Classified/Legals

West Branch Times

Legal Notice

2024 RESOLUTION FOR TH DESTRUCTION OF NOXIOUS WEEDS To All Property Owners: BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of

Supervisors of Cedar County, Iowa; this 16TH day of April, 2024, That pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 317, 2016, Code of Iowa, it is hereby

1 That each owner and each person in possession or control of any lands in Cedar County, shall cut, burn, or otherwise destroy all noxious weeds thereon, as defined in this chapter, at such times in each year and in such manner as shall prevent said weeds from blooming or coming to maturity, and shall keep said lands free from such growth of any other weeds as shall render the streets or highways adjoining said land unsafe for public travel. Noxious weeds shall be cut or otherwise destroyed on or before the following dates and as often thereafter as is necessary to prevent seed production. Group 1. May 20 to June 5. 2024, for Leafy Spurge, Perennial Pepper

Grass, Sour Dock, Smooth Dock, Sheep Sorrel, Teasel, Wild Sunflower.
Group 2, June 1-15, 2024, for
Canadian Thistle, Russian Knapweed, Buckhorn, Wild Mustard, Musk Thistle, and Marijuana.

Group 3, July 1-15, 2024, for Field Bindweed, Wild Carrot, European Morning Glory, Buckhorn, and Multiflora

Group 4, July 15-30, 2024, for Nettle, Perennial Sow Thistle, Quack Grass, Butterprint, Puncture Vine, Cocklebur, Shattercane and Bull Thistle. 2. That each owner and each

person in the possession or control of any lands in Cedar County infested with any noxious weeds including Quack Grass, Perennial Sow Thistle, Canadian Thistle, Field Bindweed, Horse Nettle, Leafy Spurge, Perennial Pepper Grass, Russian Knapweed, shall adopt a program of weed destruction, described by the Weed Commissioner, which, in five years may be expected to destroy and will immediately keep under control such infestations of said noxious weeds. 3. That if owners or persons in

assessed against said real estate.

4. That the County Auditor be and is hereby directed to cause notice of the making and entering of the foregoing order by one publication in each of the official newspapers of the county. Board of Supervisors Cedar County, Iowa

County fail to comply with the foregoing orders, the Weed Commissioner shall

cause this to be done and the expense

ing notice or other costs, if any, to be

said work, including costs of serv

Chairperson Cedar County Auditor

Board of Supervisors Cedar County, Iowa

Cedar county payroll

PAY DATE 4/0
VENDOR VENDOR TOTAL Phelps the Uniform Specialists 34.54 Cedar County Treasurer 74,108.45 Cedar County Treasurer 10,254.00 Cedar County Treasurer 530.93 COUNTY TOTAL 86,476.82

Legal Notice

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR CEDAR COUNTY CC West Branch Village Property LLC,

Lori Lynn Greer and Deanna Renae Defendants

CASE NO. SCSC 015583
ORIGINAL NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS

You are notified that on April 11, 2024 an Original Notice and Petition for Disposal of Abandoned Property (Iowa Code Chapter 555B) (Mobile Home and Personal Property in the Vicinity) was filed in the Office of the Clerk of the above-named Court naming you as Defendants in the action, which demands from you the actual costs of that action reasonable attorney fees, and the costs of storage, removal and/or disposal of your mobile home, VIN 22381F; Title No. 16AB31767, parked at your formerly leased space of 115 Hoover Boulevard West Branch, IA 52358. The attorney for the Plaintiff is Jonathon L. Schroeder whose address is 1601 Golden Aspen Drive, Suite 108, Ames, IA 50010. attorney's phone number is (515) 242-8972; facsimile number: (515) 242-8972.

