

Town Council Approves \$1 Million Bond Issue

Town Council approved a \$1 million bond issue for several public improvement projects, including \$420,000 appropriated for storm drainage projects throughout the town.

The town will pay back the bond beginning 1978 with \$50,000 per year on the principal until 1988 when the payment is increased to \$100,000 annually. The payment does not include interest, which would vary depending on the interest rate the town gets from this issue. Council indicated that it would not accept bond money with an interest rate of 5 percent or higher. The rate will probably be somewhere around 4.9 percent.

Improvements to the storm drainage system will get the bulk of the borrowed funds. Some \$388,000 will be appropriated to street improvements and traffic lights, \$94,000 for acquisition of park land, \$58,000 for two additional water wells and \$40,000 to screen the Nutley Road property yard in northwest Vienna.

No tax increase is anticipated for the repayment of the bonds. Funds that are not immediately used will be placed in interest yielding accounts earning a higher interest than the borrowed rate. Future Federal Revenue Sharing allocations will also help in the initial repayment of the issue.

The issue will be the first bond issue approved by Council since 1966. Council expects this issue to cover projects over the next 10 years.

None of the projects for which money is earmarked are final. Council will consider each project individually before it is let to contract. Some of the proposed expenditures may not be approved when they are before Council for final consideration.

The bonds will not go on sale until Council takes one last look at the issue. Final sale will be pending until Council learns the town's bond rating, the interest rate, the exact retirement schedule and approves a copy of the prospectus.

Approval of the bond issue concludes several months of pre-

paration by the Council. Every project included in the issue was the subject of on-site inspections by each Councilman.

Originally a \$1.75 million bond issue was considered but was trimmed down after two street projects were dropped, some storm drainage projects and a \$250,000 contingency fund were eliminated.

In addition to the 10 storm drainage projects that are being proposed, other projects "earmarked" include \$200,000 for the town's share to improve Park Street, \$35,000 for improvements already made to Church Street, \$44,000 for the curve adjustment near Sharon Lane on Lawyers Road and \$45,000 for acquisition of the Vepco right-of-way between the Old Railroad Station and Church Street for park purposes.

Council Action

Results of Town Council's meeting of December 6, 1976.

* Requested continued surveillance by the town of noise levels in the industrial zone along Mill Street. Requested cooperation among business owners in order to reduce irritating noise.

* Authorized town manager to obtain price estimate from John Keegan Associates to provide town with advice and schematic plan to minimize the noise from the police pistol range in the Northside Park.

* Voted to continue present water and sewer billing rates, but asked town manager to provide cost figures and revenue impact if excessive use charge was reduced by \$1 and if excessive use charges were computed using an average of four quarters instead of just the winter quarter.

* Requested from the state, approval for the installation of traffic lights at Tapawingo and Nutley Roads. Price of installation would have to be borne by the town. Price estimates are being obtained.

(Continued on address panel)

Council Action . . .

(Continued from inside)

* Adopted Vienna Highway Safety Commission's recommendations that no intersections in town should be restricted from "right on-red turn after stop."

* Asked town manager to develop price estimates for the installation of "walking lights" for pedestrians at Maple Avenue intersections.

Results of Town Council's meeting of December 20, 1976:

* Mayor Robinson announced that the newly formed Vienna Interclub Council has agreed to work out a sister city program with Vienna, W. Va.

* Approved resolution suggesting a charter amendment that would clarify some language in the chapter concerning Architectural Control Districts. No one spoke at the public hearing, held prior to the decision.

* Vacated a small portion of Peterson Lane.

* Took no action on vacating a part of right-of-way on Lawyers Road as requested by George Hobson.

* Adopted an ordinance that is aimed at reducing construction related accidents to utility lines.

* Deferred action on a cleanup program in the industrial zone along Mill Street until January 17.

* Reappointed Gerald W. Miller to the Vienna Highway Safety Commission for the year 1977. Also reappointed were Charles Appleby and Richard Fisher to terms ending January 1, 1978; Wilburn Compton, Lois Kirchschlager, Rodger Seeman, Hector Allen of the Department of Public Works and Sgt. Zed Childress of the Vienna Police Department to terms ending January 1, 1979.

