

Speed Incinerator Job, Report Urges Livonia

The Incinerator Feasibility Report for Livonia has been brought up to date and submitted to the Municipal Incinerator Authority, the City Council and Mayor Harvey W. Moelle.

The study of Stollwagen-D'Clemente & Mow, Inc., Detroit, the report recommends that Livonia lose no time in preparing for its future needs.

An incinerator to carry 600 tons of waste a day, at the construction cost of \$4,500 a ton, would require expenditure of \$2,640,000. But the city said, for 800 tons, said Robert Stollwagen, Jr., whose father was an authority on incinerators and established the firm.

ALONG WITH the report came a bill for the second payment of \$14,040—a similar amount having been paid Aug. 4. The contract called for payment of 20 per cent of the estimated fee, based on 5.2 per cent of the \$2,640,000. If the incinerator is built, the firm's total fee would be \$140,400. David L. Jones, assistant director of public works and in charge of the city's rubbish and garbage collection and disposal problem, declared the report to be "a very good approach and analysis." Jones has been backing the incinerator plan for years.

The City Council, in renewing its collection and disposal contract this fall, also ordered a speed-up on the incinerator report. It was suggested that Livonia and Plymouth, perhaps others, join in an incinerator authority.

He suggested that within 10 years the authority could include Westford Township, Plymouth Township, Northville and Northville Township. The community, he said, needs a master plan to include disposal of burnable and non-burnable waste. More landfill also would be needed for burial of ash, but the reduction would extend the life of the dumpsite.

The committee includes Robert A. Shaw, director of the Department of Public Works; Councilmen Peter A. Ventura and Edward H. McNamara; City building inspector Frank Kerby, John Kaiser and Darold Jennings.

IF WORK WERE begun soon, Shaw told the Council recently, it would require two or three

years to complete an incinerator—or about the life of the present contract with the Commercial Removal Co., which has handled pickup and dump for eight years.

"There's always a crisis in the garbage-rubbish program," Jones said, adding that for health and sanitation reasons it is a vital service, and costly. Jones said the report revealed that 80 per cent of commercial and industrial concerns answered a questionnaire sent by Stollwagen, because of their interest in the disposal problem. They pay a collection tax, but because of limitations

cannot use city trucks or the city dump. A dozen private contractors haul waste away. One factory here pays about \$400 a day for trucking.

A summary of the report said: "The present refuse production in Livonia is apparently 400 tons a day. By 1974, this figure will have increased to 595 tons. In 1980, the production will be 770 tons. The erection of a single disposal facility at the present landfill site will adequately serve the present and future needs of the City of Livonia. A total future capacity on a 6-day week basis of 800 tons should service the ultimate

needs of the City of Livonia. "It is not necessary nor recommended that an 800 ton plant be erected at this time. It is only necessary that provisions be made for future additions to bring the plant up to 800 ton capacity.

"The optimum individual furnace capacity for an ultimate 800 ton plant is 200 tons. Smaller individual furnaces are uneconomical and larger furnaces would result in too great a reduction in capacity in the event of furnace shut down for repairs.

"It must be recognized that a reasonable plant completion

date if design were to proceed immediately, would be some time in 1969 or early 1970. By 1970, the total refuse production will be close to 500 tons per day.

"In the light of the preceding, the construction of a 600 ton plant would serve the City of Livonia's needs until the year 1976. Construction of a 400 ton plant at this time would be foolhardy as by the time construction is completed the refuse production will have exceeded 400 tons.

"It is estimated that the construction costs for a 600 ton plant would be approximately

\$2,640,000. The above construction costs and the costs indicated in the table are based on the continuous flow reciprocating grate furnaces, each with a capacity of 200 tons when operated (as recommended) 24 hours per day.

"The first cost of a rotary kiln furnace plant would be approximately \$200,000 higher. A batch feed plant would cost approximately \$3,000,000. The operating costs of a rotary kiln would be higher due to increased maintenance. A batch feed plant would operate for a slightly lower per ton cost. Tables

indicate the operating costs per ton of a 600 ton plant for the years 1969 and 1975-76. "The capital costs indicated in the tables are based on a yearly interest rate of 4% at 20 years. Labor charges were established from present Livonia rates for the personnel indicated in a table. Electrical and water charges were computed from current rates.

"Agitating grate furnaces are recommended as the most satisfactory compromise of agreeable and disagreeable characteristics of continuous flow furnaces. "Based on the report pre-

pared by the Department of Public Works, it appears that the present Livonia ordinances are sufficient authority to erect and maintain an incinerator plant. It is anticipated that funds for payment of capital and operating charges will be obtained from the present waste disposal millage and adjustments thereto.

"Considering the foregoing, we recommend that the City of Livonia proceed immediately to commission the design and construction of an incinerator plant to be located at the site of the present landfill and that said plant be 600 ton capacity.

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Sides With Vets

Councilmen reversed themselves to ask the legislature for a better break for senior citizens and disabled war veterans who are losing tax exemptions through increased state equalized valuation.

The vote was 6 to 1 with Councilman Harold Kleinert dissenting.

Councilman Edward Milligan sought reconsideration of the defeated resolution to the legislature. The 3-2 vote earlier was changed when Councilmen Edward McNamara and Jerry Raymond changed to back it.

MICHIGAN'S increase in equalized valuation raised the value of more than 150 pieces of property beyond \$10,000, thus depriving senior citizens and veterans of homestead tax exemptions then in effect.

The Livonia resolution asked the legislature to raise the breaking point from \$10,000 to \$15,000 of equalized valuation and the permissible income for the property owner to \$6,000 for senior citizens and \$8,500 for disabled veterans.


John Hibik told the council his home had been assessed for \$8,000, or 50 per cent of its \$16,000 value. The state raised the assessment to \$10,800, depriving him of the exemption.

"It wasn't the city's action," said Council President Peter A. Ventura. "It was increased by the state and I'd suggest you all write to your legislators and your senator."

Councilman Robert Nash added: "The council has no jurisdiction over the matter we can only make a suggestion to the legislature."

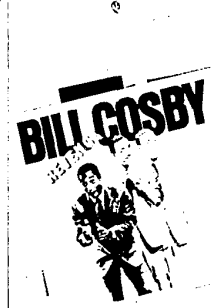
"Henry C. Buckley, president of one of five senior citizen units in Livonia, said that incidences of retirees were fixed years ago, that they remain frozen while the cost of living soars.

"A LOT OF THEM are trying to get along on less than \$300 a month," he said. "We don't have any union. You people are our only union."



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