

TO THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEBANON, OREGON:

Gentlemen:

At a citizens' meeting held last Friday night, the undersigned were appointed a committee to examine into the Budget proposed for the fiscal year 1915. Your committee met with as many of the city officers as attended, and the Budget was very thoroughly explained and discussed.

After giving the matter a very thorough consideration, as far as it was possible to give it, the committee begs leave to recommend the following changes in the Budget:

(1) That the appropriation for the Recorder's department remain as it is, but that the Recorder's salary be raised from \$240.00 a year to \$300.00 a year; and that the estimate for printing be reduced from \$200.00 to \$140.00.

That the sinking fund of \$1200.00 for sewer bonds and the redemption fund of \$1000.00 for refunding bonds be eliminated.

Our reasons for these suggestions are:

(a) That the duties and responsibilities of the Recorder's office seem to entitle the Recorder to as much as \$25.00 a month.

(b) We do not believe that it is wise to accumulate a large fund by taxation and hold the fund a long time before it can be used for the purposes for which it was raised. We believe it unwise for the city at this time to attempt to begin the raising of a sinking fund and a redemption fund, especially in view of the very heavy tax levy that must be met.


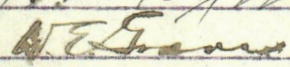
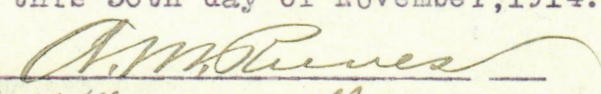
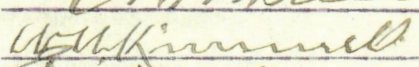

(2) We believe that the present plan of employing a city attorney on a salary basis and a fee system combined is unsatisfactory. The city attorney's salary at this time is \$120.00 a year, and the estimate amount for extra services and expenses aggregate, with the salary, \$650.00. We very strongly recommend that the city at-

to prevent cities from emptying their sewerage into running streams. If this law is passed, the work done in the dredging of Marks Slough would be absolutely lost to the tax payers, in view of the fact that other arrangements would have to be made to care for the sewerage. And, again, if the Board of Health should make an investigation and the city should be compelled to dredge the Slough, a reasonable time would be allowed for the doing of the work, and no particular harm would come. Of course, this committee is anxious that the city may promptly remove any just cause of complaint on the part of the people living along the Slough, but we do not believe that it is necessary to tax the city \$1300.00 for that purpose at this time.

(7) We can see no good reason why a contingent fund of \$500.00 should be maintained.

The proposed reductions amount to nearly \$6000.00, which would cause a considerable decrease in the levy. We are fully aware of the fact that the City Council could find good use for all the money proposed in the Budget; and that the city would be profited, more or less, thereby. We think, however, that this matter should be looked at, not only so far as the needs of the city are concerned, but with reference to the ability of the tax payers to stand the big levy. If this tax was all that the people of the city would have to pay, it would not be so bad, but when we consider the proposed levy in connection with the levy that will have to be made for school purposes, we find that the aggregate of the levies will be extremely burdensome to the people. We believe that the city can very well do without the things to which we have objected, and we very strongly recommend that the Budget be reduced in practical conformity with the reductions herein recommended.

Respectfully submitted this 30th day of November, 1914.

  
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torney be put on a flat salary of \$250.00 a year; and that he be paid a reasonable amount whenever it becomes necessary for him to represent the city in the courts of the state outside of the Recorder's Court. We believe that \$250.00 is an abundant pay for the ordinary work to be done by the city attorney for the coming year.

(3) We believe and recommend that the superintendent of streets be, at the same time, chief of police; and that the sum of \$1500.00 be appropriated for the running of the police department and the salary of the superintendent of streets. There will be but little for the superintendent of streets to do in the coming year, and these duties will in no way conflict with the duties of the chief of police, and a large saving can be had to the tax payers.

We would suggest that the estimates for extra police at the Strawberry Fair, circuses, etc., be eliminated.

(4) We suggest that the amount appropriated for the supplying of globes for street lights be raised from \$100.00 to \$300.00, and that out of this \$300.00 the light posts be well painted for fear of damage resulting if not properly painted.

We suggest that the allowance for decking two bridges be raised from \$80.00 to \$100.00, and that the iron <sup>stringers of the</sup> bridge on Grant St. be painted for its own protection.

(5) It is very evident to us that the city will not need a permanent engineer for the coming year. It will very likely need an engineer from time to time. Whenever he is needed, he can be called upon to come to the city and do the work desired. We suggest that the sum of \$400.00 be allowed for the city engineer's office for the year, and that there be eliminated the \$1040.00 as salary, the \$50.00 as typewriting, the \$72.00 as office rent, and the \$6.00 as janitor service.

(6) We very strongly object to the appropriation of \$1300.00 for the dredging of Marks Slough. There is a move on foot, we understand, coming from the State Board of Health, to have a law passed