

Continued from Page 1

all times. Each officer will be on call for one week. At that time they will get paid \$40, plus their base pay when called out. This will cost the city far less than hiring a police officer.

Other items in the police report:
 • April 17 the police department will go to the St. Francis High School to focus on prom safety include offering incentives for students

• Janelle Bowers, director of the emergency medical services, asked to buy the extra desk from police office for her office.

• The Police Chief is interviewing an officer to fill the vacant police spot.

• There will be an opening for police clerk.

• The chief was asked to keep a log on actual dispatches from 911 dispatch. In the three week period the day shift only had two calls and the night shift had six. It is being looked into to see why more calls had not been dispatched through the 911 system.

Superintendent report

With tornado season here, the concern of the whistle was discussed. The switch is located at the power plant, however with the 911 dispatch at the courthouse, it needs to be manned from there. Nex-Tech has a radio that could be installed instead of the phone line. The cost would be about \$1,500. This would be under the 911 funds, however there is no money in that fund at this time. Councilman Rodney Bracelin felt that it needed to be installed now and when the 911 funds are available the city could be reimbursed.

Chief police asked if a "reverse 911 call" could be made so all of the county residents would receive a call. This matter will be looked into.

Building permits

Building permits were issued to Dan Schlittenhardt, Lonnie Robbin, Eric Hook, Barb Barnhart and Bill Smith.

Cheyenne County Wildlife, along with the county and city, will be working together on Keller Pond. They will dredge part of the pond out, and do some repairs necessary on the bridge. Other minor repairs will also be made.

Superintendent's report

Superintendent J.R. Landenberger asked to get started on the rip-rap at the sewer ponds before any more erosion. He will start with 100 ton at \$31 dollars a ton/delivered.

Chip sealing the streets will begin early this year. He was given permission to order \$70,000 to \$75,000 of the chip seal.

Brent Rueb was present at the meeting to ask for a variant. The

bay window placed on his building on Washington Street is 5 inches pass the building.

Mr. Rueb asked why his property was not in compliance while other buildings on Main Street have the same overhang.

He presented the council with pictures of other properties that were not in compliance.

No decision was made.

Council comments

Theater Committee had meet and wanted to know where the council was on the heating and air conditioning for the theater. Superintendent Landenberger said he had not received the bid from Lampe Hardware yet.

It was noted that there is a need for property cleanup on Third Street.

PARK

Continued from Page 1

followed by a task force of men, armed with shovels and muscle to remove the rock-hard dirt from the curb so the sidewalks could be formed and poured.

The old sidewalks, then over 30 years old, were cracked and parts were missing.

Mrs. Kite said the first load of concrete hit the forms at 6 a.m. on July 9 and completed by 11:30 a.m.

That summer was long, hot and dry. Weeds and sandburrs sprung up in the newly seeded grass.

But, whenever help is needed, there is generally someone who steps up. That "someone" was Alice Danielson. She donated the money to have the band shell painted.

"This donation truly spurred us on," Mrs. Kite said.

The committee then hit the next obstacle which was to convince the city and county leaders that an underground sprinkling system was needed — that it was the most practical and feasible way to maintain the park.

They met with road blocks — there were several people who were not in favor of the watering system but, eventually, the city and county each donated \$3,000 which was used to install a timed-sprinkling system.

"Planting time was of the essence, so within 19 days, the complete system was designed and installed, park grounds were cultivated, fertilized, seeded and watered," Mrs. Kite said. "Almost instantly, the park was green."

The spring of 1977 found the interior sidewalks being poured, there was mowing and weeding but, those ladies who had removed the weeds from the rocks had come back, this time to remove the new weeds from the grass.

The broken windows in the band shell had been replaced, and the fountain, urns on the brick pillars, handrails and benches were painted.

Early one morning, the trees arrived. Hundreds, small, medium and large trees, many of them dead or dying, were taken out.

The new trees had been purchased from Goodells and planted by

volunteers.

A check was received in memory of Dow Mitchell from his wife. Mr. Mitchell was the clerk when the courthouse was built. In her letter she wrote, "Years have passed and the trees are going. It is nice to know that someone cares enough to replace them and continue to have a beautiful park."

