

Commissioners need more information on Society's lease

By Karen Krien
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For over a month, the Cheyenne County Commissioners have been talking about the nursing home in St. Francis and the lease with the Good Samaritan Society, the company which owns the home. Following a long discussion at the regular meeting on Friday, they decided more information was needed and the county attorney would contact Randy Fitzgerald, region supervisor for the Society.

Terry Miller, county clerk, said Mr. Fitzgerald had been at the courthouse earlier that week, noting that he was on a tight time schedule and had little time to talk. His main reason for being there was to tell the commissioners that his board was not interested in profit sharing with the county.

Following the fire at the Good Samaritan Village on Oct. 19, 2010, the Good Samaritan Society agreed to remodel the west wing and restore the burned area, but instead of resident rooms, there would be only three private resident rooms, three offices and a hallway.

However, they no longer wanted to own the facility. They offered the nursing home and the independent living apartments to the county for \$1. In exchange, they wanted a 5-year lease to run the nursing home, with the county picking up all expenses.

There was also some talk about the county having a plan in place to build an assisted living facility on the grounds, which the Soci-

ety would also lease. At one time, Mr. Fitzgerald said that would be a requirement but, later, said the county would not be held to having the assisted living plans.

At an earlier meeting, the commissioners agreed that the county would pay the expenses but thought there should be some sort of profit sharing. They also agreed that plans for assisted living was a good idea but they would need to bring the matter to the voters and that would take time.

At the Friday meeting, the commissioners discussed what could and probably would take place if the county took over the nursing home. First of all, said Dale Patton, commissioner, the fire marshal will come in and demand that certain equipment be fixed and the air conditioning, heat and air vac systems will need to be repaired, replaced or installed.

All we are getting, said Andy Beikman, commissioner, is 20 acres and the independent living apartments. The nursing home probably needs to be bulldozed down.

Mr. Patton said that if the county builds the assisted living apartments on the Village grounds, then all electrical, plumbing and other areas which have been "grandfathered" in for years, will no longer be grandfathered and the county will be required to bring everything up to code.

Why, asked Mr. Beikman, do we want to be involved in a business where there is no profit?

At this point, Mrs. Gilliland said the commissioners needed to find out where the county stood with Good Samaritan - did the Society still plan on selling the nursing home and apartments for \$1. We have got to be thinking about the future of Cheyenne County, she said.

Mrs. Gilliland said Mike Day and Tom Keller, representing the St. Francis Community Foundation, had talked to her about the money raised last year which was designated to help with the Village. This money could be used to research whether or not the county should continue negotiations with the Society or whether or not we need to look at something new in the future. The study will be no cost to the county, Mrs. Gilliland said.

The commissioners noted that they didn't want another feasibility study and get a bunch of "blue sky." What we want, Mr. Patton said, are facts of what we need in a contract.

Mr. Miller said Mr. Fitzgerald wanted to know what the commissioners' decision was concerning the fact that the Society would not profit share. Mrs. Gilliland said she would contact him.

The commissioners agreed that a nursing home is needed, as are the independent living apartments. They also see a need for assisted living but before they make any hasty decision, they want to make sure they are making the right decision for the people and



Kamla

Birthday celebrated

Clarence Kamla was 90 years old on March 29. He would enjoy receiving cards and letters from his friends in the Bird City and St. Francis area! They may be sent to him at: Clarence Kamla, 309 Hillcrest Dr., Nevada, MO 64772-4247.



Rachel and William Linin

Couple exchanges wedding vows

Rachel Elisabeth Sowers of Hot Springs, S.D., and William Maurice Linin of Goodland, were united in marriage on Saturday, Nov. 19, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, at the Goodland United Methodist Church in Goodland. Officiating the ceremony were Reverends Matthew Lim and Dustin Petz.

The bride was escorted down the aisle by her father, Daniel Sowers. She wore an A-line white satin gown with a beaded bodice and chiffon overlay. With the continuation of family tradition, the bride also wore her great-grandmother's diamond engagement ring making this the 15th family wedding at which it was worn. She carried a bouquet of dark pink roses, Gerbera daisies, and white calla lilies.

The matron of honor was Jodie Lim, of Lakewood, Wash., and the maid of honor was Jenna Georgeff of Hot Springs. Bridesmaids were Leah Kunnari of Hot Springs, and Aryn Sturgeon of Omaha, Neb. Flower girls were Eliana and Adrianna Sowers, nieces of the bride.

The best man was Thomas Romero of Broomfield, Colo.. Groomsmen were Nathan Linin and Joel Linin, brothers of the groom, both of Goodland, and Craig Stockebrand, of Salina.

Ushers were Josh Sowers and Nathan Sowers, both of Bird City, and Jordan Sowers of Oklahoma City, brothers of the bride.

