SOFT WATER PLANT URGED

Project Would Cut $30,000 From Welfare Burden, Committee Estimates

The City Commission has under consideration today a recommendation from its special committee on self-liquidating public works projects that it take the proper steps "as early as possible" toward the erection of a water softening plant, the total cost of which is estimated at $155,000.

Of this amount, 30 per cent, or $46,500, would be donated by the Federal Government, and the remaining $108,500 would be financed through a Reconstruction Finance Corporation loan to be retired by the issuance of water department bonds.

Would Cut Welfare Bill

Employment furnished by construction of the plant would reduce the city's welfare burden this year by $25,000 to $30,000, the report estimates, and the annual saving to the community through the reduction in the amount of soap required and other economies would amount to $11,245.

The water softening plant was one of six projects listed by City Manager James W. Parry as qualifying under the Government's requirements for an R. F. C. loan. The others were a sewage disposal plant, a grade separation at East Maple avenue and the old Grand Trunk right-of-way, an Eton road sewer, city trunk sewers, and a program of constructing and improving curbs and gutters and hard surface roads.

The report on the water treatment plant which the committee submitted "without necessarily recommending that project over other possibilities which the Commission may have in mind," was merely received by the Commission with gratitude, and formal action on the recommendation was deferred. Mayor Harry Allen has asked the committee to prepare a similar report on the sewage disposal plant project.

The committee, appointed by Mayor Allen in January, but whose deliberations were interrupted by the banking holiday, is composed of John E. Marks, chairman, Charles W. Crandell, Walter L. Connelly, Harlow N. Davock, Scott A. Hersey, Charles E. James, David H. Ladd, Marshall M. Morgan, Guy Laughlin, Frank S. Packard and B. C. Stewart.

Legislation Broadened

"Recent Federal legislation has very much broadened the field of eligibility for public works construction projects" the report on the water treatment plant said. "Almost any needed public works can now count on not only securing necessary loans from the Federal Government, but are assured a Federal grant amounting to a probable 30 per cent of the cost of the project and at a probable interest rate on the balance not to exceed 3 per cent. The Federal legislation has not yet been definitely adopted and the detailed regulations are of course still undeveloped, but the features of the bill clearly indicate that the above statement will be substantially the condition."

As the first of its conclusions, the report declares that "in general a water treatment plant for the City of Birmingham should provide iron removal and softening for all of the three deep wells serving the city. This would be accomplished by a main plant at the Lincoln well site consisting of mixing, sedimentation, filtration and storage capacity sufficient for the Lincoln and Baldwin wells, and a zeolite plant at the Derby well.

"The Lincoln plant would meet all ordinary requirements and the Derby plant would be brought into use only during extraordinary summer peaks. This is only one of several schemes which might be adopted as determined after a detailed engineering study. As a part of this plan, approximately two miles of arterial main would be required—on Lincoln from Southfield to Woodward and up the new super-highway right-of-way to Oak street and an 8-inch main connecting Baldwin and Lincoln wells."

Lists Itemized

As outlined in the report, the structure and plant at the Lincoln site would cost $90,000, at the Derby site $30,000, and mains $35,000, making a total cost of $155,000. The report points out that an engineering study might disclose more economical methods of construction.

Of the total cost, the report shows, $66,450 would be spent for labor. "The welfare budget for the next fiscal year is $38,000," the report pointed out. "Depending somewhat upon the method of construction adopted it is probable that from $25,000 to $30,000 of this burden would be removed."

Annual economies resulting from the softening of Birmingham's water supply are listed in the report as follows:

Operation of 450 private water softeners, $8,000; excess soap used in 2,250 homes and equipped with softeners, $2,250; heating coils and other equipment replacements, $2,000; excess fuel used to heat water in scale-encrusted equipment, $4,000, making a total gross saving to citizens of $27,500 per year.

Estimate "Conservative"

"The above figures," the report continues, "are conservative, for the items given are do not include factors which are quite tangible but difficult to estimate, such as damage to fabrics, extra time spent in cleaning, excessive wear due to cleaning with hard water, replacement of plumbing fixtures, replacement of water softeners, health detriment of hard water to some individuals."

Bonds issued to retire the $108,500 of the cost not covered by Federal grant would probably be water department bonds maturing over 20 years and bearing 3 per cent interest, the report sets forth. Mr. Parry said he believes the issuance of such bonds would require a popular referendum.

On this basis, according to the report, the total annual cost of operation would be $14,755, consisting of $7,055 for fixed charges and $9,200 for supplies, repairs and labor. Subtracting this figure from the $27,500 to be saved by the amount of soap used and other economies, the total saving to citizens of the community would be $11,245 per year, the report sets forth.

In addition, economies in operating the new plant as compared with the present system, according to the report, would include an $800 reduction in cost of main flushing and $2,200 less for pumping costs.

Would Restore Standby Charge

If water department bonds were issued, Mr. Parry said, the $15,000 formerly paid annually by the city to the water department as a fire department standby charge would be restored as the annual charge against the City, which has not been charged the last three years.

With this charge restored, the report estimates, the water plant could be operated to net a surplus of $10,314.27 per year under the present water rates. The bonds issued to meet the R. F. C. loan would be retired out of the surplus, Mr. Parry explained.

"A Federal subsidy and loan at low interest rate is available," the report says, in summarizing its conclusions. "It is probable that this offer may be withdrawn in the near future. A considerable percentage of welfare relief recipients will be re-employed with consequent improvement in morale and reduced costs to the city for direct relief. Approximately $66,450 will be distributed in wages, most of which will be spent in the community. A soft water supply will result in immediate substantial savings to every resident.

