Power purchase contract denied by commissioners

DENIED, from Page 1a

proposing.'

Rod Blake, electric production superintendent, said the power plant was running the diesel engines in the heat this week, and he estimated the power cost from Sunflower to be about \$80 per mega watt. Blake told the commission during the budget workshop that Sunflower had been asked about prices for a new contract. He said Sunflower representatives said they would provide rates when they were ready.

The city has a firm power contract with Sunflower for \$32 for the first four mega watts plus the fuel adjustment costs. Blake said the contract with Sunflower is not to provide all the power as the Goodland Energy Resources contract is set up.

Wednesday afternoon Blake was told by Sunflower Electric that additional power over the 4 mega watts would cost the city \$135 per mega watt.

Blake said Sunflower is charging \$6 per mega watt for transmission of power the city had purchased through the MEAN.

"We produce 2 million kilowatts per year," Blake said, "and we purchase 50 million kilowatts.'

Blake said the blended rate right now is \$39 per kilowatt-hour.

Justus suggested that if the maintenance cost and price of natural gas were factored in the rate would easily be \$54 per kilowatt-hour.

Daniels asked if the 47 cents per kilowatt was peak or off peak?

"It is for all the power 24 hours a day," Justus said. Dechant asked why the contract

is for 17 mega watts if the plant is going to produce 22 mega watts.

built will need power, and when the to what the load is now.

We think 17 mega watts will hold the city for years," he said. "The plant can run at 27 mega watts if needed, and we look to expand with the possibility of more industry."

the new plants would create.

'We expect to be a 75," Justus said. "This will be true growth for Dechant said. "I think this is a good the city, and the valuation will go up for the \$40 million plant."

from the new power plant would bring the city \$250,000. He said the expectation is there will be up to 200 spin-off jobs.

amount for the city if we keep the money here rather than send it to Sunflower," Pickman said.

audience Amy Sederstrom said with the trend in agriculture it is a work with the agriculture community.

Blake suggested going out for broadcast," Justus said. bids, and that he found the electric contract a bit strange.

"It would be hard to go out for bid when you know our rate," Justus said. "If the city wants to develop other places don't have.

"It is what the plant does beyond the base, because at the moment ing to make a difference," Fairnobody is moving here. I sold my house in Nashville to move here. I have been here one year, and I know I am still an outsider.

"These will be high tech jobs paying about \$40,000 a year, and this will raise the average pay of the county. "Having cheaper utilities will be

Justus said the other plants being an advantage in development."

Garcia asked what Pickman and city picks up those loads it will add Justus expected the commission to do that night.

> Pickman said they expected to have the commission approve the power contract.

"There is an excitement in this community," Fairbanks said. "This Billinger asked how many jobs is a good deal, and there is not going to be a guarantee."

> "I appreciate Blake's position," plan for the city's future."

Larry McCants, president of First Pickman said the property tax National Bank, said this was a winwin situation. He said it is not the cheapest price, but a good and assured better rate than the city is paying.

"This is assured growth for the "This will gain a considerable community," McCants said. "The program makes sense, and is the best I've ever seen."

Dechant made the motion to ap-Asking for comments from the prove the contract and Fairbanks seconded.

"I think it is a great deal," Daniels way for the city to diversify and to said, "and would like to have more move forward. time to look at this."

"We don't want to let our rates be

"I am excited about this, and think it is the best I've seen," Garcia said. "Give us three or four days to evaluate this.

"I want it understood that if you have to have something the someone came in and underbid I would stay with your plan."

> "I don't see that three days is gobanks said. "I have trust in the city attorney's opinion."

> "I would like a little more time," Daniels said, "I was out of town and first saw it Sunday evening.

"I don't want it to be a Roadway situation where the city is locked into paying the utilities. I am personally not comfortable at this time."

"I asked them (Pickman and Justus) to bring the contract," Billinger said.

'That is what disturbs us," Justus said, "we are all out there, and if we knew it was going to be delayed we would not have had to develop the firm rates. It was not what we had planned on doing at this time, but we got it done and believe we have provided a fair rate."

"I think it is a good deal all the way around," Daniels said.

"We have all the people here," Fairbanks said. "Now is the time to ask the questions."

'What is there left to be considered?'' said Steve West, president of Western State Bank. "Looks like a win-win situation for Sherman County.

"I can't imagine what we haven't considered this evening.'

Steve Raymer, activity director at Goodland High School, said approving the contract would be a strong show that the city is ready to

Garcia and Daniels asked Warren when he had received the contract. Warren said he reviewed it on

Thursday. 'I evaluated it as a straight contract

for the city," he said. "It is a valid contract and very straight forward." Armour was asked if he had any

concerns about the contract. They have satisfied my con-

cerns," Armour said.

Billinger asked Volk to call the roll. Daniels, No. I want more time and like to have another attorney look at it.

Dechant, Yes. Fairbanks, Yes. Garcia, No. I would like more time

Billinger, Abstained.

Volk said with a 2-2 tie the motion fails.

Pickman asked if the abstention tie there is no prevailing side. should be counted with the motion making it a 3-2 vote.

The commission scheduled a special meeting for 8 a.m. Thursday Warren said in the case of a 2-2 to reconsider the contract.



Network Service Technician III

The Kansas Department of Transportation has an opening for an Installation Service Technician II in Garden City or Norton, depending on the availability of the selected applicant. Minimum requirement is High School Diploma or equivalent and 1 year installing and servicing data, voice &/or video networks. Prefer minimum of five (5) years experience in repair and installation of electronic equipment, experience in climbing towers up to 480 feet, CDL License, experience and knowledge in computer networking, good leadership and decision making skills and excellent written and oral communication skills.

This is a statewide position that requires technical and skilled work in installing, repairing, maintaining and inspecting communication and electrical equipment and devices on radio towers/poles and the associated appurtenances. The state communication system includes 100+ towers/poles, which range in height up to 480 feet. This position will be required to climb radio towers/poles to investigate the need for repairs, install new equipment or replace existing equipment. Fabricates and/or assembles parts and materials used in tower and antenna maintenance. Additionally, this position will perform preventative maintenance to preserve appearance and safety feature of tower complexes and the efficiency and reliability of antenna systems. This position is responsible for the inspection of cables and attachments to determine if the proper tension is maintained for the required stability and alignment of the tower.

Starting salary is \$40,892 to \$45,115 annually depending on experience. Excellent benefits including health insurance, paid annual and sick leave, retirement plan, life insurance and cafeteria benefit plan. REFER TO ADVER-TISEMENT NO. 148310. The Personal Data Sheet and Employment Application must be received by August 2, 2005. The Personal Data Sheet and Employment Application may be obtained at the following website: www.accesskansas.org. Submit to the Department of Transportation - Headquarters mailbox. Advertisement paid for by the Kansas Department of Transportation.

Kansas Department of Transportation 1st Floor, Eisenhower State Office Bldg. 700 SW Harrison Topeka, KS. 66603 785-296-2721 EOE/AA

City approves contract in special meeting

APPROVED, from Page 1a

cheaper than paying Sunflower's price.

Commissioner Annette Franklin asked if there had been any changes made to the contract since Monday's meeting.

CityAttorney Perry Warren saidhe and Tom Armour, interim city manager, had added a section to further protect the city in case the new power plant would fail to materialize or be unable to generate the power.

The new clause says the contract will be declared null and void if the power plant is not producing power by July 18, 2007. The clause gives the city the exclusive right to extend that date in writing.

"This is to protect the city," War-

pire. It would not leave this contract plant is operational. hanging in the air."

Blake said he had met with Mark Justus on Wednesday and they had worked out an addendum to the Dechant. contract.

The addendum said that after the as she had on Monday. electric agreement is signed there will be a 90 day period for both the city and Goodland Energy to negotiate a temporary power supply for the time from years," Billinger said, "and the city

ren said. 'It is so there is a date cer- the end of the Sunflower contract at has always been at the mercy of tain when the contract would ex- the end of May, and when the new

> "I will renew my motion to approve the contract and the addendum," said Commissioner Josh

Fairbanks seconded the motion

After the 4-0 vote Billinger said he wanted to thank the commissioners. "I've been here for a number of

Sherman County

Speedway

Sunflower."

closed sessions to discuss the city manager applicants.

announce at the next meeting that Jeff Mason will replace Perry Warren as the city attorney.

"I delayed to the last minute," Armour said. "The commission will make the appointment at the next meeting."

