

Rate hike passed, ambulance contract tabled

By JERRY NEEDHAM
Battalion Staff Writer

It took two votes of the College Station City Council Thursday night to approve a new phone rate ordinance, increasing local rates by \$496,000.

The ordinance failed, three to two, on a voice vote the first time with Councilman Larry Bravenec absent.

Councilmen Jim Gardner, Gary Halter and Homer Adams voted against the ordinance.

A ten-minute debate among the council ensued.

"My vote favors the amount of money but not the rate structure," Gardner said. He objected to the part of the ordinance which authorizes General Telephone to charge 25 cents for a pay telephone call, a 150 per cent increase.

"I don't agree with it, but I don't see what choice we have," Dozier said. "We think we have arrived at a fair rate for the residents in this town."

"I am willing to stand up to the agreement we reached out of court," he said.

Halter said he was not at the out-of-court settlement meet-

ing even though a diligent effort was made to reach him by the city staff. He said his phone was out of order at that time.

A show-of-hands vote was then called for by Mayor O. M. Holt. The ordinance passed three to two with Halter voting in favor of the ordinance the second time.

"All court opinions are in favor of phone companies, and I don't think we could win in court," Halter said, explaining why he changed his vote.

After the meeting Halter said that, according to phone-rate consultant Bill McMorris' computations, the \$496,000 figure will give the phone company approximately an 8 per cent profit after taxes, while General Telephone's proposed figure (\$1,073,193) would have given the phone company approximately a 16 per cent profit after taxes.

Ambulance

The council made a few changes in the proposed agreement with Sherrill Ambulance Service, Inc. of Bryan. The agreement pertains to a city-

owned modular ambulance being loaned to Sherrill to provide emergency service in the county.

The council delayed approval of the agreement until the possibility of obtaining collision insurance for the ambulance can be investigated.

The ambulance, which has liability insurance, has been in operation for two weeks and will continue to operate under a day-by-day agreement until the final agreement is approved.

Apartments

Lynn Blazer, an apartment resident, spoke before the council on the conditions at Southgate Village Apartments.

She said the roof of her apartment sprang a leak more than a year ago. She said she complained to the manager who said a suit had been filed against the roofing contractor.

Blazer said 10 units in the complex have been closed because of roof cave-ins, and many other residents have been having problems with roofs leaking.

She said the problem is not the fault of the manager.

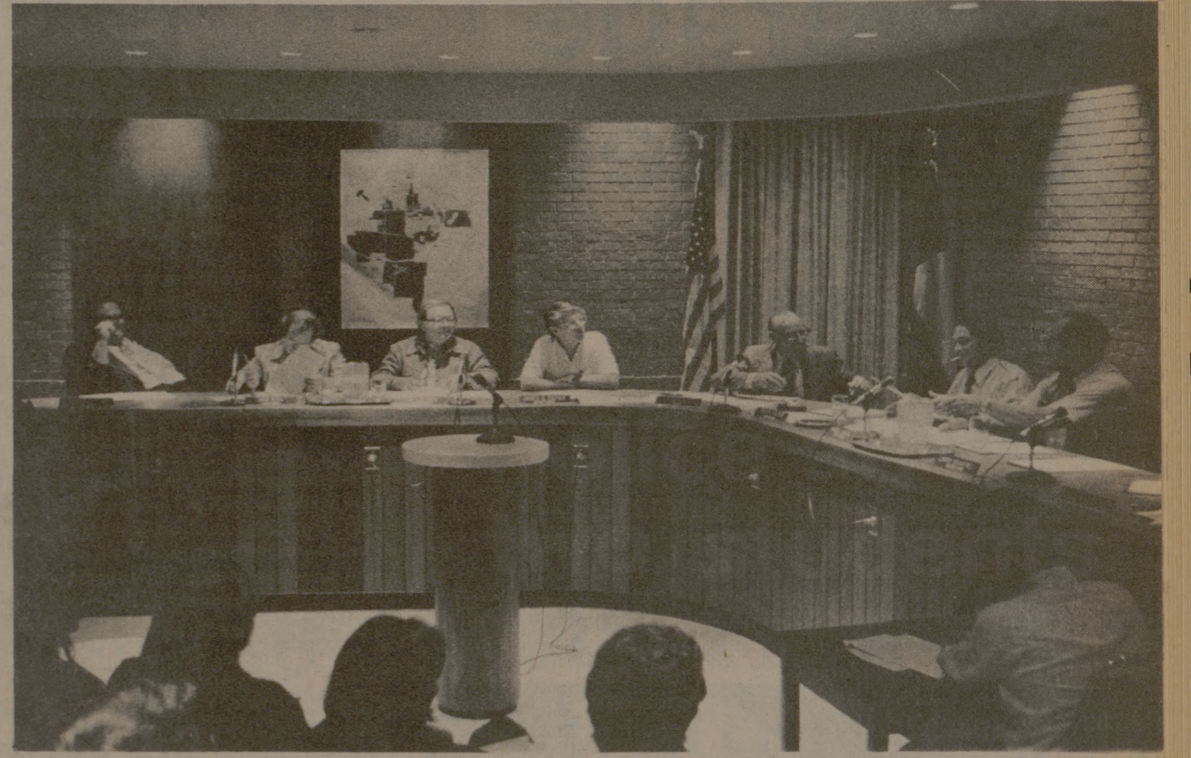
Blazer said she checked the city's building code and found that the city can only step in when the habitations are unsafe, unsanitary or unfit for human habitation. She said these terms are vague and not enforceable.

