Fish Fry

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Just the Facts®

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City officials prepare to sue if well agreement not honored

A Hoopeston man will find himself in court if he fails to allow the city to cap wells on his property.

At Tuesday night's meeting, the Hoopeston City Council voted 7-0 to move forward with a lawsuit if Terry Buhrmester does not honor an agreement he signed in May 2007.

Buhrmester has until Friday to honor the agreement allowing the city to cap two wells on Buhrmester's property and run water lines to his home near where a new motel is planned. If he fails to do so, city attorney Paul Manion will file a lawsuit Tuesday, requesting a temporary order to cap the wells.

Until the wells are capped and final documentation sent to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. the city cannot receive an EPA No Further Remediation letter. Without the letter, developers will not build the motel.

Alderman Brandon Hamilton said the delay has cost the city one motel developer. A second has been found and is ready to begin construction once the NFR letter is received.

"The city council believes it offered a favorable amount to connect (Buhrmester's) house and garage to the city water system," Manion said. "We are going to attempt to talk to him one more time before filing suit."

Other property owners in the area, including Hooterville Broadcasting and Allen Decker, already signed agreements and have had their wells capped.

In other business, Hoopeston grew by 158.5 acres after the council approved annexing property owned by Bill Moran. The land is on the South Market St. extension, and borders Hospital Road to the east. Called the "south rail site," it will be marketed for industrial use, said city economic developer Shannon Ruh.

Under terms of the agreement with Moran, Hoopeston will rebate the city part of Moran's taxes for 10 years or until development occurs, she said.

In unrelated discussion, the council heard from Alderman Carl Ankenbrand that improvements at the civic center will cost \$706,668, according to an architect's estimate.

Changes include enlarging the area near the men's restrooms, improving restroom facilities and the kitchen.

Ankenbrand and Ruh are looking at possible grants for the project and, prompted by a question from Alderman Bill Goodwine, will also check into whether a new civic center could be built for the same amount.

In unrelated action, the council:

Approved spending about \$145,000 for a new street sweeper from Key Equipment. Hoopeston will get up to \$15,000 trade-in for the current sweeper, said Alderman Jerry Yonkers, street/alley committee chairman.

Approved discontinuing late notices for water bills. The change is expected to save the city \$4,000 to \$5,000 per year, not including labor costs, said Alderman Bill Crusinberry, water/sewer chairman. Each month, about 500 water customers receive late notices, he said.

Learned Monday will be free swim day at the pool. Season passes will be on sale that day for 20 percent off.

Approved an educational historic preservation ordinance which "lay(s) the groundwork for preservation but not enforcement." Ruh said.

Manion said the ordinance "does not have mandatory provisions for property owners."

Approved a change in the façade ordinance, changing wording from the city paying 50 percent per linear foot to paying 50 percent of eligible improvements, up to \$5,000 per building.

Tabled four issues: purchasing a sound system for the council chambers/courtroom, a motel tax ordinance, a potable water ordinance and signing an intergovernmental agreement with Rankin to provide court services.



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every Thursday 7 p.m. **Hoopeston American Legion**

502 E. Penn

JEFFRO JAM 3

Saturday, May 24 Noon-Midnight Hoopeston Civic Center Bands, food, children's play area, bake sale, 50/50 drawing, t-shirts. NO COVER

Music by

Standard Issue

The Villens

Turmoil

Fallen Oath Stinkditch

Amplifire Furion

Spankkings

Generation II

All proceeds to Jeff Wallace

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Must be 21 with valid ID to purchase alcohol

— Briefly

Summer Fun League

Come join local bowlers on Thursday nights for the Summer Fun 9 Pin League. Eight weeks of fun, non-sanctioned, only four people per team. League meets June 5-July 31. For information, call Leona York at 283-6803 or Doug at Fast Lanes of Hoopeston, 283-6505.