* Took no action to intervene in Fairfax City's suit against the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

* Authorized Mayor Robinson to file such additional evidence with the Federal Aviation Administration as he feels appropriate relative to the opening of Dulles Access Road to commuter traffic. (Herndon joins Vienna. See update on page one.)

Town of Vienna

NEWSLETTER

Vol. LXXXVII, No. 1

Vienna, Virginia

January 1977

Emergency Water Ordinance Proposed

The Town Council will consider an ordinance January 17 that could fine people who use water for "nonessential" purposes during emergency water shortage alerts.

The penalty, a maximum of \$250 and 30 days in jail, could be imposed on violators of the proposed ordinance.

"Nonessential" uses of water include sprinkling of lawns and gardens, washing automobiles, washing sidewalks and driveways, operation of ornamental fountains, filling swimming pools and other related uses.

The ordinance is being proposed in view of the water shortages

during the hot summer months. A few times last summer town officials had to request residents to stop all nonessential uses of water when the water level in the town's storage tanks was too low. Neighborhoods in the higher elevations went with low water pressure, and in some cases, no water at all, during some dry periods last summer. The ordinance was suggested by the City of Falls Church, the town's main supplier of wholesale water. The ordinance is a model ordinance from the Council of Governments.

According to provisions in the ordinance, Falls Church water officials would initiate the ban on nonessential uses of water by declaring an emergency alert. Town officials would then be responsible for informing town water customers that an emergency alert is in effect. The water alert would be announced through the local media.

In addition to a fine and possible jail sentence, the town could also suspend water service or curtail service. Appeals could be made to an appeals board.

The ordinance also includes a set of water conservation requirements for builders. The requirements limit the amount of water that could be used for certain plumbing functions.

Herndon Joins Vienna Effort

Vienna has gained the support of the Town of Herndon in the town's effort to get the Dulles Access Road open to non-airport traffic.

Herndon's town council voted 6-1 on December 28 to intervene along with Vienna in a request to the FAA by the President's Council on Wage and Price Stability which has called for the opening of the road.

Interclub Council

Mayor Charles Robinson, right, looks over future plans with, from left, Bob Dix Jr., John Nunziata and Mike Marsden, all of the Jaycees, for future projects by the newly formed Vienna Interclub Council. The Council is made up of members from other civic organizations. For details of the Council's activities contact Nunziata at 938-4260.



Vienna Town Hall
127 Center Street, South
Vienna, Virginia 22180

NEWSLETTER

Mayor
Charles A. Robinson, Jr.

Council

E. Ross Buckley
Raymond E. Hicks
Vincent J. Olson

Wanda C. Pellicciotto
Donald E. Upchurch
Neil M. Walp

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Comment from the Council Table:

'Where the Action Is'

By E. Ross Buckley
Vienna Town Councilman

Readers Digest reports that a salesman, flying into a town, and having no plans for the evening, hailed a taxi and asked to be taken to "where the action is." Whereupon the driver deposited him at the town hall where the town council was about to meet.

I make no claim that the Vienna Town Council meetings rise to the level of great entertainment. But what the Town Council does on almost every Monday night affects your well being and the quality of your day-to-day living. Observation of what it does ought to be a matter of primary concern to every Vienna citizen.

The Town Council can--and does--levy taxes, incur bonded indebtedness, which your taxes will pay, and directs such activities as street improvement and repairs, parks and recreation, traffic controls, trash and garbage collection, water and sewer service, and, probably most importantly, police protection. Through its ordinance-making powers, it creates zoning ordinances, traffic laws, and building and safety codes. All of these affect you.

This business, which the Town Council conducts, takes place on the first and third Mondays of every month. The other Mondays usually are taken up by hearings: changes in zoning, proposed ordinances or amendments to ordinances on such subjects as the annual budget, issuance of bonds, tax rates, sewer and water rates, even the location and permitted height of fences. In a very true sense the Town Council meetings are "where the action is." What is more, the "action" is of the kind you can participate in.

