

Council votes down extending sewer

At the last St. Francis City Council meeting, the matter of running a sewer line to the south end of River Street at the city's cost was discussed and a special meeting was held on May 15. At the May 21 meeting, the sewer line project which would have cost the city \$32,000, was voted down 3 to 2.

River Street runs south across U.S. 36 past the state building and a row of houses. The city limits is approximately 800 feet past the end of the sewer line. The discussion of putting the sewer lines to the edge of the city limits on River Street was opened with a motion by Councilman Roger Jensen to go ahead with the project as

detailed by Miller and Associates of McCook. Councilman Rodney Bracelin seconded the motion.

Mayor Scott Schultz added that the council should take note that the city does own industrial land on the north side of the Ron Krien property and this land could be developed and/

or sold.

Councilman Rick Kriegh said that, yes, even though there were lots which the city could utilize or sell, the city was talking about spending \$32,000 on a project. He pointed out that the materials and engineering costs were estimated at \$14,000 plus \$18,000 labor costs and, at this

point, may or may not bring in any revenue as far as tax dollars because the property was outside the city limits.

"We (the city council) went into this as cost-sharing project and this is not a cost-share," Councilman Kriegh said.

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Filing deadline is June 10

By Karen Krien

Voters will be casting their ballots for a number of candidates in the primary election on Aug. 6. There will also be some Cheyenne County seats which will be up for election and candidates need to file for those positions on or before noon on June 10. The primary election will be held on Aug. 6.

The position of county commissioner, District 1, presently held by Jane Brubaker, Bird City, is up for the election. Commissioner Brubaker has held the office for eight years. Other positions up for election at the county level are the township clerks for Benkelman, Bird City, Calhoun, Cleveland Run, Jaqua, Orlando, Wano I and Wano II townships and one precinct committeeman and one committeewoman in each precinct.

Those filing will need to either pay a \$5 fee or submit a petition with a required amount of signatures. If a candidate is thinking of submitting a petition, he or she should check with the county clerk to find out the number of signatures needed as there are different numbers for each district or precinct.

After a candidate has filed for office, he cannot withdraw his name, no matter what the situation.

Voters will also be voting for one United States senator, Representative, 1st District, a pair of candidates for governor and lieutenant governor, one candidate for Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Treasurer, Commissioner of Insurance, State Representative 120th District and State Board of Education 5th District.



CUB SCOUT PACK 120 raised the flag at the Memorial Day service held at the St. Francis Cemetery Monday morning. They are helped by Cubmaster Jerry Whitmore.

Herald staff photo by Sandy Barnhart

Lots of wind; little moisture

By Karen Krien

On Thursday night, the clouds rolled in and the moisture began to fall in the St. Francis and Bird City area. It was a welcome rain but many are saying that it may be too late for a good wheat crop. On May 21, the wind blew a steady 40 miles per hour with gusts reported up to 60 miles per hour.

The National Weather Service in Goodland reported wind gusts to 70 miles per hour and some property damage in some of the areas of northwest Kansas, eastern Colorado and southwest Nebraska. A strong high pressure center was anchored over the central east coast of the United States. At the same time, an unusually strong, low pressure center moved across the Continental Divide. The pressure difference between these two weather features produced extremely windy con-

ditions across the plains states.

In Flagler, Colo., 35-foot pine trees were uprooted and tree limbs broken and shingles blown off houses at Norcat and Colby.

The Goodland Airport reported that the average wind speeds for the entire day made it the sixth windiest day in Goodland since weather records have been kept.

Shane Wurm, senior agronomist for Servi-Tech, reported that the wind had taken what little moisture was in the ground. The corn crop which was planted several weeks ago, has also had some trouble coming up as one day, the weather is in the 80s, and the next day, it is down to the 50s and 60s. The wheat is in the flowering stage and is starting to head.

Kathy Woodcox, St. Francis weather

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Wireless internet proposed as utility service for few people

By Karen Krien

At the May 21 meeting, Superintendent J.R. Landenberger updated the city council on the proposed wireless internet system which the council is looking at installing. At the April 2 meeting, the superintendent and councilman Rick Kriegh had reported on bringing wireless internet to St. Francis and it would be handled as a "service" much like the utilities (water and electricity).

To bring the wireless system to St. Francis, the equipment would need to be purchased. This purchase will cost

around \$107,000 the first year and the money would come out of the city's Capital Outlay Fund.

