

NEBRASKA MUNICIPAL REVIEW

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■ Facebook selects Papillion as site for newest data center

■ Minatare Mayor drawn by the clear blue skies

April 2017



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Top: Representatives from USDA Rural Development present Blair Mayor Jim Realph with a U.S. flag that was flown over the nation's capitol.

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Photos by Joe Burns, Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise. Reprinted with permission.

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CALENDAR

Municipal Accounting and Finance Conference June 14-16, 2017, Holiday Inn, Kearney
Annual Conference Sept. 20-22, 2017, Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, Lincoln

Municipal Legal Calendar

(All statute citations to Revised Statutes of Nebraska)

APRIL 2017

CITIES OF THE FIRST CLASS

Within 10 days following meeting or before next meeting (whichever is sooner)	Clerk to have minutes available for public inspection. (84-1413)
Within 15 days of Passage	Clerk publishes ordinances passed. (16-405)
Within 30 days following Council meeting.....	Clerk publishes official proceedings of meeting. (19-1102)
End of each quarter	Report from depository banks. (16-714)
Semiannually	Mayor and Council publish a statement of receipts and expenditures (16-722)
Within 20 days after end of month.....	Treasurer files monthly financial report. (16-318)
April 30.....	Liquor licenses (other than Class C) expire unless renewed. (53-124)
*	Clerk must prepare agenda prior to next Council meeting. (84-1411)

CITIES OF THE SECOND CLASS

Within 10 days following meeting or before next meeting (whichever is sooner).....	Clerk to have minutes available for public inspection. (84-1413)
Within 15 days of Passage.....	Clerk publishes or posts ordinances passed. (17-613)
Within 30 days following Council meeting.....	Clerk publishes official proceedings of meeting. (19-1102)
Within 20 days after end of month.....	Treasurer files monthly financial report. (17-606)
April 30.....	Liquor licenses (other than Class C) expire unless renewed. (53-124)
**	Clerk must prepare agenda prior to next Council meeting. (84-1411)

VILLAGES

Within 10 days following meeting or before next meeting (whichever is sooner).....	Clerk to have minutes available for public inspection. (84-1413)
Within 15 days of Passage.....	Clerk publishes or posts ordinances passed. (17-613)
Within 30 days following Council meeting.....	Clerk publishes official proceedings of meeting. (19-1102)
Within 20 days after end of month.....	Treasurer files monthly financial report. (17-606)
April 30	Liquor licenses (other than Class C) expire unless renewed. (53-124)
**	Clerk must prepare agenda prior to next Board meeting (84-1411)

Nebraska Municipal Review Editor and Advertising Sales: Lynn Marienau, 402-476-2829 or lynn@lonm.org

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LB 68 (ALLOWS FIREARMS IN PUBLIC PLACES): LB 68 prevents all municipalities (except Omaha) from protecting citizens with local ordinances, rules and regulations prohibiting FIREARMS in public places, such as parks, libraries, city council, village board meetings.

Bill also creates new cause of action against municipalities outside of Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act; Sen. Hilgers states he would work on amendments to address some of our concerns.

BY L. LYNN REX, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LNM

The League, the Police Chiefs Association of Nebraska (PCAN), the Police Officers Association of Nebraska (POAN), the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association (NSA) and others strongly oppose LB 68 as amended and advanced to Select File. The League and other opponents worked on General File to help filibuster **LB 68**, which negates current ordinances and takes away local control from all municipalities (except Omaha) regarding firearms with limited exceptions. The League and other opponents appreciate Sen. Hilgers' willingness to consider amendments to address our concerns.

LB 68, sponsored by **Sen. Mike Hilgers** of Lincoln, gives the Legislature **exclusive** authority to regulate ownership, possession, transportation, carrying, registration, transfer, and storage of firearms, ammunition, and firearms accessories. Sen. Hilgers states that LB 68 preserves local authority to regulate the discharge of firearms, to provide for appropriate zoning designations and to enact and enforce policies relating to the use of firearms by local law enforcement agencies and other municipal employees. Sen. Hilgers contends that LB 68 provides statewide uniformity for owners of firearms.

*The League and other opponents of the bill advocate that other municipalities, **not just Omaha**, should be allowed to enact ordinances prohibiting firearms in public places and for the safe transportation of firearms.*

On March 17, LB 68 was advanced from the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee to General File with a standing committee amendment (AM630). **The amendment made several changes to the bill including:** making it unlawful to possess a handgun **only in the City of Omaha** unless the person is a lawful possessor of such handgun; prohibiting the possession of a firearm in a public place **only in the City of Omaha** with limited exceptions; and requiring **only in the City of Omaha** that all firearms being transported in a vehicle be unloaded and locked up, either in the trunk or, if there is no trunk, in a container other than the glove compartment or console.

On April 4, the full Legislature debated LB 68 on General File for the first time for three hours. Sen. Hilgers and other supporters of the bill state that LB 68 is attempting to end the

"patchwork" of local regulations relating to firearms. The League, PCAN, POAN, NSA and other opponents contend that the bill, with the committee amendment, does NOT provide uniformity because it provides for **different laws in the City of Omaha but no other municipality**. Supporters said that if a person brings a firearm into a public place such as a city council meeting, the person could be arrested for trespassing. **The League, several attorneys and law enforcement officers disagree saying that there are no grounds to arrest someone in a public place with a firearm if LB 68 passes.** Supporters also reiterated their position that LB 68 allows a municipality to post a sign in public places saying no firearms are allowed in a public place. **The League and other opponents disagree with that interpretation and want express**

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authority in the bill to post such signs to prohibit firearms in public places.

The League and other opponents of the bill advocate that other municipalities, **not just Omaha**, should be allowed to enact ordinances prohibiting firearms in public places and for the safe transportation of firearms. **Sen. Adam Morfeld** of Lincoln and other Senators opposing the bill with the League and our coalition said that LB 68 and its amendment would allow firearms in public places, i.e., parks, arenas, swimming pools, libraries and meetings of the city council/village board. **Sen. Hilgers stated that this is not his intent and he is willing to work on amendments to address these issues; the League and other opponents sincerely appreciate his willingness to do so.**

LB 68 also creates a new cause of action ONLY against municipalities outside the requirements of the Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act. The provision encourages litigation with the potential for unlimited taxpayer expense. **The language of the bill provides that a person “adversely effected” by an ordinance may file an action in court.** “Adversely effected” is defined as an INDIVIDUAL who may legally possess a firearm and is subject to an invalid firearm ordinance by simply being physically present within the boundaries of the municipality for any reason. A MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION that includes two or more people and is dedicated to protecting the rights of persons to possess a firearm may also file suit. This language does not seem to require negligent enforcement by a municipality of a

LB 68 also creates a new cause of action ONLY against municipalities outside the requirements of the Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act. The provision encourages litigation with the potential for unlimited taxpayer expense.

firearm ordinance that causes injury. It only requires presence within the municipality when there is an invalid ordinance.

