPLICATION:**

Any member of a household which qualifies hereunder may make an application with the City Clerk to be approved for low income electric and water rates. Said application shall be on a form prepared by the City Clerk and the City Clerk shall be authorized to solicit such information on said form as may be necessary to properly evaluate said application. The annual gross income is defined to mean the full twelve (12) calendar months immediately prior to the filing of an application with the City Clerk. Said application form shall contain an authorization, to be signed by said applicant, authorizing the City Clerk to verify the information set forth in said application. Said application shall be duly subscribed and sworn to by the applicant.

Upon receipt of an application, the City Clerk shall have fifteen (15) days in which to approve or disapprove an application. In the event of a disagreement between the applicant and the City Clerk, the applicant shall be entitled to appeal the decision of the City Clerk to the City Commission, which shall make a final determination upon said application.

Approval of an application shall be for a twelve (12) month period. However, if during said twelve (12) month period, the total annual gross income from all members of a household shall exceed the sum of \$9,000.00, it shall be the applicant's responsibility to so notify the City Clerk so that said household will revert to the regular electrical and water rates. At the end of the twelve (12) month period after approval of an application, said approval shall automatically terminate, unless the applicant shall, at least fifteen (15) days prior to the end of said twelve (12) month period, file an application for an additional twelve (12) month period of reduced electrical and water rates, as provided herein. Upon receipt of a reapplication, the City Clerk shall have fifteen (15) days in which to approve or disapprove such reapplication.

**ARTICLE 5  
UTILITY PAYMENT**

**SECTION 1.** All electric, water, solid waste and sewer bills due the City shall be payable monthly and all such bills shall be paid on or before the 15th day of the month in which the said bill is received.

A delinquency and termination notice will be sent on the 1st day after the due date. Ten calendar days after the due date, service will be discontinued. The delinquency and termination notice shall provide the customer of record with the following information:

- a. The amount due;
- b. The type of service and the date on which said service will be terminated if the amount due is not paid, to be ten calendar days after the date of the notice hereinbefore set out;

**SECTION 2.** All electric, water, solid waste, sewer bills or any other bills for a City operated utility due the City of Goodland, not paid by the 15th day of the month of billing, shall be subject to a one time penalty of five (5%) percent of the unpaid balance of said monthly bill. Said penalty shall be added to the bill and shall be collected with and in the same manner as the original bill.

**ARTICLE 6  
EXTENSION OF SERVICES**

**SECTION 1. CONDITIONS OF SERVICE:**

If the Governing Body of the City shall deem it in the best interest of the City and its inhabitants and economically feasible, utility service from the City may be furnished to any tract of real estate situated outside the City's Corporate Limits upon terms and conditions as set forth herein.

**SECTION 2. APPLICATION FOR SERVICE:**

- a. Any person outside the City's Corporate Limits, desiring to make connection with any municipal utility service, shall first make application to the City Clerk. Application shall include a plot plan, drawing and specifications completed by a licensed engineer within the State of Kansas. All plans and permits shall be in accordance with State and City specifications and be approved by the appropriate Government Entity. The completed application must be received by the City Clerk, at least one hundred and twenty (120) days, prior to the start of any proposed utility extension.
- b. The appropriate City Utility Superintendent shall prepare an estimated construction cost, and the applicant shall submit with the application for utility extension, a sum equal to the estimated cost of construction, plus 10% (ten percent). All such monies shall be held by the City Clerk in escrow until such time the utility extension is completed and accepted by the City. All monies held in escrow shall be used to offset the actual cost of the utility extension. Any funds remaining, after all costs have been paid, shall be returned to the applicant. If applicants proposed extension is rejected by the City Governing Body, all funds in escrow shall be returned to applicant within three business days.
- c. The City Manager shall furnish to the Governing Body the completed application for the proposed extension of utilities, along with the estimated construction cost. The City Governing Body may approve or disapprove any application for utility extensions.

**SECTION 3. FINAL PAYMENT OF COSTS:**

All cost incident to the construction of any utility extension, including but not limited to permits, materials, labor and equipment plus 10% (ten percent) shall be paid to the City by the applicant for the utility extension, prior to the connection of such utility service.

