



CONTACT THE EDITOR

## Autism salute gets council OK

**By Juliana Mathews/newseditor@gonzalescannon.com**

YOAKUM —The City Council approved Yoakum Gin and Feed's request for temporary closure of streets on March 29 for Autism Speaks fundraising event. After discussion regarding the impact the street closure had last year, the council approved Yoakum Gin and Feed's request to close Front Street and one other.

City Manager Kevin Coleman expressed concern over the possible disruption closing Front Street would have. Police Chief Arthur Rogers said a partial closure such as last year's would have minimal impact on the flow of traffic.

Coleman reported preliminary results of March 2014 Cleanup Day show a successful turnout, with lots of help from Scouts, and good food.

He also discussed future potential Council agenda items:

Work continues on sanitary sewer system improvement project.

Review of Electric Line Extension Policy: Two years ago policy was revised. The policy was recently reviewed, and compared to GVEC's policy. Coleman said it was more in line with GVEC's before the revision.

Regarding budgeted building maintenance projects: Exterior repaint for airport hanger, and two other buildings will put out for bid.

The Council also approved the following agenda items:

- To change the zoning of the property at 512 Moffitt St, from R-2 to R-4.
- Remounting and refurbishing of an ambulance module and purchase of a 2014 Dodge Ram 3500 standard chassis, with modifications discussed on bid sheet.
- Several streets to be included in the 2014 Street Improvement Project and authorized the City Manager to advertise for seal coats bids.
- Passed ordinance on first reading enacting a new Code of Ordinances for the City of Yoakum. Critical verbiage unchanged. Tim McCoy suggested tracking website activity to determine effectiveness.
- Authorized City Manager to include Police Chief's 2003 Chevy Malibu as surplus equipment and determine most beneficial method of sale. The new 2014 Chevy Tahoe will be available after a few minor security accommodations.
- Commitment of 20% of fiscal year budget based on auditor's preliminary audit information.
- Appointed of two commissioners to the Yoakum Housing Authority Board of Commissioners for two-year terms, one member to fill an unexpired term vacated by MaryLou Vera, and a resident commissioner for a one-year term. In addition, the council appointed commissioners for the two terms expiring in April.
- Appointed Mayor Anita Rodriguez as council representative to the Yoakum Volunteer Fire Department Pension Board/Texas Emergency Services Retirement System for another two-year term.
- Proclaimed April 2014 as Fair Housing Month