

Sewer district, drain field Boring proposals

BORING—A preliminary report on sewer conditions in the area suggests that formation of a sewer district may be necessary to clean up failing systems, state officials say.

Although the report will not be complete until late this month, Bob Gilbert, manager for the Northwest region of the Department of Environmental Quality, said the rough draft offers two alternatives for the Boring area.

In addition to the sewer district, the report states that a large drainage field also may solve the problems of failing systems identified recently in a DEQ study.

"It looks like that will be the request," Gilbert said of the sewer district. "We'll be meeting with Clackamas County and probably CRAG."

Gilbert said the completed report will be forwarded to Clackamas County officials by March 31.

Boring has long had known sewer problems and DEQ officials recently confirmed failing systems in the downtown area. The sewer problem surfaced last month during hearings for a zone change for a 50,000-square foot shopping center to be located in the center of town.

The shopping center has since been approved for construction, with work scheduled to begin this summer, but the sewer problems continue in the core area.

Both Gilbert and Charlie Gray, assistant Portland regional manager for the DEQ, said logistics of plans for the Boring area have not been completed.

"The survey (of commercial and residential sewer systems) showed scattered failures throughout the town," Gray said. "But no real patterns developed."

If a Boring sewer district were formed, Gilbert said that initially it probably

would not serve the entire area. Since most of the failing systems are in the downtown area, he said the district would first offer hook-ups there.

What it boils down to is just how large an area we want to be sewered."

"A district may not include all of Boring. It probably would include the downtown area but it would have to be tailored to the situation," Gilbert said.

The drainage field also is a possibility to solve the sewer problems in Boring. "There is the possibility of collecting all those (failing systems) in the downtown area and going to a drain field in a different location," Gilbert said.

"We could form a service district to operate either system. Either one is a good alternative—we'll be looking at them in real good detail and figuring out what the costs (for each) would be."

Gilbert said there are no estimates of how much either

of the systems would cost to implement in Boring but said finances may be the determining factor in which system to go with. "Environmentally, either one of them would do the job."

Gilbert said the Environmental Protection Agency is a potential source of funding for sewer projects should one become necessary in Boring.

Under the EPA grant program, the federal agency pays 75 percent of the costs with the other 25 percent coming from local sources. Gilbert said the local 25 percent match could come through hook-up charges, assessments, bond issues or other charges.

DEQ representatives will meet with the Boring Action Neighborhood Group at the community panel's April 17 meeting to go over the report and recommendations for the area.

Street meetings sought

Church request delayed

by Von Braschler

Dealt a temporary set-back by Sandy City Council Monday, the Greater Solid Rock Church of Portland has vowed to return to council chambers April 3, armed with necessary permission of private property owners downtown to hold evangelical street meetings here this summer.

Spokesmen for the Church of God in Christ congregation—one of 20 regionally in a worldwide network of churches with 3 million members—say this would be the first time a community has turned down their request for assembly.

The council tabled until April 3 the congregation's request for a permit to hold religious services downtown near Rexall Drug on alternate Monday evenings throughout summer.

Council cited as reasons for hesitancy the congregation's lack of permission from involved private property owners, possible crowd control problems and dangers of a possible trend in permitting divergent religious groups to occupy downtown streets.

Church Elder Ray Burnett described the planned street meetings as a chance for passersby to "drop in" on the hour-long meeting to hear singing, testimonials and a gospel message.

Elder Burnett held similar street revivals in downtown Sandy about 10 years ago, although he recalls that the council took awhile to review his permit for assembly at that time, too.

Sandy downtown traffic, however, has doubled in 10 years, Councilman Vern Richards reminded church spokesmen.

Burnett previously assembled downtown with relatives and friends, and said the group experienced no problems or criticism from merchants, the city or people passing his streetside evangelistic meeting.

"In fact, we touched one or two people to where we counseled them and pointed them toward local churches before leaving."

"We're not out to tear down any church here or take away their members," he said. "We take no offering and ask for no local participation in the services."

He emphasized that the proposed Monday night hour-long street services were unlike a formal church service.

"We have seven or eight young ministers and lay ministers in our church who need to get out into the community and be tested," head Pastor A.R. Hopkins said.

The street services are geared particularly for the youth.

"Young people today are really looking for something," Rev. Hopkins said. "And since it takes young people to reach other young people, we'll bring four to ten younger people from our congregation."

Rev. Hopkins' church in northeast Portland has the highest number of



AWAITING COUNCIL WORD on their recent request to hold downtown religious street meetings are Elder Ray Burnett, left, and Rev. A. R. Hopkins, from Portland's Greater Solid Rock Church of God in Christ. (Post photo)

ordained ministers—eight—of any Church of God in Christ church in Oregon, he said.

Outreach groups from the congregation have held public services on Portland streetcorners in Portland parks, in nursing homes for the elderly and even at Oregon State Penitentiary.

Members even crusaded in a "signs for Christ" march from their north end church to a downtown Portland park.

In Sandy, Elder Burnett said efforts would be made to work closely with police on crowd control and that the meetings would be disbanded if the crowd spreads out into the street.

Sandy Councilman Bruce Cook expressed concern over the possible trend in permitting religious groups to assemble here "even though freedom of religious assembly is one of our constitutional rights."

"Next time it might be the 'Moonies' asking us for a permit, and how could we turn them down after allowing this group to assemble," he asked.

The Rev. Ed Neuenfeldt said that the local ministerial assembly was at first concerned over just what

group was coming, but said that the assembly would not be opposed to the outreach group holding their street services here.

He suggested, however, that the council would have to consider the future requests of any other religious group on a case-by-case basis.

