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PCM EXPLORER

Alleger back as PC mayor

City looking to fill city administrator, utility billing clerk rolls



File Photo

Chad Alleger, left, is back as Prairie City's mayor after former mayor Eric Imerman resigned from the position Nov. 9. Alleger, who served in the position for eight years before choosing not to run in 2021, will fill the seat through 2023.

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After less than a year out of the position, Chad Alleger is back as Prairie City's mayor. Following the resignation of former mayor Eric Imerman prior to the Nov. 9 city council meeting, the council looked to make an appoint-

ment to the position rather than hold a special election and unanimously selected Alleger at a special Nov. 22 meeting. "I was asked by several residents if I would consider coming back. I talked it over with my family and they were on board," Alleger said. "I look forward to helping the city get back on track."

Two candidates put their name in for the position: Alleger and Joel Overton. Overton recently moved to Prairie City but grew up in Monroe going to the PCM School District before spending some time away from the area.

PC MAYOR • 3

Carpenter to take time away from supervisors

Recently re-elected board member sites health concerns after a fall in October

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As the Jasper County Board of Supervisors meeting was wrapping up Nov. 22, board chair Brandon Talsma gave an update of recently re-elected board member Denny Carpenter. Carpenter, who was not present at the meeting, will be taking time away from the board due to health concerns.



Carpenter

"Denny, due to some health concerns has decided to kind of step, not attend board meetings, Zoom or anything, for about 45 days until after the holidays," Talsma said. "He is going to concentrate getting his strength and health back."

In October, Carpenter suffered a fall that currently has him seeking recovery treatment at Newton Village. The 82-year old has served on the board for four terms, looking to start his fifth next year.

To fill in while Carpenter is absent, Talsma and board member Doug Cupples will attend outside board meetings that they are not appointed to.

"I'm alternate on one of them so I will start going," Talsma said.

After his fall when speaking with the Newton News, Carpenter said he does not foresee his health conditions getting the way of his duties as an incumbent supervisor.

"I'm going to get better. Better and better. Day by day, in every way, I'm going to get better and better," Carpenter said after the fall. "We have certain things in life we don't plan on. And I didn't plan on this. I'm going to deal with it and get back on the road. That's what I'm gonna do."

Earthwork bid for Liberty Ave project awarded

Project came in more than \$200,000 under estimate

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A bid for the earthwork portion of the new yard and engineer's office came in more than \$200,000 under estimate, county engineer Mike Frietsch told the Jasper County Board of Supervisors. McAninch Corporation from Des Moines submitted the low bid which was approved by

the board during the regular Tuesday meeting. "We received nine bids on this site earthwork package. Our department did an awesome job getting the plans put together, surveying it, advertising," Frietsch said. The bids ranged from McAninch at \$185, 791 to the high bid at \$525,440 for work consisting of stripping and stockpiling

topsoil onsite, Class 10 excavation for subgrade preparation, providing, installing, and maintaining various erosion and sediment control measures, and associated construction layout and mobilization for Phase 1 of the proposed Liberty Avenue Secondary Roads Yard. "They submitted everything, they actually want

to start a week ahead of schedule, next Monday, and it is all cleared with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources," Frietsch said. "They want to get this thing wrapped up and done and get out of there." With such a low bid, the board had a few questions for the county engineer

EARTHWORK • 3

Strong finish for Valle Drive-In

Storm damage delayed opening for local attraction

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It was a full house for opening weekend at the Valle Drive-In theater with people celebrating the attraction finally opening its doors after storm damage delayed the season. Hundreds of people came out for the three months the drive-in showed films, making the abbreviated year a success. "The first weekend) went really well. There was lots of excitement and a full house," owner Jeff Namminga said. The outdoor theater opened to the

public the week of Aug. 5 with summer blockbuster "Top Gun: Maverick" showing along with the timely "Twister" feature following. Only those who purchased tickets ahead of time got it as the drive-in was sold out for the first few nights. "It was a long spring and summer waiting for the repairs to get wrapped up but it was great to have people back out at the theater," Namminga said. The drive-in received substantial damage during the march storm that

VALLE • 3



Jamee A. Pierson/PCM Explorer

A new marquee greets those out to see a movie at Valle Drive-In. The theater was damaged during March storms delaying the opening until August.

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