

Council approves assessment roll for parking district

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5/4/78

The assessment roll for the Rapid City Downtown Parking District was approved during the regular council meeting Monday.

Property within the district is being assessed 48.6 cents per square foot of land area to raise approximately \$500,000 with which to provide off-street parking. The district will help finance six parking projects including the purchase and construction of four lots

and the remodeling of two existing city-owned lots.

The council also approved a resolution providing for the issuance and sale of parking facility bonds and named the Allison-Williams Co. of Minneapolis as fiscal agent to handle the sale.

Only two major property owners offered any objection to the assessment roll. Nick Didier, owner of the Tip Top Motel and Red Lion Lounge, said he is not opposed to the purpose of the parking district but said he feels he is being

assessed unfairly when he provides his own off-street parking.

With 28,000 square feet of land, Didier is being assessed one of the largest single amounts.

Mayor Art LaCroix noted that even though Didier does provide off-street parking, he has to park in the county courthouse lot many times when he attends meetings at the Tip Top.

John Morrison, owner of Motor Service Co. at the corner of Fourth and St. Joseph, reminded the council he had turned in petitions signed by property

owners showing "a majority in our block is against it."

Alderman Robb Swanson called attention to Motor Service Co. using the Fourth Street right-of-way for storing vehicles.

Property owners will have 30 days in which to pay the assessment in full without interest. Any unpaid installments, which can be spread over a 10-year period, will bear interest at 7 percent annually.

Deadline for the payment in full is May 4, 1978.