

Wolfe Funeral Home

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just the facts

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

Alderman continues to question revolving loan decision

The Hoopeston city council's decision to grant a \$100,000 loan to a new business came under fire again at Tuesday's council meeting.

The loan, to Hoopeston Foods, Inc., was approved July 5, with the condition that the city hold first mortgage on a lagoon system.

The loan was granted despite most of the council not knowing the names of principle investors in the company. Investors are expected to be named when the deal is closed Friday.

The council had to revote on the issue when an unidentified Chicago bank, which is loaning the company \$3.4 million, refused to take a secondary position on the system.

That refusal resulted in an emergency meeting July 13, when the council voted 5-1 to grant the loan without the condition.

At Tuesday's meeting, alderman Dave Borders, who did not attend the July 13 meeting, questioned the need for the emergency meeting and quick action on the loan. "Why did (the company) put us on the spot like that," he asked.

Mayor Bob Ault replied that he did not believe Hoopeston Foods Inc. intentionally put the city on the spot, but that financing had to be arranged by the end of business July 13.

Alderman Bill Goodwine, chairman of the city's finance committee and member of the revolving loan committee, defended the council's actions.

"Would I like to have the collateral of the lagoons," he asked. "Would I like to have the resumes of all the principles of the company? The answer is yes. But would I sabotage the livelihoods of 60 people in Hoopeston (the company plans to hire) just because they wouldn't do it my

way? Would my attitude be 'if you don't do it my way, I'll take my ball and go home?' No."

Goodwine defended the secrecy surrounding the deal. "When people are negotiating, there are things they don't want the other party to know," he said. "To me, there's a difference between secrecy and confidentiality. Maybe confidentiality is legitimate secrecy."

Ault and Goodwine stressed that a breach of confidentiality could stop the deal, but Borders disagreed. "If \$100,000 is going to stop them

See QUESTION on other side

Boy gets hero's reception for lifesaving effort last week

An 8-year-old who saved a 3-year-old from drowning received a hero's welcome at Tuesday's city council meeting.

Ryan Bane, son of Steve and Joan Bane, was presented with a certificate of recognition from Mayor Bob Ault.

"I don't know how many of you know this, but we have a hero in our presence tonight," Ault said.

Last Friday, Ryan swam 33 feet to save 3½-year-old Tate Compton, who had fallen into the family's swimming pool.

Ryan said he felt "pretty good" about receiving the certificate.

His father was more enthusiastic. "I'm just tickled to death," he said after the presentation. "It was nice of the council and the mayor to do that. His mother and I are really proud of him."

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Up & Coming

New offices

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Scripts available

Scripts for the Hoopeston Playcrafters production of "Dracula" are now available at the Hoopeston Public Library.

Discussion group forming

A book discussion group for adults is forming at the Hoopeston Public Library. Those interested should call the library at (217) 283-6711.

Blood drive

The Hoopeston Jaycees will sponsor a blood drive from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, July 24 at the First Presbyterian Church.

For more information or to make an appointment, call (217) 283-9670.

Meetings

The Hoopeston city council will meet at 7 p.m. tonight.

The Hoopeston Area school board will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday.

Question continued from other side

from coming in, they're not in good shape to begin with," he said.

Goodwine again defended the action, saying the county, city and school system will benefit from taxes.

Ault said real estate taxes on the property were \$235,000 last year.

Goodwine explained that money in the the re-

Notice

The monthly senior citizens club lunch scheduled for Thursday at the Methodist Church has been cancelled.

Police News



Larkin W. Keele, 41, of 202 N. Market, was arrested at 10:15 p.m. Tuesday, charged with violation of an order of protection and stalking. Keele was charged after he allegedly made threats against Dawn Keele of 321 E. McCracken.

Keele was taken to the Public Service Building in Danville.

James E. Brown, 27, of 3088 Watgate, Indianapolis, was arrested at 3:05 a.m. Tuesday, charged with possession of cannabis, under 2.5 grams.

He was released on a notice to appear.

volving loan fund comes from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs and is "not for bank worthy loans," but are for business ventures considered risky by bank standards. "If they weren't, we'd be competing with banks. I think what we've done is right and I think what we've done is good."

In other business, the council:

☐ approved spending \$4,628 on 13 new hand-held radios for the fire department.

The radios will be purchased from Central States Communications of Danville.

☐ named John Charter to the Hoopeston Ambulance squad.

In the Hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
July 17, 1995

Admitted: none.

Discharged: Rebecca Harrison and Samuel Simpson, both of Hoopeston

Weather



Partly sunny today. High near 90. Tonight, fair. Low in the mid 70s. Tomorrow, chance of thunderstorms. High near 92, low near 77.

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