

City needs \$1.5 million

Council will call for June 30 revenue vote

By RICHARD WAGONER
Of the Emerald

The Eugene City Council is expected to call for a June 30 election for voters to consider a \$1.5 million "Tier II" levy to fund a handful of capital items and some city services not covered by the city's current revenue base.

City councilors will call for the election at their meeting Wednesday.

Voters last year approved a \$16.5 million tax base to fund the city for the 1981-82 fiscal year. The \$1.5 million that the city will request in the Tier II proposal is the difference between that base and what City Manager Mike Gleason says is needed to run the city.

Gleason says the operating "core" budget falls almost \$1 million short of balancing with the already approved revenue.



Emerald graphic

Added to that shortfall is about \$400,000 for capital-improvement projects and a contingency fund to ensure the city will get enough tax receipts to cover the Tier II budget.

The Tier II budget would cost city homeowners about 60 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, according to Assistant City Manager David Whitlow. Tax rates would increase from \$7.44 per \$1,000 in 1980-81 to \$8.11 per \$1,000 in 1981-82.

Gleason plans eventually to bring all of the city's existing services under the core budget. Then the Tier II budget would consist only of improvements on existing services, new services or capital projects.

Items included in the supplemental budget are:

- Some \$55,000 to purchase

books for the city library, giving the library about \$166,000 for book buying.

- About \$42,000 to operate summer playground programs at Westmoreland, Amazon, Sheldon and Petersen community centers.

- Funds totaling about \$25,000 to train and supply a special 25-member police reserve force.

- Funds to create a building plan inspector position to provide immediate basic plan examinations for remodeling or building additions. Whitlow says the position would relieve the understaffed planning

department and would reduce the time needed to inspect plans from six weeks to less than a week.

- A \$58,500 fund to make improvements in city neighborhoods not eligible for federal Community Development Block Fund grants.

- About \$50,000 for the Joint Housing Committee to develop housing for low-income and elderly residents.

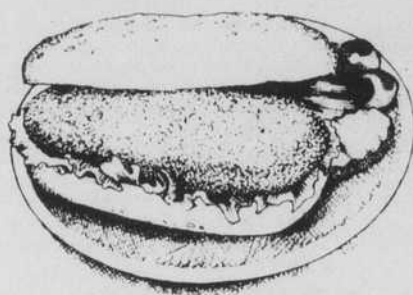
Capital projects covered by the Tier II plan include funds to buy land for a fire station on Fox Hollow Road near Donald Street, money for engineering and designing an addition to Fire Station 9 at 967 Goodpasture Island Road, and funds for engineering and designing a new fire station at 28th Avenue and Polk Street.

The council will hold a public hearing on the entire budget on June 22 when residents will have a chance to comment on the plan. The council at that time will vote on the package.

The June 30 election also will include a ballot measure that would authorize a \$188,666 levy on property in the city's Downtown Development District to continue the free parking program downtown.

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U. of O. students from Medford, Roseburg, Bend, Pendleton, and Newport:

join in the legislative lobbying effort for higher education. The House Committee on Revenue is going on a field trip to your town to discuss the Governor's Tax Program. A good turnout of students at these hearings will demonstrate that we do care. If you will be home for the weekend or can possibly make it, please try to attend one of these hearings and support higher education. The schedule is as follows:

May 21 Medford Armory 1:00 P.M.
May 21 Roseburg Armory 7:00 P.M.
May 22 Bend Armory 1:00 P.M.
May 22 Pendleton Armory 7:00 P.M.
May 23 Newport Armory 1:00 P.M.

For more information, stop by the ASUO office for State and University Affairs, Suite 4 EMU or call x3724.

Survival Center offers buses for environmental supporters

By LESLIE FARRIS
Of the Emerald

Local environmentalists will be traveling to the state Capitol this week in support of wild animals.

The University Survival Center is offering bus transportation today and Wednesday for anyone wishing to attend or testify at public hearings on two wildlife bills pending in the Legislature.

SB 791 would regulate the importation and sale of wild animals. Oregon law already prohibits the sale of native wildlife, and this bill would extend that protection to non-native species.

One-hundred million birds are removed from their habitats legally and illegally each year, says Sydney Herbert of the Lane County Audubon Society. Many are smuggled to avoid quarantine and increase profits, he says, while others are imported legally in spite of high mortality from stress, disease and improper handling.

Testimony on the bill now before the Senate Justice Committee will begin today at 2:30 p.m. Those wishing to attend should meet in the Survival Center, EMU Suite 1, at 1 p.m.

Wednesday's hearing is on House Joint Memorial 15, which would recommend to the U.S. Congress an amendment of the Marine Mammal Protection Act now under Congressional review. The MMPA was passed by Congress in 1972 to establish a moratorium on the killing of marine mammals. This law bans baby seal skin imports, prohibits whaling within 200 miles of the coastline and protects all other marine mammals, including

sea otters, polar bears, manatees, all seals, whales, porpoise and walrus.

HJM 15, now in the Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, asks Congress to extend the MMPA one year and then turn management of marine mammals over to the states.

Salmon and tuna fishing and oil industry representatives are lobbying against the Act in Congress. In Oregon, salmon fishermen blame harbor seals for the decline in fish populations.

Earlier this fall, the Fish and Wildlife Department passed a resolution asking Congress to amend the MMPA to allow the management of harbor seals.

Bryson says the MMPA doesn't need to be amended because it already allows fishermen to kill seals and sea lions that interfere with fish and gear. Also, it allows the states to regain management authority if sufficient data is provided to show that management will maintain the health and stability of the marine ecosystem.

"Marine mammals are not responsible for the decline in fish resources that proponents of HJM 15 claim they have caused," Bryson says. "Dams, habitat destruction, degraded water quality and reduced stream flows all have contributed to the decline in fisheries."

"The real problem is a shortage of fish, not an overabundance of seals."

Those wishing to attend the 8 a.m. hearing should be at the Survival Center Wednesday at 6:30 a.m.

OXFAM-America sponsors benefit

OXFAM-America will sponsor a benefit dinner for the OXFAM-Denali Project on Thursday

at the Central Presbyterian Church, 14th Avenue and Patterson Street.

Dinner will be served from 6:30 to 9 p.m. A donation of \$3 per person and \$1.25 per child under 12 is requested.

OXFAM-America is a non-profit organization that focuses on famine relief and Third World development. Its projects have received world-wide acclaim for their efficiency and ability to proceed without government interference.

OXFAM accepts no funds from government aid programs or corporations with business interests in the developing countries. Instead, it attempts to fund projects that will lead to greater self-sufficiency for local people.

For every dollar of donations OXFAM receives, 83 cents goes directly to fund projects. The organization says this figure ranks as one of the lowest of all volunteer world hunger relief agencies.

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