

City to mark Arbor Day with planting on May 4

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News
The city Tree Committee plans to plant a tree at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, May 4, to mark Arbor Day, chairman Christie Rasure told the Goodland City Commission last Monday.
Rasure said they will hold a committee meeting to decide which park would get the tree.
She also said the city had been selected as a Tree City for the 27th year.
Mayor Rick Billinger said he knew of someone who had a tree they would like to donate to the committee, and he might be able to move it for Arbor Day. Rasure said she would call the person.
In other business, the commission:
• Approved an ordinance extending the Aquila gas franchise while the firm and the city finish a new agreement.
City Manager Wayne Hill said he

and City Attorney Jeff Mason had a phone conference with Aquila lawyers and they had agreed to all but one item. He said the new franchise will be for five years with three five-year renewals for a total of 20. He said they agreed to 5 percent franchise fee for residential accounts and 3 percent for commercial, similar to the telephone and cable franchises.
He said the franchise should be ready for approval at the April 16 city meeting.
• Agreed to stay with the current insurance coverage for the power plant. Hill said the estimates were a change could save the city \$26,000, but the policy would not cover the full output of the plant.
“I suggest we stay with what we have,” Hill said. “It is not worth changing even with the small amount of savings.”
• Approved a revised fire mutual aid agreement with Sherman County. Hill said the county had

asked to have two words added to one section and a sentence added to another. Mason said he had no problem with the changes, adding that the county had approved the agreement as amended.
• Approved a contract for mowing for \$15.50 per hour with Shelly Terry. Steve Criswell, city code enforcement officer, said Terry was the only bidder this year. Last year, with two bidders, he said, there was a difference of five cents per hour. The low bid then was \$17.95 per hour from Property Management, owned by Justin Bentzinger.
• Approved selling 100,000 old street bricks at 17 cents a piece to a company from Nebraska. Hill said the city has been telling people they could buy the bricks for 25 cents a piece. He said the firm will come and stack and load the bricks, so there will be no cost to the city. The commissioners agreed to the discounted price.
“That is \$17,000 more than we

have now,” Commissioner Dave Daniels said.
Commissioner Josh Dechant asked Public Works Director Rich Simon how many bricks the city had on hand, and Simon said selling 100,000 would not make much of a dent in the pile, especially when the city is adding more from 17th Street. Most of the bricks so far have come from stretches of road where they were replaced with new brick. On 17th, however, the city plans to replace the brick with concrete.
• Heard a report on the Steever

Water Park mediation. Hill said the city will receive \$15,000 from Associated Pool Builders and \$5,000 from Sullivan Palmer Architects. Hill said there are two more disputes pending, with Glassman and Rhoads Construction, to finish up, and that the total of \$50,000 will about pay for the new heat pumps the city installed last year to replace a failed heating unit.
Simon said he plans to fill the pools on May 7, and the heat pumps, which replace a faulty heater, are about ready to go.

“It will take some tweaking of the temperature,” Hill said, “but we are ready.”
• Heard that the Quad Counties Task Force and the Goodland Police Department had received a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for a \$49,950 Video Detective. Chief Ray Smee said the unit can be used to enhance surveillance videos to help identify and catch criminals.
He said the grant pays for everything, including training, and the department expects to get it in August.

Hiring great people good business

One of the keys to success when growing your business is finding, hiring and retaining great people. For a small business, it can be difficult to compete on salary and benefits with the larger companies, but there are other things you can offer to maintain staff loyalty.
Create a team environment where your staff feels valued and necessary for success. Offer flexible working conditions. Allow your staff to leave early to catch their child's out-of-town games and events.
Provide day care or allow people to work at home if possible. Seek



jamie morphew

- business tips

increase in errors during the transition, diminished customer satisfaction and the possible loss of customers.
This tip was brought to you by Western Kansas Business Consulting. We offer free and confidential business consulting in Kearny, Scott, Sherman and Wichita Counties. For more information or to set up an appointment, contact Jamie Morphey at (620) 874-0771 or e-mail wkbc@wbsnet.org. Sponsored in part by Sherman County

