

Give 2 Reasons Why School Funds Needed

Two principal reasons have been given by school officials why more money is needed at this time with which to operate the Farmington public school system: (1) The placing of all youngsters on a full-day program for the first time in several years. (2) The continuous reduction in the rate allowed the school system from the 15 mill maximum tax rate allowed for county, township and school district taxes combined under state law.

Ever since the big residential building boom began in Farmington in 1952 and '53 there has been a critical shortage of classroom space resulting in several grades having to be placed on "double session" programs. The School Board was faced with the momentous task of not only providing enough classrooms to ease shortages at this time but also providing new buildings fast enough to keep pace with future rapid growth.

It was almost certain that by 1955 all elementary grades would be on "double sessions" and that secondary classrooms would be extremely over-crowded. As it turned out there were 4,430 enrolled as of September 1955. The school system has been able to improve, however, because new schools were already going up and would be ready for occupancy before the school year was out.

With the clamor growing louder and louder by the latter part of 1953 from parents in all sections of the school district, a full day of education for the youngsters at the School Board began planning for an extensive school building program. In March of 1954, a \$11 million bond issue for three new elementary schools was approved as the start of this long range building program. The goal set at this time was to have all children on full-day sessions by the start of the 1958-59 school year.

This goal was realized with the support of taxpayers in the community by their approval of another \$2 million bond issue in the County Tax Allocation Board set in 1954. It is estimated that enrollment at the start of the 1958-59 school year will be 6,833 and that there will be 230 classrooms available to take care of all grades on a full-day program.

As a result of the change to a full-day program for all youngsters, however, operation costs must naturally go up. Superintendent G. V. Harrison emphasized, "It is only common reasoning that it is cheaper to operate a school system when twice as many youngsters are using the same classrooms each day."

"THE CLASSROOMS are now available. Now we must catch up on operating funds providing the well rounded education that residential surveys have indicated they want," the superintendent of schools said.

And, the schools get what's left. This fairly well summarizes the position that school systems throughout Michigan are in as a result of the 15 mill tax limitation law passed in November of 1952 and put into effect in December of that same year.

Under provisions as spelled out in the State Constitution (Sec. 21, Article 10), the combined tax rates assessed by county and township governments and school districts may not exceed 15 mills (or \$15 per \$1,000 equalized valuation) without a specific vote of the people.

The County Tax Allocation Board sets the rates, the county government usually gets the break. Townships which can show real need are also allowed to levy a small tax. School districts get the remainder. "A feeling has been expressed at least in Oakland County, said Superintendent Harrison, that if the county government is to be asked for additional money it should be the school districts since people are more likely to support the school request."

SINCE 1955 the amount allowed the Farmington School District from the 15 mill "tax-pie" has steadily decreased from 10.63 mills to 8.52 mills being allowed this year, or a total decrease of 21.11 mills.

In 1956 the county increased its rate slightly thus reducing the school rate to 10.32 mills. Better than a mill reduction in the school rate was made in 1957 when the township levied a tax for the first time and took .36 per cent of a mill off the school district's rate. The county's school district with 9.14. This year the county increased its rate another .62 per cent of a mill.

Unfortunately, the school district never knows from one year to the next exactly what allocated millage will be allowed until around June, or when the equalized valuation of the county is known. At this time, this is the reason why a special election is necessary. Information was not available in time to permit a detailed study of what actual needs would be and still place a proposal to a vote of the people at the regular school election June 9.

Discuss Three New Ordinances For Wood Creek Farms Village

Three new ordinances now under consideration for the Village of Wood Creek Farms were the major items of discussion at the council meeting of the Village Council Tuesday night.

These are a zoning ordinance, which the planning commission has been working on for some time, a motor vehicle ordinance and a general nuisance ordinance.

Other members of the council were in agreement with Trustee Zearader that the minimum lot sizes in each of the three residential zones called for in the proposed zoning ordinance had been set too low. It was their feeling that the minimum lot sizes in each of the three zones should be more nearly that of the average size of lots on which homes are already built.

TRUSTEE Harry Lang was of the opinion that allowing homes to be built on smaller lots would be harmful to the village and also result in sewer system difficulties.

Trustee Zearader agreed to contact Wallace Kinnear, head of the planning commission, and express the council's opinion regarding this matter.

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Dedication of Post Office Is Delayed to Fall

Originally planned for July, official dedication of the new Farmington post office has now been tentatively re-scheduled for September, according to Postmaster Henry Trombley.

When an official date is set, dedication ceremonies will be in charge of a special committee of the Farmington Chamber of Commerce.

THE MOVE to the new building was completed Saturday and Monday morning deliveries began at the new site. In addition to more space, Postmaster Trombley and a couple of the supervisory personnel now have offices.