Blazer said she informed City Building Official Bill Koehler of the problem. She said he investigated her apartment but determined that the conditions are not in violation of the city's building code.

"We will ask our public works department to inspect those apartments that are a health hazard," Mayor Holt said.

Blazer said she would provide a list of the apartments which allegedly pose health problems, but said, "The people are low-income people and may be afraid of losing their apartment, so they will not let you in."

Under the city's building code, if a dwelling is found uninhabitable, the city can give the tenant a 30-day eviction notice and give notice to the owner to repair the dwelling within 120 days or face condemnation.



City Council

The College Station city councilmen discuss the new phone rate structure. The measure was approved by a 3-2 vote.

Staff photo by Glen Johnson

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Goodwin loses leaks

Staff photo by Steve Goble

Old roofing material litters the steps of the Goodwin Building, which houses the Parks and Recreation Department. The building is getting a new roof after two

years of leaking and misery to those on the fourth floor. The trouble, described as "a few leaky spots," will be repaired by complete re-shingling.

Students given choice of profs, class sections

By VICKIE D. ASHWILL
Battalion Staff Writer

Professors and class sections are about to be put before the students for grabs.

Beginning with pre-registration for the spring semester, December 1 through 5, students will be able to choose their own classes and schedules on a first come, first served basis.

A system of personal selection has not been used since the installation of the computer several years ago, said Register Robert A. Lacey, Thursday.

"At that time the computer was so new and we had so many new programs being developed, that we decided not to mess with personal scheduling," Lacey said.

Lacey said they had been working on this new system for about a year and a half at Student Government's request. He

added that there had not really been any undue pressure from the student body to enact such a program, but the Student Government had asked them to look into this program.

Students will pre-register in the same way as before, Lacey said, except that a student can now request a certain class.

The 1976 spring schedule booklet will list all classes and class sections being offered along with the name of instructors, if the name is known at the time the booklet is compiled, Lacey continued. Students will then be put into the class requested until that class is filled. If the class is full, the computer will automatically schedule the student in another class.

"This system is not to be continued during delayed and late registration," Lacey said. "Students should still build a trial schedule to make sure there are no schedule conflicts."

The new system would interact with the Student Government professor evaluation program, said Jeff Dunn, student body president.

Professor-evaluations were used last year for the first time and concentrated mainly on 300 level courses, Dunn said. The evaluations are to be published once yearly during the spring. The survey is to encompass most of the university classes this spring.

"Hopefully it will show the student which is the better professor," Dunn said.

