

Public meeting to discuss 'main street mile'

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Development of the "Main Street Mile" will be the subject of a special public meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday at the Goodland Elks lodge.

A downtown revitalization plan is being developed in conjunction with the city's plan to rebuild the intersections at Main and 11th and 12th next year.

Carolyn Applegate, director of the Sherman County Economic Development office, spoke to the Sherman County commissioners about the program and the public meeting at their meeting on Tuesday. She said the plan is being worked on by a special committee that includes the Chamber of Commerce, the Convention and Visitors Bureau, downtown merchants, the city of Goodland, the Carnegie Art Center and a

couple of clubs.

The public meeting is to explain the plan and get input from citizens to be part of the grant submission.

Applegate said the group will be asking for a \$200,000 Community Development Block Grant to be one-third of the cost of the project with the city putting up \$200,000 and the merchants in the affected area will be asked to contribute \$200,000

in improvements to their property.

"This is a golden opportunity to get in this grant cycle," Applegate said. The deadline is in January.

The city has a grant from the Kansas Department of Transportation to replace the intersections at 11th and 12th, and Applegate said the committee plans to use that as a basis to try to replace at least three blocks of bricks on Main from 10th to 13th.

An existing plan for renovating Main will be updated and if everyone agrees it will be the basis for the grant application that will be worked on by Penny Nemecheck, the joint city, county and school district grant writer. Applegate said everyone is invited to the meeting on Monday to hear about the whole plan which includes Main, Center and Broadway from Eighth Street to 17th as part of the Main Street Mile.

Work beginning on IGA building

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aged main beam, and expected to hear from him by the end of the week.

Other things that need to be done include a zoning use change which makes light industrial a conditional use in a commercial zone. Pickman said the rules will be that to meet the guidelines the company will not have any hazardous material, no noise pollution or any noxious emissions. The Aircraft Seal and Gasket Corp. will meet these requirements Pickman said.

They discussed the type of roof and all agreed the standing seam roof was the best option although it will probably be a bit more expen-

sive.

The final item on the special agenda was to approve paying off the lease/purchase agreement with Bankwest for \$48,777. The motion was made by Garcia, seconded by Daniels and approved unanimously.

Pickman said Nationwide Homes was going to provide a mobile temporary office building for the new company, and part of the plan would allow for an addition to the main building in the future for an office wing. He said there will be a 14 foot door in the south end to provide access for the equipment to be moved in.

"I think it is great," Lutters said at the end of the meeting.

Board gets good audit report

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Kansas Department of Education regulations.

Staats commended the board for the excellent organization of its financial records.

The considered and unanimously approved a proposal a three-year contract for Adams, Brown, Beran and Ball to continue conducting the board's annual CPA audit.

Superintendent Melvin Selby reported that the auditorium roof at the high school was near completion (the work was completed Wednesday).

He said the overall project now has a better work crew with improved quality control. Selby said Monday work will begin on the roof of the high school's old gymnasium and that he was confident that the work should be completed with four weeks.

Selby also updated the board about the relocation of Aircraft Seal and Gasket Corp., to Goodland and

some of the support the community is providing to help it set up its operation.

In other business, the board:

Heard Ken Clouse, president of Northwest Kansas Technical College, about the proposal to exchange the college's administration building, currently leased from the board, for six and a half acres of land located north of the campus' tennis courts.

Voted unanimously to hire Jaime Heater as a paraprofessional to help a student with special needs at North Elementary School.

Unanimously approved the minutes from the last meeting, adoption of the agenda, the financial reports and the board's check register.

After a reminder about the benefit pancake breakfast Saturday at the high school, the meeting was adjourned around 8:25 p.m.

The next meeting will be 7 p.m., Oct. 13, at the school district's administration building, 1312 Main Ave.

Lottery trip won

Sherry Jones, St. Francis, recently won a trip to Las Vegas through the Kansas Lottery.

She said she had her doubts when she entered the Kansas Lottery's second-chance drawing for a chance to win the trip to Las Vegas. "I thought those 'Las Vegas Millionaire' non-winning tickets were probably the closest I would ever get to Las Vegas," Jones said.

That was what she thought when she mailed in her five entry tickets for the second-chance drawing, but she won a trip for two to Vegas where she completed in the Powerball Instant Millionaire Game Show.

"My husband just started a new job and didn't feel he could take time off for the trip so that is why I brought my daughter Amanda," she said.

Although Jones was not a finalist on the Powerball Instant Millionaire Game Show, she did take home \$1,000 for being a contestant.

"We really had a good time," she said. "We heard about all the celebrities that were in the area, walked the strip, bought souvenirs and watched the water show at one of the hotels."

Jones works at the Good Samaritan Village in St. Francis where she is a certified nurses aide.

Beary comforting



Three Teddy Bears got lined up as they got ready for duty with local law enforcement officers. Marv Cullens, commander of Goodland's Veterans of Foreign Wars post, along with Barb Whisler, presidents of the Ladies' Auxiliary, presented the bears

to local law enforcement officials. These bears and others like them will ride in squad cars to help soothe children involved in accidents or any other traumatic calls where children are involved.

Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News

Commissioners hear phone alternatives

By Tom Betz

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S and T Telephone, which has a new phone system in Goodland, approached the Sherman County commissioners at their meeting Tuesday about switching their phone system from Southwestern Bell.

Don Newell, sales representative for S and T said he had looked at the county phone bills and at the contract the county and city are involved in for the Plex-R system.

He told the commissioners that the monthly bill with S and T would be about \$769 a month.

Mary Ann Snethen, deputy county clerk, said the Southwest Bell bills vary each month and are as high as \$1,000 a month.

Newell said the county is using 70 lines, and has a total of 100 reserved through the contract with Southwestern Bell.

Snethen said there is a charge on the bill for the unused lines, and that there are additional charges for directory service that vary each

month.

The City of Goodland and Sherman County are involved in a special contract with Southwestern Bell that does not expire until October of 2005.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure asked about the cost to pay out the contract and Snethen said the total would be \$19,882 total for both the city and county.

Rasure asked Newell if S and T would be willing to work with the city and county in paying off the contract.

Newell said he would ask, but did not think his company would swallow all of the cost.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede asked about keeping the 899 prefix for a time.

Newell said it was \$2 per month per line to keep the 899, but suggested that the county might keep the number for 30 or 60 days and then change it all to the 890 prefix.

Newell was asked about the city as far as changing, and he said the bid for the city was \$838 a month,

but that the monthly cost was almost dead even with what they are paying Southwestern Bell because the city has more trunk lines than the county.

Rasure suggested it might be wise for the county and city to take a year to prepare for the switch and that the buy out should be below \$10,000.

"We might ask S and T to help with the contract cost at that time," Rasure said.

Again Newell said he would talk

to his boss about that.

Rasure suggested that the city have Perry Warren review the contract with Southwestern Bell to see if it can be modified, and that he talk to Bonnie Selby, the county attorney about the contract.

Newell said he believed that the county could save about \$3,000 per year on phone costs based on the proposal he presented.

corrections

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The South shall rise again

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Sponsored by Unified School District 352

To establish an emergency fund In conjunction with Flatlander Fall Festival

All you care to eat Pancake, Sausage, Juice & Coffee

Saturday, September 27 Serving 6 a.m. - 1 p.m.

\$4 Adults

\$3 Ages 5-12

Under 5 free

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Everyone Welcome

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An All-Children's Theater Production of
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With special pre-show performances



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7 p.m.

Sunday, September 28
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