

Two Sewer Expansion Measures Faced By Voters Thursday

\$1,100,000 Bond Issue, Sewer Charge On Ballot

By CHUCK GRELL
Staff Writer, News-Review

Two measures which city officials believe will mean insurance for the continued growth of Roseburg will be on a citywide ballot Thursday.

Each is in the form of a charter amendment. If enacted by the voters, they would mean the expansion of the city's sewer system to a point where it would have capacity to serve a population of 35,000 persons.

One measure would authorize the City Council to sell \$1,100,000 in general obligation bonds for sewer and treatment plant construction.

The second would allow the council to levy monthly sewer service assessments. The money collected would be set aside in

would continue east along Deer Creek to the east city limits.

Those are the parts of the program in which the costs would be borne by the entire city.

Extension of lateral sewers and connections to buildings would be charged to property owners.

Probably, that would be done by forming sewer improvement districts within the city. Property owners would be liable for the costs under the Bancroft assessment procedure.

Scale Set For Charter

If the authorization for the council to set sewer services fees is approved, a scale of monthly assessments will be written into the city charter.

Basically, they would be \$2 for a single-family residence; \$3 for a two-family dwelling; \$4 for three units; \$5 for four units; \$5 for five units; and \$1 per unit per month for more than five units.

A system also would be established for industrial and commercial enterprises. It would be based on water use. Some apartment buildings would be included in this scale.

The figures mentioned would be the maximums, and only another charter amendment approved by voters could change them.

The proposal to issue general obligation bonds is unique.

Effect Is The Same

Normally, revenue bonds would be sold in such a situation, with sewer service revenues used to retire the bonds.

But in Oregon, general obligation bonds draw less interest for the purchaser than do revenue bonds. So the council, in drawing up ordinances calling the election, turned to the general revenue method. The effect is the same.

The result is that the city would pay less over the 25-year period in amortizing the bonds. At the same time, a lien would be placed against every parcel of private property in the city.

Should one measure pass and the other fail, according to Farrell, a sewer expansion program still would be feasible.

If the bond issue would be the one to pass, he believes, the council still could sell the bonds and levy taxes to retire the bonds.

If the opposite is the case, sewer service revenues probably would be placed in escrow until such a time enough money was collected to start construction.

WPA Funds Used In 30s

The work, if approved, would be the first modernization of the sewer system since the 1930s, when Works Progress Administration funds were added to a \$25,000 bond issue to build the present treatment plant and trunk sewers.

The project was completed in 1940. The treatment plant was set up to serve a population of 8,000.

At that time, the per-person use of sewers was 100 gallons of waste a day. Now, that has increased to 300 gallons, due in large part to automatic washers and other modern gadgets.

City Engineer Kenneth Meng says the plant works at capacity most of the time. But a lot of sewage is bypassed into the South Umpqua River.

Should no improvements be made, he says, the State Sanitary Authority may start pressures against the city.

Opposition To Program

"All we can do now is get the solids out of the waste," Meng said.

Opposition to the proposed program apparently is quartered in the older section of the city.

Residents point out that they have had their sewers paid for many years and disclaim responsibility for service to new areas.

But Farrell pointed out that cost of laterals will be paid by those properties still to be served.

Adherents of the expansion program hold that voters will be making an investment in the city. Without it, they say, property values will tend to drop. With it, the building trades will keep many persons employed and that will reflect in continued business prosperity, it's contended.

Polling Places Listed

Here are the polling places for Thursday's voting. Polls will be open between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Ward I: Courthouse for Deer Creek and Lane precincts. Benson School for Benson precinct.

Ward II: West Side Christian Church for that part of North Brown precinct lying south of the river. 8 Almond Avenue for that part of North Brown precinct north of the river. High school for Wharton and Laurelwood precincts. Salvation Army for Umpqua precinct.

Ward III: Fullerton School for Brown, Fairhaven and West Roseburg precincts. Roseburg Hotel for Hamilton and Woodward precincts.

Ward IV: City hall for Roseburg precinct. Rose School for Miller, Herman and Caro precincts.

special funds to retire the bond issue and to maintain, operate and administer sewerage facilities — the existing as well as the new.

Two Factors Present

The ballot measures have been made necessary because of two related factors, city officials say.

