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New School Building Construction Falling Far Behind Schedule Set

School Board Urges Prompt Action To Assure Completion Of All Projects According To Plan

An increasing delay in the scheduled construction of the three new elementary school buildings and expansion program for the school addition in the Farmington Township School District was discussed at a regular School Board meeting Monday night.

Members of the Board expressed deep concern over the way scheduled construction is falling behind as indicated by a report submitted by Eberle-Smith Architects, Inc., school architects. It was unanimously agreed by Board members that everything possible should be done now to get a work "step-up" and assure completion of all four projects before school sessions resume in the fall.

Members of the Board, including the architects' office, assured that steps are now being taken to get construction contractors back on schedule. A meeting has been tentatively set for April 4 between construction contractors, the architects, and School Board officials to see what progress has been made in cutting down the schedule lag.

Planning Group Delays Action On Zoning Proposal

Commission To Discuss Request Thursday

Recommendations on the proposed rezoning of the former Orford property of Sorrows School property, Grand River west of Mooney Street, from residential to commercial, have been delayed by the City Planning Commission pending further study.

The decision to delay action was taken during the regular City Council meeting held Wednesday evening at the Municipal Building. It has been proposed that the entire parcel, approximately 200 feet on Grand River and about 1,200 feet along Mooney, be rezoned for a shopping center. The Commission recommended several weeks ago that the property be rezoned commercial for a depth of 600 feet north of Grand River.

A NUMBER of residents living on the east side of Lakeway appeared before the Commission to register their objection to the rezoning. The rear of the lots on the east side of Lakeway would be the area proposed for rezoning. Action on the proposal is expected to be taken at a special meeting of the Commission set for Thursday evening at 7:30 in the Municipal Building.

The Commission also delayed action on a preliminary plan for the development of the north part of the Warner Farms Subdivision.

NEW HEATING INSPECTOR HIRED FOR CITY

Edwin M. Fahy has been appointed heating inspector for the City of Farmington in accordance with the provisions of the recently adopted Gas and Oil Burner Code, James Tennant, City Manager, announced Monday.

Fahy, who lives at 19477 MacArthur, Redford Township, will handle the inspection of new gas and oil burner installations on a part-time basis. He will begin work as soon as the necessary forms have been secured from the relevant organization. Fahy will receive a portion of the inspection fees as compensation for his services. He is a graduate mechanical engineer and has had considerable experience as a heating contractor.

AROUND THE BLOCK

MUDDY ROADS

are still the principal topic of conversation around the Farmington area this week as the warm sun and spring-like breezes continued. We hesitate to make this statement, since we had to re-write last week's weather item at the last minute to keep from being way off base. At any rate, mud and water are very much in the picture as of the first of the week, and indications are that it will continue for a while at least. City and township officials will be swamped with calls regarding road conditions as the mowing business has been well above average. Traffic is continuing to move on the more traveled dirt roads in the area, but it is definitely one way in spots. "It's Spring, alright... there's no doubt about it!"

ANOTHER BIG TOPIC

of conversation has been taking place at the Town Hall and Municipal Building the past several days and it's a rough one. The topic has to do with the tax situation in the Farmington area. We sat in on a portion of one of the discussions at the Township Board of Review meeting the other day, which time the tax problem was raised by a property owner. Although the Board of Review has nothing to do with the tax rate itself, the matter was discussed in detail. After the facts were weighed and sorted, the same alternatives remained. If we are to have encourage more commerce and industry; delay future home building, which will only delay the problem; or pay the increased tax load. It is a big topic and one that will get increased attention as time goes on.

A NEW RASH

of stolen car incidents seems to be plaguing Farmington police again, according to reports. Maybe it's part of the annual return of spring weather. Regardless of the why and wherefore, the number of stolen car cases has jumped considerably in recent weeks, and that should serve as a warning to leave the keys in the car, which time means that your car can't be stolen, but it sure makes the job a lot tougher. So heed the words of advice. It may save you a lot of inconvenience and a few dollars, too.

SEVEN CANDIDATES FILE FOR CITY COUNCIL RACE



SURVEYING the parking situation on Grand River and the members of the City Council. Left to right, James Nourjan, Troy Cronley, and James Cavanaugh, along with Police Chief Joseph DeVincenti. The survey, which was conducted last Saturday, is in connection with a proposed amendment to the Traffic Ordinance establishing no parking zones on Grand River for specified districts both east and west of intersections with residential streets. The Traffic Ordinance proposal is expected to be acted upon at the regular City Council meeting Monday evening.

