

Budget approved;
water loss is found

By Linda Schneider
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The Bird City Council held their 2009 budget meeting and approved the 2009 budget. In the opening minutes of the monthly meeting, the council approved the last month's minutes with the correction of payment to the Sheriff's Department; it was raised from \$30,000 to \$31,500 per year, not \$2,500 to \$3,150 per month.

Building permits
Four building permits were approved, Tina Clemans to move their fence line closer to the street; Cathy Loop for construction of a new deck, and the Tri-State Thresher for new construction of a storage shed.

Water loss
The mystery of the water loss may have been solved. City clerk Tabetha Ketzner reported that the pool meter readings had not been put into the water usage report a few times in the past. What then happened is over time the problem multiplied with the inconsistencies and now the reports cannot be revised once the monthly reports close out.

Mayor Burr asked Mrs. Ketzner to check with the software company that supports the reports and see what can be done to correct the problem.

The council discussed changing the day of the monthly reading of the water meters. No action was taken.

City maintenance Craig White submitted a report from Doug Guenther, Kansas Rural Water Association, that a underground leak had been located by the park. Mr. White said his department hopes to get the leak fixed, along with a water hydrant, by winter.

Bulk water
Several gas wells are being dug west of Bird City and the company has requested the use of the city's bulk water. Each well will require 30,000 gallons of bulk water to drill.

The council discussed changing the amount of token value from 200 gallons to 1,000 gallons to accommodate the large amount of water that will be used for the well drilling. It was discussed to use other options such as using the Co-op to making an offer for the use of bulk water. The token system will stay the same. No action was taken.

Mayor Burr noted that the usage of the bulk water might cause the city to use more than its allocation. No further discussion.

Shelter house
Council approved to adopt a form submitted by the Mayor Burr based on a request by the Community Club for people who wanted to use the shelter house.

It was agreed that there would not be a refundable deposit required, however, the locks would be changed.

The council discussed the purchasing of a new refrigerator. Mayor Burr expressed concern over having a full kitchen in the shelter house and may be opening up to liabilities.

"Do we need a refrigerator? Looking around at other similar facilities, they do not provide refrigerators," said Mayor Burr.

However, the council members approved the purchase of an 18 cubic foot refrigerator for \$450.

State business
In compliance with grant requirements, the council approved the adoption of two resolutions and tabled one.

- Generally Accepted Accounting Principals (GAAP) Waiver Resolution adopted waive accrual (presumed payment not yet due) to a cash basis for accounting purpose for 2007.

- GAAP Waiver Resolution adopted waive accrual to cash basis for 2008.

- Tabled was a resolution for Mayor Burr, Phyllis Carson, city treasurer, and Tabetha Ketzner, city clerk, to be signers on account with no co-signer. However, the state au-

ditor will be making a recommendation to have counter signatures.

Kansas Department of Commerce, Linda Hunsicker, conducted an initial monitoring of the sewer project filings at city hall to insure progress, labor standards and found all to be in order. Final monitoring will be taken when construction is complete.

Committee reports
Councilman Wade Carmichael, Park and Recreation, reported that the sound system at the park is up and running. City maintenance, Mr. White and Mr. Schneider, are doing a good job of taking care of the park and the pool. It was announced that the city pool will close on Aug. 16 or 17. Councilman Carmichael said the water at the pool looks clean and clear.

Mr. White reported that the asphalt saw has been purchased and will be used this month. He will talk with councilman Loren White concerning the purchases of an airless painter and a three-point blade for shoveling snow.

Mayor Burr appointed council members Deb Smith and Mr. Carmichael to report in the October meeting with a list of items that need to be upgrade or replacements in the building. The city received \$25,000 from the 2009 Budget for upgrades to the city hall building.

Miscellaneous items
Miscellaneous items included:

- New city hall business hours are 8:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Lunch hour will be 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

- The council approved \$250 spending limit per month for the city clerk.

