Businessman to get license for private drive

Dawson Area Development officials will handle planning services for a downtown revitalization grant

At their Oct. 15 meeting, the Gothenburg City Council hired DAD for $13,000.

City administrator Bruce Clymer said two consulting groups, Miller & Associates Consulting Engineers of Kearney and JEO Consulting Group, Inc. of Wahoo, declined to submit bids for the work.

Deb Jensen, DAD community development coordinator, said the planning work will be done by March 1, 2014.

In related action, the council approved an amendment to the Community Development Block Grant the city received for downtown revitalization planning to extend the time from six to nine months.

In other action, the council authorized mayor Joyce Hudson to negotiate and sign an agreement with Eric McPherson that would give him a license for a private drive.

At an earlier meeting, the owner of Dawson Tire & Wheel requested a license for the drive on unopened Fifth Street east of Cottonwood Drive.

The drive would run between McPherson's business and Central Platte Agronomics Inc. to the south and allow McPherson to access property to the southeast of Dawson Tire & Wheel he recently bought.

Council members and McPherson had also discussed vacating a portion of Fifth Street but decided the license would work better for now.

Hudson will negotiate and sign the agreement so McPherson can pour a concrete apron before the arrival of cold weather.

In other business, the council:

passed a resolution that adopts a revolving loan fund plan approved by the United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant program.

Earlier this year, Gothenburg Memorial Hospital received a $300,000 REDLG loan to transition from paper to electronic records.

The council had approved a revolving loan fund plan but some of the language needed to be cleaned up.

granted a special license so alcohol can be served at the grand opening of Hecox Dentistry on Nov. 7.

learned that DAD has hired a consulting firm to study housing in the county. Jensen said they felt it was time to revisit the issue, last studied in 2008, to see where deficiencies are such as in workforce and downtown housing as well as in vacant property that can be developed for housing.

were told of a sheriff's sale on Oct. 16, at 503 Lake Ave., where liens have been filed. The property belonged to Lester Buss who is now deceased.

Depending on the price the house brought, city officials said taxes could be paid in full and the city might be reimbursed for mowing liens.

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