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COAL CITY COURANT

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2023

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Photo by Eric Fisher

CAPTURING THE MOMENT—London and Landyn Collins sit with Santa to have their photograph taken on Sunday under the gazebo inside Campbell Memorial Park. Over 100 youngsters showed up to tell Santa Claus what they're hoping for this Christmas and that they've all been good girls and boys. It visits were part of the Coal City KrisKindle Market hosted by the GFWC IL Coal City Junior Woman's Club.



Photo by Eric Fisher

TABLETOP SNOWMAN—Grayson Clubb, age 3, keeps busy while waiting for Santa by building a snowman on Sunday inside Campbell Memorial Park. The Grundy County Emergency Operations Center reports 1.4 inches of snow on the ground after Sunday's snowfall. It was ideal for packing as Grayson, with a little help from his father Nick, shaped it into a snowman.

Increased EAV will provide additional dollars for village

BY ANN GILL
CORRESPONDENT

It's tax levy time—that time of year when public bodies determine the amount of property tax dollars are necessary to operate in the coming fiscal year.

The village of Coal City projects it will need to collect \$2.96 million. Although the amount to be collect represents a 3% increase, the resulting tax rate will drop a couple of cents to 1.98.

Village Administrator Matt Fritz said there are three major factors for the resulting tax rate to remain at the same level as last year. At the top of the list is the total assessed valuation of the village is increasing.

"The final assessed values are not quite prepared, but a conservative estimate places the increase in equalized assessed value [EAV] for the properties within the village at 4%. This allows the total levy to be split by additional value within the taxing district," Fritz said.

The anticipated EAV of the village is calculated at \$149.1 million.

The two other factors are the slowing in the rate of increase for two large items that make up the total levy, that being bond principal and interest and contributions to the police pension.

"The former has maintained the same level for the past four years and the annual amount to support this cost is to remain steady over the remaining life of the bond," Fritz said.

"The latter is due to the growth in the police pension fund now that its equity investment portfolio continues to grow in

SEE INCREASED EAV PAGE 2

Coal City hiring two police officers

STAFF REPORT

The village's Board of Fire and Police Commissioners will be hiring two new patrol officers for the Coal City Police Department.

In a letter from the mayor, the commissioners were directed to hire new staff from its updated list of candidates.

Administrator Matt Fritz said the village's fiscal year 2024 budget includes the hiring of two officers.

Positions at the state's training academies have been

secured so the new hires can proceed with the necessary state training, prior to fulfilling local field training.

"Thank you for fulfilling the current necessity to hire these two new officers and your effort and attention to details in these matters," Mayor David Spesia said in his correspondence to the commissioners.

In other matters:
• As it does each year, the Board abated the property

SEE HIRING PAGE 2



Courtesy photo

COAL CITY PATROL OFFICER Casey Roth was recently commended by Police Chief Chris Harseim for saving the life of an unconscious man.

Officer commended for saving a life

STAFF REPORT

Just before 10 p.m. on Nov. 6, Coal City Police patrol officer Casey Roth came to the aid of a man who had overdosed and his actions saved a life.

Roth was dispatched to a residence in the village. Upon his arrival he was directed to the basement where an unconscious man—pale with blue colored lips—was on the floor.

Roth detected a pulse and performed a sternum rub to

no response. The officer administered four milligrams of Narcan nasal spray into the male's nostril and continued to do the sternum rub.

According to police, the man briefly gained consciousness before returning to an unresponsive state.

The officers administered a second round of Narcan spray with a sternum rub. It

SEE COMMENDED PAGE 2



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