

Sewer District Problems Still Main Council Topic

The regular meeting of the Vernonia City Council was short with the main question still the problem of the East Vernonia Sewer District. Presiding at the Monday night session was Mayor Sherman Fisher with council members Lucille Tomlin, L.E. Atkins and C.E. Miller in attendance. Also present was Zen Dutton, of Robert E. Meyers Engineering.

Following the reading and approval of the December 3 minutes, business from the floor was called for with Zen Dutton speaking first.

Dutton presented copies of contract modification No. 5 to the council and it was approved by the council.

Bob Hall then took the floor to request sewer and water hookup on Pebble Creek Road out side the city limits, explaining that he wished to build a new home on his property there.

He was advised that he would have to wait for an answer until the council meets with the county, state and engineer on the drainage problems in the East Vernonia Sewer District.

There has been a great deal of discussion in this area with several citizens protesting the fact that they no longer have proper drainage of their property with some comment of the fact that the construction may have changed natural drainage routes. The meeting of December 19 is hoped to aid in solving these factors.

Following Hall, Mr. Kam-meyer inquired as to the amount of hookup fee for his house on Pebble Creek Road. His property was not included in the original assessment. Dutton is to figure out the assessment charge.

Dick Stearns then took the floor to question law enforcement of alley parking, stating that he feels enforcement is not properly handled, citing the fact that he had received several parking tickets for parking in the alley next to his place of business yet others parked in that and other alleys, and even blocked streets completely for up to an hour at a time yet received no citation. Police Commissioner Lucille Tomlin is to investigate the matter.

Committee reports were then taken up with Lucille Tomlin reading a letter from Chief of Police Jack Cunningham recommending condemnation of the Marie Fraize house. Mayor Fisher then read the public works report.

Under communications Wm. Nelson, recorder, read a notice of annexation hearing on the Thomas Hail property in the Riverview area, which will be held January 9 in Portland.

Next was a letter from Robert E. Meyer, Eng., on the contract modification followed by a letter from the group on the drainage in the East Vernonia Sewer District.

George VanNatta, attorney, sent a communication regarding claims against North American Contractors by Vern Johnson and John Neuman for work done in the sewer district.

A letter from Joe Biesiot was read regarding water damage to his property in Riverview due to drainage problems with a request for payment of damages.

In a communication from the Federal Energy Office on alloca-

tions for fuel oil and diesel oil, the city was advised that they should be able to get the required amount from local dealers. If the dealers could not get the necessary amount of fuel then he could apply for it.

Under unfinished business, the council discussed unemployment insurance for city employees and it was decided to accept it on the reimbursable basis.

The council then agreed to submit an offer of \$750 for the Burlington Railroad property between Maple and Cougar streets.

New business was brief with Atkins reading a request from the fire department for a red rotating light for the salvage truck. The council agreed to purchase the light.

Following payment of the bills, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. The next meeting of the Vernonia City Council will be Monday, January 7 at 8 p.m. in the city hall.

Census Ends Nationwide Buying Survey

Households in the Government's survey of consumer expenditures will have their last opportunity during the next few months to tell Uncle Sam how much it costs to live these days.

The nationwide Consumer Expenditure Survey, which began in January 1972, will be completed in late spring. It is being conducted by the Bureau of the Census, part of the U.S. Department of Commerce's Social and Economic Statistics Administration.

The survey in this area is administered from a field office in Seattle, Wash. Richard E. Nagel, office supervisor, says that households in the quarterly survey will be interviewed for the fifth and last time during January-March this year. These households have been in the survey since January 1973.

Another group was also in the survey for five quarters, January 1972-March 1973.

The Census Bureau is acting as data collection agent for the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Results of the survey will show what changes have occurred in the buying habits of the American people since the last survey was taken in 1960-61.

The up-to-date data will enable BLS to revise the "market basket" of goods and services in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to reflect current buying habits of American consumers. Price changes for items in the market basket are measured monthly by BLS and are reflected in the CPI each month.

The Seattle office administers the survey program in the metropolitan areas of Tacoma and Seattle-Everett, Wash., Portland, Oregon, Anchorage, Alaska, and in the Fairbanks, Alaska Census Division, as well as in these counties: Stevens, Wash.; Shoshone, Idaho; and Clatsop and Columbia, Oregon.

