

Vernonia Eagle

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VERNONIA, OREGON

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Water, Sewer Rate Charges in Riverview Set by Ordinances

The Vernonia city council, at its meeting held Monday of last week, December 21, heard the final reading on two ordinances which were then passed. Both relate to the Riverview annexation area and one provides for adding one dollar to the basic water rate for that area and the other establishes a \$1.50 sewer use charge to provide for extension of the sewer system to that area.

The votes on the part of Councilmen L. E. Atkins, L. E. Stiff, C. E. Miller and H. C. Hertel seemed to be the order of the evening and Mayor T. M. Hobart was called on twice to cast the vote to break the tie.

The first tie vote was on the application of Lillian J. McCarthy for recommendation to the state liquor control commission for a retail malt beverage class A license which

would enable her to open and operate Dick's Tavern, which has been closed since the former operator, Violet Asanovich, went to Portland. Some opposition was voiced to the approval of the application on the grounds that enough such businesses were in operation and the tie vote resulted. Mayor Hobart broke the tie with an affirmative vote.

The second tie resulted after a discussion of the needs for curbs on solicitors such as purported disabled veterans selling small flags and similar tokens for alleged benefits. It was moved by Atkins and seconded by Stiff that all solicitations for funds within the city, person to person or house to house be authorized by written permission from the city council. Miller and Hertel opposed the motion and the mayor cast a nay vote to break the tie and dispose of the motion.

Marshal Lolley reported that Cliff Fetherston would try out for extra police duty and the council authorized Lolley to hire Fetherston at his discretion when extra police assistance is found necessary.

Other business authorized a new sink for the fire hall at a cost of \$30. It has been installed along with new formica counter top for which material was furnished by the fire department and John Wylde who uses the hall for the serving of Lions Club dinners.

Purchases of chimney tile for the house at Anderson park was authorized.

City Attorney Robert Vagt advised the council that condemnation proceedings for the building at lot 2, block 7, Rose addition will need to be re-commenced.

Payment of bills concluded the business and the council adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Next Monday evening, January 4, Mrs. Launce Cousins will take her seat on the council, replacing L. E. Stiff.

Court Sets Building Hearing

The Columbia county court has called for a public meeting on construction of a new courthouse.

A legal advertisement published in a St. Helens newspaper gives notice of the hearing date as February 3, 1965. Time of the meeting is 7 p.m. in the county courtroom at the courthouse.

At that time, there will be a detailed presentation and consideration of an order made by the county court authorizing construction of a new Columbia county courthouse. Lots 8 through 14, block 122, and lots 10 through 13, block 129 are given as the site chosen for the new county facility. The area is now commonly called the "Flatiron" corner, formed by Columbia boulevard and St. Helens street.

The approximate cost of the site is \$60,000, and the proposed courthouse would cost about \$850,000. No tax levy is proposed, according to the notice which states that construction funds will come from the courthouse annex fund of approximately \$400,000 and O&C revenue of approximately \$510,000.

Members of the county court who signed the order, include County Judge John W. Whipple, Commissioners Louis Wasser, and O. E. "Orie" Clark.

Petitions may be submitted to the county court at the February 3 hearing, relative to relocating the courthouse, or asking for a vote of the people on the matter.

The present courthouse will be used until the new building is occupied. After that, the court proposes that "it will be preserved and utilized as a county public building for such functions as will be in the best interests of the citizens of the county".

County Funds At High Level

"Columbia county is finishing the calendar year of 1964 in the best financial condition of any year since its existence," according to John W. Whipple, retiring county judge.

As of December 28, 1964 it had a total unexpended balance in the general and general road fund of \$583,360.92 and in addition to that, some \$392,056.17 in the courthouse annex fund, with approximately \$13,400.00 due shortly as interest on money loaned to banks, according to the county treasurer's records.

Of the above funds, approximately \$702,096.19 will be available for use for courthouse or other purposes if approved by the county budget committee in the form of a supplemental budget. Also, there is an additional sum of \$457,610.00 due the county from its underpayment of O&C funds, a sizeable amount of which will be paid this coming year, according to Whipple.

"Our excellent financial condition has been due to the fact that all departments of county government have lived within their respective budgets as well as the fact that underexpenditures have reverted to the general fund to be rebudgeted at the end of each fiscal year," according to the judge.

Graveside Rites Set for R. East

Graveside services will be held at the Vernonia Memorial cemetery today, Thursday, at 11 a.m., for Ray East, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest East, who passed away suddenly this past Monday evening at his home at Eastside, near Coos Bay. He had been hospitalized recently for a heart condition but was at home when he apparently was stricken with another attack.

Mr. and Mrs. Owen East, brother and sister-in-law of the deceased man, went to Eastside immediately after receiving the message, then returned here Tuesday to take Mr. and Mrs. Ernest East to Coos Bay for the services at the Campbell-Watkins chapel Wednesday.

Another brother, Thurman East, also lives at Eastside. Also surviving is his wife and several step-children.

Flood Peak Passes; Snow Depth Rises

Weather is that thing which everyone talks about but none does anything about, according to an oft repeated saying. For the past two weeks there certainly has been no lack of a topic of conversation and many people find themselves doing things other than the regular routine because of it.

Last week, floodwaters crested throughout the area Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. In Vernonia itself, the peak was passed by early Wednesday morning. However, further down the Nehalem river in the Mist and Birkenfeld areas, the crest was not passed until Thursday.

Surprisingly, Christmas day was not too bad and people were able to have guests and make visits which for a time seemed doubtful.

