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Committee says no wireless equipment on water tower

A Hoopeston City Council committee will recommend Tuesday that equipment from a high-speed Internet provider not be placed on the city's water tower.

The committee met Thursday to discuss whether DTN Speednet would be allowed to put equipment on the tower.

At the Feb. 18 council meeting, a DTN representative asked to put equipment on the tower. A contract presented to the council was questioned by city attorney Bill Nelson and the committee appointed to look into the matter.

Police News

Billy G. King, 31, of 824 E. Wyman C12, was arrested at 5:33 p.m. Friday after a traffic stop in the 600 block of South Second Ave.

He was charged with unlawful possession of license plates, unlawful display of license plates and operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

King was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

Esmeralda Cordova, 22, of 327 Front, was arrested at 1:07 a.m. Saturday after a traffic stop at 214 E. Penn.

She was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, driving under the influence of alcohol over .08 and improper lane usage.

Cordova was released on \$100 cash bond.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 7:05 a.m. Sunday in the IGA parking lot, 1030 W. Chestnut.

Police said Carissa D. Cahill of East Lynn, in a 2001 Dodge Neon, pulled into a parking space and hit a parked 2003 Honda Civic owned by Wachi Garabedian of Hoopeston.

Cahill was at fault for driving too fast for conditions.

Council members John Haughee, Nancy Stipp and Brandon Hamilton served on the committee. They, along with Mayor Chalmers Flint, water superintendent Steve Baker and James Eyrich, Hoopeston Area High School network administrator; and Jean and Gerald Minick, attended Thursday's meeting.

Baker brought information from the Occupational Health and Safety Administration warning municipalities of dangers associated with allowing companies to put equipment on water towers. Aside from liability, Baker said other costs would increase. For example, the cost of painting the water tower would go up as much as 20 percent because of the additional equipment, he said.

Hamilton urged heeding those concerns. "What comes See TOWER on other side

Briefly

Multi Agency van schedule

This week's schedule for the Hoopeston Multi Agency transportation project is: Tuesday, Champaign (leave at 9 a.m.); Wednesday, Danville; Thursday, Hoopeston shuttle; Friday, Danville. For more information or to arrange a ride, call the Multi Agency at (217) 283-5544.

Community center activities include: Tuesday, ladies euchre, noon; Thursday, men's coffee 9:30 a.m., men's euchre, noon; Friday, ladies cards, noon.

Neighborhood Watch

Allen Jones of the Champaign County Sheriff's Department will be the featured speaker at the March 3 Hoopeston Neighborhood Watch meeting at Country Terrace.

He will speak on "Protecting Your Family on the Internet." Everyone is invited to attend.

Meetings

Hoopeston City Council, 7 p.m. Tuesday, city hall.

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Letter to the Editor

Resident questions Hoopeston leadership
My fellow Americans and Hoopestonians,

I do sympathize with the rural folks around Hoopeston who are being taxed on their cell phones without representation. I was recently more or less told to shut up by the mayor of Hoopeston for voicing my opinion on the cityguide@cityofhoopeston.org website. Here is my opinion that I expressed to the cityguide dated Tuesday, January 21, 2003 7:04 PM. by e-mail.

Dear City Guide,

I have checked out the website for Hoopeston. What a waste of money. You also left out how we have a city council that taxes, fees and surcharges Hoopestonians to death so they can embark on frivolous endeavors. I do not think I will be able to bare the wait for the April election. I will be voting anti-incumbent. The problem with this city is that we live in the Flintstone age. Oh, Robert Alt where are you now?

I then received this reply from the Mayor of Hoopeston whom evidently uses the name city guide once in awhile. I

quote the letter dated January 22, 2003: "I appreciate your interest in our city, however, if you have so many great ideas, why didn't you run for Alderman of the Fourth Ward? If anyone is living in the Flintstone Age it is you if you think that price of commodities and labor are not going to increase. As far as the April election, it is not my turn to run and I knew from the beginning that I would run only one term-who needs the abuse!

I have kept all of your letters so that when we accomplish an improvement in Hoopeston and my term is up I can read them and smile to myself.

I sure you will look forward to my letter to the editor-"From the other side of the desk".

Respectfully,
Chalmers E. Flint
Mayor of Hoopeston

I also received an e-mail from a Robert Davis from C.D.A. marketing. He attacked my right to dissent in a

roundabout way by suggesting that I had a psychological problem. Well, I sent an e-mail reply to him and expressed what I thought about his opinion and have not received a reply yet.

My fellow Americans and Hoopestonians, I along with you, have the city council taking more and more dollars out of my wallet every month. We paid for that website and we sure do have the right to criticize it if we want to. This would be through a document known as the United States Constitution. The first amendment gives us the right to free speech and dissent. We do not have to be heard though but, we do have the right to voice our dissent. As far as running for the fourth ward alderman position, if you can persuade the Social Security Administration and the Veteran's Administration to let me donate any monies that I would receive from the taxpayers of Hoopeston to a local charity I would consider it an honor to serve the people of Hoopeston. I would not

accept any free water either. We recently had an alderman say that the city council earned the right to free water. Well, I ask this question: Did my fellow Hoopestonians earn the right to all the recent increases on the existing taxes, fees and surcharges on are water, sewer, garbage and T.V. cable bills? Did we earn the right of the newly created municipal phone tax?

Now to close, I know the Mayor of Hoopeston has announced that he is not going to run for re-election. He expressed this very early in is administration and has complained about the lack of money the city council receives for their services and that the job is not worth full time attention. If he feels this way, I ask this question: why does he not just resign and let somebody else have the job who will be more dedicated to it and not complain about the demanding service of the job? This is my opinion. God bless America to the end of time.

John S. Palmer
Hoopeston IL.

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Obituaries

DEAN - James Dean, 77, of Hoopeston died at 11:37 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, 2003 at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be one hour before services Monday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

MILBURN - Thelma L. Milburn, 78, of Hoopeston died at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2003 at Hoopeston Community Nursing Home. In accordance with her wishes, the body was cremated. There were no services. Memorials are suggested to Hoopeston Community

Nursing Home, 701 E. Orange St., Hoopeston, IL 60942 or Provena USMC Regional Cancer Center, 806 N. Logan, Danville, IL. Brown-Alkire Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

TORBET - Evelyn Marie "Babe" Torbet, 87, of Milford, died at 6:47 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, 2003 at Watseka Health Care Center. Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Milford Methodist Church. Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery, Milford. Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. Monday at Knapp Funeral Home, Milford. Memorials are suggested to Milford Ambulance Service or a charity of the donor's choice.

Tower continued from other side

first, water or the Internet," he asked. "I don't think this is the way we ought to go."

Eyrich discussed the school district's wireless network and that of Soltec, both of which operate in the same frequency range requested by Speednet.

"At this point in time, we have a comfort zone that's not met with leasing the tower out to anyone," Haughee said.

Flint agreed. "It's my job just to bring information to

the table," he said. "It sounds to me like you made a good decision."

Weather



Chance of snow today and tonight. High 33, low 28. Tomorrow, chance of snow or rain. High 38, low 18.

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



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