

Council discusses insurance payme

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The Irvine City Council, in a regular meeting Monday, voted to pay the insurance premiums for its vehicles for six months.

However, Mayor David Shearer said Tuesday that due to a billing error approximately \$7,000 will be knocked off the figure that he told council was due at Monday's meeting.

At the meeting, Shearer said the insurance premium for one year will cost the city approximately \$17,000, and council opted to pay a six-month premium with the hope of having something to work with until the premium comes due again in April.

City Attorney Phillip Owens said a vote was not needed on the payment, but Shearer requested one anyway.

After talking with Butch Birchfield of Big E Insurance, Shearer said there was a mistake in the billing and the city owes approximately \$7,000 less than originally said.

"I believe that if council had known about this last night, then they would have voted to pay for the full year," Shearer said Tuesday.

Councilman Bill Singleton voted to pay the six month premium rather than the full year's with the hope the city would reduce its premium within the six months.

"I would be in favor of paying for six months," said Singleton. "Let's pay it for six months and try to get rid of some of this stuff(vehicles) in the meantime."

Councilman Tom Williams agreed.

"We have a lot of vehicles for a one-horse town," Williams said.

Owens spoke to the council on suing for back taxes and the importance of having a planning and zoning commission.

Owens said that if a complaint is brought to court to collect back taxes, it would be along the lines of the City of Irvine versus 15 tracts of land.

"I spoke with a county attorney, who had been county attorney for about 30 years, and asked him why they never did sue for back taxes this way. He told me it was the sheer logistics of it," Owens said. "It would take about three months to get the paper work done, and then what they recovered wouldn't cover the cost of typing paper."

Owens said if the city decided to sue for back taxes, he will file against 15 to 30 tracts of land.

"Hopefully, that would bring in some we wouldn't have to take to court," Owens said.

As to the planning and zoning commission, Owens said the city needed to have the commission active.

"You've already got the system set-up," Owens said. "You just don't have the warm bodies to do it with."

Singleton asked, if a commission became active, how the rules and regulations would be enforced.

Owens said there are penalties provided.

"The idea is you let people know exactly what it(the penalty) is," Owens said. "You have a man going into a building for business, and you've got to have someone he can go to and ask what the City of Irvine requires. He is owed that much."

In other business:

Williams mentioned the possibility of council going into executive session, but Shearer said he knew what the subject of such a session would be.

"Publicly, I will take the

blame for anything going wrong in any departments," Shearer said.

Shearer also said did not want to make changes until after the season.

Council looked possibility of suspending Meade's garbage collection at the old location. no action was taken did decide to check whether there is a duplicate to see if the Meade Center is being charged for collection.

Council refused action on a request from Snowden that the Trick or Treat be Trick or Treat will tomorrow night be p.m. to 8 p.m. Snowden times conflicted with school football game night.

Council voted to letter to Frankfort that a new bridge be Irvine over the River. There was concern about the safety existing bridge. (See story, page 1).

Reed released on property bond

Micky Reed, 27, the accused murderer of Loretta Lynn Willoughby, is free on bond, following a hearing last Friday which allowed Reed's mother, Bessie McIntosh, and a friend, Clarence Estes, to put up approximately \$10,000 in property to cover the original \$50,000 property bond set.

Circuit Court Judge Ed Jackson said he would not lower the bond, but did allow the property to act as surety for Reed's court appearance.

Assistant Commonwealth Attorney Phillip Owens said Reed is still covered by the original bond, but the property put up should suffice to insure that Reed does not try to leave.

"Both his mother and a good friend stand to lose their homes if he leaves," Owens said.

Reed was indicted for the murder on Sept. 26.

Willoughby, who was 15 at the time of her murder, is the daughter of Larry and Mollie Willoughby and a native of

Powell County. She was last seen Feb. 10, 1985.

Her remains were found May 10, 1985 by Reed in a wooded area near Broadway in Irvine.

Reed reported at the time of Willoughby's discovery that he was roaming the woods when he came upon a pair of shoes, noticed a strong odor and went for help.

Later, the remains of the girl and several articles of clothing were found in the vicinity.

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