Lucile Kanel wrote, "The Will Kanel family was one of the early pioneer homesteader families in Cheyenne County. I think that, as a tribute to their indomitable pioneer spirit and love for Cheyenne County, a living memorial would be most appropriate."

There were 4,593 volunteer man-hours invested in Sawhill Park. Mrs. Kite said the restoration of Sawhill Park was a tribute to all of those who did their very best. She said that her father, Mike Raile, said, "If you're going to do something, you do your very best!"

Page 8 of this issue is dedicated to the park and what it looked like before the PRIDE Committee took on the project of beautifying the over-grown park.

Continued from Page 1

positions that will need to be filled but it was not necessary to make any decisions at the Friday meeting.

The board voted to approve the current teachers with the exception of Mr. Matthies and Ms. Petersen.

A list of the rest of the school staff was reviewed but no decisions were made.

Assessment results

Mr. Schiltz had the preliminary Kansas Assessment results. Students in third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades along with some of the upper grades were tested. Although the final results are not in, Mr. Schiltz said it appeared that St. Francis students had done exceptionally well.

He said the students really do care and want to do well. Paras

HISTORY

Continued from Page 1

new courthouse there. Thoughts of a park were dropped.

Later, city officials decided to make a few improvements in the park. It was the plan then to work out a 5-year program and do a little bit each year and eventually, they would have a comfortable little park.

Then, Civil Works Administration (CWA) money from the federal government was available to pay men who needed work. A large project was needed and it ended up being the city park.

The plans were to build sidewalks and get the ground ready for grass. However, they needed someone to make the plans — there was no use in spending money until they knew what they were doing.

Howard Sawhill was just the man for the job.

At the 1966 dedication of Sawhill Park, a tribute was given to Mr. Sawhill by his old friend, Rev. B.W. Thomas. He said that hours before the laborers would arrive, Mr. Sawhill could be found at the park, surrounded by building materials. He was planning, often doing preliminary building. Rev. Thomas said he had asked Mr. Sawhill how many hours he had spent on the project.

After some thought, he replied, "I suppose a 1,000 or more."

Rev. Thomas said that if one could sum up the total number of hours, dreaming, planning, handling material and supervising, it would total thousands of hours.

It was noted that the bowl of the fountain was formed by digging a hole in the ground, which was dug by Mr. Sawhill. He shaped it and tamped so it was hard as a rock. He then smoothed the sides and the cement was poured. As it hardened, Mr. Sawhill troweled the insides of the bowl until it was perfectly smooth.

As the park was built, the old jail on the southeast corner came down. The article said men blew warm breath on their fingers and cleaned every brick for further use. Tons of fertilizer were hauled in and spaded under; water pipes were laid; straw and dirt covered the newly poured sidewalks.

As it grew warmer, the real construction began. The bricks of the interior of the jail were used to build the band shell. The jail's concrete floor was the base for the painted flag. Pillars of brick and stone were erected at each of the three entrances. An oval shaped amphitheater of cement formed the band shell and forms were made for the fountain.

There were 150 tons of rock boulders hauled in from Cherry Creek. Most were used on the slope outside the band shell and some were used around the fountain.

Every day during the spring, there was something new planted — new grass and new flowers including hundreds of pansies, then dozens of other kinds of flowers and moss seed were sown among the rocks.

A wading pool for children was located on the northeast

corner. Pillars, inlaid with rough granite, surmounted by urns which supported a cluster of lights marked the entrance of the park. Two other entrances had smaller pillars.

There were diagonal walks across to the fountain in the center of the block.

The fountain had a column with an illuminated spray rising from the bell-shaped bowl. There were gold fish swimming in the pool and plants grew in the middle.

Rustic work arches graced the entrances of the band shell which would seat 700 people. There were artistic drinking fountains, bird baths, a little sun dial on the center fountain.

The band shell, filled with rows of lights, faced the west toward the amphitheater. The shell's edge was decorated by a rainbow and a golden harp was placed at the center top. Along the bottom of the stage was written the music of "America."

