
Police Radio Fee Agreement Sought

Newport Objects To Paying by Call

In an effort to have the city defer the proposed assessments against Kentucky communities for use of Station X (short name for WKDU) until next year, J. Bailie Morlidge, Newport city manager, may seek a conference with Cincinnati officials, he said Saturday.

Explaining that Newport's fiscal year coincided with the calendar year, Mr. Morlidge said that an expenditure for use of the Cincinnati police radio system was not anticipated in this year's budget and no funds for such purpose would be available until next year.

Newport is willing to pay a "nominal fee," possibly \$500 a year, for use of Station X facilities, Mr. Morlidge said in agreeing with City Manager Sherrill that other municipalities share the operating costs of the police radio station.

There have been reports that northern Kentucky cities might be charged 35 cents a police radio call. This figure is too high in the opinion of Mr. Morlidge, who pointed out that last year there

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Newport Seeks Pact On Police Radio Fee

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were an estimated 12,000 police calls for Newport.

Cincinnati is seeking some remuneration from northern Kentucky cities for police radio service now provided free.

Most of the municipalities on this side of the river, which also would be affected by the plan to pro-rate the cost of maintaining Station X among the communities using it, expressed willingness to pay a fair charge for the service.

Norwood, second largest city in the county, is going ahead with plans for its own two-way police radio, which will result in Norwood and Cincinnati "swapping information" without financial obligation on either side, according to R. Edward Tepe, Norwood city solicitor.

Police Chief Cliff Jacobs of Cheviot indicated that Cheviot police would cut down on the number of messages sent to WKDU for broadcasting, limiting them to bulletins of an emergency nature which would lighten the work of the WKDU staff.

Chief Charles J. Lohmann of St. Bernard said that when the arrangement was made for other municipalities to use WKDU, it was said that Cincinnati would receive more benefit from the plan than they, and expressed a belief that it is still true.

Col. Sherrill said the total estimated cost of the Cincinnati police signal system for 1940 was \$57,700. Salaries of radiotricians alone are expected to amount to \$17,700 in 1942 and this does not include the salaries of police operators at Station X.
