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Council to charge food truck fee, limit shipping container use

The cost of operating a food truck in Hoopeston will increase after action taken by Hoopeston City Council at its May 15 meeting.

On a motion from Ald. Kellie Ferrell, seconded by Ald. Bob Porth, four others - Stephen Eyrich, Michael Ferrell, Angela Highfill and Robin Lawson - agreed to implement a \$20-per-day fee on the mobile food service businesses. Ald. Joe Garrett voted "present."

The agreement did not come quickly, as the council haggled over the amount of the fee, as well as whether food trucks in Hoopeston for the National Sweetcorn Festival would have to pay the fee.

Garrett suggested they should, but Eyrich and Mayor

Jeff Wise disagreed, both commenting on the number of people the Labor Day weekend festival bring to Hoopeston. "I don't know of any other even that brings 100,000 people to Hoopeston, he said.

Once that issue was settled, the council moved on to the amount. A \$250 annual fee had been previously discussed and was alluded to during the meeting. Eyrich commented that food trucks are in direct competition with brick-and-mortar stores and said the annual fee could be "to get into Hoopeston," plus the daily fee.

Highfill said the annual fee would be off-putting for vendors who might only come a couple of times. "If I

See COUNCIL on other side

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ENGL-101-HEXG - Rhetoric And Composition 1, Mondays & Wednesdays, 2PM-3:15PM
ENGL-101-HEXG - Rhetoric And Composition 1, Wednesdays, 6PM-8:40PM
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Council continued from other side

have to pay \$250 a year, I'm not going to come," she said.

Wise, too, encouraged the council not to charge too much, saying if the fee was too high, vendors wouldn't come. "I know you don't care," he said to Lawson, who owns Mr. B's, The Burger Bank and The Barn, "but I'm talking about for everyone else. Why come to Hoopeston for \$25 a day when you can go to Rantoul for \$100 a year?"

"I do care that people want variety," Lawson replied, adding she also cares about existing businesses losing

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money. The suggested \$25 daily fee could be collected serving only two people, she added.

"It isn't our fault food trucks have become popular," Wise said. "This is what every community is dealing with," he continued, adding Rantoul is four times Hoopeston's size

Lawson then asked whether Hoopeston would lower the liquor licenses since Hoopeston has a smaller population than Rantoul.

The ordinance also contains provisions for ice cream trucks and details where trucks may park, operating hours and other criteria.

The shipping container ordinance limits the use of the containers in residential areas and was approved 6-1, with Garrett voting no.

While the ordinance covers "portable storage devices," Garrett asked why residents should not be allowed to have them. For example, he said, if someone could purchase a container to use as a garage more cheaply than having one built, why should the city forbid it. Asked how anyone would know if a storage container is filled with junk, "I can't tell if a garage has junk in it or not," he

Briefly

Bulk garbage

Bulk garbage day, for Hoopeston residents only, will be held from 7:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday at Hoopeston City Hall parking lot.

Residents are limited to one load per bulk day and must unload their own load or bring some-one to help.

Dumping of electronics, appliances, paint, liquids, tires, batteries, yard waste, construction/demolition material or anything that fits in the provided blue totes is not allowed. Items from apartments with a dumpster will not be allowed and items from businesses and contractors will not be permitted.

Addiction recovery group

Addiction recovery group for men. 6 p.m. Sundays in Rossville. Call or text 217-304-4211 or 217-260-1361 for details.

Weather

Sunny today. High 91. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 65. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 93, low 66. Sunday, sunny. High 89, low 58.

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

said. His argument failed to sway the others.

In a moment of humor during discussion, Ald. Michael Ferrell asked questions about foundations and walls for the containers, prompting his wife to wag her finger in his direction. "Don't even start on that," she said. "I swear."

Storage containers - called a "public nuisance" in the ordinance - have sprung up in many communities, including Hoopeston. "Some, I don't know how they put it there," Wise said. "Must have been a master behind the wheel."

The approved ordinance allows licensed and bonded contractors to use the containers to store materials and equipment for a maximum of 120 days or an additional period, if approved by the building inspector.

The penalty for violating the ordinance is a fine of not more than \$750 per day, with each day the law is violated as a separate offense.

After the meeting, Kellie Ferrell said city attorney Steven Miller is looking into whether existing containers can be grandfathered in, as they are not permanent structures.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

The Pit Stop at Fast Lanes is looking for a breakfast cook and waitress. Hours 5:15-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri. Apply in person at 719 W. Elm.

Hubbard Trail Golf Course is accepting applications for a part time bartender. Daytime, evening and weekends. Must have basset and food handlers or obtain within 120 days after employment. Applications can be picked up at Hubbard Trail or send resume to hubbardtrail.1925@gmail.com

Hubbard Trail Golf Course is looking for a part time golf course attendant approximately 20 hours a week. If interested call Justin Davis @ 765-299-9651

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Robinson Chiropractic is looking for you, so come join our team! We have a great staff and are looking to expand it. We are hiring strong individuals who are enthusiastic with an interest in natural healthcare. Candidates will be trained to assist with patient care. We have competitive wages, paid vacation, and a Simple IRA contribution. Full time employees receive free Chiropractic care. If interested, please send resume to trina.keller@robchiro.com.

Silgan Containers is hiring an Electrician - Industrial/Maintenance Technician. Please apply online at: silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/13392

From the Blotter

A 17-year-old Hoopeston boy was arrested after police were notified at 12:51 p.m. Tuesday of a vehicle stolen from the 700 block of South First Ave. Police located the vehicle and driver, charging him with theft of a motor vehicle, aggravated fleeing and attempting to elude, reckless driving and no valid drivers license.

The youth was taken to the Juvenile Detention Center in Danville to await arraignment.

Cody J. Adkins, 40, of Bloomington, was arrested at 8:23 p.m. Tuesday in the 100 block of East Orange. Wanted on a Champaign County warrant, he was released from the police station with a notice to appear in Champaign County Court.

Death Notices

HEDGECOCK - Bruce Alan Hedgecok, 65, of Hoopeston, died at 6:10 p.m. Tuesday, May 30, at home. Arrangements are pending at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

City of Hoopeston Police Department is taking applications for certified police officers/part time certification is recognized. Applications ongoing; no deadline applies for certified officers

RUMMAGE SALES

HOOPESTON ALL TOWN GARAGE SALES
Friday & Saturday, June 2-3 Sales going on all over town.

WATCH FOR THE SIGNS!

Maps of sale locations will be available starting Wednesday at 112 and Casey's and Facebook at Hoopeston Garage Sales.

HOOPESTON: 513 E. Young, Fri 8-3, Sat 8-1. Clothes, purses, material, socket set, lots of stuff.

HOOPESTON: 840 E. Maple. Fri. 7-3, Sat. 7-12:30. Large multi-family sale. Boys clothing sizes newborn - 5/6. Girl's clothing sizes newborn - 5. Kids shoes, all sizes. Multiple baby items Diaper Genies, baby blankets, play mats, Rock and Play and so much more too much to mention. Three breast pumps 1 brand new/never used, nursing items, bottles, nursing bras, maternity clothes. Misses and Women's clothing lots of name brand gently worn. Women's shoes, men's clothing. Multiple household and kitchen items. Kids books & toys & much more.

WELLINGTON: 167 N. 2400 E RD. Wellington. (1.5 mi north of Floral Hill Cemetery) Saturday, 7-? Men's, women's boys clothing, shoes, home décor, lots of misc.

ROSSVILLE: 206 Maple. Fri. & Sat., 8-1. Multi family sale. All sizes clothes, bikes, snowmobile trailer, lots of misc.