

High water bills on the agenda of the city council

By Sandy Barnhart
sandyb@nwkansas.com

High water bills were discussed when the St. Francis City Council met on June 19. Two residents have complained of high water bills, one through the winter and the other in last year.

Ron Ewing, one of the residents, was present to explain his case. He said that a new meter had been put on May 15 and when he had read the meter on June 15, it had showed a usage of 7,000 gallons. Last year for the same period the usage was 93,000 gallons.

Superintendent J.R. Landenberger explained that it cost between \$25 and \$35 to send a meter in to be checked. The code book stipulates that the resident must request the meter sent in and the cost to the resident (if the meter is OK) is \$10.

Miller and Associates officials said that usually when a meter is not working properly, it reads slower. They also noted that when the sheet value has been messed with and only opened halfway, this will make the meter run faster.

After some discussion, the council decided that both meters would need to be sent in to be checked until a decision could be made. Mr. Ewing approved his being sent in and Superintendent Landenberger will contact the other resident for her approval.

Superintendent's report

Superintendent Landenberger said that he had been approached concerning putting a 150- to 190-foot tall self-supported tower for a telecom company. It was unknown where the company planned on putting the tower and the council asked that Superintendent Landenberger request more information.

He also noted that he had been approached about putting in a sand volleyball court at the courthouse park. The council were concerned with the sand being pushed onto the grass. The matter was tabled.

Property cleanup

Attorney Mike Day distributed copies of Resolution 2007-2 and Resolution 2007-3. The resolutions are in regards to property being an environmental hazard on the exterior of the yard. The properties needing cleaned are 509 W. Webster and 513 W. Webster.

He said that a courtesy letter had initially been sent to both owners. Next a letter from the city superintendent stating that the property owners had 15 days to clean up the property or 10 days to disagree. If the owners disagreed with the determination of the superintendent, they can request a hearing before the council. Neither letter has brought a response from either property owner.

The resolutions authorize the city attorney, city superintendent and other city agents to proceed with abatement of the property if no response is seen.

The council approved the resolutions and the city police will serve the papers.

Dog Pound

Clerk Lampe had the costs of operating the dog pound last year. Costs included a \$200 license fee; \$2,615 in electricity and \$2,254 in food.

The council, after a short discussion, opted to, on a trial bases, allow Bird City to bring stray dogs over. There will be a \$5 per day per dog fee charged plus any cost for care of the animal. There would also be the stipulation that after the dog has been in the pound the allotted time, Bird City takes over with the adoption fee or euthanasia procedures.

Organizations

Councilwoman Carla Lampe reported that the Economic Development met June 15.

Councilman Roger Jensen reported that the Cheyenne Initiative Association (CIA) met on June 14.

Both groups discussed the potential interest in bringing wind generator assembly line to Cheyenne County.

Attorney report

Attorney Day said Ordinance 541 which was published in last week's *Saint Francis Herald* would need to be voted on again by the council members and this time signed by the mayor. He said that Kansas Statutes and city's ordinances states that only the mayor can approve an ordinance. Mayor Scott Schultz was not present at the last city council meeting.

The ordinance was once again unanimously voted for by the council members with Mayor Schultz signing the ordinance and is republished in this issue of *The Herald*. The ordinance reduced the weight of a truck parking on city streets from 25,000 to 10,500. The ordinance also eliminates the four-hour parking and put in its place a permitting procedure in which those driving overweight vehicles would need to acquire a permit to park.

Pool report

Bruce Swihart, swimming pool board member, said that, as of June 14, nine lifeguards were certified which leaves one still needing the certification. Two of the lifeguards previously obtaining their certifications.

Police report

Chief Troy Gardner asked the council to consider sending two of the city employees planning on taking the 911 dispatchers positions in January to a two-week school in Salina. The school is put on by the Kansas Highway Patrol Academy. Chief Gardner noted that the sheriff's department will be paying for the training and asked that the council consider paying for a portion of the employees wages. The matter was tabled until Superintendent Landenberger could be present as they are employees at the city power plant.

Other business

In other business:

- Due to wheat harvest, the council approved to reschedule the July 3 St. Francis City Council meeting from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

- Two Representatives with Miller and Associates of McCook updated the council on the water-flow study. The flow-test study estimates the deposits in the pipes and evaluates hydrant and value replacement. The test should be completed in a month and they plan to present the remainder of the study and the recommendation of improvements.

- Fireworks licenses approved were: senior class; Sherry Hilt; Judy Brunk and Donna Stevens.

- Attorney Day noted that the city's auditors had requested a new lease from Cheyenne County Wildlife. The previous lease had expired in 2006. He noted that he was waiting for the organization to show proof they carried \$1 million in liability insurance. The lease is a five-year term with the organization paying one dollar per month.