Obituaries

HUCKLEBY - Donald "Jethro" Huckleby, 53, of Milford died at 3:32 a.m. Tuesday, May 20, 2008 at home. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Knapp Funeral Home, Milford. Burial will be in Sugar Creek Cemetery, Stockland. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Donald "Jethro" Huckleby Memorial Fund.

LOCKHART - Gail Lockhart, 81, of rural Wellington died at 9 a.m. Monday, May 19 2008 at his daughter's home in Chenoa. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Visitation was 5-8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Milford Christian Church or Prairie States Christian Camp, Watseka.

SEIDEL - Kenneth B. Seidel, 93, of Rankin died at 2:30 p.m. Monday, May 19, 2008 at Hoopeston Community Memorial Nursing Home. Funeral service will be at 2:30 p.m. Thursday at Grace Lutheran Church, Rankin. Burial will be in Rankin Union Cemetery with Masonic graveside service. Visitation will be one hour before service at the church. Memorials are suggested to the church or donor's choice. Ford-Baier Funeral Home, Paxton, is in charge of arrangements.



An organizational meeting will be held at 7 p.m. May 22 at Fast Lanes of Hoopeston.

Volunteer opportunities

• Hoopeston American Legion and VFW will place flags on graves at Floral Hill Cemetery of members of the military that have passed. Those who would like to assist need to be at the cemetery at 8:30 a.m. on May 23.

Questions may be directed to Bob Duffin,

Police News



Rory R. Kempen, 22, of Hoopeston was arrested after an incident at 5:46 p.m. Tuesday in the 400 block of North Eighth Ave. He was charged with criminal damage to property on a complaint from a 46-year-old Hoopeston man who alleged Kempen came into his home uninvited and created a disturbance by breaking the screen and bottom sash of the kitchen window.

Kempen was removed from the property and issued a notice to appear.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 8:03 a.m. Wednesday at Casey's General Store, 115 E. Orange.

Police said Karen P. Beissmann of East Lynn, in a 2007 Dodge truck, pulled away from the gas pumps and struck a 1995 Dodge driven by Matthew H. Morgeson of Hoopeston, who was starting to leave the parking lot.

Weather



Partly sunny today. High 68. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 49. Tomorrow, chance of storms. High 69, low 51. For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service. (217) 283-6221.

Thursday is \$1 beer night at V.F.W.

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Corner of Fourth Ave. & Orange, Hoopeston

Classifieds

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3 bedroom / 2 1/2 bath ranch home in Hickory Hills Subdivision 2 miles north of Rossville. On 1 3/4 acres, nature abounds in this wooded setting and you can ride your cart to the golf course. Custom cabinets w/ stainless appliances and quartz countertops are just the beginning to this premium kitchen. Newer carpets and many other updates throughout the house. 2 car attached garage. A very efficient and maintenance free home. Asking \$179,900. Call 217-304-6547 for more information and a private showing.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Electric drills, DeWalt portable battery drill kit, 2 portable sewing machines, floor lamp, table lamp, old stereo & lots of records. Call (217) 283-7382

RUMMAGE SALES

805 E. Main, Hoopeston. May 23, 8-3, May 24, 8-1. Baby clothes, men's, women's, VHS tapes, misc., plus lots more!

330 W. Maple, Hoopeston. Friday, 8-5, Saturday, 8-noon. Large sale! Lots of misc. items, good, clean clothing, like-new knick-knacks, etc. Lots of new items added!

828 E. Lincoln, Hoopeston. Sat., 8-1. Lots of furniture!

516 E. Seminary, Hoopeston. Sat., 7-noon. 2 family sale. Lots of clothes (baby-adult), misc.

423 E. Washington, Hoopeston. Fri. & Sat., 8-3

520 E. McNeil, Hoopeston. Sat., 7-1. Books, DVDs, Dale Earnhardt diecast, clothing (infants 6-18 mos., men's, women's), toys & more!

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