

Vol. 22 No. 4

December 30, 1980

REVENUE SHARING SURVIVES

In a down-to-the wire session, the senate adopted the house version of a reauthorization bill that extends general revenue sharing for three more years. The program will be continued at its current \$4.6 billion annual appropriation level. Municipalities can expect to receive approximately the same amount they have in the past, although distributions are adjusted to reflect increases or decreases in population. The major change in the new legislation is one that requires states to give back to the federal government in categorical funds any amount they elect to receive in revenue sharing. The mechanics of this unprecedented system may prove to be a major headache for state governments.

PERSONNEL NOTES

SHARON NELSON has replaced MARLA SMITH as city clerk of Solomon.

RONALD TOMPKINS is the new police chief in Eureka.

DAVID COVINGTON, Leavenworth city manager, has resigned his position effective December 31, 1980. David and his family will be moving to Florida.

Leavenworth has recently hired a new city engineer, DAVID PENNINGTON. David had been the Leavenworth county engineer.

MAYNARD WENDEL has been appointed to replace ERIC GLENN as councilman from

Ward 1 of Norton, as Eric has moved out of the ward. Maynard was appointed at the October 21 council meeting.

BETTY BUTLER, councilmember in Ward II of Minneapolis moved out of her ward, thereby creating a vacancy. RHONDA DOERING has been appointed to fill the unexpired term.

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CITY CLERKS AND FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT

SHARON NELSON, Solomon

City of Solomon has made a preapplication to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for a community development block grant for a storm sewer improvement project.

MARGUERITE B. STRANGE, Leavenworth

The city of Leavenworth had a referendum on the November 4 ballot to decide the question of whether the city should retain their commission/manager form of government or go to a mayor/council form of government. The people decided by a majority of 1151 votes to retain the commission/manager form of government.

We have accepted bids for the purchase of nine new compact cars for the police department and one sub-compact vehicle for the animal control department.

Leavenworth received bids for \$756,600 in general obligation bonds. The bid of George K. Baum & Company Inc. in the amount of 7.6587% was accepted.

Eleven employees received service awards this year for having completed over 10 years of service to the city. One employee has completed over 25 years of service.

CAROL WERTENBERGER, Norton

Norton City has increased their water, electric and fuel adjustment rates to take effect on the December 1, 1980 utility bill. The rates are as follows:

RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC

Minimum - 36 KW = \$ 4.00
80 KW = \$ 8.80
120 KW = \$.06
200 KW = \$16.00
all over 200 KW = \$.055

COMMERCIAL ELECTRIC

Minimum - 33 KW = \$ 4.00
100 KW = \$ 12.00
1,000 KW = \$ 75.00
next 14,000 KW = \$.055
15,000 KW = \$845.00
over 15,000 KW = \$.04

HEAT ELECTRIC

Minimum 100 KW = \$4.00

All KW = \$.04

WATER

Minimum - 400 CF = \$5.00
All over 400 CF = 100 cf x .30 + \$3.80

FUEL ADJUSTMENT

Anything over 1¢ will be shown on the bill as fuel adjustment. If it is less than 1¢, it will show as zero.

NADINE HERRIDGE, Oswego

A combination Christmas, award and retirement dinner was held at the community building, December 8, 1980 for all city employees, the governing body and their families. Those receiving ten year awards were Bob Barker and Jimmie West--Public Works; Robert Elliot--Police Department; Richard Farris and Wayne Holmes--Fire Department; John Sherwood--Police Judge; Larry Walker--City Superintendent; Harold Lindeberg--Sanitation; and Paul Higgins--Fire and Police Departments. Those retiring and their years of service were Harold Lindeberg--11 years with Sanitation Department; Alex Nading--30 years as City Superintendent; and Rufus Monroe--33 years with 10 on the Fire Department and 23 as City Clerk.

In November the city clerk's office added a new clerk, Carol Eddington, who will be handling the utility billing.

On October 13, 1980 the city of Oswego was honored for winning first place in the 1,000 - 10,000 population category of Public Improvement Awards sponsored by Kansas Consulting Engineers. The award was given to Oswego for the hospital construction project. An unusual feature of the project was that in less than a week \$150,000 in CASH was received from citizens in and around Oswego to complete funding for the new hospital.

SUE J. MARTINIE, Nickerson

City of Nickerson has adopted by reference K.S.A. 12-1751-1756 pertaining to unsafe structures.

The city council purchased a Savin 840 copier for city hall. This is a bond copier and was purchased at cost of \$3,100.

Susan Griffith, city treasurer, and Sue Martinie, city clerk, have completed inventories and compiling of records for fixed asset accounts for the city. Files are now completed which include information on utility construction and other aspects of the city's fixed assets which were not organized prior to this date.