- The council approved first payment to the Kansas Water Pollution Revolving Loan Fund for the sewer project.

- The council approved a \$1 per hour raise for Craig White and Brad Schneider.

Next meeting
The next meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 2, due to the Labor Day holiday.



THRESHER CO-PRESIDENT CLAYTON JANICKE helps Thresher Queen Lucille Wright and her husband, Maynard, take a seat and Mrs. Wright tells of her life growing up.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

Thresher Queen named

Some knew who the 2008 Thresher Queen was and there were some who were just plain confused.

But when the 2008 Thresher Queen was announced on opening day, everyone clapped because it was Lucille Query Wright.

Mrs. Wright and her husband, Maynard, have been active in the production of the Thresher Show since its beginnings in the 1950s.

Upon accepting the honor from last year's Queen, Millie Glasco, Mrs. Wright spoke about what it was like growing up in northwest Kansas.

She was just 6-months-old when her older brother, Elmer, and her mother moved from Stromsburg, Neb., to Bird City. Her father, Roy Query, had been a day off his calendar and failed to meet them at the depot. When they finally met up, he took them to their new home 14 miles southeast of Bird City and farmed with horses until 1925, when they got their first tractor, a new John Deere.

Her family raised chickens, turkeys, cattle, horses, hogs and a bountiful garden.

"It was a very labor-intensive environment," said Mrs. Wright.

She attended Center Country School and rode with her broth-

ers, Elmer, Lowell and Virgil 2 miles everyday on a pony.

"My brothers gave me the privilege of sitting on the part of the pony nearest the tail!" said Mrs. Wright.

She helped her mother, Ethel, with canning, churning butter, gardening and gathering eggs. She learned the basics of mending and embroidery from her mother.

After she passed the eighth grade exam, Mrs. Wright was admitted to Bird City High School. She said she felt very fortunate to get to attend high school and her grandmother, Martha Jane Deeds let her board and room in her home across the street from where she presently lives.

Mrs. Wright began teaching in the fall after spring graduation with no other education required, except for a curriculum called "Normal Training" in her last year. It qualified a student to teach country elementary school after graduation. Her three years of teaching at Mount Pleasant 29 and Center 17, had around a dozen students each year.

She and Maynard were married May 14, 1939, and moved to their first home about 8 miles south of town. They began farming with a new W-40 International tractor

and it is one that is on display for the Thresher Show.

They had a second-hand light plant and were able to have lights and a radio. She could iron and wash clothes from that power source. They had a pitcher pump at the sink and an outhouse!

Less than a year later, they moved to another farm and stayed until they moved to their home in Bird City. They raised three children, Gerald, Eileen and Donald on the farm.

The equipment that the family could not procure frequently was built by Maynard. He was innovative in welding, mechanical and carpentry skills. He and their sons made farm and home equipment they could not otherwise have. All of their children were integral members of their farm life. It was truly a family farm, she said.

"Over the years, Maynard and I have appreciated the neighborly support and caring spirit that has always radiated from our community. We are grateful for our church family and cherish all the many memories that we now share with our children, their spouses, our grandchildren and great-grandchildren," said Mrs. Wright.



MANY RESIDENTS VOTED ON TUESDAY. Getting their ballots at the American Legion Hall are Merle Hitchcock and Hollis DaPron. The volunteers are Bonnie Burr and Jane Brubaker.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

Primary election results told

By Karen Krien
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The primary election is over. There were three local races which were decided before the general election arrived.

Scott Showalter, candidate for District Court Judge, District 15, division 2, won over Kevin Berens and Andrea Wyrick. All of the candidates were Republicans.

Dolores Jenik will continue as the treasurer. She won over Carl Jenkins by 297 votes.

There were three candidates running for sheriff. In the end, incumbent Craig Van Allen won over David Warren and Philip Wolters.

Steve Orth was running a write-in campaign to have his name listed on the general ballot for District Magistrate Judge. He lacked the required 99 write-ins.

