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PITTSBURG —

Both the Colonial Fox Theatre Foundation and the Memorial Auditorium staff are requesting approval from the city for various grant applications at tonight's city commission meeting.

The first grant situation would be to approve an application by the Colonial Fox Theatre Foundation for facade grants.

The facade grant program, distributed through the Downtown Facade Improvement Committee, has had \$200,000 to distribute to improve the look and operation of the downtown properties. Less than \$40,000 remains in the fund, and the Colonial Fox has asked for roughly \$7,500 for the east and west facades.

On the east side, that will include removing the chicken wire and replacing the frame wall over the arch, as well as painting the area. On the west side, the grant application calls for building a ramp until the theatre renovation is complete.

The Colonial Fox would put in more than \$37,000 for the project, with the city grants to potentially in \$7,500. Roughly \$5,000 would be used on the east side, and roughly \$2,500 would be spent on the west side.

As for the Memorial Auditorium, officials are requesting city commission approval to apply for a 2011 Operations Support Grant from the Kansas Arts Commission. Officials have received these funds in the past, and used them to help supplement marketing efforts for activities taking place at the auditorium throughout the year.

The city commission will also consider the approval of bids for ready mix cement/flowable fill.

Two companies have submitted bids, O'Brien Ready Mix, located just outside Pittsburg, and American Concrete, located in Pittsburg.

The bid for American Concrete came in higher, even applying the city's policy of adding 3 percent to the low bid of businesses outside the city to O'Brien Ready Mix's bid.

Bill Beasley, Public Works director, has recommended the city award the bid to O'Brien Ready Mix.

The city will also make proclamations of April 29 as Arbor Day, and the week of April 25 as Anti-Bullying Awareness Week.

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