

12

BROWNCROFT MERCHANTS NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

GENERAL MEETING

TIME            7:45 P.M.

WEDNESDAY,            MARCH 31, 1976

Emmanuel Evangelical Covenant Church  
319 Browncroft Boulevard

GUEST SPEAKER:    COUNCILMAN    JOHN    CURRAN

Topic for discussion with our group will be the proposed purchase of the street lighting system from Rochester Gas & Electric Co. There will be a Question and Answer Period after Councilman Curran's talk.

The Browncroft Merchants Neighborhood Association has not taken a stand on the purchase of the street lighting system from RG&E at the purchase price of \$9,000,000. However some questions have to be answered as to the advisability of the City getting involved in something that they know nothing about. This way we can better equip ourselves for voting on the referendum on Primary Day, April 6th. Some of the bothersome questions are as follows:

- ? The \$9,000,000 purchase price will have to be raised by a bond issue, having at least a life of fifteen (15) years. What will be the final purchase price after interest at approximately 7% is added? How will this effect the Homeowners already high tax rate?
- ? The above price to be paid means a deduction of the total valuation of taxable property for both the City and the County. How was the \$9,000,000 price obtained -- who placed this value on the property??
- ? Should the City of Rochester hire a consulting engineering firm to place a true value by a cost study?
- ? Will the tax loss in the City and County revenue be compensated by the reduced cost of street lighting and by how much?
- ? What is the amount of money now budgeted by RG&E for the maintenance of the present system?
- ? The system if operated by the City must budget the yearly maintenance cost -- will this money have to be raised by taxes to be paid by the property owner?
- ? What will be the capital expenditures in the future expansion and improvement plans?
- ? Will there be a new department born to operate this system and will not outside high priced talent have to be hired to do this work and at what cost? Will the new employees be eligible for the State Retirement system and what will this cost the tax payer?
- ? It will also be necessary for the City to carry a large inventory for repairs to the lighting system. Will this also require a new building for storage and people to operate it?
- ? Will a contingency fund be necessary to allow for sever disruptions due to storm damage?

Other questions need to be answered as to the adviseability of this purchase by the City, but inthe interest of brevity and space restriction these thoughts are tossed out for further discussion.

ATTEND THE MEETING AND HELP GET  
THESE QUESTIONS ANSWERED !!!

POST WAR BROWNCROFT AREA GROUP PASSES IT'S TREASURY  
TO THE BROWNCROFT MERCHANTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

In 1946 this neighborhood united to halt an apartment complex from being built on what was then Browncroft Park, the block bounded by Winton Road, Dorchester, Corwin, and Ramsey. The money collected for that emergency, thirty years ago, was given to the neighborhood association by Mr. Vilas Swan. This amount of \$572 added to our balance boosted our treasury up to the current balance of \$1,086.

Mr. Vilas Swan formerly of Newcastle Road passed away on March 4, 1976. We extend our heartfelt sympathy.

RECREATION

The recreation committee has written a request to the Capital Program Review Committee for an artificial skating rink and swimming pool on the #46 School grounds. Due to the Capital Program Review Committee's commitment to existing programs our recreation committee doesn't believe that the rink or the pool will be granted. However, it is felt that submitting requests will keep them aware of this area's needs and this recognition will find the #46 School grounds a place in future program budgets.

The committee is working at insuring a good summer program in the playground this year.

NEIGHBORHOOD DOGS

Due to many complaints from residents of our Browncroft area, the Browncroft Merchants Neighborhood Association is asking all dog owners to please be more considerate of their neighbor and their neighbor's property by obeying the leash law. The leash law is a Law and just as important as any other law that is passed in our city. It is not just a request which we might comply with if it is convenient for us and our pets.

We know that it is unbelievable to some dog owners that other people exist who do not share their love and trust of animals, children and even some older people who are afraid of bounding and barking dogs and property owners who resent the desecration of their lawns after putting in so many hours of hard work. However, these people have their rights too -- to safety on their own streets, quiet privacy in the late and early hours and respect for their property. Defying the leash law is a serious infringement on the rights of your neighbor.

There is no excuse for breaking this or any law or teaching your children to break the law. We ask you to be a responsible citizen -- for the safety of your own pet as well -- and we urge your cooperation and your thoughtful consideration in this pressing matter.

It is only with complete fairness and regard for each other's feelings and by doing our utmost not to create ill-will that we can all live in a beautiful, peaceful and happy neighborhood.

If you are having problems with strays, call the City Dog Pound (232 - 6265). The Pound will respond to all calls reporting licensed and unlicensed dogs running loose, injured dogs, and barking dogs.

A committee will be organized by individuals who feel the neighborhood dogs are a nuisance of substantial proportion to warrant approaching legislators and officials in an effort to encourage better enforcement through increasing the Animal Control personnel.

If you are of this same conviction and would like to work on this committee call Kay Melnyk ( 288 - 7476 ).

SIDEWALK REPAIRS

Though City Council is discussing a change in the municipal code in regard to sidewalk repairs, the following is as it stands presently. Regardless of the fact that private property lines fall short of the sidewalk, the property owner is responsible for maintaining the land in front up to the curb. This includes sidewalks. Because the property owner is responsible for these grounds, he is liable if any individual is injured on them. If damaged sidewalks come to the attention of a city inspector, the owner is given notice and has a time limit of twenty-one (21) days to fix the potential hazard. To do this, a private contractor must be engaged at the expense of the property owner. If the sidewalk is not attended to within a reasonable time the city will fix it and attach the cost to the property tax bill.

Anyone ambitious enough to tackle the sidewalk repair themself must remember to:

- 1) Obtain a work permit from the Department of Public Works
- 2) Use concrete only.

For sidewalks damaged by tree roots of a city planted tree or by a city plough contact in writing: Commissioner Edward Watson, Department of Public Works, Public Safety Building, Civic Center Plaza, Plymouth Avenue S., Rochester, New York 24614.

SPRING CLEAN UP STARTS SOON

The Association and the DPW are in communication for SPRING CLEAN UP PLANNING in this area. The next Newsletter will be devoted entirely to: SPRING CLEAN UP.....

NOMINATIONS FOR MAY ELECTION OF ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Phil Grannan, 100 Elmcroft Road (288 - 2952, as Nominations Chairperson would be pleased to accept nominations from the neighborhood to hold the following offices: PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, TREASURER, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, RECORDING SECRETARY.

DON'T BE SHY... DON'T BE MOST.... Nominate yourself or a neighbor!!!!

\* \* \* \* \* BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION \* \* \* \* \*

This fourth of July, the Association would like to have a Neighborhood Get-Together AND CELEBRATE... Just what style of celebration is left to you, the Resident, to suggest. Thinking in terms of a PICNIC we would greatly appreciate any product of your imagination, experience in picnic organizing, or enthusiasm to be shared with the Planning Committee. Personnel to work at this positive and neighborly endeavor is also besought. CONTACT YOUR STREET REPRESENTATIVE BY PHONE OR TEAR OFF THE FORM BELOW.

----- ✂  
MY IDEA FOR A NEIGHBORHOOD BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION:

---



---



---



---



---

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

I would be willing to work on the BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION /