

Some residents clean up property

By Karen Krien
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Property cleanup was at the top of the St. Francis City Council's agenda. The city superintendent said, some residents are following through with cleanup.

Superintendent J.R. Landenberger reported that there was lots of progress at the Figgins property on East Fourth Street.

However, there had been people complaining about the Sauer residence on West Webster Street. The complaints had been made to the city attorney's office.

A house on West Whittier Street, across from Goodell Greenhouse was discussed. The house is unoccupied except for an abundance of cats and Mr. Landenberger reported that it has mold on the basement walls. The house is presently in a trust. The tree work on the Neitzel property on South River Street has been done by the city but there has been no communication with the property owner.

The council discussed the fact that the county attorney, in a commissioners' meeting, had discussed having a delinquent property tax sale. This type of sale, the council agreed, would help clear up some of the city's problem with vacant properties.

Trailer parking

At the last meeting, there had been complaints about the trailers parked on Main Street. Chief of police, Shane Guggenmos, said the officers are working on talking to the owners of the trailers but noted that some of the owners are not very receptive to moving them.

There is a question about the

tonnage on the trailers. The chief will talk to the city attorney, Mike Day, about making the law more clear.

Police radios

Radios for the police department were once again discussed. The police chief and Superintendent Landenberger had discussed that there is no room for the radios in the police budget and there is a problem with other things needed in other funds.

The 800 megahertz radios he had proposed getting would be going off the introductory price of \$999 each. Eventually, the department will need to have the radios, he said. There will be more information concerning the budget at the end of the month. They will look at the radios again then.

Pool report

Bruce Swihart, councilman, gave the swimming pool report, noting that the pool had gone over budget and another pay period was still coming in. Next year, he said, summer between the end and start of the school year will be shorter, thus, there will be less days that the pool is open.

He noted that Mikaela Grace, manager, and Christina Schoenrogge, lifeguard, did some maintenance work at the pool. The office floor, he said, has never looked so good.

Building permits

Building permits were approved for Delbert Barnhart to run a sidewalk; Mark Cooper, build garage extension; Mary Bier, take down a house; Danny Penton, remove and replace a porch; Kim and Kary Zwegardt, deck; and Toby Dirks, fence.

They didn't approve a permit for Sean Straub to build a garage on his Jackson Street property. Mr. Landenberger said he thought it would cause a drainage problem to others down the block but understood that it would help Straub's drainage problem.

I just can't issue something that will put a problem on someone else, Mr. Landenberger said.

He asked that the council take time to look at it and the matter will be addressed at a later meeting.

Superintendent's report

Superintendent Landenberger said he had talked to Bob Krutsinger about putting in two blocks of curb and gutter on Washington Street. Mr. Krutsinger will still do the work for \$25,000.

The city crew has been remov-

ing trees along Main Street. He said there are six trees that are diseased and need to be taken out. They discussed the removal of healthy trees, noting that there are people who don't want their trees removed. The council suggested that Mr. Landenberger check with Jim Strine, Kansas Forest Service, at K-State University.

Electric rates were discussed. Figures of rates in surrounding cities were distributed but no decision was made.

Carla Lampe and Paula Keller, councilwomen, went with Mr. Landenberger to check out the landscaping at the Scout Hut. After looking at the options, they all agreed that concrete around the building would be the best solution. The cost would be around \$3,000 compared to \$1,500 to \$1,800 for wood chips which would probably be thrown in play.

The signs for U.S. 36 have come in, Mr. Landenberger said. Specific heights for the signs are needed before they can be put up.

The council approved to have the scum line on the swimming pool painted royal blue. It will cost about \$480 in paint and will be done this fall. They also talked about repairing the fascia on the pool house, because of the roofing materials, the fascia cannot be replaced. It will need to be scraped and sanded and then painted.

The pump for the lift station is ordered but will take four to six weeks. The good pump is still running, he said.

The new remote-read water meters have been ordered.

Theater board report

Mrs. Keller, member of the Theater Board, reported that they are asking that those attending movies bring a canned item for the Food Pantry and they will receive a free small bag of popcorn.

They talked again about a bike rack but no decision was made.

Highway sign

Mrs. Lampe had looked at the berm and highway sign on U.S. 36. She said the big pine tree is growing into the electrical lines, there are dead bushes and some of the letters on the sign are gone. It is too bad, she said,

because people put a lot of work into the berm and it looked nice for a long time.

She had looked into a scrolling sign that could be put in that area. Maybe the Chamber could put money into the sign and money could be taken from the travel and tourism fund.

In other business

• Donna Stevens had complained about the utility charges for a rental apartment in her building. The council discussed that an apartment has its own utility charges.

• A resolution for mitigation plans was signed. This resolution has to be in place before the city would be able to receive federal funds in the event of a disaster. It was noted that the city has received Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) twice.

• Mr. Swihart commended the police officers for a presentation they had made at the school. He also said that their presence at ball games is also appreciated.

• Mr. Jensen reported Kody Krien had purchased the property east of his house and offered to give an easement for utilities. It was noted that the land he had bought was outside the city limits. The city superintendent will talk to Krien.

• The Scouts and parents will put clear coat finish on the exterior of the Scout Hut the first part of October. It will take two coats for the proper seal.

• Chief Guggenmos will go to a chief of police conference in Wichita.

