

## TOWNSHIP SEIS CONNECTION CHARGE INTERCEPTOR SEWER

### Series Of Tests Are Started For Industrial Zoning

**Assessor Help Is Turned Down By Twp. Board**

Supervisor Frank Stephenson last week appointed a man to the assessor's office and agreed on a salary. However, the Township Board nullified the action Tuesday night by refusing on a 3-3 vote to set aside money for his pay.

A review of the powers of the supervisor and board indicated both were within their legal rights. Board members told the supervisor they should have been consulted before such a hiring.

Mr. Stephenson said there is a tremendous amount of work in the assessor's office, and that he would like three years to equalize assessments. He wanted the public to know he was trying to get the rolls up-to-date.

Several members agreed the assessor's office was in somewhat of a mess, and that extra help may be needed.

**Two School Need Talks Scheduled For Next Week**

Two more discussion programs on school needs and future plans for the Farmington Public Schools, as part of the informational series presently being conducted by the School Board, are scheduled for next week.

On Monday, January 20, at 8 p.m., the School Board members will present a program at the Bond School P.T.A. Preceding the meeting, starting at 7:30, Brownie Troop 234 will hold a bake sale, with proceeds to be used for an overnight trip. P.T.A. officials said. A social period will follow the program.

**Favor Formation Of Student Insurance Company**

A request from the Farmington Area Council of P.T.A. for permission to set up a citizens' advisory committee to study and put into effect, if found satisfactory, a student insurance program for the Farmington public school system, was unanimously approved by the School Board Monday night.

In a letter directed to the board, the P.T.A. Council stated that each P.T.A. group in the district had already been contacted. It indicated that, with the exception of one, all had replied and expressed an interest in having the student insurance program.

**March of Dimes Twp. Sale Set**

Plans are now being completed for the annual Twp. Day sale to raise funds in the current March of Dimes campaign; Mrs. Mel Stevens, area chairman, stated Tuesday.

The sale will be conducted this Friday afternoon and evening and again on Saturday. Handling the sale of tags this year will be members of the Teen Tappers, Farmington area teen club. They will be located on all main business corners and at shopping centers throughout the community, Mrs. Stevens said.

**Bel-Aire Zoning Report Monday**

Farmington City Council will decide Monday night, January 20, at its regular meeting, on a request to rezone a zone in Bel-Aire Zoning District. The developers want to put up a bowling alley. Hearing was held two weeks previous.

A number of members of the Bel-Aire Citizens' Chamber of Commerce expect to attend the meeting and urge the rezoning request be granted, according to reports.

The Chamber is backing further commercial development along the Orchard Lake Road area, so long as it follows the zoning code. Members feel such development is needed to help pay heavy taxes.



**CLOSED UP** and soon to be torn down or moved away will be the old, one room German School on Middlebelt Road just north of Northwestern Highway. Kindergarten students who have been attending classes there up until the first of this week have now been transferred to modern, new kindergarten classrooms at the Bond elementary school on Orchard Lake Road at 13 Mile. The old drinking fountain and wash basin area located at one end of the little school classroom is pointed out by Emil Pporala, Bond School custodian, as but one of the many sharp contrasts that can be made between facilities here and those at the new quarters. Looking on is Mrs. Emma Stedel, principal at the Bond School.



**NEW KINDERGARTEN** classrooms in the addition opened at the Bond School proved much to the liking of the little tots who can be seen playing with toys on the spacious floor area available to them and doing coloring and drawing at one of the classroom tables. In the background, just to the left of the youngsters' teacher, is a modern built-in wash basin for the children's convenient use. A counter top extending almost the entire width of the wall gives the little ones plenty of space on which to do work with clay and other "messy" materials. Ample cabinet storage space is also provided underneath.

**Favor Formation Of Student Insurance Company**

Real estate taxes in Farmington most definitely be paid by Feb. 28, 1958, as the result of an extension set Tuesday night by the town board. Penalties will accrue thereafter.

Personal property taxes must be paid by Jan. 20, and the township board can not change this.

Township attorneys, however, told board members the law is clear and there are attorneys of several opinions that the Township does not have this authority, even though it and other townships have done it in the past.

Board members said if a change is necessary next year adequate warning will be given taxpayers.

