

City grants PrineTIME Internet a franchise agreement 'Our goal is to saturate the town'

By David Sykes

to local residents.

PrineTIME has been operating in Heppner for several years, however the franchise agreement will now allow the company to string cable and install equipment in the city's right of ways, such as on utility poles in the city limits. "We will be offering faster service in the future for existing PrineTIME customers," said Ed Howard of Prine-TIME. He said his company will also be installing additional equipment on the hill outside town to give better wireless service to customers. "Our goal is to saturate the town," he said.

In compensation for the franchise agreement PrineTIME will provide free internet service to city hall, public works build-St, the city water reservoirs, prove feasible. PrineTIME is headprovides wireless internet connections to tower locations around Oregon, including Prineville, Redmond, Bend, Terrebonne, Powell Butte, Tumalo, Sisters, Heppner, Lexington and Ione.

The Heppner City cooped up she said. JoAnna Jones to place a 27 X 48-Council last week voted to Lamb an increase for her foot manufactured home on give PrineTIME Internet chickens from four current a lot at 220 Willow Street. the right to construct fiber birds to 10. She did not in- The reason a variance was optic equipment and string tend to use it as a business needed is because the lot cables in the city in order but to supply her family and is zoned commercial. The to provide internet service neighbors and friends with structure will meet all the fresh eggs. Zabrena Mas- required setback and other terson for two sheep for her 4-H project for fair. She will keep the sheep from May to the middle of August. The approved an application Worden family for chickens and sheep. The sheep are for 4-H fair. The chickens will be shown at fair but rage with a restroom on also for collecting eggs for the family, they said.

> In other business, the city purchased a prebuilt restroom to be placed in the lot next to the Post Office. It will give restroom facilities for people who use the utilize a vacant lot that is vendors that sell food on a adjacent to their home. regular basis at the lot.

a new camera and sound system for use during council meetings in order to better use the Zoom remote meeting platform. The new system will make a better ings, the city park on Main experience for people who are part of the meeting another request for latex the fire hall, Hager Park and remotely during the Corothe sewer plant. City Man- navirus distancing rules He also said during March ager Kraig Cutsforth said which discourage citizens the department responded in Southern Indiana from he had originally wanted from attending meetings in to one motor vehicle acci- 1999-2010. Zody says he managers as well as col- ter Gardening Program the company to provide person. The Howard and dent, one vegetation fire in has quite a bit of experiwireless access on all of Beth Bryant Foundation Ione, secured the helicop- ence in rural areas, having to implement policies and has two dogs, Baby and Main Street, but that did not paid for \$500 of the \$1,000 ter landing zone 12 times, worked as a regional plan- develop improvements. The PeeWee. "I absolutely love cost of the system. Cutsforth told the counquartered in Prineville and cil the windmill construction company is buying about 250,000 - 300,000 gallons of water a month from the city for their project. He said it was double what was originally anticipated, but it was a good deal since the city has the water In other business at and is able to make some In other recent business following animal permits: the city planning commis-Tylynn Cimmiyotti for five sion on April 6 approved

to 10 chickens. They will be a variance to allow Teresa conditions the planning commission ruled.

> The commission also from John and Shelley Wight of Heppner for a variance to construct a gaa lot 480 S Main St. The structure will meet the setback requirements. The Wights plan on merging the tax lot with the one next to it. Approving the variance allowed the Wights to

In other business the The city also purchased council received a report from Fire Chief Steve Rhea who said the department had received 120 N-95 masks, 24 aprons and nine sets of face shields from the State Fire Marshal's office. He said he put in gloves in various sizes. had one chimney fire, one propane leak at the St Patrick's Apartments, a motor home fire in Lexington and responded to one hay fire. Rhea said the department also installed 10 smoke detectors in two homes in the district prior to the Covid-19 distancing policy going into effect. There are still four homes requesting smoke detectors, but they have postponed installation under the current situation.

Cody High seeks county treasurer position

Cody High

surer will be responsible for

over 100 different funds

with revenue surpassing

90 million dollars in the

coming year. The current

treasurer also volunteers to

be the custodian of funds

for many of the taxing dis-

tricts in the county to limit

administrative costs and

allow those tax dollars to be

spent on the work of each

that he will continue to do

so if he is elected as Mor-

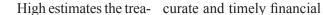
current chair of the Morrow

of, and I'm skilled in, ac-

row County Treasurer.

Cody High is seeking the position of Morrow County Treasurer in the upcoming election. High lives in Heppner with his wife and three daughters and is currently the assistant manager of Bucknum's. He encourages residents to vote for him with his tagline, Honesty-Integrity-Independent. He describes the treasurer as the custodian of the citizens of Morrow County's tax dollars.