First, present facilities are inadequate to handle the present effluent volume.

Second, approximately 800 addresses in the city aren't connected to the sewer system now.

Regarding the first factor, City Manager George Farrell has said the present sewage treatment plant is capable of reducing only half the sewage to harmless effluent during the summer months.

The second point has this impact: Realtors, along with city officials, are alarmed over the refusal of home-loan guarantee agencies — the FHA, Veterans Administration and State Dept. of Veterans Affairs — to grant loans for further building here unless the houses are hooked to sewers.

Septic Tanks In Use

Most of the 800 addresses have septic tanks sanitation. Nearly all are located in West Roseburg west of Fairhaven Street.

It has reached a point now, according to Farrell, where raw sewage "floats" to the surface of the ground in many areas of West Roseburg after heavy rains. He points out the obvious disease-breeding potential of such a situation.

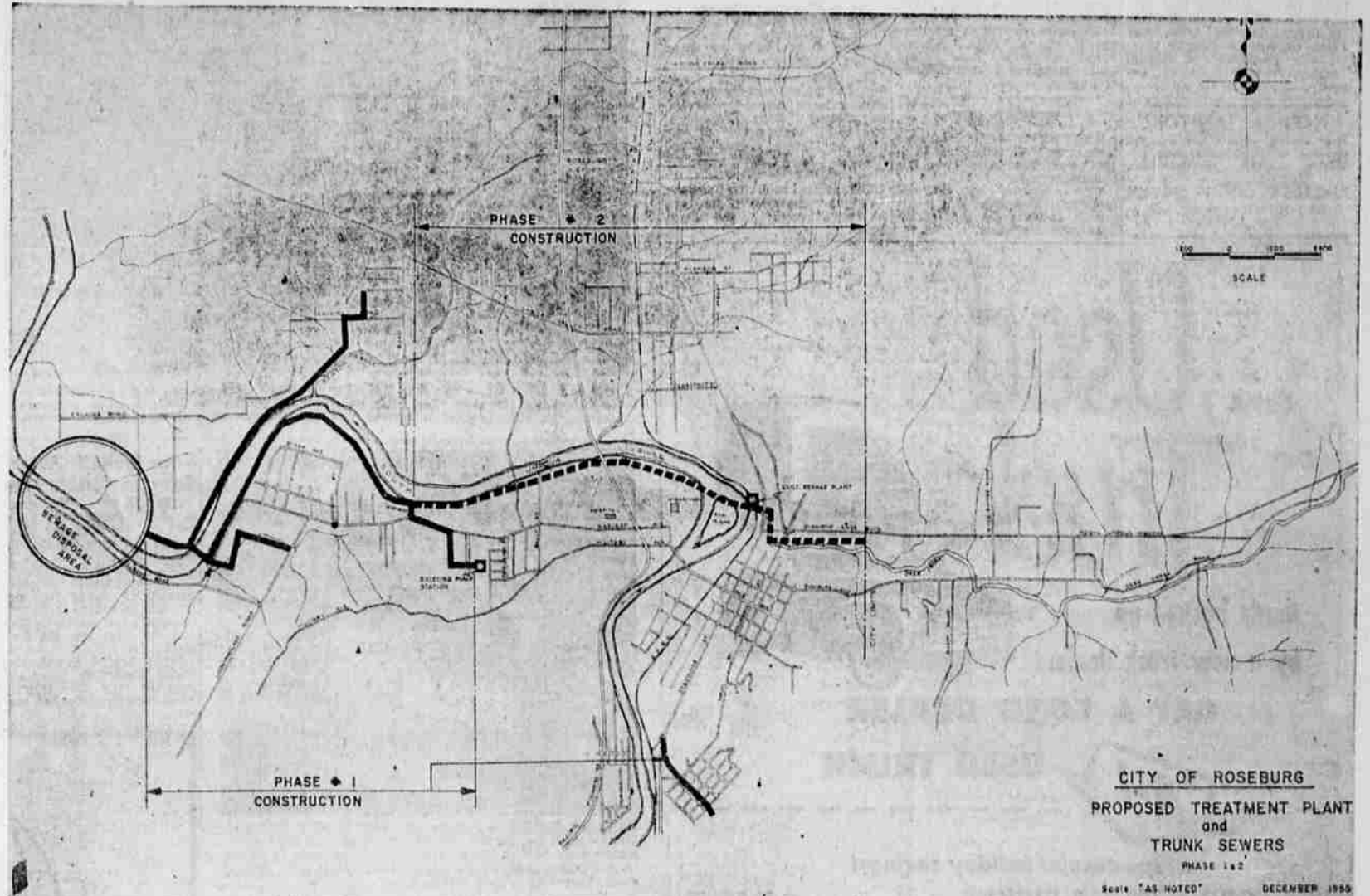
Physically, here is the program, broken into two phases:

1. At a cost of \$850,000, a new treatment plant would be built near the Felt Airport on the north side of the South Umpqua River approximately at the west side of the river. Sewer trunks would be built along the south side of the river east to the vicinity of Foothill Drive; north to the Hucrest district; east to Lookingglass Road to include the area south of Miceli Village; and up to the west edge of the Fairhaven district.

Gravity Flow Planned

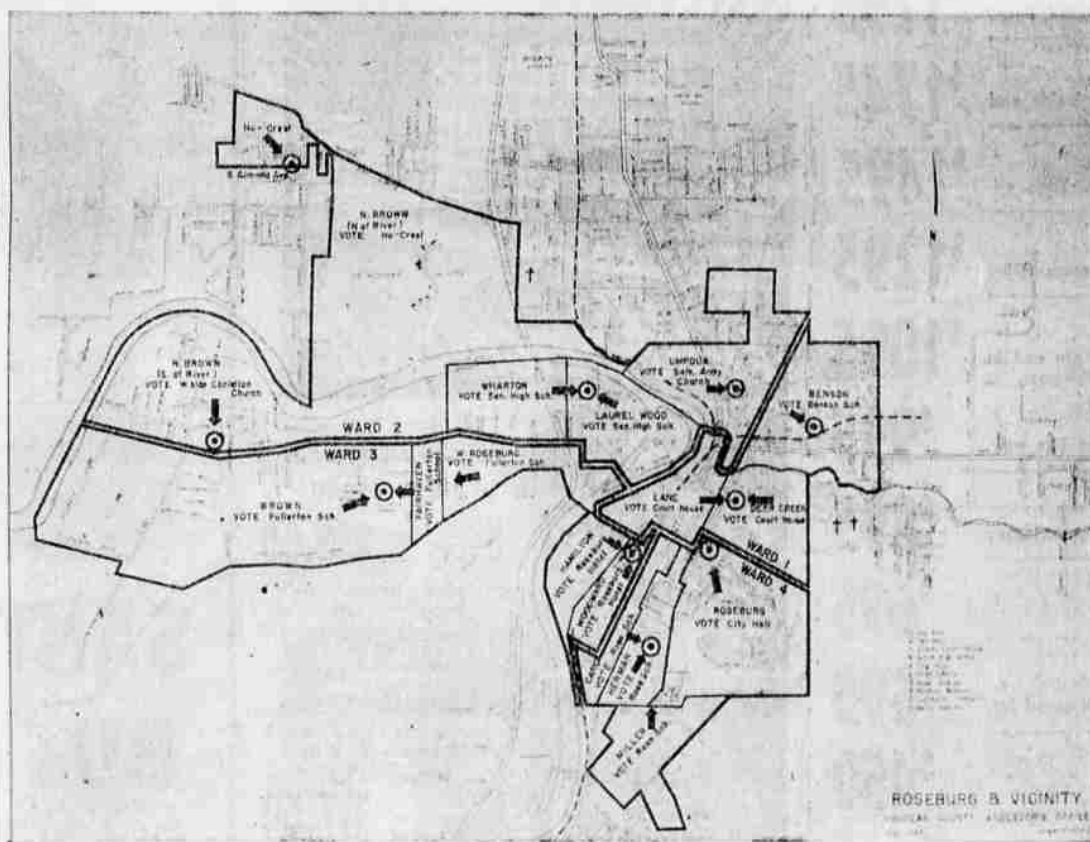
All effluent would drain by gravity to the treatment plant.

