Central Lee to put $12.9M bond to vote

Referendum would go to voters Sept. 10

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  PCC EDITOR

DONNELSON – The Central Lee school board voted Monday night to put a $12.9 million bond referendum in front of district voters on Sept. 10, 2019. At the board’s regular meeting the board passed a resolution to issue general obligation bonds not to exceed the $12.9 million to upgrade and add onto current district facilities.

The district tried to pass a bond referendum in April of last year, but failed to reach the state-mandated supermajority of 60% + one vote. The measure had 701 yes votes to 542 no votes for a 56.4% approval.

Crozier said that referendum would have bumped district taxpayers’ school levy by $1.80/$1,000 assessed valuation. He said this year is a different conversation, but there won’t be an increase and preliminary figures show the district will be able to ask for the same $12.19/$1,000 that they had last year.

“There’ll be no property tax increase because of that (passing),” Crozier said. The $12.9 million bond will carry a debt impact on tax bills of $2.70/$1,000, but he said if the bond fails it wouldn’t guarantee a reduction in the tax bill of $2.70.

“There are many pieces that we do have to consider – income surtax, management funds – all those pieces. We can choose not to be conservative over the next few years and it can be constant, but the biggest impact for us compared to when we did this a year ago is our valuations went up 24%,” he said.

“In my eight years being a superin-

The circus is coming back to town

Florida-based Garden Bros. Circus to put on two shows on Rodeo grounds June 19

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The circus is coming to town. Literally.

On June 19th, Garden Bros. Circus will be putting on two shows at the C.E. “Eddie” Richards Arena on the Tri State Rodeo Grounds, the first of which will be at 4:30 and the second at 7:30 p.m.

Garden Bros. Circus is owned by Stellar Entertainment out of Sarasota, Fla., and puts on nightly shows throughout the central U.S., California, and Canada.

According to the Garden Bros. release, the 2019 show is packed with breathtaking special effects, concert style sound and lighting, and three rings bursting with excitement, laughter, and memories for families to cherish.

Performers from more than 22 countries will entertain during the 100-minute performance, that features what is dubbed as the largest elephant on earth. Chinese acrobats, aerial artists, the motorcycle Sphere of Fear, camels, and horses.

Other features include contortionists, clowns, jugglers featured on ‘America’s Got Talent’ and an integrated Kids’ Fun Zone where children can ride animals, ride a giant slide and bounce house, and get their face painted.

See CIRCUS, page 3

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Don’t forget Social Media! Check out on the following sites @pencitycurrent:

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Fort Madison girls sweep Keokuk on the road Monday.

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LLOYD WILLIAM SHRIVER

Lloyd William “Bill” Shriver, 77, father, brother, grandfather, uncle and friend to many, passed away peacefully on Friday, May 17, 2019.

Bill was born in Farmington, Iowa on June 21, 1941, the son of Harold and Jeannette (Hols) Shriver. He graduated from Farmington High School. Bill had a long career in the quality control side of trailer truck manufacturing with the Fruehauf Company in Ft. Madison and later with Trail Mobile in Jonesboro, Arkansas. Bill was a season ticket holder for Iowa Football and was a loyal Iowa Hawkeye fan. He maintained life-long relationships with is Fruehauf co-workers, which he considered family and had an annual golf/tailgate get together which he loved to organize each Fall with these close friends.

Bill is survived by his three sons: Cody (mother: Teresa Baird), Brett and Wade Shriver (mother: Sheila Steinmeyer Shriver); one sister: Jan (Farthing) Shriver; one niece and four nephews.

Bill was preceded in death by his mother and father and his brother: Jim Shriver all originally from Farmington, Iowa.

His body has been deceased to the University of Iowa Hospital Anatomy Department.

A Memorial Service will be held in Bill’s honor at a later date this summer. In lieu of gifts or flowers any donations in Bill’s honor may be made to Iowa City Hospice: 1025 Wade Street, Iowa City, Iowa 52240. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfushiua.com. The Schmitz Funeral Home of Farmington is assisting the family with arrangements.