The city is in the process of issuing industrial development revenue bonds to finance the construction of an ambulance garage to be located at Memorial Hospital in McPherson. The hospital has a contract to operate the ambulance service for the city. At a total estimated cost of \$195,000, with bonds payable over 10 years, the building will be constructed as a part of the hospital property, and will be paid off by the city, the hospital and by McPherson County which pays a certain part of each ambulance call. This is a departure from the past policy which has been followed in the issuance of industrial development revenue bonds, but is a project with public benefit and concern.

MAYREE MANGUS, Minneapolis

The city is now paying the cost of employee and family premiums of Blue Cross - Blue Shield. Single memberships receive the equivalent of the difference between single and family premiums on their paychecks.

The policeman that works the 11:00 to 7:00 a.m. shift receives an additional 15¢ per hour.

The auditing firm of Townsden & Uri, Concordia, have the contract to audit the city's 1980 books, for an amount not to exceed \$3,000.

Water and electric rates have been increased, effective on the December 1 bills.

Bruce Barefield, city attorney, has completed the recodification of the city's ordinances. The League codified them in 1958 for the first time.

A resolution has been adopted authorizing the issuance of \$45,000 worth of industrial revenue bonds for Lott Implement, Inc. to erect a farm equipment repair shop.

The city paid the recertification fee for the EMT's.

An industrial development advisory board has been appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the council.

One contractor submitted a bid for our street improvement project, namely, Brown & Brown, Inc. of Salina, which was accepted, in the amount of \$144,671. The state will pay up to a maximum of \$85,511 on this. The city will be responsible for several items, such as engineering and legal expenses and a drainage ditch.

Since the industrial gas bills were so high this summer, the city had to amend their 1980 electric fund budget.

PATRICIA STUENKEL, Andover

The city of Andover received a Certificate of Conformance in Financial Reporting for year ended December 31, 1979. We became the sixth city in the state to receive this certificate. We are all quite pleased to have achieved this goal.

All of us are anxiously awaiting our move to the new city building around the first of the year. It will be nice not to have to move typewriters, chairs, etc. to open a file cabinet drawer or let someone by. The police department and the library will be housed downstairs in the basement, while the city offices, council room and a meeting room will be upstairs.

YVONNE COON, Clearwater

The city of Clearwater has issued \$85,000 in general obligation bonds (under K.S.A. 2-110a) for the purchase of equipment. Purchases were a roadgrader, dump truck, tractor with sickle mower, and communication equipment. The issue was recorded November 1, 1980.

MARGARET AGEE, Belle Plaine

Final work is being done on the Watson Park in our city. This land was given to the city by Mrs. Daisy Watson in memory of her husband, Joe Watson, and the city was allotted a park grant to develop the land into a nice park for recreation in all age areas, such as

PHYLLIS J. DOWNEY, Wathena

The city council passed an ordinance setting a water service connection charge of \$250 for connecting a 3/4 inch meter. Larger meters would be \$250 plus the additional cost of the meter and other connection supplies.

Another ordinance increasing the water rates 20 percent was also passed. This increase was necessary due to the rate increase assessed to the city by their supplier, St. Joseph Water Company. This was the second rate increase this year passed on to Wathena from St. Joseph Water Co. The new rates are: RESIDENTIAL 0-2000, \$6.75; Next 8000 gallons, \$1.80; Over 10,000 gallons, \$1.44. RURAL RESIDENTIAL 0-2000, \$8.50; Next 8000 gallons, \$1.80; Over 10,000 gallons, \$1.50. COMMERCIAL 0-2000, \$7.75; Next 8000 gallons, \$1.85; Over 10,000 gallons, \$1.49. RURAL COMMERCIAL 0-2000 gallons, \$9.50; Next 8000 gallons, \$1.85; Over 10,000 gallons, \$1.55.

MILT MARTIN, Hutchinson

On December 2 we sold our parking meters at \$5 apiece. We had about 2,000 unused since taken off the streets and out of the parking lots about two years ago. We could have sold three times as many at three times the price. Sale time started at 8:00 a.m., but people started lining up at midnight. We received nationwide TV, radio and newspaper coverage.

Gloria Bardshar has completed the K.U. Clerks' Certification Course, joining earlier graduates Lucille McElwain and Fred Orth.

BERNIE SCHOENTHALER, Ellis

The city of Ellis sold \$375,000 in G.O. Bonds for a 1979 street, sewer, and water improvement program. The successful bidder was Zahner and Company of Kansas City, with an average interest rate of 7.61027 percent. We received six bids, the highest being 8.150105 percent.

ALICE K. SANDER, Victoria

The city has signed a 15 year franchise agreement with Blue Water Cable, Inc., of Blue Rapids. The city will receive three percent of the gross receipts, and the system is expected to be completed by spring.

