

The Gold Hill News

HOWARD E. WHARTON, Editor and Manager

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE CITY OF GOLD HILL, OREGON

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Gold Hill Water Question

Many years ago, shortly after Gold Hill went dry, it became apparent that to handle the demand for water in Gold Hill the then City Council, with J. B. R. Morelock in the chair as Mayor appointed a committee of three, namely, A. J. T. Smith, E. T. Simmons and Walter Stickle to make a water ordinance to govern the use and sale of the popular beverage. That was the birth of Ordinance No. 92 in the moist affairs of the town. This committee came to the News office and asked for the assistance of the editor, H. E. Wharton, (the present recorder of the city,) and the rules and rates in the old ordinance were tested out and presented to the council who passed the ordinance. This piece of legislation was diligently carried out until a year or two past when Mayor Miller with recorder Kellogg made an amendment to old No. 92 raising the domestic rates to \$1.75 per month and another amendment under Mayor F. Childers, with Merriman as recorder, drawn up and presented by E. H. Radtke, raising the domestic rate to \$2.00 per month. Then comes another change of administration who found the city in a financial 'jack-pot' and also that in order to govern the use and sale of water efficiently all the amendments, rules and alterations of old No. 92 must be compiled under one head to avoid conflict and ordinance No. 113 is the result. Basically 113 is old 92 except for the raises in rates applied by previous administrations. The one change charged against the new Mayor, recorder and Council is an attempt to put the water department on a firm business like basis similar to the C.O.P.Co., and such utilities by demanding a deposit of all renters to insure the department against similar losses that cost previous administrations hundreds of dollars in uncollected bills.

The present council is composed of Mayor Robt. E. Cook, Recorder, H. E. Wharton; Councilmen, J. M. Lively, of the Sunset Smelter and a business man of long standing in industries of considerable magnitude. Tony Ross, operator of the State Lime Plant and a level headed conservative. Fred Hickman, owner of the Nuggett Garage, with a reputation for sensible business dealing. P. H. Myers, who is considered as without an equal here for business accountability and with a long business training. Mrs. Laura Pankey, well known as a wise business woman of impartial principals, and last but not least, Dick Robinson, an electrical engineer of ability and capable mathematician. Now, on top of this line up, there is a combined fact in this body of men for the best interests in that if anyone in the city can show that they can do the work of any officer and they are acceptable to the public any of these officers will resign in favor of the aspirant.

These new officers of the city were faced with the fact that Gold Hill was in a desperate situation in that instead of the town being only \$1500. in debt as provided by the charter, there was about \$8600. cash indebtedness beside the bonds authorized and sold in the past several years, the new budget drawn and not taking into estimate more than the ordinary \$1500 debts as provided by charter. The unpaid warrants of about \$7000 drawing interest; water department not on a paying basis; and, well—a serious emergency existing. The new officers knew all this when they took their oath and pledged themselves to try to put the town back onto its feet, if the people of Gold Hill were willing.

The money from the water bonds must be spent for the new water mains only and has about all been so spent. No allowance was made for several hundred feet of small pipe to connect up the private individuals nor to cover the cost of such connection. It has been estimated that it will cost \$2.50 to connect up with an average of 8 feet of pipe, each water user. Where is the money to come from? What can be done when people fail to pay their water and the town trusts them and they move away without paying? Taxes at present are inadequate. No money to work with. Can you, any of you, solve that? The council believes it can survive the problem if they can raise an emergency fund at once, hence the Deposit rule wherein every property owner in Gold Hill will pay a month's rent in advance with a 50c connect charge added as a deposit to be held to their credit for five years. Ordinance 113 follows.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Ordinance No. 113

AN ORDINANCE repealing water ordinances 92-101-112 and all other ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith and regulating the use and sale of water in the City of Gold Hill, Oregon, and prescribing the rates for the use thereof and providing penalties for non-payment of water service and for violation of any rules or regulations thereof.

