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www.justthefacts.net

Hoopeston to impose phone tax, water hike to balance budget

An increase in water rates and a tax on phone service will help balance Hoopeston's budget.

The Hoopeston City Council on Tuesday unanimously approved the budget, with planned income of \$2.6 million and expenses just \$376 less than income, said city finance committee chairman. Alderman Bill Goodwine.

Budget highlights include:

- a six percent tax on all telephones, including cell phones. The tax is estimated to generate \$60,000.
- an increase in water rates, estimated to generate \$100,000. The increase is expected to be based on usage rather than a surcharge.

The rate of increase has not been finalized, said water committee chairman Alderman Kevin Davis. "It's not real substantial," he said. "It's not going to break anybody."

- wage freezes for employees, expected to save \$19,000. The original budget was prepared with a three percent hike which was later withdrawn, Goodwine said.
- increases in deductibles for employee insurance. Currently, a single person in the preferred provider plan pays \$250. That will increase to \$500. Other deductibles were also doubled, as was the cost of prescriptions under the city's drug card program, raising generic drugs to \$10 and brand names to \$20. Insurance changes are expected to save \$20,412.

Additionally, employees hired after May 7 will be eligible for city-paid single insurance coverage only. Family coverage will be provided if the employee pays the difference. That chance is expected to save nearly \$4,600.

On the expense side, the city will:

- put \$140,000 in accrual funds to save for things such as new police cars, fire trucks and heavy equipment.
- pay \$5,200 for uniforms for city employees required

to wear them.

In unrelated action, the council approved a \$35,000 revolving loan for Steve and Verna Compton to open Tater's Bar & Grill at 225 E. Main, site of the former Compton's Bar & Grill.

The 10-year loan bears an interest rate of five percent and will be repaid monthly, Goodwine said, adding Community Bank and the Small Business Administration are also involved in the project.

Verna Compton said once the loans are approved, repair work will begin at the building. The sale is tentatively set to close June 1 which is also the date the couple hopes to open the business, she said.

In other discussion, officials will soon have to consider whether the city will continue to have a swimming pool, said parks committee chairman Alderman Mike Eckersley.

Eckersley said leaks at the pool were detected in the caulking of the liner installed last year. While the pool will be in good shape this year, "we're going to have to start thinking down the road about whether we're going to replace the pool or not have a pool," he said.

In unrelated action, the council:

- approved a nearly \$80,000 bid from Ribbe Trucking of Bismarck for phase three repairs to the landfill road.
- approved a bid from Silver Brothers Construction of Hoopeston of \$3.40 per square foot for the sidewalk repair program. Under the program, the city and property owner split the cost of sidewalks. The budget includes \$10,000 for sidewalk repairs.
- approved a bid of \$3,450 from Ed Lockhart for 100 maple and ash trees to replace those destroyed in last year's storm. The trees will be 6'-7' tall and will be planted by Lockhart.

A second bid of \$6,900 was received from Carlson Landscaping of Wellington.

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Rossville

*Ole Country Inn *Minuteman *Feedbag *Bray's General Store

Milford

Wellington

*Minuteman *Casey's Coffee Corner and on the Internet at www.justthefacts.net



an unknown location.

Police News

A 59-year-old woman reported Monday that someone scratched the driver's side of her vehicle while it was at

Police are investigating a report that an unidentified vehicle drove next to a Hoopeston Foods building, cutting ruts in the landscape and narrowly missing the building.

The incident happened at 10 p.m. Monday.

Jerry L. Lindsey, 31, of 512 W. Penn, was arrested at 10:54 p.m. Monday in the 500 block of West Penn on preliminary charges of criminal sexual abuse, home invasion, battery and violation of probation.

New Books at the Library

The arrest was made on a complaint from a 33-year-old Hoopeston woman who said Lindsey entered her home, assaulted her and left before police arrived.

Lindsey was later found at Parkview Court and taken into custody.

He was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.





Non-fiction:

Penned from the Heart, volume VIII

The Scientology Handbook by L. Ron Hubbard Bias: A CBS insider exposes how the media distorts

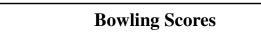
the news by Bernard Goldberg

Child Care Start-Up Profile by Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs

Guia Para Comenzar Un Negocio De Cuidado Infantil by Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs

How to Prepare for the GED High School Equivalency Exam, 12th edition

Centerwatch Directory of Clinical Trials Power to the Patient by Isadore Rosenfeld







	Stan	unigs 4/29/02	
1.	R&R Body Shop	571/2	351/2
2.	Easy Sliders	57	36

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⁵⁵ P	Α	Ν	S		56 R	Α	Т	Е		57 A	Ν	Υ

Beertenders	57	36
4. Kankakee Federal	55	38
Family Affair	49	44
Main Street Travel	48	45
7. Family Circus	451/2	471/2
8. B.J.'s Pump	451/2	471/2
Community Bank	44	49
Yaden-Rethelford	431/2	491/2
11. Gillins Oil	38	55
12. No Name Just #14	371/2	551/2
13. Weber's Drug Store	37	56
14. Pin Pals	331/2	591/2

High Team Game: Weber's Drug Store 1,035, R&R Body Shop 1,035, Kankakee Federal 1,034; High Team Series: Weber's Drug Store 2,979, Beertenders 2,961, R&R Body Shop 2,948; **High Individual Game:** Glenda Reed 223, Karen Porth 221, Helen Taflinger 221; High Individual Series: Patti Glenda Reed 582, Rhonda Stephenson 541, Helen Taflinger 539.

Weather



Flood watch through tonight. Showers, thunderstorms today and tonight. High 80, low 60. Tomorrow, morning showers then partly sunny. High 68, low 40.

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

Commenzando Un Negocio En Illinois by Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs Trading Post Guidebook by Patrick Eddington

Classifieds

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