

Water Committee Plans Public Meeting Tuesday

Seek Added Volunteers To Circulate Petitions

Renewed efforts will be made at a public meeting set for Tuesday evening, December 6, to secure additional volunteers to assist with the development of the proposed Township Water System.

The meeting, which will be held at 8:00 p.m. in the Farmington Junior High School gymnasium on Thomas Street, is being sponsored by the Township Water Development Association. Dr. Joseph Gadaw, chairman of the association, stated that the meeting was being held in the suggestion of numerous Township citizens who were unable to attend the last meeting.

ALL TOWNSHIP citizens interested in the retention of the proposed water system are urged to attend and participate in this public meeting.

Officials of the Association stated that a great many volunteers are needed to assist with the circulation of necessary questionnaires and special assessment district petitions. Dr. Gadaw pointed out that this is the final step in the development of the program, and that the speed with which it is completed will depend largely on the number of persons participating.

Questionnaires and petitions are now being circulated in six of the 37 subdivisions included in the proposed water district. Efforts will be made next Tuesday evening to secure additional volunteers throughout the area. The signatures of 65% of the property owners in each of the affected subdivisions are required before a special assessment district can be established. It is proposed that the water system be financed on a combined special assessment and revenue bond basis.

City Establishes New Department

James Tennant, City Manager, announced this week that he has appointed Harvey Blough as superintendent of the newly created Department of Public Utilities.

The City Manager stated that the Department has been set up in accordance with the recently adopted water and sewer bond ordinance. The ordinance provides that the new administration be set up for the water and sewer system, separate from the Department of Public Works. It will be the responsibility of the new Department to operate and maintain the water and sewer facilities.

Blough, who was formerly employed by the City, took over his new duties on Monday. Tennant stated that as a result of the reorganization, plans will be speeded up on the construction of additional offices in the new City Hall Building. The new offices will provide space for both the Water and Sewer Department and the Public Works Department.

Boy Starts Fire At Lumber Co.

14 year old Farmington boy confessed to setting the fire which destroyed the H. E. Lumber Company, Ten Mile Road just east of Orchard Lake Road, on November 6, City Police Chief Joseph DeVincenti reported Monday.

The boy also admitted to city police that he broke into the Tulip Hobby Shop on October 9 and the Junior High School early in November. DeVincenti stated that the boy was first picked up on suspicion of taking a clock from the Junior High School, as well as being to the building. Upon examination of his room, items taken from the hobby shop as well as the clock and keys were found.

With the permission of his parents, the boy was given a lie detector test by the State Police. He admitted taking an intercom system from the lumber company and then setting fire to the building by piling papers on some tarpaper in a shed adjacent to the office. The fire caused an estimated \$15,000 damage.

Police Clear Up Thefts From Autos

Steve Johnson, 20, who with his 15 year old wife, had admitted a series of thefts of parked cars in Farmington Township, pleaded guilty to a felony charge Tuesday morning before Justice Allen C. Engle and was bound over to Circuit Court.

Johnson's wife has been turned over to Oakland County Juvenile authorities for disposition. The couple admitted the thefts during interrogation by Township Police Chief Irving Yakes and State Police officers. Johnson was picked up by Patrolman Russell Conway at a motor court after he had been observed rifling cars in a parking lot adjacent to Botsford Inn. Conway said Johnson was going through the autos and followed them to the motel where he and his wife were staying.

Upon examination of the motel room, a large quantity of stolen goods was found. The items were quickly traced to material taken from the parked cars. The Township police have received numerous complaints from persons during the past several months regarding the theft of parked automobiles in the Township.

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TUESDAY

An executive session of the Township Board was held Tuesday afternoon at the Town Hall. The Enterprise learned Wednesday.

Among the items discussed were the possible consideration of a Charter for the Township, the further organization of the Township Water and Sewer authority, and receipt of a letter of resignation from Russell Conway.

In addition to the Board members, Donald Pierce of the State Water Resources Commission, Judge Arthur E. Moore and A. G. Leonard, Township Attorney, were present at the meeting.

URGENT DEVELOPMENT OF MASTER PLAN IN TOWNSHIP

Fire Completely Destroys Wrigley Super Market Monday Causing Estimated \$500,000 Damage

Fire of an undetermined origin completely destroyed the Wrigley Super Market at Grand River and Eight Mile Road Monday night, causing an estimated \$500,000 damage.