Town Council has always been most eager to hear the views of the town's citizens on every issue that comes before it. Time is allotted at the beginning of each meeting to hear any communications of citizens. Time will be permitted to any citizen present to speak either for or against each agenda item as it is called. In fact, it is the practice of the Mayor to call up those agenda items first for which interested citizens are present. The Town Code permits any citizen to propose an ordinance or resolution and present it to the Town Manager for inclusion



E. Ross Buckley
Vienna Town Councilman

on the Council agenda. As you can see, not only does the Council's action deeply affect you, but the Council wants your participation in its deliberations.

Why, then, are our town's Council meetings so sparsely attended? Last month, after due notice as required by our Code, and broad publicity in the press as well as through the Vienna Newsletter, the Town Council held an open hearing on a proposed bond issue of \$1.75 million which would require the allocation of some \$200,000 per year of the town's revenues to pay out the bonded debt. About 50 citizens, out of a population of 17,450 attended. By and large, Council meetings are attended by an average of only 20 to 30 persons. Considering the effect of the matters on each citizen and property owner, this statistic is disturbing. Granted, what we discuss is not as glamorous as what transpires in the halls of Congress or the General Assembly; nor are the amounts with which we deal as astronomical.

A "man on the street" interview was conducted on the question of who made the important decisions in the family.

"I do," the man replied. "I let my wife make the little decisions, but I make the important ones. She decides where we're going on our vacation, whether we can afford a new car, what kind of refrigerator to buy. Little things like that."

"And what decisions do you make?"

"I decide whether we should attack inflation or unemployment, whether we should retaliate against any OPEC rise in oil prices, whether we should go back on the gold standard. You know, really important things."

The importance of things, and our ability to handle them, is after all, relative. We can and should be concerned about a national budget of \$400 billion. The trouble is, that much money is hard for most of us to visualize. Virginia's projected short-fall of \$118 million is more easily grasped. But a bond payment equal to a property tax of 15 cents on each \$100 of assessed valuation is something each of us can understand. The average citizen can feel strongly about a national policy or goal, but chances are he feels helpless to assert any influence.

Why not take the opportunity to make your voice heard at the level where it will have an effect?

Why can't we--Council, Town Manager, and Vienna's citizens, together--work to get a better interest in, and better attendance at, our town meetings?

Is there some way to prevail on our local civic associations to sponsor, in rotation, a "Town Hall Night" on the first and third Mondays of each month, publicizing the Council meeting, and providing coffee and cookies in the lobby?

Can the Council amend its sign ordinance to permit a banner across Maple Avenue reminding the citizens of the meeting?

Can the Town Manager provide a few more comfortable benches in the ante-chamber for those who want to step out of the Council Chamber for a break?...and sound proof the Chamber doors?

Can the Council provide funds for a few rows of more comfortable chairs for those hardy souls who will stay late? Can Council and Town Manager reach an accommodation providing for an earlier publication of the agenda?

Can the citizens find one or two Monday nights per year to attend the Council meetings, at least through a few of the agenda items?

This is New Year's Resolution time. Let's all make a resolution to do something about citizen attendance and participation in Vienna's Council sessions during 1977.

To all of you I wish a Happy and Prosperous New Year. See you "where the action is!"

Town Now Has Its Own Dog Control Program

The Town of Vienna and Fairfax County have negotiated a preliminary agreement concerning dog control in the Vienna corporate limits. The agreement is pending final approval by Town Council on January 17.

Beginning the first day of the new year Vienna will have been enforcing its own dog control measures. Dog tags, once payable to Fairfax County, will now be available from the Town of Vienna. License fees remain the same, \$5.



A dog warden/park patrolman was recently hired by the town to enforce dog ordinances inside Vienna. The patrolman, under the supervision of the Parks and Recreation Department, but working in cooperation with the Vienna Police Department, will help ease the vandalism problem in the town's parks besides controlling the dog population.

The agreement with Fairfax County provides the town with the use of the Fairfax County Dog Pound and its facilities. According to the proposed agreement, all animals impounded by the Vienna dog warden will be sheltered by the county and will receive inoculations, food, veterinary services and other routine boarding care given to dogs. Vienna residents redeeming impounded animals from the shelter will pay normal charges. The town needed to negotiate an

agreement for use of the pound facility since it is starting its own dog control program.

The town's program will be emphasizing owner cooperation in the enforcement of the dog ordinances. Owners will, in most cases, be given warnings before legal action is taken or before any dog is impounded.

