

Owner promises building cleanup

CITY, from Page 1

have a check for \$497 and need to figure out what I can do.”

Mayor Josh Dechant thanked Soper for coming to talk to the commissioners. He said the city commission and staff are trying to get the city cleaned up and feel that starts with Main. He said the stuff on the sidewalk got it all going.

“If you work on it and keep trying we will work with you,” Dechant said.

“I did not buy three buildings on Main to let them get worse,” Soper said. “I have tried to get the building done, and cleaned up the front of the building. I have taken over three buildings that no one wanted.

“I can now get around in the building. I will be replacing the glass, but it will take some time. I am going to split the window into two pieces. I will try to get the window fixed as well.”

Chief James said Soper is doing a good job and working on cleaning

up the problems.

Brent Wood talked to the commissioners about the upcoming Flatlander Festival and how things are going.

He asked for permission to use the street, much like last year, and plan to do the picnic in Chambers Park on Sunday.

He said there may not be a golf tournament as no one has stepped up to take that over. He said they want to add a motorcycle and auto swap meet, and will give that a try.

Events are on schedule with the motorcycle group and auto club, he said. He asked about the city covering the electrical costs and providing bleachers for the tractor-pull and the show at Chambers Park.

Dechant said he did not think there was a problem on using the street.

Commissioner Rick Billinger said he felt it was good for the city to cover the electrical.

Dechant told Wood to work with City Manager Doug Gerber.

In other business:

• Gerber introduced John Hinger as the employee of the quarter. He said Hinger drives the public transportation van part time for the city, and was the first person nominated by the public.

He said several of the letters of nomination said Hinger is helpful and courteous, and goes above and beyond to be helpful.

Hinger was presented with a plaque and a gift certificate.

“Thank you for your time and commitment to that bus,” Dechant said.

• Approved a settlement with Lincoln Wilson for \$4,600 over utility bills. Gerber said the city has incurred costs higher than the settlement, but recommended the commissioners accept the amount.

• Approved the agreement between the city and the Kansas Department of Transportation about the third phase of the K-27 project.

Gerber said the estimated cost to the city is \$143,000 and the engineer

and city staff have been pushing to get this moving.

Billinger asked if the bid comes in better the city cost would drop.

Commissioner Dave Daniels asked if all three phases hadn’t been bid out before.

Gerber said the cost could drop if the project bid comes in lower, and that all three phases had been designed but not bid. He said the engineers had to redesign a portion of the final phase to comply with KDOT.

Billinger asked what was different, and would like to know what the increase of \$11,000 is for.

Jeff Mills, engineer for Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, said he was not sure what the details of the change were, but would get that information.

Gerber said he knew some of the changes had to do with traffic control.

The commissioners will meet at 5 p.m. on Monday at the City Administration Building, 204 W. 11th.

Northwest Tech completes renovation



The Goodland area Chamber of Commerce. The Goodland Ambassadors and *The Goodland Star-News* congratulates Northwest Tech on completion of The Betz-Saint project!

Northwest Tech has completed their Betz-Saint project, located at 1219 Center Ave.. Students from six of the college programs (carpentry, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, communications technology, electrical, welding, and interior decorating) helped completely renovate the old house, donated by Dennis and Linda Saint.

The project took about 11 months, and all that remains of the original home is part of the foundation, part of the north wall and some of the floor braces.

The house is open to tours now. If interested in a tour, call the college at (785) 890-3641 to make an appointment!

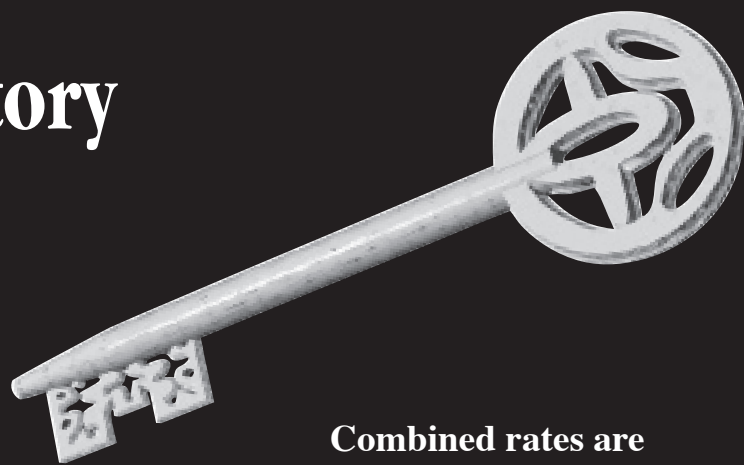
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