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Lourdine Florek, Owner

Just the Facts

Thursday, September 5, 2019

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Officials to meet with state, fed agencies on Thompson work

After squirreling away motor fuel tax (MFT) money for several years, city officials are taking the next step to repair a large portion of Thompson Ave.

At Tuesday's Hoopeston City Council meeting, Mayor Bill Crusinberry announced that he, Street and Alley Superintendent Wade Gocking, along with engineer Tracy Fullen will meet next week with state and federal representatives to discuss plans to improve Thompson from the railroad tracks to the eastern city limit.

In an interview Wednesday, Fullen, of Donohue & Associates, said the Hoopeston contingent will present the plan to representatives of Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). "At this point, we are in the preliminary phase but we will request 80 percent of the funding from FHWA, with the city paying the remainder," she said, adding the city will also cover engineering fees.

In April 2015, then-Ald. Randy Carter, who was street/alley committee chairman, said the city would need to accrue \$240,000 for the project. At that time, \$35,000 per year was bankrolled for the project, but Carter said the amount would be bumped to \$40,000 per year to be able to do the work in 2020-21.

A figure on what the project will cost now was not immediately available.

Hoopeston currently has \$159,544.04 in unobligated MFT funds, and will continue to save portions of the monthly allotment over the next few years to pay its share of the project.

The city receives about \$137,000 annual from MFT, an amount expected to increase to roughly \$205,000 per year with the additional gas tax, she said.

At the meeting, Fullen will propose to start the preliminary and design phase in 2020, but that hinges on getting approval for FHWA funds. To receive those funds, projects must be FHWA-eligible. The bulk of the project - from Market to Ninth St. - is eligible, she added.

In unrelated business, Water Supt. Steve Baker announced the city's new jet truck is expected Thursday of

this week or Monday of next week.

The \$362,580 Vactor jet-vac truck was ordered in April from Coe Equipment in Rochester. Ald. Lourdine Florek, water/sewer chairman, said water department employees will begin doing routine maintenance on the water/sewer system in an effort to keep lines clear and help alleviate flooding. It will also be useful in helping employees repair water leaks in tight spaces, as the truck's jet function can wash away soil and other materials, exposing the water main without requiring heavy digging equipment.

In unrelated business, the council

• In a 7-0 vote, approved a conditional use for Hiltz Portable Sanitation, 506 N. Seventh Ave. When Randy Hiltz purchased the business from Greg Gress, he was unaware that the conditional use in effect at that time stopped with the sale.

Ald. Bill Goodwine asked, "Are you saying every time a business changes hands, we're not going to through the planning commission," which votes on conditional uses.

Crusinberry answered that the ordinance calls for council action and that he and attorney Charles Mockbee agree that since the planning commission already approve the original conditional use, the group does not need to do it again.

Ald. Chad Yaden was absent.

• Heard that Crusinberry plans to attend the Illinois Municipal League meeting in Chicago to hear a presentation on legalized recreational marijuana.

• Learned from Crusinberry that signs have been posted on properties that will be offered in the upcoming tax trustees' auction. One of those is the crumbling large brick building on the northeast corner of Market and Seminary. "Nobody in their right mind is going to bid on it," he said

• Heard from Alex Houmes, parks committee chairman, who sought bids to sell an old Ford Ranger. One bid - for \$111 - was received, from Dick Jones Motors, but was rejected because the city can get \$175 to scrap it.

Smoked BBQ

Rossville Family Restaurant
715 S. Chicago

Lunch & Dinner

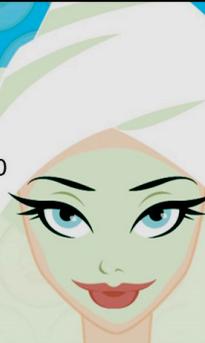
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September



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Do it Best

Briefly

Change in court time

Hearings for people set to appear in Hoopeston City Court Thursday will start at 10 a.m.

Cub Scout signups

Boys in grades K-5 interested in joining Cub Scouts

Obituaries

SCHUPBACH - Frieda Pauline Schupbach, 95, of Hoopeston, died Monday, Sept. 2, 2019, at Heritage Health, Hoopeston. Visitation will be 9 a.m. until the 10:30 a.m. funeral Thursday at Christian Bible Church, Cissna Park. Burial will follow in Cissna Park Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Christian Bible Church P.O. Box 162, Cissna Park, IL 60924; Iroquois Memorial Hospice 200 Laird Lane, Watseka, IL 60970; or Heritage Health, 423 N. Dixie Highway, Hoopeston, IL 60942.

may sign up from 5-7 p.m. September 6, 13, and 20 at Hoopeston United Methodist Church, 403 E. Main. For more information, call Jim and Christie Pancake, (217) 274-3927 or (217) 260-6238.

Bulk garbage

City of Hoopeston bulk garbage collection will be held from 7:30-11:30 Saturday at city hall.

At the library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library are:
Littles @ the Library, 10:30-11 a.m. Friday. For kids 0-5 and their caretakers. Features stories, songs, crafts, learning and movement activities.

Weather

Sunny today. High 77. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 58. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 81, low 58.



Contest winners

Left, Steve Mastin takes a fish off a line for grandson, Charlie Eyrich. Charlie won his age division in the Kids Fishing Derby held Sunday during the National Sweetcorn Festival. Above, Jade Daley, eight, lifts brother Will's hand to signify he cleaned his plate during the Kids Pie Eating contest Monday at the festival. Four-year-old Will won the 4-5 year old competition.

From the Blotter

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 6:21 p.m. Monday at Penn and Rt. 1.

Police said Judith Clark, of Rankin, in a 2018 Toyota van, was stopping at the intersection when Seirra Tobeck, of Watseka, in a 2016 Ford, failed to yield and hit the rear of Clark's vehicle.

Kenneth Armstrong, 42, of Rankin, was arrested after police did a walk-through of a building at 12:01 a.m. Tuesday in the 400 block of East Honeywell. Armstrong was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance and was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

An employee of Casey's General Store, 1022 W. Penn, reported at 3:54 p.m. Tuesday that a man failed to pay for \$20 in gas. Police are investigating the theft.

Two people were arrested after a traffic stop at 8:29 p.m. Tuesday in the 100 block of West Main.

Eric Maples, 37, of Westville, was charged with driving while license suspended and was released on a notice to appear in Vermilion County traffic court.

Heather Cibirka, 36, of Hoopeston, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and was released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

Classifieds

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COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

WILLDON BUILDING - Office space available. WilldonBuilding.com. Multiple size options. All utilities included in rent. Internet. Conference room. Central reception area. Dedicated restrooms. Break room.

HELP WANTED

Part-time secretary needed for Rossville United Methodist Church. Tuesdays- Fridays 9 a.m.-12 p.m. More hours available if needed. Computer graphic skills and a positive attitude. Knowledge of church administration is a plus. If interested, contact Pastor Chris Quick at 618-262-4845.

The City of Hoopeston is seeking applications for a fulltime Multi-Departmental position. Applicant must have a CDL or the ability to obtain one within 60 days of hire. The ability to operate and maintain equipment a plus. Please inquire at City Hall for more information about the position, 217-283-5833. Applications may be picked up and returned to City Hall, 301 W. Main St.

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RUMMAGE SALES

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