2. At a cost of \$250,000, on completion of the first phase, a sewer trunk would be extended from Foothill Drive east along the south bank. A siphon would cross the river at Elk Island and the trunk



PROPOSED SEWER PROGRAM — The map shows location of the proposed sewage disposal plant near the west city limits. The heavy lines are the locations first-phase of trunk sewer lines expected to be built by the \$1,100,000 bond

issue. The second phase of construction, also financed by the bond issue, is shown by the broken lines.



POLLING PLACES — The city has set up 10 voting places throughout the city for convenience of the voters. Arrows show where to ballot.

Yule Dinner And Initiation Set By Omicron Chapter

Initiation is scheduled for the next meeting of Omicron Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, an international honorary in Roseburg.

The meeting, Dec. 17, will also involve a Christmas dinner at the Hotel Umpqua at 6:30 p.m., according to general chairman Mrs. L. P. Hyde.

At the last meeting in the home of Mrs. Margaret Adair of Brockway, plans were laid for the chapter's first bazaar at 9 a.m. Saturday at St. George's Episcopal Parish Hall.

Mrs. R. Cloyd Riffe and Miss Elizabeth Randall directed the program on leadership. Present was Mrs. Lula C. Gorrell, former Douglas County school superintendent, who has recently returned to Roseburg to make her home. She is a past member of the Gamma Chapter and an honorary member of Omicron Chapter.

Honorary Plans Bazaar This Coming Saturday

Omicron Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, an international honorary, has scheduled a bazaar Saturday, starting at 9 a.m. It will be held at St. George's Episcopal Parish Hall.

Christmas gifts and decorations will be featured. Coffee and cookies will be served. Money raised from the bazaar will be used for a future teacher's scholarship the chapter is sponsoring.

DANCE NETS PROFIT

Junior Class members made a profit of \$61.70 from their Sadie Hawkins' Day party. Correspondent Mrs. Gerald B. Fox reports that the sum was added to the class treasury.

Liquor Agency At Corvallis Ends Long City Battle

CORVALLIS — The "moist" era of Corvallis has ended. For the first time since long before prohibition, bottled liquor is available to the public.

The Oregon Liquor Control Commission opened its first agency in this college town Saturday.

That ends what has at times been a bitter fight between the wets and dries. For years the dries predominated and hard liquor was banned entirely from the city.

After prohibition was lifted in 1934, the City Council asked in a letter that no store or agency be established here. The request was granted by the Liquor Commission and those who wanted a nip now and then had to drive 10 miles to Albany, or, in more recent years, five miles to Philomath.

The wets, always irked by the drive, finally prevailed when the voters approved liquor by the drink in November, 1954. Spurred by the result, they have overcome objections to the establishment of a state controlled agency, taking the city out of the dry category.

J. W. Lamers, former auditor with the Liquor Commission, will operate the agency.

Calapooia Club Schedules Meeting, Dinner Dec. 14

The Calapooia Club at Sutherlin will meet Wednesday, Dec. 14, at the Calapooia Clubhouse, with Opal Stinson, Mary Winifred, Gloria Nelson and Mrs. Kooser, as hostesses. A turkey Christmas dinner and the exchange of gifts are scheduled. Each mother bringing a small child is asked to bring a child's gift. Nominations of officers will be held at this meeting.

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Vital Statistics

Marriage Licenses

LAMBRIGHT - BREEDLOVE — Jack E. Lambright, Idleyld Park, and Barbara E. Breedlove, Roseburg.

FINDLAY-DYER — Thomas L. Findlay and Janell G. Dyer, both of Roseburg.

PARKER-DAILEY — Billy Parker and Joetta Dailey, both of Myrtle Creek.

Order Of Amaranth Sets First Annual Breakfast

Douglas Court 18, Order of Amaranth, will hold its first annual Sunday morning breakfast Dec. 11 at the Masonic Dining Hall in Roseburg.

The event will start at 7:30 a.m. and will end at 12:30 p.m.

The General public is invited, according to Chairman Henry Halvorsen. Proceeds from the breakfast will be used to help the work of the local lodge, he said.

Thomas C. Hartfiel

announces

the moving of his law office from 204 Carter Building to 1363 West Harvard Avenue Roseburg, Oregon

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