

Irvine businessman asks council to look at license fees

by CATHY DAWES
Estill County Tribune

Debra Rogers, director of the Housing Authority, attended the Irvine Council meeting on Monday night to express her gratitude to the city. Rogers said that Chief Brad Smith along with other officer of the Irvine Police Department had helped her out tremendously in the past month and she appreciated all of their hard work.

She also commended the mayor for serving on the board of the Housing Authority. She stated that she had great residents that appreciate and take care of their homes and that she is proud to live and serve in Irvine.

"Debra does a wonderful job. I have seen her stop on the side of the road to pick up garbage," stated Janice

Bush. Local businessman Skip East asked the council to review the ordinance pertaining to privilege licenses and to consider amending that ordinance. East said that he owns two businesses, one is a car lot and the other is a set of nineteen storage units. He said that he pays \$100 per year for the license for the car lot but has to pay \$200 for the storage units. He said that according to the ordinance there are different rates for what type of business is owned and he feels like \$200 is too high to pay for nineteen storage units. The council agreed to review the ordinance and let East know what they come up with at a later date.

Artie White, of White and Associates, reviewed the audits from 2011-2014 with

council members. White said that the council would notice that some of the findings would be consistent through all four audits. He said that he had outlined a corrective plan of action for those findings and as soon as the city could show documentation to back up those findings they would be in compliance with the state regulations.

White advised the council that when they set a budget for each fiscal year that they cannot go over that budget by one cent unless they formally amend the budget and have it approved by the Department of Local Government. He also said that when money was used from the petty cash fund that receipts for each expenditure had to be documented.

"We aren't here to point

fingers. We are here to help you and make sure you are as prosperous as can be," stated White.

"I'm just tickled to death that we are caught up on the audits," stated Councilman Bryant.

In old business, minutes were read from an emergency meeting that was held by the council earlier in the month. The meeting was to approve a \$100,000 line of credit from Citizens Guaranty Bank to be used as needed by the city. The council also approved Mayor Noland to be authorized to sign on the account.

Chief Brad Smith presented Officer Aaron Curtis with a certificate of appreciation for his hard work and dedication while working for the Irvine Police Department. Curtis is leaving the

force to continue his career in Pulaski County and Smith said that the IPD hated to lose him as an officer because he had played such a huge role in assisting in several drug busts recently. City Attorney Rodney Davis also commended Curtis on his performance and said that he was always well prepared when he was in court.

In 'around the table' discussions Councilman Tim Burkhardt stated that he would like to see a monthly monitoring of expenditures. He said he thought that expenditures should not be paid until the council approved it. He asked Davis's advice on the matter and how the Fiscal Court handles their bill payment each month. Davis replied that the treasurer compiles a list of all expenditures for the

month and provides that at each meeting.

Councilman Bryant said that at one time that's how the council handled the payment of bills but had stopped doing that years ago. City Clerk Robin Powell said that she pays bills every two weeks so it was agreed by the council that they could approve the payment of bills during their bi-weekly meetings and Powell could pay those approved bills on Tuesday morning.

"I would like to see it as a running action on the agenda," stated Burkhardt.

The council adjourned the meeting to go into executive session. Mayor Noland reported on Tuesday morning that no action was taken by the council during the executive session.

Planting "Seeds for Jesus"



Beulah Moore saves seed for next years. The containers of drying seed are lined up on her porch at Wallace Circle.

Continued from Page 1

She deliberately plants the seed thickly. She said the thicker the plants are, the fewer weeds you have. She compared the weeds to the sins in a person's life.

Moore is also a painter. "I think about painting over the sin, and washing it away clean."

Moore, a member of Union City Baptist Church, did go on a mission trip to Mexico last year while she was still having back pain.

She said that seven people went, and seven people got saved. Moore said in the Bible that seven is a complete number.

In Mexico, the group prayed for people as they walked the streets and passed out bulletins for a church. Her testimony was translated to Spanish and copies of it were handed out.

She has written a book about her testimony which is close to completion.

Some of the annuals Moore has planted

include zinnias, marigolds, bachelor buttons, moss roses, and sunflowers.

She also has perennials planted, including roses and mums.

Moore explained the colors of the cross garden will change for the fall season. It has mums and other fall flowers, replacing the summer ones.

Moore has taken advantage of all yard space against the house under the eaves. At the rear, she is growing tomatoes, okra, and cucumbers.

Tomatoes love water, but this year those in the gardens got too much of a good thing. Moore's tomatoes didn't. Because they were under the eaves, she had to water them. But they are some of the nicest, largest tomatoes to be seen.

Moore will give you her testimony if you go visit her, but she'll also give you something else, maybe some flower seed.

"It is far better to give than receive," she stated.



The swamp sunflower grows throughout North America near bogs, ponds, lakes or rivers. Its flowers, which feature bright yellow petals and dark centers, appear in early autumn and draw butterflies, bees, and other nectar feeders. Caterpillars, cutworms and other pests feed on the plant as well.

Source: www.easywildflowers.com, www.finegardening.com

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School Board Meeting

Continued from Page 1

It was noted there was a great difference in how groups had spent their money last year. "This will create a little responsibility on parts of groups, doing that," he added.

The board voted to move to the Upper Kentucky River Region of the Kentucky School Board Association to be with similar districts including Lee and Owsley Counties. Saylor said he believes the driving to meetings would be less as well. "I think it would be a good move for us."

