

Mount Ayr Record News



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This is an artist's rendering of what the new Heartland Energy Solutions plant in Mount Ayr would look like. Negotiations are continuing for the new company to take over the Mount Ayr Products building. The first of the company's wind generators would be constructed outside the plant to provide electricity for the plant.

New industry, sewer project lead council talk

News about the new industry coming to Mount Ayr and action to deal with the city purchasing the building the company will lease to get started into production headlined the regular meeting of the Mount Ayr city council Monday night.

In addition the council worked on the planned expansion of the city sewer system to reach homes along the North Hayes and North Taylor Streets which are not now served.

New industry discussed

Charles Sharp, president of Heartland Energy Solutions, and several of the other principals in the company were on hand for the council meeting Monday night to share more information about the plans for the firm's operations.

A meeting with the Iowa Department of Economic Develop-

ment to finalize plans for bringing the business to Mount Ayr was set today (Thursday).

Sharp noted that the company would have several operations as part of its scope. These would include operations for tool and die manufacture, manufacture of the wind turbines, manufacture of the blades, engineering, research and development and a finance arm.

The firm plans to begin its operations with building midrange wind turbines which would produce 50, 75 or 100 kilowatts of power.

Sharp told the group that the midrange size of generators are not available anywhere else currently. The Heartland Energy Solutions turbines would be designed especially for the lower wind areas in the United States.

While large generators need 15

mile an hour winds to begin developing electricity, the midrange turbines can work with eight mile an hour winds so generate electricity much more quickly and run for longer periods than the bigger generators.

The turbines will be able to be transported by regular size truck transportation and will not require the large cranes needed by the bigger generators for construction or repair.

"Wind turbines will be only the beginning of the renewable energy products we plan to develop," Sharp said. As the turbines are developed and manufactured, the firm plans to expand to biomass and hydrogen energy sources as well.

The first portion of the plan

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