MARIE A. CLARK


She was born on October 25, 1939 in Keokuk to Floyd and Roberta Clark Wharton. Marie married Marle Clark and he passed away on January 14, 2009. She was a housekeeper. Marie loved doing crafts and going to yard sales.

Survivors include two daughters, Amy Whitney of New Port Ritchie, FL and Angela Woodbury of Ft. Madison; five grandchildren; several great grandchildren; one sister, Delores Bell of Burbon, MO. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, a son Lee and one sister, Nancy.

Per her wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynn Funeral Home & Crematory and there will be no formal services at this time. Online condolences may be left at www.kinglynn.com.

The Fort Madison Kiwanis awarded three scholarships to graduating high school seniors. Pictured are LilliAnna Schott of FMHS, Kevin Adams, Fort Madison Kiwanis Treasurer, and Elyse Pothitakis, of Holy Trinity Catholic. Abby Camp, from FMHS was the other winner but is not pictured.

Columbus Club

807 Avenue H • Ft. Madison
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Wednesday “All You Can Eat”

CHICKEN DINNERS
Served Every Wednesday 5:00-8:00pm

Adults includes 2 sides & a roll…………………………………….$8.00
Kids (ages 5-12) includes 2 sides & a roll………………………..$5.00
Kids under 5 eat…………………………………………………….FREE

Carryout 4 pcs. chicken

2 sides & a roll……………………………………………………….$8.50
Kids (ages 5-12)

2 pcs. chicken, 1 side & a roll…………………………………….$5.50

Chicken also available by the piece

(Carryout only)

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS
Served Every Friday Night 5:00-8:00pm
Dinner includes 2 sides and a roll

9 oz. Boneless Catfish Fillet

APPETIZERS

Columbus Club Combo

(Cauliflower, Mushrooms & Onion Rings)

Brew House Combo

(Cream Cheese Jalapeno Poppers, Chicken Strips, Mushrooms, Shrimp, Mozzarella Sticks & Onion Rings)

Burgers

Cathouse Bites

Macaroni & Cheese Bites

Open to the Public for Wednesday & Friday Dinners

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Area towns prepped for July RAGBRAI visitors

CIRCUS - Continued from Page 1

ented time discounting will be $26 for adults and $10 for children. If seats are sold, a limited number will be available for $18.95. General seating after the first 100 adult tickets is $70 for a family of four (two adults and two children). After the first 100 adult tickets are sold, a limited number will be available for $18.95. General seating after the limited time discounting will be $26 for adults and $10 for children. After the first 100 adult tickets are sold, a limited number will be available for $18.95. General seating after the limited time discounting will be $26 for adults and $10 for children. After the first 100 adult tickets are sold, a limited number will be available for $18.95. General seating after the limited time discounting will be $26 for adults and $10 for children. After the first 100 adult tickets are sold, a limited number will be available for $18.95. General seating after the limited time discounting will be $26 for adults and $10 for children. After the first 100 adult tickets are sold, a limited number will be available for $18.95. General seating after the limited time discounting will be $26 for adults and $10 for children. After the first 100 adult tickets are sold, a limited number will be available for $18.95. General seating after the limited time discounting will be $26 for adults and $10 for children. After the first 100 adult tickets are sold, a limited number will be available for $18.95. General seating after the limited time discounting will be $26 for adults and $10 for children. After the first 100 adult tickets are sold, a limited number will be available for $18.95. General seating after the limited time discounting will be $26 for adults and $10 for children.
Lady Hounds sweep Keokuk on the road

Powers, Dennis hurl complete games on road in 4-1, 8-6 wins

BY ETHAN LILLARD
PCO SPORTS

KEOKUK – Coming into Monday night’s matchup against Lee County and Southeastern conference foe Keokuk, Fort Madison softball sat three games under the five hundred mark at 3-6.

After Monday’s double-header at Joyce Park in Keokuk, Fort Madison is now just one win away from beating .500 on the year, sweeping the double header 4-1, 8-6.

"It feels really good because we swept them the first time last year and then they swept us back," Fort Madison Head Coach Jared Rehm said. "Hopefully we can get all four from them this year."

