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 Pizza & a Picture \$10/person Fri.
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 Hoopeston

Email: publish@justthefacts.net Phone/Fax: (217) 283-9348
 Lourdine Florek, Owner

Just the Facts
Thursday, July 18, 2019

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Alderman wants to get serious with owners of bad buildings

Hoopeston has a city attorney for general matters, and attorneys that specialize in specific areas, like tax increment financing and employee law.

Ald. Chad Yaden suggested the city add one more specialist: an attorney well-versed in laws that pertain to cleaning up property.

Aldermen and residents asked the status of several properties including the Cannon structure on North Market, which be inspected for asbestos in the near future. Asked about the former Essex building, Mayor Bill Crusinberry said he reached out to Scott Perkins, attorney for building owner Justin Acton, but has not received a response.

Resident Bill Redden inquired about properties owned by Brian Suiter, which he said are mosquito-ridden and have barrels of unknown substances. "Why don't we go after the one who makes the mess," he asked. "It's not only a public health hazard, it's a nuisance all the way

around."

Yaden suggested a couple of aldermen meet with city attorney Charles Mockbee to find a lawyer who specializes in the area, as well as a collection agency, and actively pursue owners. "Maybe if we put a couple of them in bankruptcy, the rest will take it serious," he said.

Mockbee said the city needs to figure out how it wants to pursue such matters and needs to look at its options.

In other business, Ald. Jeff Wise, street/alley chairman, said in light of the department taking on more responsibility, including that of ridding the city of a minimum of 240 dead or dying trees, he would like to add a new employee to work with street/alley and other departments.

The item was not on the agenda for Tuesday's meeting and could not be acted upon.

Wise said the additional employee was discussed at a committee meeting Monday, along with other topics,

See **BUILDINGS** on other side

Temperature, humidity result in weekend excessive heat warning

The National Weather Service has issued an excessive heat warning for Vermilion County from 1 p.m. Thursday to 7 p.m. Sunday. Temperatures in the mid-90s, combined with high humidity, are expected to create heat indices of 105-110.

Such conditions can cause problems for people - especially the elderly and those with health issues - and pets. To beat the heat and stay safe, experts list the following tips:

- Stay indoors in air conditioning, if possible. Slow down and avoid strenuous activity during the hottest part of the day.
- Stay hydrated. Drink plenty of fluids, but avoid those with caffeine or alcohol.

- Avoid extreme temperature changes.
- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight, light-colored clothing.

Avoid dark colors that absorb the sun's rays.

- Use a buddy system when working outdoors. Take frequent breaks.

- Check on family, friends and neighbors who don't have air conditioning or who live alone.

- Only leave people or pets in a vehicle that is running and air conditioning on.

- Those who don't have air conditioning may consider going to places that do during the hottest part of the day, such as stores, libraries and theaters.

Sometimes those who must be outdoors in extreme heat
 See **WARNING** on other side

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Do it Best

Buildings continued from other side

including garbage being dumped at the city slab and whether Hoopeston should continue to allow residents to burn leaves, as a vacuum truck cleans up piles of leaves left at curbside.

In unrelated discussion, resident David Webber attended the meeting to invite the council to participate in an exploratory committee meeting on the recently-passed Illinois Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, which will allow adults 21 and older to possess 30 grams of marijuana. State officials have estimated the tax will generate up to \$500 million in new taxes, Webber said, adding, “I’d love to see Hoopeston get some of those benefits.”

In meeting with officials, Webber hopes to be able to address pros and cons of the issue, calling it “an opportunity for us to be



WEBBER

proactive.” No matter which side “the city is going to have to make some decisions.”

Asked by Ald. Lourdine Florek whether a local committee has already been created, “You’re actually the first people I reached out to,” he replied.

Florek then discussed how the Illinois Open Meetings Act would impact the exploratory committee. Under the act, notices of meetings and agendas for those meetings must be posted 48 hours before each meeting. Also, meetings would have to be open to the public and media.

Webber said he would work out the details for an initial meeting and get in touch with aldermen.

In other business, the council:

- Was reminded by Ald. Bill Goodwine that the city’s first go at a new bulk garbage collection will be from 6 am.-noon Saturday at city hall. The collection is for city residents only and anyone wishing to dispose of items must

provide photo ID with address. Several items, such as electronics, tires and others, do not qualify, leading Goodwine to “expect some disenchantment” at the event.

- Passed the annual appropriations ordinance 7-0, with

Warning continued from other side

will suffer from heat exhaustion or heat stroke.

Signs of heat exhaustion include cool, moist, pale or flushed skin, heavy sweating, headache, nausea, dizziness, weakness exhaustion, move them to a cooler place, remove or loosen tight clothing and spray the person with water or apply cool, wet cloths or towels to the skin. Fan the person. If they are conscious, give small amounts of cool water to drink. Make sure the person drinks slowly. Watch for changes in condition. If the person refuses water, vomits or begins to lose consciousness, call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.

Heat stroke, left untreated, is life-threatening. Signs include hot, red skin which may be dry or moist; changes in consciousness; vomiting and high body temperature. Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number immediately if someone shows signs of heat stroke. Move the person to a cooler place. Quickly cool the person’s body by immersing them up to their neck in cold water if possible.

Ald. Alex Houmes absent.

- Heard from Yaden, cemetery committee chairman, that the cementer will purchase a new Ford F350 short bed truck for \$34,000 from Ford Fleet through Hoopeston Ford. The city is accepting bids for a dump bed and plow, which will be opened at 10 a.m. August 2.

The department’s current red truck will be sold to the parks department for \$18,000. The cemetery department will also get rid of its current 1975 dump truck.

- Heard from Ald. Robin Lawson, fire/ambulance chair, that the 2019 911 Memorial Stair Climb will be held September 7 at John Greer Grade School. Signup is \$25 and can be done at First Financial, Sculpt Fitness and Mr. B’s Café.

Briefly

Breast Cancer support

Hoopeston Breast Cancer Support Group meets the third Thursday of each month at The Pit Stop at Fast Lanes Bowling Alley. The next meeting is July 18. Please spread the word and join us for a meeting to offer support to past and present breast cancer survivors.

For more information, call Pat Foster, (815) 984-4040 or (309) 208-9829.

Rossville flushing hydrants

The village of Rossville will flush and pressure test hydrants on and off this week until every hydrant has been tested. Please use caution when doing laundry!

Otherwise, douse or spray the person with cold water, or cover the person with cold, wet towels or bags of ice.

Tips to help pets stay cool include:

- Make sure they have plenty of fresh, cool water.
- If your pets are outdoor animals, consider bringing them inside during the heat or make sure they have a shaded spot outdoors.
- Schedule walks during the morning or evening, avoiding the hottest part of the day. Be mindful of the surfaces your pets walk on. Pavement, blacktop and even sand can easily burn dogs’ paws.

Weather

EXCESSIVE HEAT WARNING from 1 p.m. Thursday to 7 p.m. Sunday. Today, chance of thunderstorms. High 95. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 76. Tomorrow, hot. High 96, low 75.

- Heard from Crusinberry, who thanked donors to the fireworks fund. The city fireworks show “is one of those things I’m really proud of,” he said. It is the second most well-attended event by locals, with the National Sweetcorn Festival Parade being first, he added..

Classifieds

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Large 3 bedroom downstairs apartment, washer dryer hook up. \$475 month call 217-304-1103

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ROSSVILLE: 402 Harrison St. 3 BR, 1 bath, full basement, newer windows, C/Air, stove furnished. W & D hookup available of first floor. Garage, close to school and day care. Corner lot. \$650/mo., \$650 sec. dep. No pets, no smoking (217) 748-6900

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or call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad!

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7 p.m. every Thursday

Hoopeston

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