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Council Accepts Contract To Join Regional Library

A proposed contract for library services between the Yakima Valley Regional Library and the City of Selah was approved by city council members at their regular meeting Tuesday evening.

According to Bob Olander, city supervisor, the contract is a standard one used by the regional library with the addition of two sentences.

Those two sentences would insure all materials in the Selah library becoming the property of the City of Selah upon notice of cancellation of the contract.

Olander did not know if the regional board would accept this addition, but he stated he had talked to the chairman of the board, Charles Countryman, and Countryman seemed to feel he could get the board to approve the contract.

Nancy Rogers, chairperson of the Selah Library Board of Trustees was present at the meeting. In answer to a question from Mayor Frank Rowland, she said it was her feeling the library board could live with the contract.

Rogers, however, requested that the council encourage the library board to remain active even though Selah's Library were part of the regional system.

In other council business, a request to rezone Lots 59-63 of Palmer Estates from R-1 to R-2 was denied. The council felt that duplexes in a single family residential area would not be fair to the present property owners.

Also, as Councilman Robert Jones pointed out, it has been the policy of the city to zone R-2, only on major arterials. The lots in question are on a collector arterial.

A public hearing on the 1978 budget was held. Olander read to the council changes in the budget which had been made at council's direction. He announced that the budget is in balance, and \$8,000

of the anticipated revenue from a 1% increase in utility taxes had been set aside. The council hopes to use that fund next year to maintain the new Wenas Park.

Harold Floyd, district manager for Cascade Natural Gas spoke against the 1% utility tax increase. He felt that the increase would be an additional burden to his customers.

The increase will not become effective until March 1 since the utility companies have to obtain the approval of the Utilities and Transportation Commission for the increase.

Jim Farrell, representing the Ellensburg Telephone Company, said the phone company would be able to complete the paperwork needed in time to put the increase in effect by March 1.

An ordinance adopting the 1978 budget was approved.

Only one gasoline bid was received by the council. The company, whose bid was rejected at an earlier meeting, did not submit another bid. The one bid received was about four cents higher per gallon than the rejected bid.

After some discussion about various means of acquiring gasoline for city vehicles at cheaper rates, the council decided to put the contract out for bid again. Olander and Dwain Jones, director of public utilities, were asked to investigate the costs of installing a private pump for the city.

Councilman Don Storseth suggested that some of the council members speak with local gas station owners, and encourage them to submit bids.

The council approved an authorization to annex Wenas Avenue. The water and sewer lines for the new Wenas Park will be going in along that street. Because it is now owned by the county, the city will need to

obtain right-of-way to put in the lines. In addition the county requires water lines to be buried a foot and one half deeper than the city does. This would involve an extra cost of about \$1 per foot, or about \$2,200 total.

For these reasons the council approved the annexation to Goodlander Road. The council also authorized a call for bids for the water/sewer line extensions to the park.

An ordinance creating a Parks and Leisure Services Board was passed with changes council members had requested at its last meeting.

A resolution authorizing the mayor to execute an assignment from Yakima Valley Transportation Company was tabled. Council members wish to have more information on how binding the assignments were.

The council passed a resolution authorizing the mayor to sign a 1978 labor agreement and an ordinance for 1978 salaries.

Olander informed the council that an annexation election for the area north of the city would be held in February. The annexation will be on the ballot with the school levy.

Dwain Jones reported that the clarifier had been acting up, and that the problem has been located. He indicated that the replacement of a gear reducer box would clear up the trouble.

Mayor Rowland extended his thanks to Nancy Rogers and Bob Olander for the work they had done on the library contract. He also thanked Olander and staff for the good job they had done on the budget.

John Sweesy, councilman-elect, suggested that the council write a letter to the school board acknowledging they had changed their meeting date so it would not conflict with council meetings.