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Just the Facts

Monday, September 30, 2024

Hoopeston's only locally-owned news publication!

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

Officials expected to vote on increasing infrastructure fee

Hoopeston City Council is set to vote Tuesday on whether to increase the infrastructure maintenance fee to pay for water and sewer improvements.

Currently at \$10 per month, a suggested schedule would increase the fee to \$12 per living unit effective January 1, 2025 and \$19 per living unit effective May 1, 2025. The next increase would become effective May 1, 2026, to \$26, followed on May 1, 2027 to \$33 and May 1, 2028 to \$40 per month.

According to the resolution containing details of the increase, the city has upgraded both the water treatment and wastewater treatment plans and replaced about three blocks of water main along Market St., causing additional debt to the city and ultimately, to taxpayers.

Hoopeston officials have, since 1999, tried to put money aside for infrastructure maintenance. In 1999, the fee was \$3 per month and was placed in the general fund. In 2013, the then-council approved a five percent increase for five years to go into the fund and

in 2015, the amount was raised to \$5 per unit per month. That council rescinded putting the money into the general fund and instead created an account for the purpose.

Last year, the council approved spending \$6,450 per year on Waterworth, a software program designed to "optimize their water and wastewater rates, funding and infrastructure," according to the company's website. The program analyzes data to determine current and future spending needs, allowing municipalities to budget accordingly.

Based on the data, aldermen raised basic water and sewer rates by 25 percent last year, to a total of \$9.65 per month on the typical 5,000 gallon user. Waterworth calculated a 20 percent increase was needed this year and a two percent increase per year in subsequent years.

Other items on the agenda for Tuesday's meeting include budget line item discussion, resolution to equip one new squad car. Full agenda, Zoom link and meeting packet at cityofhoopeston.com.

Briefly

At the library

Hoopeston Public Library programs for kids are back in session beginning this week.

Littles at the Library, 10:45-11:45 a.m. Tuesdays. Toddler/preschool story and activity time.

Builders Club, 3:30 p.m. Thursday. LEGO time for grades K-4.

Youth Jam, 3:30 p.m. Thursdays for kids in grades 3 and up. This week, Hero Kids and Board Games upstairs in the youth room, 3:30 p.m. Thursday. Hero Kids is an age appropriate table top role playing game (herokidsrpg.blogspot.com).

Sign up today for Cooking for One or Two, sponsored by HPL and Illinois Extension. Come in or call to register or sign up on the extension website, go.illinois.edu/CookingForTwoHoop.

For more information on programs, call (217) 283-6711

or stop by 110 N. Fourth St.

Grief Share

A free GriefShare series will start at 6 p.m. Wednesday, October 2, at Milford Christian Church, 511 E. Hickory. Sessions will last approximately two hours. Preregistration for the series is preferred so adequate materials can be on hand.

To preregister, call the church at 815/889-4474. If there is no answer, please leave a message and you will receive a response.

Change in bulk garbage collection

Starting October 5, the drop off location for bulk garbage collection will be at the Republic Services landfill at 163210 E. 4000 North Rd., Hoopeston. The process and guidelines will be the same as they have been and city employees will be onsite to guide resident. The collection is for Hoopeston residents only. ID will be checked.

Justin Silver
Owner
105 E. Washington St.
Hoopeston IL 60942
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By
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Let's Talk

Seems like everyone wants to talk. Whatever do we have to talk about? There are the neighbors, those folks you work with and even some family members! There used to be sewing groups and what fun we had as we sure talked a lot (usually about our husbands or what was going on at work). I bet there are still a few groups. I wonder what they're talking about?

Remember when you were first married. Words were not necessary "I love you," "I need you," or "If you slam that door one more time, you're history!" Sometimes the words and the message don't match. Like your husband saying, "That does not bother me. I couldn't care less!" What he really means is "I'm hurt, and I care more than I want to admit!" We need to learn how to communicate with each other and the proper use of words is the best way, for me, the only way!

When Marty and I were first married, we didn't talk as much and when we did, he would always say, "That's OK, do whatever you like, it's just fine." After a while I said, "We have to talk, tell me if I am doing something wrong so I can fix it." After a year or so we learned how to talk with and to each other!

Talking to each person is different, how you handle the words, the expressions and care in your voice makes a huge difference in how a person takes those words! Simple, you might think, and really, when talking to a friend, I don't always think before I speak. Do you? We are both involved in whatever subject we are discussing, I have wonderful friends and being with them, sharing both thoughts and ideas with our words is a gift! Yes, you heard me right! Sharing my words makes my life a gift! Do I always use the right words, NO! Do I always think before I speak? NO! Do I like to talk? YES! So take a few moments and think before you speak! Make sure you use the words you want to say.

Talking is something I love to do, with my husband, children, grandsons and friends! There is magic all around when we get together and talk! So let's talk, make every moment, every day, all the time, moments to remember! Let's keep talking, OK?

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Obituaries

HUBNER - Donald J. Hubner, 99, of Milford, died Thursday, September 26, 2024, at Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center. Visitation will be 9 a.m. until the 11 a.m. funeral Monday at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Milford. Burial will follow in Maple Grove Cemetery, Milford. Memorials are suggested to the church radio

ministry or Milford Ambulance. Condolences may be shared at knappfuneralhomes.com.

Lunch Menus

Maple/John Greer
MONDAY: Chicken nuggets, corn, cucumber slices, applesauce, milk
TUESDAY: Hamburger/bun, fries, baby carrots, salad, milk
WEDNESDAY: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, celery sticks, pears, milk
THURSDAY: Biscuit & gravy w/sausage links, hash brown, broccoli, mandarin orange, milk
FRIDAY: Cheese pizza, salad, mixed fruit, Veggy Juice, milk

Hoopeston Area Middle School
MONDAY: Chicken nuggets, corn, veggies, applesauce, milk
TUESDAY: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, peaches, milk
WEDNESDAY: Fettucine Alfredo, Max Stick, veggies, pears, milk
THURSDAY: Mini corndogs baked beans, veggies, pineapple, milk
FRIDAY: Pizza, salad, mixed fruit, milk

Hoopeston Area High School
MONDAY: Chicken nuggets or hot ham & cheese, corn, salad bar, applesauce, milk, juice
TUESDAY: Country fried steak or calzone, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad bar, peaches, milk, juice
WEDNESDAY: Fettucine Alfredo or BBQ rib/bun, Max Stick, salad bar, pears, milk, juice
THURSDAY: Mini corndogs or hamburger/bun, baked beans, salad bar, pineapple, milk, juice
FRIDAY: Pizza or chicken strips, salad bar, mixed fruit, milk, juice.

Weather

Partly sunny today. High 78. Tonight, partly cloudy, patchy fog. Low 59. tomorrow, sunny. High 75, low 42.

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

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Classifieds

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Join Our Team! We're seeking a skilled Technician/Mechanic passionate about their craft. If you're a self-starter who thrives in a team environment, we'd love to hear from you. Candidates should possess their own tools and a valid driver's license. Offering a competitive pay of \$25/hr (flat rate). Interested? Visit us in person to apply at Outlaw Automotive, 1919 E 500 N Rd, Milford, Illinois 60953. Let's build something great together - no online inquiries, please. Apply in person to take the first step towards your new career.

Aquality Solutions is looking for men or women to deliver its products to area businesses and residential customers. This position offers benefits and incentive bonuses. Apply in person at 102 N 1st Street in Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

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: 908 Sprague Rd. Thurs., 3-6 p.m., Fri., 9-2. 2 family sale. Washing machine, bowling machine, electric heaters, antique bedroom set, golf clubs, housewares and plenty more!

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