City Council To Take Action Monday On Proposed Traffic Amendment

Final Rehearsals Set For 'Harvey'

Final rehearsals will be held this week end in preparation for the Farmington Players' presentation of "Harvey" to be staged Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, March 23, 24 and 26, at the Methodist Church Auditorium.

Certain time for the three presentations of the well-known Pulitzer Prize winning comedy has been set for 8:30 p.m. The play is being produced by Donald Crain, a professional director who has done a great deal of work on both the amateur and professional levels. At present he is also directing a production for the Redford Players. Crain is being assisted in Farmington by Ron Jackson.

Rehearsals have been held in the Charles Hamann Studio on Howard Road, but will move to the church auditorium this week where the finishing touches will be added. There are several scene changes which are now being worked out by the staging committee. (Continued on Page 8A)

NOTE DECREASE IN HARDNESS OF CITY WATER

According to the latest chemical analysis of the State Department of Health, Farmington water has decreased in hardness approximately 10% in the past two years. The report also shows that the city water supply contains two thirds parts per million of natural fluorine as well as 62 parts per million of pure calcium, which is above the minimum daily requirements. The analysis was prepared by the State Health Department at the request of the city.

Courses To Be Set Up C/D Plans Home Protection Program

What to do in case of possible enemy attack will be the subject of a new program on Home Protection now being organized by the Farmington Civil Defense Organization, officials announced.

The program will be open to all residents of the Farmington area and will include the essential steps in the preservation of life and property in case of disaster. It will center round the fundamental steps to be taken by the family unit to protect itself against the effects of an A-Bomb attack. Information regarding the program will be announced as soon as plans have been completed. Civil Defense officials stated.

A new series of alert signals has been established to warn residents in case of disaster. The signal consists of one long, three to five minute blast. Indicates the start of evacuation and warns Civil Defense groups to take their stations. A long wailing sound advises the public to take cover at once. "All Clear" signals are now the sole responsibility of the local Civil Defense units. This is necessary due to the supposed fallout which follows an atomic attack.

In the Farmington area such signals can be transmitted by the fire sirens located at the various fire stations in the city and town. Efforts are now being made to set up a procedure in regard to this warning system.

Representatives of various Farmington organizations attended the special Civil Defense Workshop held March 10 at the National Guard Armory. The agenda included a discussion on basic Civil Defense, the Michigan Office of Civil Defense, the Michigan Office of Civil Defense, and Chief Cook, Royal Oak Fire Department, instruction and demonstrations were given on emergency action to be taken in case of disaster. The importance of the Ground Observer Corps and the necessity of a coordinated program of Civil Defense between the city and town groups was illustrated.

Farmington organizations participating in the Workshop included the Farmington P. T. A., the Ground Observer Corps, Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, and the Welfare Chairman of the Civil Defense Organization.

Grant Temporary Occupancy In Bel-Aire Hills

City Action Designed To Aid Hardship Cases

The Farmington City Council, at a special meeting Wednesday evening, adopted a resolution authorizing the issuance of temporary certificates of occupancy for homes on unpaved streets in the Bel-Aire Subdivision where a dire need for immediate housing exists.

The Green and Rose Hill Builders, developers of the subdivision, have filed with the city an Indemnity Bond in the sum of \$5,000 conditioned upon the completion and completion of all street paving on or before October 31, 1955. The resolution states that, "a number of buyers and owners of properties lying within said subdivision are in dire need of housing facilities" and also that the developers have "agreed to acquaint owners and buyers with probable difficulties arising from the absence of street and sidewalk paving."

GREEN STATED at the meeting that written statements will be secured from all parties who desire to occupy homes in advance of the completion of streets and sidewalks expressing their knowledge of the conditions and also releasing the city of responsibility.

In view of these agreements, the Council authorized the issuance of temporary certificates of occupancy upon receipt by the City Manager of an acknowledgment from any owner in the subdivision who can show substantial dire need for immediate occupancy.

The temporary certificates will be issued subject to third and final inspection of the home and approval by the Building Inspector.

Musical Theatre To Open In June

The "Melody Circus Theatre" is coming to Farmington this summer, complete with popular musicals, operettas and all-star Broadway casts. John W. Anhalt of historic Botsford Inn announced this week.

