

By Jan Schultz

The Imperial Republican

Action by the city council Monday continued the process of moving a 1.92 acre lot into the city limits and also changed its zoning.

Steve and Deborah Schilke attended the meeting, during which a pair of public hearings preceded the council's yes vote changing the zoning on Lot 2 from agriculture to highway commercial (C-1), on which their Broken Arrow Cellars winery will be located.

The future business is on land the Schilkes own at the northwest corner of the city, west of Titan Machinery.

The Schilkes had requested that the lot on which the building and adjoining parking lot will sit be annexed. Lot 1, on which the grapevines are located, and Lot 3, a small piece of ground south of the building, will continue to be zoned agricultural.

The Planning Commission had given unanimous support to the zoning change, as well, at its May 28 meeting, also held as a public hearing.

Only first reading was held on the annexation ordinance regarding the Schilkes' pro-perty, because law requires it to be read at three separate meetings.

On that schedule, the annexation could be finalized at the council's July 1 meeting.

The area being annexed will be known as Broken Arrow Subdivision.

In another action on pro-perty and zoning, the council approved a replat of ground owned by Todd and Tammy Siverson in the Genesis 2000 Subdivision. The owners requested joining two lots for construction of an accessory building.

Another public hearing was held Monday regarding a liquor license application from Donna Vlasin for the family's Beverage Barn business.

The catering license will allow Beverage Barn to host wine-tastings at their business on Highway 61 or other locations with a special designated license.

The council voted 3-0 to recommend to the State Liquor Control Commission issuance of the license.

IVFD continues

building discussion

The Imperial Volunteer Fire Department continues to look at options for the planning and design of a new fire hall, planned for the empty lot on Broadway between 7th and 8th Sts.

Fire Chief Nick Schultz met with the council Monday to discuss a construction management option to coordinate construction. One advantage with that option, he said, was a possible \$10,000 to \$15,000 savings in bonding costs.

He also said it takes some of the pressure off the council, and costs of each aspect of construction (plumbing, electrical, etc.) would be more transparent.

The IVFD building committee has been looking into engineers for the project and looked at some of their work on other fire halls when this option arose. The council okayed more research into the construction manager option.

When asked on time frames, Schultz said their building committee would like to see the concrete in before winter.

If that time frame holds, Imperial voters will be asked at a special election yet this year to fund part of the project with bonds. No date for that vote has been set.

The IVFD plans a series of public info meetings on the project once plans and bond costs are

drawn up.

Other council business

Approval was given on a replat of property known as Heather Estates in the Cornerstone Commercial Park where rental homes are planned to be built.

The replat resizes the lots on the south side of 2nd Street and Holland St., most of which were donated to Dana Point by the city for the rental housing project. Matt Thomas of the firm is interested in purchasing three other lots in that area for a separate private rental/spec home project of his, so the replat altered some of those lots, as well. He is looking at buying Lots 10-11 and 22 in Cornerstone.

There was concern from some council members about selling Lot 22 to Thomas because an irrigation well is located on it. No action was taken on the purchase of the additional three lots.

The council also approved a \$1,000 annual pay increase for Police Officer Spencer Rowley, who successfully completed his training at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island.

The 2-0-1 approval (J.R. Reeder abstained because he is related) will increase Rowley's annual salary from \$32,500 to \$33,500.

Public Works Supt. Pat Davison said a preconstruction meeting with the general contractors on the Sage Addition and East 2nd street paving projects will be held Tuesday, June 11, at 2 p.m. at the council chambers.