



Chloe Erber, Brinley Blotske, Presley Levey and Shailynn Blotske get sassy. (Photos by Tyson Matthews, Editor, McLean County Independent)

# Cougars take the stage at State Dance Competition

The Central McLean Cougars Dance Team took to the floor at the North Dakota Association of Dance and Drill State Competition on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 30-31. The team is coached by Bailey Gross, who is assisted by Emily Schantz. The Cougars took home fourth place for both their Jazz and Hip-Hop routines.



While dancing to Billy Joel, Presley Levey and Brinley Blotske perform their Jazz routine.



The Cougars strike a pose during their Hip-Hop routine with Chloe Erber, Brinley Blotske and Presley Levey basing Shailynn Blotske.

# Home Rule Charter is on its way to Coleharbor

BY TYSON MATTHEWS

The January City Council meeting of Coleharbor was called to order Jan. 21 by Mayor Chris Holt, where the first reading of the Home Rule Charter ordinance was introduced.

City Attorney Mark Kefferm discussed with the council the steps required to implement the tax.

After the second reading is approved, the ordinance will be published on the ND State Website for an additional 60 days before the tax can be implemented.

“We’ve talked about the 1.5 percent sales tax so I’m assuming you’d like to go forward with that,” Kefferm said. “But then what about the use tax, the farm machinery tax and alcoholic beverage tax.”

Holt opened the discussion.

“My opinion is we only have two farm-

ers in town,” he said while addressing the farm machinery tax. “We don’t need to have that. My suggestion would be to keep alcohol sales tax at 1.5 percent.”

Sale tax, use tax and gross receipt of alcohol beverages will be set at 1.5 percent. This includes online sales.

Kefferm said Coleharbor won’t start receiving the tax revenue until the third quarter.

“I think that a year or so after we start receiving the tax, we should review it and see where we are sitting and decide if that’s enough or if it’s too much,” Councilmember Justin Pochant said.

The review will happen in September 2027.

The first reading was approved unanimously.

The city of Coleharbor passed to add the Home Rule Charter tax during a spe-

cial election July 29.

The city council hopes these taxes will offset the cost of projects to improve Coleharbor.

In other Coleharbor City Council news: -Wolf Creek Winery has been granted a Class 1 license for on- and off-sale.

The license allows the winery to bring in alcohol for private events in addition to the wine they serve currently.

-There is a Coleharbor City Maintenance Worker position open. Watch the newspaper for application details.

-The council plans to work on an ordinance addressing semitrucks using jake-brakes while passing through Coleharbor on U.S. Highway 83. Additional research will be done to determine whether it will fall into city or state authority.



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