



City council talks annexation study

The public portion of the Clark City Council January meeting lasted over an hour with the main topic of conversation being annexation. Director Todd Kays of the First Planning District, Watertown, attended Monday's meeting and he orchestrated the Clark annexation study discussion.

Kays was invited by Clark Mayor Larry Dreher and the city council to come to this meeting to visit about the process of "how communities handle annexation".

At this point, Kays didn't talk about any specific piece of Clark property to be annexed, but rather the process and the ensuing annexation survey study.

During this discussion city attorney Chad Fjelland noted that the city annexation focus would be on commercial property to the east and west rather than residential property located on the north and south ends of town, but no specifics were outlined.

Mayor Dreher then talked about the time frame of this process, querying "can we have some things in place by summer?"

Kays said that was definitely possible and the next step after a February city council decision would be to have private conversations with the affected land owners.

The First Planning Director told the mayor and the council "whatever decisions you make, it needs to be in the best interest of the city (to go with annexation), and you need

to justify it." He ended by telling the council that they need to do their homework, regarding infrastructure and economic benefits.

The council then approved the employee operations manual, after brief discussion with Kays. The First Planning District oversees the operations manual of area communities, so it worked out to use this time for questions concerning the manual. Starting next month the council will look at a couple chapters at a time of the policy manual and tweak if necessary.

In other business:

▲ No motions were needed after a 25-minute executive session for personnel and contractual reasons.

▲ The council approved a DENR draw of \$36,900 to Clark Engineer-

ing for the retention pond.

▲ During the department updates segment of the meeting Mayor Dreher and city employee Roger Collins voiced their respective views on tree removal in the southeast part of Clark. The cost of a tree removal project escalated when the city didn't have the necessary equipment. "I learned a very good lesson," responded the mayor in closing of this subject.

▲ City policeman Jeremy Wellnitz reported on the Natures' Deli clean up. "To my knowledge it is cleaned out," he reported and he noted that 47 truckloads were taken to the Watertown landfill.

▲ The December police report indicated 1,168 miles traveled. There were 54 calls for service with

City council (continued on page 3)

WEATHER			
Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer			
	HI	LO	PR
Dec. 29	20	12	0
Dec. 30	17	0	0
Dec. 31	18	4	0
2015 precipitation to date	22.50		
2014 precipitation to date	16.17		
Jan. 1	26	11	0
Jan. 2	28	11	0
Jan. 3	20	3	0
Jan. 4	27	4	0
2016 precipitation to date			0
2015 precipitation to date			.12

Reints re-elected chairman of county commissioners

Richard Reints was re-elected chairman of the Clark County Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting Tuesday. Vi Wicks was re-elected vice chairman.

Commissioner committee assignments for 2016 were made and these include: Mental Health - Douglas Loomis; Extension - Richard Reints; Weed and Pest - Violet Wicks; Airport - Robert Bjerke, Loomis and Francis Hass; ICAP - Hass; First District - Reints; Glacial Lakes - Bjerke; Legislative Contact - Wicks.



Usually by January, the Clark County Courier has featured a skating picture taken at the skating rink in town. Temperatures have been so mild this winter that the city has not been able to create ice.

The weather will soon be changing, so look for the skating rink to have skaters before too long. Sunday of this week the high temperature is forecast to be 0°.

January to be January - cold and dry

South Dakotans can expect weather changes this January based on data from the new National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center 30-day outlook.

"The outlook shows January 2016 weather to be different from December in several ways including temperature and precipitation," said Dennis Todey, South Dakota State Climatologist & SDSU Extension Climate Specialist.

Todey explained that the January 2016 outlook shifts the temperature probability slightly, with above average chances for warmer tempera-

tures only in the northern third of the state. "The rest of the state is listed as equal chances for below or above average temperatures," he said, noting that this is a slight shift from previous outlooks which had been very bullish on warmer than average temperatures overall for the whole state and region.

"The shift is likely caused by a couple changes in conditions," Todey said.

With low winter sun angles and shorter days, Todey added that the current snow cover across the state will keep surfaces from warming as readily.

"Northern areas of the state and parts of North Dakota actually have lesser amounts of snow cover allowing them a better opportunity to melt out and warm up in time," he said. "The deeper areas of snow cover will not likely melt off during the month."

Todey said that areas throughout the state and region with lighter snow cover should have a chance of melting out if little additional snow falls.

Cold outbreak
Computer models, although January (continued on page 3)

Grand opening a huge affair - Brown Brothers expanded with advent of Ford cars

Editor's note:

This Brown Brothers story appeared this same week, 21 years ago, 1995, in the Clark County Courier. Of course, all of the senior citizens quoted in this story have long since passed away, but their memories live on and the history that goes with this bears repeating.