You must appear before the Court to contest this matter at the Cedar County Courthouse located at 400 Cedar Street, Tipton, IA 52772 at 10:00 a.m. on the 8th day of May, 2024. If you do not, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

You are further notified that the above case has been filed in a county that utilizes electronic filing. Please see Iowa Court Rules Chapter 16 for information on electronic filing and Iowa Court Rules Chapter 16, division VI regarding the protection of personal information in

aids or services to participate in court because of a disability, immediately call your district ADA coordinator at (563) 328-4145. (If you are hearing impaired, call Relay lowa TTY at 1-800-735-2942). IMPORTANT: YOU ARE ADVISED TO

PROTECT YOUR INTERESTS WBT 16-17-18

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
PROPOSAL TO DISPOSE OF AN
INTEREST IN REAL PROPERTY GENERALLY REFERRED TO AS AUDITOR'S PARCEL "O", WEST BRANCH, IOWA.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a public hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of West Branch in the Council Chambers in the City Office at 110 N. Poplar Street, at 7:00 o'clock P.M., on Monday, May 6, 2024. Said public hearing shall be to consider disposing of Auditor's Parcel "O", as legally described in Book L at Page 159. Plat Records of Cedar County, Iowa, to BBCO, LLC, subject to reservation of an easement BE FURTHER ADVISED that

sted persons are invited to attend and be heard on the proposal to dispose of the City's interest in the aforementioned Property. Further information on this matter may be obtained by contacting the West Branch City Clerk.

/s/Leslie Brick, City Clerk by Direction of the City Council
WBT 17

Cedar county board BOARD PROCEEDINGS

(FOLLOWING IS A SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES.FULL TEXT OF DAY'S MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AT AUDITOR'S OFFICE OR ON OUR WEBSITE-WWW. CEDARCOUNTY.IOWA.GOV) TIPTON, IOWA April 9, 2024

in regular session at 8:30 a.m. April 9. with following members present Bixler, Gaul, Kaufmann, and Chairperson Bell. Barnhart absent. Members of public were also present. Board viewed correspondence from vari-

Cedar County Board of Supervisors met

ous agencies Manure Management Annual Updates

submitted following Handwritten noted Disbursement issued on 4/4/2024 to Cedar County Treasurer for Benefits, Inc. for an electronic deposit: #438317 for \$4,289.35-self funded medical claims. Moved by Bixler seconded by Gaul to

approve agenda. Ayes: All Absent: Barnhart

Chairperson Bell addressed public for comments. There were none. Moved by Bixler seconded by Gaul to approve Board Minutes of April 2, 2024. Ayes: All

Absent: Barnhart

Abstain: Kaufmann Moved by Kaufmann seconded by Bixler to approve Payroll Disbursements #197054-197199 for period ending

3/30/2024 and to be paid on 4/5/2024 Ayes: All Absent: Barnhart

Moved by Gaul seconded by Bixler to approve a new 12-month Class B retail liquor license with Sunday sales for Zinnia Gas & Grub, LLC DBA TJ's Gas & Grub tentative effective of date

Ayes: All

Absent: Barnhart Board reported on Outreach/Committee Meetings they attended.

Moved by Gaul seconded by Bixler to approve hiring of Danny Meyer, Seasonal Roadside Maintenance with an hour

wage of \$18.00/hour effective 6/3/2024. Ayes: All

Absent: Barnhart At 9:00 County Attorney Blank met with Board to discuss hiring a secretary due to an upcoming retirement. Blank informed Board Shelly Winekauf, Legal Assistant will be retiring on 6/30/2024 and will transition current employee Racheal Lilienthal, Secretary into Legal Assistant

position.

Moved by Kaufmann seconded by Bixler to authorize County Attorney Blank to hire a secretary due to an upcoming retirement.

