

Council discusses next year's budget at meeting

By Norma Martinez
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The Bird City Council met on July 18 where a great deal of the time was spent discussing next year's budget.

Phyllis Carson, treasurer, went through the budget and went through the changes she had made.

"Once the budget is approved it needs to be published prior to a public hearing for comments," she said.

Mayor Troy Burr scheduled the public hearing to immediately precede the Aug. 1, council meeting at 7 p.m.

Two proposed budgets were presented. One draft estimated the tax rate at 49.908 mills and the other at 50.050. Mayor Burr explained that he and the treasurer had discussed the current state of the city's budget and he feels that a tax increase may be necessary in order to continue providing city services.

The city raised the tax in 2009 for the purpose of remodeling city hall and kept the same rate the following year in order to maintain the swimming pool.

Following lengthy discussions, councilman Wade Carmichael moved to approve the proposed 2012 budget with a ad valorem tax rate of 50.050. Frank Serrano seconded this motion and it was carried with those present.

U.S. 36 ditches
The first part of the year, Mayor Burr had instructed Brad Schneider, city superintendent, that Bird City maintenance was no

longer going to mow the ditches on U.S. 36, saying the state was responsible for this maintaining the ditches along the highway.

Mr. Schneider told Mayor Burr that he had made a deal with Billy Lee, Kansas Department of Transportation, to mow the ditches in exchange for salt and asphalt at no charge. Last year, Mr. Lee supplied Bird City as much salt and asphalt as the city needed in exchange for the city maintenance department maintaining the ditches.

Mr. Schneider said he had recently purchased a load of asphalt from another source costing the city over \$2,000. He is anticipating much more will be needed to repair the city's streets as another leak had been found on Third Street.

Mr. Schneider estimated he only had to mow the ditches three times last year, and added, "This year, since he was not allowed to mow the ditches, the weeds have become overgrown." Councilman Carmichael agreed that the state hadn't been maintaining the city area ditches as well as they should.

Mayor Burr said he would prefer to have specific arrangements made in writing between City Council and Mr. Lee stating they would continue providing salt and asphalt in exchange for maintaining the ditches along U.S. 36. Mayor Burr directed Councilman Serrano to visit with Mr. Lee to find out if he will be willing to sign a written agreement with the city.

Training classes

Mr. Schneider requester permission to attend a one-day training class being offered by the Kansas Rural Water Association in Wakeeney, on Aug. 16. This class will cover the topics of line locators, leak detection, proper use and care of equipment, water loss accountability, conducting water loss surveys, and meter testing for large and small meters. This class is offered at no charge, and provides five hours of credit toward operator certification or renewal for water operators. Council members gave permission for Mr. Schneider to attend the training class.

Councilman Serrano asked Mr. Carmichael if he knew if the swimming pool manager was charging students for lifeguard training classes, pointing out the city had paid for her transportation and training class to become an instructor, and she should not be personally charging the students.

Mr. Carmichael said he would look into the matter and find out if she is offering the classes to Bird City lifeguards for free.

Employee meetings

Mayor Burr informed the council he had been holding informal staff meetings at city hall with the maintenance department and the city clerk every Monday morning at 8 a.m. The meetings enable the mayor to be better informed of necessary projects and to monitor weekly activities of city employees.

This article was taken from the unapproved minutes of the July 18 city council meeting.



ENJOYING WATERMELON at the thresher show are Matthew and Ashley Wheelchel. They are the great-grandchildren of Demi Shahan.

Money raised to fight cancer

Thousands of dollars were raised to fight cancer on Friday, July 23, as walkers and others participated in the Cheyenne County Relay for Life at Sawhill Park in St. Francis.

The 2011 Relay for Life was a huge success," said Pat Rose, chairman of the relay. Although it was a very warm evening, many people gathered around the park.

Pam and Jim Bolin, Hobo Snack Shack, served a barbeque dinner, and the Shrine Candy Wagon had the cold drinks, popcorn, cotton candy and snow cones. Proceeds

from these two were donated to the American Cancer Society.

The opening ceremonies began about 7 p.m. with Cara Hunt singing the national anthem. A prayer was given by Rev. Marvin Zimbleman, and Ms. Rose welcomed the crowd.

The survivors walk was led by the huge banner proclaiming the survivors are celebrating life! Leading the Relay and holding the banner were Krista Plummer, Bill Carmichael and Althea Lebow.

