

GRANT

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cost per person per year for the dispatchers would be \$11.40 with benefits and \$7.08 without benefits.

The council, along with Chief Gardner, thought the cost-share needed to be re-evaluated since the position has become more of a 24-hour/seven-day job.

There is approximately \$80,000 in the 911 Fund. However, these funds are designated for equipment only and cannot be used for wages.

Chief Gardner said several decisions needed to be made concerning the dispatchers. Both the chief and city superintendent J.R. Landenberger, do not feel it will be feasible to have the dispatchers headquarters in the power plant.

The department could be moved either to the police department or the old sheriff's office in the courthouse. If moved to either place, the police and sheriff clerk could then be used as part-time for the dispatch position. The cost for the department would then be around \$120,000 in wages and benefits.

The council appointed mayor Scott Schultz to meet with a representative from the Cheyenne County Commis-

sioners and Bird City City Council to explore the different options.

Kan-Step

The council approved the payment of bid amounts to Krien Steel Building, \$89,850; Lampe Hardware, \$5,600; Rasure Lumber, \$2,177; St. Francis Sand and Redi Mix, \$412.

Airport

Dave Yost, Airport Authority board member, presented a request for an aviation easement at the airport. The easement includes the approach end of the north end of the runway and the air space above the Roadside Park. Attorney Mike Day will contact the consultant for the Airport Authority for more details.

Economic Development

Council woman Carla Lampe reported that six members of the leadership class had attended the Advanced Government class. The students had filled out surveys concerning the positives of the community and what areas they felt could be improved. Mrs. Lampe said they had also talked about starting a youth city council and the students had talked favorably about this opportunity. She will gather more information on the matter.

Those attending the class were: Carla Lampe, Ericka Lehman, Clay Zimbleman, Tom Keller, Scott Schultz and Megan Douthit.

Open house

Chief of Police Gardner told the council that Thursday, Dec. 14, the police department would be hosting an open house for Officer Norvin Anderson's 80th birthday.

Other business

In other business:

- The council appointed Councilman Rodney Bracelin as representative for the Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) organization.

- The council approved Gloria Bracelin's request of \$850 from the Transient Tax to be used to attend the Kansas Sampler Festival. The Festival will be held in Garden City in May.

Executive session

Chief Gardner requested 15 minutes in executive session to discuss personnel. There were no decisions made.

\$300

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In windows on Main Street, children's drawings can be seen. The winners of the Coloring Contest will be announced at the drawing and prizes will be awarded. The winners of the Lighting Contest will also be announced and the residents of two beautifully decorated homes will receive \$50 in scrip.

Business owners are being encouraged to stay open after the drawing so people can do some Christmas shopping.

"We are hoping everyone will come to St. Francis for this special Christmas day and for the drawing," said Gloria Bracelin, Chamber secretary.

MUSIC

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Clock and his henchmen, the Minutos, only to be saved in the end by the greatest super hero of them all — Eraser Man (aka Stanley Leonardo Sappovitz)!

Members of the cast include Mikaela Grace, Christina Hilt, Jodie Hilt, Shayla Hilt, Aliyssa Lee, Aly Marin, Lexee Reichert, Aubree Schleppe, Sarah Trembly, Hayley Brown, Kaitlin Figgins, Allison Grice, Lexi Hilt, Ashlynn Lambert, Caitlin Northrup, Stephanie Perry, Trista Orth, Chauntell Peter and Christina Schoenrogge.

There will also be guest appearances by the "S-Z-C Band" (Isaac Schiltz, Brock Zweygardt, Ty Zweygardt and Gavin Cooper), Garret Figgins and Brett Lampe.

The musical is directed by Debbie Fiala. It is produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Englewood, Colo.

There will be an admission fee at the door. Check advertisement for more information.

TREE

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Putting up the tree takes time. Mrs. Peter says she has never counted just how many ornaments are on the tree but it seems like it takes "forever" to put them all on.

This year, they had help when son and grandson, Greg Peter and Mike Peter visited them from California. Their granddaughters Christina and Hannah Stafford also hung a few of their special ornaments.

When the season is over, Mr. Peter said he has to use plastic tie wraps to hold the limbs together so they can be stored in the attic spaces. They have two large areas which are designated for Christmas decorations.

People can enjoy the beautifully lit tree from the road as they take a ride to see the Christmas lights on the Don Krien and Roger Orth homes further north on Rd. RS.



Don and Jennifer Krien home - Rd. RS



Roger and Terri Orth home - Rd. RS

Lighting contest ends this weekend

The weather over the weekend was absolutely beautiful for those residents who did not have all their lights up for the holidays. The St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce Lighting Contest will end on

Sunday with the judging being held Saturday and/or Sunday.

Winners of the contest will be announced at 5:30 p.m. at the Christmas drawing on Monday in front of Jaqua Abstract on Main Street. The

two winners will each be given \$50 scrip.

There are no entries. All homes will be judges on the lights and decorations. This year's judges are Roger and Traci Neitzel and Hurb

and Lola Graves.

Everyone is reminded to be sure and have their lights on this weekend. For more information, call or stop by *The Saint Francis Herald* office or call the Chamber office.



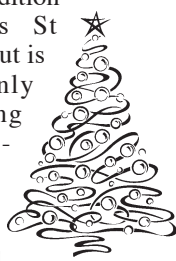
HEADSTART KIDS have their own corner in the lunchroom. Pictured: (l to r) Josh Van Allen, Dakota Morris, Jayden Boyson and Cassie Cooks.

Christmas facts told

Dec. 26 was traditionally known as St. Stephen's Day, but is more commonly known as Boxing Day. This expression came about because money was collected in alms-boxes placed in churches during the festive season. This money was then distributed during to the poor and needy after Christmas.

Melbourne, Australia has a sporting Boxing Day tradition. The Melbourne Cricket Ground hosts a Cricket test match. Sometimes this attracts 90,000 spectators. Cricket is Australia's premier Summer sport.

The first printed reference to Christmas trees appeared in Germany in 1531



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