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MES Principal makes request for speed radar sign at council meeting

By Myrna Trauntvein

Times-News Correspondent

Mary Wohlforth, principal of Mona Elementary, would like to have a speed radar sign placed in Mona at 960 South.

Jonathan Jones, council member, was serving as mayor pro tempore in the absence of Greg Newton, mayor.

He welcomed Wohlforth and invited her to present her plan.

Wohlforth said she was there to meet with Mona City council members to make the request to allow a speed radar sign to be placed along Main Street/Old Highway 91.

"I asked Lynn Ingram (city planning commission chairman) to help me with this project," said Wohlforth.

The school district has agreed to purchase the radar speed sign, she said.

A radar speed sign is an interactive sign, generally constructed of a series of LEDs, that displays vehicle speed as motorists approach. The purpose of radar speed signs is to slow cars down by making drivers aware when they are driving at speeds above the posted limits.

The signs will have the needed electricity supplied by solar units.

"The county will do the installation and placement of the sign," she said.

The county road department will also supply, place and paint other signs such as "speed reduced ahead" signs.

Elementary students in the community who live on the west side of the community and those on the far north must cross busy highways to get to school.

In addition, she said, many young students now live south and west of the school in subdivisions.

The new speed radar sign would be of a great benefit to those students who are walking and must cross Old Highway 91 in order to get to school.

Other students north of the school are taking advantage of another crossing that is already established.

"Most kids are crossing at 300 South," said Wohlforth.

Would a pedestrian flag crossing program be good for students to use to help drivers become more aware that caution was needed because children were crossing the street?

Ingram said that flags had proven not to work.

Carrying a flag puts the responsibility on the pedestrian to be seen, rather than on the driver to watch for people crossing.

Other cities have found flag-crossing programs costly and largely ineffective. Similar programs have been piloted in places like Salt Lake City with less than stellar results.

In addition to being ineffective, there was also a frequent theft of the flags.

"Little people do not understand the flags," said Wohl-



SPEED RADAR SIGN NEEDED TO SLOW TRAFFIC • Mary Wohlforth, principal of Mona Elementary, would like to have a speed radar sign placed in Mona at 960 South to slow traffic on Highway 91 South of Mona. Above, this radar speed sign is located East of Mona and flashes "SLOW DOWN" if approaching traffic is above the speed limit as shown in the inset photo.

Mona City approves new ordinance concerning group homes and residential facilities

By Myrna Trauntvein

Times-News Correspondent

It took two motions to pass the new ordinance concerning group homes and residential facilities.

The first motion passed, as proposed by Jeff Hearty, council member, was for a word change as part of the ordinance. It was proposed that all of the homes and centers be required to be in the commercial area of the city and that they not be allowed in residential areas.

"We would rather not have them just anywhere in the city," agreed Jonathan Jones, mayor pro tempore for the evening, acting in the absence of Greg Newton, mayor.

"Kasey Wright, city attorney, responded to my text and said that we cannot limit these facilities to a commercial area," said Hearty. "So I will have to make another motion to pass the ordinance as written."

The second motion was also approved unanimously.

Wright said that the ordinance was written with state and federal law requirements included.

By state and federal law a facility for the developmentally disabled cannot be limited to certain areas but needs to follow federal and state statutes and regulations.

For example, even though each of the group home facilities is too large to be a "single family" home under a zoning

ordinance, state and federal housing laws will override the local zoning restriction.

The same laws govern homes that provide care for the elderly. The term "assisted living" describes a wide range of facilities that provide some type of long-term care to older or disabled persons who can no longer live independently.

Residential Facilities for Troubled Youth are protected by law as long as the facility has a state license.

Under the federal Fair Housing Act and the state guidelines that go with that, a group home is categorized as a residential facility for the disabled and they all are allowed to move into neighborhoods.

"I would also like to see us require a bond," said Hearty.

However, further communication from Wright indicated that could not be a requirement either.

"I also think we need to beef up the clause dealing with insurance," said Hearty.

Hearty said that they could change the insurance clause later and go ahead and adopt the ordinance as written.

The wording in the ordinance is left as: "Residential Care/Treatment Facility, when not used in specific context in relations to a particular type of facility, a Residential Care/Treatment Facility shall include a Residential Care Facility for Elderly Persons, a Resi-

See **Group Homes** on page 5

Municipalities will meet to prioritize wish list for CIB funds

By Myrna Trauntvein

Times-News Correspondent

All of the communities in Juab County have been contacted concerning what plans the leadership of those communities thinks should be on the front burner to obtain CIB funds.

A meeting will now be held with all the jurisdiction representatives in attendance. That meeting will take place in commission chambers on March 6 at 6 p.m.

That date is the date of commission meeting which is held at 10 a.m.

Travis Kyhl, Six County AOG Deputy Executive Director/Regional Planner, Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED), said he was attending commission meeting to give an update on the jurisdictional CIB visits he had made.

Rick Carlton, commission chairman, asked how the final choices of projects will be made.

"At the meeting in March, you could invite the various jurisdictions and, for the one year plan, you could let each of those jurisdictions vote for the top priorities on the lists."

If each were give one vote,

he said, then the consolidated list would just reflect what each city wanted and the vote would be meaningless.

"Or you, as commissioners, could prioritize the lists and consolidate them," said Kyhl.

"We represent the people," said Byron Woodland, commissioner.

He said he did not think that allowing each of the cities three votes would be the best way to handle the selection. He thought it would be better for the commission to make the final decision.

"We do represent the people, and I support what Commissioner Woodland said," Carlton

said.

Clinton Painter, commissioner, said he agreed and thought it was a good idea to have the commission make the final decisions.

The county will also prioritize a three item list of county needs.

Brent Boswell, County Economic Development Director, said he had accompanied Kyhl on three of his municipal visits. He had already talked with the leadership of the other two communities.

See **CIB Funds** on page 5



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