On April 12, the bill was debated by the Legislature for an additional two hours with the League, law enforcement officers and others working to filibuster the bill. To break a filibuster, the supporters of the bill are required to “invoke cloture,” which ends debate if they are successful in gaining 33 votes for the cloture motion. Sen. Hilgers filed the motion to invoke cloture. Two Senators, who previously said they would not vote for cloture without serious issues in the bill first being addressed, changed their position and voted for cloture. **The following 33 Senators voted for the cloture motion (against the position of the League):** Albrecht, Baker, Bostelman, Brasch, Brewer, Briese, Clements, Craighead, Ebke, Erdman, Friesen, Geist, Groene, Hal-loran, Hilgers, Hilkemann, Hughes, Kolterman, Kuehn, Larson, Lindstrom, Linehan, Lowe, McCollister, McDonnell, Murante, Riepe, Scheer, Smith, Stinner, Watermeier, Wayne and Williams. **The following eight Senators voted against the cloture motion (for the position of the**

League): Blood, Chambers, Crawford, Hansen, Kolowski, Morfeld, Pansing Brooks and Quick. There were eight Senators who were excused or present and not voting.

Following the successful cloture motion, LB 68 was amended with the standing committee amendment AM630 and advanced to Select File. The League, PCAN, POAN, NSA and other opponents will respectfully continue to oppose LB 68, as amended, until important municipal issues to protect public safety have been addressed. **The willingness of Sen. Hilgers to consider amendments addressing our significant concerns before LB 68 is scheduled for debate on Select File is truly appreciated. ■**



Mid-session update

BY GOV. PETE RICKETTS

We are more than halfway through the 90-day legislative session. Working with Senators, we have already accomplished a few key priorities, including important budget cuts. Even with this progress, a lot of work remains ahead to pass a balanced budget, deliver tax relief for Nebraska families and pass other important bills before session concludes in early June.

This session, the number one priority is balancing the budget without raising taxes. Revenues have been relatively flat due to a decline in ag commodity prices. With low commodity prices and lagging revenues, it is important to note that state tax revenues are still projected to grow slowly in the coming years. The revenue shortfall this year is a shortfall in the projected growth of spending and the state will still spend more in this budget than the last budget.

All state-funded entities need to be a part of the solution. As my agencies, like Health and Human Services and the Department of Agriculture, reduce their growth in spending, we are asking other taxpayer funded entities, like the University of Nebraska and our community colleges, to find ways to reduce their growth in spend-

This session, the number one priority is balancing the budget without raising taxes.

ing too. This is essential to balancing the budget.

The Legislature and I have already worked together on steps to address the current year's budget by passing and signing some budget cuts. There is still a lot of work to do on the budget.

Senators and I also are collaborating on tax reform plans. Last week, the Revenue Committee voted to include property and income tax reform proposals in a comprehensive package they are building to advance to the full Legislature. Passing property and income tax reform together is critical to building a coalition of rural and urban Senators to overcome a potential filibuster on the floor of the Legislature.

A new analysis conducted by the Nebraska Department of Revenue shows that the Agricultural Valuation Fairness Act, introduced by Bancroft Sen. Lydia Brasch on my behalf, would have had a major impact over the last 10 years. Total ag land valuations across Nebraska

have increased over 251 percent in 10 years. If this bill had been in place, the increase would have been limited to 36 percent over the last decade. The Revenue Committee tentatively has included this proposal as a part of its overall tax reform package.

As Senators continue to shape this comprehensive tax reform package, it is important that they protect the funds budgeted for the Property Tax Credit Relief Fund. Erasing the \$440 million I budgeted over the next two years for the fund would leave Nebraskans without much-needed property tax relief.

Senators and I also have been working together on other initiatives, including providing better customer service and protecting public safety. There is still an enormous amount of work to accomplish in the last two months of session. I hope you will stay in touch with my office and your Senator(s), so we can hear from you as priorities continue to move through the Legislature. ■

MEAN presents service award to Wisner's Randy Woldt

The Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN) announced Randy Woldt, Wisner Utilities Superintendent, as the recipient of its Rudy Hultgren Dedicated Service Award March 29 at the Annual NMPP Energy Meeting and Conference in South Sioux City.

The award is presented annually to an individual of a MEAN member utility who has displayed commendable efforts in promoting the use of public power and its ideals. MEAN, the wholesale power supply organization of NMPP Energy, serves wholesale power supply and related services to 69 communities in Colorado, Iowa, Nebraska and Wyoming. The award is a memorial tribute to Rudy Hultgren, a utility consultant and well-known and respected citizen of Lyons, Colo., who played an active role in community service and leadership.

Woldt has served the city for 36 years, including more than 15 years as utilities superintendent. During his years of service, Woldt has demonstrated a forward-thinking approach and quietly works as a consensus builder in finding viable options to difficult issues. Woldt oversees the city's electric, gas, water, wastewater and transfer station operations as well as parks, community swimming pool, auditorium, cemetery and streets. He



NMPP Energy Executive Director Bob Poehling, left, presents Randy Woldt, Wisner Utilities Superintendent, with the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska's Rudy Hultgren Dedicated Service Award at the NMPP Energy Annual Conference March 29. Photo courtesy NMPP Energy.

also serves his community as a driver for the Wisner Fire and Rescue Unit and volunteers to assist youth in the community.

Woldt also serves as the city's representative on MEAN's board and on various MEAN committees and served as the utility representative on

the League of Nebraska Municipalities Executive Board. He also currently serves as a Board of Directors Member for the Nebraska Municipal Power Pool.

"(Randy) is well respected by his colleagues, the employees under his supervision, elected officials and the people in the community," said Wisner City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Al Vacanti. "He is deserving of this award because he does his work successfully and without any expectations of recognition and appreciation."

As the recipient of the award, Woldt received \$350, which will be designated to go to a community project or group. ■

Source – NMPP Energy, Kevin Wickham

Mark your calendar for the Municipal Accounting and Finance Conference

**June 14-16, 2017
Holiday Inn, Kearney**



Tattoos and branding and body piercing, oh my!

BY JERRY L. PIGSLEY, WOODS & AITKEN LLP,
LONM LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LAW COUNSEL

Do you have a policy on tattoos, branding and body piercing for your employees? It has been widely reported that the Philadelphia Police Department implemented a new tattoo policy effective March 1. This first-ever tattoo policy forbids on-duty officers from having “offensive, extremist, indecent, racist or sexist tattoos.” The policy was implemented following a controversy regarding one of its police bike officers who was photographed with a tattoo of a spread winged eagle which closely resembled a symbol of the Nazi Party and the word “Fatherland” above it in Gothic letters. Photos of the officer went viral. The Philadelphia Police Department policy forbids head, face, neck and scalp tattoos and extreme body modifications, like tongue splitting. Officers who already have tattoos in violation of the new directive must cover them up with makeup or clothing.