GAME ONE

Junior Cassie Powers drew the start for the Bloodhounds in game one and delivered with one of her best pitching performances of the season. What may have helped her confidence throughout the contest was run support.

Olivia Williams dominated from the lead-off spot for the Hounds, going a perfect 4-for-4 at the plate.

Logan Johnson delivered from the No. 3 hole with a doubles and a run scored. "I knew what (Cassie) could do and I knew what Olivia could do and they just did it themselves," Rehm said about the battery of Powers and Williams in game one. "It’s just (Cassie) and Olivia."

Powers tossed 102 pitches over seven innings, allowing five hits and just one earned run while striking out eight.

Logan Johnson, Powers, and Maycee Featheringill all collected an RBI each for the Bloodhounds in the opener.

GAME TWO

Kruse came on in relief during game one early and also drew the start for game two. With Fort Madison having already seen Kruse for a majority of game one, they now had caught on to her pitching style and speed.

Logan Johnson collected a double in the top of the second, before a Keokuk error helped move Johnson to third in the process.

Dalyn Wondra then singled to bring in Johnson for the first run of the game, giving the Hounds the 1-0 lead.

Much like the big inning that helped Fort Madison seal game one, another big inning provided the lift in game two.

Three straight singles to start the third inning coupled with another Chief fielding error scored both Williams and Katelyn Dennis to give the Bloodhounds a 3-0 lead. Powers then doubled to plate courtesy runner Kruse, before a Geerdes single scored Powers for a 5-0 Fort Madison lead.

The big inning continued as Wondra reached safely on another error, followed by a Vanessa Golowach single that brought in Geerdes for a 6-0 advantage.

"Up until last Wednesday we weren't doing that very well," Rehm said about his team’s ability to collect hits and score runs. "We broke through with that Wapelom and they starting stringing hits together and getting runs."

It was three-straight singles again that extended the lead to 7-0, as Johnson, Geerdes and Wondra singled to bring in Johnson.

Keokuk responded with a three-run inning in the bottom of the fourth and added another run in the top of the sixth, but still trailed 7-4. After a sacrifice fly from Featheringill brought in Jasmine Rass for an 8-4 lead, the game was all but sealed, at least that's what Fort Madison thought.

A single and a triple with one out in the bottom of the seventh inning put pressure on the Hounds, as Keokuk was now within three. The triple was followed by a Fort Madison error, allowing the Chiefs to score another run and close the gap to 8-6. Kruse singled after the error, bringing the winning run to the plate for Keokuk with just one out.

Thankfully for Fort Madison, Katelyn Dennis re-grouped the Hound defense and forced the final two batters into back-to-back ground outs for the 8-6 win.

"I was a little bit (nervous), but I knew we could win and come through," Powers said. "I thought (Dennis) did a really good job and when things got tough, she didn’t give up and she fought through."

Dennis picked up the win, throwing 112 pitches over seven innings, allowing seven hits and three earned runs while striking out five. Williams, Powers, Johnson, Geerdes and Wondra each collected two-hit games in game two. Featheringill and Wondra paced Fort Madison with two RBIs each.

Fort Madison is competing in a tournament tomorrow (Thursday) where they will play three games at Davenport.

Holy Trinity girls sweep Van Buren at home

WEST POINT – The Holy Trinity girls junior varsity softball team has moved to 6-1 on the season after scoring three runs in the bottom of the sixth inning on Thursday for a comeback 7-6 win over Van Buren.

The Crusader’s Halie Cain scored the winning run in the bottom of the 8th on a Mary Hellige game-winning single. Mary Hellige was the winning pitcher working all eight innings allowing three earned runs and striking out five hitters.

Cain had two singles, and two runs scored. Anna Sobczak a triple, two doubles and two runs scored. Brooke Mueller two singles and two runs scored. Kayla Box contributed with two singles and two runs scored, and Kelli Meierotto had a couple singles and 3 RBI.

In the junior high game, Mueller cracked a double in the in the HTC half of the final inning that scored Hellige for another come-from-behind win, 11-10.

Rachel Menke was the winning pitcher going four innings, allowing four hits and fanning two. Cain also pitched two innings for the Crusaders.

