Jackley Warns of Scams Targeting Green Dot MoneyPak Card Users

PIERRE — Attorney General Marty Jackley is warning South Dakota consumers of the scams surrounding the use of Green Dot MoneyPak cards. The Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division has received numerous calls from consumers who have been targeted by this scam.

Green Dot MoneyPak cards themselves are legitimate products when used for the intended purpose. The intended use allows consumers to reload MoneyPaks to other prepaid cards, add money to a PayPal account without using a bank account, or make sameday payments to major companies. Because the cards can only be bought with cash, consumers never need to disclose their personal or financial information to a retail cashier or to make a payment.

The traditional wire transfer scam involves crooks asking for funds to be wired directly to them, but the MoneyPaks scam has the added benefit of the crooks not having to show up at an office to claim the funds. Anyone with the 14-digit number found on the back of the card can drain the card of funds.

The scam works in many ways including phone calls implying that consumers are behind on a bill or someone

posing as an IRS agent collecting on back taxes that must be paid immediately. The scam has mostly surfaced as the age old scheme promising a winning sweepstakes and in order to claim the prize money must be added to the card. In all instances the intended victims are instructed to buy a Green Dot MoneyPak card, load the amount requested and then provide the number on the back of the card to the scammers, who will then take the money from the card.

Tips to help prevent being scammed include:

 Be suspicious of callers who demand immediate payment for ny reason.

 Remember that anyone who has the number on a Green Dot MoneyPak card has access to the funds on the card

Never give out personal or financial information to anyone who

emails or calls you unsolicited.
• Never wire money, provide debit or credit card numbers or Green Dot MoneyPak card numbers to someone you do not know.

 Utility companies and government agencies will not contact you demanding immediate payment via MoneyPak

If you have been a victim of one of these scams or need any additional information contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division at 1-800-300-1986 or consumerhelp@state.sd.us.

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deeply subsidized rental housing.

"There is a very good likelihood that you're going to lose some of that subsidized housing in the next few years as contracts are fulfilled and they'll have the ability to opt out of their subsidy program," Knudson said. "Twenty-four units are likely to convert out of the subsidy program next year. and 48 possibly a couple years later. That would be a big reduction in your subsidized stock.

The report recommends that the city attempt to add 155 to 195 rental units in the next five years.

"That would largely be based on growth, but it would also be based on an unmet need right now in the form of waiting lists or low vacancy rates in certain sectors of housing," Knudson said.

Meanwhile, the study found that the home ownership rate in Yankton has remained stable during the last decade, with more growth in home owners than in renters.

It projects an annual

demand for 40-50 home ownership units in an average year for Yankton and the surrounding rural area.

"This average has not generally been achieved over the last five to six years — although I would say that in 2013 you probably came close to being in that range," Knudson said.

Demand will mostly be in the moderate to high price ranges. Houses on the lower end of the spectrum will be difficult to build without some proactive community involvement to provide incentives in that market.

Currently, there are approximately 90 potential lots and 212 potential acres within city limits for singlefamily construction efforts. However, not all of that space may actually be available for development from its owners, the report said.

While the commission had a series of questions about aspects of the study. there were no suggestions that would require major changes. Once local stakeholders

have a chance to go through the approximately 200-page document and offer input, Knudson said he doesn't expect it will take long to finalize.

In other business Monday, the commission voted unanimously to transfer 1.75 acres of property it owns to Yankton Area Progressive Growth so it can be sold to Costello Properties to build a 30-unit subsidized apartment complex. The parcel is located in the northwest corner of Fox

West City Limits Road. Costello has offered \$64,795 for the property, slightly less than the listed price of \$76,230.

Run north of 30th Street and

between Adkins Drive and

Commissioner Charlie Gross questioned if the lower price was reasonable based on market activity, and the consensus was that it was not out of line - especially in light of the fact that the city has not had an offer on the property during the couple decades it has owned the land.

The proposed 30-unit structure is half of what Costello had talked about as a possibility during an earlier appearance before the City Commission. However, a second phase could be added in the future if needed.

The company still needs to attain state housing pro-

gram funding to move forward with the project, and if that is unsuccessful, the proposal includes a buyback provision for the city.

Also Monday, the commission:

• was told that City Attorney David Hosmer will resign from his position at the end of the year. He said he is leaving the law profession in order to become a financial planner. Ross Den Herder will serve as the interim attorney and the position will be advertised;

• learned that Jim Snook of the Parks and Recreation Department was chosen as the city's employee of the

• accepted a \$30,537 bid for a fire alarm system in City Hall; and

• agreed to partner with the Sertoma Youth Baseball group on a batting cage project in Sertoma Park.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/.

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were not an appropriate issue for the school board.

"I'm concerned this kind

of thing puts us in the area of politics where we really shouldn't be," he said. **Board member Matt Pietz**

agreed, adding that the resolution could also be seen as involvement with special interest groups, which would violate the board's code of ethics.

Also at Monday's meeting, the school board:

 heard a report from YHS activities director Ryan Mors on proposals involving modifications to the football conference and realignments of region play in volleyball and basketball. Mors said several proposals have been discussed, but none have been met with enough support at this time:

 heard a report from Tiffany Kashus, drug and alcohol counselor at Lewis and Clark Behavioral Health, on her involvement with programming at YHS and Yankton Middle School.

You can follow Derek Bartos on Twitter at twitter.com/d_bartos/. Discuss this story at www.yank-

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iewelry, blankets, toys, movies and games.

"Our bedroom is so full, (last week) my husband said, We have to do something about this," Hudson said with a laugh. "And I told him, 'Just one more week."

Friday's "free shopping" event will be held from 3-6 p.m. at the Riverview Reformed Church at 17th and Burleigh, Children ages 3-10 years old are invited to attend and collect one gift for each family member in their households.

Hudson said parents and guardians can expect the average child to spend approximately 30 minutes shopping, which includes getting the gifts wrapped. Coffee and cookies will be available for those who are waiting. No preregistration is required.

Hudson added that the store was originally targeted for the needy, but it is now open to anyone so that all children can have the chance to get into the holiday spirit.

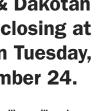
"A lot of these kids haven't ever shopped by themselves before," she said. "And they don't care what things cost — they just like to give. You can't beat that."

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YOUR NEWS! The Press & Dakotan

Christmas Deadlines

The Yankton Daily **Press & Dakotan** will be closing at noon on Tuesday, December 24.



The following deadlines will apply:

Thursday, December 26 newspaper - Friday, December 20, 5 p.m. Friday, December 27 newspaper - Monday, December 23, 5 p.m. Saturday, December 28 newspaper - Tuesday, December 24, noon Monday, December 30 newspaper - Tuesday, December 24, noon



There will be no newspaper on Wednesday, December 25, 2013

Enjoy short early morning hours! Monday-Saturday. Ability to work with little supervision and provide prompt, efficient service a must!

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Press&Dakotan

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5 to 9pm

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC Wednesday & Sunday

5-7pm Cooks Choice Thursday

5-7pm – Domestic Beers **\$1.50** 5-7pm - Hamburger/ Pizza Burger & Fries \$5.00

> Friday **BBQ Ribs**

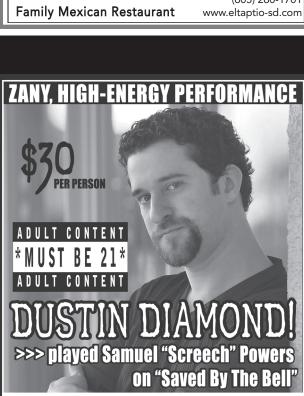
Serving 5:30-8:00 Saturday

Entertainment Clay Creek Deaf **Cowboy Band**

Regular Menu 5:30-8

Bingo Wed. at 7:00pm Sunday at 6:30pm Happy Hour M-F

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