

Lisbon Schools happy with redesign of CTE wing

Emergent will take to stakeholders for input once more

By Nathan Countryman
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Members of the Lisbon School board are encouraging Emergent to move forward with meetings with stakeholders on the redesign of the career and technical education wing of the building following a facility meeting discussion Tuesday, Dec. 20.

A majority of the board highlighted a preference for option 1 of the proposed new weight room, a design that would include a hallway connecting the new room to the lobby outside the district office.

"I think if the only access to the weight room would be from outside or through the Lion's Den gymnasium, it would add to a number of

distractions if the gym was in use," said board member John Prasil. "I understand we just redid the district office in the last remodel, but putting the hallway in helps mitigate distractions."

Superintendent Autumn Pino agreed, noting the number of assemblies that are held in the gymnasium that would be disrupted by gym classes or athletes heading to the weight room through the Lion's den.

"It's a short-term inconvenience to revamp the flow of district office for this new hallway for a good long-term decision," Pino said.

The board also liked option 1 because it didn't impact parking.

Prasil said he wasn't sure the extra square footage of wrap around to the L shape of the building was needed, noting that if the district were to expand to the south in a future addition, that portion of the weight room would most like-

ly be removed.

"If we do add on somewhere in the future, the south side might be a good place to go to house more classrooms," Prasil said.

Pino said the decision by Emergent was made to make the addition more pleasing to the eye for those who drive by on Business 30.

The board was also highly in favor of relocating the concession stand, noting that the move made sense and would allow the district to close off portions of the building when only events are happening.

When it came to the development of the science classrooms and career and technical education courses to the east, the board was also in favor.

The middle school science classroom received some discussion.

The new classroom would allow students to do more labs in their own classroom and

collaborate with adjacent science teachers.

Pino said that while the classroom and space for the CTE wood shop and metal shop looks small on the designs provided by Emergent, it is far larger than the space Wischmeyer currently has and gives the program room to grow.

The other points of discussion got to the utilities adjacent to the space that might be impacted in construction, including the known grease trap and boiler. The district is currently investigating funding streams that might be used to remove the boiler as part of the construction process as the project will be in that area already.

When it came to the gymnasium floor and turf portions of the project, the district is also going to look to bid those projects as add-ons and potentially bid those items separately if bids do not come in favorably.

Mallie noted that the district had completed the press box and concession stand projects on their own with the help of local volunteers, as opposed to bidding them as part of the original project and saved money on those additions.

The district was not concerned with adding additional storage with the project, as the weight room moving from the old gymnasium will open up potential athletic storage opportunities.

Pino also recommended the board check with Iowa Construction Aided Drafting to get a better cost analysis on the projects outside of Emergent's numbers.

The board said they would be happy with Emergent continuing discussions with stakeholders again, but not to have the plan changed this time as drastically as it was previously.

Council tables action on blinds for city hall

By Nathan Countryman
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The Lisbon city council tabled any action on window tints or shades at Lisbon City Hall until reviewing more of the city budget.

Council member Mike Williams had sought out quotes for blinds or other treatments to the windows after witnessing the glare that can come during the winter months.

City administrator Brandon Siggins said during certain times of day, glare can lead to it being hard to see anyone approaching city hall.

Adding to the glare issue is the installation of COVID shields to help protect city employees.

Council member Nathan Smith balked at the price point of \$5,000 for tints to the windows or for blinds.

"I'd hate to spend \$5,000 for us to address an issue that's only around for people for maybe two days every few years," Smith said.

Another issue was the amount of heat that might be missed from use of any solar shade, especially during the winter months.

The Lisbon City council set Jan. 9, 2023, as a date for public hearings on the ATV/UTV and golf cart ordinances in the city of Lisbon. The ordinances are being changed to address language changes made at the state level.

First budget presentations made

The first budget presentations by groups were made at the Dec. 12 Lisbon City Council meeting.

The Lisbon Library was for roughly the same amount as this fiscal year, with a proposed \$360 increase overall. The budget did seek an increase for salaries of staff, but that increase was offset by reducing the building maintenance fund by roughly \$10,000 this year, as the major repairs to the west wall have been completed.

The cemetery budget had a \$19,000 minor equipment request for a new GIS program at the cemetery. That funding will come out of Local Option Sales and Service tax revenues. A slight increase for grounds maintenance to cover increased mowing expenses was proposed in the budget as well, which made most of the \$53,000 budget for the service. Council asked about the trees along the cemetery suggested by Faye Alger. City administrator Brandon Siggins said he will ask the tree board to come up with suggestions and present them at a coming budget session for the city.

On economic development, Joe Jennison with Mount Vernon-Lisbon Community Development Group requested \$6,000, no change from his budget over the last several years. There is also \$5,000 in Business Enhancement Lisbon grant program that is offered annually from the fund, comprising an \$11,000 investment.

The tree maintenance budget was reduced this year, due to the ash trees currently in the community all looking healthy according to public works director Travis Bagby. The community lost a significant amount of ash trees following the derecho, going from 105 to roughly 20 that still exist in the road right of ways. The city is applying for a Trees Forever grant to plant more trees again this year, and knows that there is a chance more trees will be impacted with the upcoming water main project.

