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Council shows support for nursing home waterline pro-

The Hoopeston City Council on Tuesday unanimously supported Hoopeston Regional Health Center's state grant request to run a new water main for a planned new nursing home.

At a public hearing prior to the meeting, officials reviewed the basics of plans for the new nursing home, which will be a 37,000 sq. ft. structure with 75 private beds, shared bathrooms, hospice rooms, full kitchen and other amenities. Price tag for the project is \$6.4 million.

Of that, an estimated \$1.089 million is needed to run the water main from the water storage tower on Main Street to the site of the new nursing home on Route 1, across from Anthem Chevrolet and Olympic Hardware.

Health center CEO Harry Brockus has applied for a \$650,000 Community Development Assistance Program grant through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. The health center is working with Vermilion Advantage on the grant application, he said.

Other funding from the program will come from a \$6 million low-interest USDA loan. Approval for that loan was announced last month.

During the public hearing, Brockus told those attending that the health center hopes to locate two additional buildings on the 25 acre property at Thompson and Route 1. Brockus declined to say what buildings those

would be. "We're not prepared to make a statement at this time," he said, adding news on those plans will be forthcoming soon, perhaps as soon as two weeks.

City officials are happy to get behind the health center's plan. "I think it's going to be a wonderful asset to the community and anything we can do to move it forward, I'm all for it," said Alderwoman Sue Comstock.

Mayor Bill Crusinberry said not only will the water main benefit the new nursing home, but also existing businesses and homes in the area, increasing water flow and pressure.

In other business, the council unanimously approved giving Crusinberry authority to sign a resolution with Intergovernmental Benefit Cooperative, which formerly provided health insurance to city employees.

Alderman Bill Goodwine, finance committee chairman, said the city used IBC's services for five or six years, until January 2009 when the group notified the city that it planned to raise its rates by 156 percent due to high claims.

Hoopeston found another health insurance provider and Intergovernmental Benefit Cooperative threatened to sue the city for more than \$300,000.

The resolution will settle the dispute, but Goodwine declined to release details of the agreement until the document is signed. "There are several reasons why we shouldn't release it until it's signed," he said.


In other business, Crusinberry addressed concerns expressed in letters to the editor in Just the Facts about the new garbage contract with Allied Waste.

Use of the blue 95 gallon totes provided by Allied is not mandated under the new contract. "Allied has agreed See COUNCIL on other side

Council continued from other side
 it's still business as usual," Crusinberry said, adding if residents wish to put trash out in bags or other containers, they may do so.


He pointed out that two other sizes of totes, 65-

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Hoopeston Youth Wrestling participants win at regionals, to face sectionals Saturday at Prairie Central High School

Hoopeston Youth Wrestling took part in the IKWF Regionals last weekend at the David S Palmer Arena in Danville. The following Hoopeston Youth wrestlers have qualified for sectionals which will be held at Prairie Central High School on Saturday, March 5.

9-10 year olds

Second place finish: Ezra Elliott, Brody Powell
Third place finish: Tyson Coon
Fourth place finish: Payton Frederick, Cova Curry, Austin Linares

11-12 year olds

First place finish: Anthony Shore, Devin English, Jack Simpson
Second place finish: Christian Davis
Third place finish: Christian Chandler

13-14 year olds

First place finish: Devin Cartwright
Second place finish: Cole Alkire
Fourth place finish: Coty Coon, Matt Oyer
Hoopeston Youth Wrestling would like to give a big thank you to Hank Hornbeck and the Hoopeston Area School Board, along with Ann Burton and Gwen Bandy

for all their help and support this year.

Police News



A 47-year-old Hoopeston man reported at 9:12 p.m. Tuesday that someone took his 2002 Pontiac from the 300 block of West Penn.

Weather



Partly sunny today. High 46. Tonight, chance of showers. Low 39. Tomorrow, showers. High 54, low 42.
For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Mustard Seed Christian Daycare in Rossville is looking for Teacher Qualified Applicants. Please apply in person by February 28th. Mustard Seed is located in the Rossville-Alvin High School Building. For more information call 217-748-6370.

Hoopeston Area Community Unit School District #11 is seeking applications for Payroll Clerk. This is a 12 month position. Background in payroll/accounting is required. Application is available online only—www.hoopeston.k12.il.us, click on Vacancies/ Application. Deadline for application is March 31, 2011. Tentative start date is May 2, 2011.

Greene Galvanized Stairs, a manufacturer of galvanized steel agricultural products, is seeking a full-time office assistant for their growing operations in East Lynn, IL. The position covers receptionist, data entry, and administrative support duties. Must have excellent verbal and written communication skills and demonstrate attention to detail. General computer usage and data entry skills required. Send resume and cover letter with salary expectations to PO Box 191, East Lynn IL 60932 or jobs@greenebinstairs.com.

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Photo contributed

Hoopeston Area Youth wrestlers are going to sectionals Saturday.

and 35-gallons, are available by calling the company. ~~Additionally, he said residents need not be concerned about the 12-hour limit for having trash at curbside or leaving containers at the curb following pickup.~~

The city has adopted an unwritten policy that since a day begins at midnight, the 12 hour rule allows residents to put refuse at the curb at noon the day before it is picked up and allowing citizens to move trash receptacles by noon the day after pickup.

In unrelated business, the council:

- Heard from Crusinberry that the state is eight payments behind in state income tax payments to the city to the tune of \$200,000 to \$240,000.
- Heard from Goodwine that budgeted income is coming in as predicted, with 91 percent of budgeted sales tax in and, despite late payments, 75 percent of

budgeted income tax. The city is “in pretty good shape” on the expense side as well.
• Heard from Alderwoman Nancy Stipp that the city is accepting bids for perpetual urns and pots for Floral Hill. Specs are available at city hall. Bids will be opened April 4; each bid must be accompanied by a sample of the urn or pot.

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