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Wednesday, Nov. 8, 1995

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Susan Comstock
ad manager

Council approves compromise, landfill expansion heads to EPA

A three-year citizens effort to block expansion of the local landfill appears to be over.

In a 7-0-1 vote, the Hoopeston city council Tuesday night approved an amended host agreement with landfill owners Illinois Landfills Inc.

Passage clears the way for Illinois Landfills to file a request for expansion with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, said Jim Van Weelden, vice president of Allied Waste Industries, the landfill's parent company.

"It's not over until the fat lady sings, but I think she's beginning to warm up," Van Weelden said after the meeting.

The amended host agreement has more stringent requirements than the original, including:

□cutting from 31 to 14 the number of counties to be served by the expanded landfill. Counties include Vermilion, Iroquois, Cook, Kane, Kankakee, Will, DuPage, Ford and Livingston in Illinois and Fountain, Warren, Benton, Tiptecanoe and Montgomery in Indiana.

□implementing well testing at four properties adjoining the landfill.

□constructing a road through Hoopeston Indus-

trial Corporation property at Route 9 and South Market St.

The landfill had planned to use what is commonly called "Hospital Road," between Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital and Hoopeston Area High School, but the route drew fire from the hospital board and citizens.

The Hoopeston Industrial Corporation will donate the land to the city, which will build the road. The landfill company will pay \$100,000 of the construction total. The remainder will be paid by the city, through an interest-free loan from Allied Waste Industries. The city will repay Allied \$5,000 monthly from host fees, Van Weelden said.

Illinois Landfills will pay up to \$18,000 annually for road maintenance. The maintenance amount will be decreased by any amount over a 20 percent increase in traffic, if the increase is not caused by the landfill.

□raising the landfill floor an additional five feet. The landfill's top will also be expanded by five feet.

limiting the amount of waste accepted to 1,500 tons daily, with a maximum of 1,000 tons daily from

See COMPROMISE on other side

One incumbent, two newcomers win Hoopeston school board seats

Incumbent Ed Layden Jr. and newcomers Steve Unger and Sharon Roark were elected to four-year terms on the Hoopeston Area school board Tuesday.

Unger was the top vote-getter, with 546 votes in Vermilion County and 69 in Iroquois County., followed by Roark with 302 and 24, respectively.

Layden's tally was 332 in Vermilion and 34 in Iroquois, beating challenger Contessa Wilson, who

had 213 in Vermilion and 22 in Iroquois.

Other candidates and their totals were: Deborah Catron, 212 and 24; Roger Bundy, 140 and 26; Jim Klaber, 220 and 34; and incumbent Gary Jett, 126 and 15.

In Rossville, three incumbents ran for three seats. William Matthews received 119 votes; Don Frazier received 100 and Tony Zarate received 102.

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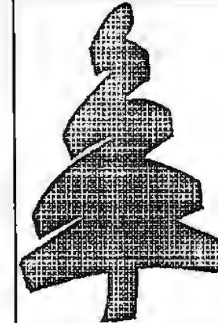
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Compromise continued from other side

Cook County. Of that, at least 50 percent must be from company-owned or operated transfer stations.

□providing a safe supply of water to the city within 24 hours of notification that the landfill has polluted the city's drinking water.

No changes were made in host fees of 46 cents per cubic yard; a 10-year freeze of garbage pickup rates; and the need for Illinois Landfills to build a local recycling center with curbside pickup.

Additionally, Illinois Landfills signed an agreement with objectors, stipulating that specifications on the road, number of counties and other requirements in the host agreement shall not be changed for 20 years from when the agreement becomes effective. The limitation does not include financial portions of the agreement.

With council approval of the host agreement, objectors agreed to withdraw an appeal of the expansion pending before the Illinois Pollution Control Board. Van Weelden said the appeal should be rescinded within approximately a week.

While objectors agreed to drop their fight, attorney Richard Doyle, representing objectors, said some of those fighting the expansion did not agree with the final compromise.

One member of the nine-person executive committee of Citizens Against Ruining the Environment (CARE) abstained from the final vote, Doyle said, and at Tuesday's meeting, CARE member Faye Mott read a prepared statement at the meeting, disagreeing with the compromise and asking that her name be removed from the contract.

Alderman Harold Cox was the only alderman not voting for the new agreement. He was advised by city attorney Jim Spiros to abstain because of his interest in the Hoopeston Industrial Corporation.

Cox and aldermen Dave Borders and John Haughee, all elected last April, ran on anti-expansion platforms. Additionally, alderman Mike Eckersley voted against the expansion in previous votes but voted for the amended agreement.

Borders disagreed with the city paying any portion of constructing a road to the landfill but Van

Weelden said the landfill company had to draw a financial line. "If you take the entire document and not just a specific paragraph, you'll see there was a significant financial give-back," he said.

Van Weelden said the new road and increased well testing will cost the company "several hundred thousand dollars," but he would not say how much the company loses by shrinking its market area.

It will take approximately six months for Illinois Landfills to ready its EPA application and approximately a year more before permission is given and work starts on the expanded site. There should be few problems with the application. "We've been through this before at other locations," Van Weelden said.

Police News



Charles Fenwick, 610 W. Elm, reported Monday that someone took three six-packs of beer from a refrigerator in his garage.

Catherine A. Schwartz, 34, of 618 S. Third St., turned herself in to police at 7:30 p.m. Monday. Schwartz, wanted on an Iroquois County warrant, was released on \$200 bond.

Kevin R. Leggons, 505½ W. Penn, reported Monday that someone damaged the driver's door of his 1993 Honda.

In the Hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

Nov. 6, 1995

Admitted: Oleta Compton, Lucille Swope, Jeff Wisdom and William Crose, all of Hoopeston.

Discharged: none.

Weather



Mostly sunny and cold today. High in the upper 30s. Tonight, increasing clouds late. Low in the low to mid 20s. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy, warmer. High near 51, low near 27.



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