The fire was first discovered at 8:30 p.m. and the Livonia Fire Department was called to the blaze. Initially the fire was centered in the rear of the store along Inkster Road. The heavy smoke coupled with strong winds and poor weather, hampered the firemen in their efforts to bring the blaze under control. Fire equipment from Farmington and Bedford Townships was called to assist in fighting the fire.



IN SPITE of the efforts by the various fire departments, the fire swept across the roof of the one-story brick building causing it to collapse. Once the fire broke into the main portion of the building, it became a raging inferno. The huge plate glass windows across the front of the building exploded under the heat, and flames shot high into the air, attracting thousands of on-lookers. Police from Farmington, Livonia and Bedford sealed off the area around the building and re-routed traffic.

Samar's Department Store, located on the Grand River side of the super market building, did not burn although considerable smoke damage resulted. North winds blew the flames away from the department store and aided the firemen in saving that portion of the building.

According to William Bush, manager of the Wrigley Store, the bulk of the employees had left the store at about 7:00 p.m.

Travel Lecture To Cover Ethiopia

"The Ethiopian Story" will be the title of the next World Travel and Adventure program to be held at the junior high school gymnasium.

The exciting travelogue will be presented by Fred Christian, nationally famous photographer and lecturer. "The Ethiopian Story" is the only complete travelogue ever made on this fantastic continent.

High School Students To Fill City Government Positions Next Monday

Students of the Farmington High School will take over the reins of City Government Monday during the first annual Student Government Day.

Final details of the program were completed last week with the election of "city officials" by the student body. The special orientation program at the City Hall. At 10 a.m. the students will accompany their respective city officials in the conduct of regular city activities.

Board Approves Road Repairs

The Township Board, at its regular meeting last week, approved the latest report of the Road Committee regarding the repair of specific streets in the Township and directed that it be filed with the County Road Commission for further study.

The action followed a request by Floyd Cairns, secretary of the Committee, that some disposition be made of the report. The series of recommendations were filed with the Board over a month ago. At that time the Board accepted the report and placed it on file for further study.

Christmas Is Near Plan Increase In Post Office Staff

Trombley stated that the plan is designed to eliminate long lines at the Post Office during rush hours for the holiday season.

Efforts are also being made to secure additional space outside of the Post Office Building for the sorting and handling of parcel post packages. The Postmaster stated that permission has been requested for the additional facilities in view of the shortage of room at the Post Office.

Residents are reminded that packages, letters and cards going to points outside of Michigan should be mailed no later than December 5 to insure satisfactory delivery before Christmas. All gift packages should be carefully wrapped and addressed with name, street number, city and zone, if one exists. As an extra precaution against possible loss, persons should place both the return address and the recipient's address inside the carton or package.

City Authorized To Sell Water And Sewer Bonds

Entire \$175,000 Issue Approved By State

City officials were advised late last week by the Municipal Finance Commission that permission has been granted for the sale of \$175,000 in revenue bonds to finance the expansion of the City's water and sewer systems.

The approval of the bond sale was granted during a regular meeting of the Commission last Tuesday in Lansing. Tentative approval was given several months ago in connection with the expansion of the water system. However, formal authorization of the entire issue was held up pending clarification of the sewer proposal. The bonds will be used to cover the cost of the drilling of two new wells east of the Cut-Off and the laying of connecting mains, as well as the purchase and installation of pumps and the providing of the necessary controls.

THE SEWER phase of the project includes a number of small connecting mains as well as the replacement of some existing lines. Officials emphasized that this project has no direct connection with the proposed interceptor program now in the process of development.

PLAN TO BUILD NEW CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

A building permit application has been filed with the City for the construction of a new Christian Science Church on the south side of Grand River east of Wilmarth, North Branch, building inspector, announced Monday.

The new building will occupy approximately 2,400 square feet of land area and will include an auditorium, rest room, reading room, nursery and Sunday School room. It will be a one-story brick structure with a basement. Parking facilities will be provided in rear of the building with access to road from Wilmarth Street. Construction of the church is expected to begin as soon as the building permit has been approved by the City.

Board Approves New PLEA FOR GOODFELLOW VOLUNTEERS

Final plans are now being completed for the Annual Farmington Goodfellow Paper Sale, to be held on Friday, December 9.

Fred Menke, Jr., president of the Goodfellows, stated this week that additional volunteers are still needed to assist with the sale. Persons interested in contributing their time are urged to contact Menke as soon as possible at Greenleaf 4-4564.