**SECTION 4. LOCATION OF UTILITY - EASEMENTS:**

# Fewer farms in Kansas, Missouri this year

By Roxana Hegeman

Associated Press Writer  
WICHITA (AP) — Kansas and Missouri have fewer farms than a year ago, joining a national decline spurred by bad weather and lower commodity prices.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that Kansas lost 1,000 farms in 2001. About 100,000 acres were taken out of farming, while the average size of a Kansas farm continued to grow as farmers sold their land to neighbors.

Despite the overall drop in Kansas farm numbers, an analysis of the figures broken down by annual sales showed an increase last year in the number of mid-sized farms in the state. The drop came in the number of the largest and smallest farms in the state.

Eddie Wells, statistician for Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service, said the number of mid-sized farms increased because of larger-size farms that dropped into the middle category because of lower commodity prices.

The report showed most of the state's farming operations in the category of sales between \$10,000 and \$99,999. Kansas had 28,500 farms in that mid-sized group in 2001, up from 27,200 a year earlier.

## Historic Kansas farm figures

Number of farms, average farm size and land in farms per year:  
By The Associated Press

— 2001: 63,000 farms,	752 acres,	47.4 million acres
— 2000: 64,000 farms,	742 acres,	47.5 million acres
— 1999: 65,000 farms,	731 acres,	47.5 million acres
— 1998: 65,000 farms,	731 acres,	47.5 million acres
— 1997: 65,000 farms,	731 acres,	47.5 million acres
— 1996: 65,000 farms,	731 acres,	47.5 million acres
— 1995: 66,000 farms,	721 acres,	47.6 million acres
— 1994: 66,000 farms,	721 acres,	47.6 million acres
— 1993: 66,000 farms,	723 acres,	47.7 million acres
— 1992: 67,000 farms,	713 acres,	47.8 million acres
— 1991: 69,000 farms,	694 acres,	47.9 million acres
— 1990: 69,000 farms,	694 acres,	47.9 million acres
— 1980: 75,000 farms,	644 acres,	48.3 million acres
— 1970: 87,000 farms,	574 acres,	49.9 million acres
— 1960: 110,000 farms,	456 acres,	50.2 million acres

Source: Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service

That surprised industry observers, who say the reported rise in mid-size farms in Kansas bucks both national statistics and what they see in the state's farm country: a trend toward bigger farms and more consolidation.

"I don't know I completely trust or understand why the ag statistic looks that way. I suspect it is not a trend," said Richard Wahl, associate econo-

mist with the Kansas Farm Management Association.

Wahl, whose group tracks 2,200 farms and produces an annual farm income analysis for Kansas, said his group has seen more middle-sized farms leaving or seriously considering an exit from the business.

Kansas joined 23 other states that reported lower farm numbers. The

government report showed Kansas had 63,000 farms in 2001 compared with 64,000 in 2000 and 65,000 in 1999.

The Agriculture Department defines a farm as any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products are sold during the year. Under that definition, Kansas has 21,500 farms with annual sales below \$9,999. That number took the biggest drop, falling from 23,100 last year.

Kansas had 13,000 farms reporting sales of more than \$100,000, down from 13,700 a year earlier, mostly because of lower income among bigger farms.

Kansas had 100,000 fewer acres in agricultural production. Farming acreage dropped to 47.4 million compared with 47.5 million a year earlier.

"I see the attitude of grain farmers declining," Wahl said. "I think it is a function that we haven't had anything very exciting for a while now in terms of prices. ... The grain farms have been for a number of years looking at what the government payment will contribute to the equation. After awhile, that seems to wear on a manager."

Those farmers who are still at it are running bigger operations. The average size of a Kansas farm grew from 742 acres in 2000 to 752 in 2001.

Nationwide, the number of farms and ranches, estimated at 2.16 million, was down 0.7 percent from 2000. The agency attributed the decline to bad weather, low prices and competition for land.

Missouri lost 1,000 farms last year. It has an estimated 108,000 left, down from 109,000 in 2000 and 110,000 in 1999.

The number farm acres in Missouri fell by 100,000 to about 29.9 million. The average size of a Missouri farm

in 2001 was 277 acres, up a bit from 275 in 2000.

