

Times named official newspaper of Blair

*By Bryce Dokkestul
Times Staff*

City of Blair Council members approved the designation of the Trempealeau County Times as the city's official newspaper at their regular meeting on Monday.

Previously, the Blair Press served as the city's official paper, but Press publisher Lee Henschel, 62, passed away on Jan. 9 and the publication hasn't published an issue since Jan. 2. A moment of silence for Henschel was observed before the meeting began.

Blair city clerk Susan

Frederixon said she will be looking up older editions of the Press to contribute to the Times' Early Files section. The Times has been using online archives of the Press for that section.

Additionally, Fredrixon said the city might be interested in having a section or page devoted to the city of Blair's past events and memories.

Henschel purchased the Press from Jerry and Liz Hjernevik in 1998, serving as the 16th publisher for the 120-year-old newspaper. The Hjerneviks had owned the

paper since 1972.

As of early this week, the official fate of the Blair Press had not been announced. To make up for a lack of a city newspaper, the Times is running a subscription special for Blair residents, offering a discount of \$5 off subscriptions.

According to the 2018 Wisconsin Newspaper Association directory, the Press had a circulation of 902, while the Times circulation is 4,225.

THURSDAY • FEBRUARY 7 • 5-8 P.M.

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