- Clerk Lampe informed the council that minimum wages will be going up on July 24 from \$5.15 to \$5.85; in 2008 will be \$6.55 and 2009 - \$7.25.



EIGHTH GRADERS in the 1952-53 school year were lined up for their annual class photo. Pictured (l to r) front row: Lillian Peter, Charles Barrett, Elaine Goodell (Owens), Dorlyne Kimmel (Amack), Janice Schlittenhardt (Morgan), Melvin Zweygardt, Wendell Amack, Lyle Zimbelman, Merle Mills; second row: Barbara Everhart (Murray), Charlene Holliday (Myers), Ronald Willt, Frances Wolbach (Ogden), Darwin Porter, Betty Schlepp (Millan), Melvin Confer, Ardyth Wieck

(Tolle), Cherrill Stone (Sapp); third row: Karina (Pat) Trumbull, Alfred Buerlue, Sharon Frodin (Tennison), Carl Williams, Marvin Dankenbring, Delphine Zweygardt, Marvin Confer, Jerry Crabtree; fourth row: Gordon Rogers, Phyllis Crouse (Carson), Janice Smith (Lalick), Frank Lockard, Marvin Corder, Wilma Winger (Nagel), Donna Baxter (Bracelin). Standing is teacher Rex Curtis.



The summer band in 1951 had many players. Pictured (l to r) front row: Sandra Kail, Glorriane Holzwarth, Sharon Steward, Darlene Amack, Judy Russell, Janice Manson, Frank Lockard, Carol Vanlaningham, Bruce Stone, Burris Ringsby; second row: Marlene Brown, Karna Alsbury, Shirley Amack, Janice Schlittenhardt, Colleen Moore, Vernice Rath, Wesley Winter, Marvin Miller, Delbert Schorzman, Anna Marie Zweygardt, Shirley Zweygardt, Wilma Schroeder; third row:

Ruth Elaine Daniels, Evelyn Rowand, Noel Brown, Maxine Bandel, Howard Mitchel, Eunice Holzwarth, Jane Mills, Carol Lou Stinehagen, Gordon Smith, Alvin Schroeder, Merle Mills; fourth row: Butch Blacker, Melvin Walz, Gordon Rogers, Jim Felzein, Alice Upton, Jim Schlittenhardt, Eugene Cook, Dick Kail, Dale Lockard; back row: Gary Neilan, Max Vaughn, Carl Adams, Neil Davis, Donna Follett, Ward Davis and Darlene Boxburger, instructor.



The Saint Francis Herald
~ and ~

The Bird City Times

will be CLOSED Wed.,
July Fourth in observance
of Independence Day

DEADLINE - Mon., July 2 @ 5 p.m.

The Saint Francis Herald and
Bird City Times will be at the
Post Offices on Thurs.
afternoon, July 5 & delivered
to the routes Fri., July 6.

Outstanding Opportunity!!

Ever thought about opening your heart
and home to children in need in your area?

TFI Family Services, a leader in Foster Care is currently seeking individuals to help kids needing temporary or long term placements. We need caring individuals who enjoy working with children as part of our team. With this opportunity, you will explore new possibilities and learn to work with and assist children in need.

Individuals must be 21 years old, single or two-parent family, with permanent residence and regular household income, and able to pass background check.

Benefits include: 24 hour on call support, personal case manager, mileage reimbursement, medical card for children in care, clothing allowance, free initial and on-going training, resource parent liability insurance and much more.

Daily Reimbursement Rates: Up to \$22.00 per day per child for satellite/family care; Up to \$45.00 per day per child for diversion/specialized care; Up to \$80.00 per day per child for therapeutic care (or up to \$2,400 a month per child).

For more information please contact TFI Family Services at (800) 279-9914 or visit us online at www.the-farm.org.

Head Start Teacher/Case Manager

Qualifications: Bachelors of Education in Early Childhood, Early Childhood Special Education or Kansas Teaching Certification with CDA (Child Development Accreditation if not currently certified, CDA must be obtained within 6 months of employment.) Training, Education, Experience, References and Interview results are some of the qualifications that are considered for each candidate.

Position Description: Head Start Teacher for the 2007-2008 school. This contract includes case management duties.

Contact Person: For more information contact Keva Scheib, Head Start Director, 785-672-3125 ext. 144. To receive an application, contact Leslie Herl, Administrative Assistant, 785-672-3125 ext. 145.

Application Deadline: Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Completed file for candidacy must include the following:

- Letter of Introduction
- Resume
- Completed NKEESC Application for Employment
- Reference File - including transcripts, three (3) references less than two years old, and a copy of your current Kansas Teaching Certificate.

NKEESC is an Equal Opportunity Employer