A sample of about 1,400 households in these areas will have been interviewed during the course of the survey.

A separate group of households in the same areas, among 19,000 throughout the U.S., is taking part in a survey of day-to-day expenditures, part of the overall program. This Diary Survey asks about everyday purchases such as snacks, haircuts, gas for cars, bus fares, baby sitting, dry cleaning, and so forth, expenditures that can't be recalled accurately for even a short time.

The interviewers are residents of the county in which they work. Each carries an official identification card with the bearer's photograph and signature. Interviewer for Columbia County is Phyllis Parnell.

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THURSDAY, DEC. 20, 1973

VERNONIA WEATHER

As gathered from the weather station located at the Vernonia water plant.

The weather smiled benevolently on Vernonia during the week of December 11-18 with a maximum high of 52 degrees and a low of 35 degrees. Maximum precipitation during that period was 1.15 inches on Thursday, December 13.

Property Value Raises In Columbia County Area

The Columbia County Board of Equalization met Monday, November 5 to discuss valuation of property in Columbia County. The early morning meet was presided over by Chairman Fred Foshaug with Ben Coleman, Budget Committee member; Herb Clifford, non-office holding county resident; Assessor Frank LeMont; Chief Deputy Assessor Henry T. Hudson; Bob Fast of the Department of Revenue; and Janet Smiley, deputy clerk, present.

LeMont presented the additional data on recent property sales in Columbia County for review and discussion by the board.

Following discussion, it was decided that, since state law provides that all property must be taxed within 10 percent tolerance—95-105 percent—of its true valuation to recommend the following to the Columbia County Assessor's office.

In areas one—which includes the city limits of St. Helens and Columbia City; two, Scappoose; and three, Vernonia; Class 100 (residential land only) would be valued at 165 percent which is an increase of approximately 60 percent. Class 101 (property and improvements excluding land) would raise approximately five percent.

Class 200 (commercial land) in these three areas would increase as follows: In St. Helens area, approximately 20 percent; Scappoose, 45 percent; and 20 percent in Vernonia. Class 201 (commercial property and improvements excluding land) were recommended to raise

Equalization reconvened at 9:30 a.m. with Fred Foshaug, Ben Coleman, Herb Clifford, Frank LeMont, Henry T. Hudson and Janet Smiley, present.

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approximately five percent in St. Helens and ten percent in the Vernonia area.

In maintenance area one, St. Helens, Class 700 701 (multi-housing) it was decided that property valuation would raise approximately five percent.

Maintenance area two and three (Scappoose and Vernonia) were recommended for increases in Class 400 (tract land only) 45 percent, Scappoose; ten percent, Vernonia; Class 401 (tract property excluding land) 30 percent Scappoose; ten percent, Vernonia. Class 501 503 for both areas (farm and range property) five percent, Scappoose; and Vernonia. Class 700 701 (multi-housing) five percent Scappoose and Vernonia. Class 800 801 (recreational land only) no increase in valuation. (These figures are approximations and do not reflect the actual figure of increase, etc.)

In maintenance area four, Rainier, property was re-evaluated and recommended for a tax increase of approximately five percent in all categories.

Clatskanie—area five — was evaluated at 105 percent in all classes which falls within range of tolerance as provided by state law but may, at a later time, be re-valued with increased or decrease of taxes reflected at that time.

Maintenance area six which includes all of the 502 school district, excluding the city limits of St. Helens and Columbia City, is undergoing continued and complete reappraisal currently to bring this area to 100 percent of true cash value.

Call Santa Friday Night



Special phone lines will be open to the North Pole tomorrow night—Friday, December 21—for boys and girls to speak with Santa Claus in person.

Santa has been working very hard in his workshop and is eager to hear from all his little friends in Vernonia. Phone Santa by dialing 429-2021 or 429-2351.

The special phone line is sponsored by the Vernonia Jaycees who hope that all the boys and girls in the area will take advantage of this opportunity before Santa and his reindeer leave to make the rounds of homes throughout the world.

