

City applies for grant to replace two blocks of bricks

BRICKS, from Page 1

for the bricks, and that is why it is for historic preservation.

Commissioner John Garcia said the city could do some things to make concrete look good, but said that would have to be made once the city makes a decision. He said the project will not be done quickly and the city will have time to consider the brick versus concrete question.

Gerber said the city has \$546,000 in the grant match budget.

Billinger said it would not make sense to do the street and not do the water and sewer lines.

Neufeld said if the city put in the water lines that would include putting in the brick ribbon and that would not hurt the new sidewalks that have been done.

Garcia said that was not a bad idea. He said it was up to the owners

to get new sidewalks.

"Hard to spend this type of money on Main," Billinger said. "Where do we stop. Can we afford \$11 million for a street we drive on."

"We are going to get about the same thing done," Daniels said, "and the state is going to pay for the bricks."

"I think as a taxpayer when I think about the brick streets people will get a little more upset with the cost

rather than going in with a more simple and less costly as concrete," Billinger said.

Gerber said the last place he was (Beloit) took the bricks out and lots of people were upset about losing the bricks. He said he argued for the concrete, but feels the brick Main Ave. might be a niche for Goodland especially when showcased with the Flatlander Festival.

Daniels said he would like to

continue with what has been done and said he did not think he would like to have concrete between the new brick intersections.

Gerber suggested the commissioners approve the resolution to apply for the grant asking for two blocks with the one from 11th to 12th being the main one and allow the staff and Neufeld to decide which block would be the second either to the north or south of the

central one.

Garcia made the motion to approve the resolution for the grant application and Daniels seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Commissioner Annette Fairbanks joining Daniels, Garcia and Billinger to pass the resolution. Mayor Josh Dechant was absent, but joined the meeting by phone for discussions later on the agenda.

Airport projects approved

AIRPORT, from Page 1

The commissioners approved the agreement with Inland unanimously.

Neufeld said the engineering contract is for design, inspection and general oversight of a project to reconstruct the next section of taxiway with concrete.

Gerber said the project was on the airport plan to be done in a couple of years, but with recent project paid for with federal stimulus money the project had moved to the top of the list.

Billinger asked if the city would have to wait for money from the FAA.

Neufeld said the city will have some in the annual airport improvement fund, and would bid the project out in May, but have to hold until August to see if the FAA has the money to proceed.

Mayor Josh Dechant, attending

the meeting by phone, asked what the city cost would be for the engineering contract.

Neufeld said the total would be not to exceed \$82,000 and the city's 5 percent would be a maximum of \$4,100.

Commissioner Dave Daniels questioned why the city was doing this now and it will not be submitted until August.

Neufeld said FAA would pay their portion of the design cost. He said his firm has received a phone call from FAA saying they were preparing for another round of federal stimulus money.

"The city's next project is on the list for that," he said, "the rest of the taxiway. We would put the design sheets in with this one in case the city gets a shot at the money. That piece would be ready to go."

The commissioners unanimously approved the contract.

Commissioners develop long term goals

GOALS, from Page 1

ing for a county property tax levy to fund the operation.

Divine said he sees Goodland as a full service community and that is a real plus. He said there is a lot of miles separating cities that have full service, and feels Goodland can pull people from the surrounding 50 mile area.

He said the commissioners came up with a list of 40 things they felt

Goodland has to offer.

He said he list struck him as having a nice balance when thinking about quality of life and opportunities for young people.

He said one thing the city needs to work on is expanding the working relation with the county and how to work more with the technical college.

He said the commissioners feel the citizens do not know what the city is doing, and a focus needs to be

on getting things for the 19 to 30 year olds to do and mid-range housing.

The four focus areas the commissioners identified where they wanted to see things change in the next year or year and a half.

Marketing Goodland, both internal and external including developing a comprehensive promotion plan by September. One idea is to get the signs up at the entrances to the city, and consider a possible welcome center near I-70.

Youth engagement including development of a junior commission and pro-active ways to get young people feeling they are wanted. The plan would be to develop a junior commission program by September.

Economic development working on projects to open businesses and support the ones who are in existence. Reorganize and re-energize the economic development council and maybe bring it closer under the city.

State changes driver's license requirements for teenagers

The law establishing a Graduated Drivers License took effect on Jan. 1, and applies to any teenager applying for a license or permit will be under the new regulations.

Teen drivers age 14 to 17 are not permitted to use cellphones or other

wireless electronic devices while driving unless reporting illegal activity or requesting emergency help.

Teenagers 14 years of age can apply for an Instructional Permit that expires in one year, but may be renewed. To apply for a permit the

teen driver must have a written application of their parent or guardian. To receive the permit a teen must pass vision and written tests.

With an instructional permit the teen can drive with an adult (at least 21 years of age, with a valid driver's

license and at least one year of driving experience) present in the front seat with the teen driver.

The teen must have held an Instructional Permit for at least one year, and must have completed at least 25 hours of supervised driving.

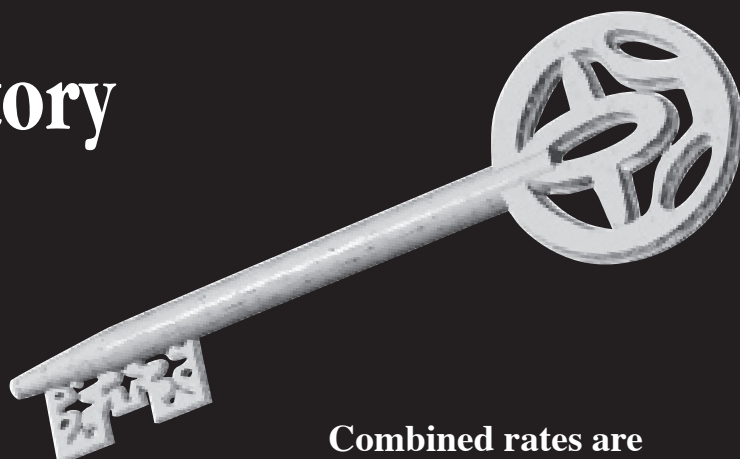
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