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Thursday, August 5, 2021
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Council modifies emergency declaration on spending

In a 7-1 vote, Hoopeston City Council modified the city's state of emergency declaration approved last year.

The emergency order was approved March 27, 2020, in response to Covid-19. Since then, the emergency managers group - consisting of Mayor Bill Crusinberry, Police Chief Jim DeWitt, Fire Chief Joel Bird and Emergency Management Agency Director Brad Hardcastle - has handled spending of Covid-related state and federal funding.

Ald. Jeff Wise raised the issue, saying, "lots of things have changed and been modified over the last year and a half" since the city began dealing with Covid but that since the emergency was declared, "Everybody knows how this Covid thing works. It was nuts when Covid started. Everyone remembers that."

Making clear that he was not accusing anyone of misdeeds, Wise said it is time for the city to go back to using the "purchasing structure set forth in city ordinances."

Asked by Ald. Lourdine Florek, acting as mayor pro tem, whether that meant having expenses approved by the finance committee, then getting council approval, he responded it "only makes sense" to go through the committee but said he was open to other suggestions.

During discussion, Ald. Joe Garrett asked what would happen if the city were locked down again. Wise answered that the council would hold another emergency meeting, as it did the first time.

Hardcastle said the city has received two kinds of funding - 510 funding, which reimburses the city for Covid-related expenses, such as sanitizer, masks, and other things, and ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which is for Covid relief and economic stimulus.

While 510 reimburses expenses, ARPA gives money to states, communities and other groups to spend as they see fit within program guidelines.

Hoopeston has been earmarked for more than \$340,472.27 in this fiscal year and next. Some ARPA

See EMERGENCY on other side




Stepping in

Christopher Catron demonstrates, on an injured ankle, the ease at which new staircase at Hoopeston Swimming Pool can be used. The fiberglass stairs were installed Tuesday and will allow people with physical difficulties to take advantage of the benefits of water therapy.


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 643 East Wyman, Hoopeston:
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Emergency continued from other side

funds were used to balance the 2022 city budget. Suggested expenditures for remaining money have come under question.

Hardcastle said previously, Crusinberry approved all expenditures but in the last couple of months, moved that duty to Garrett, police committee chairman, who also oversees Hoopeston Emergency Management Agency.

Garrett voted against amending the emergency order. He also tabled action on ARPA funding requests to get more information before bringing it to the council.

In other business:

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● Florek updated the council on the swimming pool schedule for the remainder of the season. The pool’s regular season will end Tuesday, Aug. 17, but will be open other days, including:

- August 18 Family swim 7-9 p.m.
- August 25 Family swim 7-9 p.m.
- August 21-22 Open swim 12-5 p.m.
- August 28-29 Family swim 5-8 p.m.
- September 4,5,6 Open swim 12-5 p.m.
- Family swim 5-8 p.m.

The splash pad will remain open after the pool closes and will be free. It will be open as weather allows, she said.

● Wise reported Matt Carl has been hired as the new street/alley department employee. He also said the bid letting for the general maintenance program was delayed due to a mix-up with the state. Wise said the state requested information that was already included in documents already submitted. “Hopefully this will be resolved quickly,” he said.

● Ald. Kyle Richards, parks committee chairman, said a new fountain for the lagoon at McFerren Park is expected by the end of the week, which is expected to help keep the amount of moss in the lagoon down. Rakes have been purchased to remove existing moss. Volunteers will be

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department and Arrow Ambulance were called at 10:40 a.m. Tuesday to the First Avenue warehouse of Teasdale Foods for a report of smoke and fire in machinery. Upon arrival, the fire was put out. A representative of the maintenance department said the machine malfunctioned. No injuries or damage were reported.

From the Blotter

Police are investigating a vehicle theft reported at 2:50 a.m. Tuesday by a 47-year-old Hoopeston man, who said the vehicle was taken from his yard in the 400 block of North Ninth Ave.

Weather

Sunny today. High 82. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 64. Tomorrow, chance of thunderstorms. High 82, low 66.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit justthefacts.net/weather/.

needed for the task in the near future. A time and date for that project will be announced.

● Richards also announced that new signs for the park entrances have been ordered.

Classifieds

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KSi is looking for qualified candidates for the following full-time positions in our Cissna Park, IL facility:

***Controls Technician *Production Associate**

***Work Study** – This position is specifically for an incoming high school senior looking for work study credit for the upcoming school year. The student will work in the production and/or shipping departments.

For job descriptions and benefit information, visit our website, www.ksiedge.com and click on the “Join Our Team” tab. Fill out an application from our website, send inquiries to hr@ksiedge.com, or call 785-284-0600 ext. 1422. Applications may also be picked up at our location: 454 N State Route 49, Cissna Park, IL 60924.

Silgan Containers is hiring Press Line Mechanics. Please apply online at silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/11620

Silver Brothers is looking for part-time mixer drivers. Hours will vary. Must have Class B CDL, pass a drug test, be able to climb a ladder, and lift 75 lbs. Pay will be \$20/hour to an experienced driver. Perfect opportunity for a retired person wanting some extra money. Stop by 105 E. Washington, Hoopeston for application.

Full-Fill Industries Henning, is offering many job opportunities for full-time applicants, with a full benefit package, or part-time positions. 1st and 2nd shifts available. We offer a part-time flexible work schedule from 8 am-4 30 pm M-F for Moms & Dads.

Graduating seniors that are 18 looking for a summer job or not pursuing a college career, we offer career opportunities.

Apply on-line at www.full-fill.com go to employment or Employment opportunities and apply as indicated. EOE

Mustard Seed Christian Daycare is looking to hire 2-3 part time assistant teachers. Requirements include 18 or older, high school diploma or GED, college credits are preferred but not mandatory for the right candidate, willing to undergo a background check and fingerprinting, flexible and able to work as early as 6 30 a.m. and as late as 5 30 p.m., and have reliable transportation. Please email mustardseed.christiandaycare@gmail.com for application information.

Driver w/CDL needed. Home every night. Trips within 100 miles of Hoopeston. (217) 304-1943.

● Ald. Bob Porth requested a clarification in the minutes of the July 20 meeting, stating that the increase in the garbage collection fee announced then is what the city will pay. Residents’ bills will not increase because of it.

Dogtown Heating, Air, & Plumbing is in search of an experienced HVAC technician to help serve our customers in the area. Pay based on experience. Health insurance, Life insurance, and 2 weeks paid vacation. We have a family atmosphere that serves our customers with honesty and integrity. Email brad.dogtown@gmail.com

East Lynn Fertilizer is seeking full time and seasonal help. Requirements include at least a Class B CDL and ability to pass a drug test. Call 217-375-4225 or stop by 41284 S Main St., East Lynn, IL for more details.

Aquality Solutions is looking for full-time delivery drivers skilled in efficiency, organization, and flexibility. Delivery Drivers will deliver bottled water and bagged salt to commercial and residential customers and must have knowledge or be willing to learn maintenance operations when not driving. Apply in person at 102 N 1st St. in Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

Looking for a fulfilling job in the natural health care field? Robinson Chiropractic is looking for strong individuals who are enthusiastic, outgoing, positive people who have an interest in natural healthcare and wellness. Candidates need to be team oriented, multi-tasking, detail-oriented individuals. Candidates will be trained to assist with patient care. Send resumes to trina.keller@robchiro.com.

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