VHS Chorus Gives Concert This Saturday

December 22, 1973 at 8:00 the annual Christmas Vespers will be held at the Christian church.

The program will start with Ward Nelson playing a 15 minute organ prelude. Five speech students will speak about three topics which are: "The Religious Side of Christmas"; "The Holiday Aspects of Christmas"; "The Family Side of Christmas". The speakers are: Patty Cone, Jim Goodman, Clint Holsey, Sandra Tupper, and Bob Warburton.

The program will consist of the chorus singing nine songs, two of which will be ensembles. A few members of the chorus will sing solos throughout some of the songs.

The audience will have a chance to sing a few of their favorite Christmas Carols such as: "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen", "Hark the Herald Angels Sing", and "Angels We Have Heard On High".

The Christmas Vespers services are patterned after Lessons in Carol Service that has been sung in Kings College Chapel in Cambridge England for the past 50 years.

It is a candle light service and the public is cordially invited, free of charge.

Judging Set For Window Contest Sat.

Judging for the Window Contest, sponsored by the Vernonia Lions Club, will be Saturday, December 22, according to Ted Forbes, chairman of the committee.

Several ladies from Forest Grove—the Vigilante Group will participate in the judging. They are sponsors for the Forest Grove Window Contest.

Judging will be a scale of 1-10 in five categories: 1. originality; 2. keeping within a theme for the entire display; 3. skillful use of medium; 4. general appeal; and 5. amount of time.

There will be three plaques awarded by the Lions Club for first, second and third places.

Winners of the annual contest will be announced in next week's edition of the Eagle.

Yule Program December 20

Thursday, December 20 at 7:30 p.m. the doors will be open at Washington Grade School auditorium for their annual Christmas program.

Children from the kindergartens and grades first through eighth will appear in this featured event. Included this year for the first time will be the appearance of the grade school band playing a special selection of Christmas carols with participation from the audience.

Santa Claus will not put in an appearance this year during the evening program but will visit each classroom Christmas party Friday, December 21.

Parents are urged to attend this annual Christmas program and enjoy the efforts the children have made in making this a very special part of the year.

Logger Sports Report

Sports Fans are reminded that coverage of Vernonia Logger winter sports activities—basketball and wrestling—is being done by the staff of the Vernonia High School Timberline. Follow the Logger action by reading the Timberline each week.

DUE TO the Christmas and New Year holidays falling on our regular printing date, the staff of the Vernonia Eagle would appreciate it if all news articles and advertising were at the office by noon on Saturday. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Public Hearing Draws Few Interested Citizens

Approximately 20 people attended the public hearing held Wednesday, December 12 to discuss and hear opinions on the proposed zoning ordinance. Presiding at the evening meet was Mayor Sherman Fisher with council members L.E. Atkins, David Banta, Ed Miller and Lucille Tomlin in attendance.

Also present for the session were Ed Roediger, Jim Davies, Ralph Sturdevant, Darrold Proehl, Ralph Keasey, and Howard Hopkins, members of the Planning Commission.

Darrold Proehl, chairman of the Planning Commission took the floor to review the proposed zoning ordinance, explaining its purpose and the work that had gone into making it as feasible as possible.

Following Proehl, Harry Coleman queried the commission on keeping horses and cattle. He was followed by Mrs. Clark who requested information on alley's and streets, and non-conforming usage.

Albert Tandy then took the floor to ask why the ordinance is not put up to a vote of the people and was advised that it was not required. The only stipulations for adopting a zoning ordinance are that the Planning Commission hold two public hearings and the city hold one such hearing; however, in the interest

of the people of Vernonia the city held a second public hearing to clarify any questions about the ordinance.

It was hoped by both the city and the Planning Commission that residents would be happy with the proposed ordinance since it is a state law that one be adopted. Deadline for adoption of a zoning ordinance was January 1, 1972 but the city was granted an extension since they were making every effort to provide the area with a feasible plan.

If the city does not adopt their own zoning ordinance within a specific time, the state will do so for them; a step no one on the council or the Planning Commission wishes to see since state restrictions would very likely be more stringent than those imposed by a local ordinance.

