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Township trustees accept construction bid, discuss financing

Grant Township trustees approved one of two bids submitted for a new road and bridge building.

At its regular meeting Jan. 10, the board approved a \$108,816 bid from FBI Builders.

A second bid was from Silver Brothers Construction for \$147,585.

Neither bid includes concrete, electrical, heating/ventilation/air conditioning or plumbing costs. Site preparation costs were also not included but township workers have already prepared the site, said Road Commissioner Gary Weinard.

Still undecided is whether the building will have a well and septic system or be connected to Hoopeston water and sewer lines.

After accepting the bid for the 60'x120'x16' structure, the board discussed ways of paying for it.

Previously, trustees had talked about using money from existing fund balances to pay for it. However, Supervisor Bill Boose said a local bank has agreed to loan money at two percent more than what the township is receiving on its savings, or 3.75 percent.

Borrowing money would cost slightly more but would

eliminate potential problems. For example, officials had discussed calling some internal funds "surplus" and using the money for the building but that would disallow the township from levying taxes is those specific accounts for one year.

The board hopes to pay for the building in three to four years.

Weinard reiterated to the board the need for a new building. "I wouldn't have brought this to the trustees if I hadn't thought it was a good idea," he said. "I think it's workable and I think we can be comfortable doing it."

A special meeting will be held at 4 p.m. Friday to discuss a resolution to borrow money for the building. If the resolution is approved, the board will pay 30 percent of the cost upfront, 40 percent upon delivery of materials and 30 percent when construction is complete.

In unrelated action, the board:

- Approved lowering mileage reimbursement 4.5 cents, to 44.5 cents per mile. Trustee Rich Thompson was the sole dissenting vote.
- Approved a \$2,150 bid from Russell Leigh & Associates for the 2006 audit.

Briefly

Tiny Tots

"Boy in the North Wind" is the theme of this week's Tiny Tots at the Hoopeston Public Library children's room.

Tiny Tots meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 10:30 a.m. Fridays and is open to children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

Open house

The Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce and economic development committee are hosting an open house to meet Shannon Ruh, new economic development Fellow.

The event will be from 5-7 p.m. Thursday at the Chamber office, 210 S. Market.

Everyone is invited to meet Ms. Ruh.

Meetings

- Hoopeston City Council, 7 p.m. Tuesday, city hall.
- Hoopeston Area School Board, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, high school library.
- Grant Township Board, 4 p.m. Friday, township building. Special meeting to act on a resolution to borrow funds for a new building for the township road and bridge district.



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Letters to the Editor



Information given on ADA guidelines

To all handicapped individuals and those interested in the ADA accessibility guidelines:

You may obtain any federal regulations regarding accessibility at <http://www.access-board.gov/adaag/html/adaag.htm>.

Particular interest would be section 4.6.3 appendix A pertaining to parking.

Thank you Alderman Ankenbrand for your response.

Tom Evans
Hoopeston

Medicare drug benefit is nightmare

What a nightmare!!! Seniors should not have to hire lawyers to help them understand how to buy drugs or decipher the new Medicare Prescription Drug Plan.

In the beginning, I thought it was a government program with approximately a \$35 monthly premium;

a \$250 deductible plus 25 percent of drug costs up to \$2,250; then 100 percent up to \$3,600. At that point, I was satisfied...I mean scared.

What happened? The mail is piling up, and for all I know, there might be a few scams. I'm getting more puzzled every time I sort through all the offers from insurance companies. They have studied. They have what they call, a "formulary". Some companies call it "simplifying." It causes sleep problems trying to understand the different premiums, co-payments, tiers...which I finally learned was generic drugs, brand and preferred

Just the Facts welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be signed and must include the author's daytime telephone number. Letters may be mailed to Just the Facts, P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL 60942; faxed to (217) 283-9348 or emailed to publish@justthefacts.net.



Police News




Police are investigating a hit-and-run accident reported at 3:53 p.m. Sunday. An unknown vehicle hit a parked 2005 Kia owned by Retta A. Houmes of Hoopeston. The accident occurred in the 100 block of East Lincoln.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 8:52 p.m. Sunday in the 600 block of East McNeil. Police said Daniel Lugo of Hoopeston backed a 1989 Ford into a parked 1999 Dodge owned by John M. Simpson, also of Hoopeston.



New Books at the Library



Fiction

She's Out of Control: a Novel by Kristin Billerbeck (inspirational)

What a Girl Wants: a Novel by Kristin Billerbeck (inspirational)

With This Ring, I'm Confused: an Ashley Stockingale

Novel by Kristin Billerbeck (inspirational)

Necklace of Kisses: a Novel by Francesca Lia Block

Straken by Terry Brooks (science fiction)

The Hunt Ball by Rita Mae Brown

Chill Factor by Sandra Brown

The Noble Fugitive by T. Davis Bunn (inspirational)


Three Can Keep a Secret by Judy Clemens (mystery)

Artemis Fowl: the Eternity Code by Eoin Colfer (young adult)

Obituaries

READ - Mildred L. Read, 87, of Hoopeston died at 9:02 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, 2006 at Hoopeston Community Memorial Nursing Home. Private family services were held at 10 a.m. Monday at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Burial was in Floral Hill Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the nursing home, 701 E. Orange St., Hoopeston IL 60942.

Weather



Chance of rain, snow today. High 39, low 25. Tomorrow, breezy. High 38, low 25.

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

brand drugs.

I tried to figure it all out for a friend before calling one insurance company and being put on hold until I gave up. It may be past the May deadline before many seniors can get connected.

I have learned that my drug costs will actually increase. Now it's time for sleep drugs.

Thank you government.

Vera Crozier
Hoopeston, IL



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Ends Jan. 31, 2006

Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hoopeston Auxiliary Police is now accepting applications. Applicants must be 21 years of age. Applications available at Hoopeston Police Dept., 301 W. Main, anytime.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Rossville: 1-2 bdrs. Riverview Apartments. Completely refurbished, on-site washers & dryers. 1 bdr. \$310/mo., \$310 deposit. Call (217) 840-3672.

DAYCARE

Dana Burk's licensed daycare in East Lynn currently has several openings. Call me! (217) 375-4417

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30" white electric kitchen range. \$75 OBO. (217) 283-5072

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