Holyoke City Council members were presented with photographs of a residential yard in Holyoke by Michelle Gregg during their Tuesday, Feb. 7 regular meeting.

Gregg received a junk notice in the mail and wanted to speak with the council as she felt items in and around her yard weren't considered junk.

Gregg took some photos of her yard, which she acknowledged was "a little out of order." Gregg is concerned because she feels her "junk" items are mainly toys.

She said she has a rototiller and some tables and chairs covered with a tarp. She set kids' big wheels toys on top to help hold the tarp down since they aren't ridden during the winter.

She also said she has some construction lumber and a stack of firewood which are listed as permissible items.

"Let me know what I need to do different if it's not OK," Gregg told council members.

Council members questioned city supt. Mark Brown, who oversees the code enforcement position, about other complaints. Brown said he hasn't received many complaints. One concerning a dog was a simple mistake, Brown noted.

"I feel she is doing a job that wasn't getting done before," mayor Orville Tonsing said. Council members agreed a lot of areas have been cleaned up because of the code enforcement position.

Council member Steve Moore said the police committee has talked about transitioning the position back under the jurisdiction of the police department but feels now is not the right time as they are understaffed.

CSU students look at mini park

A group of Colorado State University engineering students were scheduled to visit Holyoke Mini Park Sunday, Feb. 12 to look into issues concerning cracking walls and concrete.

Council members voted to reimburse Andrew Moss for his mileage.

Reports of city officials

Council members heard reports from city supt. Brown and police sergeant Damon Ellis.

Brown noted he was contacted by the school which is seeking some assistance and technical support for lights and light poles at the football field. The school, in cooperation with the county, is applying for a Great Outdoors Colorado grant for an all-weather track. Brown said he doesn't see a problem with assisting the school in some manner.

Brown also noted the new trash truck has been used and is working great. However, he noted the old truck developed some engine problems but hopes it can be fixed without too much trouble.

Ellis said the testing date for the officer applicants was postponed to Feb. 11 due to the snowstorm that blew through the Holyoke area on the original scheduled date.

Other business

In other business Feb. 7, council members:

—agreed to move forward with the airport paving project which will occur in three stages.

—adopted personnel policy No. 28 conflict of interest, No. 29 equal opportunity employment (EOE)/civil rights and No. 30 limited English proficiency.

—approved purchase of a drill press for the water department from Enco for $2,354.78.

—accepted proposal from Perfection Door Company for three bay doors for the utility shops at a cost of $6,545.

—approved 2011 year-end transfers.

—approved travel request for Kathy Olofson to attend Colorado Employer Benefit Trust (CEBT) renewal conference in Sterling Thursday, Feb. 23.

—voted to place advertisement in the Explore Magazine at a price of $320.

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