

Commission okays new power for public works

BY BREA SANFORD brea@indydailyreporter.com

The Coffeyville Commission met for their regular meeting Tuesday, April 8 at City Hall. Mayor Deborah Maples called the meeting to order and after the roll call, Pastor Judy Mustain, of Life Point Church gave the invocation. After those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting began.

To begin the meeting, the Commissioners unanimously approved both items in the consent agenda, which included the City Commission meeting minutes from Tuesday, March 25 and 2025 Appropriation Ordinance No. AO-25-07 in the amount of \$5,103,377.66.

Opening the floor to public comment, the Commission heard from Alicia Melton of Touch of Life Ministries. Melton, along with a host of volunteers helped to run the warming center, which is located at 501 East 9th Street. The cold weather had them hopping, as December required the warming center to be open 12 days, with 18 days closed, with 14 guests and the group served about 100 meals. January, they were open 30 days, with a guest count of 78 and a total meal count of close to 350. February, the center was open 14 days and closed 14, with 40 guests, serving about 250 meals. "We were ex-tremely busy this year," Melton stated Tuesday evening. "We were open 24/7 for four week this year... The community was absolutely amazing in bringing in food items to help us feed everybody and with cash donations toward the gas utility and those kinds of things."

Melton went on to share that Touch of Life is expanding services this summer to present a six-week personal finance court and there are plans in the works to host substance abuse counseling groups, budget cooking classes and more. She went on to state that they are looking for adding other programing as well, stating simply, "When it comes to people that are impoverished or those that are coming out of addiction, or things like that, they need something healthy they can do without having top spend a bunch of

money."

Mayor Marples read a proclamation declaring that April 13 through April 19 as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week in Coffeyville. Also approved was the tabling of the second reading of Ordinance S-25-02.

The following items of new business were approved by consensus:

• The appointing of Ronald Coffey to the Planning Commission.

• The purchase of a parcel of land from Bobbie E. Shelton and Don R. Shelton. Executive Director of Public Works Jim Wright spoke of the purchase,

See COMMISSION, page 7

Caney water project moving smoothly despite gov't hiccups

BY BREA SANFORD

brea@indydailyreporter.com

The Caney City Council met for their regular meeting Monday evening in Caney City Hall. Mayor Josh Elliot called the meeting to order. After leading those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and giving the invocation, Elliot asked for the approval of the Consent Agenda, which was unanimously approved. It contained the following items:

• Approval of Expense (April 1-4, 2025): \$10,448.84

• AWG: \$15,557.87 • Waste Connections: \$20,179.95

• Approval of expenses to Main Street Auto

1. 2008 Chevrolet Silverado 1500- \$463.23

- Water pump, water pump gasket kit, thermostat, antifreeze, shop supplies, water pump removal and installation, Haz mat.

2. Backhoe- \$854.82

- Titan contractor tires, tire disposal, tire road tax

Old Business

Elliot gave a quick update regarding the ongoing issues with Horseshoe Construction. There seems to be some confusion as to whether or not water was "lost" during the last major line break. Horseshoe maintains that no water was actually lost. "Which was inaccurate," Mayor Elliot stated. "We lost a little over 500,000 gallons that they're responsible for when that water line broke." An invoice has been submitted to the company without resolution.

Moving on, Elliot briefly touched on Caney Grocery, sharing that they are no longer drug testing part time employees due to the prohibitive cost. Full time employees will still have to submit to drug

Caney voters nix proposed school bond

BY BREA SANFORD

brea@indydailyreporter.com

On Tuesday, Caney voters took to the polls to show their opinion of the proposed \$32 million school bond option that would have included a number of updates to otherwise outdated facilities. The results, while still not certified, were overwhelming- showing 732 votes against the bond and 134 voting yes.

ing yes. The bond, if it had passed, would have impacted each building in the district. Some of the changes at Lincoln Elementary would have included the addition of storm shelters, a new cafeteria, parking lot, front canopy and science classroom, as well as updates to current classrooms, restrooms and common areas.

At CVHS, storm shelters would have been added as well as a new family and consumer sciences kitchen, training room, parking lot and more. A new athletics area would have been established to include new baseball, softball and football fields as well as new accessible bleachers and stadium entrances among other improvements.

But, all of the additions and improvements came with a price tag too precious for many Caney residents to bear. If passed, the bond would have increased the mill levy



BOND ISSUE FAILS- Caney voters came to the polls Tuesday to show that they were not ready for a \$32 million bond to improve and add to USD 436 facilities. Voting as of press time has the negative votes outweighing the positive by just shy of 600 votes. The bond would have brought about a number of changes to the USD 436 district facilities. Courtesy Photo

exponentially, putting a pinch on many that cannot afford stretching an already tightened budget.