During a discussion with current treasurer, Gayle Gutierrez, regarding her withdrawal from the election, the conflicts with the Board of Commissioners and the salary for the position being reduced by up to 75 percent, he decided to seek the position. He said there is a need for the next county treasurer to be someone willing to work with the commissioners and other department heads but who would continue to conduct the duties as an independent elected officer and a past mayor, city counnot be afraid to fight back cilor, and budget member when requested to perform of the City of Heppner I integrity and professionalactions which might violate understand the importance ism that has been set by our an ORS.

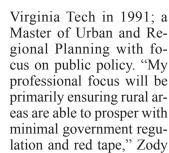


County hires new Community Development Director

By David Sykes

Morrow County recently hired a new Community Development Director whose job will be to supervise economic development programs throughout the county.

Gregg Zody comes to Morrow County from Bedford County, Virginia where he was most recently director of Community Development there from 2014 to present. Zody's other job experiences include working as director of planning in Orange County Virginia from 2011 to 2014 and working as a senior planner ner in two of the most rural regions in Virginia.



told the Gazette-Times. His other duties may include organizational work in grant writing, code enforcement and website administration. He will perform a variety of complex, technical and strategic functions including input for business and strategic Zody earned his Master planning, setting goals for Gardener certificate from individuals and department the Virginia Extension Maslaborating with colleagues in 2018. He is single and position calls for him to rural Oregon, especially provide direct supervision the great folks in Morfor the economic develop- row County and Heppner ment programs through- who have made me feel so out the county including welcome and part of the the Planning Department, community," Zody said. Public Transportation (The He is making his home in Loop), and the Morrow Heppner.



Gregg Zody

On a personal level

tracking. In my current profession as assistant manager of Bucknum's, I am responsible for helping track and record employee time sheets and schedules and the revenues and expenditures of the business. I am also responsible for keeping track of rising costs to keep our products both affordable and profitable."

Cody continued,

"Our County is growing, thanks in large part to the amazing work the Port of Morrow is doing. During the COVID-19 crisis our communities are banding together and showing why there is no better place to live than Morrow County. This current pandemic may result in a slight decrease in state funding this year district. He told the Gazette but our community spirit and the hard work done at the port will undoubtedly bring more businesses and High noted, "As the revenue to our county in the near future. If I am elected, County Fair Board and as I will continue to serve the people of Morrow County with the same degree of current County Treasurer."

last Monday's meeting, income off the sale. the council granted the

Goats discussed at Lexington council meeting

council meeting the Lexington council members heard a complaint from a resident regarding a neighbor who has goats on their property. According to the letter received from Kevin and Lori McCabe, the resident at 145 E East St is keeping nine goats in a space approximately 500 square feet in size. According to McCabe's letter, he estimates the space is 44,500 square feet short for the required livestock densities.

Kevin McCabe, who attended the meeting, told the council that the Lexington ordinance 03-08, Article 3.22(1)(b) states goats are considered livestock and if over the age of six months, there should not exceed one for each 5,000 square feet

mentioned references limitations on use in the farm residential zones. The lot in question is in a residential The small city allotment, zone and livestock is not Morrow County grant and mentioned in the development code.

Members of the council attempted to address his concerns and Mayor Juli Kennedy agreed to talk with the owner of the goats but pointed out to McCabe that without police coverage for the town there is no way to enforce ordinance violations. Although the owner of the goats was invited to attend the meeting, she did not.

council discussed the upcoming budget for the next fiscal year. Council member Bobbi Gordon reported that dance was limited.

At last week's town of lot area. The ordinance the budget committee met on Monday, April 13 and plans to meet again May 11 to finalize the budget. WCVEDG grant were some of the grants they are hoping to receive. The council also discussed a tax levy that will expire at the end of 2020 and getting another on the ballot in November.

Fire Chief Charlie Sumner reported that the fire hydrants were all flushed on Saturday with the assistance of Scott Lamb, Reid Miller and Wayne Gordon. They plan to implement a schedule for flushing the In other business, the system twice a year.

> Due to the limits on gathering of more than 10 people, the meeting atten-

Zody's education includes an undergraduate degree from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1989 with a B.S. in Urban Studies and Planning and a graduate degree from County Fair.

No new COVID-19 cases reported in county

agement, Morrow County have been tested. had no new COVID-19 cases reported last week. As currently reports that Uma- Health reminds everyone of Monday, April 20, public tilla County has 27 posi- that the best way to protect health has reported there are tive cases with no deaths. yourself and your loved still only five positive cases Benton/Franklin Counties ones is to wash your hands in Morrow County. All five in Washington (Tri-Cities) frequently, stay home and previously reported patients have reported 669 cas- reduce travel. Stay Home,

According to Morrow The report also stated that deaths. In Oregon, there are County Emergency Man- 75 persons in the county 1,910 positive cases and 74

The State of Oregon are at home and recovering. es of COVID-19 with 37 Save Lives.

deaths.

Morrow County Public