**Builders Meet Twp. Saturday**

Builders in violation of township ordinances are to meet Saturday, January 18, with Supervisor Frank Stephenson at the Town Hall. He recently directed that they be issued no more permits until past violations were disposed of.

Mr. Stephenson says the meeting is open, and invites the public to attend, particularly if anyone has grievances. A representative of the Michigan Corporation and Securities Commission will also be there.

**Home Construction Off Only 429 Residential Permits Issued in Farmington in 1957**

Construction activities in Farmington City and Township during 1957 were down substantially from 1956, according to figures furnished by the building departments of the two governmental bodies last week.

New home construction was off over 40 per cent from 1956, the figures revealed.

The township issued 385 new residential building permits at a total estimated value of \$8,450,224 in 1957. In 1956 a total of 511 permits issued for new homes totaled \$11,919,963 at an estimated value of \$22,193,963. In the city only 44 new home permits with an estimated value of \$787,821 were issued in '57 as compared with 87 issued in '56 with a total estimated value of \$1,196,431.

**Home Construction Off**

The township issued 212 permits (valued at \$763,467), for additions in 1957 and 87 permits (valued at \$1,181,815) for garages.

IN THE CITY 21 permits for commercial buildings (valued at \$223,583) were given and also permits for three school building projects with an estimated value of \$860,000. Home addition permits totaled 35 (valued at \$48,870) and commercial addition permits 14 (valued at \$348,490). The city also issued 77 permits for garages at an estimated valuation of \$75,840.

Biggest building years in the township were recorded in 1953 and '52 when 637 and 641 new home permits, respectively, were issued. Biggest building year in the city was in 1954 when a total of 361 new home permits were given out at a total estimated value of \$5,846,000.

**Inside Features**

Bel-Aire Hills Civic Assn.	Classified Adv.	4A, 5A	
Elects New Officers	8A	Church Activities	2A
Falcons Slip into 3rd Place	2A	Editorial Features	2B
In Inter-Lakes League	7A	Michigan Mirror	2B
PTA Instructs School	1B	Neighborhood News	4A
Set at Clarenceville	1B	3A, 5A, 6A, 8A	
Bel-Aire Civic Assn. Gives	1B, 4B, 6B		
Views on Rezoning	5B	Sports Activities	7A

### Hatton Hardware Is Seized For Back Taxes

Hatton Hardware in Farmington was seized by the city January 14 for non-payment of taxes, an amount of the stock will be sold to satisfy a tax bill of \$864.86 owing the city and county.

A notice on the padlocked front door says a public auction of the stock will be held January 21, starting at 10 a.m.

Several times in the past the city has been forced to this step, but taxes were paid in time to avert the actual sale of the property. This is the first such sale in some years.

### On Liquor Licenses

The Township Board was notified this week by the Liquor Control Commission that it failed to renew by April 15 all licenses about to expire, the licenses would automatically be renewed.

### Reports Good On Most School Building Projects

Reports given at the Farmington School Board meeting Monday night revealed that work is progressing satisfactorily on all but two of the many construction projects now underway.

The major difficulties are reported on the Bond and Middlebelt school additions.

Work on the kindergarten and multi-purpose wing at Middlebelt school, which should be nearing completion, is now only 78 per cent done it was disclosed. Materials have not yet arrived, and the contractors expressed hope that they could have all work finished by February.

**DIFFICULTIES** in getting aluminum sash and frames for the Bond School addition is holding up work there, Architect John Allen said. He also reported that trouble had been encountered on the heating unit for the addition but that temporary units were put in so that the new kindergarten units in the addition could be used.

The Gill Road addition should be ready for occupancy by January 23, contractors said. Progress was reported as good on the addition in the Farmington Junior High addition and work advancing well on the Ten Mile, Shawwansaw and the new elementary unit additions, with no difficulties expected in finishing the jobs on schedule.

**SUPERINTENDENT G.V. Harrison** told the board that Federal authorities had made a recent check of the new Cloverdale grade school project in the city and reported it to be satisfactory. Most of the money for the project is provided from a Federal grant made to the School District earlier this year.

Harrison told the board, however, that if it were to continue on schedule and urged early board action in contracting to have a water main laid to the school site.