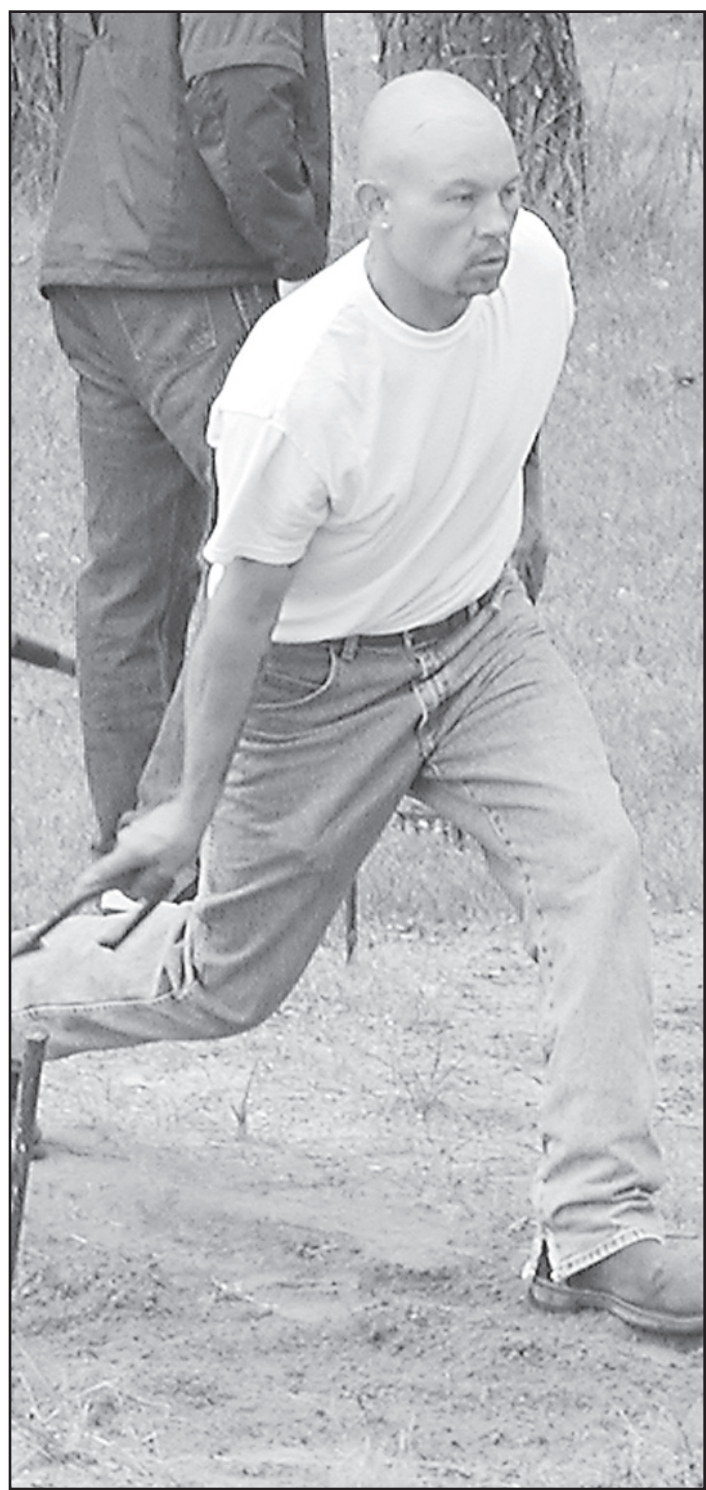
• Glorianne Milne, acting clerk, was designated as the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERs) agent and Jen Hoffman will be the alternate.

• Kent Allard was approved to receive a business incentive for his new business, Frontier Arms Company.

• Ms. Milne reported that Voeller family had ordered one bench for the park.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the city council is set for 7:30 p.m. on Monday at city hall on Main Street.



CHRIS MCQUIGG plays horseshoes during the Annual Beecher Island Days held over the weekend.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Club Clip

Ramblers

Ramblers met at the Cheyenne Manor on Sept. 14 at noon with a salad luncheon kicking off the 2011-2012 year. There were 15 members present and lots of salads for all to enjoy.

RoseMary Bierig, president, welcomed everyone there. Roll call was answered by giving the names of the clubs in which they had been members.

The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$169. Members were reminded that dues are now due.

The library report was given by Donna Zimbelman in Arlene Walz's absence, telling that the library will be sponsoring a book

review and everyone is encouraged to obtain the information.

Sherry Schultz reviewed the yearbook and it appeared that there will be some interesting meetings.

Mrs. Schultz then introduced Mrs. Bierig who gave an interesting history of the Ramblers Club. The organization began in 1905 with the purpose of learning about books, music and various other interests in Cheyenne County. The name was chosen because sometimes women have a tendency to "Ramble" on when they are talking about things that interest them. There is a well-written history of

Ramblers in the Cheyenne County History Book.

The by-laws of the organization have changed over the years and a new booklet was given to every member in attendance. Carol Rogers and Mrs. Schultz were recognized for their work on the project.

Mrs. Bierig talked about the possibility of having a plaque to be placed at the site of the Glenn Zwegardt sculpture located in the city park. Glenn is a well-known sculptor and has many sculptures located around the world. Goggle "Glenn Zwegardt," and find all kinds of pictures of his work.

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