The building was large enough to have two rooms, with one being in the basement. The lower room was used for Boy Scout meetings and the upper room was used for band practice.

There were four picture painted by Mr. Sawhill. The names were "The Westward Trail," "The Price of the West," "The Spirit of Cheyenne" and "The Hope of Tomorrow."

"Deserving of the highest praise is the designer, Howard T. Sawhill, artists and resident of St. Francis... Through him, the city has constructed a park of lasting beauty and utility to the people of St. Francis and the community," is written in the article.

The park was renovated and beautified in 1977. In 43 years, the trees were almost taking over the park. Many of them dead and dying. The final results are what is seen today.

Spring is here. People can be seen walking around the park, stopping by the fountain or resting in the band shell. The annual car show is held around the park. Weddings and other functions are held in the band shell. Several years ago, in the middle of a drought, people met weekly at the band shell to pray for rain which did come.

Through the year, a lot of Mr. Sawhill's work has fallen apart or been destroyed. However, the band shell, the fountain, pillars and the flag are still there — a reminder of a designer who gave of himself to beautify a city block, turning it into a park for generations to enjoy.

PLANS

and special ed teachers all chip in to help. He noted that Becky McAtee's class was not going to be able to finish the testing before it was time to go to lunch. The cooks understood and said their lunch would be waiting for them when they were done.

When final results are known, they will be published in the newspaper.

Security system installed

Principal Scott Carmichael said the access control security system had been completed at the grade school. The teachers have access cards to gain entry into the school. Mr. Carmichael said it is probably one of the best investments to be made for both the students and the teachers.

"The system gives a sense of security and safety for the kids," he said.

In other business

In other business:

• The board approved that Isaac, son of Derek and Amy (Rice) Hathaway, be permitted to receive services in the St. Francis schools. They live just over the Kansas state line, in Colorado. Isaac is pre-kindergarten age. The tuition will be waived.

• There were several board members indicating they will be attending the Kansas Association of School Boards Region 9 meeting to be held in Goodland on May 6.

• Sherry Weeks, board member, reported that some of the parents had expressed the desire to have more information on Indian News.

• Mr. Schiltz said that 30 atomic clocks, costing \$5,017 had been installed at the grade school. Now, all clocks are on the same time.

Coming Soon:

SENIOR PARENTS!!!

Bird City •• St. Francis •• Idalia, CO



Congratulate Your Graduate

The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times are now planning the Senior Graduation Supplement and will be giving parents a chance to put a baby picture in along with a short message from the family for \$20 extra. This feature is optional.

Jade DeGood

I plan to attend Community College of Aurora for one year and then transfer to Colorado State University. There I plan to major in Broadcast Journalism and minor in Graphic Design/Advertising.

"Our Little Princess" You've grown into such an amazing young lady. We are so proud of you. Not only for all your great accomplishments, but mostly of who you are within. You are truly a blessing to us. Love always, Mom & Dad: Lanissa, Greg, Brielyn & Taybron



Parents: Janice DeGood Lanny DeGood

Senior pictures will be sponsored by parents, grandparents, individuals and/or businesses for \$37.00 each or three for \$95.

Call Casey @ 785-332-3162 for more information or stop by the office at 310 W. Washington, St. Francis



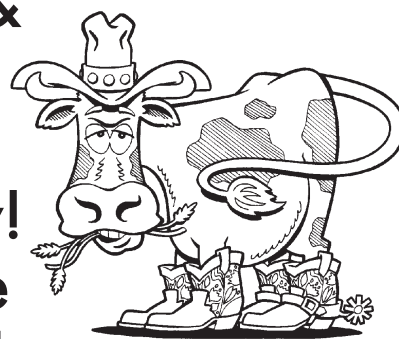
Smile it's Spring!

Advertise your business in the SPRING Home & Garden Special Sections Coming Soon!



MAY IS BEEF MONTH

We Believe Farming & Beef Production is the Main Stay of Community Prosperity! Join us in Saluting the Area Beef Producers!



For more details, contact Casey McCormick at the

Bird City Times

The Saint Francis Herald •• 785-332-3162