

Kennedy Klips

Go-Green Vote Results

On September 12, 2011, at 4:30 P.M., upon tabulation of Kennedy's "Go Green Vote", Kittson County Auditor Marilyn Gustafson provided the City of Kennedy with the following results:

City of Kennedy Summary of Election Totals	
Go Green Vote	
BALLOT QUESTION TO SUPPORT INCREASE OF PROPERTY TAX	
YES	16
NO	99
Blank Ballots	0
Defective Ballots	2
TOTAL BALLOTS	117

On September 13, the city was notified five additional ballots were received after the ballot deadline. The unopened tardy ballots were placed in the locked ballot box, with the rest of the ballots, all of which will be stored by the county auditor for 45 days.

With 122 votes cast, voter participation was 81%. To give this number perspective, compare it to the less than 40% participation in the 2010 mayoral and city council election. Fair to say, the use of the city's tax dollars for the operation of the Go-Green center is a hot-button issue, and the citizens of Kennedy have spoken.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? As stated previously, with regard to the Go-Green center, the Kennedy City Council will honor the citizens' wishes as indicated by this vote. Therefore, when setting next year's tax levy the council did not include a dedicated amount for the sole and specific purpose of financing the operation and maintenance of the "Go-Green" Business facility.

WILL THE BUILDING BE CLOSED? Leasing to private investors is still an option. The city is willing to lease the building to an investor or a group of investors for \$1/year. The investors would manage the building and assume all building operating and maintenance costs. This scenario puts project management in the hands of strongly motivated investors. Any profit realized belongs to the investors. They may write-off any losses. And, economic development money at low interest

rates is available to them. Finally, Kittson Co. economic development consultant Neil Doty would have more time to find viable businesses, tenants and opportunities.

NEXT INVESTORS MEETING October 20, 7:00 A.M., at the Kennedy Café. The last investors meeting had very low turn-out so the council has asked Neil Doty to try again. The thought is, since the sixteen "yes" voters indicated they are willing to spend a little to keep the school open, maybe they would be willing to work together to make it happen. The council is encouraging the yes-voters and all other interested investors to contact Gerald Carlson at 218-674-4514. He will compile an investors list and share it among interested investors. The investors would then talk to one and other, and show up for the Oct. 20 meeting. From there, Neil Doty will guide the investment process.

For your information, the School Building Profit & Loss statement is included on the next page. The data may be helpful in decision making and should also answer questions raised at the last council meeting, with regard to the city's numbers.

THEN WHAT HAPPENS? If no investor or group of investors step forward before the end of October, the city will blow the building's water pipes out, shut-off the heat and discontinue gym and fitness memberships. The city office will be moved back to its former location and, at least for this winter, the building would be available for cold storage only.

Calendar

City Office Closed

Friday, September 30, 2011
Tuesday, October 4, 2011
Monday, October 10, 2011
Tuesday, October 18, 2011

Thirsty Thursdays

Chicken and Beer
Every Thursday in October
October 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2011
5:00—7:30 p.m.
At the Kennedy Café.

Columbus Day Holiday

October 10, 2011
Monday, City Offices Closed

City Council Meeting

October 11, 2011, Tuesday, 7 p.m.
At the City Office.
Public is encouraged to attend.

DELINQUENT SEPT. WATER BILLS DUE

October 12, 2011, Wednesday, 2 p.m.
At the City Office.

WATER DISCONNECTION DAY

For All Delinquent September Accounts
October 13, 2011, Thursday, 8 a.m.

GO-GREEN INVESTORS MEETING

October 20, 2011, Thursday, 7 a.m.
At the Kennedy Café.
Guest Speaker Neil Doty, Ph.D.

Odds & Ends

The Kennedy Community Garden Still Really Needs Your Help! Financially, the garden came up *way short* this year. Donations were down, the city was unable to contribute, and the Kennedy Crew's fundraising efforts were stymied. *Please*, consider supporting the summer employment of Kennedy youth by making a donation to the garden today. Make checks payable to, The Kennedy Community Garden. Thank-you.

Thank You Kennedy Summer Rec Donors! Summer Rec surpassed its fund raising goal this summer. Thank you to the donors that helped cross the finish line, including Kenny Urbaniak, Anderson Pharmacy, Staci and Garrit Winge, and the Kennedy Crew.

2011 Go-Green 5K Walk/Run T-Shirts for Sale... \$5 each. Many adult sizes still available. They'll make great Christmas gifts. Get them while they last, at the Kennedy City Office.

Tree Stump Removal. Contact the City Office if you have tree stumps you want removed. If we get enough interested people we will schedule yet this fall.