Continued From Page 1 Stattorily completed the previous project and are the only company that al

the only company that already knows the specifications on the plant and the project.

The plant currently has no backup power supply. Russell said last winter the plant almost reached storage capacity during a power outage, which would have been prevented had the generator been in operation.

In ordinances, Bill Number 2014-76 providing of the vacation of an east/west alley in block nine of the original town in the City of Mexico was unanimously approved by the council. The alley is located adjacent to 112 South Jefferson and will be used for additional seating for an Irish Pub.

In other business, a staff report regarding the purchase of LED lights, globes and reflectors for downtown light improvements was presented by Russell.

"This is one of those projects that may not be as high-dollar as some of our other projects, but it really does contribute to our downtown and community. Last year we put 23 LED lights on two blocks of Promenade Street. I've had several positive comments on that and haven't heard



anything negative. We budgeted this year \$30,000, the same amount we spent last year. We did some inhe vestigation and found we can buy 25 lights if the city buys the material and we bid for the labor of installation."

Two additional lights will be replaced on Promenade to complete that street. The block of Washington from Promenade to Jackson and the block of Jefferson from Promenade to Jackson would be completed with the remaining 23 lights.

Council member Steve Nichols asked when the project would be completed. Russell said it depended on how much funding the project received in the future. There are 193 lights in Mexico and 48 will be replaced after this year.

The LED lights use 75 watts of power, as opposed to the previous bulbs, which used 250 watts. Russell said he hopes to renegotiate with Ameren to reduce electricity costs after enough of the bulbs have been replaced. Ameren currently charges the city per unit, but it may be beneficial to move to a meter use charge.

During council comments Williams congratulated those involved with the Presser Performing Arts production of Shrek, saying it was very well done. He also said the Santa Claus parade was nice.

Council member Greg

Miller thanked the City staff members on their hard work in planning for the brush yard operation. He also said there are a lot of broken street lights throughout Mexico and asked Mexico Public Safety Chief Susan Rockett to have the officers call broken lights into the City staff when they are noticed.

Chairman Pro Tem Ronald Loesch urged people to continue voting for the Help Center to receive a Food Pantry Holiday Makeover grant from Walmart and thanked those who have already voted. Voting can take place at http://wm8.walmart.com/ holidaymakeover/#/ for those with an active Facebook account.

As of this morning, the Help Center was ranked 33 among the top 75 food pantries who could receive a grant.

Loesch also to see improvements to the exterior of a residence at the intersection of Jackson and Agriculture which he described as unsightly. Slagle and City Attorney Lou Leonatti said they would look into the issue today.

In public comments, Ralph Mika also addressed the need to maintain deteriorating and/or unsightly houses throughout Mexico. He also asked if there was an alternative to using copper sulfate to clear septic tanks of tree roots.