The voting turnout was poor to average. Terry Miller, election officer, reported 160 voters had cast their ballots in the advanced voting booth before the election and 40 ballots had been sent out. In the county, of the 1,455 regis-

tered Republicans, there were 678 voting or 47 percent; and, of the 294 registered Democrats, there were 96 casting votes or 33 percent.

The general election will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 4.

Following are the results of the election in Cheyenne County:

Sheriff

Craig Van Allen (R) 475
Phillip J. Walters (R) 64
David Warren (R) 280

Treasurer

Dolores Jenik (R) 557
Carl Jenkins (R) 260

District Court Judge, 15th District, division 2

Kevin Berens (R) 488
Scott Showalter (R) 263
Andrea Wyrick (R) 72

Magistrate Judge, 15th District, 1st position

Robert Van Allen (R) 700
Steve Orth (D) Write-in 51

Clerk

Terry Miller (R) 776

Commissioner 2nd District

Ray Lee (R) 196

Commissioner 3rd District

Andrew Beikman (R) 309

Register of Deeds

Mary Morrow (R) 738

County Attorney

Kari Milliken Gilliland (R) 770

Township Trustee

Wano 1

Roger Moore (R) 177

Township Trustee, Wano 2

Fred Magley (R) 306

Precinct Committeeman Wano 2

Ryan Shay (R) 270

Precinct Committeeman Wano 2

Diane Shay (R) 269

U.S. Senator

Pat Rogers (R) 724

Lee Jones (D) 25

Jim Slattery (D) 78

U.S. Representative

1st District

Jerry Moran (R) 752

James Bordonaro (D) 65

State Senator 40th District

Ralph Ostmeyer (R) 667

State Representative

120th District

John Faber (R) 772

Robert Strevey (D) 75

District Court Judge

15th District, Division 1

Glenn Schiffner (R) 592

Cheyenne County Parade
begins on Saturday morning

The Cheyenne County Parade will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday in St. Francis. The theme this year is "Another Day In Paradise."

Early in the morning, Main Street will be blocked off at Benton Street down to River Street. There are to be no vehicles parked in front of businesses in that four-block area. People can park in front of the courthouse and the park.

For safety, said Carla Lampe, one of the parade coordinators, we are asking people not to go onto Main Street until the parade has ended and the cones removed.

Parade marshals this year are Willard and Bonnie Busby, St. Francis. They will be riding being the cheerleaders, who will be carrying the banner, and the pom pon squad.

The parade is once again being organized by the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Lampe reported that, for awhile, it looked like the number of floats would be down but, in the last week, the people, organizations and businesses are getting their floats together.

"It should be a great pa-

rade," she said. "While people don't have to fill out an entry form, those people who had floats in the past are planning to have them again this year and we have new floats."

Floats will be judged in three different areas: 1) Unique theme presentation; 2) creative use of materials; and 3) originality.

"You don't have to spend a lot of money to win," Mrs. Lampe said. "Just look at the criteria the judges use for picking the float."

The Once Again Band will be performing again and, this year, will be judged in the organizations category.

There will be a table at the top of Washington Street in front of the high school. Those wanting to know where they should line up for the parade should stop by. Again, if someone has a float and hasn't called the Chamber office or called Mrs. Lampe, be sure to show up by 9 a.m. and check in at the table.

Floats to be judged should be on the east side of College Street by 9 a.m. and will be judged by 9:30.



All derby cars and motorcycles are to line up in the Peace Lutheran Church parking lot; bikes and ATVs should park in the circle drive in front of the high school gym.

Horses should line up on the 400 block of East Webster. The Parade Committee asks that horses not be allowed on the football practice field. Antique and classic vehicles need to park on the drive north of the auditorium.

"Main Street has lots of shade trees and there are benches but to make sure you are comfortable, bring lawn chairs and lots of water," Mrs. Lampe said.

"It should be a great parade!"