Purple flowers signs of henbit

The plants with the little purple flowers starting to make themselves known in home lawns are called henbit.
If you are not sure this is what you have, check the stems. If they are square rather than round, you have henbit.
Though it actually comes up in the fall, most people do not pay much attention to this weed until it starts to flower. Trying to kill it at this late stage with a herbicide usually is a waste of time and money. Though the plant may be burned back, it will rarely be killed.
So what do we do? Remember, this is a winter annual; it comes up in the fall, matures in the spring and dies as soon as it starts to get hot. All that we can do now is keep it mowed



dana belshe

- ag notebook

the chemical. Spot treatment will probably be needed in the spring to catch the few plants that germinate late. Use Weed Free Zone, Speed Zone, Weed Out, Weed-B-Gon, Trimec or one of the special henbit herbicides early before the henbit has put on much growth.
Dana Belshe is agricultural agent for Kansas State University Research and Extension and the Sunflower Extension District, covering Sherman, Wallace and Cheyenne counties.

matters of record

District Traffic
The following fines were paid in the Sherman County District Court:
July 16, 2006 — Matthew Lee Oaks, \$156 reinstated for speeding.
July 31 — Kristen A. Smith, \$201 reinstated for speeding, \$60 reinstated for increasing speed when passed and \$300 reinstated for first conviction of driving while suspended.
Sept. 30 — Patricia L. Brown, \$201 reinstated for speeding.
Oct. 14 — Roger A. Dingman, \$156 for improper parking.
Nov. 25, 2006 — Leon A. Jacobs, \$132 reinstated for speeding.
Jan. 27, 2007 — Thomas A. Christens, \$144 for speeding.
Feb. 25 — Brandon B. Morton, \$306 for speeding.
Feb. 28 — Sherry G. Bainbridge, \$144 for speeding.
Elisia F. James, \$366 for first conviction of driving while suspended and \$300 for speeding.
March 1 — Mary A. Adey, \$138 for speeding and dismissed for no liability insurance.
Bejarano R. Francisco-Leobardo, \$126 for no driver's license and \$30 for speeding.
Zee M. Gilbert, \$261 for speed-

ing.
Mary Isaac, \$126 for speeding and dismissed for no liability insurance.
Jessica M. White, \$192 for speeding.
March 2 — Jaya Thapa, \$120 for speeding.
March 4 — Otoniel Ramirez-Alonso, \$146 for unlawful use on non-drivers ID card.
Benjamin Vasquez-Ramirez, \$96 for speeding.
Joshua J. West, \$201 for speed-

ing.
March 8 — Michael H. Schoenbein, \$156 for improper parking.
March 11 — Matthew R. Chapa, \$126 for speeding.
Jacob Graham, \$126 for speeding.
Jose E.M. Valle, \$156 for speeding.
March 12 — Jeffrey C. Estes, \$120 for speeding.
Shauna R. Jackson, \$120 for speeding.