TAT STATS

A recent Harris poll found one in five U.S. adults reported they had at least one tattoo. Adults aged 30-39 are most likely to have a tattoo (38 percent) compared to both younger (22 percent of those 18-24) and older (11 percent of those 50-64 and just 5 percent of those 65 and older). Women are

slightly more likely to have a tattoo (23 percent v. 19 percent for men). A Pew Research Center survey showed about 40 percent of adults between 18-29 have one tattoo and 50 percent of those with tattoos had more than one tattoo. The number of tattoo artists increased in the United States from 500 in 1960 to more than 10,000 in 1995. A survey conducted in Kansas on whether their state troopers should be allowed to have tattoos disclosed nearly 20,000 of the respondents had tattoos themselves and 69 percent said the department should not have a policy prohibiting visible tattoos.

BEST PRACTICES

The municipality should consider developing a written personal appearance policy, which is in the best interest of the municipality and is applied consistently. The policy should be given to all employees and you should have a signed acknowledgment from all employees that they have read and understand the policy should be obtained.

The policy should be enforced on a case-by-case basis so as not to run afoul of discrimination laws. Employees have no legal right to wear a tattoo, unless it is required for a sincerely held religious belief. In such a situation, management should speak with the

employee to determine what reasonable accommodation is appropriate for the employee’s religious beliefs.

The policy should be enforced evenhandedly and if you have been lax in enforcing the policy in the past, but decide to now enforce the policy, inform your employees and then follow through with your plan.

OFFENSIVE CONTENT

The problem may not be that the employee has a tattoo, but that the content is offensive, such as containing swear words, nudity, gang signs or affiliation, swastikas or similarly offensive art, or cover their face, neck or hands. In such an instance, your hostile work environment policy will likely require the employee to cover such offensive tattoos while working for the municipality. Accordingly, common sense should prevail when enforcing your employment policy concerning personal appearance.

If the municipality has unionized employees, the implementation of a personal appearance policy is a mandatory subject of bargaining. Accordingly, municipalities with unionized employees should give the union representing those employees prior notice of any change in your personal

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appearance policy and an opportunity to bargain over such changes. To avoid running afoul of any bargaining obligation with the union, the municipality should consider including in their management rights clause language specifically covering personal appearance and/or language that can be read as a clear and unmistakable waiver by the union of its right to bargain over changes in the employer's personal appearance policy.

SUMMARY

Statistics are now showing that Millennials and Generation Z are more likely to get themselves tattooed than the prior generations and, as such,

general attitudes towards tattoos also are changing. Municipalities now are treating tattoos as they treat speech – you shouldn't swear or make offensive jokes in the workplace – nor can your tattoos. Municipalities compelled by a lack of applicants and eager for a more diverse applicant pool are looking at easing their traditional no tattoo policies. ■

Editor's Note: This article is not intended to provide legal advice to our readers. Rather, this article is intended to alert our readers to new and developing issues and to provide some common sense answers to complex legal questions. Readers are urged to consult their own legal counsel or the author of this article if the reader wishes to obtain a specific legal opinion regarding how these legal standards may apply to their particular

DHHS awards \$100,000 to Panhandle Area Development District in Scottsbluff

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) awarded \$100,000 to the Panhandle Area Development District in Scottsbluff to fund a project that will remove community-identified abandoned buildings.

The task force of local residents and business owners brought together by Gov. Pete Ricketts, identified the issue of vacant buildings and abandoned basements as places where people gather to consume alcohol. The demolition of the buildings and filling in of basements were on the list of priorities given to the Governor as solutions to issues in Whiteclay.

The Governor's office worked with

DHHS to find funding and the Panhandle Area Development District created a scope of work and bid process. A contractor has been chosen and plans to start on the project in April and finish it in June.

The funding will be used to:

- Remove two abandoned buildings that encourage, support or enable binge drinking or over-consumption of alcohol or that pose public health hazards.
- Fill foundations on five vacant properties to alleviate the risk of injury and health hazard.

Once the work is finished, it will allow for future development in the area. ■

Source – DHHS

circumstances. The author of this article, Jerry L. Pigsley, can be contacted at (402) 437-8500, jpigsley@woodsaitken.com, or at Woods & Aitken LLP, 301 S. 13th Street, Suite 500, Lincoln, NE 68508-2578.

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Minatare Mayor drawn by the clear blue skies

■ **BY IRENE NORTH, REPORTER**
SCOTTSBLUFF STAR-HERALD ■

Reprinted by permission of the Scottsbluff Star-Herald. Appeared March 2, 2017.

The clear blue skies of western Nebraska have always attracted Minatare Mayor Bob Baldwin.

Baldwin came to Nebraska in October 1968 and enrolled at Hiram Scott College. While in college, he took a trip back home to Jersey City, New Jersey. As his plane flew from Philadelphia to Newark, he noticed a black ring of smog over the city. Many Northeastern cities suffered from smog. He thought of his apartment in Scottsbluff and those clear, blue skies and the fresh Nebraska air.

"I went back to college and thought, when it's over, I'm going to stay here," he said.

Hiram Scott College

Baldwin chose Hiram Scott College because it was one of three colleges to accept him.

"I was not the sharpest knife in the drawer but mine was not so much not learning; it was that I am also a comedian by nature," he said. "I would have thought nothing of inviting you over and putting a whoopie cushion on your chair."



Minatare Mayor Bob Baldwin checks the calendar at the Minatare Public Library to see what events are coming. Photo by Irene North, Scottsbluff Star-Herald. Reprinted by permission.

But he had potential.

While working in Scottsbluff, Baldwin met a young lady, Jane, who worked at Harry's Cafe. They eventually got married. The company he worked for transferred him to Colorado, where they lived for 30 years. But those blue skies never stopped calling him.

Retirement in Nebraska

When retirement came, he and Jane always figured they'd retire in Nebraska.

"One day she picked up the phone, called her sister and said, 'Bob said we can move back,'" he said. "We stayed with her one sister for two months in Minatare."

They eventually found an apartment in Minatare and, one day, when Baldwin was driving home from work, something compelled him to turn

left instead of right. He drove past a home he had looked at years before. He always thought it was a nice house. He had seen it since moving back to Minatare, but that slight compulsion to drive by revealed a "for sale" sign.

"About a week or so later, it was still open, so I made a few phone calls," he said. "One thing led to another and I bought the house."

When Baldwin speaks of Minatare, it is with continual praise. He sees the potential. He enjoys his neighbors. He sees most people keep their homes in good repair. He knows as mayor, he can help move the town in a direction to make it better than it already is.

