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Lourdine Florek
editor

just the facts

Friday, Nov. 11, 1994
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
(217) 283-9348 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942

Susan Comstock
ad manager

State accepts city application for sewer project grant

The city sewer line near Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital will be moved thanks to state funds.

The city was notified last week that it will receive \$85,000 in a Department of Commerce and Community Affairs economic development grant, said Mayor Bob Ault.

The money will be used to move the sewer line at the hospital so it is not located under the facility's expansion project.

The hospital is constructing a senior citizen living complex and adding 25 nursing home rooms. That project is estimated at over \$3 million.

Ault called the notification "good news," saying

that the city did not have to provide matching funds to receive the grant.

The grant is expected to pay almost all costs associated with the move. Ault said engineering estimates put the project cost at "very close to" the \$85,000.

Before the money is released, the city must submit more data, including environmental impact information. Also, plan specifications must be drawn up and the project open to bids.

The project may be completed before spring. "I would hope we could still get it - if the weather isn't too bad - this winter," Ault said. "We plan to get it done ASAP."

Grant Township residents question increase in tax levy

A planned increase in the Grant Township tax levy was questioned at a public hearing Thursday night.

Six township residents attended the hearing, to learn why the general town fund levy is expected to increase by 24.3 percent, or \$40,290, while the road and bridge fund is expected to raise by 25.1 percent, \$49,373.

Resident Gene Beckner, a member of the Vermillion County board, compared levies from 1991 to 1993, saying his tax bills showed no less than a 50 percent increase in township taxes each year, even though the actual rate was lower. "Percentages fool you when you start multiplying them out," he said.

The county's tax rate only rose seven cents in that time frame, "and that includes roads, mental health, everything," he said. "I guess I'd like to

know where it's going."

Township supervisor Carol Flint said the increases will cover the cost of new equipment in the road and bridge fund and increased general assistance in the general town fund.

The general assistance program is mandated by the state. Flint said. "The law states that we'll have general assistance and they don't care how we get the money," she said.

As for the road and bridge fund, Flint said maintaining 125 miles of township road - the largest amount in the state - takes money.

Road commissioner Jim Crouch agreed. "Do we need money in the road and bridge fund," he asked. "You bet we do! Last year, we had two 100-year floods and this year we've had one," he said. "Every time we have one, it costs us hun-

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Briefly...

Bloodmobile

The Hoopeston Jaycees will sponsor a bloodmobile from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 11 at the Presbyterian Church.

Project Bundle Up

Good-quality coats and shoes are needed for the 1994 Project Bundle Up. Donations may be taken to the EIMPC community center, 206 S. First Ave. Donated coats and shoes will be given free to area residents who need them.

Military Memories

Local people who served in the military will present Military Memories at the Hoopeston Public Library at 7 p.m. Oct. 16. The public is invited to this free presentation.

For more information, contact the library at

283-6711.

Stress, worry & tension

The Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce is hosting a free seminar on "Dealing with Stress, Worry and Tension."

The seminar will be from 7-8:30 p.m. Nov. 17. Those interested in attending should contact the Chamber office at 283-7873 by Nov. 14.

Shooters wanted

A gun safety course is being planned in the Hoopeston area. The class will hold approximately 40 students. For more information, or to register, contact Pam Hultquist at 283-7397 after 4 p.m. or leave a message including name, age, address and phone number.

Police News

Brian Pickett, 307 N. Eighth Ave., reported Wednesday that someone took his green Roadmaster Mountain bicycle from Burger King.

Levy continued from other side

dreds and hundreds of dollars (for road repairs).

Also, he said, outdated road equipment must be replaced. Under current budgeting, it would take six years to replace the equipment. "We can't wait six years," he said.

Flint stressed the increases will bring levies back to slightly more than the 1982 level.

The 1982 levy raised \$228,000 while the 1994 levy, payable in 1995, will bring in an estimated \$246,432, Flint said.

Levies were lowered in the mid 80s to deplete surplus funds which, Flint said, may be maintained at 1.5 times the amount actually expended. Flint said she was told keeping larger surpluses "is not good fiscal policy and unfair to the taxpayers."

Township trustees are expected to vote on the estimated levies at their Dec. 12 meeting.

Bill Decker, 805 E. Washington, reported Thursday that someone apparently tried to lift the stone top from a sign in front of the Christian Church, causing the motor to fall from the sign.

Russell R. Foster, 37, of 407 N. Third St., was arrested at 12:40 p.m. Thursday, charged with criminal sexual abuse and disorderly conduct on a complaint from a 14-year-old girl. Foster was released on \$100 cash bond.

In the hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

Nov. 9, 1994

Admitted: Jessica Burke and Harrell Morlan, both of Hoopeston.

Discharged: none.

Weather



Sunny today. High 55-60. Tonight, fair. Low near 40. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High near 65, low near 44. Sunday, showers likely. High near 65, low near 45.

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