

Hefty city purchase will pay off over time

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
Thursday, 24 April 2014 14:30 -

Local city council buys new street sweeper for \$187,255

A clean community is one of the reasons city services manager Shane Gruber voiced about a need for the kind of street sweeper the city recently bought.

The Gothenburg City Council agreed at its April 8 meeting when members voted to buy a Global M3 sweeper for \$187,255.

Council members had budgeted \$160,000 for a new mechanical sweeper and will pay the additional \$27,255 with money in the street fund designated for extras, said city administrator Bruce Clymer.

Gruber said the sweeper is similar to what the city has now, noting that he likes the options the council added such as full suspension.

The current sweeper didn't have the feature which caused a lot of bounce, he said. Yet the sweeper lasted about 14 years.

"This will save wear and tear on the machine," Gruber said.

Rose Equipment Inc., of Lincoln, submitted the successful proposal.

Two other proposals, from the same company, were lower.

Without the option package, Tennant Sales and Service Company of Minneapolis, MN, bid \$159,634 for one option and \$136,729 for the other.

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Both Tennant Sentinel machines are vaccum types.

Clymer said city officials feel that a mechanical sweeper, like what they bought, will be more durable and will allow for easier pickup of gravel by mechanically sweeping.

In other business, the Bar W Lounge will remain open but under new management.

Following a brief public hearing, the council granted the downtown bar a new liquor license.

Norm Lambertus, who was the license holder, died this year. His son, Ricky Lambertus, plans to operate the business as a lounge with some food served.

In other action, on second reading, the council passed an ordinance that would require rapid-entry key systems for industrial, commercial and other non-residential structures.

The box is a small, wall-mounted safe that would hold building keys for the fire department to retrieve in emergency situations.

The fire department would have three master keys to all boxes so they could quickly enter a building without having to force entry or call owners to come and unlock their building.

Some wording will be changed in the ordinance and ready for final reading.

Council members also decided to take no action on a claim by CenturyLink that city employees had damaged an underground telephone line while digging near the swimming pool.

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In other business, the council:

granted a request by the Gothenburg Volunteer Department to put on a fireworks display on July 4 over Lake Helen.

approved two draw downs for funds for the downtown revitalization project for \$3,750 and \$1,500. The council also approved a financial status report for the project.

learned that a buckeye tree will be planted during the city's celebration of Arbor Day on Friday. The tree will be planted to shade the southside well house which is just south of the Union Pacific railroad tracks on Cottonwood Drive. The public is invited.

were told that bids for improvements to the Gothenburg Improvement Company industrial tract would be opened on May 8.

On May 1, bids for sanitary sewer improvements and for the reconstruction of Lake Helen will be opened.

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