"There should be a net gain of from $10,500 to $15,500 in the tax burden of welfare relief, fire department standby. No increase in water rates should be necessary."

WE HEARD IT SAID BY—

Oliver Kirk, chairman Exchangites' golf committee: "Our club lost to the Rotary Club last week—but that was just to encourage them to play again so that we may defeat them and win four annual events against their three."

* * *

Louis Hascall, chairman of Rotary Club's golf committee: "Our club beat the Exchangites last week, and I certainly feel that we shall win again this year, making four annual victories to their three."

OVERHEATED STOVE BLAMED FOR BLAZE

Firemen were called Monday afternoon to the home of Mrs. Loraine Wells, 259 East Ruffner street, where a fire had been started by an overheated oil stove. Mrs. Wells was doing in bed upstairs with her four-day-old baby at the time, but the stove was removed by a neighbor before any damage was done.

City Commission Proceedings

Minutes of a regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, June 12th, 1933 at 8 P. M.

Present: Mayor Allen, Commissioners Brandt, Osborne, Packard, Smith and Vliet.

Absent: Commissioner Metzger.

Minutes of meeting held June 5th approved as printed.

181—Moved by Commissioner Smith that the following bills be paid:

Hackenstose Coal, $25; Birmingham Creamery, $110.52; Brown-Bray Bakery, $226.31; S. J. Ford & Co., $4.65; Kilip, $19.20; V. E. Pabst, $47.60; Parker's Seed Co., $53.80; Special Assessment Trust Acct., $8.77; Special Assessment Trust Acct., $1.87; Oakland County, Treasurer, $8.20; R. H. Clarson, Acting Treasurer, Welfare, $69.54; R. H. Clarson, Acting Treasurer, General, $18.43.

Yeas, 6; Nays, 0.

182—A communication was received from Thomas A. Scott, resignation of Commission Proceedings.

183—A report was received from the Self Liquidating Project Committee, re a proposed Water Treatment Plant.

184—Moved by Commissioner Osborne that the Self Liquidating Project Committee be complimented on their good work, and that the report be received and filed.

Yeas, 6; Nays, 0.

185—Moved by Mayor Allen that a milk license be issued to the Cash and Carry Ice Company.

Yeas, 6; Nays, 0.

186—Moved by Commissioner Smith that an electrical license be issued to John C. Ross and that his bond covering such license be approved.

Yeas, 6; Nays, 0.

187—Moved by Commissioner Osborne that the application for "Sunday Permit" by Merchants Contract of Licenses" of the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, 215 N. Woodward and 1200 E. Maple be approved.

Yeas, 6; Nays, 0.

Mayor Allen, Commissioners Brandt, Osborne, Packard, Smith.

Nays, Commissioner Vliet.

187—A communication was received from George E. Potts, re the erection of a sign.

188—Moved by Commissioner Brandt that the appeal of George E. Mitts, with reference to the erection of a sign in his store, be denied.

Yeas, 6; Nays, 0.

189—Moved by Commissioner Osborne that the speed limit on Woodward Avenue, between Oakland and Brown, be reduced to 20 miles per hour.

Yeas, 6; Nays, 0.

Moved by Commissioner Osborne that the meeting adjourn.

Meeting declared adjourned at 10:35 P. M.

JUNE E. HENLEY,
City Clerk.

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EVERYBODY is talking Pontiac this year. Why? We should like to tell you what we believe are some of the reasons.

Different people like it for different qualities. The artist, for example, stresses its appearance. The business man is impressed by its durability and economy. Others especially like its roomy comfort and its safety. A boy or a girl is thrilled by nothing so much as its performance.

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The new way to make a silk stocking stronger is to use two plies of the twisted silk instead of the single ply. This is why the new Tu-Pli stockings give you double the resistance to wear.
There is more mileage per pair for you in Tu-Pli, and more satisfaction too.
Sheer Chiffon and Light Service Weights in all the new shades.

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Father's Day — Sunday — June 18th

That special day of the year when we all remember Dad just a bit more than on ordinary days. We let him know that we really appreciate him, and to strengthen the fact of the day we give him gifts—to please him. Give him a man's gift. One that a man always enjoys . . . . accessories in men's wear.

Our Men's Wear Department is complete with such things.

"Young Man, I want to talk to you about this FATHER'S DAY thing"

"Look at this shirt you gave me last Father's Day, son. See what's happened to the collar and the sleeves?

"Now if you're going to remember your Dad this year, please, like a good fellow, make it an Arrow Shirt."

Arrow Shirts are the smartest any son can give a father. And they stay that way . . . because they're Sanforized Shrunk. Which means that they will stay the same size forever! You couldn't possibly go wrong on Arrow's famous Trump at $1.95 — or on any other shirt that bears the Arrow label. Come in — get Father a gift he'll remember pleasantly — for a long time.

ARROW SHIRTS PRICED FROM $1.95 to $2.95

Slacks
Plain white and striped flannels in linen and flannel.
$1.50 to $4.50

Hose
Plain and fancy hose in lisle and silk. A large selection.
25c to $1.00

Ties
Get the new summer patterns and colors. New stock—just received. Conservatives or fancies—we have them both.
25c to $1.00

Sweaters
Big thing for sports wear. Sleeveless, and in the season's new shades and patterns.
$1.00 to $3.50

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