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## **Silvis acquires 1.6 acres from IDOT**

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**By Seth Kabala, correspondent@qconline.com**

SILVIS -- The city now owns 1.6 acres of land formerly owned by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

At Tuesday night's council meeting, city administrator Jim Grafton said IDOT officials have e-mailed him confirmation of the recording of the deed for 1.6 acres of land near Walmart that Silvis bought from the state.

"There was some land-locked property (owned by) the state," Mr. Grafton said. "We agreed to purchase it so that it made a .64-acre (lot) into a larger parcel."

Land-locked property has no access to a public road, Mr. Grafton said. The city considers the lot "prime real estate," and it has a sales agreement with a current property owner.

"The state wouldn't sell it to an individual, but they would sell it to the city," Mr. Grafton said. He noted the purchase took two and a half years to complete.

In other business, aldermen:

-- Approved an ordinance removing property owned by Ald. Tom Conrad, 4th Ward, from the boundaries of TIF IV to comply with TIF regulations.

-- Approved paying \$23,342 to Economy Roofing for installation of the new roof on the public safety building.

-- Learned from city engineer Roger Geiken that JF Edwards is finished pouring footings and laying conduit for the LED streetlights on 1st Avenue. The lights are expected to arrive in Silvis by Dec. 3. Aldermen also approved a \$128,190.60 payment for work on the project.

-- Heard Christmas in Silvis will be 4:30 to 7 p.m. Dec. 4 on the south side of 1st Avenue. The Silvis Business Association has donated five trees to the city and \$50 each for decorations.