Warren Man Wins Award

James C. Ernest of Warren was announced as the winner of the Outstanding District Cooperator Award for Area II at the Annual Convention of Soil and Water Conservation Districts held at Kah-Nee-Ta. Area II includes Columbia; Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas Counties.

James Ernest was chosen for the award because of his conservation accomplishments in getting an uneconomical 200 acre farm unit into a full time farm operation. Ernest cleared 70 acres of logged over land for crop production using a soil survey to determine suitable areas, uses a crop rotation of

Alfalfa with his strawberries to build up his soil, used lime and fertilizer for increased production, follows a rotation grazing system on all of his pasture fields for better forage use, installed 5275 feet of tile for better land drainage. Mr. Ernest plans to thin 38 acres of crowded Douglas fir woodland for better tree growth, has installed a sprinkler irrigation system for his cropland, built a dam to create a pond for pumping 350 feet in elevation through 1800 feet of buried pipeline to a holding reservoir above his cropland, and installed a 65 H.P. pump to pump water from the lower dam to his upper holding reservoir.

Registration For Winter Term Slated

Portland Community College will register new students for winter term which begins January 3, Wednesday through Friday, January 2 through 4, at both the Sylvania and Cascade centers. Hours will be from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on January 2 and 3, and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on January 4.

The Sylvania center is located at 12900 S.W. 49th Avenue, with registration functions in the College Center Mall.

At the Cascade center, 705 N. Killingsworth, registrations will be accepted in the auditorium in Cascade Hall.

Counseling and career exploration services are available in advance of registration to help students in choosing programs. To make an appointment call Portland Community College, 244-6111, and the operator will help you.



This Saturday, December 22 will be the last day for boys and girls to visit with Santa Claus at Santa Claus Lane in the Quinn Building and enjoy giving their request to him in person. He will be there from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1-3 p.m. so don't forget to pay him a visit.

Vernonia City Librarian Retires



"May I help you?"

When Olivia Brickel walked out of the Vernonia City Library Wednesday, December 19 it was for the last time as city librarian. She had retired after 12 years of service to the community.

"I hate to leave the library," Olivia said, "but it's time to let someone else take over," adding with a smile, "its been fun and I'll miss it."

Olivia, originally from Louisiana, came to Vernonia in July 1928 with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Stubbs who owned and operated the Square Deal Garage located across the street from the Washington Grade School.

On St. Patrick's Day, 1930 she became the wife of Ben Brickel and settled into the role of homemaker until 1950 when she



"I think you'll enjoy it."

became assistant librarian, a position she held for ten years prior to being appointed to the task of librarian.

"We were in the old city hall then," Olivia said, "we moved to the new building in 1972 and I discovered we had more books than I had imagined." She laughed, "it was hard work moving but it was fun too. Still, sometimes I miss the other building."

One of the highlights during the years was the tea given by the study club during National Children's Library Week each year, when open house was held for the community, inviting them to come in and enjoy a tour of the library facilities, a treat looked forward to by a great many.

"I've found people really do



"You can have it for two weeks."

appreciate the benefits of the library and treat the books with respect," commented Olivia, adding, "the reading list is growing all the time, especially with the children. I notice how many more seem to be reading now. It's very gratifying."

To encourage children to read more in a day where a flip of a switch brings cartoons and bang-bang shoot-up ups blaring on the TV screen - generally in living color - speaks well for the job that the library and Mrs. Brickel have done in enhancing the world of books for the young.

When the library doors opened Thursday afternoon a new era began as Mrs. Mercedes Proehl took her place as city librarian for Vernonia.

Guess Who's Santa Claus

For those who haven't yet entered the Mystery Santa Contest, sponsored by the Vernonia Chamber of Commerce, it's time to get those entries in. Deadline for guessing the identity of "Old St. Nick" is noon, Saturday, December 22.

There are two prizes this year: \$10 for first place and \$5 for second. Entries may be made on the blank below. All clues to the jolly gentleman behind the beard are included in this addition of the Eagle.

MYSTERY SANTA ENTRY

I think the Mystery Santa is _____

My Name is _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Bring or Mail to the Eagle Office

IT'S OUR FAVORITE TIME OF YEAR... WHEN WE WISH ALL

MERRY CHRISTMAS