

Public Hearing To Be Held On Hall County Adult Businesses

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. — Public business discussed by Hall County officials on Wednesday could get racy.

The county's regional planning commission will hold a public hearing and make a recommendation Wednesday night on changes that could lead to an increase in the number of adult entertainment businesses in the county.

The *Grand Island Independent* reports that one proposal would open zoning for strip clubs, cabarets, pornographic book and video stores and other X-rated ventures from the current 300 acres to 8,650 acres.

The proposed changes come amid a pending federal lawsuit against the county by Lincoln businessman Shane Harrington. Harrington, who wants to open a strip club in Hall County, says in the lawsuit that Hall County zoning is too restrictive in the amount of space set aside for adult entertainment.

MMC

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Long says that in the next five to seven years, school officials would love to see that number realized.

"That is a significant increase from where we are, but we are starting from a lower point than we were a few years ago," Long said. "I think we need to make up for some of the ground that we have lost and move ahead."

Previous administration has done some analysis that focused on the college's capacity. Although the college advertises its small size, its facilities are prepared to hold a lot more students.

"Easily we could have 650 undergraduate students," Long said. "We are a little over 400 now."

The college has had serious conversations with a couple of enrollment management firms about how to incorporate those qualities into more enrollment numbers, Long said. Administrators are also working with a marketing firm to better enhance their message and their mission.

Long says it is too soon to tell what these changes will mean for the school as they are still in the early stages of discussion. But he is optimistic that those plans should be coming together rather quickly.

"We want to make sure that Mount Marty is communicating effectively with those prospective students and their families," Long said. "But broader than that, we want donors, alumni and people in the Yankton community to know what we are about, what we are doing and how it benefits them."

To that end, the school has introduced some improvements. For example, a new enrollment management system has been put in place that enables admissions to keep better track of the communications between students.

MMC has a team of recruiters that travel across the Midwest and beyond to high school college fairs. The goal is to follow up with prospective students as much as possible and address the questions recruitment officers get on a daily basis.

Mount Marty also holds several of its own college visit days every year to give prospective students a chance to explore that personal attention that a small college like Mount Marty offers.

"We want them to spend time talking with admissions, financial aid and professors in areas they might be interested in," Long said. "Some will thrive in this environ-

ment, and others won't. We really want to make sure this is the right place for that student.

Long recently attended a college fair in Vermillion to emphasize how the small, supportive environment of Mount Marty can be a great place to learn a profession.

"While I was there, I talked to some nursing students," Long said. "If you're a prospective nursing student, why wouldn't you come here? We have a fantastic nursing program, right next to a fantastic hospital."

While at least one-third of Mount Marty graduates are involved in nursing, another popular major is education. Yankton School District provides those same neighboring benefits for prospective teachers.

The business program is the third largest major for Mount Marty students. Onward Yankton winner Jacob Fokken's plan involves taking advantage of the downtown area to rehabilitate student experience.

Long says the school is enthusiastic about working out some of the details of the Onward Yankton plans and incorporating some business incubator programs.

"In the coming weeks, we will have conversations as to what that will look like from a community prospective and also utilizing the resources we have here," Long said. "Figuring out how our faculty can interface with what may be happening in the community is really important for us."

The future of Mount Marty will also bring some changes to the campus to further entice incoming undergraduates.

Long confirms plans to build a field house for student athletes and intramural participants. Approximately 50 percent of Mount Marty students are involved in intercollegiate athletics and other extracurricular sports.

"That is certainly on top of our fundraising agenda," Long said. "That is something that prospective students very much want."

Another priority is the continued renovation of the nursing complex. But Long emphasizes that the goal is to improve more facilities that can address student wants and needs.

"I think it is really a new time with the Onward Yankton competition and what Yankton is thinking about in the future," Long said. "I, as Mount Marty's president, want to make sure that we are seated right in the middle of that conversation because as Yankton grows, Mount Marty grows."

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Shooting

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a timeline for them leading up to the events prior to the use of force and them being notified."

Sara Rabern, public information officer for the South Dakota State Attorney General's office, told the *Press & Dakotan* that DCI has been utilized as an independent resource for departments across the state since 2003.

"(Investigators) go back and map the entire scene," Rabern said. "They interview the witnesses, the officer and any eyewitnesses there may have been."

She added information is gathered on what led to the use of deadly force, and toxicology screens are performed on both the suspect and the officer involved."

Rabern said DCI also investigates incidents involving sheriff's departments and the South Dakota Highway Patrol. Federal agencies operating within the state operate on their own protocol. Another assisting agency can be brought in should a DCI officer be involved in an incident, but Rabern said no such instance has occurred since the protocol was implemented.

Paulsen said there are a number of events that take place in the immediate aftermath of an incident, such as what occurred in Yankton last month.

"We immediately remove the officer from the scene and bring them back to the

office and we have an officer with them — whether it's an administrative or supervisory role — somebody stays with that officer until the Division of Criminal Investigations responds," he said. "Then they basically take over the investigation. They interview and go through the entire process with the officer — what's going to be happening and how they're going to be handling the investigation. On the back side of that, as a city, we supply them and everybody involved with our 'Critical Incident Stress Management' (CISM) program that's in the state."

He added that Yankton has its own CISM team, but due to the Sept. 1 incident involving a YPD officer, a debriefing team from Watertown was utilized.

"In this case, we did two," he said. "We waited for DCI to conduct all of their interviews and then we had a second one. We invited everybody that was involved or was assisting us — the South Dakota Highway Patrol; Game Fish & Parks; the Yankton County Sheriff's Office as well as our own staff here, including our dispatchers."

Paulsen said the length of an investigation depends on many factors.

"It's not a cookie cutter," he said. "There are just so many variables. Obviously, the more witnesses you have or the more people involved, it takes longer. With our incident, I think that they did it quickly but thoroughly. We didn't have a lot of witnesses

or outside influences that we had to follow up on.... It was a busy time in the state. Two days later, Mitchell experienced (a similar incident) and then Lawrence County, as well. The month of September was busy for DCI."

Rabern said this year has seen six total investigations so far while 2014 saw four total.

DCI's final report was released Oct. 1, finding Foote justified in the shooting.

"It is my conclusion ... that Officer Jason Foote was justified in firing his weapon and using lethal force," Attorney General Marty Jackley wrote in a press release. "I would like to thank the Yankton Police Department and the Officer for their service and complete cooperation in this investigation."

But even with the end of the investigation, Paulsen said there are always lingering effects to such incidents and that resources have been and will be made available to all those involved.

"We used the CISM debriefing," he said. "We also have an employee assistance program (EAP). We'll monitor all of our squad that was on that night, including Sgt. Foote.... I realize that a year from now, Sept. 1, 2016, or even 2017, we'll be monitoring our staff to see how they're acting on an anniversary date, because those things seem to reoccur or arise later on in the process."

He said EAP contact information was distributed to everyone within the department shortly after the

incident.

As for Sgt. Foote, Paulsen said they've been easing him back to patrol duty.

"We set some time aside for him to decompress," he said. "Then we slowly brought him back in and he was doing some desk duty — basically doing a lot of work in our agency that needed to be done. We found things for him to do to keep him busy so he wasn't worried."

He added that it also served as an opportunity to make sure that they could properly equip Foote as he went back on patrol.

"His uniform is taken as part of the evidence, including his gun and everything else," Paulsen said. "The administrative duty desk leave gives us the opportunity to repurchase that equipment."

Foote was scheduled to return to full street duty today (Thursday).

Paulsen said he was also happy about the community's support throughout the process.

"The community support has been outstanding," he said. "You often wonder how a community will react when you have an officer-involved shooting. Social media, calls, cards, gifts, food that's been supplied over the last 30 days has just been tremendous. It's good for the officers to see that, because a lot of times, the officers get caught up in this (belief) that we're only dealing with the negative aspects of the job, and it's really a positive attribute to the community when you see that response back."

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Library

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body," said Raymond.

She can use the club to add credibility to her age.

"When anyone asks how old I am, I can tell if they believe me or not," said Raymond. "They might just think I'm confused."

Raymond hasn't let aging give her an excuse to slow down. When not exercising, she solves crossword puzzles in the newspaper, sews cotton dishcloths or plays Scrabble on her iPad.

According to Raymond, the secret to staying sharp is to "keep your mind busy the same as your body."

"I am a strong believer of therapy, physically and mentally," she said.

"I realize I am very fortunate to continue as I am," she added. "I think I'm doing pretty good."

Raymond has spent a majority of her life as a teacher. She earned her teaching certificate when she was 18 and taught in country schools for many years. She recently wrote an essay on her country school experiences for a

book titled "Wind Chargers and Syrup Dinner Pails: Tales From The Good Old Days in Southern South Dakota."

She eventually obtained a degree in elementary education and taught junior high English in Gregory.

She retired from teaching when she reached 70 years of age.

However, even in retirement Raymond didn't slow down. She continued to teach by tutoring elementary-aged kids, predominantly in math and English, for 18 years until she moved to Majestic Bluffs.

Raymond greatly enjoyed teaching and tutoring.

"I had to build up their confidence because some of them were held back when they couldn't pass a class, so they thought they were stupid," she said. "I showed them that if they tried hard and kept at it, they could do almost anything."

Even now, Raymond occasionally helps tutor care center workers' children.

"I encourage them to read. Once they find a book they like, they are eager to read more," she said.

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