

Charter to pass franchise fees to customers

By **Jolene Guzman**
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — The city of Dallas is considering establishing a utility license requirement and fee for all utilities operating in the city's rights-of-way and a new internet modem license.

The city has franchise agreements with Pacific Power, Northwest Natural Gas, Century Link and Charter.

Those utilities are exempt from the license, but it applies to all other utilities who don't have a valid agreement with the city.

The ordinance also creates a new license requirement and fee on internet modem services.

That portion of the proposal is modeled after similar licenses established in Gresham and Eugene.

Councilors conducted a first reading of the ordinance on Sept. 18, and two utility representatives from NW Natural and Charter spoke before the council.

Bruce Anderson, NW Natural's regional community affairs manager, said he appreciated that utilities with current franchise agreements are exempted, but said the ordi-

nance didn't make clear what happens when the agreement expired.

"Once we get to the end of our franchise agreement, would the intent be to have us renew that franchise or to be rolled under this new regulation?" he asked.

Robin Smith, representing Charter, warned that any new fees would fall to customers to pay.

"If the purpose of the utility license ordinance is secure fair and reasonable compensation for its (the city's) residents, then realize that any tax imposed will most likely be passed on to

the customer as line items on their bill," Smith said.

She said if the city establish a 7 percent fee on modem services, that would equate an average \$11 bill increase for customers each month. If the ordinance is approved, the council would separately establish fee rates.

"To the extent that the city intends to impose any new fees or taxes on Charter customers, regardless of service, we believe it is unwarranted and unlawful," Smith testified. "If the intent is to tax the internet, the city should recognize the internet as an important service

in today's economy and adding a tax to that service is unwarranted and unlawful."

She said the requirements in the ordinance appear to violate the Cable Communications Policy Act, a federal law, and asked the city to reconsider.

Councilor Micky Garus asked if it's true that the ordinance could increase customer bills. City Attorney Lane Shetterly said yes.

"You would need to adopt a resolution setting the amount of the fee on internet or modem services," he said. "But her testimony to you is absolutely correct that

would be a fee that the customers don't pay now on internet or modem services."

Shetterly added that he disagreed that the ordinance is illegal, saying that it is modeled after those in Gresham and Eugene that have been upheld by the Oregon Supreme Court.

"I guess what I would say is safe harbor," he said. "The supreme court has looked at both the Gresham and Eugene ordinances and we are well within the tracts of those two city ordinances."

The ordinance will go to a second reading and vote on Monday.

Vernon Lloyd Balsbaugh

June 13, 1929 – Sept. 17, 2017

Vernon Lloyd Balsbaugh went to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Sept. 17, 2017.

He was born June 13, 1929, near Flint, Mich., to Lloyd and Ruth (Swisher) Balsbaugh, the sixth of nine children.

Their family moved to Ohio when he was 12, and then at age 15 he drove one of the two family cars as they moved to Modesto, Calif. He graduated from Modesto High School in 1947.

Vernon accepted Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and was baptized on June 29, 1947.

On Aug. 12, 1950, he was united in marriage to Marilyn June Landes, daughter of Edgar and Eva (Gantt) Landes.

In March of 1963, they moved their family to Dallas, where they resided for 49 years before moving back to Modesto in June of 2012.

Vernon spent his working life in sales and design.

He was always working on an invention of some kind and owned several patents. He was an avid hunter and garage sale enthusiast.

Most of all, he loved the Lord, was a student of the Bible, and loved serving his church family in Modesto, Dallas and Perrydale.

He was preceded in death by two grandsons, Zachary

David Balsbaugh and William Lloyd Balsbaugh; one great-granddaughter, Oliviana Grace Grover; brothers John, Ray, Carl, David; and sisters Esther and Doris.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Marilyn; son Brian and wife Laurel, of Escalon, Calif.; daughter Connie Grover and husband Phil, of Modesto; daughter Jeanette Danielian and husband Robert, of Dallas; son Michael and wife Melodie, of Fullerton, Calif.; 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by sister Mary Gish and husband Roger, of Modesto; and brother Hubert Balsbaugh and wife Janet, of Englewood, Ohio; and sister-in-law Loveda Balsbaugh, of Brookville, Ohio.

Services were as follows:

Viewing: Saturday, Sept. 23, 4 to 6 p.m. at Deegan-Ripon Memorial Chapel, 111 Palm Ave., Ripon, Calif. Interment: Sunday, Sept. 24, 1:30 p.m. at Wood Colony Cemetery, 3511 Dakota Ave., Modesto. Memorial Service:



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OBITUARIES

Sunday, Sept. 24, 3 p.m. at Big Valley Grace Church, 4040 Tully Road, Modesto.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Restore My Soul Ministries, P.O. Box 341, Dallas, OR 97338, or online at restoremysoulministries.org (Nonprofit ministry of daughter Jeanette Danielian).

David D. Edmonson

1933-2017

David D. Edmonson, 84, of Warrenville, Ill., passed away Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2017, at the Illinois Veterans Home in LaSalle, Ill.

Private memorial services will be held at a later date. Full military rites will be conducted by the LaSalle-Oglesby Veterans Memorial Group in a private service at Mueller-Pagani Funeral Home in LaSalle.

Mr. Edmonson was born July 25, 1933, in Elmhurst, Ill., to Kenneth and Dorothy (Harris) Edmonson. Mr. Edmonson was a veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard, serving from 1954-1960. He received an MBA from North Central College and was employed in extrusion machinery sales for 45 years. He was a member of Evangelical Bible Church in Dallas.

