

Hearing for special use permit stays open

Written by Elizabeth Barrett

Thursday, 11 October 2012 13:47 -

DOLLARS FOR DOWNTOWN	
<p>A city revolving loan program has \$46,200 to loan a downtown business or businesses.</p> <p>During the Oct. 2 meeting of the Gothenburg City Council, city administrator Bruce Clymer shared guidelines for the city's revolving loan program that's intended to promote downtown revitalization. Other assistance are available to loan a business or businesses, noting that the program assists downtown businesses with building, inventory, personnel or with other needs.</p> <p>Applications, available at city hall, will be accepted beginning June 22, 2012, on a first-come, first-served basis. Qualified projects will be reviewed by the City Retail Re-Use</p>	<p>Committee, which recommends those to be funded. Projects need city council approval.</p> <p>Goals of the program include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ financing for start-up and existing businesses that cannot obtain conventional financing■ creating and retaining jobs primarily for low-moderate income persons■ diversifying the regional economy by assisting businesses not in the region■ encouraging the development of vacant or blighted buildings and land■ promoting entrepreneurship and new business development■ maximizing leakage of dollars■ providing public infrastructure to businesses

More information needed about church family life center

The Crossing's request for a special use permit to build a \$2- to \$5-million family life center is on hold.

Gothenburg City Council members opened and kept open a public hearing on Oct. 2 until they receive a recommendation from the city planning & zoning commission.

Church members want to construct a new church and family life center south of Hilltop Estates Care Center and explained the project to commissioners at a Sept. 18 meeting.

At that meeting, where elder pastors Eric Most and Jim Mann presented the project, several questions were asked such as whether the parking area would be paved or graveled and the location of the entry and exit.

The pastors said they'd like to open platted 23rd Street along the south side of the site.

Planning and zoning members also requested an overall conceptual plan for the site and building.

Council members agreed to keep the hearing open until the Oct. 16 meeting. Planning and zoning will meet again on Oct. 9.

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On another matter, city administrator Bruce Clymer said a resident who wanted to buy fire-damaged property and have time to tear it down was no longer interested in buying the home.

At an earlier council meeting, Dan Holbein asked the council for more time than 60 days to demolish the home of Harvey and Betty Wing, at 218 Ninth St. If he bought it, Holbein said he needed more time to tear it down himself.

Wing had received notice from the city that the home had been declared unsafe after a June 26 fire. City officials said the property needed to be repaired or torn down in a 60-day period but Holbein said he couldn't afford to have it done commercially if he bought the property.

"I don't know where we go from here but wait for the 60 days and go from there," Clymer said. "I don't think it's liveable right now."

In other business, the council:

agreed to pay a \$26,000 claim to Miller & Associates Consulting Engineers of Kearney for a design involving the rehabilitation of Lake Helen.

On a related matter, heard that the city will receive a \$50,000 grant from the Central Platte Natural Resources District for the rehabilitation of the lake with a chance the CPNRD might award another \$50,000 during fiscal 2014.

learned that the city sold nine bikes for \$50 and a computer from the library for \$50.

The bikes will be donated to Stan Jordan who plans to repair them and make them available to children for Christmas.

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