Mary Hellige led HTC at the plate with a couple doubles and a triple and scored two runs including the game winner in the bottom of the sixth.

Cain also had two singles and two runs scored. Breanna Peterson had two singles and two runs scored. Mueller had a single to go with her walk-off double and scored a run of her own.

Kayla Box had a single, Laura Mehmet had a single, Teagan Snaadt had 2 singles and a run scored, Jenna Hellman had a single and a run scored and Clara Blint had a run scored. The junior high girls are 5-2 overall.

Baseball Card Shows

June 10 - Keokuk
Vintage Sports Card Show
Hampton Inn 3201 Main street
Show Hours 3 pm - 8 pm

June 11 - Burlington
Vintage Sports Card Show
Comfort Suites 1780 Steingate Center Dr.
Show Hours 3 pm - 8 pm

June 12 - Ft. Madison
Vintage Sports Card Show
Quality Inn & Suites 6169 Reve Court
Show Hours 3 pm - 8 pm

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Market. Depot. Every second Monday is Kid’s Day at the Sept. 30 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Old Santa Fe start Monday June 3 and run every Monday through Farmer’s Markets at the Fort Madison Depot will Farmer’s Market program.

for $400 and get 50 tickets to the game and ad in the June 14. Sponsors can become a fireworks sponsor buying 10-plus tickets. Pre-order must be done by 21-23. Pre-ordered tickets are just $4 each when tington will be held on Friday through Sunday June 13, July 11, and Aug. 15 along Avenue G. For more town Summer Market from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m June 14 and there is room for five more teams only. Sponsorships are available by contacting the Partner’s office at 319-372-5471.

Special Needs Prom A Special Needs Prom has been set for June 28th from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at First Christian Church 3476 Main Street in Keokuk. The evening will include a promenade, dinner and dancing with events sponsored by area businesses.

Downtown Summer Market Fort Madison businesses will be hosting a Downtown Summer Market from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. June 13, July 11, and Aug. 15 along Avenue G. For more information contact Darla at 319-371-8385 or by email at darlarae71@yahoo.com.

Weekend at the Bees Lee County Weekend at Community Field in Burlington will be held on Friday through Sunday June 21-23. Pre-ordered tickets are just $4 each when buying 10-plus tickets. Pre-order must be done by June 14. Sponsors can become a fireworks sponsor for $400 and get 50 tickets to the game and ad in the program.

Farmer’s Market Farmer’s Markets at the Fort Madison Depot will start Monday June 3 and run every Monday through Sept. 30 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Old Santa Fe Depot. Every second Monday is Kid’s Day at the Market.

Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course will be offering junior and women’s beginning clinics on Thursdays during the Month of June with the junior golf from 10 to 12 p.m. and the women’s class from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. $30 entry fee for both clinics. Contact Ryan at 319-528-6214 for additional details or email at rmcmillan@sheaffergolf.com.

Kensington events The Kensington is offering Senior’s Only Community Bingo on the second Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m. The event is free for seniors and cash prizes are awarded. Caregivers Connection is held the 4th Tuesday of every month at noon. Call 319-372-4233 to reserve your seat.

Riverfest 2019 Fort Madison’s annual summer music festival and carnival hits the Fort Madison riverfront Aug. 1-4 with national rock music acts, family-friendly events and shows, carnivals, vendors, games, food and non-profit charitable events all weekend along.

Old Settler’s Concerts The Old Settler’s Park “Music in the Park” kicks off on June 21 with “Amarillo” and the Pen City Cruiser’s Car Show. The Fort Madison Lion’s Club will be serving dinner.

Pen City Current will list your event in this highly visible CURRENT-LEE section in increments of 25 words for $15. Add a photo for $5. Non-profit organizations are eligible for the reduced rate of $10 per 25 words and $3 per photo. To place your listing, click here or call Lee at (319)371.4125.
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American Family Insurance
Crystal Brown
Office Manager
Cox & Elsman Agency, Inc.
1301 37th St
Fort Madison, IA 52627
Phone: 319-372-9145
Fax: 319-372-6175
Email: crystalb@coxelsman.com

Melissa Pech
Customer Service Rep
Cox & Elsman Agency, Inc.
Email: mp@coxelsman.com

Sylvia Thomas
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617 Avenue G, Fort Madison
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BUSINESS MANAGER
HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC

Holy Trinity Catholic is seeking applicants for a Business Manager position. Accounting or Business degree is required. Applicant will be responsible for budgeting duties, payroll, accounts payable/ receivable, tuition assistance, and employee benefit administration.

