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Just the Facts[©]

Wednesday, July 16, 2003

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www.justthefacts.net

Phone/Fax:
(217) 283-9348

Email:
publish@justthefacts.net

Hoopeston City Council approves Floral Hill fee increase

The cost of getting buried is going up.

The Hoopeston City Council on Tuesday approved increases in fees for burial and related services at Floral Hill Cemetery.

Lot fees will increase \$100 over the 1983 price, said Alderman John Haughee, cemetery committee chairman.

An adult grave, measuring 3.5'x10', will go from \$75 to \$175 in the old section and \$225 in the new part. A baby grave, 2'x3', will go from \$15 to \$115 in parcel A and from \$25 to \$125 in parcel B.

Labor charges will increase, too, with adult grave openings costing \$200 on weekdays and \$250 on Saturdays.

Under the new ordinance, rates for all lots will increase \$50 on May 1, 2005 and 2006 and \$25 each in 2007 and 2008. Every year thereafter, the lot rate will increase two percent. Labor fees will go up three percent every year after April 30, 2005.

Money from the increases is to be set aside in an accrual fund to replace cemetery equipment, Haughee said, adding currently, the cemetery is using a 1973 backhoe and a 1975 dump truck and has not accrued money to replace the items.

While fees are going up, the number of days a person will be buried is decreasing.

The ordinance calls for no burials on Sunday or city-observed holidays without approval of the mayor and cemetery committee chairman.

In unrelated business, the council again discussed selling the Willdon Building to Tad Ballantyne, an investor in Hoopeston Foods.

Mayor Chalmers Flint has said Ballantyne wants to purchase the building from the city for \$1 and invest \$100,000 to \$200,000 to make apartments in the top three floors.

City attorney Bill Nelson said the issue has "two or three major legal problems in my opinion," including making sure Ballantyne signs a binding agreement before the city accepts the building from Capstone Bank; finding a way around the state statute that requires bids be sought if the city disperses of property and making sure the purchaser is held responsible if it abandons the building.

The council also:

- approved Rick Birch and Kory Johnson as firemen.
- discussed buying a thermal imaging camera for the fire department. The camera is estimated at \$16,000. Alderman Brandon Hamilton requested TIF funds be used by aldermen Rod Kaag and Bill Goodwine asked that another way be found to pay for it.
- learned the police department received a \$2,055.96 matching grant for bulletproof vests. Chief Mark Drollinger said vests cost \$550 and that the department clothing allowance will be used to offset the cost.
- learned 165 feet of curb will be replaced at

Foundation sets golf outing

Hoopeston Area Healthcare Foundation is gearing up for the sixth annual Charity Golf Tournament Saturday at Hubbard Trail Country Club.

Cash prizes will be awarded for both log gross and low net scores. Teams have the opportunity to win up to \$1,000 in cash prizes.

Morning and afternoon flights are still available. Entry fee is \$50 per person and includes 18 holes of golf, cart and lunch.

To register a team, please call (217) 283-

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Modeling fundraiser for
Jordan McCarty

Saturday, July 19

Main Street Inn

306 E. Main, Hoopeston

Pool tournament 1 p.m.

\$5 entry - 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes

Hog roast 4:30 p.m.

50/50, prize give-aways

No minors after 6 p.m.



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& red wood mulch.

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Letters to the Editor



Sincerely
Nick Gonzalez
Hoopeston

PS: This letter was inspired by all the letters opposing the witch school, including John Palmer's July 10 letter.

1	W	2	A	3	F	4	T	5	E	6	D				7	P	8	R	9	A	10	M	11	S						
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Police News



Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 85. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 60. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 88, low 65.

Classifieds

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