The Mount Vernon-Lisbon Police Department budget is proposing a three percent increase this year and next year. That will help the department cover the increased costs of salaries for officers. Police chief Doug Shannon explained that he was looking to keep the rates fair and consistent for the City of Lisbon. That increase amounts roughly \$10,000 more than the current budget.

Clarification

Land owner Shane Amundson was not reached for comment in the story about his property that was in discussion in front of the Mount Vernon Historic Preservation Commission ("New building application denied in Ash Park historic District" that was published in the Dec. 15 Mount Vernon-Lisbon Sun).

"By not reaching me for comment, it became a very one-sided story," Amundson said. "It may have impacted my ability to sell this particular lot."

Amundson takes issue with the Mount Vernon Historic Preservation Commission's statements they are pro allowing new homes while denying the plan he and a developer proposed for an affordable duplex because

it didn't meet design standards for the district, highlighting another house constructed in the same district in 2011 that doesn't conform to those standards.

"It's hypocrisy," Amundson said. "The commission says they want to support low to moderate income housing and then deny a plan for a home of that nature. They want that housing, just not in their backyard."

Amundson says the lack of affordable housing in this community has failed a younger population by pricing them out of the market.

Amundson will be on the Jan. 4 Mount Vernon City Council agenda to discuss his issues further with the council.

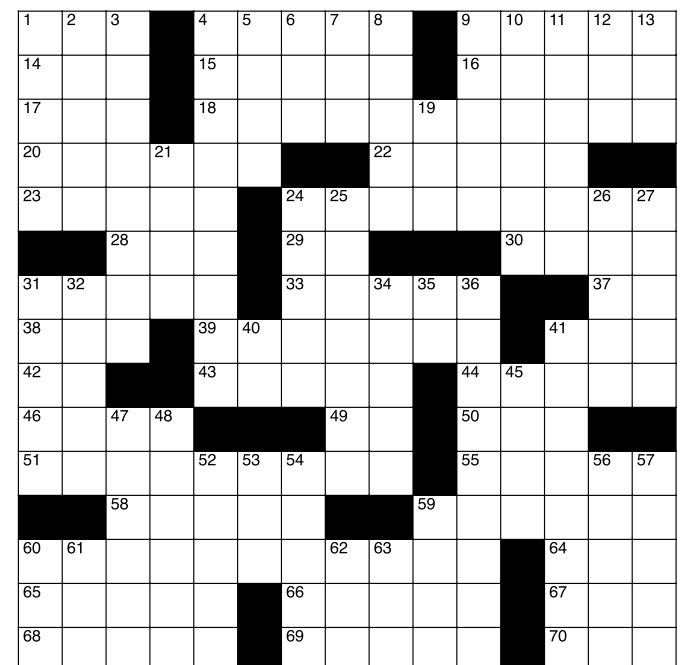
Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

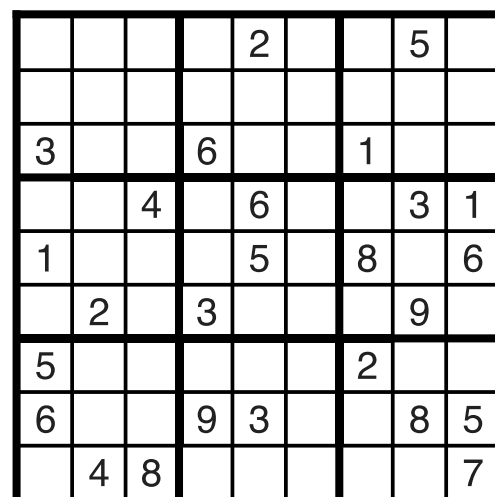
- Product or ___ (abbr.)
- Zodiac sign
- S. China seaport
- Former OSS
- Early English printer
- Aphid genus
- General's assistant (abbr.)
- Aussies
- Dissuades
- Make law
- Drench
- Soak in a liquid
- Male child
- It cools your home
- Small constellation
- To call (archaic)
- Explores beneath the Earth
- Commercial
- W. hemisphere organization
- You can find it in a can
- 'Land of the free'
- 36 inches
- Footwear
- Challenges
- They hold things together
- Of I
- Partner to flow
- Not connected by kinship
- Worries
- Garlic mayonnaise
- A way to take by force
- Legendary English rockers
- Your consciousness of your own identity
- Fencing swords
- Silly
- Actor DiCaprio
- Encircles with a belt
- Mails a message
- Longing

CLUES DOWN

- Horse mackerels
- It can be viral



- Prickly plants
- Consciousness
- Type of sarcoma
- Tax collector
- Sun up in New York
- One who scorches
- Influential psychotherapist
- Situated at an apex
- Communicative
- Forearm nerve
- Former CIA
- Folk singer DiFranco
- Employee stock ownership plan
- Judge
- Large-scale
- School environment
- Remove
- Male parents
- Large rodent
- Weighed down
- Held tightly
- ___ route: going there
- Explains again
- Exclamation of surprise
- Courteously
- Lying down
- Forcefully took
- Loosely compacted sediment
- High mountain
- Portable conical tents
- Cereal grass
- Dining utensil
- Thoughtful
- Helps you walk
- Indicates near
- Midway between northeast and east
- Local area network



Level: Intermediate

Sudoku

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