'Nice little town'

"Minatare is a nice little town," he says before bragging about the new employee hired to organize the library

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and summer programs for Minatare youth. He talks about how the town is small enough that a local painter is the one who paints the city streets and praises the fine work done redoing the few white and yellow lines running through town.

Baldwin has a long history of following politics. He's watched elections and followed political policy since he was 10 years old.

"That would have been during Nixon and Kennedy," he said.

He gleaned things from politics to the point that when he was in college, he thought he would run for president one day.

Before he ran for mayor, he called then-mayor Jerry Harms about it. He told Harms it was time to throw his hat back into the ring. Harms said this time he wasn't. It was time for him to move on. Harms said it was about time Baldwin run for mayor. He was ready for the job.

He won in a landslide.

"Jerry is one of my political mentors," he said. "The mayor previous to him took me under his wing, because I was a freshman council member."

Politics different in Minatare

Politics in Minatare are different from bigger towns and the national scene. Many members of the council have helped Baldwin over the years when he arrived on the scene.

He listened, took advice and tried to do the right thing.

"I got good information from them," he said. "I am fortunate to have known all these people."

Baldwin quickly changes the subject away from him and to the work the current council is doing. They are businessmen, who are involved in public service and have worked for

the state department of roads. Each brings his own experiences to make the council better.

Even when discussing himself, Baldwin readily moves the topic to Minatare and how to make the city better. He's cautiously watching Gov. Ricketts' plan to lower property taxes and how that will affect his city. He talks about the old Remington Club opening back up under new owners. It closed some time ago, which also led to keno funds drying up. Although keno funds are limited, they are for the benefit of the community and Baldwin has ideas about how they could help.

Children coming back

In the past, funds helped refurbish the library, which is for everyone in

town. The library is small compared to other towns, covering a single, large room, but that isn't what Baldwin sees. He sees children learning to read, coming back time and again.

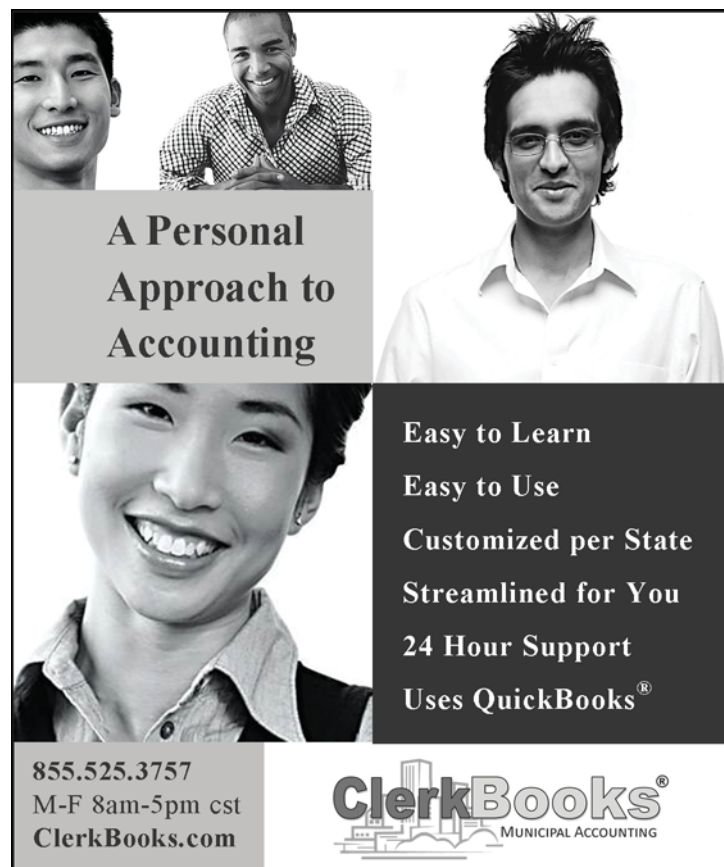
"Maybe they want to learn a little bit more," he said. "If that's the case, maybe they'll learn to love Minatare and maybe they will want to stay in Minatare."

Other officials

Other officials in town, including the school superintendent, have expressed the desire to bring business to town so they can hire Minatare graduates and give them a reason to stay, Baldwin said.

Baldwin admits he has an enormous ego, but he's also always thinking and

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Norfolk Public Library expansion/renovation project beginning soon

Bookshelves were being moved and seating areas rearranged in the Norfolk Public Library March 30 in preparation for the expansion and renovation of the library, planned to begin in April.

Jessica Chamberlain, Norfolk Public Library Director, said that since construction will begin on the north side of the library, a temporary wall will be placed inside the library about 50 feet south of the north wall of the library.

“Our priority is to keep the library resources available to our patrons as best as we can in the coming months. We are going to have major construction going on which means we’ll be adjusting where things will be as we go along,” Chamberlain said.

A half-cent sales tax that expires after 36 months was approved by Norfolk voters in 2014 for the expansion and renovation of the library. No money was borrowed for the project so the necessary funds needed to be collected before any construction could begin. The city has been collecting the funds since the spring of 2015.

The expansion and renovation plans include the addition of 16,000 square feet to the library that is expected to satisfy the community’s library building needs for the next 20 years. It’s estimated that the construction will be completed in spring 2018.

“We’re excited for the construction to begin and we know that our patrons are excited for increased parking, larger space, drive up access to the book drop and more room for the children and teens,” Chamberlain said. ■

Source – City of Norfolk



Street staff member Ron Stender, library staff members Amy Fuxa and Judy Hilkemann, and street staff member Tom Marks move books and shelves in preparation for library construction. Photo courtesy of the City of Norfolk.

Minatare Mayor drawn by the clear blue skies

Continued from page 11

looking for ways to pull the best out of people to get them motivated. He enjoys when people come to him with ideas, even if they’ve been tried before.

“There’s nothing that will keep the public from coming back as to have somebody say, ‘We’ve done that.’ Well, we’ll just try it again,” he said. “Now people will say, ‘Let’s go do this. Let’s go find another business that would

fit and want to be here.’”

He also hopes more people will become involved in city government, and not just the political side. He wants a welcome wagon in town that doesn’t have to be government sponsored.

“If you reach out to people, you’d be surprised,” he said.

If Baldwin gives you an idea and you think it’s not a good one, he’ll be wait-

ing for you to give him a better one. How Minatare ultimately ends up at the end of Baldwin’s term of mayor is unknown. But he’s put the burdens of the city on his shoulders to try and carry it forward.

“So far, it’s working out fairly well,” he said. “I’m really enjoying what I’m doing.”

And he’s still enjoying the clear blue skies over Minatare. ■

City of Grand Island, Downtown Improvement Board receive awards from planning association

The City of Grand Island and the Downtown Improvement Board were awarded the “Implementation” award from the American Planning Association Nebraska Chapter during the Nebraska Planning and Zoning Association (NPZA) annual conference in Kearney held March 8-10.