"I've done it on some of the busy streets of Portland," said Elder Burnett of the Greater Solid Rock Church, "and it's never caused a problem."

"It's just a chance for someone passing by to get a glimpse of the gospel."

There are approximately 150 members in the 10-year-old Portland church congregation.

"As far as a big crowd around, we never have had all that many," Burnett said of previous street meetings in Portland.

"A lot of the young people come around, and they seem to like the services."

Congregation spokesman suggested that public property in Sandy might be sought as a possible site, should they fail to secure the permission of private property owners downtown, as requested by council.

Comm. race draws ten

Seven Democratic candidates and three Republicans are in the race for Stan Skoko's seat on the Clackamas County Commission.

Incumbent Skoko will be seeking his fifth term as county commission on the Democratic ticket. A long-time resident of Clackamas, Skoko was first elected to the commission in 1948. He served two terms through 1966 and returned to the commission to serve through 1968. He was elected to his present term in 1974.

Wilsonville City Planner Robert H. Mahoney also is running as Democrat for the commission seat. Mahoney, 41, is a West Linn resident. He graduated from Portland State University with a degree in urban studies.

Mahoney has worked as assistant zoning administrator for the county and was a research planner for the former Portland Metropolitan Planning Commission. He was city planner for Lake Oswego from 1967 to 1975. He has been city planner for Wilsonville since last July.

Mahoney, the father of two children, was defeated in a 1976 primary race for the county commission by Ralph Groener.

Democrat Dean Killion, former president of the Oregon AFL-CIO is a realtor

in Oregon City.

Greg A. Kauffman withdrew from the race as a Democratic candidate on March 23. "I do not want to seek election at this time," was Kauffman's comment.

Also running for the commission seat as Democrats are Suzanne VanOrman, Alan K. Brickley, George E. Thomas and Howard Klemensen.

VanOrman, an Oregon City resident, is employed by the county juvenile department.

Brickley, who lives in West Linn, is an attorney and Thomas, Oregon City, is a contractor.

Starkovich to run for St. legislature

With a potshot at what he calls "legislative bungling and inaction," Redland farmer Steve Starkovich recently announced that he plans to run for the seat in the state legislature currently being held by Dick Groener (D-Milwaukie).

Starkovich, also a Democrat, said that "for all his years in the legislature, Dick Groener's actions haven't relieved the problems. He is politically a very powerful man, but that hasn't seemed to have helped us and re-electing a familiar

mayor of Oregon City from 1973-74 and served on the Oregon City commission from 1968-72.

Republicans vying for the position are Gilbert "Gil" Rodgers, Terry L. Van Der Mark and Alan Samarin.

Samarin, 32, is a probation officer for the Clackamas County Department of Corrections.

Rodgers, a resident of Oregon City, is retired chief deputy for the county sheriff's office.

Van Der Mark, 31, is a resident of Johnson City and is employed by Warn Industries.

name is not the way to solve our problems. Good government needs new people with better ideas."

Groener has been in the state senate 20 years and is presently its president pro-tempore.

Starkovich proposes to "respect the American farmer and understand his plight instead of treating him like a rich old farmer who's too stingy to pay his property taxes."

The 23-year-old Clackamas County native also said he plans to emphasize the use of renewable energy resources, remove the burden of school financing from property owners and improve social services for the elderly.

Starkovich, who currently lives on his family's farm in Redland, is a graduate of Oregon State University and the University of Washington.

He is on the planning committee of Loaves and Fishes, the Legislative Committee of the Oregon Consumer League and the Molalla chapter of the Oregon-Washington Farmers' Union Board of Directors.

Groener, a Democrat from Oregon City, is seeking the post currently held by Bill Stevenson who has announced he will not seek re-election.

Groener seeks labor position

Clackamas County Commissioner Ralph Groener feels his management experience on the commission will help him if he is elected state labor commissioner, the post he filed for "at a quarter 'til five" on Tuesday.

Groener, a Democrat from Oregon City, is seeking the post currently held by Bill Stevenson who has announced he will not seek re-election.

Groener said he was not

dissatisfied with his position on the commission but feels it is time "for a strong voice and leadership on the labor commission."

"I enjoy speaking and debate and feel I am articulate. I will be speaking on behalf of the working people," he said.

Groener said he plans to rely on the Voter's Pamphlet and weekend speaking

engagements for his campaign. He said he feels his biggest problem in the campaign will be raising funds.

Issues Groener said he plans to address will include updating civil rights cases in the labor commission. "I feel time on civil rights cases has taken too long," he said, adding that affirmative

action laws need more explanation.

Another issue Groener said needs more emphasis is senior opportunities. "We have forgotten those who are going to retire or are retired. I'm very concerned about the elderly," he said.

obituaries

Cecil Hermon

Funeral for Cecil Spafford Hermon, 75, of 31885 SE Chin Road, Boring, will be 1:30 p.m. Friday at Bateman Funeral Chapel.

Hermon died Tuesday.

He was born in Ameliasburg, Ontario, and came to the United States as a young man. He settled in Detroit and married Margaret Mayernik there on July 7, 1928. He moved to Oregon in 1971 and Gresham in 1977.

A mechanical engineer until his retirement in 1968, Hermon was also a 50-year member of the Masonic Lodge. He belonged to Milwaukie Lodge No. 109 and the Four Square Lodge in Detroit.

Survivors include: his wife; a son, William of Detroit; two daughters, Gertrude Caedza of Boring and Mary Alexander of Walled Lake, Mich.; a brother Frederick of Tombstone, Ariz.; a sister, Helen Orem of Nacogdoches, Texas; 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Committal will be in Douglass Cemetery, Troutdale.

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