He enjoyed photography, fishing, real estate and woodworking. Survivors include two children, Jim (Meghan) Edmonson, of Sugar Grove, Ill., and Mary (Jon) Safiran, of Warrenville, Ill.; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; his sister, Susan Hoyt, of Columbia, S.C., and a special friend, Ellie Mae Kendall, of Dallas.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

The online guestbook may be viewed and remembrances shared at www.MuellerFH.com.

Springfield in 1953, and later moved to Medford. Vivian was employed at the Rogue Valley Hospital where she was assistant director for 16 years.

Vivian loved her work; she loved helping people and making them happy. In 1974, she retired.

She enjoyed fishing, hunting, and traveling with her husband Wilson until he passed in 1991.



After his passing, she moved to Salem to be closer to her son Richard. She later met an old friend, Jim Bethell, and they married in 1993.

Vivian and Jim had a beautiful life together enjoying family, camping trips, fishing, hunting, and traveling.

Vivian is survived by her son Richard (Donna) Hildebrand; her grandchildren Shana, Greg, and Debra; and her numerous great-grandchildren; as well as her stepdaughters Sheryn, Terry, and Cindy.

She was preceded in death by Wilson Hildebrand, James Bethell, and Sandra Baylan.

Vivian loved life and the Lord and will always be in the heart of her friends and family.

Services will be held on Friday, Sept. 29, 2017, at 1 p.m. at Restlawn Funeral Home in Salem. www.restlawnfh.com.

Leona May Brooks

Celebration of life will be from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sept. 30

Myrna J. Braziel

Myrna J. Braziel, 85, of Independence, died Sept. 19. A visitation will be from 2 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27, at Farnstrom Mortuary.

Darrel Leroy Mercier

Darrel Leroy Mercier, 87, of Grand Ronde, died Friday, Sept. 22. He was born on Sept. 23, 1929.

Viewing will be from 4 to 7 p.m. on Sept. 26 in the Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center. Recitation of the rosary will begin at 7 p.m. on Sept. 27 in the St. Michael Catholic Church. Funeral service will begin at 11 a.m. on Sept. 28 in the Grand Ronde Tribal Gym. Private interment will follow. Finger foods and desserts are welcome at the dinner following the services on Thursday. To leave an online tribute: www.dallastrIBUTE.com.

Vivian Bethell

Oct. 17, 1915 – Sept. 12, 2017

Vivian Marie Elder was born in West Liberty, Iowa. Her mother was Adna Estelle Green and her father was Frank Thomas Elder.

She was raised on a farm and had a beautiful life as a child full of happiness, riding horses, going to the country fair, was a 4-H girl, and was very active in the Methodist church activities.

She graduated from West Liberty High School, then married Wilson Hildebrand in 1939, and had one son, Richard. They moved to

Jerris M. Vaslev

Jerris M. Vaslev, 67, of Monmouth, died Sept. 23. Farnstrom Mortuary is handling arrangements.

Anne V. Krupa

Anne V. Krupa, 86, of Independence, died Sept. 24. Farnstrom Mortuary is handling arrangements.

Susan Matthies

July 11, 1949 – Sept. 21, 2017

Susan Louise Matthies passed away in a tragic accident in Dallas on Sept. 21, 2017, at the age of 68.

Susan was born in Portland to Gordon and Rosa Neal. She spent most of her life in Portland and graduated from Cleveland High School.

Susan married Rodger Matthies in 1969, and they

were married for 48 years before Rodger passed away May of 2017. Together they raised two children, Michael and Paula. Susan loved spending time with her family. Later in life she pursued her degree from Portland State University and graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. She enjoyed using her degree at a job designing forklifts at Hyster-Yale. Her hobbies included fixing up old houses, landscaping and gardening. She loved camping at Oregon parks, especially the Oregon Coast.

Susan recently retired to Dallas. Susan and Rodger became "snowbirds," spending winters in Arizona and summers in Oregon. After Rodger's passing, she became active in volunteering at the Delbert Hunter Arboretum. She loved walking and just learned how to play pickleball.

Susan is survived by her two children and their spouses, Michael and Dawn Matthies, Paula and Russell Port; two granddaughters, Rebecca and Michelle Matthies; brother and his spouse, Kenneth and Mary Neal; and many extended family members.

A gathering will be scheduled later in October to celebrate Susan's life. Remembrances in lieu of flowers may be sent to Delbert Hunter Arboretum, P.O. Box 604, Dallas, OR 97338-0604. The Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center is caring for the family. To leave a message or memory, please go to www.dallastrIBUTE.com.

Sudoku
Difficulty: ★★☆☆☆

Solution on Page 3A

	6		5		9			1
				3	4			7
		1				2		
		2	9			6		4
5	4						8	9
9		7			8	3		
		9				4		
8			2	4				
6			8		5		7	

Row →

Three-by-three square →

Column ↓

4	3	2	8	1	6	7	5	9
5	6	9	3	7	4	8	1	2
1	7	8	9	5	2	4	6	3
3	4	7	2	8	5	6	9	1
2	1	6	7	4	9	3	8	5
9	8	5	1	6	3	2	7	4
7	9	1	4	3	8	5	2	6
8	5	3	6	2	1	9	4	7
6	2	4	5	9	7	1	3	8

How to do Sudoku
Fill in the grid so the numbers 1 through 9 appear just once in every column, row, and three-by-three square. See example above.

The Christian Science Monitor