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 Lourdine Florek, Owner
Just the Facts
 Thursday, July 21, 2016
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Funding secured, plans for Prairie Meadows 2 to proceed

With funding for the project in place, developers are moving forward with plans for the second Prairie Meadows.

Nicole Clements, development coordinator for Illinois Community Action Development Corporation, said closing funding for the project was secured as of April 15.

Clements, accompanied by engineers Don DeFrates and Gary LaForge, of Greene and Bradford, a Springfield-based engineering firm, attended Tuesday evening's Hoopeston City Council meeting.

Since the project will be partly funded through tax credits, Clements plans to work with a lender to set that up, then find buyers for the credits.

With closing funding completed, developers can also begin working on construction documents with specifications for the project, bid documents and others.

Prairie Meadows 2, planned to be located on 12.01 acres behind Casey's General Store on Rt. 9, between Landfill Road and CSX tracks, is expected to have 30 lots, community center, a couple green spaces and more, DeFrates said.

Questioned by aldermen about the plans about the close proximity of the rail tracks and an open drainage ditch, Clements said sound studies done on the property "came back perfectly fine."

DeFrates said berm work will help at the drainage ditch and Clements said a fence behind the berm is being considered for extra safety.

The council approved the preliminary plans with six aldermen voting yes. Ald. Chad Yaden abstained, saying he had not seen documentation before the meeting. Ald. Bill Goodwine absent.

In unrelated discussion, the council talked about the possibility of allowing residents to raise chickens in the city, which is currently not allowed.

Some people in the city limits currently have chickens, in violation of the ordinance, while others have requested the ordinance be changed to allow the fowl.

Ald. Lourdine Florek, civic committee chairman and a proponent of allowing chickens, said communities that allow chickens police the issue in different ways.

For example, some have requirements for the number of chickens, along with the types of structures needed to house them.

Other communities, like Chicago, have no ordinance either allowing or disallowing chickens and prosecute problems under existing laws for noise and nuisance violations.

In some communities with chicken ordinances, those who have a history of violating nuisance laws are barred from having the birds, she said.

In almost all communities, roosters are banned. Aldermen expressed concerns about chickens including the possible need to register chickens in case of an outbreak of bird flu; whether chicken coops need to be inspected; and whether violations would be handled by police or animal control.

To allow chickens, an ordinance would have to be written to allow them or perhaps, Mayor Bill Crusinberry said, the matter could be handled as a conditional use of the property owner, if neighbors sign a petition in approval.

In other business, the council:
 • Heard from residents concerned about owners allowing dogs to defecate on their property. Ald. Brandon Hamilton said an ordinance prohibits that and will be enforced. Residents concerned about dogs leaving waste in their yards should call the police department.

• Unanimously approved changing ages at which firemen may join the department to 18 to 35. The ordinance had been had been 21 to 40.

Tune in at 5 p.m. tonight-
Hoopeston Happenings
Patrick Brooks
 on the HA marching band's trip to Tampa
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 **Hoopeston Lions Club**
Fish Fry in the Park
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Briefly

Abe Lincoln program
As part of its "Heroes" Summer Reading Program, Hoopeston Public Library will host Kevin Wood, Abraham Lincoln re-enactor, for "Heroes of History. The program will be 2-3 p.m. Thursday at the library, 110 N. Fourth St.

Limited seating is available for local events interested in the first-person presentation.

Wood, as Lincoln, will talk about his life and the history of the United States from Independence through the Civil War.

Breast cancer support group meeting
Hoopeston Breast Cancer Support Group will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 21 at The Pit Stop at Fast Lanes Bowling Alley. For more information, call Pat Foster at (815) 984-4040.

Fireworks rescheduled
Hoopeston fireworks, canceled on July 3, have been rescheduled for dusk Saturday.

Gospel music concert
Gospel Music at the Multi Agency (formerly Music in the Park in Rossville) will be held from 6:30-8 p.m. Saturday. Kenny Melton, of the Melton Family Singers

From the Blotter

Adena Rossolille, 30, of Hoopeston, turned herself in to police at 12:05 p.m. Tuesday. Wanted on a Vermilion County warrant, she was released on bond with a new court date.

Police are investigating a report of counterfeit currency made at 3:18 p.m. Tuesday by a representative of Iroquois Federal, 511 S. Dixie Hwy.

Obituaries

NEUKOMM - Louis D. Neukomm Jr., 82, of Cissna Park, died Thursday, July 14, 2016 at home. Private service was conducted with arrangements by Knapp Funeral Home, Cissna Park.

Weather

Excessive Heat Watch from noon today to 7 p.m. Saturday. Today, mostly sunny. High 91. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 73. Tomorrow, sunny. High 93, low 74.

and Judith Montgomery Family of Shoals, Ind., will perform.

A freewill offering will be taken. For more information, call Richard Birkey, (217) 495-0011.

The Multi Agency is at 206 S. First Ave., Hoopeston.

Rossville to test hydrants
The Village of Rossville will be pressure and flow testing all the water hydrants July 25-29.

Friday at the **VFW**
Fish Fry
Serving 11-2 & 5-8
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