

Trash truck purchased by Holyoke City Council

Written by Chris Lee

Holyoke City Council members approved the purchase of a new trash truck during their Tuesday, April 5 meeting.

Supt. Mark Brown has been researching options over the past few months and told council members purchasing a truck and compactor separately would benefit the city the most.

He presented council members with three trucks and four compactor options.

Council members settled on the purchase of a 2012 Freightliner for \$71,073 and a Heil PT 1000 compactor for \$57,538. The city budgeted \$130,000 for the purchase. Brown noted the city will build their own cart tipper as they have found purchased ones wear out quicker and they can build one for a cheaper amount rather than buying one.

Brown said the floor in the Freightliner was the lowest of all the options, making the task of getting in and out easier and more comfortable.

The truck will be purchased from Transwest Trucks and the compactor will come from Kois Equipment Co. Inc. Both businesses are in Commerce City.

The city will take the current backup truck, sell the compactor and keep the body to create a dump truck. The truck that crews use now will become the backup, according to Brown.

Other business

Trash truck purchased by Holyoke City Council

Written by Chris Lee

In other business April 5, council members:

—held a one-hour executive session for negotiations.

—held a one hour and 10 minute executive session for discussion of a personnel matter.

—renewed the health and dental insurance coverage with CEBT for 2011-12.

—donated \$300 to Phillips County Sheriff's Department for the K-9 program.

—hired Theresa Tharp as summer recreation director at \$4,200.

—approved travel request for members of water and sewer department and Supt. Brown to attend the Action Now Seminar in Sterling.

—accepted request to allow Melissa Memorial Hospital Foundation the use of the city pool July 4 to finish the amateur triathlon.

—approved \$100 donation to 2011 Holyoke High School post prom party.

—voted to give Rich Wittman two paid days off to help him and his family after their home was lost in a fire. Council members agreed this was a special circumstance and future cases will be subject to discussion much in the same way.