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Rossville Village Board approves growth stimulus proposals

Subdivisions, downtown targeted

ROSSVILLE—Those who build homes in subdivisions developed by the village will get instant equity under an ordinance approved Monday night.

Rossville trustees unanimously approved an ordinance subsidizing the sale of subdivision lots to stimulate new home construction.

The ordinance states that the village will subsidize the cost of the lot, "giving new buyers immediate equity in the soon-to-be-built dwellings."

In return, buyers must accept a stipulation that the home be built within 12 months - with a possible 12-month extension for extenuating circumstances - or the lot may revert to the village. A deed restriction or redevelopment agreement will be required of buyers.

Should the clause about property reverting to the village create a security interest in favor of the village, the interest will be subordinate to any first mortgage on the property.

The other ordinance declares as surplus property downtown buildings owned by the village, including 113, 114, 115, 116, 117 and 118 E. Attica, 113 E. Attica.

By declaring the buildings as surplus, the village is now free to advertise and sell them in an effort to spur development in the downtown.

The ordinance states that "every effort will be made to sell the properties to persons, businesses, corporations, etc., who will be willing to remodel the buildings, establish businesses, employ people, sell products, merchandise or food, pay sales tax, place the building back on the real estate tax rolls, or any other use that would be considered beneficial to the downtown business district and would aid in revitalizing the downtown area.

"No reasonable offer will be refused, as will be determined by the Board of Trustees."

As in the other ordinance, a redevelopment agreement will be required.

Last year, the village approved taking over the abandoned buildings and set about getting them tuck pointed and roofs repaired in an effort to make the structures more salable.

In unrelated business, trustees:

- Heard from Mayor Terry Prillaman that the village was notified that it received a \$350,000 Community Development Assistance Program grant for an updated water treatment plant but has not received a check.

- Looked into but did not act on adding steel plates to filter tanks for the water treatment plant. Tanks with the steel plates would cost the village \$40,342.

- Also heard from Prillaman that committee chairmen need to begin working on their budgets. "This is going to be a tough year," he said. "We've already been told that money from the state is going to be cut quite a bit. It's going to be a fun budget."

After the meeting, Prillaman said sales tax will probably drop, along with state income tax payments. Motor Fuel Tax money will also be cut.

- Approved not paying a bill from engineers Sodemann & Associates of Champaign. Prillaman said after the water treatment project was rebid, the company started sending new bills for their services; however, officials believe that for the initial bid, Sodemann & Associates accepted a bid eight minutes after the deadline. That bid turned out to be the lowest but was ineligible for consideration.

Payment was withheld for at least a month to allow the village and company to work out a solution.

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Saturday: City Tournament
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Sunday: City Tournament
Call for Open Bowling

719 W. Elm, Hoopeton (217) 283-6505

Rescheduled business workshop offers new opportunity to sign up

Winter weather caused the postponement of the second small business workshop at Hoopeston Public Library. However, the postponement gives interested people another opportunity to sign up.

Bill Wilkinson will present the second session, How to Write a Business Plan, from 9 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, Jan. 28.

In order to secure financing to start a business, the entrepreneur must have a business plan. Wilkinson's experience with the University of Illinois Small Business Development Center has made him an advocate for small businesses. Their importance in the economic health and growth of a community is undeniable.

The session is free but participants must sign up by calling the library at (217) 283-6711.

The series is made possible through a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a Department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the federal Library Services and Technology Act.



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Monical's to host Community Day for Hoopeston Lions Club

Hoopeston Lions Club will be the recipient of funds raised during a Community Day fundraiser at Monical's Pizza.

The event will be held Monday, Jan. 26. Patrons who have a special flier will have 20 percent of their checks donated to Hoopeston Lions Club. The fundraiser in-

cludes pizza, sandwiches and pasta purchases.

Fliers are available at Olympic Hardware, WHPO, Russ Leigh & Associates, ADM Elevator and from Rich Thompson by calling (217) 283-7856.

Information and fliers are also available at www.monicals.com.

Briefly

Retirement party

A retirement party for Dr. Frank Laci, pastor at



Rime of the season

Early Tuesday morning, Mother Nature decorated local trees with rime, providing a picture of the beautiful side of winter.

Community Church of the Nazarene, will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday in the church New Beginnings Center. A light meal will be served.

A freewill offering will be taken to purchase tools and a heater for the Rev. Laci's woodworking shop.

Blood drive

Hoopeston Junior Women's Club will sponsor an American Red Cross blood drive from noon-6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23 at First Presbyterian Church fellowship hall, 915 E. Orange. To schedule an appointment, call Yolanda Woods at (217) 283-9556.

Police News



Jason A. Buss, 33, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 8:05 a.m. Monday at Parkview Court. He was charged with disorderly conduct on a complaint from a 34-year-old Hoopeston woman who alleged telephone harassment from Buss.

He was released on a notice to appear.

Fire Calls



Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 6:37 p.m. Monday to the 700 block of South Third St., for a report of a fire in an electrical outlet. No injuries were reported.

Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 30. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 21. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 38, low 25.

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

New Books at the Library



Children's Room Non-Fiction:

Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll
 Mother Goose Numbers on the Loose by Leo Dillon
 Apples by Jacqueline Farmer
 Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: a Worldwide Cinderella by Paul Fleischman
 Marley: a Dog like No Other by John Grogan
 Towers Reach High by Lee Sullivan Hill
 In America's Shadow by Kimberly Kamatsu
 Rough, Tough Charley by Verla Kay
 Blackbeard, the Pirate King by J. Patrick Lewis
 I Spy Colors in Art by Lucy Micklethwait
 Mother Goose's Little Treasures by Iona Opie
 Electronics: MP3s, TVs and DVDs by Chris Oxlade
 You Wouldn't Want to be Cleopatra! by Jim Pipe
 National Geographic Investigates Ancient Egypt by Jill Rubalcaba
 Walt Disney's Cinderella retold by Cynthia Rylant

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

FOR RENT: Hoopeston-Newer Adult complex. 2 bedroom 1 bath. Full basement. Washing machine, refrigerator, stove. Walk to stores. Quiet surroundings. Immediate occupancy. \$475 + deposit, references required. No pets. 217-260-2546.

HOUSES FOR RENT

2 Bedroom house in Rossville. High efficiency furnace, fresh paint, very nice, no pets. \$450 per month + deposit. Call 217-304-6547 for application.

2 BR house in Hoopeston. Energy efficient furnace & central air. \$425/mo. Deposit, references required. No pets allowed.. (815) 471-3245

Hoopeston, So 4th Street, Clean 2 bedroom house with nice basement & 2 car garage. \$450/Mo. with deposit. Refrig, Range, Washer, Dryer, Central AC & new Furnace. NO pets, Smoke Free. Call 283-7568 or 283-5107 for application.

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