

MONDAY, 7:00 P.M.

FEBRUARY 26, 1996

FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES

NEWBERG PUBLIC LIBRARY

NEWBERG, OREGON

The meeting was called to order by at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Tim Codiga Bert Pennock
Alan Halstead

Others Present: Kathy Tri, Finance Director
Duane Cole, City Manager
Donna Proctor, Mayor
Diane Padilla, Asst. Finance Director

PROPOSAL FOR ROLL CART PROGRAM: Newberg Garbage was present to review it's proposal for roll cart program for weekly curbside service. They reviewed the reasons for moving towards a roll cart program and handed out additional information which included a question and answer sheet which they intend to distribute to their customers. Currently they have 185 customers that have two cans a week pick-up. This program would be focused mainly at those customers and three cans per week customers. However, other customers would also be encouraged to use this program. Customers like the convenience of the roll cart, as it is easier to move to the curb, reduces extras, there are fewer messes to clean up due to wind and animals, and are better for senior citizens. The evidence shows that the roll cart does not reduce the recycling program. Kathy Tri also asked about the proposed yard debris program that has been discussed in the past. They indicated that by having roll carts, they will be in a better position to begin that program in the future. However, there is no date set at this time. Bert Pennock asked about elderly using one can verses a roll cart. Merlin LaJoie indicated that Newberg Garbage would continue to pick up 32 gallon can service. It is also possible to have a mini can, 20 gallons, service for elderly. Marvin Snyder indicated that it is important to move to a roll cart program. It is getting hard to find employees who are strong enough and willing enough to work that hard to do the 32 gallon can pick ups.

MOTION: Bert Pennock/Tim Codiga moved to recommend to have the Council approve proposed roll cart program for Newberg Garbage Service. Passed by those present.

BOND ISSUE FOR CITY FACILITIES: Duane Cole reviewed his memo regarding a 7.8 million dollar bond issue for the City facilities. The Council will be reviewing this issue at it's March 4 City Council meeting. The Community Development committee has recommended that the bond issue on the May 1996 primary election.

Mr. Cole indicated that staff has been developing a package for City facilities for some time. Recently, the cost figures have come into place. He indicated that the Fire department strategic plan showed a need for a second substation in the eastern part of the community. The Police station is in tremendous need of access and City Hall, if something is not done soon, will need to be abandoned, as it is an unsafe building. He reviewed some of the assumptions developed in putting together the proposal. He also reviewed that this year the City had received a grant to look at Central School. While Central School is certainly large enough for the City facilities, it would have to be upgraded substantially at almost the same cost. Police departments are required to be built to 125% of building code in order to withstand a 7.0 earthquake. Furthermore, Central School is designed for a school and has a lot of wasted space in the halls. The studies show that it would cost as much to remodel Central School as it would be to build a building. With regard to City Hall, there is a lot of community attachment to the old building, its facade and location. There is not the same attachment to Central School. The proposal includes purchasing the VFW Hall, tearing it down and tearing down the legal building, and purchasing some additional parking.

Bert Pennock indicated that there is a concern of the impact of this proposal on the tax bill for community residents. With the end of Measure 5, peoples taxes will go up more this year than in the past. Already the school district does not have enough money for Renne's renovation, and the Sheriff has a substantial levy on the ballot in March. It is a problem, we need to be concerned with the total tax bill. Duane Cole indicated that the City has been dealing with this for six years. In the beginning, he sat back and let the school district go for its bond and the Park District tried to get its recreational facilities that they wanted. It is time now to go to the voters for the City. He added that Park and Rec may also have a ballot measure on the May ballot. Committee members said we should encourage the Park district to not have a measure on the May ballot. Staff indicated that one of the advantages of the May and November ballots is that they are free; the other election dates, March, June, and September, the City must pay its proportionate share, which could be as much as \$8,000 to \$10,000. The Committee agreed that May and November were good dates. Time Codiga reinforced Bert Pennock's concern for the total property tax bill, but added that it may be worth testing the waters in May to see how the voters feel about it. Staff indicated that this is also a good time for the City to get a bond rating and that bond interest rates are very low now, and both of these will help to save on the cost of the bonds.

The committee generally agreed that the City should put the measure on the May ballot to see what happens.

LIBRARY GIFT-EDWARDS MEMORIAL: Kathy Tri indicated that the Edwards family had given to the City a number of years ago \$25,000. The interest from the money has been used to purchase materials for the Library. The Edwards family is now entrusted in combining this gift with an additional gift of GM stock to the Library Foundation. The City is not able to accept the GM stock as it cannot invest in the stock market. However, the foundation has no investment restrictions upon it, since it is not a public entity.

MOTION: Bert Pennock/Tim Codiga moved to approve transferring \$25,000 from the reserve

for the library to the Library Foundation, with the restriction that only the interest be used to support Library programs. Passed by those present.

Bert Pennock asked if there was anything that could be done about the railroad crossing at College street. The Mayor and City Manager indicated that they would write a letter requesting some improvements be made at that intersection.

Adjournment: The committee moved to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

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