The award recognizes an effort that demonstrates a significant achievement for an area in accomplishing positive changes as a result of planning and has long-term, measurable results.

The City of Grand Island and the Downtown Improvement Board were honored for efforts in transforming downtown into “Railside” as part of implementing the 2013 Grand Island Downtown Redevelopment Study that was prepared by Alley-Poyner Macchietto Architecture of Omaha and Marvin Planning Consultants of David City.

Some of the many accomplishments include:

- **The start** of four downtown apartment projects.
- **The city’s creation** of a Life Safety Program to assist with upper-level development and fire safety in historic buildings.
- **A rebranding** of the downtown as “Railside” as seen on parking lot signs, gateway signs and banners.
- **The redevelopment** of the former Kaufmann Park to the new Railside Plaza, which serves as a community gathering space for the new “Hear Grand Island” concerts, Railside Christmas and Third Thursday events.
- **The upgrade** of downtown infrastructure, including larger water

lines to support fire sprinkling systems and \$321,000 of historic downtown lighting to add ambience to the district.

- **A façade program** aiding the restoration of the fronts of numerous downtown businesses.
- **Creation of a destination** district for new businesses such as Prairie Pride Brewery, GIX Logistics, Prodigy No. 5, Performance Plus Outdoors, the Happy Brush, Helium, Kindred and McKinney’s Irish Pub.

“Plans are always a good thing. They provide direction and goals,” said Regional Planning Director Chad Nabity, City of Grand Island. “They become a great thing when you see them coming true.”

Nabity said the downtown revitalization plan is one of those plans that have reached the “great” level because of the way it has been implemented.

“This award from the Nebraska Chapter of the American Planning Association is recognition of the work involved in bringing this plan and Railside to life,” Nabity said.

Downtown Business Improvement District Director Cara Lemburg, said: “This study has provided significant direction and guidance to the many partners who are striving to bring economic development to downtown Grand Island.”

The City of Grand Island received two other honors during the NPZA conference at the awards program. It received the Public Outreach award for its organization of a community-wide Tax-Increment Financing Workshop held last October. The city also received the Best Practice award for a tax-increment financing learning game it prepared and has presented to the media and community groups. ■

Source – City of Grand Island

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Village of Stuart's Lockmon receives service award

*Lockmon receives Bob Arraj
Innovative Service Award*

The Nebraska Municipal Power Pool (NMPP) awarded Bob Lockmon, Stuart Village Superintendent, with the Bob Arraj Innovative Service Award at its 42nd Annual Meeting and Conference in South Sioux City, March 29.

The award is presented annually to an official or employee of a NMPP member utility system who has excelled in the area of service and/or used innovative technological changes in the utility industry. The award is a memorial tribute to Bob Arraj, former City Administrator and Utilities Superintendent of Kimball. Arraj's years of knowledge, insight and expertise in the energy field allowed NMPP members to benefit from numerous innovative energy and service projects.

Lockmon was honored for his emphasis on saving costs on village projects by having staff complete several projects instead of outside contractors. Those projects included:



NMPP Energy Executive Director Bob Poehling, left, presents Bob Lockmon, Village Superintendent for Stuart, with the Bob Arraj Innovative Service Award at NMPP Energy's Annual Conference March 29 in South Sioux City. Photo courtesy NMPP Energy.

- Irrigation system purchase/expansion in a nearby community that produced a revenue generating source for the village;
- Meeting new sewer regulation requirements;
- Installing utilities for housing and business developments;
- Expediting street resurfacing throughout the village;
- The village is currently undergoing an electric system rebuild using staff employees, resulting in significant costs savings.
- Village staff soon will be implementing automated meter reading for water, electric and natural gas customers.

"Most of these projects wouldn't have happened without Bob's drive and determination, including his ability

to get employees to pull together on projects," said Mark Stracke, Stuart Village Clerk.

Stuart is a member of three organizations under the NMPP Energy umbrella: the Nebraska Municipal Power Pool (utility services), the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (wholesale power supply) and National Public Gas Agency (wholesale natural gas supply). Lockmon serves as a Board of Directors Member for MEAN and NPGA.

As the recipient of the award, Lockmon received \$350, which will be designated to go to a community project or group. ■

Source – NMPP Energy, Kevin Wickham

**See professional directory
on page 26**

Municipal Legal Calendars also available in Clerks Newsletter

Municipal Legal Calendars are available in the *Nebraska Municipal Clerks Newsletter* in addition to the *Nebraska Municipal Review*.

National Council for Home Safety and Security ranks Seward as safest city in state

The City of Seward in March was ranked first by the National Council of Home Safety and Security as the safest city in Nebraska.

This ranking is based on crime statistics relative to population. The City of La Vista was second ranked by the National Council of Home Safety and Security and the City of Gering was ranked third. The Cities of Papillion and Blair were ranked fourth and fifth, respectively, to round out the top five safest cities in Nebraska.

To identify the safest cities in Nebraska, the National Council for Home Safety and Security reviewed the most recent FBI Uniform Crime Report statistics and its own population data and internal research. The researchers eliminated any cities that failed to submit a complete crime report to the FBI and removed cities with populations under 5,000. According to the listing, the use of the

word “cities” is versatile and refers to populations of 5,000 and over and includes places with the words “town” and “township.”

The cities were ranked based on the number of reported violent crimes (aggravated assault, murder, rape and robbery) and property crimes (burglary, arson, larceny-theft and motor vehicle theft) per 100,000 people. These variables were then weighted,

with violent crimes accounting for 70 percent of the total (due to their severity) and property crimes accounting for 30 percent. Finally, the decimal point was moved over a few spots to show rates per 1,000 people.

For a full listing, see this website: <https://www.alarms.org/the-safest-cities-in-nebraska-2017/>. ■

Source – National Council for Home Safety and Security

Gretna approves design contract for new public works facility

The City of Gretna recently approved a design contract with JEO Consulting for a new public works facility. Presently, the public works department is spread out into several smaller buildings around the community. This new facility will

consolidate all of the functions of the water, sewer, streets and park activities into one facility. The new building will be designed so that it can be expanded as the community grows. ■

Source – City of Gretna, *The Great Life News*

Share news from your city or village

Share your city or village's news with fellow municipal officials across the state by sending information for the *Nebraska Municipal Review* to the League of Nebraska Municipalities, Attn: Lynn Marienau at 1335 L Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-476-2829 by phone, 402-476-7052 by fax, or lynnm@lonm.org by e-mail. ■



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Generous gift allows Scribner to build new municipal building with city offices, library, police station and community center

■ **BY LYNN MARIENAU,**
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
LNM ■

Ken Furstenau graduated from Scribner High School nearly 72 years ago and spent most of his years since 1945 in California, but he never forgot his early years, leaving a bequest of \$3 million to this city of 857 people that is 24 miles north of Fremont in eastern Nebraska.

