



Mostly Sunny

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TUESDAY ■ June 16, 2015



P&D STAFF  
REFLECTS  
ON WAYC  
EXPERIENCE

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# YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN



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75¢



## Upgrades Are On Yankton's Radar

BY ROB NIELSEN  
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June 2015 is only half over, but the City of Yankton is already thinking about its expenditures over the next few years.

Monday marked the year's second Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan meeting, and city manager Amy Nelson said it helped to give department heads and the City Commission some focus moving forward.

"I think we have a good plan for our capital improvements plan for 2016," Nelson said. "A lot of the projects are going to have major visual change."

A couple of the biggest items the commissioners felt strongly about moving forward on were two key street projects, according to Nelson.

"It appears that the commission has decided to move ahead with north Douglas (Ave.) from Anna to 31st St., and also the 15th St. project, which will be later next year as well," she said. "From both public safety and development standpoints, those projects have been a long time in the making."

The Douglas project is budgeted at \$1,680,000 and would encompass improvements to Douglas Ave. from Anna St. to 31st St.

The 15th St. project includes two phases and would include improvements to the road between Dakota St. and West City Limits Road in phase one (\$880,000) and phase two between West City Limits Rd. and Summit Ave. (\$1,374,000).

Nelson said there's a number of reasons why they want to move forward with both projects.

"For Douglas, it's public

MEETING | PAGE 11

# School Board Weighs Crane, Williams Plans



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Chuck Turner, director of grounds and buildings for the Yankton School District, discusses the turf options for Crane Youngworth Field and Williams Field during Monday night's Yankton School Board meeting.

## Public Input Will Be Sought For Possible Options

BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN

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Research continues on the Crane Youngworth/Williams Field project discussed at the Yankton School Board meeting held Monday night.

In May 2014, it became clear that a decision had to be made about the future of the 90-year-old Crane Youngworth stadium. After an engineering analysis to establish the structural stability of the grandstand was made mid-March, options moved forward.

The study gave the field a five-year window to make renovations or the structure would become unusable altogether. The school board can either decide to renovate Crane Youngworth Field or demolish the old facilities and renovate Williams Field, located net to the high school to accommodate football and soccer.

In light of Monday's meeting, the board has given approval for Superintendent, Dr. Wayne Kindle to hold community meetings to outline the details of both plans.

Along with the meetings, community members will have the opportunity to take part in surveys. These will outline a few questions about the major issues concerning the project, such as keeping and maintaining a grass field or upgrading to the new synthetic turf field, parking concerns, priority renovations and, of course, the decision of whether to stay with the Crane Youngworth Field or move to Williams Field.

"We will have two separate meetings," Kindler said. "One will be to have a presentation over

SCHOOL | PAGE 11

# Update Provided On Delmont Recovery Efforts

From P&D Staff Reports

DELMONT — The South Dakota Department of Public Safety, on behalf of Delmont city officials, is sending out an update on Delmont tornado recovery efforts.

The following announcements have been made:

- New hours have started for the Donations Warehouse located at the Delmont American Legion Hall. Hours are 1-5 p.m. Monday, 5-8 p.m.

Tuesday and 1-5 p.m. Saturday.

Items needed are bath towels, wash cloths, dish towels, Band-Aids, new small kitchen appliances, new pillows, bed-sized quilts and adult men's blue jeans.

- Residents in Douglas or Charles Mix counties who sustained damage from the May 10 tornado can complete a case management application for unmet needs. This will allow for assistance with resources and funding to help residents in the repair, rebuild and replacement

of items lost during the storm.

Applications can be picked up at the Delmont City Hall. Completed applications can be returned to Delmont City Hall in a sealed envelope. Deadline for applications is July 15, 2015. Any questions, call (605) 212-9605.

- Groups or organizations doing fundraisers for Delmont are asked to contact Donna Brenner (605) 779-6661 or Russ Dozark (605) 680-3699.

# Fires Under Investigation

Former Yankton Trailer Court Sees Its Third Fire In A Month

BY ROB NIELSEN  
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One month, almost to the day, after firefighters responded to a suspicious double-fire at the Circle C Trailer Court, firefighters were again summoned to Circle C around 2:31 a.m. Sunday morning for a fire in an unoccupied trailer.

Yankton Fire Department deputy chief Larry Nickles told the *Press & Dakotan* the trailer was not occupied at the time.

"A passerby noticed there was a fire on the interior of the trailer," he said. "He immediately called the fire department. When we arrived on scene, we found fire coming from the middle of the trailer. The trailer was unoccupied. There was no furniture or anything in it as the trailer was scheduled to be moved out."

On May 15, the department responded to a fire in a shed full of newspapers on the Circle C property. While on the scene, firefighters discovered a second trailer on fire, unrelated to the initial incident. Both fires were extinguished with no injuries reported.

Lt. Todd Brandt of the Yankton Police Department characterized the fires as suspicious and has been actively investigating all three.

"They've been uninhabited and they haven't had any power running to them," Brandt told the *Press & Dakotan*. "That makes the source of the fire of concern for us, so we're currently investigating the cause of the fire(s)."



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

A fire this past weekend at an abandoned trailer in Yankton's Circle C Trailer Court was the third such fire in the last four weeks. Police are investigating the matter.

Brandt said the investigation is ongoing.

"We're currently evaluating certain items that we've collected and some other forensic testing is being done at

this time," he said.

He added that extra patrols have been added in the Circle C area.

"Anytime we have suspicious fires like that, we like to step up the patrols in the area," he said.

The third fire comes on the heels of the closure of a trailer court that has faced numerous citations in the past over various health and safety issues. The Yankton City Commission voted 8-1 in January to deny the park's license renewal due to conditions that included trash on lots, improperly maintained water and sewage services and delinquency in paying bills.

Yankton City Manager Amy Nelson told the *Press & Dakotan* that the property is now under new ownership.

"First Dakota (National Bank) has now taken over ownership of that property," Nelson said. "They've informed us that they are going to be working on removing trailers, so they're lining up contractors to remove the trailers."

Nelson said trailer removal will help.

"I believe that's going to help keep things like vandalism — if these are in fact fires started by people — to a minimum or keep it from happening."

She added that the park has been vacated for a few weeks.

Anyone with information on the fires is encouraged to call Crime Stoppers at 665-4440 or the Yankton Police Department at 668-5210.

Follow @RobNielsenPandD on Twitter.



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**TOMORROW: Local Officials Assess Archery Tournament**

YANKTON RECYCLING FOR THIS WEEK

**SOUTH**  
OF 15TH STREET