The new-registration system is presently being tested by the registrar's office.

"Everyone must understand that this is a new development program," Lacey said. "If something does happen at the eleventh hour, we will use the back-up registration system. That is, the system as it is now."

Service revised

BVDC splits phone cost

By PAULA GEYER
Battalion Staff Writer

The Brazos Valley Development Council (BVDC) voted Thursday night to split the costs of long-distance phone calls to the Emergency Medical Service Crisis Line with the Central Brazos Valley Mental Health Center.

The calls are currently paid for the mental health center with the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) paying 50 per cent of the expenses.

The BVDC will pay half of the costs presently paid for by the center, or \$540 per month, BVDC Director Glenn Cook said.

Frank Pipes, director of the mental health center, said that due to rising costs of the service the center could no longer afford to pay for it.

The proposal passed by the board will change the long-distance service from a Wide Area Telephone Service (WATS) line, which was paid for monthly, to a service with

billing charges based on the number of calls made monthly.

The center gets an average of 400 calls per month from the seven counties in the Brazos Valley.

They are Brazos, Burleson, Grimes, Leon, Madison, Robertson and Washington counties.

In other business the BVDC approved the applications of both Bryan and College Station for urban planning funds from the Texas Department of Community Affairs.

The state agency handles all applications for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The funds for Bryan total \$10,000 and will be used to review city conditions, make an inventory of land use and housing and to make an environmental assessment.

This information will be used to compile a comprehensive development plan for Bryan.

The funds for College Station total \$4,138.50 and will be used to

revise the existing comprehensive development plan and update present transportation studies.

The BVDC also approved applications from Brazos County for funds from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) Criminal Justice Division.

The Brazos County Commissioners Court will receive \$28,877 for the final year of funding for assistant district attorney and legal secretary.

Funds totaling \$17,677 will be used to reorganize the probation department to provide individual services to adult and juvenile criminal offenders.

A resolution was also passed at the meeting to honor the Rev. Hugh Eiland for distinction in service as a member of the Regional Alcoholism Advisory Committee.

The Rev. Mr. Eiland is moving to Florida.

Police arrest two students

In initial University Police reports Thursday, two male students were charged with possession of a controlled substance.

Charged were James David Overton, sophomore biology major from Midland, Tex. and David Nelson Arriola, junior bio-medical major from Dallas.

The arrest took place at approximately 1:30 a.m. Thursday in parking lot 61, west of the rail road tracks.

The two men were taken to Brazos County Jail, but were released this morning after each posted a \$125 cash bond before Justice of the Peace Jess McGee



Campus

An exhibit of weavings, stitchery and knot art will be displayed through October 26 in the Memorial Student Center. "Fiber Design" is the work of Ann Mitchell, fiber artist and sculptress of Houston. The 26-piece exhibit includes several items for sale, for up to \$2,000.

The movie "When The People Awake" will be shown in the Rudder Tower, Room 601 at 8 p.m., Saturday.

Presented by the International Students Association, it deals with the Allende rule and the atmosphere in Chile at that time.

Texas

City councils in many Texas municipalities are turning their backs on requested rate increases for electricity and natural gas, and several are being taken to court to justify their actions.

The city councils, pressured by consumer-voters who are burdened with higher and higher utility bills, are either rejecting the suggested rate hikes or proposing compromise figures.

National

Treasury Secretary William E. Simon told the Senate Banking Committee that New York City needs a major program of fiscal and financial reform. There is a Federal role in that he said, but not as envisioned in several bills pending before Congress.

Although opposed to direct aid, he said that the federal government should consider whether big cities are getting a fair share of federal aid.



Photo by Alan Killingsworth

Greeks bearing gifts

One needn't beware of these Greeks though, as Tom Odwyer and David Arnold (right and center) of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity present a \$300 check to Don Ladewig, head of the Bryan United Way, under the approving

eye of Texas A&M Head Coach Emory Ballard. The Sig Eps collected the money by balloon sales at the Texas A&M vs. Illinois football game. The United Way will channel the money to the Brazos Valley Rehabilitation Center.