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Lourdine Osborne
editor

Just the facts

Wednesday, Feb. 16, 1994

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
(217) 283-9348 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942

Susan Comstock
ad manager

Garbage pick up rates in Hoopeston to increase

Residential rates pick up rates in Hoopeston will increase approximately three percent when the city signs a new contract with Vermilion Waste.

The new contract will run from April 1 to March 31, 1997.

The new contract will be for \$12,607.19 monthly, up \$367.

Rich Galloway, Vermilion Waste manager, said the increase will average 12 to 15 cents per household.

The company has had a contract with the city since 1981, Galloway said, and has not increased rates since 1985.

In other action, the council approved an ordinance gaining easement on land purchased by Casey's General Store.

The easement will allow the city to have access to water and sewer lines running underneath the

property on Route 9.

City attorney Calvin Hultquist said the agreement is a standard one, and includes clauses covering damage done to Casey's property by city employees and damage to city property by Casey's.

In unrelated action, the council approved Drollinger Insurance as the city's risk manager.

Alderman Bill Goodwine, chairman of the city's finance committee, said the company will provide information as needed and investigate claims against the city.

Alderman Odell Crabtree voted against the issue.

Finally, resident Jerry Warner asked about obtaining a liquor license in the city.

Warner would like to open a package liquor store. However, no licenses are available.

Masonic Lodge rebuilding waiting for weather

Warm weather will bring more than birds and flowers to Hoopeston.

A break in the weather will mean the start of rebuilding at the Hoopeston Masonic Lodge, said Worshipful Master, Steve Eyrich.

The lodge was "just about trashed" in a fire Nov. 6, Eyrich said, when approximately \$100,000 in damage was done.

Insurance will pay all but \$250 to redo the building, Eyrich said.

The fire started on the east wall of the lodge's meeting room, thoroughly damaging about 30 feet of the wall. Light fixtures were melted in the

blaze, as was the thermostat. "It was just a puddle on the floor," Eyrich said.

Furnishings were also damaged, including melted plastic and leather chairs and destroyed a \$6,000 chair used by the Worshipful Master in lodge ceremonies. "It was a pretty elegant piece," Eyrich said.

Other areas of the building received smoke and water damage. Two large rooms, the dining area and kitchen, and the furnace and preparation room, were not damaged by the fire, but need to be cleaned from smoke and water.

See "LODGE" on other side

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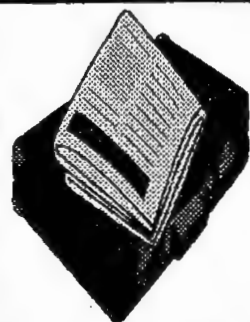
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Lodge continued from other side

The building was insured through Grand Lodge, an independent insurance program through the Masons state organization.

Eyrich said the state Fire Marshall's Office ruled the fire started due to an "undetermined electrical cause" although the exact cause hasn't been identified.

"It could have been a mouse chewing on the wires," Eyrich said. "It could have been a short someplace. It could have been anything."

The fire started at about 2 pm. Nov. 6. The last

time Lodge members were in the building was Nov. 5, Eyrich said.

Since the fire, Lodgemembers have met at the Eastern Illinois Multi Purpose Center. Center director Dorothy Metz called the group after the fire asking if they were interested in using that facility, a request Eyrich said the group appreciated.

This was not the first time the building has been damaged by fire. A malfunctioning suspended furnace caught fire shortly after the Lodge opened in 1963.

Treasurer reports record interest earned on investments

A record \$4,009,946.29 in interest has been earned on county money since Dec. 1, 1990, according to Herb Hales, treasurer.

Interest earned in January totalled \$70,409.32 on \$16,643, 519.34. Accounts, in time deposits and Treasury bonds, earn 3.1 to 9.1 percent interest. Funds in interest-bearing checking accounts earn 2.5 to 3.75 percent. All money handled by Hales' office totalled \$20,740,796.63.

Amounts invested in banks of local interest include: Palmer Bank, Hoopeston branch, \$1 million; Rankin Branch, \$100,000; Community Bank, \$2,012,947.87; Hoopeston Household FSB, \$100,000; and First National Bank, Rossville, \$101,895.08.

Other investments include: First Midwest, \$3,454,165.20; Palmer Bank, total, \$4,508,122.54; main bank, \$3,208,122.54; Potomac branch, \$100,000; Tilton Branch, \$100,000; First National, Danville, \$1,341,124.71; Allerton State Bank, \$101,616.69; First National of Catlin,

\$101,834.30; First National Bank of Fairmount, \$101,950.91; First National Bank of Georgetown, \$9,767.98; Kansas State Bank, \$100,000; Oakwood State Bank, \$2,319,970.75; First National of Ogden, \$1,877,686.72; First Ridgefarm State Bank, \$202,797.65; Sidell State Bank, \$2,688; First National Bank of Westville, \$101,638.35; and U.S. Treasury bonds, \$4,292,589.88.

Specific information regarding individual fund balances, total investment by funds and any other financial information available, is public record and can be obtained from Hales' office on request. The office is open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

In the hospital

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

Feb. 14, 1994

Admitted: Virginia Powell, Guadalupe Cordova, both of Hoopeston.

Discharged: none.

Weather

Sunny today. High in the mid to upper 40s. Tonight, fair. Low in the mid to upper 30s. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High near 54, low near 32.

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