They also took a survey of people interested in the wireless system which gives customers faster service. There were 194 people signing up and part of the signers lived in the country. As a "service," the city is planning on serving 180 customers out of the 800 to 850 city residences (1,497 residents live in the city). In three years the city would pay for the equipment and other costs and, in five years, would double the

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New city hall renovations underway; council lets bids for work

By Sandy Barnhart

The old Veterans of Foreign Wars building on Main Street which was purchased by the council in November, is being renovated to serve as the new city hall and the St. Francis City Council made more decisions on work projects during the May 21 meeting.

The council approved advertising for bids on the finish work to be done at the city hall building. The job will include trimming windows, installing doors,

painting and plumbing. The council will pay for material at two week intervals and appointed Superintendent J.R. Landenberger and Councilman Roger Jensen to inspect the progress.

The council also approved advertising for bids on the concrete work in front of the building. It was noted that before the city could move into the building the front would need to be American Disability Act accessible.

Councilman Jensen noted that for the

public's information, he, in no way, was being compensated for any time or supplies that are being put into the new city building.

Property cleanup

•The council allowed Larry Forsythe 45 to 60 days at his request to finish the addition to his home. It was noted that Bud Houtman and Dale Henderson, the owners of the other two pieces of property discussed at the last meeting, were making progress.

•A special meeting was held May 15 at College and Second streets at the property owned by ErvaGene DeAragon. The council inspected the two trailers on the property. The council noted that there was a rodent problem in the white trailer which created a health problem and advised Mrs. DeAragon not to make any major repairs to the trailers until the council could discuss the matter at the May 21 meeting.

Mrs. DeAragon was present to hear the decision of the council concerning the extension from May 15 to the end of July to have her property cleaned up.

The council informed Mrs. DeAragon that they had received a petition signed by 22 surrounding resident asking that the two trailers be removed and the property cleaned up. Mrs. DeAragon explained that due to newspaper articles in the past, this had frightened a lot of the residents.

The first motion passed stated that Mrs. DeAragon could have an extended time (until the end of July) to cleanup or remove the orange trailer which sets by College Street. The council noted that Mrs. DeAragon could not rent the trailer as she does not have a trailer park license and the only person legally able to live in the trailer house was herself.

The second motion stated that on

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County courthouse listed in Register of Historic Places

The Kansas State Historical Society has announced that the Cheyenne County Courthouse in St. Francis has been entered onto the National Register of Historic Places.

Jennie Chinn, acting state historic preservation officer, reported that the listing of the courthouse will provide recognition of the community's historic importance and assures protective review of federal government projects that might adversely affect the character of the property. However, now that the property is listed in the National Register, there are certain federal investment tax credits for rehabilitation and other provisions which may apply.

She pointed out that the listing in the National Register doesn't mean that limitations will be placed on the property, public visitation rights will not be required nor will the government attach restrictive covenants.

The Heritage Trust Fund provides for the awarding of state grants for

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History of courthouse reveals interesting facts

The Cheyenne County Courthouse is a Classic Revival style, four-story masonry structure and shares the block with a playground in St. Francis. Inside, a grand staircase, flanked with decorative torches, rises from the ground level to the other levels.

The floor plan of the courthouse is typical of the majority of Kansas courthouses built during that period ranging from World War I to the onset of the Depression years.

The county was organized in 1886 when the governor of Kansas appointed a board of commissioners consisting of J.M. Ketcham, W.W. McKay and J.F. Murray. Their first responsibility was the establishment of three voting precincts for the May 15, 1886 election that filled the county's first positions of

county clerk, treasurer, probate judge, attorney, clerk of district court, register of deeds, sheriff, superintendent of public instruction, surveyor, coroner and three new commissioners.

According to the information sent from the National Register of Historic Places, the history of Cheyenne County reflects turbulent beginnings. The lure of inexpensive land brought the earliest Anglo-European settlers who were primarily of Germanic and Russian cultures, many of whom settled areas further east in Kansas before making their way to Cheyenne County. As late as the 1890s, inhabitants of the county suffered from famine and drought. In March and April of 1895, the county purchased oats, wheat, millet, corn

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LITTLE CHANGE CAN BE SEEN between pictures taken earlier and the picture (above) taken today.

Herald staff photo by Margaret Bucholtz