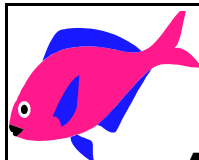


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Hike in utility surcharge is taxing for Hoopeston officials

Increased electric and gas bills for Hoopeston residents will make up for a shortfall in the city's water/sewer fund.

By a 5-3 vote, the Hoopeston city council on Tuesday approved a two percent increase in the city utility tax.

The tax on gas and electric bills will go from three to five percent, and will raise an estimated \$132,000, said Alderman Bill Goodwine, chairman of the city finance committee.

An additional .0015 percent will be charged by utility companies to collect the tax.

The increase will offset a projected \$109,000 loss in the operations portion of the water/sewer budget, Goodwine said.

The loss was projected due to lowered water usage from Hoopeston factories. "Those gallons translate to dollars," said Alderman Drew Allen.

Aldermen Dave Borders, Harold Cox and John Haughee voted against the increase.

Borders questioned the amount spent on supplies for

lagoons purchased last year as detention ponds for the sewer treatment plant. "We don't even use them," he said, adding the only use the lagoons get is from Hoopeston Foods "and they use it for nothing."

Allen disagreed "I think Hoopeston Foods would take exception to you saying they use it for nothing," he said.

Ault agreed saying the company pays monthly bills of \$15,000 to \$16,000 for wastewater treated at the site.

Haughee questioned whether the city could recoup property taxes lost through reduced industry, but city attorney Jim Spiros said that issue is between the property owner and county officials.

After passing the increased tax ordinance, the council unanimously passed the 1998-99 budget, including \$4.18 million in expenses and \$4.36 million in revenue.

While the budget seems to show a surplus of \$181,000, Goodwine said \$107,000 of that is earmarked for the police pension fund.

The budget includes transfers to reserve funds for new equipment and a three percent increase in salary ranges.

Rossville trustees OK first budget, purchase tornado siren

ROSSVILLE—A new form of village finances was approved by the village board Monday night.

Trustees approved the first village budget, for nearly \$1.2 million, said Mayor Merv Smith.

The budget replaces the annual appropriations ordinance as a means of tracking income and expenses.

The change was recommended by the village auditor.

In other action, the board approved purchasing a new tornado warning siren for approximately \$20,000, Smith said.

The existing siren "is left over from W.W. II," Smith said. "You can't get parts for it and whether it works or

not is a flip of the coin."

The siren is expected to be mounted on a pole at the water tower.

Trustees also approved spending slightly more than \$9,000 on 10 new lamp posts and globes. The village will also extend lighting by approximately one block, Smith said.

In unrelated business, trustees approved two engineering studies, one for the village water system and the other for storm sewers.

Officials hope to loop the village water system, remove-
See ROSSVILLE on other side

For Secretary's Day

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with plants \$12.50 with flowers \$15

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Thursday at 10 a.m.




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Thanks to all the ladies who
attended the Style Show on Saturday.
Hope all of you enjoyed it as much as
we did. Hats off to Robin and all the
models from Global Fashions for a
great show. Joyce - thanks for all of
your help. Last but not least, a special
note of appreciation and thanks to my
wonderful family - Marilyn, Cindy,
Danielle, Adria and Colleen - for
pitching in at the last minute and
helping make the show a success!
Thanks Again -

Sharon Dixon
First Allied Securities

★Police News★

Kevin Lowe of 313 W. McCracken, reported Sunday that someone slashed two tires on his vehicle while it was parked at 311 W. Main.

A blue 1984 Oldsmobile was towed Sunday from Floral Hill Cemetery.

Police said the vehicle had been at the cemetery for four days.

Cora E. Pruitt, 53, of 624 E. McCracken, was ticketed for driving under the influence of alcohol following an accident at 5:10 p.m. Monday.

Rossville continued from other side

ing dead ends from the system. Smith said the change is expected to decrease water problems in the village.

There are five dead-end areas in the village. The cost of looping each will range from \$1,800 to \$20,000, Smith said.

Officials also plan to change from 4-inch to 6-inch line, and will have to change fire hydrants to match the new line, Smith said.

The study for storm sewers will include locating all outlets on the system. "I challenged (everyone at the

meeting)," Smith said. "I don't think there's anybody alive who knows where they're all at."

Trustees also approved a land swap with Heather and Tim Cottingham. The couple will receive the eastern dead end of Railroad Ave. in exchange for 66 feet of clearance three lots down.

The Cottingshams will pay all costs associated with the transaction and will give the village clear title.

Obituaries

LAREAU - Mable M. Lareau, 95, of Rolla, Mo., died at 10:17 p.m. Monday, April 20, 1998, at Rolla Presbyterian Manor, Rolla. Services will be at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 5-8 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Rolla Presbyterian Manor, 1200 Home Life Plaza,

In the Hospital

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
April 20, 1998
Admitted: Marjorie Brockway, Hoopeston.
Discharged: none.

Weather

Variable cloudiness today. High 63. Tonight, fair. Low 43. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 68, low 47.
For current weather conditions, call the Hoopeston Weather Line at (217) 283-6221.

Solution to yesterday's puzzle

	1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	
10	S	A	Y	S	O	11	A	C	C	L	A
13	A	L	I	K	E	14	F	E	E	L	15
16	B	I	N	S		17	C	O	N	S	18
19	L	E	G		20	B	L	U	E		21
22	E	N		23	G	O	A	L		24	
	25	26	H	R	O	W		27	C	R	I
		29	O	U	T		30	B	A	I	L
33	34	L	O	B		35	D	U	M	B	36
37	H	E	P		38	H	E	L	P		39
40	I	T		41	J	A	C	K		42	W
43	P	U	44	T	A	W	A	Y		45	A
	46	P	I	N	K	Y		47	D	E	E

Briefly

Chicken Pie supper

The East Lynn United Methodist Church will host its annual chicken pie supper beginning at 5 p.m. Thursday. Free will offerings will be accepted.

Senior citizens concert

The Hoopeston Area High School jazz band and show choir will host a concert for local senior citizens at 9 a. m. Monday at Maple Grade School. Coffee and doughnuts will be served free of charge from 8:30-9 a. m. The concert is part of the groups' annual grade school tour.

Firecracker Weekend

The Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce will collect money this weekend for the annual July 4 fireworks display. Donations will be collected at Main and Market, Penn and Market and Routes 1 and 9.

The Chamber hopes to raise \$5,000.


Tiny Tots

"Jack and the Beanstalk" is the theme of this week's Tiny Tots story program at 10:30 a.m. Friday in the Hoopeston Public Library children's room.

Tiny Tots is open to children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

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