(This article is being printed prior to final approval of an agreement with Fairfax County. Should Council nix the agreement, then all dog control jurisdiction will be turned back over to Fairfax County.)

Tags Are Back!

For town residents who preferred the metal license tags there is good news.

The town's 1977 automobile registrations will be available in two forms--a metal license plate which fits below the state registration plate and windshield stickers.

The metal tag was abandoned last year when a buying survey in 1975 indicated that residents preferred the windshield sticker 2-to-1. Last year only windshield stickers were used as the town automobile registration.

Those favoring metal tags cite the good advertisement they give Vienna and claim it is one way to demonstrate pride in the town. Sticker lovers claim the windshield tags are more convenient and easier to install.

Registrations will go on sale March 15. Registration forms will be sent to each household in February. Fees are \$15 for automobiles under 4,000 pounds and \$20 for automobiles 4,000 pounds and heavier. Military personnel, who do not claim Virginia as their home-of-record, may purchase registrations in person for \$1.

CLD Class Set

The Parks and Recreation Department will conduct, beginning February 5, a special recreation program for children with learning disabilities.

The course will continue 15 Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Fee is \$35.

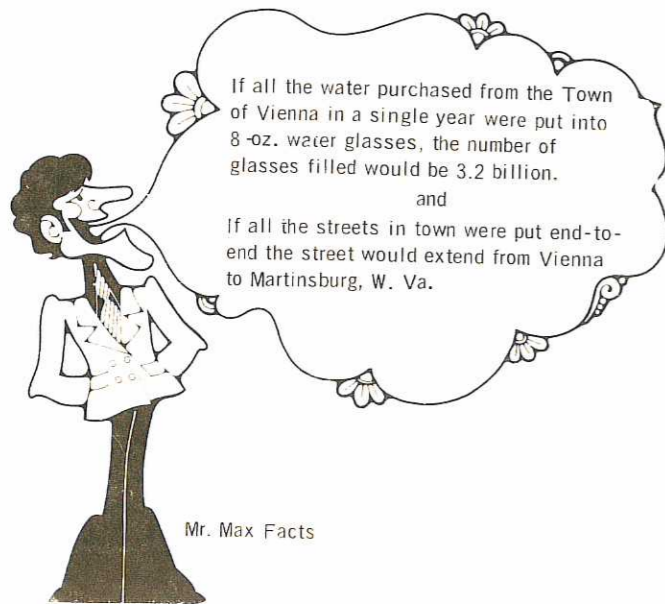
The program is designed to aid children in social development, peer interaction, self confidence, and fine and gross motor skills. The program is open to children of pre-school age through junior high school. Activities include games, arts, crafts, music drama and dance as well as use of the trampoline and other physical activities in the gymnasium.

Director of the program is Terri Kent who has a degree in special education from the University of Virginia. Volunteers are needed to work with the children. Those interested should contact Miss Kent at the Community Center, 938-8000.

Skateboards...

Parents are reminded that skateboards can be very dangerous when they are misused.

As a matter of fact, on many occasions they are being used illegally according to the Police Department. It is unlawful, according to police, to play in the street...and many children are playing in the streets with their skateboards. Last month a Fairfax County boy was killed when he misused his skateboard.



If all the water purchased from the Town of Vienna in a single year were put into 8-oz. water glasses, the number of glasses filled would be 3.2 billion,
and

If all the streets in town were put end-to-end the street would extend from Vienna to Martinsburg, W. Va.

Mr. Max Facts

(Continued from front)

ing in the intersection before completing this turn.

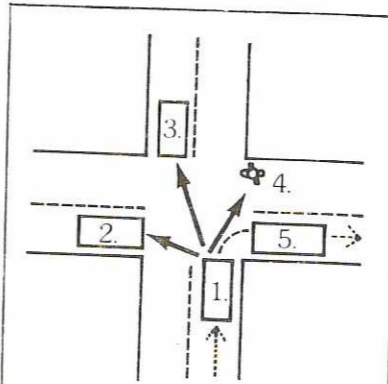
The outline boxed at the right lists five easy steps to use when complying with the new state law.

