

Twp. Board Suggests Junk Pickup Tax

FARMINGTON Farmington Township residents will be polled in mail to determine whether they will support a one- or two-mill property tax to pay for garbage and trash collection instead of the present system of paying private firms to collect refuse.

The Farmington Township Board voted Monday night to send a short questionnaire to residents asking if they support a property tax to pay for the garbage collection instead of the present \$4 per month charged by private firms.

THE FORM will ask if residents would approve a one-mill property tax (\$1 per \$100 assessed valuation) for garbage and trash pick up once every two weeks or a two-mill property tax (\$2 per \$100 assessed valuation) for once a week pick up.

The township board proposed the levy should last for five years.

A one mill levy would generate approximately \$200,000 and a two mill levy \$400,000 on the present assessed valuation of almost \$200 million. A two mill levy on a home assessed at \$21,000 would equal the present rate of \$48 per year for private collection.

The proposed property tax would require approval at an election before it would be collected.

TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR Curtis Hall introduced the subject of a mill levy to pay for garbage and trash collection.

Township residents now deal privately with one of six contractors licensed to collect garbage in the township.

Hall said one contractor could operate over the township at a less expensive rate per residence.

"We could pick up a much more economical rate by having a contractor pick up the whole township," Hall said. He later estimated the charge would average \$1.50 per month per residence instead of the present \$4 per month.

"The only way we could have this program would be to ask for voted millage," Hall said.

HALL SAID a sanitation contractor told him the one mill levy would mean a pick up once every two weeks and the two mill levy once every week.

The township would ask for a three year contract with a single collector, Hall said.

Trustee Earl Oppenhaus suggested the feelings of township residents on the matter be determined.

"I think it is in order to have some kind of direct mailing to everybody in the township," Oppenhaus said.

He said the letter should include three statements to be followed by boxes to be checked yes or no. The statements he suggested indicate support or opposition to the one mill or two mill levy, or opposition to both.

Trustee Fred Lichtman commented that one contractor for the township would mean firms would bid competitively for the contract.

"No individual homeowner now has the advantage of competitive bidding," Lichtman said.

Oppenhaus added that the plan would tax industrial and vacant land to pay for a service to homeowners. Collection for businesses and industries would not be included in the contract, Lichtman said.

TRUSTEE TOM NOLAN said a single contractor system would end the regular price increases private contractors have been receiving. He noted the money paid for the tax would be deductible from other taxes.

Oppenhaus said the price for residential collection has increased from \$12 a year eight years ago to \$48 a year now.

"I'm a little bit suspicious of the fact that when one contractor raises his price, the others do too," he said.

LICHTMAN QUESTIONED the continuing costs of the plan.

"What do we do in the future when one mill won't cover what you want?" he asked.

Hall replied the increasing valuation of the township will pay for increased costs.

The supervisor commented the mailing to residents will give an indication of the amount of services they might expect from a city.

"If we happen to become incorporated before then, which I hope we will, this will all go to the wind anyway," Hall said.



PLANNERS - Preparing the line up for the Farmington Memorial Day parade on Saturday, May 30, are (from left) Charles Currie, treasurer for the Memorial Day committee; Joseph Gibbons, parade marshal; and Eleanor Farrell, secretary. Those wishing to participate in the parade should contact Mrs. Farrell as soon as possible at 474-3062. (Everett photo)

Farmington Socially Speaking

By KATHY ZISKA GR. 4-7261

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Howes of Whitlock considered it a special occasion and so they did it up in a special manner. The occasion was the 22nd birthday of their daughter, S.N. Elta Howes.

The S.N. is a Navy rating with the special services in Washington, D.C. Elta's brothers had spent time in the services of their country. Two brothers were in the Navy and one was in the Army while her dad had been in the Merchant Marine.

So, Elta, dedicated and loyal to her country, joined the Navy. Her sister, Ruth Ann, wanted to enlist in the Marines but was unable because of a heart condition.