The amount was more than initially anticipated. In June 1993, Furstenau approached city officials to tell them about his gift to the city, which at that time he estimated would be between \$1-2 million. The money was to be given to the city on the condition that city officials use it to build a new city building on or adjacent to Main Street. Furstenau passed away March 1, 2014. By Feb. 17, 2015, the city received \$1.8 million and in March 2016, the city received another \$1.1 million.

Three years of work

After three years of work, the new building is 90 percent complete, according to Scribner City Coordinator/Clerk Ed Howard.

“It is a wonderful addition to the downtown area of Scribner,” Howard said. “We tried to keep it where the new building fits in architecturally with the existing older buildings in the downtown.”

In May 2015, workers began demolishing old buildings standing on the land where the new building would be built and April 13, 2016, city officials held a ground-breaking ceremony.

The 9,375 square-foot building, which will be home to city offices, a

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Furstenau name engraved in stone on the front of the building. Photo courtesy of Kathy Lodl, Scribner Economic Development Director.



New municipal building on north end of Main St. Photo courtesy of Kathy Lodl, Scribner Economic Development Director.



Old buildings on north end of Main St. that were demolished in 2015. Photo courtesy of Kathy Lodl, Scribner Economic Development Director.

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library, police station and community center, will cost an estimated \$1.9 million. A portion of the remaining money will be used for a building maintenance fund and about \$900,000 will be used for part of the total cost of a new fire station.

“We have begun the process of getting the plans drawn and approved for that facility,” Howard said.

Old firehall

The city will use the old firehall, in part, to store city equipment and vehicles.

Angela Brainard, Scribner Library Director, said the new library will be at least 75-80 percent larger than the current library. The new library will have a meeting room for crafts, PTA meetings, church groups, a women’s auxiliary group and a summer reading program, which has about 100 chil-

dren participating in it. Each reading group has 30-35 children in it.

“This year, we won’t have to go outside,” Brainard said.

She also said the city is purchasing

eight new computers for library patrons, which is “absolutely amazing.”

The library has been in its current location for more than 30 years, she

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Ground-breaking ceremony held April 13, 2016. Photo courtesy of Kathy Lodl, Scribner Economic Development Director.



In order to incorporate some history into the building, two Scribner bricks which were salvaged from the demolished buildings were placed on each side of the entrance of the new structure.



Photo courtesy of Kathy Lodl, Scribner Economic Development Director.



Papillion area government officials, with Gov. Pete Ricketts left of center; Tom Furlong, Vice President of Infrastructure for Facebook, between Gov. Ricketts and Papillion Mayor David Black; Gretna Sen. John Murante on far right. Photo by Jake Daniels, courtesy of the Governor's office.

Facebook selects Papillion as site of newest data center

Ninth data center overall, sixth in the United States

In April, Facebook announced that it has selected Papillion as the site of its newest data center. The Nebraska facility will be Facebook's ninth data center overall and sixth in the United States, providing the infrastructure needed to help support the 1.86 billion people on Facebook monthly. Company officials expect the 970,000 square-foot Papillion campus to be online as early as 2020. Gov. Pete Ricketts; Department of Economic Development Director, Courtney Dentlinger; Papillion Mayor David Black; and,

other local officials hosted company representatives in Papillion.

"Growing Silicon Prairie through the state's tech industry has been a priority for my administration. Having Facebook select Nebraska for its newest data center campus shows our efforts and those of our partners are paying dividends," Gov. Ricketts said. "In the past year, I had the chance to visit Facebook Headquarters in Menlo Park, Calif. and meet with executives who are instrumental in building the company's data center ecosystem. We were able to demonstrate that Nebraska can meet or exceed their expectations on every front. We are excited to welcome Facebook to the Good Life!"



Gov. Pete Ricketts at Facebook data center announcement. Photo by Jake Daniels, courtesy of the Governor's office.

Partners were instrumental in these efforts. The state partnered with the Greater Omaha Chamber, Sarpy

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County Economic Development Corporation (SCEDC), Sarpy County, City of Papillion, Metropolitan Utilities District, and Omaha Public Power District.

“Partnerships like this, with the state, local communities and utilities like OPPD, cannot be overstated when it comes to economic impact for our region,” said Omaha Public Power District CEO Tim Burke. “By collaborating with one another and looking for solutions that serve the best interests of our entire community, we create tremendous value. For example, OPPD was able to offer an innovative rate solution that would provide flexibility in how companies reach their renewable energy goals. It’s an example of how we work to meet the needs of large customers, particularly those who seek more renewable energy.”

Ongoing economic benefits

Company officials anticipate region-



Papillion Mayor David Black at Facebook data center announcement. Photo by Jake Daniels, courtesy of the Governor's office.

wide ongoing economic benefits throughout the company's building project in Papillion. Facebook data centers typically support more than 1,000 local jobs during construction and hundreds of long-term operational jobs. In addition, construction of new wind farms in Nebraska will allow the company to power the facility solely through wind-generated

electricity.

“Our talented workforce and the strong partnerships we forged with Facebook were important factors in Facebook's decision to do business in Nebraska,” said DED Director Courtney Dentlinger. “Our state also is very well connected, such as having long haul internet fiber provided by multi-

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Generous gift allows Scribner to build new municipal building with city offices, library, police station and community center

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said, adding that the new building will be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant to accommodate the city's large number of older patrons.

“We were given an incredible gift,” she said. “We will always appreciate it.”

Besides the city offices and the library, the new building will be home to a police department and the community center, which will accommodate 70-75 people, making it suitable for wedding and baby showers, birthday and

anniversary celebrations and business meetings, Howard said. The city has an auditorium for larger gatherings and celebrations, but the community center fills a need for smaller group meetings. The community center has a kitchenette with a dishwasher, microwave and refrigerator, but no stove, which allows people to bring in and serve food at a serving window.

There also is a projection system in the civic center for meetings, which is where city council meetings will be held.

The new police department will have

access to a garage if police officers need to transport people and there is more privacy for officers to do their work.

Of course, there also is parking beside the building.

City officials have taken several photos to document the transformation of the area and construction of the new building. They have begun to compile a book with a cover that reads, “A Dream Come True.” For Scribner's residents, one man's generosity has turned dreams into reality. ■

Hundreds attend Blair Public Library and Technology Center opening ceremony

More than 700 people attended the Blair Public Library and Technology Center dedication ceremony April 1. Lt. Gov. Mike Foley and U.S. Rep. Jeff Fortenberry spoke at the dedication of the 24,000 square-foot building, which is off North U.S. Highway 75 at 2333 Civic Drive. The facility offers an all wireless network available to the public, study rooms, expanded genealogy room, maker space room, youth gaming areas and public meeting rooms.