At 10:00 a.m. Chairperson Bell read legal notice for sale of Pioneer Park. Austin Richards, Norman Bickford, Bruce Bickford, Larry Fobian, Eric Heick, Rick Rouse, Treasurer Delaney, Public Health Director Wagaman, Recorder Bahnsen. Auditor Wiese, Velma Huebner and Conservation Director Dauber were present. Six sealed bids were submitted. bids were opened and read as follows: Bidder - Total Bid

Norman Bickford - \$20,000 Bruce Bickford - \$20,000 Robert & Larry Fobian - \$20,000 Carl Heick - \$500.00 Eric Heick - \$500.00 Austin & Rachel Richards - \$25,003 Voice bidding held, Norman Bickford highest bidder with \$48,000. Moved by Kaufman seconded by Gaul to close public hearing at 10:07 a.m.

Absent: Barnhart Moved by Kaufmann seconded by Bixler to adjourn at 10:07 a.m., to April 16, 2024. Absent: Barnhart

Jon Bell, Chairperson Stephanie Wiese, Auditor WBT 17

West Branch city council

(The following is a synopsis of the min-utes of the West Branch City Council meeting. A video recording is available for inspection at westbranchiowa.org. The minutes are not approved until the next regularly scheduled City Council

West Branch, Iowa; City Council; April Council Chambers; Regular Meeting

Mayor Roger Laughlin called the West

Branch City Council regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Boll call: Council members present: Tom Dean, Jerry Sexton, Mike Horihan and Nick Goodweiler. Councilperson Jodee Stoolman arrived at 7:02 p.m City Staff present: City Administrator Adam Kofoed, City Clerk Leslie Brick Finance Officer Heidi Van Auken, Parks & Recreation Director Erin Laughlin, City Attorney Kevin Olson and City Engineer Dave Schechinger. City Staff attending via Zoom: Library Director Jessie Schafer, public Works Director Matt Goodale and Police Chief Greg Hall APPROVE THE AGENDA

Motion by Dean, second by Goodweiler to approve the agenda. Absent: Stoolman. Motion carried on a voice

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA Approve Minutes from the April 1, 2024 Special City Council meeting.
Approve Minutes from the April 1, 2024 Regular City Council meeting Approve the February 2024 Monthly Financial Report. Approve Claims for April 15, 2024 EXPENDITURES - 4/15/2024 ALATORRE-WINDOW CLEANING-CITY BI DG-81 00 ALLIANT ENERGY-ALLIANT ENERGY-12,037.06 AMAZON.COM-VARIOUS

PURCHASES-406.77 BAKER & TAYLOR-BOOKS-215.82
BARNHART'S CUSTOM SERVICES-TREE REMOVAL-WAPSI CAPITAL ONE-PROG PRIZES & CRAFT SUPP-LIBRARY-51.76

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CEDAR COUNTY RECORDER-CEDAR COUNTY TRANSFER STATION-TRASH DISPOSAL-51.00 FINNEGAN, ANDREW-UNIFORM, BOOTS REIMBURSEMENT-299.94 PAYMENT-1,000.00 HAWKINS-CHEMICALS-3 890 08 HI-LINE-TRACTOR REPAIR PARTS-

KANOPY-ON DEMAND VIDEO SERVICE-69.00

LINN COUNTY R.E.C.-STREET LIGHTS-288.25 LRS HOLDINGS-TRASH & RECYCLING MARCH 2024-18,142.00
MAINSTAY SYSTEMS OF IOWA-VPN SOFTWARE, DRIVES-CITY-475.00 MOPPY MO'S-CLEANING SERVICES-CITY, TH, P&R, LIB-962.50 MPEC-VEHICLE MAINT SUPPLIES-98.36

MUNICIPAL SUPPLY-METERS & RADIOS-22,650.55 OASIS ELECTRIC-REMOTE WATER READER SERVICE-774.34 OLSON, KEVIN D-LEGAL SERVICES-APRIL 2024-1,500.00 OVERDRIVE-DIGITAL & AUDIO BOOKS-72.07 QC ANALYTICAL SERVICES-LAB ANALYSIS-802.00

STANARD & ASSOCIATES-POLICE SELECTION TEST-43.50 STATE HYGIENIC LAB-LAB SUMMIT FIRE PROTECTION-FIRE EXTINGUISHER SERVICE-PD-598.00 THE HOME DEPOT PRO-SOAP, DISPENSER-P&R-30.68

TIPTON CONSERVATIVE-SUBSCRIPTION - LIBRARY-44.00 TYLER TECHNOLOGIES-SOFTWARE SERVICES-TAX, UB-3,635.10 UNIFORM DEN-UNIFORMS-POLICE-1,294.12 VEENSTRA & KIMM-VARIOUS

PROJECTS-28,084.19 WEST BRANCH TIMES-SUBSCRIPTION - CITY-35.00 WEX BANK-VEHICLE FUEL-1,025.30 TOTAL - 114,165.09

PAYROLL-WAGES, TAXES, EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - 4/12/2024 45.783.21 PAID BETWEEN MEETINGS
AMAZON.COM-BOOKS & DVDs-137.01 AT&T MOBILITY-WIRELESS SERVICE-279.06

BAKER & TAYLOR-BOOKS-332 61 JOHNSON CONTROLS-FIRE MONITOR DIALER REPAIR-2,248.84 LEAF CAPITAL FUNDING-COPIER LEASE – LIBRARY-142.02 MPEC-VEHICLE SUPPLIES - PW-37.88

STOREY KENWORTH-LASER HECKS-410.75 TOTAL - 3,588.17 GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURES 163.536.47

FUND TOTALS 001 GENERAL FUND-52,226.93 022 CIVIC CENTER-733.26 031 LIBRARY-8,269.38

110 ROAD USE TAX-4 995 84 TRUST AND AGENCY-5,872.84 321 WIDENING WAPSI CREEK-

324 WW TREATMENT FACILITY-14,445.07 330 EASTSIDE WATER MAIN PH2-

600 WATER FUND-37,814.30 610 SEWER FUND-9,782.29 740 STORM WATER UTILITY-437.44 GRAND FUND TOTAL - 163,536.47 REVENUE-FISCAL YEAR 2024 FUND - FEBRUARY 001 GENERAL FUND-68,591.70 022 CIVIC CENTER-489.92

031 LIBRARY-198.28 036 TORT LIABILITY-92.76 110 ROAD USE TAX-25,838.54 112 TRUST & AGENGY-2,661.35 119 EMERGENCY TAX FUND-49.86

125 TIF-500 07 126 TIF LMI MEADOWS PT 4-1.55 226 DEBT SERVICE-641.23 300 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RESERVE-95.14 600 WATER FUND-54,213.35

29,940.31

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740 STORM WATER UTILITY-5,963.67 TOTAL - 267,835.83 Motion by Dean, second by Sexton to approve the Consent agenda. AYES

Dean, Sexton, Horihan, Goodweiler NAYS: None. Absent: Stoolman. Motion

PRESENTATIONS / communications / open forum
Tim and Becky Wagaman, representing

the West Branch Lions Club addressed the Council with a proposal from the West Branch Lions Club for installing a temporary pickle ball court at Beranek Park. Wagaman asked for permission to paint the existing basketball court for one pickle ball court. In recent years, the pickle ball sport has proved to be quite popular. The Lions Club will pay the entire expense for the painting of the court as well as movable net used for pickle ball. The total cost of the project will be approximately \$7000.00. and if Council approves, the new court would be ready by the end of May. Wagaman said the club is looking into finding a more permanent space for a future legacy project which would include four new pickle ball courts and that Wapsi Park is being considered for their project The Council thanked the Wagaman's and Lions Club for their proposal and gave them permission to proceed with ne installation at Beranek Park. Kara Diemer-Graham, 611 W. Orange Street addressed the Council with her concerns regarding the rezoning request for The Meadows Part 6. Diemer Graham said she had questions on the decision-making process for why two family dwellings were more preferred over affordable single-family homes in West Branch. City Clerk Brick encouraged Ms. Diemer-Graham to attend one or both of the upcoming public hearings at a special Planning & Zoning Commission meeting scheduled for April 22nd and/or the public hearing at ne next City Council meeting on May 6th to share her concerns and have her questions addressed by the Commission

PUBLIC HEARING / NON-CONSENT Public Hearing – Regarding Adoption

of the Final Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2025. Laughlin opened the public hearing at ments. Laughlin closed the public hear

ing at 7:12 p.m. Resolution 2024-30 – Adopting the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2025 (July 1. 2024 – June 30, 2025). / Move to action Kofoed explained the FY25 budget and recapped changes to help maintain fiscal responsibility. Kofoed said the most significant change was to increase police officer salaries to recruit and retain a five-officer department. The end result, is a seventy-one percent increase (or \$314,000) to the police department budget which comes directly from general fund dollars. In order to

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the following budget cuts were made; elimination of the part-time Park & Rec position, elimination of the West Branch Building Incentive program, elimination of one library position, and cutting city staff participation in the Hoover's Hometown Days event planning and overall expense of the event. Kofoed said some of the positive things to come in FY25 will be new employees that will fill former vacancies and the addition of a new full-time Utility Billing. Deputy Clerk position for the City Office Kofoed also mentioned highlights of FY24 which include the city approving plans for a new family dental office and an assisted living center, the completion of the Eastside Water Main Phase project, the completion of the Herbert Hoover Hwy roundabout project (fifty percent funded by Johnson County), implementation of e-bills and automated water meter reading for utility billing, and the near completion of the Wastewater Treatment Facility project. Kofoed also added the Building Inspector Terry Goerdt was named Building Inspector of the Year in January and that KCRG has chosen West Branch to be in the "Our Town" series starting in June.

meet this commitment to public safety,

Motion by Dean, second by Horihan to approve Resolution 2024-30. AYES: Dean, Horihan, Goodweiler, Stoolman Sexton. NAYS: None. Motion carried Resolution 2024-31 – Setting a time and place for a Public Hearing for the purpose of Soliciting Written and Oral comments on the City's Proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Amendment. / Move

The public hearing date is set for May 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Motion by Dean, second by Sexton to approve Resolution 2024-31. AYES: Dean, Sexton, Stoolman, Horihan, Goodweiler. NAYS: None. Motion

Public Hearing - on proposal to enter into a Water Revenue Loan and Disbursement Agreement. Laughlin opened the public hearing at 7:37 p.m. There were no public comments. Laughlin closed the public hear

ing at 7:38 p.m. Resolution 2024-32 - Taking additional action on proposal to enter into a Water Revenue Loan and Disbursement Agreement / Move to action Kofoed said the loan is to fund the Phase 2 Eastside Water Main project and the result will increase water rates an additional eight (8) percent on top of the scheduled two (2) percent increase that will be effective July 1, 2024 Kofoed asked Council members Dean and Stoolman who championed for the Eastside Water Main projects to explain their reasons for supporting them. Dean said when he came on to City Council for a second time, he was notified by Public Works Director Matt Goodale of the failing water mains on the east side of town. Prior Councils had identified

kept getting pushed back. Dean said that along with the failing water mains adequate fire protection was not available to residents living on the eastside which is unacceptable. Stoolman added that some of the fire hydrants were also not operational and should a structure fire occur, the fire department would have to rely on trucking water to the scene. Laughlin added that infrastructure on the eastside hadn't been touched in nearly fifty (50) years and the project was long overdue Motion by Dean, second by Sexton to

approve Resolution 2024-32. AYES: Dean, Sexton, Stoolman, Goodweiler, Horihan. NAYS: None. Motion carried Resolution 2024-33 - Approving Pay Estimate Number 17 in the amount of \$519,910.77 to Boomerang Corp. for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements Project. / Move to action. Schechinger said the project is ninety percent complete and that getting the facility up and running along with final grading would complete the project. Motion by Dean, second by Goodweile to approve Resolution 2024-33. AYES: Dean, Goodweiler, Horihan, Stoolman Sexton. NAYS: None. Motion carried First Reading of Ordinance 813 -Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Branch, lowa, by amending provisions pertaining to Floodplain Management (Chapter 160). / Move to action

Kofoed said he was contacted by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources last year regarding updates required to the Floodplain Management ordinance. Kofoed asked the Council to consider reading the remaining two ordinance readings at the May 6th City Council

Motion by Dean, second by Goodweiler to approve the first reading of Ordinance 813. AYES: Dean, Goodweiler, Horihan, Sexton, Stoolman. NAYS: None. Motion

Resolution 2024-34 - Promoting Andrew Finnegan as the Lead Water / Sewer Operator for the City of West Branch and setting the salary for Fiscal Year 2024/2025. / Move to action Motion by Dean, second by Horihan to approve Resolution 2024-34. AYES: Dean, Horihan, Stoolman, Sexton, Goodweiler. NAYS: None. Motion

Resolution 2024-35 – Intent to dispose of Auditor's Parcel "O" located west of and adjacent to Lot 1, Heritage Hills, West Branch. / Move to action. Olson said the developer of Heritage Hill determined that if the subdivision would be required to maintain the detention basin that will be constructed on this par-cel, he should own it. The resolution will set the date, May 6, 2024 for a public hearing to dispose of the parcel Motion by Sexton, second by Goodweiler to approve Resolution 2024-35. AYES: Sexton, Goodweiler, Dean, Horihan,

SEE LEGALS, P7

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Driveway has an easement for property to the West and shares nance. There is a 26' W x 42' L x12' H walls detached garage with 6" studded walls fully insulated and insulated ceilings which has a heated and air-conditioned office and a workshop or room for your dogs. Also, a 32' x 44' machine shed with electric fence underground for pasture fence. Water tank for pasture with shut off by the well West side of detached garage. 3-year-old oversized septic system and

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416 E 4TH ST, TIPTON, \$69,500

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Putting the 'meal' in mealworm

Autumn Burroughs and daughter Lincoln, 4, of West Liberty take part in the Science Technology Engineering Arts Math challenge Saturday at the Hoover Presidential Library and Museum. As part of the Eco Science Festival, this booth asked participants to build a drink holder for birds and insects out of items that would have otherwise gone into the trash. Other activities included building "bee baths and taste-testing foods made from bugs, like brownies made with cricket flour, Rice Crispie treats with chopped crickets. In some cases, visitors ate farm-raised bugs that were cooked and flavored, like mealworm. Museum Education Specialist Bridget Nash said 'human-grade insects" are glutenfree and high in protein. She said entomophagy - eating insects - is on the rise in the United States. Those who tried the food received a sticker stating that, "I ATE a BUG" at the museum.

Gregory R. Norfleet/West Branch Times

Sinkhole

From Page I

called 911 and stayed outside talking to the girl, who was conscious but upset. Volunteer firefighter and Capt. Clint McFarland drove directly to the scene and pulled the girl out.

Meanwhile, Branch police and fire departments responded to the 911 call with official vehicles and found the girl and McFarland seated on a round picnic table with Schafer standing beside them.

Fire Chief Kevin Stoolman said the girl was soaked from the knees down and a little muddy.

Mayor Roger Laughlin said on Friday that, perhaps, two downspouts depositing rain nearby allowed water to pool and soften the ground rather than run off.

Schafer said she did not have any indication that the ground would give way.

"I had not seen any water pooling in that area before the hole appeared, but it is near a downspout," she said.

Schafer said the Public Works Department fenced off the area right away.



While a 9-year-old girl sits on a picnic table bench with the man who pulled her out, Clint, city police, fire, and public works investigate the area around the sinkhole on April 9. Gregory R. Norfleet/West Branch Times

inspector was contacted and he conducted a thorough review of the foundation and building integrity, confirming no impact to on the building," Schafer wrote in an email to the Times. "Public Works also promptly engaged Lynch's "The city's building Excavation to fill the hole."

The library director said library staff will discuss long-term mitigation plans in the coming week.

"I'd also like to thank the quick response by our first responders and Public Works team during the incident! It all happened very fast," she wrote.

At the April 15 City

Council meeting, Ken Ingalls, who identified himself as a former West Liberty golf coach and retired teacher, appeared to ask if the sinkhole had been filled in.

"As a former teacher, I know kids are really curious. They want to go see High School Golf Coaches Association Hall of Famer said.

He said he heard that the girl fell in headfirst and that there was water

at the bottom. "Maybe she would have been very seriously hurt," Ingalls said. "If it would hope the city would consider filling that in. I would really appreciate it."

When this reporter stopped by the WBPL on April 17 the hole appeared about a foot to 18 inches deep and three feet across. However, muddy water at the bottom of the hole made measuring its depth difficult.

Mayor Roger Laughlin stopped by the library on Friday to pick up a book and stopped to talk to the Times about the sinkhole.

Lynch's was on the scene with a small power shovel to dig up soft ground to be refilled and compacted.

Laughlin noted that the library was built on the site of the former junior high school which burned down in 1978. Laughlin said the building's remains were pushed into the basement and covered in dirt. After a fundraising campaign, the new library was built in 1993.

Laughlin said that, perhaps, the ground under the new library was not compacted very well.

The compressors sit on a concrete slab, which did not collapse, but the ground fell away from the how deep that is," the Iowa hasn't been filled in yet, I corner of the slab.



More than a week after the sinkhole was discovered, this picture shows the site on April 17. Water in the bottom of the hole made it difficult to measure the depth, but the hole is about three feet wide. Gregory R. Norfleet/West Branch Times



Mayor Roger Laughlin (center) helps Lynch's Excavation workers move a picnic table on Friday as Lynch's digs up the soft ground before refilling the hole and compacting it. Gregory R. Norfleet/West Branch Times

Golf

From Page 8

18-hole tournament. Olivia Thomas had a solid round with a steady 53-53 106, while Julia Herring shot a 55-56 113. McKenna Worrell carded a 57-58 115, while Adelyn Hetrick fired a 72-79 151. Joella Haas rounded out the West Branch field with an 83-78 161.

"Getting their first 18-hole tournament under their belts was so important for us as a team," O'Neil said. "There's a new learning curve with course management, staying focused and building stamina. The wind was brutal out there and it was cold. They all handled themselves well."

The Bears would stay busy in the coming days, starting with an April 22

home dual against Tipton followed by a tournament at Saddleback Ridge Golf Course in Solon the following morning. The coach said she hopes the golfers came away from the hectic stretch with a better knowledge of areas to focus on in practice and an idea of how to "put together 18 holes of golf." Team

scores: Williamsburg 376 2. Mid-Prairie 379 3. Tipton 396 4.

Wilton 404 5. Keokuk 417 5. West Branch 419 6. West Liberty 428 7. Durant 454.

Medalist play: Claire Jarrett (WB) 85; Jaisel Bott (WILL) 87; Paycee Sorgenfrey (TIP) 91; Gabi Robertson (MP) 91; Madi Davidson (MP) 91; Sydney Stutzel (TIP) 92; Imogen Jirak (WILT) 94; Ava Barrett (WILT) 94; Heidi Rose (KEO) 96; Jenna Yeearian (WILL) 97.

West Branch scores: Claire Jarrett 46-39 85; Olivia Thomas 53-53 106; Julia Herring 55-56 113; McKenna Worrell 57-58 115; Adelyn Hetrick 72-79 151; Joelle Haas 83-78 161.

West Branch 213, Tipton 179

The Bears hosted Tipton at Cedars Edge on Monday and the visiting Tigers earned the win, 179-213. Team scores: 1. Tipton 179 2. West Branch 213.

West Branch scores: Claire Jarrett 43; McKenna Worrell 49; Olivia Thomas 60; Adelyn Hetrick 61; Joelle Haas 67.

Tipton scores: Paycee Sorgenfrey 36 (medalist); Sydney Stutzel 42 (runnerup medalist); Kennedy Crist 46; Gwen VanScoy 55; Izzy Gama 60; Shelby Klabo 66.

LEGALS

Stoolman. NAYS: None. Motion carried Resolution 2024-36 - Support of the application of BBCO, LLC for funding via the Workforce Housing Tax Credit Program and pledging city monies for the same. / Move to action. Olson said that this resolution supports

Phase 3 of the Heritage Hill subdivision and reminded the Council that per the Development Agreement with BBCO LLC., the more tax credits the developer receives, the less the city has to pay the developer in TIF dollars. Motion by Dean, second by Sexton to approve Resolution 2024-36. AYES: Dean, Sexton, Horihan, Goodweiler, Stoolman. NAYS: None. Motion carried

Resolution 2024-37 - Regarding a

Residential Stormwater Appeal from the

Property Owner of 212 W. Main Street. / Move to action. City Administrator Kofoed excused himself from this portion of the meeting stat-ing a conflict of interest. Kofoed's family owned the property prior to Mr. Bickford purchasing it in 2023. Bickford asked the Council to approve his appeal of the

City Administrator's decision to uphold the city's stormwater requirement and the residential site plan review process Bickford stated that the requirement to provide additional stormwater mitigation on the property would add unexpected additional expenses for the development of his property. Bickford also said that in late September, the city informed him that he would be required to combine the property from 5 small lots into one (or two) legal lots (per Chapter 165) in order to develop on the R-2 zoned property

Bickford said he said he was not aware of the requirement when he purchased the property which also was an added

City Engineer Schechinger explained the SUDAS requirements (that the City follows) with regard to stormwater and its mitigation. Schechinger and Bickford's engineer (MMS Consultants) both agreed that storm water mitigation would be required. Schechinger said he approved the site plan submitted for the project in October 2023 with those certain stormwater mitigation conditions. Bickford argued that his property was being singled out for excessive stormwater requirements and that adjacent properties push water onto the property adding to his issues. He also argued that other properties in some of the new subdivisions haven't had to have this

type of mitigation required. Schechinger stated that all new subdivisions also must adhere to strict storm water requirements through the platting process and provide storm water detention. Schechinger added that all building permits for new construction (adding a structure to vacant lot), must go through the residential site plan process before a building permit will be issued. The council discussed and determined that all proper procedures were followed by the engineer and city staff. Motion by Sexton, second by Goodweiler to deny Bickford's appeal. AYES: Sexton, Goodweiler, Dean, Stoolman, Horihan. NAYS: None. Motion carried Discussion – Lee Cassabaum property discussion Olson asked the Council for permis-

sion to have the property in question

to be appraised and an offer made to Cassabaum and then he can decide the next steps. Kofoed said Cassabaum recently requested a shed in the right of way be taken down and new shed rebuilt on his property. Kofoed said the property is in the floodway and rebuilding would not be allowed. This has been a long-standing issue between the property owner and the city so Horihan asked that the city have an honest negotiation with Cassabaum and a firm follow hrough to resolve the issue once and for all. The council directed Olson to proceed with the appraisal.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT - No.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT – No report CITY ENGINEER REPORT – No report STAFF REPORTS - City Clerk Brick stated the she and Van Auken would be

out of the office Tuesday through Friday attending training. COMments from mayor and council mem-

Stoolman asked what the process was for dirt settling issues on the Eastside Water Main project (phase 1). Schechinger said that there is a two-year maintenance bond on the project and any issues need to be reported to City Administrator and him to have the issues addressed. adiournment

Motion to adjourn by Dean, second by Sexton. Motion carried on a voice vote. City Council meeting adjourned

> Roger Laughlin, Mayor ATTEST: Leslie Brick, City Clerk