The number of Missouri farms fell in all size categories except the largest. There were more of the bigger farms last year in Missouri: 10,500 in 2001 compared with 10,400 of them in 2000.

The majority of Missouri farms are smaller operations. The report showed that 61,500 had sales below \$9,999. The state had 36,000 farms with sales between \$10,000 and \$99,999.

## Farmland to sell, close plant

WICHITA (AP) — Farmland Industries announced Tuesday it will sell or close Tradigrain, the company's international grain trading subsidiary.

The move comes less than a year after Farmland, based in Kansas City, Mo., entered a domestic grain joint venture with Archer Daniels Midland Co.

"Now that we have a domestic partnership with ADM, we have less need for an international grain trading subsidiary," said Farmland spokeswoman Sherlyn Manson.

Tradigrain employs fewer than 100 people in 11 countries, including an office in Memphis, Tenn., Manson

said. It also has major offices in Paris, Geneva and Buenos Aires.

"Our strategic direction is focused on supporting our local cooperative owners through our various marketing joint ventures in farm supplies and grain, and in developing our meat businesses.

This decision will allow us to sharpen our focus on our core businesses," Bob Honse, Farmland president and chief executive officer, said in a statement.

Whether Tradigrain workers will lose their jobs depends on if that part of the business is sold or closed, Manson said.

## public notice

ORD 1471, from Page 13

- a. The City shall select or approve the location of any utility extension to be constructed, and the applicant for such extension shall secure and provide any and all easements, in favor of the City, and in a form approved by it that may be required for such extension.
- b. Water Extension:
  1. Water meters shall be placed in accordance with City specifications and approval;
  2. Service line taps shall be located to the closest water main that will provide adequate service;
  3. No potable water supply line shall be installed from the city water supply to any structure outside the city limits, without a cross connection device equal to that of a reduced pressure principle backflow preventor being installed immediately after the water meter. No device shall be moved or removed, without the approval of the Director of Public Works and Utilities and the Building Official;
  4. The water line extension shall not exceed a distance of one-half mile from the corporate limits of the City.
- c. Sewer Extension:
  1. A sewer line extension shall be designed by a Kansas licensed engineer;
  2. A sewer extension shall extend from the nearest adequate sewer main within the corporate limits of the city;
  3. A sewer extension shall not exceed a distance of one-half mile from the corporate limits of the city.
- d. Electrical Extension:
  1. All lots within a proposed development or subdivision shall have service drops installed;
  2. An electrical disconnect shall be placed on the outside of all structures before connecting to the City's electric utility;
  3. The electric line extension shall not exceed a distance of two (2) miles from the corporate limits of the city.

### SECTION 5. CONNECTION:

Prior to the connection of any utility extension to the City's utility service, all appropriate connection fees shall be paid.

### SECTION 6. RATES, RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Every person, company or corporation receiving an extension of the City's utilities shall be subject to all rates, rules and regulations governing any and all City utilities to which such extension has been granted.

### ARTICLE 7 PENALTIES

SECTION 1. Any person or persons, firms, partnership or corporation convicted of a violation of any provisions of this ordinance shall upon conviction thereof be fined a sum of not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$1,000.00 and or confinement for a period not to exceed 30 days. Each separate day or any portion thereof, during which any violation of this ordinance occurs or continues, shall be deemed to constitute a separate offense.

The imposition of one penalty for any violations shall not excuse the violation or permit it to continue. All persons found in violation shall be required to correct or remedy such violations or defects within a reasonable time.

The application of the above penalty shall not be held to prevent the enforced removal of prohibited conditions.

SECTION 2. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons, firms, partnership or corporation to commit a fraud against the City of Goodland by knowingly providing false information of any kind upon the application form required hereunder and any person found guilty of furnishing false information upon said application shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$1,000.00 and/or confinement for a period not to exceed 30 days.

### ARTICLE 8 SEVERABILITY OF ORDINANCE

If any provision of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are severable.

This ordinance shall be in force and take an effect after it's publication in the official City Newspaper and on April 1, 2002.

