



THERE IS STILL A CHILL IN THE AIR, but Cheylin track and golf teams are in full swing for spring sports. Justin Miller (left) tees off in Benkelman. Above, Forrest Burr shows good form as she throws the shotput during the first track meet.

Times staff photos by Linda Schneider

City hall remodeling near completion



By Linda Schneider
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It is spring and at the April Bird City Council meeting, members discussed updates on the city hall remodeling and projects for beautification of the community.

Councilman Wade Carmichael reported that the tile setting and painting are near completion, and the workers will be starting on the clerk's office next.

"The work is now noticeable," said Councilman Carmichael.

He added that he is looking at the end of April for the major remodeling to be done. Mayor Troy Burr said Century II Development Foundation has given the city a \$5,000 grant to see the project finished.

Community projects

The council discussed updating the kitchen in the Van Doren Park Shelter House. Councilman Carmichael told the members that he had recently remodeled his own kitchen and had an electric stove and kitchen sink he would donate.

In the past, Mayor Burr had expressed no desire to update the Shelter House, citing various reasons; however, he was agreeable to it this time around.

"Put a plan together and we will talk about it at the next meeting," said Mayor Burr.

Bird City beautification was next on the agenda and it may not be long before residents see new sidewalks downtown.

The need of sidewalks was brought up at the recent Council Goal Setting meeting, and members agreed that it needs to be done right. Mayor Burr instructed Councilman Carmichael to contact Miller and Associates to visit Bird City and come up with some ideas.

Building permits

The council tabled Martin Estrada's building permit to add a car port and driveway until Craig White, city maintenance, checked for possible water lines. Darol Johnson's building permit for a fence around his property was also tabled until more information was known about the fencing material.

Dennis Malsom's request for new and remodeling work on the Frontier Equity Exchange Tire shop was approved.

Firehouse

The council approved the pay request of \$12,272.60 to McGilvray Farms for work completed to date.

McGilvray Farms also submitted a change order that would include added support in the stairwell, oak base and trim, insulation and ceramic tile for approximately \$5,000. Councilman Carmichael asked that the approval for the change order wait until the members could do a walk through with Mort Plunkett, architect. Council members thought it was a good idea and Mayor Burr said a special meeting could be called right after the walk through for the change approval.

Councilman White requested approval to pursue the purchase of 1,500 feet of fire hose to replace what is currently on the city fire truck. He told the council that 300 feet of hose should be replaced every year and it has been a while since it has been done.

Mayor Burr asked Phyllis Carson, treasurer, if there was money in the fire fund for the fire hose. She replied that there was money only for utilities. Members agreed that a fire hose is needed and possibly a community fund raiser for the purchase could be organized. Councilman White said he would bring prices to the next meeting.

The council agreed to accept the bid of \$12,885 from Don Wright Electric to purchase and install a generator at the fire station.

Craig White reported a grant for fire suits had been applied for through Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for \$40,000. He told the council that the agency is requesting a matching fund of one-half of 5 percent, which amounts to \$1,000. No action was taken.

Renovation and demolition grant

The council had submitted an application through the Kansas Small City Community Block Development Grant last summer with the help of Amy Griffey. However, a letter of rejection came from the Department of Commerce.

If the grant had been awarded, it would address homes in designated areas and homeowners had the opportunity to apply for grant money to fix-up their home.

This is a yearly-awarded grant. The council members are very optimistic and will reapply.

Miscellaneous items

With the meeting winding down, council members discussed:

- The purchase of a serrated blade for the tractor to tackle washboard streets.

- Approving DeAnza Ambrosier, city clerk, to attend a three-day training for learning how to manage the city's water billing.

- Certifying a city employee for waste water management.

- Painting the city shop.

- The burning of the old lumberyard. The project was put on hold until the Kansas Department of Health and Environment approved.

Next meeting

Next meeting of the city council will be held on May 4.



BIRD CITY RESIDENTS WERE able to vote for city council, mayor and school board members at the American Legion Hall on Tuesday. Linda Schneider (left) and Norm Dorsch cast their votes.

Photo courtesy of Paige Graves

Poor voter turnout for school and city in general election

By Karen Krien
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The school and city election was held Tuesday with only about 25 percent of the registered voters going to the polls to cast their ballots. Terry Miller, county election officer, reported 507 out of the registered 1,966 people voted in the election.

There were two races in the St. Francis election.

There were six people running for city council and only three positions were open. Incumbent Carla Lampe, along with Bruce Swihart and Paula Keller, won over Justin Gardner, Jennifer Dankenbring-Padgett, Mike Hanson and Daniel Hoard.

In St. Francis School District 3, position 6, there were three people running for that position. Ed Marin won over Bob Holzwarth and Mike Antholz. Running unopposed were Kelly Gienger, District 2, position 5; and Derrek Tice, District 1, position 4.

In Bird City, there were two

positions open on the council and only one person, Wade Carmichael, listed on the ballot. Also winning as a write-in was Hal Sager. Troy Burr was the only person running for mayor.

The Cheylin Board of Education had four positions open with races in two. In District 1, position 1, George Louderbaugh won over Jim Cahoj. In District 2, position 6, Jan Busse won over Belinda Serrano and Kerby Krien.

Others winning unopposed were Anita Pochop, District 1, position 3, and Hal Antholz, member at large.

On the ballot was the Sunflower Extension District Number 6. Two people were needed to sit on this board. Listed on the ballot were Cindy Burr and Tammy Grice. Both were elected to fill the positions.

Following are the results of the election.

St. Francis City Council
Justin Gardner 136
Michael Hanson 69

Daniel Hoard 7
Paula Keller 167
Carla Lampe 179
Jennifer Padgett 87
Bruce Swihart 174

Bird City Council

Wade Carmichael 94
Hal Sager 21

Bird City Mayor

Troy Burr 99

St. Francis Board of Education

Kelly Gienger 325
Derrick Tice 303
Mike Antholz 60
Bob Holzwarth 122
Ed Marin 169

Cheylin Board of Education

Jim Cahoj 89
George Louderbaugh 161
Jan Busse 114
Kerby Krien 39
Belinda Serrano 96
Anita Pochop 196
Hal Antholz 241

Sunflower Extension District

Number 6

Cindy Burr 416
Tammy Grice 356

Easter bunny comes to town!

The annual Bird City Easter Egg Hunt will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday at the Bird City Park, weather permitting. In case of bad weather, the hunt will be held at the Cheylin Elementary gym.

Cheylin youth from toddlers to fourth grade are welcome to hunt for Easter eggs. Along with the hunt, the Easter Bunny will be making an appearance at 10:30 a.m. to hand out treats for the kids.

There will be games and prizes as well as drinks and cookies for everyone to enjoy.

Finally, the kids can register for two grand prizes (one for a boy and one for a girl) to be given away by the Easter Bunny himself.

This community event would not be made possible without the support of Bird City Community Club, Century II Development, Cheylin Schools and Hometown Market. Questions should be directed to Jane Brubaker at 785-734-2722.

Egg hunt in McDonald

The McDonald Area Development members will hold the annual Easter Egg Hunt in

the yard of Ray and Marlene Johnson. There will be 300 eggs hidden Saturday morning.

The egg hunt will begin at 10:30 a.m. If the morning is too cold, there will be alternate plans. Bill Schaff has made wooden toys and each child will receive one.

