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Herald Times Reporter

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LOCAL NEWS

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Board OKs wind ordinance

By Michelle Kubitz
Herald Times Reporter

MANITOWOC — The Manitowoc County Board unanimously passed an ordinance Tuesday establishing guidelines for wind turbines that may be placed in the northern part of the county.

Although the county cannot ban the placement of the turbines in the county, the ordinance will regulate the placement and operation of the turbines.

Navitas Energy Inc. of Minneapolis is looking at sites in the northern part of the county to construct 49 wind turbines on about 5,000 acres in the towns of Mishicot, Two Creeks and Two Rivers.

The turbines would generate about 100 megawatts of energy, said Jerrid Anderson, a senior project developer with Navitas.

Despite passage of the ordinance, it will be up to individual townships to either adopt the county's ordinance or to create their own.

In other business, the board received the Historical Structures Report concerning the potential restoration of the county's courthouse.

Bamco Architects Inc., of Manitowoc, completed the \$48,000 report, which was funded by the county's contingency fund and a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The county will use the report to collect basic data about the courthouse, analyze its significance to the community and make recommendations for its preservation, including estimated costs of renovation.

The county is currently looking for grants and other avenues to fund restoration projects, which may include restoring the courthouse's dome from stainless steel panels to its original glass design.

Although no timetable has been established, the county hopes to complete some of the restoration by the courthouse's centennial in November 2007, according to Jeff Beyer, the county's director of public works.

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