Elta flew in from Washington for a weekend. Her birthday party consisted of a sit-down dinner with all the trimmings, and many wonderful and lifelong friends.

Attending were Mr. and Mrs. Wes Smith of Cass Ave., and son and daughter, Gregory and Sue. Mr. and Mrs. Norman Pippin of Walled Lake and son Dale. Mr. and Mrs. Pat Berner of Milford and son John. Mrs. Mary Coleman of Leland. Mrs. Moba Light of Detroit and daughter Linda; and Mr. Floyd Laremore, who flew in from Tampa, Fla., for the occasion. Mr. Laremore has known Elta since she was a little girl.



MG ROBERT PLOGER

Ploger To Give Memorial Speech

FARMINGTON Announcement has been made that Major General Robert R. Ploger will be one of the two honored military guests speaking at Memorial Day ceremonies in Farmington.

General Ploger was invited to speak at memorial services at the Veterans Memorial Monument at Grand River and Oakland immediately following the Memorial Day Parade.

HE WAS INVITED by the Farmington Memorial Day Committee which is composed of members from the local VFW and American Legion posts and Blue and White Star Mothers.

After confirmation was made, it was learned that General Ploger is the uncle of Mrs. Mack Evelevin of 32154 Loomis, Farmington.

For the past three years, Ploger has served the U.S. Army as director of topography and military engineering in the Office of the Chief of Engineers.

His work involves concern with worldwide activities in mapping, geodesy and lunar mapping as well as supervision of the Army Map Service and the Army engineer topographic laboratories.

Ploger is responsible for equipping all Army engineer units and is engineer planner for activities relating to use of military forces in combat.

AFTER GRADUATING from high school in Ohio, he attended West Point and began his long military career as a 2nd lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers.

During World War II, Ploger was engineering advisor to the commanding general of the D-Day assault on Omaha Beach, for which his unit won the Distinguished Unit Citation.

After serving on the War Department general staff, he entered Cornell University and received a master's degree in

Assign Marine

FARMINGTON Marine Private First Class Allen J. Cassatt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Cassatt of 35301 Kirby in Farmington, is now serving with the First Marine Aircraft Wing in Vietnam.

The Wing operates in the I Corps Tactical Zone, South Vietnam's five northernmost provinces.

engineering in 1947. The next three years he spent as military liaison committee to the Atomic Energy Commission.

As a lecturer with the national security seminar team, Ploger received an honor award from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces for "outstanding achievement in helping to bring about a better understanding of the American way of life."

While assigned as a lecturer, Ploger received a master of business administration degree from George Washington University.

DURING A TWO-YEAR tour of South Vietnam, starting in 1965, Ploger commanded the 18th Engineer Brigade and the U.S. Army Engineer Command and acted as senior advisor to the chief of engineers of South Vietnam.

Military honors received include Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and the Wheeler Medal from the Society of American Military Engineers.

General Ploger and his wife, the former Marguerite Fisher of Owosso, have six children.

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Township Begins Beauty Awards

FARMINGTON The Township of Farmington Beautification Committee has approved an awards program to honor owners of buildings in the township who have made efforts to beautify their property.

The committee selected judges who surveyed Farmington Township during April to select candidates for beautification awards.

A panel of judges will pick the final winners who will be honored on Community Pride Day during Michigan Week.

Categories to be judged are: Industrial, office buildings, shopping centers, gas stations, apartments, motels, hotels, trailer parks, shops and stores not in centers and schools.

The sharp eyes of judges will be looking for clean windows, windows free of clutter, clean sidewalks, driveways and parking lots, and well-painted or decorated buildings.

Other items judges will check for include sign and address in repair and visible; general landscaping; entrance and exit layouts; sanitation around property; and availability of trash and refuse containers.

Service stations will be particularly checked for concrete free of oil and gas stains, clean restrooms and old tires hidden.

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