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**Just the Facts**<sup>©</sup>  
**Tuesday, April 28, 2015**

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication  
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 [www.justthefacts.net](http://www.justthefacts.net)

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**Hoopeston Multi Agency Health Fair**

Wednesday, April 29  
 9 a.m.-1 p.m.  
 206 S. First Ave. Hoopeston

**Door Prizes**  
 Information from

- Gibson Area Hospital
- Family Healthcare of Hoopeston
- ECI-CAA: I GROW and Education Talent Search
- Robinson Chiropractic
- Crosspoint Human Services
- Vermilion County Rape Crisis Center
- CRIS Healthy Aging Center
- Prairie Center Health Systems Inc.
- The Pavilion
- Hoopeston Breast Cancer Group
- Heritage Health Therapy and Senior Care
- U of I Extension Master Gardener
- U of I Extension EFNEP
- Iroquois Memorial Hospice
- Hudson Drug and Hallmark Shop

For more information, call (217) 283-5544

**City council expected to approve budget at special meeting**

Hoopeston City Council is expected to approve a budget Tuesday, balanced by cutting seasonal help expenses, wish list items and some increased revenue.

Alderman Randy Carter's wish was for street and alley, cemetery and parks departments to accrue funds to pay for a stump grinder and boom truck at \$22,500.

Aldermen reviewed finances for the fiscal year that starts May 1 at a budget meeting Wednesday. Figures included an estimated \$2,606,236 in income and \$2,431,309 in expenses before accruals and one-time expenses, leaving a surplus of \$174,927.

City office manager Loni Gress submitted a list that included \$50,000 for a new storage shed at McFerren Park to store the new Christmas lights and other city property; \$130,000 in kitchen/bathroom renovations to the civic center and \$60,000 for a digital sign at the park.

**Surcharges suggested in new budget**  
 Hoopeston officials are expected to add surcharges to both water and sewer service as part of the budget to be adopted Tuesday.

Under a proposal agreed on at Wednesday's budget meeting, \$2 would be added to the existing \$3 per-month surcharge currently charged on water, while a \$5 per-month surcharge would be applied to sewer service.

Sewer charges have not been increased in eight years, said Mayor Bill Crusinberry.

The additional funds are expected to add \$168,000 to the water/sewer coffers per year and will go only towards water/sewer projects, including replacing old water mains in the city, replacing the existing water main from Main to Rt. 1 south and for increasing maintenance costs associated with aging infrastructure.

Expenses from accruals, totaling \$128,000, were submitted for parking lot gravel at the park; \$59,000 to fix the landfill road; \$40,000 for a 1.5 ton dump truck and \$10,000 for a snow plow for street and alley; and \$15,000 for a truck for the cemetery department.

Gress' list totaled \$240,000, bringing the total to \$612,150.

Additional requests included \$6,480 for tree work at the park; \$2,500 for a new lifeguard stand; 100 new trees in the city for \$3,500; and unification of ESDA radios for \$2,300, totaling \$14,150.

Council members then started haggling over the deficit by prioritizing requested expenditures

Mayor Bill Crusinberry submitted a wish list that included \$7,500 to seal the city hall parking lot; \$15,000 to take down buildings on Market St.; \$20,000 engineering study of flooding on the north side; \$5,000 for a new city website; \$200,000 for a second phase of Prairie Meadows; \$88,000 in back taxes to take possession of the former Essex building on Rt. 1; and an unspecified amount for Hoopeston Community Alliance.


In defending the stump grinder/boom truck, Carter said the equipment would pay for itself by allowing city employees to cut down trees and grind stumps, especially ash trees infested with the emerald ash borer.

Total for Crusinberry's list was \$335,500.

Alderman Bill Goodwine, finance committee chairman, noted that reducing salaries to 106 percent of this year's actual costs in the cemetery, parks and communications departments would save \$48,805.

The chairmen of those departments - Nancy Stipp, Carl Ankenbrand and Brandon Hamilton - each said overtime had been an issue this year and agreed to make cuts totaling more than \$30,000.


Most of the wish list items were not approved for  
 See BUDGET on other side



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## Council discusses new roof for ground storage tank, mayor gifts outgoing council members

A special Hoopeston City Council meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday to take action on items that could not be voted on at the regular meeting April 21.

Because the agenda for last week's meeting was not provided to local media 48 hours before the meeting, the council could not legally vote on issues, including paying the city's bills.

While they could not act, aldermen did discuss a change regarding repairs to the city's ground water storage tank.

Engineer Mike Streff, of Farnsworth Group, requested a change order on storage tank renovations that would allow a new tank top to be installed, rather than repairing the existing one.

In the contract, \$45,000 was earmarked for the roof, based on unit pricing. However, Streff said, internal damage is more extensive than was known when the project was bid, so fixing it would cost an additional \$98,000, while a new one would cost almost an additional \$55,000.

Questioning the need for so many change orders in a project, Alderman Bill Goodwine asked whether the roof should be rebid to allow local contractors an opportunity to bid.