Those who could walk around the park came next and then the people-carrier, loaned by the Good Samaritan Village, and pulled by Ron Loudon and his antique tractor, held several more survivors. During the next lap, the survivors were joined by their caregivers, and all survivors were given a beautiful purple carnation, donated by Rosie Bierig of Classic Rose Floral.

On the third lap, all the relay team members began their all-night walk around Sawhill Park. The idea is to have at least one team member from each team walking all night, past midnight, and into the dawn. This symbolizes the struggle cancer patients have, and the darkness of midnight, then as dawn approaches, so does their hope and their cure from cancer.

Dana Rose and Toni Keller provided games and entertainment for the crowd and the team members throughout the night. Each team had their own money-raising items, and some sold deserts and fun foods, with all proceeds going to the relay. The disk jockey for the evening was Randy Smestad, and he kept music going for all the walking teams.

As the crowd moved to the

bandshell, Pat Rose welcomed them, and introduced the committee who had all helped get this relay done. She introduced Christy Wurm, Betty Petersen, Betty Loudon, John Finley, Allison Grice, Tammy Grice, Toni Keller, Dana Rose, Susie Walz, Crystal Schultz, Vickie Coates, Stephane Workman, Dusti Chadwick, Ginger Chadwick, Dale Rose and Nikki Rose.

The Doyle Easter, cancer survivor, shared his cancer story. He spoke of his early colon cancer, and how it has affected him for life, but is thankful to be a survivor here that night, and in such a caring and great community.

Two students of Mr. Smedstad played. During the next lap, the survivors were joined by their caregivers, and all survivors were given a beautiful purple carnation, donated by Rosie Bierig of Classic Rose Floral.

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66 people register for run



The misty morning of July 30, marked the third Tri-State Thresher Show Fun Run with 66 people registering. Participants hailed from as near as your neighbor to as distant as Nashville, Tenn.; and ages ranged from babies to grandmas.

Contestants had a choice between three courses: Green (1 mile), Blue (2 miles), and Black Diamond (5K - 3.1 miles). Younger runners could also form teams to collect cards in the Go Fish! Green Course run.

All racers began and ended the event on the Thresher Show grounds, while the rest of each route took them in and around town. A few people got lost in the metropolis of Bird City, and there was also a mix-up with the age cut-off for the youth division; but other than that, the run was considered a success and hopefully a fun time for all.

Proceeds from the Fun Run will help support the Cheylin High School volleyball team.

The following individuals received medals for winning their division. Michael Sager (Denver), in his third straight year as overall 5K champion, took home the

trophy with a time of 20:10. Go Fish! Green Course: Patrick, Seth, and Elijah Mills (St. Francis).

Green Course Youth Division: Jordan Janicke - 14:49 (Bird City); Women's Division: Heather Prideaux - 18:50 (Atwood); Men's Division: Jacob Brubaker - 11:40 (Bird City).

Blue Course Youth Division: Derek Vandike - 23:40 (Bird City); Women's Division: Marcy Schottler - 19:38 (Lyons.); Men's Division, Craig Busse - 22:43 (Bird City).

Black Diamond Course Youth Division: CJ Antholz - 24:30 (McDonald); Women's Division: Kayte Tranel - 20:30 (Lincoln, Neb.); Men's Division" Michael Sager - 20:10.

The Tri-State Thresher Association and sponsors made this event possible as well as all those who worked behind the scene.

Those helping included Ty Carmichael, Whitney Churchwell, CHS Volleyball Team, Hal Sager, Grant Shrader, Rod Klepper, and Dennis Wright.

Look for the 2012 Fun Run registration in May!

McDonal News

By Sandy Binning

Kathy Banister called on Ray and Marlene Johnson Saturday evening.

Sunday afternoon callers on Ray and Marlene Johnson were Mr. and Mrs. Alan Cline and children, George Vandegriffe, and Lois Morelock.

Karlyne Atchison visited her aunt, Marie Holzwarth in St. Francis Tuesday afternoon. Karlyne also attended the barbecue Saturday evening at the Bird City Steam Engine Show.

Saturday afternoon Eleanor Swihart and Joan Tongish helped out in the Eggers Building No. 8 at the Bird City Steam Engine Show.