In another traffic concern, the October 1976 traffic accident report from the Vienna Police Department shows a marked increase in accidents in 1976 over 1975. From January until October there were 272 reported traffic accidents and 113 personal injuries on Vienna's streets. The figure for the same months in 1975 is 243 reported accidents and 73 injuries.

With the increased traffic on town streets, brought on by many factors, it is the responsibility of each of us to drive more cautiously and be more courteous in order to reduce traffic accidents. The police department, when asked what they considered to be the main causes of accidents, reported that chief causes were:

1. Failure of drivers to obey traffic signs and signals, and
2. Failure of drivers to operate their vehicle in a courteous manner with consideration for other drivers and pedestrians.

This, of course, not only applies to driving on town streets, but within town shopping centers as well.

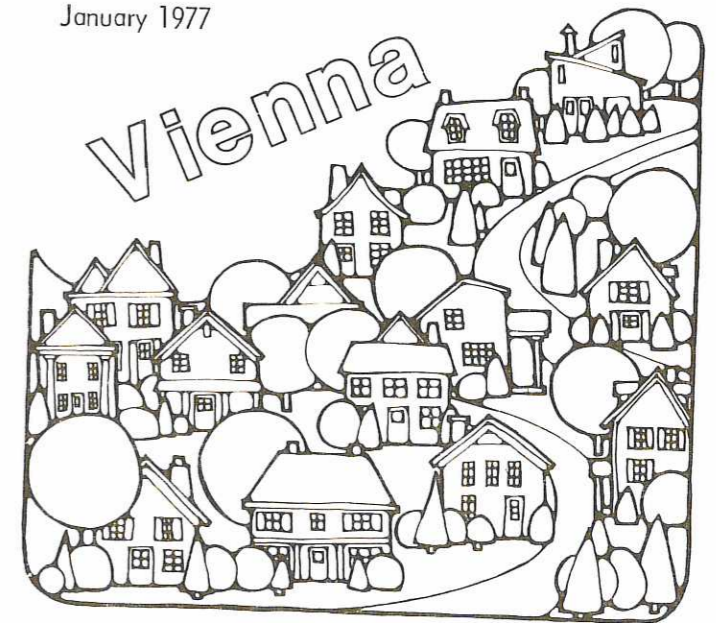


Five Easy Steps to Use Right-Turn-on-Red Law

1. Come to a complete stop at the red light. When behind another turning vehicle, never proceed without first coming to a complete stop.
2. Check to see that no cars are coming from the left.
3. Check to see that no cars are turning on an advance green light across the intersection from you.
4. Make sure there are no pedestrians crossing the intersection.
5. If there are no cars or pedestrians in the roadway, turn right and go on your way.

Remember,
you must yield to all cars
and pedestrians.

January 1977



Events and Happenings in the Town of Vienna

Right-on-Red: Exercise Care

While right-on-red turns after stop have been legal in Vienna, it is relatively new almost everywhere else in Virginia and the hazards such a privilege poses should be reiterated.

Beginning the first day of 1977 right-on-red turns, after coming to a complete stop, were made legal at all Virginia intersections unless otherwise marked. Now that this special privilege is statewide your Vienna Highway Safety Commission wants to remind you of a few important precautions.

This new Virginia law, adopted to help drivers save time and gas, and to comply with the Uniform Vehicle Code (most states now permit right turns on red), will affect all drivers and pedestrians. Therefore, with the safety of all citizens in mind the Highway Safety Commission urges each driver to use extreme caution when observing this new law. Watch closely for oncoming traffic when making a "right turn on red"--then look to your right to assure yourself that no pedestrian is cross-

(Continued on back)

Mayor Looks at the Year Ahead

(This interview with Mayor Robinson was printed in the "Northern Virginia Sun" on December 30. It is being reprinted with the permission of its author, Sun Staff Writer Carl Hilinski.)

While many large jurisdictions in the state will be spending their time trying to solve fiscal woes caused by Virginia's projected \$118 million deficit, Vienna will be moving ahead in 1977 rather than being bogged down playing catch-up financial ball.

In an interview with the *Northern Virginia Sun*, Mayor Charles A. Robinson Jr., indicated there are more important issues to be faced next year than worrying about potential losses in state revenue.

That loss to localities could come if one of Gov. Godwin's suggestions for recouping the projected deficit wins approval in the upcoming session of the General Assembly.