The city recently appointed a planning commission, and contracted with a consultant for the zoning ordinance. Currently, work is being done on the land use map and the future land use plan.

Construction is now approximately 26 percent complete on the sewage treatment facility for the city. Victoria received a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.

LINN PETERSON, McPherson

The city of McPherson is now in the mausoleum business in addition to the operation of the McPherson cemetery. Built in 1930 by a private company with city commission authorization on city property, the building had begun to deteriorate and the ownership had gone to non-residents who had no one taking care of the building and the sale of crypts. Some 89 of the original 366 crypts remain unsold, and an endowment fund of only \$5,000 had been created. The city commission finally agreed to accept the building as a gift after they had, by donation, received some \$24,000 from heirs and descendants of crypt owners. A contract has now been let to renovate the building completely with a local contractor, work to be completed in 120 days. Having accepted the building, the city will take over the maintenance of the building and probably will combine the mausoleum endowment fund with the cemetery endowment fund. They will then attempt to promote the sale of the remaining crypts. Prices in the past ranged from \$300 to \$2,500, depending on the type of crypts. If any other cities have had experience in this business, we would appreciate hearing from you, and may seek some advice on our operations. Some of the most prominent citizens who have ever lived in McPherson are entombed in this edifice, so we feel it has potential for the future, after it has been reconditioned.

baseball and softball diamonds, playground equipment, shuffleboard and horseshoe areas, and picnic facilities.

Work is to be started on our addition to the sewage disposal plant in mid-December. After five years, the grant was finally approved, bids have been let and contracts issued. This addition will greatly facilitate the work of the city sewer system.

LEROY STEWART, Wamego

The city commission voted an across-the-board increase in electric rates. The new rate represents a 14 percent increase for residential, commercial, industrial and public users.

RUBY FOSTER, Eureka

A second cable TV system has been granted a franchise to operate in the city.

The new Model 1-TE-4 four yard mobil street sweeper arrived in time to be in the Cattleman's Day Parade on November 1.

The city's main project at this time is a complete renovation of the city-owned "Phillip's Cabin" located at Eureka Lake. The renovation includes installation of central heating and air conditioning. The building is used for a meeting place.

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DOES YOUR CITY LEVY A BUSINESS LICENSE TAX?

Does your city levy an annual business license or occupational tax for revenue purposes?

These are taxes, not license fees for regulatory purposes, and are generally levied on every business in the city. The League is now preparing a manual on this subject. We know about the occupation taxes levied by Bonner Springs, Columbus, Cherryvale, Derby, Dodge City, Edwardsville, Fairway, Independence, Kansas City, Leawood, Merriam, Mission, Mission Woods, Overland Park, Prairie Village and Shawnee. If you are not one of these cities, and have such a tax, please contact Bill Henry at League headquarters.



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SPECIAL BULLETIN

THIS COULDN'T WAIT FOR THE JANUARY ISSUE OF "WINGS", SO HERE IT IS:

IIMC SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR CLERKS INSTITUTE

The Municipal Clerks' Education Foundation of I.I.M.C. will award up to 10 scholarships in our region to municipal clerks and deputy clerks to attend the first year (may change) of an IIMC-recognized municipal clerks institute. Each scholarship carries a stipend of up to \$200 to be applied to an institute's tuition and registration fee.

A few items are still up in the air according to John Hunnewell, IIMC. There may be some changes forthcoming, but they should all increase the scope of the program, not decrease it. Information not known at this time will be forwarded to each state association as it is available.

One thing that will not change is the January 31st deadline for applications, which is why this special bulletin was added to the newsletter. We want to give the opportunity of the certification institute to as many clerks as possible, and you can't apply if you don't know about it.

The general criteria for the scholarship program are: (Some of these items may change slightly)

- * Applicant must be a member in good standing of IIMC. Membership fee must accompany the application if applicant is not already a member.
- * Applicant must have served as municipal clerk or deputy clerk (or related title) for a minimum of one year by the January 31 filing deadline. (this may change)
- * Applicant must submit a letter from the mayor, council, or manager (or supporting authority) expressing support of the application and indicating a commitment to grant time off to attend the certification program and further indicate that the municipality cannot fully fund the cost of the first-year (may change) institute.
- * Applicant shall complete all sections of the application.

The scholarships are paid directly to the institute and applied to the registration and tuition fees. The scholarships are awarded at the IIMC annual conference in May, and are available for the 12 months following.

Application forms should be included in the October issue of the IIMC News Digest. If you are not a member of IIMC, but are interested in the scholarships, please contact one of the Executive Committee or Sandy Howell, Lenexa, Chairman of the IIMC Membership Committee, and they will see that you get a copy when they are available.

