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Just the Facts®
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Council approves putting city sales tax on April '15 ballot

"If at first you don't succeed, try again" is the motto Hoopeston City Council is going by when it comes to a city sales tax.

At Tuesday's meeting, the council voted 6-1 to put a one percent sales tax on the April 2015 ballot.

A similar referendum in November was defeated, 596-572.

In bringing the issue to the board, Alderman Randy Carter said that many people who supported the sales tax felt it was not clearly communicated to residents what the money would be used for, including curbs, streets, water lines, money to attract new business and a dentist.

Carter talked about area towns which each have city

sales tax, including Champaign, Danville, Mahomet, Rantoul and Watseka.

Alderman Bill Goodwine, finance committee chairman, voted against putting the issue on the ballot, saying it had already been voted on and because he doesn't think the city needs the money.

Goodwine said the only suggested use he agreed with is water projects, but added money for water projects should come from the city's water fund, which money can only be used for water projects. Money from a sales tax, which might be discussed for water projects could be used for other projects, he said.

Mayor Bill Crusinberry said water projects are the

See TAX on other side



Mr. B-eautiful

Rotary Park in downtown Hoopeston is festooned with Christmas decorations thanks to Blake Lawson, the Mr. B of Mr. B's Café. Lawson paid for the decorations and worked for more than a week, adding to the display.

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