

Luthy objects to Waldenmyer trade

Dover council okays pool project

By JOHN LANDON

Dover council last night proceeded with plans to provide residents an outdoor swimming pool complex over the protests of Mayor C. LeMoyné Luthy which led to a demand for a public apology by City Engineer Donald Dummermuth.

The verbal battle erupted before council approved Parks and Recreation Committee Chairman Richard Reifert's recom-

mendation that the city obtain a six-acre track of land adjacent to City Park from Dale Waldenmyer.

Council subsequently called for Solicitor Mario Corsi to draw up the appropriate legislation and to proceed to secure bids to construct a swimming pool, probably to be located on the six-acre site.

Dummermuth's demand came in the heated debate during

which the mayor implied the engineer had a conflict of interest.

Luthy stated: "He (Dummermuth) is our city engineer and Waldenmyer's."

"I realize you are rather upset, mayor," Dummermuth replied, "but I demand a public apology or you will have to stand for your action in court."

Luthy, later given the opportunity by Schrock, stated, "If I said something wrong, then I

apologize."

Prior to his apology, Luthy questioned who Dummermuth was representing at a previous meeting of committee members and Waldenmyer.

Reifert told the mayor that he had called the engineer to assist in the discussion because he was the man who could best advise on the matter.

According to Reifert's report, Waldenmyer will give the land

to the city if the following stipulations are recorded on the deed:

(1) — An access point to a proposed peripheral park road, to be a boulevard, be granted to Waldenmyer. An 1800-foot road would be built by the city when Waldenmyer develops adjacent land. The report cites the cost would be \$18,000 if done by a

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contractor and approximately \$10,000 if city labor cost is used.

(2) — The city would straighten and clean Goettge Run on the park grounds and adjacent to the 6 acres. Two dams and a cowcatcher would be removed from the run and the 20th st. bridge repaired. Total cost was estimated at approximately \$8000.

The report further stated that wording of how the two items would appear on deed would be worked out to the satisfaction of Waldenmyer and the city.

Luthy began the verbal battle upon council's acceptance of the motions when he said they should be "held up for more study and more facts and figures." He said an appraisal has never been made on the land.

Luthy said that the Goettge Run project would necessitate a lift station and that a through roadway should not be put in the park.

The mayor later termed the matter a "package deal" and said it would cost the city \$50,000. Councilman Kenn Hofacker and Reifert both endorsed the transaction.

Hofacker, as well as Reifert, contended the road would not run through the park but on the edge and that work on Goettge Run was needed and would have to be done anyway.

Both also related the history of the income tax and cited that people had approved the tax on the contention of having a swim pool and that the city should not delay any further.

City engineer Dummermuth was called on by Hofacker to clarify the mayor's contention of the need for a lift station.

Dummermuth said that the removal of the 2 dams and the cow catcher, which he designed, should be made.

"It echos what is recommended in our engineering report," the engineer stated. Luthy then took the floor and stated, "The cow-catcher will work, it is only bent, but I'm no engineer."

The mayor then issued his statement that Dummermuth was the engineer for the city and Waldenmyer.

President Robert Schrock termed the mayor's comments out of order and council voted 6-0 to have the legislation prepared to obtain the Waldenmyer site.

Councilmatic approval also was given an ordinance, calling for installation of sanitary storm sewers on Front st. between High st. and Johnson av. and on Race st. between 24th and 28th st., which will provide service to residents on Wooster av.

The 2 storm sewer projects, recommended by the utility committee 2 weeks ago, will cost the city approximately \$55,000.

The Front st. project is expected to alleviate sewage back-up problems for home owners in that area.

The Race st. project was precipitated by residents on N. Wooster av., who threaten deannexation if utilities were not made available as promised in 1964.

In other action, council approved a safety committee recommendation to have legislation drawn up to change the age brackets for police and firemen from 21 to 31 to 21 to 36 years of age.

Hofacker cast a negative vote, citing a letter presented to council and signed by 13 firemen as not favoring the change.

An ordinance authorizing the advertising for bids to convert heating at Memorial Hall from coal to gas was approved.

The conversion is estimated to cost \$2500. It was recommended by the building committee.

Service Director Arthur Hanni reported that coal prices beginning Oct. 1 will be raised to \$9 per ton. They presently are \$8.25.

His request that a new steam cleaner be purchased was referred to the service committee.

A General Telephone Co. request to install sewer lines on Commercial Parkway (Rt. 39) to the site of their proposed new building was referred to the utility committee.

GenTel is expected to break ground soon on a five-acre tract for a new \$500,000 engineering plant.