> **Crossword Puzzle** Three Ways to Go

ACROSS

The commission went into six Armour said the commission will



Sports television schedule

SATURDAY MORNING

11:00 13/7 FOX MLB Baseball Regional Coverage — Chicago Cubs at St. Louis, L.A. Dodgers at N.Y. Mets, San Diego at Philadelphia or Seattle at Cleveland. (Live) (CC)

11:3028/40TNT NASCAR Racing Nextel Cup Series — Pennsylvania 500 Qualifying. From Pocono Raceway in Long Pond, Pa. (Live) (CC)

AFTERNOON

1:00 7/11 CBS PGA Golf U.S. Bank Championship in Milwaukee — Third Round. From Brown Deer Park Golf Course in Milwaukee. (Live) (CC)

1:30 28/40 TNT NASCAR Racing Busch Series — Salute to the Troops 250. From Pikes Peak International Raceway in Fountain, Colo. (Live) (CC)

2:004/6ABCWNBABasketball Detroit Shock at Seattle Storm. From KeyArena in Seattle. (Live) (CC)

23/29 ESPN2 MLS Soccer D.C. United at Los Angeles Galaxy. From the Home Depot Center in Carson, Calif. (Live) (CC)

2:30 3/9 NBC 8/8 NBC Beach Volleyball AVP Nissan Hermosa Beach Open — Women's Finals. From Hermosa Beach, Calif. (Live) (CC)

4:00 22/28 ESPN SportsCenter (Live) (CC) 5:00 22/28 ESPN Horse Racing John C. Mabee/Coaching Club American Oaks. (Live) 30/27 FXSP MLB Baseball Colorado Rockies at Pittsburgh Pirates. From PNC Park in Pittsburgh. (Subject to Blackout) (Live) 99/39 WGN MLB Baseball Boston Red Sox at Chicago White Sox. From U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago. (Live) (CC)

SUNDAY MORNING

10:30 22/28 ESPN Baseball Tonight (Live) (CC) 11:00 28/40 TNT Countdown to Green (Live) (CC)

11:30 28/40 TNT NASCAR Racing Nextel Cup Series — Pennsylvania 500. From Pocono Raceway in Long Pond, Pa. (Live) (CC) AFTERNOON

12:30 22/28 ESPN IndyCar Racing ABC Supply Co./A.J. Foyt 225. From the Milwaukee Mile in West Allis, Wis. (Live) (CC)

1:00 7/11 CBS PGA Golf U.S. Bank Championship in Milwaukee — Final Round. From Brown Deer Park Golf Course in Milwaukee. (Live) (CC)

60/79 UNIV Fútbol Copa Oro 2005: La Gran Final. (En Vivo)

99/39 WGN MLB Baseball Boston Red Sox at Chicago White Sox. From U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago. (Live) (CC)

2:30 3/9 NBC 8/8 NBC Beach Volleyball AVP Nissan Hermosa Beach Open — Men's Finals. From Hermosa Beach, Calif. (Live) (CC)

3:00 22/28 ESPN Horse Racing San Diego Handicap/Salvator Mile. (Live)

23/29 ESPN2 Women's Soccer United States vs. Team TBA. (Live) (CC)

4:00 22/28 ESPN SportsCenter (Live) (CC) 5:00 22/28 ESPN Baseball Tonight (Live) (CC)





- 39. Texas symbol
- 43. Just short of
- 44. Oath from
- Ebenezer
- 45. Discomfort
- 46. Up to now 47. Critic Barnes
- 48. Introduce to the
- mix
 - 49. _ raving mad
 - 51. Within earshot 52. __ podrida (spicy
 - stew)
 - 53. Custard dessert
 - 54. Roof overhang
 - 55. Actor Guinness
 - 59. Guessed-at fig.
- "Born in the ___

46. Spill hot coffee on

Sinbad for many

days and nights

50. He hung on to

56. Generic pooch

58. "... and thereby

62. Relief pitchers'

successes

64. Foul-smelling

65. How we stand

DOWN

hangs

60. Hertz rival

spray

57. Scatter Fitzgerald

61. Controversial apple

63. Monopoly payment

49. All there

- 1. Springsteen's
 - 32. Give off 33. Reb's opponent

6. Movie ogre

8. Zillions

12. Dog-tired

7. Marina walkway

9. Dance recklessly

11. Beantown airport

21. Unaffiliated: Abbr.

10. Teatime treats

13. Actor Noah or

22. Front-running

25. A Little Woman

27. "In that case ..."

29. Heed the alarm

28. St. Theresa's town

30. Suffix with meteor

26. Need liniment

Wallace

The crossword puzzle brought to you by:



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