

City of Hoopeston
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
3:00 p.m., September 2, 2020
CITY HALL, HOOPESTON, ILLINOIS

In attendance from the Finance Committee were Bill Goodwine, Lourdine Florek and Jeff Wise. Also in attendance were Mayor Crusinberry, Carl Ankenbrand and Dawn Layden.

Wage Rates

Goodwine handed out a list of current wage rates for permanent, full time employees. A few rates seemed out of line, all on the low side. The mayor will follow up with the Committee Chairs to review the wages questioned.

Dilapidated Downtown Buildings

Goodwine handed out two sketches of possible corrective actions. One possibility involved "capping" the roofs of those buildings with questionable roofs but solid walls. The goal would be to postpone further damage to the buildings. The second involved demolition of several buildings. The Mayor and Goodwine are to follow up on securing a professional and experienced building inspector who can offer professional advice.

Social Security/Medicare deduction postponement

Since the City has laid no one off, has not reduced hours and even gave a wage increase in May, it was decided to decline participation in the program. The program is expected to be an accounting nightmare if implemented.

Attract "Responsible" citizens to Hoopeston

Will "remote" working be significant in the future? Will remote working make "bedroom communities" more desirable places to live? If a person who now commutes to Champaign 5 times a week suddenly must commute only 1 time a week, will this make Hoopeston (and all bedroom communities) more desirable for a home location?

It was decided to gather a subcommittee under the Finance Committee to brainstorm new ways to promote Hoopeston. This Committee will be composed mostly of people with marketing experience.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Goodwine, Finance Committee Chairman