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Rossville trustees struggle with deficit, unpaid utility bills

ROSSVILLE—Village officials hope to have a new clearer picture of their finances next month.

At Monday's meeting, the village board discussed a \$346,000 deficit in last year's budget. The deficit was covered by a one-day bank loan which allowed village books to balance at the end of the year, said Mayor Terry Prillaman.

Obtaining a loan to cover the deficit was approved at a special meeting last month.

Although Monday's treasurer's report showed a positive balance of more than \$379,000, Prillaman said the total does not reflect the money repaid to the bank or other deductions which put the balance "in deep deficit territory."

In an effort to raise income, officials are cracking down on delinquent utility payments. Collector Chris Pearson said \$55,867.25 is owed. Of that, nearly \$18,000 is from budget billing customers, nearly \$23,000 is from customers who are late paying and more than \$8,700 is due to closed accounts.

Prillaman said the village wants to have utility ac-

counts in order by September 1. "We cannot let this go on in the financial shape this town is in," he said.

In related financial action, trustees voted unanimously to place a \$50 cap on donations to civic organizations. Three donations were approved Monday, to the American Legion for fireworks, the Beta Club towards a group rummage sale, and the town Little League.

In unrelated action, trustees:

- learned ConAgra will pay for new riprap at the sewer treatment plant, as well as for repairs to the road at the plant. A grease spill earlier this year caused the damage, said sewer superintendent Billie Kinnett. The company declined to pay for new sand at the sand filter, she added.
- will allow the Sons of the American Legion to use a village trencher. The trench will be filled with power lines for a new scoreboard.
- approved an asphalt sidewalk from Rt. 1 to Christman Park at a cost of about \$4,000.
- learned June gas rates will remain the same as May's.
- set a rabies clinic for 1-3 p.m. June 2 at the fire station.

Hoopeston Area readies for graduation ceremony Friday

Hoopeston Area officials and students are readying for Friday's Class of 2001 graduation.

The ceremony will begin at 8 p.m. in the middle school gym.

Addresses will be given by salutatorian Heather Alt and valedictorians Ashley Drollinger, Andrew German, Ben Greene and Jason Knapp. Senior class officers, including Drollinger, Abby Kuntz and Cynthia Placencia will give their reflections.

Eighty-one students are expected to graduate. Of those, 13 are members of the National Honor Society and will wear a gold cord during the ceremony. They include: Karen

Brown, Amy Buttram, Heather Coon, Ashley Drollinger, Andrew German, Amber Goodrum, Benjamin Greene, Jason Knapp, Abby Kuntz, Cody Moore, Elizabeth Newman, Jesse Pugh and Andrea York.

Others have achieved high academic honors and will wear a silver cord. They include the honor society members and Erin Alderson, Heather Alt, Kathleen Brackmann, Kimberly Bundy, Aaron Goodrum, Maria Hanson, Stephanie Kirkland and Amber Long.

Other graduates include: Maria Aguirre, Matthew Allen, Brunio Ambrosio, Philip Anderson, Stacy Badgley, Ashley

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Graduation continued from other side

Baker, Michelle Baker, Timothy Benjamin, Joel Blamey, Cory Borders, Travis Brewer and Chad Burge.

Also, Ashley Burke, Jeremy Burks, Ashley Castillo, Zachary Cobb, Carrie Compton, Michelle Edwards, Heather Failla, April Foster, Christopher Gonzalez, Dana Goodrum, Lori Goodrum and Ryan Harden.

And Rachel Harper, Regina Howell, Rachel Jones, Jacob Kinnaird, Timothy Lane II, Aaron Linares, Anthony Linares, Michaela Livingston, Thomas Long, Racheal Martin, Travis McCalla, Brooke McKenzie and Dion Merrill.

Also, Cheralyn Meyer, Michael Milburn, Jackie Moser, Adam Musk, Cynthia Placencia, Jared Rayls, William Redden, Deek Ried, Zachary Roberts, Alexandria Rubio, Leetha Sage, Rachel Simmons, Lisa Simpson, Andrew Smith and Dustin Smith.

And Karl Steiner, Shawna Wallace, Jessica Watson, Derek Webber, Ronald Williams II, Crystal Yazzie, Brittany Young and Miguel Zamarripa.

Obituaries

FOSTER—Lawrence Dwain Foster, 71, of Indianapolis, formerly of East Lynn, died Sunday, May 20, 2001 at home. Funeral services were at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Singleton Community Mortuary and Memorial Center, Indianapolis. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday in Armstrong Cemetery. Visitation was 5-7 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the ALS Association, 27001 Agoura Rd., Suite 150, Calabasas Hills, CA 91301-5104 or St. Jude Catholic Church Helping Hands, 5353 McFarland Rd., Indianapolis, IN., 46227.

GORE—Maria Gore, 74, of Cissna Park, died at 4:45 p.m. Sunday, May 20, 2001 at home. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Grace Bible Church, Cissna Park. Burial will be in Amity Cemetery, Milford. Visitation will be 5-8 p.m. Wednesday at Knapp Funeral Home, Cissna Park. Memorials are suggested to Iroquois Memorial Hospital or Carle Hospice.

SORENSEN—Wilbur K "Junior" Sorenson, 57, of Hoopeston, died at 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 18, 2001 at St. Luke's Medical Center, Phoenix, Az. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Private burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memo-

Police News



Police are investigating a hit-and-run accident reported at 12:20 p.m. Monday in the parking lot at 1030 W. Chestnut.

Police said an unknown vehicle hit a parked 1999 Chevrolet pickup truck owned by Betty J. Wells of 846 E. Seminary.

A **19-year-old** Hoopeston man reported Monday that someone kicked in the door of his home in the 200 block of East Lincoln and took an undisclosed amount of money.

Robert L. Clayburn, 32, of 631 E. McCracken, was arrested at 8:02 a.m. Tuesday in the 300 block of West Penn.

He was charged with battery on a complaint from a 20-year-old man who reported Clayburn hit him in the eye.

Clayburn was released on \$100 cash bond.

rials are suggested to the American Cancer Society, 2509 S. Neal St., Champaign, IL 61820.

WELLS—Aerian Brandy Wells, 4 months, daughter of Jodi Wells and Jerrod Stone, died at 11:10 a.m. Sunday, May 20, 2001 at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 9-11 a.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

In the Hospital



**Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
May 14**

Admitted: Dorothy Medsker, Hoopeston.

Discharged: none.

Weather



Mostly cloudy, chance of showers today, tonight and tomorrow. High today 58, low 40. Tomorrow's high 55, low 40.

For current weather conditions, call the **Hoopeston Weather Line** at (217) 283-6221.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Schumacher Electric Corporation is seeking individuals to work as packers on our battery charger assembly lines. The ability to work in a fast paced environment and lift up to 50 pounds are required. Schumacher Electric offers a complete wage and benefits package including health, dental and vision insurance, perfect attendance bonus, paid vacations and holidays, 401K plan and much more. Please apply at: Schumacher Electric Corporation, 1025 E. Thompson Ave., Hoopeston, IL 60942.

Village of Rossville is seeking an individual who would like to work outdoors in maintenance with the gas, water and street departments. Recession proof. Good benefits. Residency requirements apply. CDL license required within 60 days. Applications may be picked up at the Municipal office, 120 E. Attica St. No phone calls please.

Hoopeston Migrant Head Start is seeking applications for the following positions: teachers, teachers' aides, bus aides and bus driver. Applications must be received by May 28. For more information, call (815) 984-3706. EOE.

Someone to bale hay. (217) 748-6227, email jim1@soltec.net.

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