“This is a tremendous occasion and opportunity for the citizens of our community,” Mayor James Realph said. “The new facility, technology and partnership with the library foundation will help keep the City of Blair as a leader among Nebraska communities in providing our citizens with up-to-date technology in an ever-changing world.”

Mayor Realph said the facility is a re-



Outside view of Blair Public Library and Technology Center. Photo by Joe Burns, Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise. Reprinted by permission.

markable example of a public-private partnership with the private community foundation and city working together with state and federal government partners.

The building cost more than \$6.1 million and was built as a coopera-

tive venture between the city and library foundation with funding from the Nebraska Community Facility's Grant administered by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development and the U.S. Department of

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Children's section of library. Photo by Joe Burns, Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise. Reprinted by permission.



Statue outside library. Photo by Joe Burns, Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise. Reprinted by permission.

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Agriculture Community Facilities Program (USDA).

The library foundation owns the facility and the city has a 40-year lease with the option for a second 40-year extension. The foundation has the ability to transfer title to the city in the future after paying off the USDA loan.

Besides raising \$2.5 million from individuals, corporations and small private foundations, the library foundation received an additional anonymous donation from a private foundation in the amount of \$250,000 for a future sustainability fund.

Mayor Realph said that the project has been in the planning stages for the four terms that he has been mayor.

The morning flag-raising ceremony was followed by a brief program that included an invocation from Assistant City Administrator Phil Green and brief speeches from Foley, Fortenberry, Library Foundation president JoEllen Maras and Mayor Realph.

Rod Storm, Blair City Administrator, has been a part of the project since its inception.

"The new library is everything we hoped it would be and more. The mix of public meeting space, exhibit

space, genealogy space, creative commons/maker space, adult, youth and children areas, along with the library technology will make the new facility a destination place for the whole community and help keep Blair ahead of the technology curve for years to come," he said. "The new library has books, but embraces the new world of technology. The public/private partnerships with the local foundation, City of Blair, Department of Economic Development, and USDA allowed it all to become a reality." ■

Source – City of Blair; Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise.



Representatives from USDA Rural Development presented Mayor Realph with a U.S. flag that was flown over the nation's capitol. Photo by Joe Burns, Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise. Reprinted by permission.

South Sioux City putting doomed ash trees to good use

■ **BY NICK HYTREK, REPORTER**
SIOUX CITY JOURNAL ■

Reprinted by permission from the Sioux City Journal, March 10, 2017.

One by one, Adam Smith fed logs through his portable sawmill, turning what were once proud ash trees into lumber that will allow them to live on in the community.

When the sawdust finally settled, Smith had a stack of boards that later this summer will become a cabin at South Sioux City's Community Orchard.

As South Sioux City prepares for the eventual infestation of the emerald ash borer, Smith's work is part of a project that he said can be an example for other cities looking for an alternative to burning or landfill disposal of the ash trees they will likely lose when the ash borer invades their communities.

Landmark project

"This project, when completed, will be a landmark for urban wood use statewide," said Smith, Nebraska Forest Service Forest Products Program Leader. "It's something of a showcase for innovation."

City workers in February cut down a dozen storm-damaged ash trees from city parks and some smaller ash trees from a former tree farm. South Sioux City Parks Director Gene Maffit said he hoped the 35 trees cut down for the project would provide enough lumber for the 325-square-foot cabin, designed by University of Nebraska students, to be built this summer at the Community Orchard.

The cabin will house tools and be used for other purposes. It also will show that the thousands of ash trees that face



Adam Smith, Forest Products Program Leader for the Nebraska Forest Service, cuts boards from ash trees in South Sioux City. The trees were removed in advance of the anticipated infestation of the emerald ash borer and the lumber will be used to build a cabin in the city's Community Orchard. Photo by Jim Lee, Sioux City Journal. Photo reprinted with permission.

removal in South Sioux City, don't just have to wind up on the woodpile. "We wanted to show people you can do more with this ash wood than just cut it up for firewood," Maffit said.

First step

The removal of the trees was the first step in a city plan to cut down 3,000 ash trees as the emerald ash borer nears South Sioux City. Native to Asia, the metallic green-colored beetles were

discovered in Michigan in 2002 and have spread to 29 other states, leading to the death and removal of millions of ash trees.

Too late to save tree

The beetle's larvae eat the water- and nutrient-conducting tissue beneath the tree's bark, basically cutting off the tree's water supply and killing it in as few as two or three years. Once

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the beetle is found, it's usually too late to save the tree.

The beetle was first found in Nebraska in an Omaha park last spring. It's since been found in a second county between Omaha and Lincoln. It's also been found in 41 Iowa counties, Harrison County being the closest to the Sioux City area. The beetle itself can travel about two miles a year, but it's often transported through the movement of firewood.

Prepare for inevitable

Parks officials in states in which the beetle has been found all have faced the decision on how to prepare for the inevitable infestation of their ash trees. Maffit said South Sioux City hasn't planted ash trees for several years and about eight years ago, began planting other species of trees in order to diversify the city's tree population and give the young trees time to grow before the ash trees are removed.

Maffit estimated about 25 percent, or about 3,000, of the trees on city property are ash trees. Most, if not all, will be removed in coming years, he said, rather than use costly chemical treatments to try to save them. Under a plan approved by the city council last year, \$20,000 is budgeted for the 2017 fiscal year for ash tree removal.

"This project really gives us a good reason to start (the removal)," Maffit said.

No evidence

There was no evidence of the emerald ash borer in any of the trees recently cut down, Maffit said. If he can find ways like the cabin project to use the trees the city cuts down, he will. Similar to oak, ash is a hard wood useful for building and woodworking.

Smith said he hopes cities planning

for the loss of their ash trees find creative ways to dispose of them. South Sioux City's project is a perfect example of the second life a tree can have.

"South Sioux City always has been an innovative community," he said. "It's definitely a unique project." ■

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NLC: Cities will continue to fight climate change if Washington will not

President Donald Trump March 28 signed the Energy Independence Executive Order, a measure that begins the process of undoing the Clean Power Plan, rescinds the moratorium on coal mining of federal lands and instructs agencies to review policies related to climate change. During NLC's Congressional City Conference, more than 70 local elected officials signed onto a climate action letter in anticipation of this executive action and a budget proposal to cut or eliminate clean energy and climate programs. In light of today's action, NLC President Matt Zone, Council Member, Cleveland, released the following statement:

"Cities and city leaders recognize how important it is to protect our environment, but we also

recognize that this is not simply an environmental issue. Leading economists agree that climate change threatens our future prosperity. U.S. military officials agree that it threatens global security. Engineers agree that it threatens our critical infrastructure. And doctors agree that it threatens our public health."

