

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Utilitarian fashion accessory

4. Engine additive

7. Macaws

8. Listens to

10. Self-righteously moralistic person

12. Made of wood

13. Chinese lute

14. Beginning military rank

16. Indicates near

17. Ties the score

19. Chum

20. Long ago

21. Localities

25. Midway between northeast and east

26. Make fun of

27. Tennis great Arthur

29. Construction location

30. Cow's noise

31. Blue

32. One of the Fab Four

39. Formula 1 team

41. Dash

42. Lifting device

43. Basics

44. Keyboard key

45. Old Irish alphabet

46. Shaking of the Earth's surface

48. Covered stadium

49. Sword handles

50. Longing or yearning

51. Creators' social network

52. Boxing's GOAT

CLUES DOWN

1. Occur

2. Show up

3. Capital of Taiwan

4. Ocean

5. Givers and ____

6. Gets ready

8. Ad ____

9. Fit of irritation

11. Criminal organization

14. Exclamation that denotes disgust

15. American state

18. Sensor hub

19. Before

20. The boundary of a surface

22. Witnesses

23. Singular

24. Type of meal

27. Music awards show

28. Former French coin of low value

29. A bag-like structure in an animal

31. Schenectady County Airport

32. Calm down

33. Partner to cheese

34. Cola brand

35. Stepped on

36. Japanese city

37. Type of coating

38. A citizen of Yemen

39. Popular breakfast item

40. On a line at right angles to a ship's length

44. First responders

47. Short-term memory

Answers on Page A6

Prescott in search of new city clerk

BY ANNE JACKSON

The Sept. 8, 2025, meeting of the Prescott City Council opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

First, the Revenue Neutral meeting was opened.

The issue was should the city remain with the amount of taxes the revenue neutral rate of 17.8 mills would allow for, or should the city accept the proposed tax increase going up to 20.8 mills from the 19.4 mills of last year so that the city would not lose the amount of revenue coming in. Council member Zach Gillis reflected that as a homeowner, the increase would come from a raise in his property taxes. City Treasurer Kathy Wood reminded the council that if

they didn't raise the mills, each coming year would generate even less income for the city.

The motion was made and passed unanimously to accept the proposed change for the increased tax rate.

Then a transition was made to the budget meeting, which had the purpose of asking for public comments on the budget. There were no comments, so a motion was made and passed unanimously to accept the proposed budget.

The regular meeting was then opened and after the minutes and bills were taken care of, Sherri Olson was sworn in as the replacement council member for Ron Roberts.

A Prescott citizen, Brian Bloomfield, asked if the city could trim the tree in the alley behind his garage. He'd like the whole tree taken down, but the arborist he spoke to can do nothing about the limbs hanging over the power lines. Every has rules about such potentially dangerous situations.

An offer has been made for the community building of \$45,000 cash or \$50,000 if the council wants to wait until the first of next year. Council member Fritz Norbury immediately asked if the building could be taken off the market. The rest of the council was in agreement that it now seems like a bad idea to get rid of it, so a motion was passed to take it off the market.

In new business, former Mayor Kevin Wood was asked to come forward and accept a plaque expressing gratitude for the last 16 years of his service as mayor for the city.

The City Superintendent reported work has been done on roads, sewer, fire hydrants, trees, mowing and more.

Clerk Wood said the citywide garage sale will be Sept. 26-27. Then she asked about the Halloween party. It was decided to have the same prizes and candy distribution as last year on Saturday, Oct. 25 at 6:30 in the evening.

Council discussed a replacement for Clerk Wood and a motion was made and passed to take applications for a month so they could be discussed at next month's council meeting.

BUDGET: EXCEEDS RNR

FROM PAGE A3

ty; either way, he said the district is in good shape as it all will mesh with warranty.

A 2010 Ford Fusion with 200,000-plus miles was approved to be placed on surplus.

Substitute pay was increased from \$100 per day to \$120. Epps said area schools are at the \$120 level now.

Greenhouse bids were discussed as the pad is ready. Epps said cost is a factor on what size greenhouse the district builds.

Water in the women's restroom at the football field was mentioned; Epps said he'd get someone to look at it as board members commented its embarrassing for visiting teams to see.

COST: INCREASE ON SOFTWARE

FROM PAGE A3

Walton to sign a required cost share document for KDOT for the high-risk rural road project on County Road 1095.

- Approved an invoice from TerraCon on the berm work for the landfill project at \$7,479.

- Approved the hiring of Mike Nation as equipment operator.

- Opened bids for the on-call engineer for the high-risk rural road project on County Road 1095. Following a review of the bids received Walton recommended the commissioners approve the bid from Pfefferkorn.

- Discussed the cost share application for the paving of a portion of Devlin Road with Walton asking for directives. Hightower stated he was still not in favor of it. Commissioner Alison Hamilton agreed and stated she would rather see funds used for road studies. Later in the meeting Linn County resident Renee Slinkard spoke during public comment, asking commissioners to follow through with the application and then deciding on whether or not to move forward.

- Approved Cheryl Carney and Steve Miller as appointments to the Linn County Planning and Zoning Commission.

- Approved the disbursement of 2025 funds of \$332,000 for the STARS vocational school as were previously approved and budgeted for.

- Approved the budget for the Conservation District.

SIGNAGE: CHANGE EFFECTS SEVERAL INTERSECTIONS

FROM PAGE A3

sultants, Inc., Manhattan, for city facility improvements planning services not to exceed \$11,880.

-The council passed Resolution No. 483 to close Chestnut Street between 4th and 5th streets from noon to 3:30 p.m. Sept. 28 for the United Methodist Church's Back-to-School Bash.

-The council passed Ordinance Nos. 1544 and 1545, both of which can be found in this newspaper's legals section.

-The council okayed pay application No. 3 of \$30,945 to Hodges Farms & Dredging LLC, Lebo, for sewer lagoon desludging, part of the \$6.261 million wastewater rehabilitation project.

-The council approved payment of invoice No. 1 for \$14,102.18 to Midwest Engineering Group, LLC, Iola, for engineering and construction inspection of water treatment plant improvements.

-No public action followed a 15-minute executive session for non-elected personnel employee performance.

-Mathies told city leaders that Austin Jones, part-time police officer, had resigned to devote more time to K-9 duties in Anderson County and that Cameron Patton, a past Prairie Village officer, has been added part-time.

-Mathies reported an "eventful past two weeks" that had included a narcotics stop and a driver under the influence whose blood alcohol level registered 0.258. "We were glad to get him off the road," he said.

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