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Development director seeks \$300,000 for Prairie Meadows II

As a show of community support, Hoopeston is being asked to contribute \$300,000 of tax increment financing (TIF) funds towards the second phase of Prairie Meadows.

Nicole Clements, director of community and economic development for Illinois Association of Community Action Agencies in Springfield, talked about Prairie Meadows II at Tuesday's Hoopeston City Council meeting.

IACCAA hopes to pull partners together to build 30 more houses on land near the existing Prairie Meadows. The estimated cost of the entire project is \$7.6 million. Of the total, "a ton of money" is paid for soft costs, such

as market and environmental studies, engineering fees and other expenses.

The project would increase the property tax collected
See MEADOWS on other side



Nicole Clements talks about the second phase of Prairie Meadows at Tuesday's Hoopeston City Council meeting. Clements is director of community and economic development for Illinois Association of Community Action Agencies in Springfield.

HA board seeks new member

Hoopeston Area School Board is seeking a new member, following the unexpected resignation of Stewart Coffman.

Coffman's resignation, for personal reasons, was approved at a special board meeting Monday, said Supt. Hank Hornbeck. The resignation was effective June 1.

Anyone interested in the position is asked to send a letter of interest to Hornbeck by June 10. Candidates must live in Hoopeston, be at least 18, a registered voter, and have lived in the district for at least one year. Candidates may not be registered sex offenders, an employee of the district, or be a member of another major board, such as the city council.

The board will meet in special session on June 15 to review letters and select a new member who will serve the remainder of Coffman's term, which expires in April 2017.

Letters may be sent to Hornbeck at hahfour@hoopeston.k12.il.us or mailed to him at 615 E. Orange St., Hoopeston IL 60942.

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Vacation Bible School
June 14 5-7 p.m.
June 15-18 3:30-5:30
Age 3-incoming 5th graders
Great program with music,
art, skits, fun foods,
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To register, call or stop by
First Presbyterian Church
915 E. Orange (Rt. 9) (217) 283-6229

Special of the Month

While Supplies Last!

\$5 Mail-in Rebate See Store for details

1897 Before Rebate
1.1 Gal. Roundup
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701293 June

Olympic Hardware
516 N. Dixie Hwy., Hoopeston
(217) 283-5186 Open Sundays



VFW Menu

Orange & 4th Ave., Hoopeston

Thursdays: **Tacos by Norma**

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 5 - 8 p.m.

Fridays: **NFCC Fish Fry**

11a.m. - 7 p.m.

Check out our video gaming machines!



DACC Higher Learning Center

Call 217-283-4170 or stop by

847 E. Orange, Hoopeston

College for Kids in Hoopeston

June 22-26 and July 20-24

All Day Session with Lunch Provided

\$135 (all day session) or \$45 per class

Advisement and Counseling

June 24 from 2-4p July 1 from 8:30-10:30a

All In One Day

July 10, 2015 from 9a-4p

Register for Fall 2015 Classes

Student Orientation•Placement

Testing•Financial Aid

Career and Employment

Services Workshop

June 8 from 2-5 p

July 13, 2-5p

Meadows continued from other side

on the land, part of which is currently owned by New Beginnings Church and the rest by Allen Decker, Clements said.

The \$300,000 would “show community support,” said Clements, adding that would still leave a funding gap that would need to be filled.

Most funding would come from groups that would get tax credits on their investment on the subsidized housing.

Plans are to use the same general contractor, engineer and architect, and use local labor where available, she said.

Like Prairie Meadows I, the second phase would have covenants guiding tenant responsibilities and would be overseen by a property manager. After a set period of time - 20 years for the original Prairie Meadows - tenants would be able to purchase their homes, if they chose to do so, Clements said.

Aldermen had few questions on the project. Bill Goodwine wondered why build new houses when so many empty houses are available, or would cause more empty houses as people moved into the new project.

Clement answered that people usually move from current rentals because the property is substandard. She said a one-year waiting list for Prairie Meadows I shows a need for the project.

From the Blotter

A 13-year-old boy was arrested at 9:05 a.m. Tuesday in the 500 block of North Third St. Wanted on a juvenile warrant, he was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await a hearing at the juvenile detention center.



Hoopeston Lions Club
Monthly
Fish Fry in the Park
Saturday, June 6 Noon-6 p.m.
McFerren Park
Serving ocean perch, hamburgers,
hotdogs, fries, cole slaw and drinks.

Alderman Chad Yaden said Prairie Meadows I was supposed to be built with crawl spaces, but was not and that local contractors complained about their experiences with how construction on Prairie Meadows I was handled.

Clements said the city signed off on the change from crawl spaces to slabs and that while she did not have details about his specific complaints, of 10 packets sent to local contractors, only one responded. One contractor only wanted to be involved with two or three of the houses, she said.

Mayor Bill Crusinberry said the project would “impact a lot of lives. This would be a long-term investment for 30 families.”

In the public comment part of the meeting, resident Jeff Wise questioned Clements about Section 8 vouchers for the development and interest by Danville Housing Authority in having vouchers for the Prairie Meadows expansion, which was reported in the Danville Commercial News. Wise said he was “disappointed” that no alderman brought up the article during their discussion.

Clements said that in order to get funding for the project, they are required to provide subsidies and stressed that property management is key to getting good tenants.

In the article, DHA director Greg Hilleary said Clements approached DHA about being involved with Prairie Meadows II. DHA was not involved in the origi-

Weather

Mostly sunny today. High 82. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 64. Tomorrow, chance of thunderstorms. High 81, low 61.

Here's what's showing at the
Little Lorraine
The SpongeBob Movie:
Sponge Out of Water
Fri. 7 p.m. Sat. 4:30 & 7 p.m.
Sun. 2 & 4:30 p.m.
Suggested donation \$2-16 & under, \$5-adults.
Don't forget the Dippin Dots!
Proceeds to Save the Lorraine Theatre Foundation

nal Prairie Meadows.

The Commercial News article may be found at <http://tinyurl.com/pw3vnrh>.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

721 W. Orange St. Clean and quiet 2BR for rent. Available June 1. Rent \$400 plus utilities and deposit. References required. Mike 312-371-8585

Hoopeston. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Handicap accessible, full basement, W/D hookups, yard. Close to shopping. No smoking, no pets. Available July 1. Shown by appointment: 217-260-8762.

AUCTIONS

Upcoming Auctions

50 yr One Owner Huge Auction

Wed June 10 @ 10 EST

20 North Third St, Lafayette, In

Tippecanoe County Fair Grounds

Early, Rare, Vintage, Primitive, Glassware must see

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Juanita McElhane Auction

Sat June 13 @ 10 am

415 W Chestnut, Hoopeston, Il

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5506 S. State Rd 236, Williamsport, In

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Country, 97 Honda Goldwing, tools and more...

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Now taking applications for a part time bartender/waitress at the Hoopeston American Legion, 502 E. Penn St. Applications available Wed thru Sat after 3 p.m. Additional information available by e-mail rcarter560@aol.com

RUMMAGE SALES

HOOPESTON: In alley behind 905 E. Young. Fri. 8-?, Sat. 8-noon. Nice home décor, Longaberger, quilt rack, bedding, vintage 78 & 45 records, Lowell Miller pendulum clock. Something for everyone.

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