The board took the compensating rate for taxes which basically brings in the same amount of money as last year although it could actually bring in \$20,000 more.

Saylor said the board had taken the 4% increase only twice in the last eight years and showed how much money they might have been getting with a higher rate. However, he noted that in the state of the local economy, a higher rate would not be worth "putting on the back of taxpayers." He added, "Sometimes you've got to do more with less."

He noted the need for new buses; especially a handicapped bus needed now. He also emphasized the aging technology equipment which is eight years old.

Change order payments were approved to Riddell Construction for projects at South Irvine Elementary and Estill County High School.

Saylor noted earlier that they were hoping to get back in the high school gym by November 1.

It was also noted that they hope to have a South Irvine principal by next Friday. A meeting will be held at 4:15 p.m. today, Wednesday, August 26th and will continue on September 2, 3 & 4. A schedule is shown on page 3.

Police Activity Report

An Estill County man faces numerous charges after a traffic stop at the intersection of River Drive and Court Street on August 21.

The driver was arrested and taken to the Estill County Detention Center.

Irvine Officer John Sturniolo charged Albert Kirby, 36, of Overlook Drive, Irvine with driving under the influence, second offense, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, endangering the welfare of a minor, obstructed windshield, and violation of instructional permits.

The officer stated that Kirby's vehicle had a broken windshield. He said that Kirby had an operators permit but no licensed driver was in the vehicle. A three year old child was in the back seat on the passenger side, but the officer said the child was not in restraints.

Marijuana, rolling papers, and a lighter were allegedly found in the man's front, right pocket.

Sturniolo said that Kirby failed field sobriety tests and refused a blood draw.

The child was released to his grandmother. Instead of towing the vehicle, it was released to the family.

Burglary at stables

A burglary was discovered at the White Oak Stables on August 21 and remains under investigation by Deputy Daniel Smith.

The burglary was reported by the operator of the stables, James Wiley.

According to the report, someone pried the stable's front doors apart, reached in and unlocked the dead bolt. Two Tarpin Hill trooper saddles were removed from the tack room. One was black leather and the other was brown leather.

The intruder also entered a horse trailer and took a silver stereo system with speakers.

Missing Person Report

A missing person is being

investigated in the Cob Hill area of Estill County.

On August 17, Paul McDaniel of Stewart Creek Road, Ravenna contacted the sheriff's department after he discovered an outfit of women's clothing.

The clothing was found in a wooded area by a spring. The clothes belonged to a small woman and included black jeans, black and white striped shirt, bra, and a red and black flannel jacket,

A small shack with a mattress was about 25 yards from where the clothing was found.

McDaniel told the deputy that he has never seen anyone in the area, and no one has reason to be back there.

Tire Rims Stolen

A theft was reported Friday, August 14 by Ronnie Fletcher of Garrett Ave., Irvine

Fletcher told Deputy Randy Farthing that four aluminum tire rims valued at \$400 were stolen from his property. The rims were outside the garage.

Animal Damages Car

On Saturday, August 14, Audra Smallwood of Hudson Mill Road, Irvine reported damages to her 2015 Dodge Dart. Deputy Farthing said there was significant damage to the front, both sides of front bumper, and front fenders.

He stated the damages appeared to be from an animal bite. There were numerous holes in the front of the vehicle and several long, white hairs were found in the holes.

Burglary on O'possum

A second degree burglary was reported on August 10 at the residence of Diana Butler on Opossum Run Road.

The report states that someone allegedly entered her house while she was not home and removed items.

Deputy Farthing said that someone illegally entered the home by kicking in the

back door.

He added the house was ransacked and items were thrown everywhere. A window was discovered to have been broken out in the living room also.

Items reportedly missing included radios, TVs, and VCRs.

Break-in of Outbuilding

A third degree burglary was reported on August 8 at the residence of Gene Rawlins on Webb Road.

A stand-up air compressor valued at \$300 was reportedly taken from an outbuilding. The investigation is being conducted by Deputy Farthing.

Business burglarized

A third degree burglary occurred overnight on July 30 and 31 at E-Z Rent to Own/Kentucky Cash Advance on Richmond Road.

The burglary was discovered by employees when they opened the business the following morning.

Sheriff Gary Freeman is conducting the investigation.

The report states that someone forced open a backdoor, which is 10 feet off the ground and has no stairs to access it.

Once inside the intruders took over \$1,500 in cash, two Samsung Galaxy tablets and an I-pad Air.

South Irvine break-in

An outbuilding belonging to Floyd Harrison of South Irvine Road was broken into on July 30.

The report states the break-in occurred while Harrison was away.

Sheriff Gary Freeman said the outbuilding was secured by a locked chain. The intruders cut the chain with a bolt cutter.

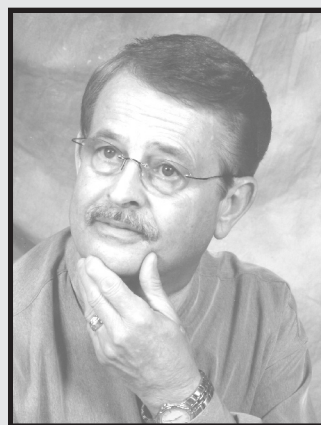
Tools were stolen which included an air compressor, a grass and bush trimmer, and a leaf blower an mulcher.

If you have information on any of these incidents, call 723-2323.



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