Personal attendant was Caitlyn Mosset of Hot Springs. Guest-book attendant was Sara Sowers, sister-in-law of the bride, of Bird City, and program attendant was

Hannah (Sowers) Gomez, cousin of the bride, of Southland, Texas.

Pianist for the ceremony was Tiffany Glasco of Bird City. Vocal music was provided by Bethany Bigler of Custer, S.D., and Brian and Janda Linin, cousin of groom, of Goodland.

Parents of the bride are Daniel and Lori Sowers of Bird City.

The bride is the granddaughter of the late Raymond and Sharon Schlup and the late Lewis and Audrey Sowers.

Parents of the groom are Max and Brenda Linin of Goodland. The groom is the grandson of the late William and Esther Linin and the late Maurice and Joye Witten.

The groom holds a bachelor of science in Construction Science and Management from Kansas State University. The bride holds a degree in Christian Education from Cornerstone Bible Institute.

After a honeymoon in the Dominican Republic, the couple now makes their home in Goodland.

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**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID
CITY OF BIRD CITY, KANSAS**

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Bird City, Kansas in the City Clerk's office at City Hall, 111 E. 4th, P.O. Box 219, Bird City, Kansas 67731 until 4:00 p.m. on April 30, 2012 for a project to evaluate, demolish, remove, and clean-up a two-story masonry and wood framed structure in downtown Bird City, Kansas. The proposals will be opened and read in public at 7:15 p.m., May 7, 2012 at City Hall, 111 E. 4th Bird City, Kansas 67731. A pre-bid conference (not mandatory) will be held at 9:00 a.m. on April 3, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.

PROJECT: Evaluation, demolition, removal, clean up, and lot restoration of a two-story masonry and wood framed structure and additional foundation located at/near 118 W. 4th St., in downtown Bird City, Kansas, while preserving a party wall, as per project specifications available with the City of Bird City. This project is a public condemnation of a privately-owned structure.

Requests for Bid Documents (including the project specifications) and any questions regarding the project should be directed to Mayor Troy Burr, City of Bird City, at 785-332-0364. The City of Bird City may accept the lowest and best responsive bid, and reserves the right to reject part or all of any or all bids, to waive irregularities or informalities in any bid, to divide purchases among bidders to accomplish the best gross price, and to make the final decision as to acceptability of quality and price. Bids received after the specified time of closing will be unopened. Time is of the essence.

Help Wanted

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Public Notice

Published in the Bird City Times, Bird City, Kansas, and Country Advocate . (12, 13, 14)

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE GREATER NORTHWEST KANSAS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, 107 W BRESSLER, BIRD CITY, KANSAS, UNTIL 2:00 P.M. CST THE 19TH DAY OF APRIL, 2012, FOR ALTERATIONS TO THE BIRD CITY AMERICAN LEGION HALL, LOCATED AT 113 WEST 4TH STREET, BIRD CITY, KANSAS. ALL BIDS, PROPERLY RECEIVED, WILL BE OPENED AT THAT TIME IN AN OPEN AND PUBLIC LETTING. THE OWNER SHALL REVIEW ALL BIDS WITH THE ARCHITECT WITH THE INTENT OF AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR ALL CONSTRUCTION TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER.

ONE PROPOSAL FOR THE GENERAL CONSTRUCTION WORK, (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO ALL STRUCTURAL, MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION) WILL BE ACCEPTED.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE ABOVE CONSTRUCTION MAY BE OBTAINED AFTER MARCH 20TH, 2012 FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ARCHITECT, JOSEPH R. HEWGLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC., 702 SOUTH BAILEY, NORTH PLATTE, NE, 69101.(308) 534-4983 OR FROM GREATER NORTHWEST KANSAS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, BIRD CITY, KANSAS (785-734-2556) BY DEPOSITING \$50.00 FOR EACH SET OF PLANS ORDERED. DEPOSITS WILL BE REFUNDED UPON RETURN OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS IN GOOD CONDITION, TO THE OFFICE OF THE ARCHITECT, WITHIN TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS OF THE TIME OF BID LETTING. ANY UNSUCCESSFUL BIDDER WHO'S PLANS HAVE NOT BEEN RETURNED BY THAT DATE SHALL FORFEIT SUCH DEPOSIT.

AT THE TIME OF FILING THEIR BIDS, EACH BIDDER WILL BE REQUIRED TO FURNISH A CERTIFIED CHECK, CASHIER'S CHECK OR BID BOND IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO FIVE PERCENT (5%) OF THEIR TOTAL BID. THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER SHALL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE A PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BOND UPON AWARD OF THE CONTRACT. THE OWNER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS OR TO ACCEPT ANY BID CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THEM.

BY: GREATER NORTHWEST KANSAS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION