

School from 1A

“The City of Florence has been great to work with. We were aiming for spring break, but I don’t know if that is going to happen.”

Angal anticipates four of the five classrooms will be utilized initially with room for up to 84 children.

“Our director of facilities, Bob Archer, is overseeing the specifications. The facility is currently on target for opening in late August 2015,” Angal said.

During the November meeting, the board authorized the district to implement a self-operation food service program that would place the responsibility of developing, preparing and serving all meals served in district schools under the control of the school district. Angal reported that a job description

for food service director was developed and posted.

“We received many applicants,” Angal said. “Recently interviews were conducted and we hope to have a food service director hired shortly. We would like to see the director on board sometime in March.”

Current kitchen staff will need to go through a formal interview process with the school district because they all are employees of Chartwells Food Service, the district’s terminated food service company. The contract with Chartwells ends in June.

Angal said the district has a surplus from its current food service program that must be expended in the next two years. She expects to have a self-sustaining school lunch program at that time.

Maintaining a balanced budget was another area Angal addressed.

“I joined the school district in January 2009. We were in a blood bath of cutting staff and programs in response to the diminished support from the state and the recession,” Angal said. “It was painful. We don’t ever want to be in that position again. So the board goals for the budget are to preserve an 8 percent ending fund balance every year.”

During Wednesday’s board meeting, Angal told the school board that based on predictions from the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators and the Oregon School Boards Association, she did not expect reductions in state funding for the next biennium. This means that with the existing budget the goal of an eight percent ending fund balance should be achieved.

“It’s the board’s way of being fiscally prudent and to avoid falling off the edge of a

financial cliff should one appear,” she said.

Sharing information with parents and the community also was on the agenda. Angal said she had held two brown bag lunches for the community, but they were poorly attended.

“I need to look for a different venue,” she said. “Parents are busy people and I think the best way to get parents into school is not for the superintendent to meet to talk with them, but to have an event where they can bring their children in and then interact with them and their children.”

Angal suggested having a family Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) night. She said there is a semi-truck loaded with STEAM-focused activities that can be brought to the school for a family STEAM night for children and their parents.

“I think the best way to

involve parents in participating in the school are concerts, science project displays, that sort of thing,” she said.

Currently, Angal plans to meet with community organizations like Rotary, Florence Area Community Coalition and

City Club to tell the school district’s story and allow people to ask questions.

Open forum community breakfasts are another option she is exploring.

“I want to be approachable,” Angal said.

Council from 1A

According to Burke, the city can order the tank pumped and bill the homeowner for the cost.

“The city has to enforce its codes and this would be code,” Burke said.

The city is not responsible to police failed or broken septic tanks. That would be a county issue, Burke said. The city would report these violations to the county.

Councilor Jamie Mills asked about changes of ownership and compliance.

“We are dealing with a maintenance program, not septic safety”, Burke said. “That issue is handled through the sale process of the house. It would be mentioned in the lien search.”

Councilor Mills recommended that the Dunes City attorney review and approve the proposed revised ordinance

before initiating public hearings.

Council members acknowledged the hard work of the planning commission and the CAC in bringing the proposed ordinance to the board.

“I believe this is one of the most thought out, comprehensive and fair ordinances that I have seen since I’ve been here in Dunes City,” said councilor Sheldon Meyer.

Councilor Maurice Sanders added, “This was a really well-done process.”

The council voted unanimously to accept the planning commission’s consultant recommendation to move forward with the ordinance process.

In other business, Dunes City Administrator Fred Hilden reported that the city has applied for a rural community grant from the Ford Family Foundation to cover 75 percent of the cost of installing an emergency backup generator.

The generator would be used

in case of emergencies, such as tsunami or other natural disasters, to power the city hall building.

Dunes City Hall is the designated emergency center for the community.

The cost of acquiring and installing the 20-kilowatt generator and building a covered

storage area is estimated at \$20,000. The city is requesting \$15,000 in grant funds and proposes to provide \$3,800 from city funds and \$1,200 from volunteer labor and equipment.

According to Hilden, the final decision by the Ford Family Foundation should be made within 60 days.

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