Residents took to social media to divulge their displeasure over many facets of the proposed plans. While USD 436 took to posting informative videos on the plans via Facebook, many felt that the most important questions were being left out. "The lack had posted.

The loss of this bond measure has forced the District to go back to the drawing board. Many hope that they will be able to come back with a more fiscally feasible plan for improvements that will not further beleaguer an already strained city.

This is an evolving story and the Reporter will update its readers as more information

Cherryvale City Council approves five-year comprehensive plan

BY LESLIE FOX

Contributing Writer

The Cherryvale City Council met for their regular meeting on Monday, April 7. They met to discuss structures unfit for human habitation, training for trades people, haying city properties, a Cherryvale Mission Statement, a five-year capital improvement plan, an agreement for professional services with Midwest Consulting Group, LLC, paperwork for Southern Star Construction and the City Administrator's salary.

Michael Hall, Cherryvale City Administrator, presented the public hearing for a petition to vacate the alley between 510 North Coyle Street and 511 West Martin Street. "This was [for] John Patton. We had had him come in about six weeks ago looking to get an adjustment on the footage," stated Hall. He then called for the approval of the vacation and the adoption of ordinance NO 25-4772. Council member Steve Strickland motioned to approve the vacation and adoption. Council member Norman Johnson seconded. The motion carried.

Joe Rexwinkle, Fire Chief, pre-sented the public hearing on 722 East 3rd Street; a structure unfit for human habitation. The Council then adopted resolution 25-11. "It's just a public hearing for the action that we took 30 days ago or so on 722 East 3rd and the two that come after that. Nothing has been changed. No one has contacted us about them," stated Rexwinkle. It is going to cost approximately \$2,800 to take down the structure. That is approximately a third of what it has cost in the past. The reduction in price is because the City has started doing the demolitions

themselves. Johnson motioned to accept the resolution. Council member Curtis Whittley seconded. The motion carried.

The Council then opened a public hearing for 135 West Whelan Street. They closed the hearing and adopted the resolution 25-12. Strictland motioned. Whittley seconded. The motion carried. Again, the Council opened a public hearing for 210 East Main Street. They closed the hearing and adopted resolution 25-13. Johnson motioned. Whittley seconded. The motion carried.

Hall requested approval for a contractor agreement for building inspector services. "So we have a training gap that Joe and I have kind of looked into and our way forward is trying to utilize skill set traders that have 20 to 30 years of experience in whatever trade it may be in so that we can train by code enforcement," stated Hall.

"We've had a few interested parties, but largely what I think it is going to come down to is finding tradesmen out there who are willing to impart knowledge." The cost is expected to stay under \$5,000 for the training through the Kansas Association Code Enforcement. This will come out of the City Administrator's budget. He hopes to have the training completed in four or five months. Johnson motioned. Whittley seconded. Strickland opposed. The motion carried.

Hall requested permission to go out for bid for haying the City properties; rodeo grounds, smelter properties, animal control area and the corridor between south of CR 5050 and HWY 169. Johnson motioned. Whittley seconded. The motion passed.

See CHERRYVALE, page 2

testing during the hiring process.

City Administrator Andrea Sibley gave a quick update on the ongoing water project. She shared that for now, things are running smoothly. The City continues to work with KDHE on completing the rigorous testing that is required of them. "We're passing with flying colors," she admitted Monday evening. She did note that they have recalibrated a good amount of the machinery and motors at the water plant in effort to make sure that future testing remains accurate.

Sibley shared that, despite the freezes from the federal government, the City is making "some" headway on grants related to the project. "I have engaged with the paid-for grant writer and the person who actually kind of project manages the grant process on our behalf and we are actually starting to work on a \$25 million grant now that will be due in June... I do have a lot of confidence that if we start early and do our homework





A LIFESTYLE WORTHWHILE

Imagine making the move to Independent Living at Asbury Village — our intimate, homelike setting offers everything you need: a full kitchen, parking just steps from your front door, and maintenance-free living — all in the warm company of friends.

Come on a private tour and enjoy a chef-prepared lunch. Relax. It's on us!



Call for a private visit: 620-251-6270

or visit us online at LegendSeniorLiving.com

3800 Asbury Dr, Coffeyville, KS 67337 A Residence of Legend Senior Living®

Got NEWS?

email: coffeyville1@gmail.com phone: (620) 251-3300 mail: 716 S. Maple Coffeyville, KS 67337

Weather

	<u>High</u>	Low	<u>Precip</u>	<u>Wind</u>
Saturday	78	60	6%	18mph
Sunday			2%	23mph
Monday	70	40	0%	17mph
Tuesday	71	51	0%	6mph

Index

Community	2
Sports	
Opinion	4
Puzzles	
Church	6
Classifieds	7