**INCLUDED** in the book is information on school enrollment, past and future, tax levies, teachers, future physical needs of the district, the administrative plan, financial statement, buildings and equipment, insurance carried, and charts showing where the money comes from and goes.

Bids for conversion of the Central school boiler were opened and read. The five basic bids ranged from \$3,550 to \$6,465, but all bid also on three alternatives. Bids will be discussed at the next board meeting.

**THE SECOND** community-board of education meeting will be held Thursday, February 6, at the new high school building, starting at 7 p.m. Among the items to be discussed are tax and new school construction.

The board approved contracts for four teachers: Bernice Forrest, fourth grade; Mary L. Johnson, 12 grades; Mary H. Walker, kindergarten; and M. Marjorie Ellis, homemaking. It also approved requests for release from contract for Lillian Dittman and Shirley Gallagher.

**IN OTHER** business it gave approval to the Detroit News for use of the auditorium April 2 for a law clinic, and accepted a bid from Harold Turner for a Ford station wagon, with a turn-in. It also awarded a bid for cabinets used in the instrumental music program, and purchased 36 folding music stands.

### Hope Sewer, Some Laterals Under Contract by Next July

By unanimous resolution Farmington Township Board Tuesday night set up a \$250 sewer connection charge which will finance the township's portion of the interceptor sewer. This was a big step toward an early start of the project.

Many in the large crowd attending the meeting applauded the final vote.

**HAROLD SCHONE**, director of the Oakland County department of public works, explained several of the township could use in financing its share of the cost.

He recommended the sewer connection charge as being most fair to all concerned.

It was suggested that owners of existing main up a survey wish to spread the charge over a 10-year period if they did not wish to pay a lump sum. All new home connections would probably pay the connection charge when the builder takes out the building permit.

**THE FINAL PLAN** will probably be submitted to the Oakland County supervisors January 24, said Mr. Schone. The tentative schedule can be followed, he said he hoped the contract for the sewer and some laterals will be let by July of this year. It would build from 10 to 12 months to build the sewer.

Subdivisions wishing to connect to the sewer would have to build their own sewer or the city, he stated, and each property owner would also pay the connection charge.

**THE BONDS** to be issued by the county for the project, which will cost over \$4 millions, would run for 30 years. The first payment would not be due until 1960. Payments by the four municipalities involved were figured on the bond interest rate of five per cent.

Farmington township, which benefits most from the sewer, would receive \$288,212 as its share of the project.

**THE SEWER** connection charges would meet obligations for the bonds and during the first years would build up a reserve fund. The project is designed to care for needs up to the year 1980, Mr. Schone said. It will tie in with the Evergreen sewer project, and work on the projects would go forward together.

**ERIAL PHOTOS** of the subdivisions were taken to figure existing homes. Engineering work has been mostly done on the main sewer, has just been started on the laterals.

**THE resolution** was moved by Wendell Brown, seconded by Elmer Avery, and all six present voted in favor.

**Call Special Twp. Meeting Saturday**

A special meeting of the Farmington Township Board has been called for this Saturday afternoon, January 18, at 2:30 p.m. by Supervisor Frank J. Stephenson.

Agenda items to be discussed include:

- (1) Discussion on a proposal by Reverend Donald Good of the recently organized St. John's American Lutheran Church to purchase the site of the church site on Gill Road to the City of Farmington.
- (2) Discussion on proposed appointment of Civil Defense official in the township and membership to township under C.D. program.
- (3) Further discussion on matter of additional appropriation for assessor's department to permit purchase of this department.
- (4) Proposed amendment to plumbing code.
- (5) Discussion on roads.

**Injured in Slide Fall At School Playground**

Six year old John Reed suffered a fractured skull and possible other internal injuries Monday morning when he fell from the 10 foot slide at the Middlebelt elementary playground.

He is still confined to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac for observation and treatment, his parents disclosed. John is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Reed of 25501 Westwood Drive.

**Subdivision Rezoned**

Forest Hills Subdivision on 12 Mile Road was rezoned from R2 up to R4 by the township board Tuesday night. A request for rezoning the May Nursery property was referred back to the county coordinating zoning committee for further study.