The governor has proposed that state school aid to jurisdictions be cut by 7.5 per cent and that the share of the state sales tax returned to localities be reduced by 30 per cent.

Robinson said he could not predict what such revenue cuts would mean to Vienna's finances, but he added the town would be in better shape than other jurisdictions.

"That will reduce some of the revenue, but the town will not be hurt as bad as other primary jurisdictions in the state," he said.

Robinson is looking forward to 1977 as a year in which the town will begin making necessary improvements in municipal services as well as cleaning up the town.

The town has a package of storm drainage, street, water system and appearance improvements waiting to be started in 1977.

The Town Council recently approved the sale of \$1 million in bonds to finance these projects.

Robinson said improvements at the town's property yard, where Vienna vehicles and equipment are stored, should be a priority item from the package of improvements.

Calling it an eyesore, Robinson said, "We need to do something about (improving) it."

He also said he hopes the town can "get a start on (reducing) the traffic on Maple Avenue" by either having

the Dulles Access road opened or getting a bypass North of Vienna.

The Dulles road is a federally-owned highway built for airport traffic only.

However, he added, "We don't want to impact the residents of that area."

The town has been seeking a bypass around Vienna for years but has never been able to get support from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

Robinson also said he would like to begin a townwide trash and cleanup program in 1977 to "clean and maintain Vienna at a better level than it is now."

He commented that such a program would require a sense of community responsibility to make it work, and possibly volunteer organizations in town would be willing to help.

Along the same lines, Robinson said he hopes the town can begin restoring the Jeremiah Moore house, a historic home isolated on Nutley Road.

That house was deeded to the town when it approved a subdivision rezoning for the property surrounding the home, and the Mayor said he "hopes to get some federal funds to do the restoration."

Prospective developers will probably see no change in the Town Council's strong stand on large business and townhouse developments in Vienna.

Although he said the town "realizes the need for a vigorous, healthy and profitable business community," Robinson added the Council will continue its "resistance to expansion of commercial property and large blocks of townhouses."

"This Council is against intensifying land use," he said.

Asked what the town's biggest achievement was during 1976, the Mayor said it was the "reestablishing of a sense of community cohesiveness after a divisive mayoral campaign, in May."

During the May election, which filled three Council seats and the mayoral position, the two candidates for mayor ran a close race with Robinson winning by four per cent to clinch the top elected town post.

The Mayor also listed as one of the town's important accomplishments the completion of renovations on the Freeman House, a historic home on Church Street owned by Vienna.

The town put more than \$200,000 into the house to restore it. The Freeman House is leased by the town to Historic Vienna, Inc., a non-profit organization which will operate the home.

Finally Robinson said another major accomplishment of the town was the approval of selling \$1 million in bonds to do a number of public works projects.

That bond issue was originally listed at \$1.75 million but the Council cut out two projects--the extension of Mill Street and the widening of Beulah Road. Both of those projects received no popular support from the community, he said.

The bond issue, which was passed by the Council by a unanimous vote, was called a "milestone" by Robinson, who said it was the first bond sale in 10 years.

January 1977

15--Vienna Woman's Club Health Fair at the Community Center.

17--Town Council meeting at Town Hall, 8 p.m.

19--Newspaper Pickup Day.

Board of Zoning Appeals meeting at Town Hall, 8 p.m. (Application submitted by Molly Jenkins of 1000 Park Street SE for variance renewal to store and sell firewood at residence.)

20--Board of Architectural Review meeting at Town Hall, 8 p.m.

22--Pigtail-Ponytail registration at Community Center, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and YVS Soccer registration at Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

25--Vienna Highway Safety Commission meeting at Town Hall, 7:30 p.m.

26--Planning Commission meeting at Town Hall, 8 p.m.

29-30--Northern Virginia Coin and Stamp Show at the Community Center.

February 1977

2--Newspaper Pickup Day.

5--VYS Soccer registration at Community Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

5-6--Little League Baseball registration at Community Center, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday.

7--Town Council meeting at Town Hall, 8 p.m.

8--Mayor's Advisory Committee meeting at Town Hall, 8 p.m.

9--Planning Commission meeting at Town Hall, 8 p.m.