Interested applicants, please send a cover letter and resume to: Judi Dinwiddie at judi.dinwiddie@holytrinity-schools.org

HELP WANTED

FULL-TIME DENTAL ASSISTANT

Mark C. Pothiatkas Family Dentistry currently has a position available for a Full-Time Dental Assistant. Complete an application or mail your resume to 1223 S. Gear Avenue, Eastman Plaza, Suite 302, West Burlington, IA 52655. EOE.

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Classifieds/Public Notices
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
PRE-BOARD MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AND GREAT PRAIRIE AREA EDUCATION AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Tuesday, June 11, 2019
4:30 p.m.
Southeastern Community College
1500 West Agency Road
West Burlington, Iowa
Tentative Agenda
1. Call to Order
AEA Board Secretary Jennifer Woodley will call the meeting to order
2. Members Present
AEA Board Secretary and SCC Board Secretary will record Board Member attendance
3. Report from Great Prairie Area Education Agency and Southeastern Community College GPAEA Chief Administrator Dr. Cindy Yelick and SCC President Dr. Michael Ash will report
4. Adjournment
This notice is given pursuant to Chapter 21, Code of Iowa.
Darcy Adams, Board Secretary

Board Meeting Agenda
Great Prairie Area Education Agency June 11, 2019 4:30 PM - Joint Board Meeting with Southeastern Community College Board of Trustees and Regular Board Meeting - Private Dining Room Southeastern Community College, 1500 West Agency Road, West Burlington, IA GPAEA Board Zoom Join from PC, Mac, iOS or Android: https://zoom.us/j/420666315
Or join by phone: +1 646 568 7788 (US Toll) or +1 415 762 9888 (US Toll) Meeting ID: 420 666 315 A - G - E - N - D - A - I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY BOARD PRESIDENT
II. OPEN FORUM
III. BOARD APPROVAL OF AGENDA
IV. BOARD APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES
V. BOARD APPROVAL OF TREAURER’S REPORT AND INVOICES PAYABLE
VI. BOARD ACTION ON NEW EMPLOYEE CONTRACTS
a. Shaunda Campbell, School Social Worker, MA+15, Step 1, 194 days, $46,537
b. Dawn Williams, Special Education Consultant, MA, Step 20, 194 days, $69,291
ADMINISTRATOR’S COMMENTS: I recommend approval of the new employee contracts as presented.
VII. BOARD ACTION ON EMPLOYEE RESIGNATIONS
a. Ellie Hamilton
b. Dr. Lonna Anderson
VIII. BOARD ACTION ON AGREEMENT FOR SHARED SERVICES BETWEEN GREAT PRAIRIE AREA EDUCATION AGENCY AND HEARTLAND AREA EDUCATION AGENCY
All other items renumbered accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County Conservation Board Meeting Agenda June 11, 2019 4:00 p.m.
Lee County Conservation Center 2652 Highway 61 Montrose, IA 52635
1. Call to order
2. Approval of minutes from May 14, 2019.
3. Public Input
This is the time of the meeting that a citizen may address the Board on any matters pertaining to the Lee County Conservation Board. The Board cannot take formal action at the meeting on matters not included on the regular agenda, but may ask the staff to research the matter or have the matter placed on a subsequent agenda.
4. Approval of Bills
5. Approval of Financial Report
6. Discussion—Pool 19 Conservation Project
7. Approve Waiving Beach Fees for the Pollmiller Family Fun Night Event
8. Staff Reports
9. Board Member Comments
10. Adjournment
Next regular meeting will be July 9, 2019
Hearing and vision assistance available upon request. Citizens are welcome to all LCCB meetings.
Central Lee bond wouldn’t raise property tax level from 2019

SCHOOL - Continued from Page 1

tendent, I’ve never had valuations increase more than 4% until this year and it's 24%. It's almost like living in Waukee for a change. It's unbelievable. So some things have worked in our favor.”