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Submit Detailed Report To Board On Formation Of Planning Proposal

A series of recommendations on the development of a Master Plan for Farmington Township were formally presented to the Board last week by members of the Planning Board.

The recommendations were contained in a detailed report read to the Board by Thomas Cornell, chairman of the Planning Board. Following the reading of the report, the Township Board approved a motion accepting the recommendations and placing them on file for further study.

Mrs. Elise Avery, Board Trustee, suggested that a special meeting be called to discuss the report in detail. It was decided that the Board would hold a separate meeting on December 7 to review the recommendations and that a joint meeting would be held immediately after that date with the Planning Board to discuss the report.

School Board Will Consider Vote On Buses

Seeks Means Of Placing Proposal On Ballot

A motion was passed by the Farmington School Board Monday night directing the administration of the School District to obtain information relative to the placing of a proposal before the people providing for total school bus service through a millage increase.

In spite of the fact that the motion carried by a majority vote, individual Board members differed sharply in their opinions as to whether or not such a proposal should be considered.

Board Trustee Farley Thomson spoke out strongly against initiating action to place the controversial question before the people as proposed by Wendell Brown, Board president. He indicated that he favored a continued effort by the School Board for obtaining needed road and safety improvements to permit satisfactory operations under the present transportation policy. Trustee Douglas Hammill also spoke in opposition to the proposal.

FOLLOWING approval of the motion, Thomson, head of the special School Board transportation committee, resigned from the position. He indicated that he saw no need to seek safety and road improvements, as the need for them would be unnecessary if the electors chose to transport all children in school buses.

A report by the School Board's site committee revealed that negotiations are being conducted with several property owners and realtors for property on which to build new elementary schools in the future. The committee disapproved the proposal.

Blood Bank Visit Nets 103 Pints

A total of 103 pints of blood were contributed by Farmington area residents during the visit of the Red Cross Mobile Bank at the American Legion Home last Tuesday.

Mrs. Fred Lentz, chairman of the Bank, stated that there were 117 reservations and 14 rejections. In addition to the individual donors, a number of employee groups from various industrial plants in the area contributed to the bank. Tuesday's Blood Bank was comparable in size to the campaign held a year ago when 100 pints were contributed. Mrs. Lentz stated that Red Cross officials expressed their pleasure with the results.

The 103 pints of blood will be added to the Farmington Credit Bank for distribution to local residents in case of emergency. It is emphasized that there is no charge for the service. However, persons are requested, wherever possible, to replace the blood during the next visit of the bank.

AROUND THE BLOCK

HERE'S A REMINDER . . . This Thursday, December 1, is S-D Day we hope you won't forget. This and the following, December 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, are 31 days of fun and excitement. The White S-D Day is of vital importance to all of us, the effect it creates in the days and weeks ahead is even more essential. December is probably the happiest month of the year for most of us, and in one spirit we should all turn into the most tragic. We remember S-D Day, not only that it is the best insurance we know of for continued happiness during this joyous time of the year.

AN INTERESTING . . . was a really appreciated sight to the Wrigley Super Market fire Monday night was brought about by the presence at the scene of the Civil Air Patrol. Three members of the CAP, Howard Middlewood of Livonia, Lt. John McClellan of Farmington, and Lt. Donald Burns of Farmington, were right on the spot with piping hot coffee for the firemen and policemen who were on duty at the fire. In view of the chilling wind and the near-zero temperature, we know that in case of emergency these fellows are around to lend a hand.

OUR FRIEND SANTA . . . Farmington area last Saturday when he dropped in for a brief chat with all the boys and girls at the Our Lady of Sorrows Christmas Fair. According to all reports, he and Mrs. E. J. Burns of Farmington, were right on the spot with piping hot coffee for the firemen and policemen who were on duty at the fire. In view of the chilling wind and the near-zero temperature, we know that in case of emergency these fellows are around to lend a hand.

THE FIRST official Contest to be held in the new Farmington High School gymnasium will be staged this Friday evening when the Falcons meet Bentley High School in the opening of the 1955-56 basketball season. The new gymnasium, which was recently completed, will seat a capacity crowd of 1,500 persons. The gym, locker rooms and equipment cost a total of \$282,976. The facilities are being used not only for competitive sports, but for physical education activities involving both boys and girls.

