

The reason for the low proposed increase was the potential loss of the utility user's tax. That did not stop management raises. The police, working for two month without a contract, convinced the council that a 5% raise with increased medical and education benefits were reasonable. Next year, police will receive a cost of living of 2% to 5%. For stalling so long - GRADE F. For realizing the need to move forward - GRADE B.

HP DOWNSIZING - Hewlett Packard was one of the "makers of Roseville's boom". Layoffs in Roseville to relocate functions is not good for Roseville. If behind the scenes negotiations took place to avert job losses, the public should have been informed of those discussions. For not keeping the public informed - GRADE C.

ROSEVILLE PROPOSES ELECTRIC PLANT - The 900 megawatt ENRON power plant died with the ENRON scandal. Roseville, sensing future power shortages, seized the opportunity and proposed its own (160 megawatt) plant. A good idea and to be financed by electric ratepayers. There are concerns: pollution, traffic, adequate natural gas, and insufficient recycled water. There may be other concerns, but for now - GRADE A-

TRAIL OF MONEY - According to articles in The Press-Tribune and FOREfront (March-May 2003), Theresa McInnes has uncovered a trail of excessive spending by the city council and city staff. In a year-long-painstaking examination of city records she has shown expenditures and reimbursements of council and staff members that are not acceptable and reasonable according to the city's guide on expenses. This is the kind of government operation that the Placer County Grand Jury should investigate. GRADE F.

ROSEVILLE'S LEGAL DECISIONS STINK - You would think that after losing two court cases in Placer County Superior Court (In-Lieu Franchise Fee and Utility User's Tax) the city council would not want to spend more taxpayers money trying to prove they are "right". The council then approved two appeals and a California Supreme Court appeal, and lost. Topping that bad legal advise, they entered with Rocklin and Citizens for a Safer Community to close down Thunder Valley Indian Casino - not once, but twice - losing both times with a court threatened hefty fine for possible frivolous suits. Then along came a Contempt of Court for illegally collecting the In-Lieu Franchise Fee - and lost there. Now, add Big Shots to this list. Time for better legal advise. GRADE F.

PUBLIC ROSEVILLE AMBULANCE SERVICE - American Medical Response presently provides ambulance service in Roseville and without complaint. The Fire Chief proposes two ambulances be located at fire stations to capture 50% of ambulance calls. First year cost would be \$575,000, escalating to \$612,650 the fourth year. Capturing 30%, the general fund would pony up \$472,000. Smells like the fitness center debacle. GRADE F.

ENWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVED - Enwood, an older neighborhood along Atlantic Street, was developed without sidewalks. The city used part of a federal block grant to complete the needed project. Since Enwood is in the redevelopment district other improvements would be welcomed. GRADE A.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT - When a councilmember resigns, the council has the right to appoint a replacement. However, it would seem proper to look at candidates who ran in the last election. If a candidate had received thousands of votes (next highest vote), but a seat was not available, that candidate should be appointed. In the appointment of John Allard, he was not a candidate, but Jack Wallace was. GRADE C.

ROSEVILLE COMMUNITY STANDARDS & VISIONING COMMITTEE - Of 30 people appointed, only one member gives an opposing view. It is unfortunate that when asked to allow opposing views by "the other side" a member blurted out "we don't want to hear them", besides they don't attend the meetings. The group is the second push to revive the utility user's tax. Remember, only 7% told the city to keep the tax. GRADE D.

ONE-ROOT FESTIVAL - By working with the community's cultural diversity group the city made it possible for the One-Root Festival to be a success. GRADE A.

TRAFFIC NIGHTMARE - Designating 42 traffic intersection to operate at a Level of Service D the city has downgraded the general plan which calls for all intersections to be at Level of Service C or better. The lame excuse was that developers were promised they could build and if the intersections were not reclassified they could not build. Too bad. What about the residents who find it harder to get around town. GRADE F.

"The greatest danger for most of us lies not in setting our aim too high and falling short, but in setting our aim too low, and achieving our mark." Michelangelo