He said another piece taxpayers have to consider is the district won’t be using state SAVE funds to guarantee the bonds. General obligation bonds are paid for from the debt levy on property taxes, but Central Lee uses the SAVE funds to reduce property taxes.

Crozier said he feels more confident in the issue this time around because there is no increase in property taxes and people in the district see the need.

“That is a much different conversation when you’re talking about $1.80 vs. a no property tax increase. I think that’s helpful,” he said.

“I think the people of this district see the need here and see that we have a great opportunity to improve our facilities for the next several years. We were so close asking for $1.80 and we worked hard to get to a no property increase on this vote.”

Crozier said the top priority is improving the safety and security of the students. He said new office spaces would be created at the front of the buildings causing every visitor to go through a double door system that forces people to go through the office before being allowed into the school itself.

Central Lee had a school resource officer on-site during school hours. The officer was Tom Obermann of the Lee County Sheriff’s Department and said, despite the increased security, the district would keep the SRO on the premises.

“Heck yeah I would. We didn’t have any crisis issues, but we had a few issues were we got Tommy down to the office and if it was at the high school he was meeting them at the door. That question has come up a couple times.

“The district is in a three-year 28E agreement with the sheriff’s department for the SRO.

“The funds will also allow for some additional renovations and common space for easier flow of students through the hallways, a new competition/performance gymnasium, two new rooms for fine arts, renovations of the K-8 building for a new early childhood center, and improved parking and traffic flow on the campus.”

He said the gymnasium can be polarizing, but the current gym doesn’t meet the needs of the district.

“We just know we need a bigger space. I know not everyone likes the idea because it’s expensive because it’s a big square footage, but this give us what we need, hopefully, for the next hundred years.”

“The district has already committed to renovating family consumer science space and the ag room, outside of the bond funds.

“They will be done by the district and are not being paid for out of the 12.9 million but are a part of our total master facility plan,” Crozier said.

“The district has also budgeted for another traffic lane from the high school to the K-8.

“That’s another one where we’re putting our money where our mouth is. We know it’s an issue and we can afford to do it right now with our current revenue so we’re just taking that off the referendum and doing it ourselves,” Crozier said.

2nd Annual Franklin Car Show

Tractor Show (new this year) • Craft/ Vendor Show
June 15th, 2019, 9 a.m to 2 p.m

Registration for car & tractor show 9 to 11 a.m
Judging done by 1 p.m • Awards at 1:30 p.m
Food available to purchase starting at 10 a.m
Craft & Vendor Show 9 a.m to 2 p.m
50/50 Sales $1 each or 6/$5
$20 per vehicle on the day of

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From the Front

Computers, software also on the list for PD

POLICE - Continued from Page 1

“They started with the physical agility test and we lost half because they couldn’t meet the physical standards. The five that did pass that portion were taken back to the sheriff’s office and they were given the standard written test that all law enforcement officers take,” Conlee said.

The written tests were sent off to a company to be independently scored and those that pass will be part of future civil service interviews.

Conlee said, due to the sheriff’s department overseeing police operations currently, the interviews will be conducted this time with city and county civil service commission members. Typically one or the other does the interviews to keep the mandated list of 10 candidates on file.

At Tuesday’s regular city council meeting, Weber told the council they need to extend the police department to 20 officers and with that staff they had structure in place that would put three officers on the street for each shift, including two full-time investigators.

He also told the council that computer systems in the department were outdated and needed to be replaced as well as providing all vehicles with onboard computers.

The sheriff’s department outfitted their vehicles with onboard computers last fall and Weber said the efficiencies created with the new systems allowed more time for deputies on the streets instead of doing paperwork.

Authorization of the new computers could be in front of the city council by its next scheduled meeting on June 18.

Authorization of the new computers could be in front of the city council by its next scheduled meeting on June 18.

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