

Will Judge or Voters Decide on Pay Boosts Given 3 Twp. Officials?

Farmington Township officials are in a temporary quandary this week as a result of a two-pronged attack made by a group of township residents against election eve action taken by Township Board trustees giving substantial raises to the township's three top officials.

On Nov. 2 the four trustees on the board approved a raise in pay for the supervisor from \$10,000 to \$15,000 annually and raises in pay for the clerk and treasurer amounting to \$3,000 each, annually.

The first action was in the form of a court case started by a group of nine citizens represented by Attorney Bernard Kahn claiming that township officials had violated state regulations governing pay increases for elected officials by waiting until election eve to take action. This case is still pending in Oakland County Circuit Court.

Township as of the Nov. 3 election there is little doubt expressed that the petitions contain a sufficient number of valid signatures.

The problem is that there is no certainty when Circuit Court Judge John Pratt will hand down a decision on the law suit that was started first.

Township officials don't feel they should go to the time and cost of setting up for the special election until the judge does render a decision. Should the judge's decision be that the Township Board has acted in violation of state statutes by authorizing the pay increases at a special meeting on the eve of the election then there would be no need for the special election.

Still somewhat clouded is whether there are any time limitations with regard to how soon after the petitions have been filed the election must be held.

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THE ANNUAL ELKS TOY DRIVE has produced a host of items which are being prepared for delivery by Santa this Christmas to the homes of needy families along with Goodfellow baskets. Pictured above are members of the Farmington Elks and their auxiliary organization, the Vivians, in the Elks toy department. Chairman of the Elks "Toys for Tots" program, Bill Everhart, is pictured above (front row) holding up a doll house. Exalted Ruler James L. Ockerman, Sr., is holding up a model racing car and in back of him is Mrs. Marie Curcio, President of the Vivians, holding up two dolls dressed by members of the Elks auxiliary.

Police Safety Program Given Try-Out in City

The Farmington City Department of Public Safety reports that their program inaugurated this year on juvenile traffic safety has met with good results.

Propose Plan to Utilize Area Between Industrial Drive, Homes

A new proposal for utilization of the 34 foot wide area between the Farmington Meadows Subdivision south boundary and the east-west industrial roadway to the south of the subdivision has been made by the subdivision association's board of directors.

Farmington YMCA Makes First Staff Appointment

Mr. Robert Williams, Chairman of the Farmington Area YMCA, announced this week the appointment of the first staff member for the local YMCA.

Set Hearing on New Zoning Ord For City Jan. 11

Official action was taken by the City Council Monday night scheduling a public hearing on the city's revised zoning ordinance and map for Monday, January 11, at 8 p.m.

Police Officers to be Issued Safety Violation Notices

Police officers for the City have been issued safety violation notices to juveniles observed committing careless or reckless acts on bicycles and young pedestrians who exhibit willful disregard for the traffic signals.

DBT's Request Gets Approval

Detroit Bank and Trust's rezoning request for property at Grand River between Middlebelt and Tulane was granted by the Township Zoning Board after a public hearing was held on the matter at the December 1 meeting.

City Waives Collection Fee

New state tax law regulations enacted last year extend the period of time that winter tax bills can be paid without penalty from January 15 until February 15.

Annual Dimes March In City Gets Approval

Official approval was given by the City Council Monday night for the conducting of the annual March of Dimes fund raising campaign in the city during January.

Attorney Gives Report Debate Flares Anew On Parking Lot Const.

Another round of heated debate erupted at the regular City Council meeting Monday night over circumstances and the handling by the city of matters in connection with the construction of a small parking lot at Mayfield St., just south of Grand River Ave.

Contract Is Awarded For Gas Tank, Pump

A contract for the installation of a 6,000 gallon gasoline storage tank and gasoline pump, to be installed at the Farmington Senior District's new service and maintenance building, was awarded to Parks Installation Co. of Millard for \$1,925 by action of the Board of Education on Monday, December 7.

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Half Days Feared If New School Construction Lags

Contracts totaling \$652,780 for the construction of the new Larkshire Elementary School were awarded at a special meeting of the Farmington Board of Education on Monday, December 7, and, if construction conditions are favorable, the building will be finished in time for the opening of school in September. The school is not ready for use by then, it will be necessary to have a minimum of 400 pupils, if not more, put on half-day sessions, according to Supt. G. V. Harrison.

City Approves Participation in Youth Program

Action was taken by the Farmington City Council Monday night approving the city's participation in the new Michigan Youth Work Training Program that has been set up to be utilized by local governing bodies.

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Set Christmas Tree Decorating Dec. 18

The Farmington Neighborhood Girl Scouts and Brownies will give ornaments to the Christmas tree in front of the Farmington City Hall and sing Christmas carols on Friday, December 18, between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m.

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