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City Council considering 70/30 split on corner development

The Hoopeston City Council is expected to vote March 2 on a proposed 70/30 split with developers of the corner of Rtes. 1 and 9.

Dan Walker of consulting firm Tom Jacobs & Associates, suggested the split at Tuesday's council meeting.

Under Walker's suggestion, the developer would receive 70 percent reimbursement of eligible Tax Increment Financing (TIF) costs while the city would receive 30 percent.

With the proposal, the city will recoup the \$120,000 it plans to spend on demolition by 2009 while the developer would recover his eligible costs by 2018 or 2019. Walker said.

Rossville board changes TIF plan to help school district

ROSSVILLE—A change in the village's Tax Increment Financing (TIF) plan is expected to increase income for Rossville-Alvin schools.

In a 5-1 vote Monday, the village board approved amending the TIF plan to declare the tax increment from the inner portion of the district as surplus funds. By doing so, taxing bodies, including the school district, townships, library district and others, will receive a percentage of increases equal to their tax rate.

In most TIF districts, all increases are paid into a special TIF fund and may be paid to other taxing bodies for specific things. However, money that is paid to school districts in this manner may be deducted from state school payments, said Rossville TIF developer Robert Vancil.

By declaring funds from the core as surplus, the school district can receive TIF money without being penalized.

The line separating the inner core from the rest of the TIF district, which includes the entire town, jogs

Mayor Chalmers Flint said if a restaurant would be willing to open on the corner, the city would be willing to give the owners a liquor license - provided the owners live in the city limits.

Alderman Bill Goodwine cautioned that the city must be assured that it was actually a restaurant that was built. "We probably don't want another bar that serves food, we want a restaurant that serves drinks," he

In unrelated action, the board:

learned an open house will be held for retired police officer Steve Bane from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Feb. 27 at city hall. New officer Quentin Morgan was introduced to the council.

throughout the village. The business district, however, is not in the core and increases there will not be surplus.

Trustee Mark Catron, the sole negative vote, said the plan was a "significant change" from the original TIF plan and suggested it go before a joint board of review for approval. Vancil said sending it to the review board would be inappropriate.

Mayor Terry Prillaman called the new plan a "win-win situation" for the school district.

Catron also voted against annexing two parcels of land to be included in the TIF district, a 40-acre tract abutting the southern border owned by the Masengale family and 16 acres on the north end owned by Randy and Monique Lusk.

In other action, the board:

- learned gas prices will drop four cents, to 80 cents per therm.
- amended the ordinance pertaining to trash haulers after learning that limiting the number of haulers in the village was restricting fair trade.

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Rossville

*Ole Country Inn *Minuteman *Feedbag *Bray's General Store

Milford

Police News



Severino (aka Carlos) Osuna, 30, of 1254 W. Minister Rd., Greenwood, Ind., was arrested at 11:30 a.m. Monday in the 600 block of East McCracken.

He was charged with aggravated domestic bat-

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tery and unlawful use of a weapon on a complaint from a 24-year-old woman who alleged Osuna cut her hand and arm after an argument.

The woman was treated and released from Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Severino was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

Nick M. Beissmann, 54, of East Lynn, was ticketed for failure to yield at a marked intersection after an accident at 9:20 a.m. Tuesday.

Police said Beissmann, in a 1994 Dodge Ram, was southbound in the 600 block of West Elm at South Fifth Ave. Beissmann told police he yielded, entered the intersection and hit a 1995 Mazda driven by Abagail E.

Wheeler of Hoopeston.

flan, a type of custard.

A 37-year-old Hoopeston man reported Tuesday that someone took a red claw hammer from his van, replacing it with a chap hammer.

A 14-year-old boy reported Tuesday that he had misplaced his cell phone in the 100 block of East Main and was unable to find it.

rito on a 15 inch tortilla, tortas and enchiladas. For

dessert, there is Tres Leches (Three Milks) Cake and

food, including breakfast burritos, eggs and biscuits

The menu includes items such as a Big Bur-

The restaurant offers a full line of breakfast

Taco Shell also has a drive-through for cus-

Taco Shell is open from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon-

and mild sauces are available to customers.

and gravy. Breakfast is available all day.

tomers who don't wish to eat in.

Chicago-area couple support Hoopeston in hiring, purchasing for restaurant venture

They're not Hoopeston natives but Arthur and Margaret Gonzalez believe in supporting their new home town.

The couple, owners of Hoopeston Shell and Taco Shell, hire local people and purchase as many



Taco Shell owners Arthur and Margaret Gonzalez try to support Hoopeston by hiring local people. Pictured are Stacy Watson, Arthur Gonzalez, Margaret Gonzalez, Rachel Robinson and Michelle Baker. Employees not shown are Sabino Martinez, Cesar Hernandez and Guadalupe Martinez.

local products as they can. "We wanted to make the money here and keep the money here," Mrs. Gonzalez said.

The couple opened the restaurant on Nov. 14, 2003 after having been in Hoopeston for two years.

Mrs. Gonzalez, who managed two gas stations in Berwyn, a Chicago suburb, originally planned to serve hot dogs and Italian beef but decided on a combination of authentic Mexican and American food because that is what she cooks at home. "I've been cooking Mexican food as long as I've been with (Arthur)," she said.

Everything is cooked from scratch. Each Mexican dish is cooked without hot sauce but hot

Weather



Foggy, partly cloudy today. High 44. Tonight, breezy. Low 31. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy, chance of rain late. High 50, low 40.

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

2004 Hoopeston Area Music Booster calendar winners listed The Hoopeston Area Music Boosters have an-

day through Saturday and 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday.

nounced early winners in their calendar drawing. They are:

Jan. 1, Randy and Lindy Lawson; Jan. 2, Schuler's Flower Shop.

Jan. 5, Darrell Buhrmester (donated back); Jan. 6, Dale's Auto; Jan. 7, Vickie Jackson- Community Bank; Jan. 8, Mary Miles, Penfield; Jan. 9, Hoopeston Education Assoc.

Jan. 12, Robert Dixon, Milford; Jan. 13, Glenn Umbanhowar; Jan. 14, Janet's Curl up and Dye; Jan. 15, Rod's Home and Auto; Jan. 16, Werner and Pauline Klein.

Jan 19, Ann Weber;; Jan 20, Ashley and Levi Stebbins; Jan 21 Shawn Swartzentruber; Jan 22, Dave Schippert, Cissna Park; Jan 23, Karen and Oscar Young.

Jan 26, Hoopeston Awards and Signs; Jan. 27, Kaeb Sales (donated back); Jan 28, Judy L. Martin; Jan 29, Heidi Crouch; Jan 30, Willis and Anabelle Bird



Winter

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Summei