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Just the Facts[©]
Thursday, December 19, 2013
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
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Council looks ahead to warm weather, approves splash pad

It's too cold for most people to be thinking about water recreation but it was a topic addressed by Hoopeston City Council at Tuesday night's meeting.

The council voted 6-0 to accept a \$185,685 bid from Spear Corp. for a splash pad at the municipal pool.

Alderman Carl Ankenbrand, parks committee chairman, said money will be taken from the approximately \$260,000 in the parks department accrual fund.

The splash pad will replace the kiddy pool and will eliminate the need for one lifeguard position, Ankenbrand said.

Spear Corp. was the only bid received, which concerned Alderman Bill Goodwine. "No other splash pad providers were aware of the opportunity," he asked.

Ankenbrand said the project was widely advertised and that no other companies stepped forward. Additionally, he said, Spear has worked with the city regarding the pool and has provided excellent customer service over many years. An example, Ankenbrand said, was when the pool pump went out. Spear Corp. found a replacement and installed it, allowing the pool to reopen within a couple of days. "I think Spear Corp. has always treated us right," he said.

Satisfied that Hoopeston has worked with Spear previ-

ously, Goodwine joined the chorus of "aye" votes for the purchase.

In other action, the council approved new insurance coverage for employees that is within Obamacare mandates.

The city will move from Plan A offered by Coventry Health Insurance, which failed to meet standards, to Plan B.

The plan has a \$250/\$500 deductible, and pays 90 percent of expenses. Out-of-pocket maximums will be \$2,500/\$5,000, up from \$1,000/\$3,000 under the current plan.

Also increasing is the plan's cost, which will go up 12 percent. Of that, 4.6 percent is directly related to the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), said Alderman Bill Goodwine, finance committee chairman. The city will pay \$435,660 for Plan B, compared with \$388,980 for the current plan.

Goodwine said he did not seek plans from other companies because last year, officials approved a two-year contract with Coventry. Accepting the new plan covers the second year of that agreement.

In unrelated business, the council:

- Heard from Susan Chavarria, regional planning manager at Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, about helping Hoopeston determine an economic development plan based on the city's strengths.

Chavarria, who has worked at CCRPC for 13 years, said she worked on similar projects with officials in Fisher, Mahomet and Piatt County.

The proposal, with a \$9,800 price tag, would include involvement of various segments of Hoopeston representing realty, financial institutions, retail, education and others, to develop a plan including easy, short-term goals, which Chavarria called "low hanging fruit," along

See COUNCIL on other side

Come see the
Christmas Rose
poinsettias!
Remember Molly's when
Christmas shopping this year!
Flowers & Gifts by Mully Culbert
702 W. Main, Hoopeston (800) 523-1344 Open 7 Days!

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VFW Menu
 Orange & 4th Ave., Hoopeston
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ThirstyThursdays & Tacos 5-8 p.m.
\$1.25 domestic beers, \$2 imports
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Hoopeston Area High School wrestlers fall to Westville, Oakwood in December 12 action

Hoopeston wrestlers dropped to Westville and Oakwood in grappling action December 12 at Westville.

Hoopeston lost to Westville 48-18. Matches went:

145- C. Coon (HA) dec. C. Rice 11-7
 152- T. Digby (W) dec. A. Shore 2-0
 160- JD Patti (HA) fft
 170- B. Durnell (W) fall D. English 2:51
 182- J. Rivers (W) fft
 195- T. Dicken (W) fft
 220- J. Munoz (W) fall G. Herron 1:46
 285- T. Johnson (W) fall C. Willis 1:44
 106- D. Riggleman (W) fft
 113- D. Bunting (W) fft
 120- K. Carrell (W) fall I. Bell 5:26
 126- D. Pate (HA) fall K. Ellis 5:40
 132- C. Davis (HA) fall G. Leep 1:01
 138- J. Martin (HA) fall J. Munoz 1:15
 Hoopeston fell to Oakwood 41-20
 145- A. Shelton (O) fall C. Coon 1:59
 152- A. Shore (HA) dec Oakwood 14-8
 160- JD Patti (HA) fall K. Sweetland 1:35

170- H. Harrison (O) fall D. English 3:17
 182- H. Phelps (O) fft
 195- C. Ayers (O) fft
 220- G. Herron (HA) dec. D. Nibbe 8-2
 285- C. Ashikyah (O) fall C. Willis 3:42
 106- K. Aluyah (O) fft.
 113- Oakwood fft

120- I. Bell (HA) major dec. D. Fox 12-1

126- Oakwood tech fall D. Pate 4:00

132- A. Alvarez (O) fall C. Davis 1:5/

138- J. Martin (HA) major dec. S. Markiewicz 17-5

"I was really impressed with Christian Davis, Johnny Martin, Gerd Herron, and Charlie Warner with their performances tonight," said Coach Logan Patton.

Police News

A **49-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported at 2:51 a.m. Tuesday that someone took a Lincare oxygen generating machine from her home in the 1000 block of West Main.

A **50-year-old** Florida man reported at 12:55 p.m. Tuesday that someone stole several items from a rental property in the 200 block of east Lincoln.

Kolton J. Duggan, 18, of Danville, was ticketed

for operating an uninsured motor vehicle following an accident at 11:41 p.m. Tuesday.

Police said Duggan, in a 2003 Oldsmobile, was stopped in the 800 block of West Main, when he allegedly told officers he believed he struck a parked vehicle in the area. Police were unable to find a vehicle consistent with the damage on Duggan's vehicle.

Obituaries

MILES - Sharon Adele (Singleton) Miles, 64, of Rossville, died at 10:40 p.m. Monday, Dec. 16, 2013, at Presence United Samaritans Medical Center, Danville. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Thursday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston, and 10 a.m. until the 11 a.m. funeral Friday at Rossville Church of Christ. She will be cremated. Memorials are suggested to the church, 514 E. Attica St., Rossville IL 60963.

Council continued from other side

with longer-term, more difficult goals.

The council will review the proposal and vote on it at the January 7, 2014 meeting.

• Heard from Alderman Joe Fell that a 1971 aerial truck, which the city purchased used for \$5,000, will be sold for \$5,100 to a Watseka scrap dealer.

• Heard from Alderwoman Nancy Stipp about the need to look at ordinances concerning cremains at Floral Hill Cemetery.

Weather



Chance of rain today. High 43. Tonight, rain likely. Low 39. Tomorrow, chance of rain/freezing rain. High 41, low 30.

Are you looking for Santa?
Corporate, Family, and Organizations can all have a visit from Santa!
Contributions for Santa visit are all taken to the Grant Township Food Bank.
Contact Undercover Santa on Facebook to book your visit! References available on website.



Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Newer cozy 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment in a 4-Plex. All appliances included. Full basement (not for sleeping). Walking distance to shopping. Hook-up for washer and dryer. Yard. Handicapped accessible. Available now. \$475 +deposit. References checked. No Pets. (217) 260-2546.

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The family of Maxine Williams would like to thank everyone for the calls, food, cards, memorials, flowers, visits, prayers, and support offered to us during the illness and loss of our Mother. The strength that we have received from everyone has helped us greatly. A special thank you to Autumn Fields for their care and compassion, Pastor Andy Maxwell for his kind words, and the ladies of the Hoopeston United Methodist Church for the wonderful meal. Also thank you to Anderson Funeral Home for their compassion and guidance during this difficult time. We are truly blessed to live in a community that is willing to help in times of trial. May God bless you.

Tom and Sandy Williams
Larry and Sherry Johnson
Terry and Jacci Williams
Joyce Williams