Mayor Bill Crusinberry said a roofer is not needed for the project, but a welder is. Alderman Bill McElhaney concurred. "It's not the kind of thing you can go get two guys down in Rossville to do," he said.

### **Budget** continued from other side

the initial budget but may be revisited during the fiscal year. Costs that were allowed funds to tear down buildings on Market St.; a new web site and the stump grinder/boom truck

Crusinberry said Wade Gocking, street/alley superintendent, said the city hall parking lot has deteriorated too much to reseal, so money will be accrued to resurface it.

A wait-and-see attitude will be taken paying back taxes on the Essex building while others, like money for Hoopeston Community Alliance, will not be funded.

Other projects may get funds but officials want to explore the possibility of grants for things like civic center renovations.

The council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at city hall.

Streff said contractors for the work, which includes welding the top onto the tank, are rare and while the city could bid the project, it would delay progress by three months. Pittsburg Tank, of Henderson, Kent., was the only company to bid on the work, he said.

Goodwine was satisfied with the answer. "If you're telling me there aren't people who can do it, fine," he said, adding he tries to give local people "equal opportunity."

In other discussion, engineer Ellen Hedrick, of Furmann Engineering, presented the city's Motor Fuel Tax work for this year, totaling \$200,000 for seal coating on South Eighth Ave. from Elm to McFerren Park; Young between Front and Market; McCracken between Third and Fifth streets; Sixth St. between Young and McCracken; Wyman between Fifth and Sixth streets;

Sixth St. between Penn and Main; and McKinley from Rt. 9 to Cedar and Cedar to Third Ave.

Additionally, bricks will be removed from First Ave. and Lincoln and replaced with concrete. Some sidewalk work will also be done in the city.

Also, Landfill Road will be repaired, at a cost of \$57,000, which will come from a special landfill fund to pay for repairs to that road.

Alderman Randy Carter, street/alley committee chairman, said MFT work alternates between oil and chip one year and asphalt the next.

He also reminded the council that money is being set aside to repair Thompson, which will require \$240,000 in accrued funds. Hoopeston has put back \$35,000 per year but will bump that up to \$40,000 so the work will be able to be done in 2020-21, he said.

## Maple kindergarten registration to be 1-6 p.m. Tuesday

Maple School registration for incoming kindergarten students will be held from 1-6 p.m. Tuesday and will include a screening for each student.

Youngsters who will be five on or before September 1 may register for kindergarten. Screening must be done before a child is assigned to a class.

An adult must accompany the student to registra-

tion. The adult will fill out necessary paperwork and meet with a school representative to go over enrollment procedures. The adult should also bring the child's birth certificate, social security card, shot records and dental and vision records.

To schedule an appointment, call the school, (217) 283-6665.

## Obituaries

**ALEXANDER** - Bobby Alexander, 68, of Hoopeston, died at 10:08 a.m. Sunday, April 26, 2015, at home. Arrangements are pending at Blurton Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

**BURTON** - Winfred Burton, 78, of Armstrong, died at 7:45 a.m. Sunday, April 26, 2015, at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Visitation will be 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at Blurton Funeral Home, Potomac, and 9 a.m. until the 10 a.m. celebration of his life at Crossroads Christian Church, Danville. Burial will follow in Partlow Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the church building fund.

**ZORNS** - Thelma (Timmons) Zorns, 89, of Danville, formerly of Rossville, died at 4:48 a.m. Saturday, April

25, 2015, at Hawthorne Inn Senior Living, Danville. Visitation will be 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Funeral will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Memorials are suggested to Presence United Samaritans Medical Center Cancer Center 806 N. Logan Ave. Danville, IL 61832 or Harbor Light Hospice 800 Roosevelt Road, Building C Suite 206 Glen Ellyn, IL 60137.

## Weather

Morning frost today. Sunny, high 64. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 40. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 65, low 42.



## Classifieds

### HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Memory Lane Preschool seeks a teacher/director qualified candidate for the fall 2015-16 school year. Must have associate's degree and experience in childcare. Please call (217) 504-1335.

Cissna Park State Bank is in need of a Customer Account Representative. Applicant must have skills interacting with customers, ability to handle various transactions accurately, and be part of a team environment. This is a part-time position requiring three days a week; however, applicant's schedule must be flexible. If you are interested, please mail resume to Cissna Park State Bank, PO Box 36, Cissna Park, IL 60924, or email resume to [cpsbank@cpsbonline.com](mailto:cpsbank@cpsbonline.com).

The City of Hoopeston is taking applications for part time summer employee for the Street/Alley Dept. A CDL license is a plus but not required. Applications may be picked up at City Hall. The last day for applications is May 8, 2015.

### HOUSES FOR SALE

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### NOTICES

The City of Hoopeston Street and Alley Department will be accepting sealed bids for the 50/50 sidewalk program for FY15/16. Bid Specs can be picked up at City hall, 301 W. Main St. Bid opening will be at 10 a.m. on May 18, 2015.

Gail Lane, City Clerk  
City of Hoopeston



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