The people of the City of Gold Hill, Oregon do ordain as follows:

ARTICLE No. 1

That ordinances Nos. 92, 101, and 112 recorded in Volume 1, Ordinance Records of the City of Gold Hill, and all other Ordinances covering the use and sale of water in the City of Gold Hill, be and the same are hereby repealed.

ARTICLE No. 2

The following rates are hereby

monthly rates to be charged users of water in the City of Gold Hill, Oregon, from and after the first day of January, 1926.

Paragraph 1—For general Domestic use including irrigation on the tract occupied by dwelling house of family, said tract of land not to exceed 5000 square feet in area, the sum of \$2.00 per month.

Paragraph 2—For irrigating lawns and domestic gardens, on adjoining or vacant lots of 5000 square feet or less in area, the sum of .75 per lot during the irrigation season.

Paragraph 3—For stores and offices the sum of \$2.00 per month.

Paragraph 4—For Hotels, boarding houses, lodging houses or lodging rooms, the sum of \$3.00 per month.

For hotels, boarding houses, and lodging houses with over 10 rooms and not exceeding 25 rooms, the sum of \$5.00 per month.

For barber shops not having more than one bath tub, the sum of \$3.00 per month.

Paragraph 6—For Restaurants, lunch houses or lunch rooms booths and stands, confectioneries, soft drink bars or stands, butcher shops, fish markets, or other market stands, bakeries, tailor shops, pressing and cleaning establishments, printing plants or offices, blacksmith shops, carpenter shops, repair shops, sub-stations of electric plants, warehouses and oil storage plants, and all similar establishments as shown in this paragraph, the sum of \$3.00 per month.

Paragraph 7—For all public buildings, such as rooms, billiard rooms, billiard and pool rooms, card rooms, bowling alleys, shooting galleries or other public buildings or amusement stand the sum of \$2.00 per month.

Paragraph 8—For public garages, and public oil stations, the sum of \$4.00 and if cars or vehicles are washed for charge in such garage as a part of the enterprise, or for car washing establishments, the sum of \$5.00 per month. For car or vehicle paint shops, where cars are washed, the sum of \$5.00 per month.

Paragraph 9—For business establishments operating oil pumps stations on the streets in connection with the business, other than public oil stations and garages already provided for shall pay an additional sum of \$1.50 per month over and above their business rate.

Paragraph 9—For use of water by Public School District No. 57 the sum of \$20.00 per month.

Paragraph 10—For housekeeping rooms, where toilet and bath charges are otherwise maintained, the sum of \$1.00 per month per person or family.

Paragraph 11—All rates not herein provided for, shall be fixed on the application before service is commenced by the Water Committee or City Council.

Paragraph 12—All water rent is hereby made payable on or before the (15) fifteenth day of every month, in advance, and if any person shall fail to so pay the same by this date, in the proper amount, service to their premises shall immediately be shut off and a fee of \$2.50 shall be collected from such person before service is commenced.

Paragraph 13—Persons coming under the business and office rates are permitted to use water for washing sidewalks and sprinkling streets, provided said washing or sprinkling is confined to the premises or to the street directly in front of the premises for which payment in full has been made.

Paragraph 14—For use in any public toilet, urinal, bath tub, jet, or for any use not herein provided for, the base minimum rate of \$2.00 per month.

Paragraph 15—For an unoccupied building for fire protection, the sum of \$1.00 per month, and where the owner of the building is a nonresident and inaccessible, and inasmuch as the "shut off" clause herein is not effective, the water service charges against the property, if not paid, shall be charged against the property on the regular tax rolls of the City of Gold Hill, Oregon.

Paragraph 16—The irrigation season in Gold Hill is hereby set to commence on the first day of May and continue until the last day of August of each year, unless climatic conditions warrant an earlier or later date when the Water Committee shall send printed notice to all water users regarding the change in the season.