The history of the building that now houses the Cagley Smith American Legion Post at Clark had its beginning in 1918.

These two lots had been the location of the Brown Brothers Hardware for many years - possibly the full 37 years that the brothers had been in business in Clark.

Now as World War I started they were commencing to build their new 50 x 100 foot building with full basement and preparing to serve the community not only as hardware dealers, but also as the distributor of the new Ford Motor Co. cars.

Clark County Courier and Pilot Review papers of 1918 and 1919 reported much activity on the part of Brown Brothers (M.R. "Max" and Homer Brown) as they contemplated and prepared for a much larger business operation than in the past.

They first moved the two-story building that had housed their hardware store to the east end of these lots.

Temporarily the building was parked along the



This is what Commercial Street in Clark looked like during the middle of the 20th Century. January is a great time for historical features and this week the story keys on Brown Brothers location whose

store would have been on the far right in the photo, the current home of the Clark American Legion Hall. J. C. Penney and Red Owl also were located there.

north edge of what is today called Flat Iron Park. It was left here until the basement of the new structure was dug and walls poured, plus to the east of the building they poured a drive-in runway to the basement. This was used as an entry to the basement for new and used cars.

Following the completion of the basement and driveway, the old building was set on the east edge of the lot and used as a repair shop.

The new building also featured a balcony at the east end. In advertisements that followed the completion of the building, Brown Brothers issued an invitation to ladies and others to come and relax on the balcony where there were chairs and davenport for their convenience.

Grand opening

The opening of this new modern building was a gala affair. The date of Jan. 29, 1918 was selected for the grand opening and due to the approaching war, Brown Brothers selected the Red Cross to be the beneficiary of this special occasion.

The Browns finished the heat, the building, the electricity and the Red Cross ladies served the supper in the fancy new basement.

The charge was 50 cents per plate for all over six

Grand opening
(continued on page 3)

Good weather, good crops and fun events highlight 2015 - Part II

This recap of the last seven months of 2015 is highlighted by a fall harvest that was good for many area producers. These news stories are not all-inclusive but rather a cross section of 2015 in Clark County.

June

Good Hope Church, oldest operating Lutheran church in Clark County celebrates 125 years of minis-



On July 3 a banquet attended by C.H.S. alumni highlighted the 2015 All School Reunion. Terry Schlager was the emcee for the event.

try with a special service.

Marvelous Marvin - the miracle calf, born at only 30 lbs. at birth, thrives with tender loving care from the Ryan and Heather Helkenn family near Raymond. Their daughter Breanna Helkenn especially enjoys little Marvin who weighs 50 lbs. at 40 days old.

Merlyn Ritter, Tom Wookey, Greg Overby and John Dallman are awarded retirement plaques after many



Several Clark citizens earned awards for preventing a drowning at the Clark pool and saving the life of Seth Tarbox, front, on July 9.

years serving with the Clark Volunteer Fire Department.

Marie Hamann, Roger Chapin, Tami Sundvold and Dean Rasmussen are presented awards at their annual awards night presentation for the Clark Lions Club.

Five Clark-Willow Lake Cyclones place at Class



In mid-September a new ambulance arrived at the Clark County ambulance garage. The new vehicle has a larger transport area and better lighting, as well as four-wheel drive.

A State Track Meet. Mackenzie Huber wins first in discus and shot put, Tyson Jenkins wins first in shot put and fifth in discus, Rawson Yost earns second in 1600 meter run and third in 800 meter run, Noah Huber earns fourth in shot put and Mikayla Prouty wins fourth in 800 meter run and eighth in 3200 meter run. Mackenzie Huber is named outstanding Class 'A' Field Athlete.

Willow Lake hosts 103rd annual alumni banquet with approximately 250 in attendance.

Janet Hurlbert, 2014-15 National Executive Committee Woman and National Security Chairman, Dept. of South Dakota of the American Legion Auxiliary places a wreath at the Black Hills National Cemetery at its service on Memorial Day.

Clark junior Allyson Monson is elected Girls State Governor and takes her oath of office in Vermillion being elected the 69th SD Girls State Governor. 'Don't Dilly Dally - vote for Ally' was her rallying cry.

'If Quilts Could Talk' was the program given by Ruby Pattison and Louise Maeschen at this year's Heritage Day event at the Beauvais Heritage Museum Complex.

Clark Lions Club awards Breanna Helkenn, Tif-

Good weather
(continued on page 10)



If this looks like your tech support, give us a call. We'll get you up to speed!

Vroom
HIGH-SPEED INTERNET
1.800.417.8667