

# Remote-read meters ordered

By Karen Krien  
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At the Monday, June 27, St. Francis City Council meeting, J.R. Landenberger, superintendent, reported he had ordered 104 remote-read meters for a cost of \$24,907. When they arrive, the city crew, as they have time, will begin installing them.

Sunflower Electric, Holcomb, supplies most of the city's electricity. The city's power was tripped out on Sunday, June 26, and it was necessary to run the city's generators. This put the diesel supply down to a dangerous low and he had ordered 1,400 gallons. He said that for one hour running the generators, the cost is \$400.

The informational signs for the city should be here soon. The state will supply the heavy-duty posts at the state's cost. The Chamber of Commerce will pay for part of the cost of the signs. The signs will be placed on the median on U.S. 36.

Krutsinger Sand and Redi Mix, Benkelman, had finished the curb and gutter project in front of Gene Dodd's house but, as of the meeting, there hadn't been enough rain to see how it worked.

City clean-up, he said, was moving along. He had sent more weed control letters. He noted that the council needed to further identify properties needing major work.

He talked briefly about the Marvin Miller property east of the power plant. There were some questions about the legalities so the council tabled the matter until the city attorney was present.

### Movies

Paula Keller, councilwoman, said they had a complaint about a recent "R" movie. The question appeared to be, do we not show R-rated movies? Looking down the list of movies shown since the first of the year, there had only been three R-rated movies.

Bruce Swihart, councilman, said that if people were offended, maybe the county needed to be careful in what direction they go.

Mrs. Keller had done some research on movie brokers. She said the current broker is out of Kansas City and, while he has sent current movies, she felt that another in Nebraska would better understand small towns and their movie goers. The broker from Nebraska, when Paula talked to him, suggested that, when an R-rated movie is shown, there be a PG-rated movie shown earlier.

Roger Jensen, councilman, said most of the movies shown cater to the younger kids and the movie rating is shown on the marquee. People can decide whether to go or not, knowing what the rating is. It was also noted that the three R-rated movies had brought in as much money as the other movies.

Mrs. Keller emphasized that this was not a committee decision or discussion, only her feeling out the council. She didn't recommend not having R-rated movies, she just thought that a different broker might be worth trying.

Floyd Jensen had retired as a member of the Theater Committee.

### Swimming pool

Bruce Swihart, councilman, reported that the St. Francis swimming pool was down for a couple of days because of an equipment breakdown but, it was back up and swimming lessons were in progress.

He said the swim team will be sponsoring a triathlon on July 4. They talked about new pools in Atwood and Oakley. The St. Francis pool, built in the 1950s, has a leak and the council would like to build a new pool in the future.

Mr. Swihart noted that the siding on the Scout Hut looked good. Justin Gardner, Gardner Construction, plans to have the work done by July 4.

### Help with utilities

Mary Lampe, clerk, had contacted area clerks concerning the request for help for those in need of oxygen and/or medical care. The clerks pretty much agreed that there were other entities such as Salvation Army, ministerial groups and others that would probably help.

Clerk Lampe was asked to write Ron Ewing a letter giving him the names of the different entities, noting that the council tries to keep the city's utility rates at a decent level.

Mr. Swihart said Mr. Ewing's request was a reminder that there are people who are struggling and the council needs to keep this in mind when setting budgets.

### Building permit

The commissioners had archi-

tect plans for the remodeling of the Good Samaritan Village. Superintendent Landenberger said there had been several set backs with the razing of the burned area but none of these were the city's problem. The building permit for the razing and rebuilding was approved.

### In other business

- A fireworks license was approved for Donna Stevens.

- Roger Jensen, councilman, said the e-waste disposal had been very successful, both in St. Francis and Bird City.

- Carla Lampe, council member, said Penny Gienger, rec commission director, had asked her about locating a sand volleyball court in the park. Superintendent Landenberger said she had asked about it before and, while the commission has the money to put one in, there is a question about maintenance and the location for the court.

- The 2012 budget was briefly discussed.

### Next meeting

The next city council meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday in city hall.



**DEMOLITION CONTINUES** at the Good Samaritan Village. Jeff Paulsen, Village administrator, said the crew is about half done with the demolition of the middle section which was destroyed in the Oct. 19 fire.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

## FOURTH

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balloon tosses. Jerry White had brought the laser guns to town which entertained the older kids.

Everyone who participated received a prize but, those adults watching and those who had helped kids get ready for the parade were also winners. It was rewarding as well as fun (and a little hot).

### Water volleyball

In the afternoon, a water volleyball tournament was held at the pool. There was a poor turnout of local kids but the Habitat for Humanity kids had arrived in St. Francis. They cooled off in the pool and appeared to be having a great time playing water volleyball.

### Museum

At the Cheyenne County Museum, there were refreshments and cake celebrating Kansas 125th birthday and the nation's 235th birthday. People stopped by to check out the museum displays and

enjoy refreshments.

### Wrap up

Over all, said Rodney Neitzel, was a great turnout and very successful.

Early in the year, Rodney, Roger Neitzel and John and Anita Amack started talking about holding a July Fourth celebration. They cleared the idea through the city council, then a couple of months ago, a jar taped to the top of the gum ball machine appeared at Hill Top Market. The donations started coming in - some were big and others were small - but when the nickel, dimes and dollars were counted, they came to over the \$4,000 goal necessary to fund the activities.

Any money left over will be used to put on a display next year. With the obvious interest and pleasure shown by many this year, there should be little trouble in raising enough money for the second Fourth of July celebration.

Logan Lampe was among the poetry winners in the freshman class. He will be having this poem published.

### I Am Logan Lampe Freshman

I am a freshmen in high school. I wonder if I will be ready as a racecar for next year.

I hear people walking down the

halls like a herd of animals.

I see all my classmates everyday.

I want to be a senior and graduate.

I am a freshmen in high school. I pretend to be a sophomore.

I feel the stress of being a freshmen.

I touch all the work I receive.

I worry I might not be the smartest person in school.

I cry when I get too much stress.

I am a freshmen in high school I understand this year is as hard as a sports practice.

I say let this year be over as if I were protesting it.

I try to do my best in all my classes.

I hope to be smart like a computer and graduate.

I am a freshmen in high school.

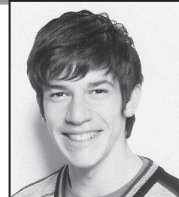
## Poetry Winner

## ENDS

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### Last year's first load

Last year, the first load was brought in by Randy Rethke on June 28. Randy and his dad, Kip, farm the land belonging to Billy Perkinson, 4 miles south of St. Francis. The moisture was 13.8 percent and the weight was 60.5 pounds.



Patrick from France, 17 yrs. Loves the outdoors and playing soccer. Patrick's dream has been to spend time in America learning about our customs and attending American high school.



Elisa from Italy, 16 yrs. Likes to play tennis, swim, loves to dance. Elisa hopes to play American softball and learn American 'slang' while in the USA.

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