

Headline: Ex-official charged with theft
Round Rock man accused of felony

Date: May 13, 1989
Page: B1
Word Count: 460

Section: CITY/STATE
Edition: FINAL

Author: David Matustik
Dateline: ROUND ROCK
Index Terms: ROUND ROCK

Text:

ROUND ROCK - A former Round Rock streets and drainage manager has been charged with theft in connection with the misuse of \$9,200 worth of city labor and materials.

Billy C. Maddox, 57, is charged with using city employees, materials and equipment to build a 12-by-24-foot deer blind on his land northeast of Andice on County Road 224 near the Burnet County line.

Maddox was arrested late Wednesday. His bond was set at \$5,000 and he was released on his own recognizance. Maddox, who supervised 21 people and earned \$24,564 a year, had resigned from his job April 26.

A conviction on the third degree felony charge carries a penalty of up to 10 years in prison and a maximum \$5,000 fine, police said.

Maddox could not be reached for comment Friday. Edgar Nooning, his attorney, refused to comment on the case.

Also this week, equipment operator Tom Acker, a crew member for Maddox, was fired in connection with the investigation.

Linda Gunther, the city personnel manager, said the cause of Acker's firing was "misconduct connected with work." Acker could not be reached for comment Friday.

Two other equipment operators under Maddox were suspended earlier this month for three days without pay, Gunther said.

City Manager Bob Bennett said Friday no other disciplinary action against employees is expected in connection with the investigation.

Bennett said an anonymous letter he received a few weeks ago first made him aware of the possible misuse of city personnel and equipment. Bennett said he then notified Public Works Director Jim Nuse.

Nuse got detailed accounts from city employees about the work done on Maddox's property, Round Rock police said.

The police investigation began April 24. Williamson County District Attorney Ken Anderson said the case will likely be presented to the grand jury next month.

Police Sgt. Dan LeMay said Maddox apparently had various city employees come to his property to work dating back to August 1988. City building materials and mowing equipment also were used in the construction of the deer blind.

LeMay said he went to Maddox's land off County Road 224 a few weeks ago. At that time, the elevated hunting structure was not finished.

Maddox began working for the City of Round Rock in April 1979 as an equipment operator. He became a construction inspector for the Department of Public Works in May 1981, and then streets and drainage manager in September 1985.

Graphic: PHOTO

Caption: Billy Maddox was charged in connection with the misuse of city labor and materials.