"Cities already have taken bold action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare our communities for extreme weather events; and, we stand ready to continue this work. Nonetheless, our efforts to promote resilient communities and enhance public health would only be complemented by a strong federal-local partnership. We believe today's

executive order undermines this partnership, imperils the health of our citizens and threatens our environment. Rolling back federal actions designed to protect the environment will have impacts to local economies, public health and public safety."

"Local leaders are on the front lines of the fight against climate change every day; and, we will continue to advocate for ambitious policies that address this global crisis, spur action at the local level and support our cities. Cities will continue to lead on fighting climate change, protecting public health and promoting a safer, cleaner planet – even if Washington will not." ■

Source – NLC

Facebook selects Papillion as site of newest data center

Continued from page 19

ple sources in Papillion. By marketing these assets to recruit companies, we can continue to prove that Nebraska is a prime location to grow the world's growing data center industry."

Facebook's announcement follows successful investments from Yahoo!, Travelers Cos. and Fidelity. Local leaders say recruiting companies in this industry allows Nebraska to build on the area's already talented data center workforce.

"We're thrilled to welcome Facebook to Greater Omaha and celebrate Sarpy County's growing reputation as a major data center destination," said David G. Brown, President and CEO of the Greater Omaha Chamber, which leads the project's economic development partnership. "This is another remark-

able win for our region and a testament to more than a year of focused effort and collaboration between our economic developers, state, city and county officials, MUD, OPPD and other community partners."

"We are excited to welcome Facebook to the Papillion community," said Papillion Mayor David Black. "This data center is a monumental project for our area – one that would likely not be possible without the strong relationships between our city, Sarpy County and SCEDC as well as support from the State of Nebraska."

Facebook's company data centers are located in Prineville, Oregon; Forest City, North Carolina; Lulea, Sweden; and Altoona, Iowa. Construction on additional data centers is currently un-

derway in Fort Worth, Texas; Clonee, Ireland; Los Lunas, New Mexico; and, Odense, Denmark. The Papillion site will serve as Facebook's first location in Nebraska.

"We're thrilled to have found a home in Nebraska and to embark on this exciting partnership," said Tom Furlong, Vice President of Infrastructure at Facebook. "Everything here has been as advertised – from a committed set of community partners and strong pool of talent to the opportunity to power our facility with 100 percent renewable energy. The Cornhusker State is a great place to do business."

For updates on the data center's progress, visit www.Facebook.com/PapillionDataCenter. ■

Source – Taylor Gage, Governor's office.

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Water/Sewer Operator. City of David City is accepting applications for full-time Water/Wastewater operator. Record keeping, computer skills, mechanical ability and valid Nebraska driver's license required. Ability to identify problems, elaborate and execute solutions is a must.

Certification in water and wastewater is required within one year of employment.

Work duties include, but are not limited to, operation, testing, repair and maintenance of the municipal water and wastewater systems and treatment facilities, snow removal, laboratory process control testing, light construction, operation of equipment, general labor, and lifting (occasionally over 100lbs) may be expected. Some unscheduled hours would be required in case of emergencies; required to be on call in a rotating schedule. Must reside within five mile radius of city limits of David City within 6 months. Wage based on experience; benefit package.

Applications can be obtained from: City of David City, P.O. Box 191, David City, NE 68632-0191 Phone: 402-367-3135 <http://www.davidcityne.com>

Along with application, please include resume (including past job experience, qualifications, skills and references.) Rating of education and experience; oral interview; reference check; and background check are required. Other job related tests may be required. Position open until filled. EOE

Village Maintenance Operator. Village of Merna is now accepting applications for Part-time Maintenance Operator, with the possibility of full time. Must be 21 years of age and possess a current valid driver's license. Applicant skills include, operation of sewer and water systems, maintenance of streets, equipment maintenance, plus general upkeep of Village property. Wages will be based on experience. Questions and applications should be directed to the

Positions

Village Clerk's office between 8-12. Phone (308) 643-2281

Library Director. City of Wayne has an opening for a Library Director starting on Oct. 1, 2017. Candidates must have at min. a Bachelor's degree with 3 years library experience showing increasing administrative responsibilities, including supervision of others. An ALA accredited MLS is preferred. Candidates must hold or acquire Nebraska Public Librarian certification. Ability to speak Spanish desired. Job duties include administering and marketing all public library services, programs, and community outreach; supervising staff and volunteers, preparing budget, recommending policies, long-range planning, grant writing, and technology management and planning. Candidate must possess excellent communication, marketing, people, and technical skills. Salary range is \$3,718-\$5,007 a month, depending on qualifications and experience. Interested candidates should send a letter of interest with resume to: Personnel Manager, City of Wayne, 306 Pearl St, Wayne, NE 68787. (402) 375-1733. Application deadline is May 31, 2017. EOE.

Solid Waste Superintendent. City of Sidney seeking qualified individuals to fill vacant Solid Waste Superintendent position. This is a supervisory position with full responsibilities directing and coordinating operation and maintenance of sanitary landfill, composting, mulching, recycling programs, ensuring compliance with federal, state and local regulations. Responsible for preparation, recommendation and implementation of annual operating budget and equipment needs.

Three years related experience and three years supervisory experience required. BS degree with course work in civil engineering, environmental engineering, environmental sciences preferred.

Positions

See www.cityofsidney.org under "City News" for detailed information or contact Jo Houser at (308) 254-7002.

Water & Sewer Superintendent. City of Central City seeking candidates for position of Water & Sewer Superintendent, who will have the opportunity to work with retiring superintendent during a transition period. City Application must be completed and may be supplemented by a resume. Salary is dependent on qualifications and experience. Benefit package is highly competitive and reflects our desire to attract a quality candidate. Position will remain open until filled. Applications are available at City Hall, 1702 31st Street, P.O. Box 418, Central City, NE 68826 or by calling 308-946-3806.

Utility Superintendent/Maintenance Supervisor. Village of Potter now accepting applications for Utility Superintendent/Maintenance Supervisor position. Must be 19 years of age or older, with a High School diploma or G.E.D., hold a valid driver's license, be able to obtain a CDL Class B endorsement within 30 days of employment, a Grade 4 Certification Water Operators License within 6 months of employment, and pass a pre-employment drug screening. The successful applicant must establish residency within 5 miles of the Village of Potter. Duties include, but are not limited to, maintenance of streets, operation of the water and sewer system, maintenance of the parks, sanitation services, and operation of light to heavy construction/ maintenance equipment. Wages are dependent upon qualifications and experience. Benefits are included. Applications and resumes will be accepted until the position is filled. For more information contact the Village of Potter at 308-879-4332 or 922 Sherman Street, PO Box 247, Potter, NE 69156. Village of Potter is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.



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