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www.justthefacts.tm

Gas rates to drop, water rates to increase in Rossville

ROSSVILLE—Trustees rescinded one utility hike and approved imposing another.

In 4-1 votes, trustees approved removing a 15 cent increase to gas fees implemented approximately three months ago and approved an estimated \$1.05 per hike in water rates.

The increase will pay for repairs to the village well. Those repairs, estimated at \$15,000 to \$20,000, will be spread over the 3.8 million gallons of water used monthly and the number of water meters, said trustee Tom Mills. That figure should result in the increase which will be paid over 10 months.

Trustee William Galloway voted against the water hike and Mills voted against eliminating the additional

gas fee.

In other action, trustees:

❑ approved paying trustees chosen in the April 1999 election \$50 per meeting, up from \$30.

❑ adopted a procedure for public speaking at meetings. Guests are to raise their hands for recognition during discussion on issues and, once recognized, will be allowed to speak for two minutes. Those who are on the agenda will be allowed to speak for five minutes.

According to a statement read by mayor pro-tem Richard Kiser, residents' questions asked during the meeting may be taken under advisement until a future meeting.

Galloway objected to the procedure.

HA district, students fare well according to state averages

Hoopeston Area students – and the district as a whole – do better than average in many areas of Illinois Goals Assessment Program testing.

Statistics, released at Thursday's school board meeting, show a majority of students meet or exceed standards in most measured categories.

At Honeywell Grade School, 60 percent of third graders meet or exceed writing standards; 97 percent meet or exceed math standards and 81 percent are at or above writing goals.

In fourth grade assessments, 96 percent meet or exceed standards in science; 79 percent are at or above goals in social sciences.

Seventy three percent of John Greer sixth graders meet or exceed reading standards; 96 percent are at or above math standards; and 100 percent meet or exceed writing standards.

At the middle school, 72 percent of seventh grade stu-

dents meet or exceed science standards, while 65 and 82 percent of eighth graders meet or exceed reading and writing standards, respectively.

At the high school, 62 percent and 70 percent of tenth grade students meet or exceed reading and math goals while 38 percent are at or above writing standards.

For 11th grade students, 81 percent are at or above science standards and 83 percent meet or exceed social science goals.

Regarding the student body, 83.8 percent are white, .5 percent are black, and .4 percent Asian/Pacific Islander.

Of 1,640 students tallied, 38.3 percent are in the low income category, compared with 36.3 percent in the state. Maple School has the most low-income students, with 52 percent.

See HA on other side

HA continued from other side

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Thank you
All of us at the new
Hoopeston Car Wash
would like to thank everyone for
coming to our Grand Opening and
for the warm welcome to the
community. We'd also like to
congratulate the winners of our
drawing, Adam Nelson and
Robert Gocking, both of
Hoopeston
The Reutters
Henry, Anita, Anna,
Glenn & Gloria

Court Dispositions

Oct. 1: Nathan Longfellow, Hoopeston, to pay \$630, bond applied; to be paid by Nov. 22.

Jamie Miller, Hoopeston, five counts deceptive practice, failed to appear.

Mary Ann Prather, Hoopeston, paid \$98 in full.

The district's perfect attendance rate is at 93.6 percent, ~~down slightly from the state average of 93.9 percent.~~ The district's chronic truancy rate is also higher than the state average, with 3.4 percent locally compared to 2.3 percent state-wide.

Class size is smaller than average at all but one school. Hoopeston Area Middle School's 23.8 students per class is above the 23.5 state average. Other class sizes were first graders 19.2 locally, 22.1 state; second grade 19.2 locally, 22.8 state; third grade 22.4 locally, 23.2 state; sixth grade, 21.4 locally, 24.3 state; and high school 14.8 locally, 18.9 state.

Looking at the district financially, the average Hoopeston Area teacher's salary is \$35,286 compared with \$43,806 at the state level, \$41,900 for unit districts and \$34,670 among medium unit districts.

The average administrator's salary locally is \$54,817 compared with \$69,489 in all unit districts; \$60,708 in all medium unit districts and \$73,423 in the state.

Based on 1995 figures, Hoopeston Area's equalized assessed valuation (EAV) per student is \$37,102, com-

pared with \$47,847 average for all unit districts and \$55,448 for medium unit districts. Hoopeston Area's tax rate of \$3.56 was far below the \$4.29 for all unit districts and \$4.07 for medium unit districts.

Hoopeston Area spent 57.8 percent of its 1996-97 income educating students, for a total of \$5,008,749, compared with 47.6 percent statewide. General administration costs are 6.8 percent of the district's budget, compared with 2.6 percent at the state level. Support services make up 23.2 percent of local costs, compared with 32 percent statewide, while other expenditures total 12.2 percent locally and 17.8 percent in the state.

Police News

Steve Howell, 423 W. Penn, reported Sunday that someone threw something through the window of his 1998 van while it was parked at his home.

A lady's gold ring was found Monday in the Olympic Hardware parking lot. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

Fire Calls

The Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 11:44 p.m. Sunday to a gasoline spill at the Clark Station, 301 W. Penn. No injuries were reported.

Weather

Mostly sunny today. High 65. Tonight, cloudy. Low 42. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 53, low 37.

For current weather conditions, call the Hoopeston Weather Line at (217) 283-6221.

Court Dispositions

Paul Beyson, Danville, to pay \$211, failed to appear.

Thomas Rollberg, Rankin, deceptive practice, failed to appear.

Christopher Ratcliff, Rankin, deceptive practice, pleaded guilty, \$30 and costs, restitution paid in full, 90 days court supervision.

Melissa Searcy, Potomac, deceptive practice, continued to Oct. 22.

Jamie Vance, Danville, to pay \$38, failed to appear.

Jim Wisecup, Hoopeston, battery, failed to appear.

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WIBN

Classifieds

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