Paragraph 17—Buildings occupied by more than one family or where apartments or rooms are rented, not otherwise covered in this ordinance, shall pay the minimum rate of \$2.00 per month for each family or apartment fees will be charged for check-up

ARTICLE 3.

Paragraph 1—Any person desiring the use of water from the City of Gold Hill shall first apply to the City Recorder describing exactly for what purpose service is needed, and will sign a contract with the City of Gold Hill and pay the application deposit of \$2.50 or a proportionate deposit to cover one month service and the cost of turning on the water. Under no circumstance will service commence without the deposit of the fees mentioned herein.

Paragraph 2—The full water rate will be charged against the property described in the application at the rate of its particular classification until the applicant notifies the Recorder in writing, or until the full amount of the cash deposit is reached.

Written notice must be given the Recorder at least two (2) days prior to termination of service.

Paragraph 3—All water rates will be charged against the property on which it is furnished and against the owner thereof and no account shall be kept in the name of any tenant and if from any cause any sums owing therefrom become delinquent, notice shall be given and the water shut off on the (15) fifteenth day of the month following date of delinquency and in no case will water be turned on until all such delinquent fees have been paid in full. Changes of ownership shall require the making of a new application.

Paragraph 4—Any person desiring water for irrigation shall make application on forms provided by the City setting forth exactly the location and amount of land to be irrigated, to the City Recorder, who shall order the Police Department to check up the application and if found right to commence service. No excess fees will be charged for such excess service but in no case can the application be refused until applicant

has paid the extra rental fee for such excess service in advance for one (1) month.

Paragraph 5—Water used for irrigation shall be confined entirely to the land mentioned in the user's application and must not be permitted to run off the applicants property or wasted. The hours for irrigation shall be only between the hours of 6 and 8 A.M., and 6 and 8 P.M. of each day and in case of a water shortage or similar emergency, other rules governing this clause may be made by the Water Committee and notice sent each applicant in writing or printing.

Paragraph 7—Any person who shall allow others to use water or supply others with water or shall willfully mis-state any facts in their application for water or who shall use water in excess of the amounts or purposes set forth in their application at any time without first notifying the Recorder and having same show on their application, shall be deemed guilty of an unlawful act and be punished by a fine of not less than \$5.00 nor greater than \$25.00 or imprisonment in the City Jail for not to exceed (10) ten days.

Paragraph 8—No tap on any main or lateral shall be greater than for 3/4 of one inch pipe for domestic service. All other taps for greater than 3/4 inch pipe will depend on the orders of the Water Committee.

Paragraph 9—All water rentals, fees and revenues shall be paid to the authorized collector of the City and received for by the City Treasurer and all such receipts must be turned over to the Recorder. All water collections shall be on a monthly basis except for School District No. 57 who shall pay for service semi-annually.

Paragraph 10—It is hereby made the duty of the Collector for the Water Service to deliver to the Chief of Police on the (15) fifteenth day of every month a list of all persons delinquent on water rentals, when the Chief of Police will cause the water service to be cut off from the property against which it is charged.

Paragraph 11—Where in the judgement of the Water Committee or the City Council, it is deemed advisable, or where private renters desire, water meters may be attached to the service line supplying any property, a minimum charge of \$1.50 per month shall be collected for the first ten thousand (10,000) gallons of water used and (.05) five cents for each additional one thousand (1,000) gallons or portion thereof per month, provided the applicant has made the deposit required herein. The meter shall be read on the first day of every month by the Recorder or his authorized agent. Possession of a meter does not alter the delinquency clause in this Act.

ARTICLE 4.

Paragraph 1—All pipes, in the streets and alleys of the City of Gold Hill are to be property of the City up to and including the stop-cock at the property line of the individual water user.

Paragraph 2—Any applicant desiring to change the classification or rates on the application signed when service started must make new application before the Recorder when applicants new classification will go into effect the first day of the month nearest the date of such new application.

ARTICLE 5.