Tom Rohr,  
Chairman of the City Commission of the City of Goodland

ATTEST:

Mary P. Volk, City Clerk  
Published in The Goodland Daily News, March 7, 2002

## Organic farming growing market for traditional crops

By Roxana Hegeman

Associated Press Writer

WICHITA — Goff farmer Ed Reznicek has gotten as much as \$5 a bushel for his organically grown wheat at a time when other Kansas wheat growers were selling their crops for under \$3 a bushel.

Reznicek is among a number of farmers that has discovered that going organic with their traditional row crops is not only good for the environment — but it can bring them better prices as consumer demand for them grows both in the U.S. and abroad.

His northeast Kansas farm — where he grows rotations of corn, soybeans, wheat, oats, alfalfa as well as raises beef cattle — was certified by the Organic Crop Improvement Association in 1990.

The Kansas Organic Producers Association, a marketing cooperative that helps build markets for organic grains, negotiates sales and coordinates deliveries of organic products.

By 1992, demand for organic grain crops began actively developing, Reznicek said, and by 1993 Reznicek had 14 buyers calling and bidding on their organic soybeans.

"It really opened our eyes to what a competitive market was — that just doesn't happen in the conventional market," he said.

And there is more to it than the \$5 per bushel for 12 protein wheat. Prices for food soybeans can range from \$13 to \$18 per bushel, feed corn from \$3 to \$4 per bushel, feed beans from \$7 to \$11 per bushel.

Manhattan farmer Darrell Parks was a natural resource management graduate from Kansas State University when he decided to come back to the farm. For him, organic farming was a natural.

"I've always been interested in a good system of farming that protects the land, leaves it in better shape than it was when I started farming it," Parks said.

Parks said he got interested in reducing chemical use and going to a more sustainable type of farming that uses more cover crops and less chemicals. He has been selling organically certified crops since 1996, and now grows wheat, milo, corn, soybeans, alfalfa, clover and a few oats.

"Part of it was the incentive of higher prices, particularly for organic crops," he said.

Parks is also in the process of getting his hog operation certified as organic as well. Organically certified animals must be fed organic feed and be raised on certified land and can't be given any prohibited products such as growth hormones or medications.

Organic crop farming uses farming practices such as crop rotation, cover crops and the application of manure to fields rather than chemical fertilizers to improve fertility.

The Kansas Organic Producers Association has 60 members in Kansas and some in bordering states.

Last year, the association marketed 80,000 bushels of corn, 45,000 bushels of wheat and less than 30,000 bushels of soybeans. The group has just started marketing a complete organic poultry ration, working with a feed company in Sabetha to process the product.

Farmers in the state are also raising organically grown alfalfa, oats, edible beans and sunflowers and organically raised cattle and hogs. Others are raising organically raised poultry for both eggs and broilers, and even an organic dairy.

"It is a struggle like any kind of farming," Parks said. "There certainly is the potential there because of higher prices on the crop, but we don't always

have the quality there to sell it."

Another problem is storing the crops on the farm, and cooperative marketing the crop with other organic producers to get a higher price.

But Reznicek said organic farmers have been able to carve out a production and marketing niche that improves their profitability at a time when traditional agriculture is suffering because of high production costs and lack of competitive markets.

Smaller-sized farming operations are especially well suited for organic farming practices, he said. Most of the state's organic farms average about 200 acres because of the closer management needed for weed control. Most are located in northeastern Kansas.

Kansas organic farmers are pooling their production with other certified growers to access new markets and get significantly better prices.

"The possibility of making a small to mid-size farm work is a lot better," Reznicek said.

**Internet tonight!**  
**899-2338**

**Plug it in!**

**A seminar for people with questions about computers**

**Saturday, March 16**  
**1-4 p.m. at**  
**Goodland High School**

Technical help available to answer questions about getting your Windows (95, 98, ME or XP) or Macintosh computer connected to the Internet. There will be experts to explain and demonstrate how to get the most out of the Internet. Call 899-2338 to reserve your seat.

**Technical support from nwkansas.com:**  
**Tom Betz**  
**Evan Barnum**

**Internet Gurus**  
**Scott Rehfeld, Lamar Community College**  
**Ava Betz, Internet expert.**

**Dennis Stone,**  
**Goodland High School**  
**Advanced Technology Teacher.**

**nwkansas.com**

1205 Main Ave. Goodland, KS 67735 Phone 785-899-2338