

New Historical Society building approved

(KLZA)--The path has been cleared for the Richardson County Historical Society to construct a new building in downtown Falls City.

The Falls City Council Monday evening approved a request from the Historical Society to allow a steel building to be constructed on the open lots between 14th and 15th Streets along Chase Street.

City Administrator Gary Jorn pointed out the request had to come before the Council due to zoning in the area. Regulations call for all buildings constructed in a downtown--commercial district to have a brick, concrete or plaster facade on the front face of the building and the design is to respect the historic character of the area.

Richardson County Historical Society President Richard Meinzer said the group has outgrown their current facilities, which includes a building constructed in 2007.

Plans call for construction of a 100' by 60' building with a 20-foot canopy over the front.

The building will be situated in the northeast corner of the half-block area with the front to the south. The south half of the block will be left for parking.

The new building will include a small kitchen and restrooms that could be used for groups looking for space to conduct meetings.

Meinzer asked if the City would waive the fee for the building permit and help with the cost of getting utilities to the new building for the non-profit organization. Since those requests were not part of the agenda, they will have to come before the Council at another meeting.

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