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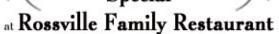
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Thursday, February 9, 2017

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Action on cable franchise transfer tabled after questions

A motion to approve a change in Hoopeston cable providers died Tuesday night after failing to get a second at the Hoopeston City Council meeting.

Ald. Bill Goodwine raised the issue of NewWave selling to Cable One of Phoenix, saying Cable One would have to abide by all the agreements in the initial license with the former Avenue Broadband.

Ald. Lourdine Florek asked when the deal was supposed to be completed and Ald. Carl Ankenbrand asked why no one from Cable One was in attendance at the meeting.

Goodwine did not have information to either question but made the motion to approve. None of the other five aldermen present seconded the motion.

The issue is expected to be voted on at the February 21 meeting. Council approval on the deal is a formality and will not cancel the sale.

Cable One announced on January 18 that it would acquire NewWave for \$735 million in cash.

Sikeston, Mo.-based NewWave has been Hoopeston's cable provider since 2011.

In other business, the council:

• Approved, in a 6-0 vote, donating an unused ambulance to the Champaign bomb squad. Aldermen Alex



Houmes and Chad Yaden were absent.

Ankenbrand, chairman of the fire/ambulance committee, said no department in the city had a use for the vehicle.

- Approved giving Mayor Bill Crusinberry authority to sign pre-loan agreement documents with the EPA. The city is looking to fund sanitary sewer improvements with a low-interest EPA loan.
- Approved Jeff Wise and Cody Moore as members of the city's plan commission. Suggested by Crusinberry, the additions make six members on the seven-

See ACTION on other side

Lourdine Florek, Owner

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Action continued from other side

member board.

The plan commission makes recommendations to the council on land use in the city.

- Heard from Crusinberry that Joe Young, president of Hoopeston Radio, Inc., which owns WHPO Radio, about the possibility of putting an antenna on the city's water tower. No decision was made on the request.
- Heard from Ald. Brandon Hamilton that he continues to work with Vermilion County about the local dispatch issue.

During the public comment section of the meeting, Sheila Robinson asked how much Vermilion County is charging Hoopeston to do dispatching and whether county officials are dragging their feet.

Hamilton said the city is not being charged and that there is no foot-dragging going on.

Asked for details of the negotiations, Hamilton provided none, again saying that in negotiations "you don't want to show your hand." Also, he said, the issue is one of personnel, discussion of which is kept out of the public eye.

Toby Brown talked of the "diminishment in service" since Vermilion County began dispatching and asked for as much expediency as possible.

Hamilton then shared with Brown that Rossville police and fire would remain with Vermilion County whether dispatch was returned to Hoopeston or not.

Brown, a rural Rossville residents, and Rossville fireman, said he spoke from concern for Hoopeston.

Members of Brown's family are employed as Hoopeston Police Department dispatchers.

• Heard from Florek who tabled action on membership in Keep Vermilion County Beautiful until she researched the request.

New Books at the Library

Children's Room

Fiction

Little Green Peas: A Big Book of Colors (board book) Halloween Colors (board book) Seaside Stories A Bike Like Sergio's The Uncorker of Ocean Bottles How to Track a Truck Good People Everywhere

Presents Through the Window A Squiggly Story

The Love in Me, In You I See Stink and the Midnight Zombie Walk Madeline Finn and the Library Dog The Adventures of Tintin Chapter Book The Sword in the Grotto The Christmas Boot Nanette's Baguette Day of the Iguana What Do You Do With An Idea? Wolf Camp

Weather

Sunny today. High 22. Tonight, increasing clouds. Low 18. Tomorrow, partly sunny, breezy. High 42, low 37.



Maggie's on the Move

2-year-old **Chocolate Lab** "Maggie" Danner

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