During a quick meeting Tuesday, Dec. 18, Holyoke City Council members approved three ordinances on first reading. The three ordinances deal with parking on residential areas, public nuisances and marijuana.

The first ordinance establishes a new section of Chapter 17 Article 18 of the Holyoke municipal code for the purpose of regulating the parking of motor vehicles in residential areas of the city.

The ordinance reads, “No person shall park, or knowingly permit to be parked, any motor vehicle or trailer in the front yard of a lot which exists a single-family or two-family dwelling for any purpose except the washing of such vehicle, delivering items to said house, retrieving items from said house, or storing vehicles used in construction or demolition on the property.

“The parking of a motor vehicle or trailer in violation of this section is hereby declared to constitute a nuisance and danger to the public health, safety and welfare and is prohibited, unless such motor vehicle is parked on an improved area having a surface of asphalt, concrete, rock, gravel or other similar inorganic material, or organic material specifically intended for a parking surface area, and such improved area has a permanent border.”

Within the ordinance it states violations of the section shall be punished by a fine up to and including $300.

The second ordinance approved on first reading by council members last week establishes, defines, declares and abates public nuisances within the city.

The ordinance defines, “Nuisance shall mean any substance, act, occupation, condition or use of property declared a nuisance by this ordinance or declared a nuisance by the State of Colorado or by court or agency thereof.”

The final ordinance prohibits the operation of marijuana cultivation facilities, marijuana product manufacturing facilities, marijuana testing facilities or retail marijuana stores within the City of

Holyoke, State of Colorado and providing for a ballot issue in 2014.

The purpose of the ordinance is to promote the general public welfare and safety throughout the City of Holyoke by prohibiting the operation of marijuana cultivation facilities, marijuana product manufacturing facilities, marijuana testing facilities or retail marijuana stores until such time as the question can be decided by the vote of the people in the General Election of 2014. The purposes of this ordinance will end at the time the election is certified either for approval or rejection.

Entire copies of all three ordinances may be found in this issue of the Enterprise.

Reports of city officials

Council members heard a report from Jeff Deselms and city clerk/treasurer Kathy Olofson.

Deselms said the street, electric and water crews have been spending a lot of their time at the Cobblestone Inn location, working on the sewer installation. He noted the project was finished as of last week's meeting.

Deselms also said there will be a scheduled citywide power outage Monday, Jan. 28 from 9-10 a.m.

Olofson noted the city received a $3,399 gift from the Leland Trust to help purchase a backyard screen to show movies at the Heginbotham Library, as well as an encyclopedia set.

Councilman Kevin Scott said Phillips County Economic Development Corporation has hired

Julie Worley to fill the vacant executive director's position. She is scheduled to begin sometime in February.

Other business

In other business Dec. 18, council members:

—approved a liquor license renewal for Kwik Stop.

—wrote off bad debts for 2012 utility bills in the amount of $1,352.79 and other outstanding debt of $46.74 for Jet A fuel charged July 28, 2010.

—donated $1,100 to Phillips County Historical Society for the 2013 utilities.

—purchased four uniform badges for the Police Department at a cost of $548.

—approved travel request for police chief Doug Bergstrom and officer Dwight Thompson to attend active shooter training in Sterling Jan. 4.

—purchased a bullet-resistant vest for Bergstrom from Neve's at a total cost of $815.

—approved an $11,272 payment to Western Area Power Administration to perform metering changes for the new transformer purchased with Highline Electric.

—approved request from mayor Orville Tonsing to include an “Additions to Agenda” section on the agenda.

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