| CITY OF GOODLAND EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, TO MARCH 31, 2007 | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| FUNDS | PREVIOUS BALANCE | RECEIPT | DISBURSEMENT | CURRENT BALANCE |
| Special Highway | \$42,865.94 | \$45,259.59 | 0.00 | \$88,125.53 |
| Self Insurance | \$926,915.67 | \$36,903.20 | \$33,245.10 | \$930,573.77 |
| Airport Fund | \$302,712.82 | \$7,934.91 | 0.00 | \$310,647.73 |
| General Operating | \$1,566,334.21 | \$804,943.15 | \$502,412.54 | \$1,868,864.82 |
| Bond & Interest | \$101,960.20 | \$46,710.51 | \$1,275.00 | \$147,395.71 |
| Library | \$2,670.21 | \$94,279.40 | \$96,949.61 | 0.00 |
| Sales Tax | \$7,390.83 | \$52,982.56 | \$48,516.42 | \$11,856.97 |
| Electric Utility | \$2,271,184.62 | \$1,588,784.60 | \$1,609,628.25 | \$2,250,340.97 |
| Mun. Ct. Diversion Fees | \$23,837.42 | \$1,854.10 | \$15,403.97 | \$10,287.55 |
| Law Enforcement | \$24,213.94 | \$1,034.93 | 617.00 | \$24,631.87 |
| Electric Meter Deposit | \$123,787.00 | \$7,550.00 | \$5,050.00 | \$126,287.00 |
| Water Utility | \$219,903.52 | \$137,156.26 | \$197,913.72 | \$159,146.06 |
| Water Service Deposit | \$58,520.00 | \$5,600.00 | \$3,550.00 | \$60,570.00 |
| Sewer Utility | \$150,630.07 | \$94,383.90 | \$81,938.06 | \$163,075.91 |
| Special Park & Rec. | \$31,121.06 | \$3,285.94 | 0.00 | \$34,407.00 |
| Vehicle Inspections(VIN) | \$19,214.27 | \$1,598.30 | \$4,619.00 | \$16,193.57 |
| Grant Imp Reserve Fund | \$207,655.73 | \$65,795.99 | 0.00 | \$273,451.72 |
| Steever Park Project | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Solid Waste | \$54,024.33 | \$88,679.20 | \$87,720.61 | \$54,982.92 |
| Fire Equipment | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Airport Improvement | 0.68 | 0.00 | \$4,200.00 | \$-4,199.32 |
| CDBG Grant | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Capital Imp. Reserve | \$2,531,866.94 | \$199,313.12 | \$92,418.65 | \$2,638,761.41 |
| Insurance Proceeds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Employee Benefit | \$297,466.01 | \$222,726.66 | \$131,833.81 | \$388,358.86 |
| Library Emp. Benefit | 276.67 | \$6,148.37 | \$6,425.04 | 0.00 |
| State Water Fund | \$4,755.49 | \$1,315.18 | \$2,008.15 | \$4,062.52 |
| Cemetery-Perp. Care | \$82,500.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | \$82,500.00 |
| Cemetery Endowment | \$75,250.79 | \$1,300.00 | 0.00 | \$76,550.79 |
| Cemetery Improvement | \$94,957.29 | \$3,595.64 | 15.00 | \$98,537.93 |
| Replacement Tree | \$1,168.34 | 10.57 | 0.00 | \$1,178.91 |
| Electric Reserve | \$1,704,749.14 | \$46,112.04 | 0.00 | \$1,750,861.18 |
| Water Reserve | \$834,736.55 | \$9,656.06 | 0.00 | \$844,392.61 |
| Water System Imp. Proj. | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| FEMA | 0.00 | \$22,735.90 | \$22,735.90 | 0.00 |
| Sewer Reserve | \$625,224.91 | \$23,737.77 | 0.00 | \$648,962.68 |
| M.E.R.F. | \$2,320,535.28 | \$125,951.12 | \$10,176.85 | \$2,436,309.55 |
| Total | \$14,708,429.93 | \$3,747,338.97 | \$2,958,652.68 | \$15,497,116.22 |

| AVAILABLE CASH | PREVIOUS BALANCE | CURRENT BALANCE |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Cashier's Change | \$2,000.00 | \$2,000.00 |
| Checking Accounts: | | |
| BANKWEST | \$909,143.11 | \$741,058.13 |
| Investments | \$13,797,286.82 | \$14,754,058.09 |
| Total Available Cash | \$14,708,429.93 | \$15,497,116.22 |

| LIABILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| ST OF KS PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY LOAN | \$1,755,448.69 |
| STEEVER PARK PROJECT LEASE PURCHASE | \$945,046.71 |
| GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS | \$85,000.00 |
| TOTAL | \$2,785,495.40 |

I, Janeil Dilling, do hereby certify that the above statement is correct.

City Treasurer

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