Saturday night, new snow flurries came and Sunday night brought several inches of the white stuff to cover the landscape with beauty. Monday, it alternately snowed and then thawed, but not much depth was reached. However, Tuesday, the snow took on a more determined aspect and by evening was several inches deep. It continued to fall Tuesday night, and Wednesday morning 12 inches was measured on the lower levels and about 18 inches on Corey hill. Flurries continued Wednesday. The total snowfall measured on gauges at the Dudley Spofford home from Wednesday, December 23 to December 30 was 22 inches.

West Oregon Electric Cooperative employees are harried with the many outages and Wednesday morning, many people encountered slow clocks due to outages. Telephone lines also are feeling the brunt of the storm and linemen are having difficulty maintaining service. This was evident Wednesday morning when people with slow clocks were trying to get time signals or to make long distance calls.

In the past week, December 23 to 30, the minimum temperature recorded on the instruments at the Spoford home on Corey hill was 28 degrees December 28 and the maximum was 39 degrees on Christmas day.

Auxiliary to Sponsor Dance

The American Legion Auxiliary has announced plans for their annual New Years Eve carnival dance which will be held Thursday night at the Legion hall with the Gus Anderson orchestra from Clatskanie furnishing the music. Dancing will be from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Hats and noise makers will be provided and refreshments will be sold by auxiliary members.

Dental Office Closed Here

Dr. Oloff L. Hansen, who for the past two years has maintained a dental office in the Vernonia Clinic building, moved last week to Hazel Dell, Washington near Vancouver where he has opened offices. They completed the move from their home on the banks of Rock Creek, the former Dr. R. D. Eby home, just prior to the flooding of that area Tuesday night of last week.

Census Estimates Show County Population Gain

Oregon's population has increased 7.8 percent in the 1960-64 period, according to figures released by the Oregon State Board of Census last week. In 1960, Oregon's total population was given as 1,768,687 and as of July 1, 1964, it was tabulated as 1,906,000.

By counties, Multnomah still holds the number one position as the most populous county with a total of 541,386. Of this total, 380,300 is within the city of Portland.

Lane county is second with 190,072; Marion is third with 139,301; Clackamas, fourth, 126,044 and Washington, fifth with 112,246.

Columbia county is eighteenth in the list of Oregon's counties with a total population count of 24,213. This was an increase of 8.2 percent over



THIS freak of nature is on display at the Vernonia post office and is the to pot of a 15 foot tree which was brought in by Wayne Kyser of Mist who found it on Fern Hill road. One theory as to what might have caused it is that the top may have been twisted by animals such as deer or elk when it was small, causing scarring which resulted in the unusual growth.

Blood Unit Due Soon

Plans are being made for a visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile here January 18 and all persons who possibly can be donors are asked to reserve that date for that purpose. Details as to hours the unit will be in operation and where it will be stationed will be given later.

Valpiani Rites At St. Helens

Requiem Mass for Pasquino Valpiani of St. Helens was offered Tuesday, December 22, at 10 a.m., at St. Frederick's church. Private services were held later in the day at Mt. Calvary cemetery, Portland.

A resident of St. Helens since 1907, the deceased had been employed by the Clark and Wilson Lumber company as construction foreman, retiring when the company liquidated. For a number of years he operated a cook house at Pittsburg for about 60 Clark and Wilson employees.

Survivors include the widow, Elena; a brother and two sisters in Italy; a son, Dominic and a daughter, Mary Terry, in St. Helens; three brothers, Mike of St. Helens, Ralph of Vernonia and Pete of Portland; and seven grandchildren.

Census Count Higher by 66

Figures compiled for school district 47J show the 1964 census figures up 66 students over the 1962 count. Census figures plus late additions on the 1962 census totalled 787 persons between the ages of four and 20. The 1964 figures plus additions bring the total to 853 between the ages of four and 20.

Examination of the figures show the increase to be in the four, five and six year age brackets which is a healthy indication of prospective school district growth, according to J. W. Acaturri, district superintendent.

Basis for the above figures is the recent school census taken by members of the Vernonia Parent Teachers association.

Grange Plans Auction to Aid Fire Loss

Natal Grange has announced plans for a meeting Saturday, January 9 at 8 p.m. at their hall at Natal at which assistance will be given two of their members, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Powell, who recently lost their home and contents by fire.

Mr. and Mrs. Powell moved here last year from California and had purchased the former Bliss place between Natal and Mist. Information is that the house, somewhat of a landmark in that area, was built by the parents of Clyde Johnson.

The Sunday before Christmas, the Powells had gone to call on neighbors and the house burned to the ground while they were away. By odd coincidence they were calling on Mr. and Mrs. Bud Hemeon who had a similar experience several years ago.

Henry Anderegg, master of Natal Grange, stated that persons who wish to assist may bring to the party items for auction, gifts of household items, kitchen utensils, linens, bedding, clothing, etc., or cash contributions, if they like. All interested persons are invited to join with the Grange in this project.

There will be dancing and card games and refreshments will be served.

Schools Plan Start Monday

Schools will reopen following vacation next Monday, January 4, barring unforeseen conditions which make it impossible. Tuesday evening, January 5, Coach Dale Andrich will take his Logger basketball team to Rainier to play the Columbians.

There will be a basketball game here in the Vernonia high school gym next Friday, January 8 with Warrenton.



William Reed Hoffman, boatswain's mate, first class, United States Coast Guard, was given a presidential citation recently for heroism in connection with the rescue September 7, 1963 of a woman who was trapped in the hull of an overturned cabin cruiser near Humboldt Bay, California. His mother, Mrs. Ralph Markham of Vernonia, was present for the presentation when it was made last month at Eureka, California.

His citation commends him for diving, with another crewman, under the capsized boat and locating the woman and assisting in getting her out. Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation was necessary.

The citation, signed by Douglas Dillon, secretary of the treasury, concludes: "His unselfish actions, courage, and unwavering devotion to duty reflect the highest credit upon himself and the United States Coast Guard."