Rita Officer hosted a small get together to help Ratha Lea Loker celebrate her birthday Friday. Guests were Joan Tongish, Betty Lewis, Lavina Waters and Phyllis Wingfield. The ladies all enjoyed a tasty rhubarb torte.

Weekend guests of Betty Lewis were her daughter, Claudia Foster of Grand Junction, Colo., and her son, Thad Lewis of Santa Maria, Calif.

Kenneth and Phyllis Wilkinson attended the Colby Fair Thursday where they watched Claire and

Lakin Denny show their bucket calves. On their way home they stopped and visited Agnes Reeh and also called on Laddie Kacirek in the Atwood Hospital.

Kenneth and Phyllis Wilkinson met the Wilkinson clan Saturday at Subway. They were on their way to Estes Park.

Dixie Bethel of McCook, and Tish Loker were Sunday afternoon visitors of Ray and Marlene Johnson.

Jan and Gilbert Antholz, Hal and Becky Antholz and CJ, and Craig and Jeri Antholz attended Kevin Mear's funeral in Lawrence Saturday. They also visited with Clint and Jenny Antholz, Jack and Charli in Manhattan.

Louise Akers of Limon, Colo., and Gary Akers of Laramie, Wyo., were weekend guests of Fred and Lavina Waters.

Kenneth and Phyllis Wilkinson attended the Rawlins County 4-H livestock show Wednesday morning in Atwood.

Mrs. Jack Stevens of McCook was a Thursday lunch guest of Ratha Lea Loker.



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Thank You

Our sincerest thank you to all of these fine businesses who helped pay the expenses for the Relay for Life meal:

- Captain Hook's Fine Dining
- Hobo Snack Shack
- Western State Bank
- St. Francis Tire
- Jaqua Abstract
- Wheeler Equity
- Schultz's LTD
- Troy's Transformations
- Classic Rose Floral
- Homesteader Motel
- Bella's Market
- Majestic Service
- Stuart's Jewelry
- Lampe Hardware
- Republican Valley Auto Supply
- Weber Barber Shop
- St. Francis Auto Parts
- Jason's Computers
- Owens True Value
- Shay Realty
- Jenik Oil
- L&W Andrist Insurance
- Williams Manure Spreading
- Brunk's Repair
- United Methodist Thrift Store
- Leach Insurance
- Milliken Law Office
- Zimbleman Motor
- Tri-State Irrigation
- Krien Pharmacy
- Chamber of Commerce
- St. Francis Herald

The meal would not have been as successful without your added support. Thanks again, Jim and Pam Bolin

2nd Beginnings Thrift Store

in Bird City will be closed
Friday & Saturday, Aug. 5 & 6
for the Cheyenne County Fair.
See you there!

309 N. Bird Ave. • Bird City



CHEYLIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #103 BIRD CITY

Enrollment for Cheylin students will be held

Thursday, Aug. 4 • 7:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

GRADES K-12 WILL ENROLL AT THE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY IN BIRD CITY

Preschool, Kindergarten and new students will need to have their Certified Birth Certificate, Immunization Record, and Current Health Assessment when they register.

ENROLLMENT FEES

Book Rental (K-6) = \$30 Book Rental (7-12) = \$50
Family Limit of \$90 for Book Rental

Drivers Education=\$50 College Biology=\$10 Industrial Arts=\$15
Activity Fee (6-12)=\$20 Biology=\$10 Chemistry=\$10
Vo Ag Classes=\$30 Project Biology=\$10 Physics=\$10
Band (4-12)=\$15 Drafting=\$10 Food/Nutrit/Textiles=\$20

Elementary Meal/Milk Tickets

20 Day Breakfast = \$30 20 Day Lunch = \$44

Middle/High School Meal Tickets

20 Day Breakfast = \$32 20 Day Lunch = \$48

Reduced Price Breakfast 30¢ Reduced Price Lunch 40¢

Applications for free/reduced price meals will be available. Reduced price meals are the same for K-12 students. Applications are also available in Spanish.

FIRST SCHOOL DAY - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

Classes will begin at 8:15 a.m. and will be dismissed at 4:15 p.m. Kindergarten students will attend school on Tues., Wed. and Thurs. from 8:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

The first two weeks of school, kindergarten students will have class from 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. They will eat lunch at school. Kindergarten students will ride the buses in the morning to school with other students. Parents will need to pick up their child at the elementary school in McDonald at 12:30 p.m. and in Bird City at 12:15 p.m.