

REQUEST FOR
AUTHORIZATION
FOR COMPUTER
NEEDS STUDY

City Manager Graves introduced Agenda item K-7 - "Authorize Computer Needs Study" apprising the Council that presently, the City of Lodi has an IBM System/34 computer in operation. All of the existing data processing applications are Finance Department related, such as: utility billing, payroll, general ledgers, accounts payable, appropriations,

Several other departments in the City have requested new data processing services and, in some cases, employees have even brought in their own micro computers to establish independent information systems that are needed. In the past year the City has also invested in word processors to supplement its centralized data processing equipment.

With the increasing requests for information systems, the investments the City has in additional data processing equipment and the rapidly advancing technology, the real concern is to see to it that the City establish an organized, long-range information system plan.

It is felt that it is essential to develop, through departmental interviews, a list of data processing information requirements. Priorities would have to be established based upon the following: information to be provided to the public, information to be provided to staff and cost savings to the City. It would also be necessary to determine the need for the use of micro or personal computers as to whether they be interconnected to the City's mainframe computer or be a stand alone unit based upon the data base of the information system.

City Manager Graves indicated that Finance Director Robert Holm has invited the City's independent audit firm of Ernst and Whinney to prepare a proposal to accomplish these objectives. Ernst and Whinney has performed the annual audits of the City's records since 1976 and are not only thoroughly familiar with the City's financial transactions but also have audited the City's data processing operations each and every year. In their proposal Ernst and Whinney plans to use their most qualified data processing personnel

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A very lengthy discussion followed with questions being directed to Staff.

Mayor Pro Tempore Snider then moved to authorize the auditing firm of Ernst and Whinney to conduct a Computer Needs Study within the City of Lodi at a cost not to exceed \$12,300. The motion was seconded by Mayor Olson but failed to carry by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members - Snider and Olson (Mayor)

Noes: Council Members - Murphy and Pinkerton

Absent: Council Members - Reid

Following additional discussion, Mayor Olson, with the tacit concurrence of the other Council Members directed the City Clerk to place this matter on the agenda for the July 20, 1983 meeting requesting additional information including a copy of the proposal submitted by the firm of Ernst and Whinney.