

FOR CONSIDERATION

OF THE

TAXPAYERS and VOTERS

of ROSEBURG

Proposed by the Council

Shall the amendment of subdivisions 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50 and 51 of section 33 of the charter of the City of Roseburg, to authorize the acquisition of a water and light plant for said city, by original construction of an electric power plant at Whistler's Bend and by original construction, purchase or condemnation of the remainder of said electric light plant and all of said water works, authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the city in a sum not to exceed \$500,000.00, bearing interest at 5 per cent per annum, to be sold at not less than par, providing for the levy of taxes to pay the interest thereon and to provide a sinking fund to pay principal thereof and authorizing the Council to provide for the management, operation and maintenance of said system, as proposed by ordinance No. 722, be adopted?

VOTE 501 NO

BECAUSE

1. If the \$500,000 bonds are voted this will be sufficient to install only one electric unit. It is impossible to furnish service with one electric unit only, therefore it will be necessary to install an additional unit at an added expense of at least \$130,000. It will still be necessary to install an auxiliary steam plant at a very great cost. From the above it will be seen that the total cost for the electric system alone will exceed \$800,000. As a gravity water system would cost at least a million dollars, it means that if the power plant were built at an expense of approximately \$800,000, there would never be any possibility of obtaining a gravity water system.

2. Under the present high cost of material, one dollar will only purchase 75 cents as compared to normal times. Therefore you will receive only \$375,000 for your \$500,000 investment.

3. EVERY INCREASE IN TAXES IS FOLLOWED BY AN INCREASE IN RENT, THEREFORE THE INCREASE FALLS AS HEAVILY UPON THE RENTER AS UPON THE PROPERTY OWNER.

4. Should the new plant be constructed it would mean that the city and county would lose \$4400 per year in taxes, which is now paid by the owners of the present light and water company. This \$4400 would have to be made up either by increased rates of the proposed municipal plant or by increased taxes.

An Explanation

Owing to the dissatisfaction caused by the lack of water last summer, the result of an unforeseen accident to our pump, we feel it our duty to our patrons and in justice to ourselves to explain that we have installed two new centrifugal pumps with a combined capacity of more than 90,000 gallons per hour, or nearly 2 1-4 millions of gallons every 24 hours, ample to furnish more than twice the requirement of the city of Roseburg. Marshfield and North Bend, with a population of about 11,000, are being supplied with excellent service from one pump, having a capacity of 60,000 gallons per hour or 1,440,000 gallons every 24 hours. Our new pumps were ordered August 6th with a guarantee of a 30-day delivery and were not received for nearly five months after the order was placed, in spite of us wiring every day, explaining the necessity of prompt delivery.

We further wish to state that the unsatisfactory electric service was caused primarily by the lightning striking one big generator, burning out several coils and weakening all of the remainder, which gradually gave out. A complete set of 238 brand new coils were ordered December 6th, and not being able to get them at the eastern factory they had to be constructed in Portland. They were not received here and installed until early in April. With the installation of these coils it makes the generators as good as new. This gives us two water-wheel generators and with our steam auxiliary generator in first class shape, any one of which can be operated independently, we can promise you the same good service in the future that has been given for the past 30 days.

DOUGLAS COUNTY LIGHT & WATER CO.