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City waives water bill lien in hopes of getting corner sold

The Hoopeston City Council on Tuesday voted to waive a lien on the Baer's Motel and Trailer Park properties in an effort to entice a commercial developer.

In an 8-0 vote, the council approved dropping the \$52,109.16 lien against the property, contingent on the heirs to the property accepting an offer from a commercial developer.

The unnamed developer's acceptance of the property hinges on waiving the lien, said Alderman Kevin Davis, water/sewer committee chairman.

The lien was filed against the property over a year ago, Davis said. Owner Ora Baer died recently, leaving the decision up to his heirs.

In other business, the council:

- approved selling a 35'x50' tract of land along the for-

Test to determine if lights stay

City folk sometimes make fun of towns with one stop light. Hoopeston may become a town with no stop lights depending on a traffic study to be done soon.

Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) officials have said Hoopeston does not need its traffic lights at Main and Market and Penn and Market. The city and IDOT will conduct a traffic study at the intersections to see if lights are necessary, said Alderman Rod Kaag at Tuesday's city council meeting.

Kaag is chairman of the streets/alleys committee.

Stop signs have been ordered for the intersections and, when they arrive, "we'll wrap the lights, shut them down and see what happens," Kaag said.

If the study shows the lights are needed, the city is looking at a minimum of \$175,000-\$200,000 to upgrade to more modern lights.

The issue arose when the city got assistance from IDOT to repair Market St. In accepting the money, the city also has to accept IDOT regulations, Kaag said.

mer railroad bed to Joe Means for \$120. Means had requested the property to build a garage at 601 E. Seminary.

Parcels along the former railroad were appraised at \$150. The council unanimously approved waiving bids and approved selling tracts at 80 percent of the appraised value.

Other adjacent property owners may request to purchase former rail property at the same price. Tracts will be 35' from the property edge and may extend the length of the owner's property. Each purchase must be accepted by the city council. The 35' limit will leave a 30' alley in the middle of the railroad property, said Alderman Rod Kaag, street/alley committee chairman.

- approved a conditional use permit for 213 N. Third St. to allow Chad Dickison to pen an archery shop
- approved a \$597,321 tax levy, up from \$566,953 last year. Alderman Bill Goodwine, finance committee chairman, said most of the increase came from the police pension and liability funds, which each went up about \$10,000. The levy will have an accompanying estimated tax rate of 1.8, he said.

- approved Darrell Goble as a new member of the Hoopeston Fire Department.

- approved a \$71,750 bid for a new backhoe for the water/sewer department. With a \$9,500 trade-in, the purchase price is \$62,250.

- learned there have been no developments on the sale of the Willdon Building, which was donated to the city by Capstone Bank. Mayor Chalmers Flint said he has asked Vermilion Advantage to help advertise the building. Flint hopes to raise enough from selling the property to help build a new fire station.

- will accept bids on a new heating system for the civic center. Specifications will be available Thursday at city hall. Bids will be opened at 4 p.m. Dec. 19.

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New Books at the Library



Fiction:

Cube Route by Piers Anthony (science fiction)

Split Second by David Baldacci

Hello, Darkness by Sandra Brown

The Presence of Eve Bunting (young adult)

Blow Fly by Patricia Cornwell

Born Confused by Tanuja Desai Hidier (young adult)

Avenger by Frederick Forsyth

Lord John and the Private Matter by Diana Gabaldon

The Bishop Goes to the University by Andrew M.

Greeley

Letter From Home by Carolyn G. Hart (mystery)

The Great Fire by Shirley Hazzard

Southern Living by Al Hudler

Havana: an Earl Swagger Novel by Stephen Hunter

L'Affaire by Diane Johnson

The Known World by Edward P. Jones

Shepherds Abiding by Jan Karon

Babylon Rising by Tim F. LaHaye (inspirational)

The Tristan Betrayal by Robert Ludlum

The Way the Crow Flies: a Novel by Ann-Marie MacDonald

Irish Coffee by Ralph McInerny (mystery)

Christmas, Present by Jacquelyn Mitchard



Bowling Scores



Thursday Night City Men's League

11/20/03

1. Pla-Mor Lanes	63	21
2. Tax Service Plus	53	31
3. Lazer-N-Lights	48	36

4. Team America	47	37
5. Con Agra Store Foods	47	37
6. Lawson Products	39	45
7. P.V. Snow Removal	28	56
8. Team 8	2	82

High Team Handicap Game: Tax Service Plus 833, Team America 823, Con Agra Store Foods 806; **High Team Handicap Series:** Team America 2,435, Con Agra Store Foods 2,398, Tax Service Plus 2,365; **High Individual Scratch Game:** Chet Catron 234, Phil Vine 227, Ron Cappellano 222; **High Individual Scratch Series:** Russell Reed 593, Jeremy Lane 585, Chet Catron 581.

Police News



Lisa A. Esse, 42, of Hoopeston, was ticketed for failing to yield after an accident at 3:40 p.m. Monday.

Police said Esse, in a 1996 Mazda, entered the intersection of South Fourth St. and East Washington and hit a 1994 Ford pickup driven by Spencer T. Spear of Hoopeston.

The occupants of Esse's vehicle were treated and released from Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital.

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Weather



Chance of flurries today and tonight. High 36, low 25. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy, chance of snow late. High 35, low 24.

For current weather conditions, call (217) 283-6221.

Huge Food Sale

Wednesday, Dec. 3 6:30 p.m.

Huckleby's
Auction



208 N. Market, Hoopeston

All end-date merchandise

Love by Toni Morrison

A Time to Love: Tales from the Old Testament by Walter Dean Myers (young adult)

The Time Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffenegger

Inch by Inch: a Novel of Breast Cancer and Healing by Geoffrey Norman

Blacklist: a V.I. Warshawski Novel by Sara Paretsky

Stone Cold by Robert B. Parker

Balance of Power by Richard North Patterson

Classifieds

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1 bdr. Apt. \$275/mo. No pets. Deposit, references. (217) 304-3477.

1 bdr. apt. and efficiency apt. All utilities furnished. Deposit required. No pets. (217) 283-9507 or (217) 249-9507. Leave message. 330-343

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