A group of Detroiters headed by Dick Connell, Jr., will present the theatre-in-the-round barnburning on June 17 with "Guys and Dolls," the long-run hit with music and lyrics by Frank Lesser. The Botsford Inn have been leased for the Melody Circus Theatre, and plans have been made for the setting up of a free parking area to handle 1,000 cars.

A gaily striped circus tent, the largest of its type in the country, will be erected on the grounds with a seating capacity of 1500. Officials stated that the circular seating arrangement around the stage assures every spectator of excellent seats, as the last row of the circle is just 44 feet from the stage.

Among the shows to be presented are: "Showboat," "Desert" (Continued on Page 3A)

Three To Be Named In April 4 Vote Along With Township, State Officers

A total of seven candidates have filed nomination petitions for the three City Council positions to be filled at the May 2, April Biennial Spring Election, Kathryn Cotter, City Treasurer, announced this week.

The candidates who filed prior to the March 10 deadline are V. O. Bates, William L. Burke, Paul S. Cahins, Harvey E. Chapman, Francis M. Nichols, James M. Nourjan, and Sylvester J. Pien. Petitions of the candidates were reviewed and certified by the Election Board at a meeting held Friday afternoon. The election Board consisted of Mrs. Cotter, Paul Perez, City Attorney, and Trace Conroy, Acting Mayor Conroy, whose term as a Councilman expires this year, is not seeking re-election.

According to the City Charter, the two Council candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected for terms of four years, and the one receiving the third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of two years. The new Councilmen will take office at 8:00 p.m. on the Monday following the election.

Seek Construction Bids For Grade School Addition

Plans For Edgewood, Classrooms Approved

The Clarenceville School Board Thursday evening approved a resolution authorizing the advertising of bids on the construction of a four classroom addition to the Edgewood Elementary School.

According to the resolution, the bids must be filed with the Board of Education by April 21. Officials stated that the advertising and opening of bids is in accordance with the program approved by the Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency. Federal funds are being used to construct the new addition. The District was notified last week that the plans for the project had been approved by the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

THE BOARD also approved a motion to retain Eberle Smith, Associates, as architects for the proposed addition to the Botsford Elementary School. The motion further provides that the architect take immediate steps to prepare sample sketches for the addition to be presented at the March 24 meeting of the Board.

Action was taken establishing the second and fourth Thursdays of each month as regular Board meeting dates, effective until further notice. The first meeting under the semi-monthly program will be Thursday, March 24. The Board also authorized the filing of an application with the State for the addition of the new primary election precinct.

The following proposed amendments to the State Constitution will be voted upon at the April 4 Election. Proposal One concerns an amendment providing that the conduct of non-partisan primary elections be determined by the State Constitution. (Continued on Page 8A)

Youths Charged With Break-Ins

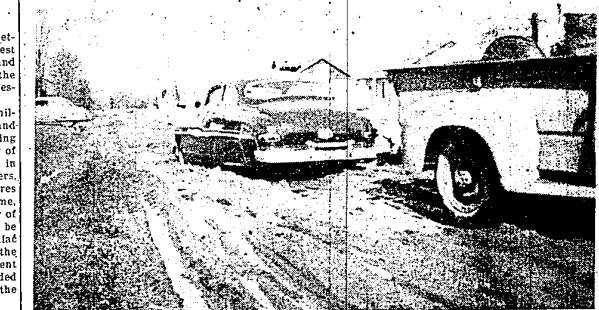
Three teen-age youths are now in the custody of county juvenile authorities on charges of breaking and entering at the Bond School and Nor-West Recreation Bowling Alleys in the northeast sector of Farmington Township last Monday evening, March 8.

The youthful offenders were apprehended by state police later in the week and confessed to the crimes upon police questioning. All three of the boys are from neighboring Farmington communities.

RECORD AUDIENCE SEES JAYCEE MINSTREL SHOW

A capacity crowd of approximately 550 persons jammed the Farmington High School gymnasium last Saturday evening to see the annual "Fine 'n' Dandy" Minstrel Show, sponsored by the Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Jaycee officials stated that this is the largest audience ever to witness the annual show. Proceeds from the ticket sale and the advertising program will be used by the Farmington Jaycees to promote youth activities in the community. (Continued on Page 8A)



MUDDY ROADS and more muddy roads and no immediate relief in sight. This is the sad situation faced by most residents living on unpaved streets in the City and Township of Farmington. The picture above was snapped on Haynes Street near Grand River where an auto advanced only a short distance before getting mired. The second shot, upper right, was taken on Shawansee Road looking down Hawthorne, one of the first roads to be closed as impassable.

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