

## Jessica Cumming takes oath

Written by Chris Lee

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Jessica Cumming became the newest member of Holyoke City Council after taking the oath during the Dec. 21 meeting.

Cumming was appointed to the vacancy left after Ray Bailey died Friday, Oct. 22.



**City clerk/treasurer Kathy Olofson, pictured at left, administers the oath of office to newly appointed council member Jessica Cumming during the council's Tuesday, Dec. 21 meeting. 2010-12-29—Enterprise photo**

## Visitors report to council

Visitors attended the meeting to provide comments or presentations on three different projects.

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Phillips County deputy sheriff Barry Winckler and undersheriff Thomas Elliott presented a brief overview of the newly implemented Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) program the department has taken on.

Winckler serves as the investigator of the program that monitors child pornography internet traffic within Phillips and Sedgwick counties. He said while he was at training, some computer addresses in Holyoke popped up. "We know it's here," Winckler said. He added there has been one case in Phillips County generated already, and in that specific case, the federal government had been tracking the individual.

Council members agreed to help fund a portion of the internet access used for the program each year by donating \$220. ICAC will work with the cooperation of Phillips and Sedgwick counties, Holyoke Police Department and Haxtun Police Department.

CSU horticulturist Linda Langelo requested a space in the city park be used to plant a Liberty Tree. The tree is an elm tree that survived the Dutch Elm disease, according to Langelo. The tree is available at no cost and comes with a plaque that commemorates Thomas Paine and the Sons of Liberty.

Langelo hopes a class or classes within the Holyoke school district will step forward and help plant the tree as part of a community service project.

The tree will be one of 1,000 from the Elm Research Institute in Keene, N.H.

Larry Worth, director of the Association of Local Governments, gave a brief update of the projects and activities they have been working on over the past year.

Worth highlighted the CSU garden project and Phillips County Family Education Services GED program as two of the projects that were made possible in cooperation with the Association of Local Governments.

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He also noted the annual meeting will be held in February.

An item on the agenda regarding a travel request for building inspector Terri Biersdorfer was tabled until the Jan. 4 meeting. Councilman Kevin Scott questioned the need for the training. It was clarified she needs continuing education to keep her license. Council members decided to table the item and invite her to the next meeting to answer some questions.

### **Reports of city officials**

Police Chief Phil Biersdorfer reported the department investigated incidents involving the disappearance of yard and holiday decorations. In a couple incidents, the items were moved to another yard, according to the chief.

Biersdorfer also said officer Damon Ellis has been appointed to handle ICAC operations in correspondence with the sheriff's department.

City Supt. Mark Brown said after a recent meeting with the state health department, new criteria for testing procedures will need to be followed. He said Holyoke may have to revamp some of the well houses for sampling points to meet the criteria, but doesn't think any additional costs will be included.

City clerk/treasurer Kathy Olofson reported Holyoke received the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) mini grant to help fund the bleacher project at the ball field. There were 21 projects and only seven were awarded funds. Holyoke asked for and will receive the full \$41,000.

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### Other business

In other business Dec. 21, council members:

—wrote off bad debts for 2010 in the amount of \$809.78.

—approved a donation of \$1,300 to the historical society, Phillips County Museum, to be applied to their city utility bill for the year.

—accepted a report from the fire pension board to leave pension payments at \$55 per month in 2011.