Paragraph 1—It shall be the duty of the Recorder to issue Plumber's permit before any work can be attempted on any tap or pipe line supplying water to any applicant. Nothing in this section will prevent the property owner employing whoever they desire to do their private work on their own pipe lines, but none but Plumbers with City permit will be allowed to work on the City's mains, or to open or close any stop-cock. No permit will be given to any Plumber who has not complied with the laws of the State of Oregon.

Paragraph 2—It shall be the duty of all plumbers doing any work by which water may be drawn from or shut off the City supply pipes to make in writing a true and accurate report of the work done and deliver same to the Water Master or City Recorder within twenty-four hours after such work has been completed.

ARTICLE 6.

Paragraph 1—It shall be the duty of every person whose premises are supplied with water or tenant living in any premises where water is used for any purpose whatsoever, to turn all the water off immediately on the sounding of any Fire Alarm. Any failure to comply with this section shall be deemed a violation hereon and punishable as herein further provided.

Paragraph 2—The Chief of Police, or Water Master or Fire Chief or any person authorized by the City Council shall at all reasonable times have free access to all premises being served with City Water or where by application water is to be delivered, for inspection of any pipes or fixtures using or to use City water. Any refusal or obstruction of this inspection shall be deemed a violation of this section and punishable as hereinafter stated.

Paragraph 3—It shall be unlawful for any person or persons supplied with water by the City of Gold Hill, to allow any leakage or unnecessary waste of water on their premises; to allow leaking faucets, toilets, or any pipe or fixture after the fact is known to them.

Paragraph 4—It shall be unlawful for any person or persons, not acting in the capacity of a licensed plumber authorized to work with the water pipes to in any way or manner turn on or off or interfere with any water pipe belong

ing to the City unless they be acting as the result of an accident in preventing a waste of water, in which event they shall immediately notify the Recorder or the Water Master, either or both so that proper repairs can be made without delay.

Paragraph 5—Each and every violation of any provision of the foregoing ordinance shall be and hereby is declared to be an unlawful act and any person found guilty of any violation in the Recorder's Court of the City of Gold Hill, either by a plea of guilty or by conviction, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$5.00 or more than \$25.00 and in case of default of such fine, the offender shall be imprisoned in the City Jail for a period of not to exceed ten days or both such fine and imprisonment.

Paragraph 7—Be it understood that whenever a person is convicted or pleads guilty to unlawfully breaking any of the provisions of this ordinance no fine

or punishment prescribed shall at any time be remitted, but must be paid or served to the full extent and the judgement entered upon the Records of the City Recorder in the City of Gold Hill. Upon a second conviction or plea of guilty to violation hereof a fine or imprisonment sentence will be administered to the limit of paragraph six (6).

Paragraph 8—This ordinance shall go into effect and remain in force until repealed on and after January 1, 1926.

This ordinance was passed and adopted by the City Council and ordered put in effect and operation without partiality or exception.

ATTEST: H. E. WHARTON, Recorder.

I hereby approve the foregoing ordinance this 31st day of December 1925.

ROBT. E. COOK, Mayor of the City of Gold Hill, Oregon

Children scream when they play in the dark

That's something for parents to think about—and think seriously.

Dark rooms are peopled with fearsome ghosts. Real ghosts! Dark corners are hiding places for shadowy apparitions. They're real—to any normal child.

Switch on the lights!

Banish these spectres of the dark. Electricity is plentiful, and so reasonable, here in our town, that no one need count the cost of a cheery, well-lighted home where children love to play.

Electricity is the cheapest service you can buy.

THE CALIFORNIA OREGON POWER COMPANY



Medford, Oregon
Roseburg, Oregon
Grants Pass, Oregon
Klamath Falls, Oregon
Yreka, Calif.
Dunsmuir, Calif.



Veal, Beef, Pork at Regular Prices

Special Price on Bacon 35c a pound

Cash Paid for Hides.

Pickard's Market

John Pickard, Prop. Gold Hill, Oregon