Originally a blacktopped parking area had been planned for the rear, but this has been only gravelled now. A planned entrance from Farmington Road is being held up through inability to get from the city a permit to move the Kenn Loomis garage.

Parking is still on a tented basis at the post office, with some patrons using a dirt area just west of the main entrance.

Wood Creek Will Crack Down On Those Not Getting Permits

The Wood Creek Farms Village Council promised a "crack-down" on persons putting up auxiliary buildings or making additions without getting the necessary building permits from the village.

It was reported that Jack Weinstein of 2775 Wellington had put up an auxiliary building on his property without first getting a permit and that Maurice Tyghem of 28225 Millbrook has not yet taken out a permit for an addition which he is making onto his home, although advised to do so some time ago.

Village President Alvin Clark agreed to contact Tyghem and ask that he comply immediately. If he does not, the village head will ask that the Farmington Township building inspector put a "stop work order" on the building.

In other action, the council approved the appointment of D. C. McKay, P. G. Schlotterbeck and Richard M. Weedon for one year terms on the planning commission. Their one year terms of office expired July 1.

The council also discussed the advisability of providing liability insurance and workman's compensation for persons employed by the village. Trustee Harry Lang was appointed to study the matter further and report to the council at its next regular meeting.

The treasurer's report revealed that the village had received a total of \$5,359.82 in general fund and road funds during the last five months and expended \$4,040.05 during the same period.

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PARENTS CAN REST assured that their youngsters will be well cared for when they send them to the playground. All Farmington Area Recreation Commission workers are trained teachers who have been carefully selected for their jobs as supervisors at the playgrounds or lake or for driving the buses, Director Warren Piche said. Members of the recreation staff are: Front row, left to right, Director Piche, Sylvia Bates, Sylvia McGrath, Eleanor Snyder, Kathryn Van Hoy and Clara Simpson. Second row, left to right: Irv Sutherland, Torma Maatla, Warren McKenzie, Kathryn Kinney and Margaret Hart. Back row, left to right: Clara Sherwidge, Ted Bielecki, Ray Sherpits, Norm Kinney and Walter Gale.

Vacant House in Twp. Catches Fire Twice

A fire at a vacant house on Ten Mile Road just east of Haggerty Road called out firemen Tuesday night.

Monday night firemen brought flames at the home under control only to be called out again Tuesday morning to extinguish another blaze in the same building.

Children's Hospital to Expand Greatly By First of Year

Farmington Children's Hospital, a branch of Lapeer State Home and Training School, the last 21 years, will soon be a much larger operation.

Although a hospital for mentally retarded children, it will soon go under control of Plymouth State Home and Training School. Gail S. Smith has been resident director here during that time, and starting from scratch.

He returns to Lapeer Aug. 17, although he will also act as consultant here on a part time basis for some time.

Registration Is Ended July 7

Final date for voter registration is July 7, but there are two different closing hours which are a bit confusing.

The final hour for registration will be 5 p.m. to qualify electors in the city and township to vote in the school special election to be held July 14.

Final hour to make application for registration is 8 p.m. to electors for the August 5 primary and the other special elections, incorporation of Quakertown Village, and annexation to the City of Farmington.

Application for registration should be made with the clerk of the city or township in which the elector resides.

Bonds Delayed

A large backlog of applications before the state application finance commission may delay approval of bonds for the Clarenceville building program by a month or so.

Meantime the school is going ahead, choosing an architect and starting to plan for the needed expansion recently voted.

Apartments, Stores Likely On Rezoning

Dwellings and stores are the indicators of a growing community, and both seem very much in the immediate future for the City of Farmington.

A&P STORES seem ready to move toward purchase of part of the Nowels property. It was this tract that the council has rezoned 2 1/2 acres on the north end of the Nowels property, where they had a few weeks ago had a bowling alley and service station.

The Nowels family had requested zoning be changed from residential to commercial. The council two weeks ago had rezoned 2 1/2 acres on the north end of the Nowels property, where they had a few weeks ago had a bowling alley and service station.

COUNCILMEMBERS heard no objections to the rezoning, they wanted answered. They declared the hearing closed, and will give a decision on the rezoning at the next meeting July 14.

TWO additional items were placed on the agenda at Monday's special meeting. THE CITY Planning Commission had recommended to the council rezoning of the Crossett property, from commercial back to R-3, which is multiple dwelling.

This land is located north of the Farmington Shopping Plaza, bounded on the north by Shawanawee and the east by Mooney.

James Allen, although not the architect, represented the two Detroiters who proposed to build apartments there.

EIGHT BUILDINGS, each containing eight two-bedroom units, are planned for the site. They would be arranged in a U-shape, with the open end of the U facing east onto Mooney.

They will be dressed in their new uniforms which they received recently.

Oweh also disclosed that 64 registered nurses and nurses aides from the Sister Kenny Hospital have signed up with the Farmington Township Civil Defense organization.

Negligence Charge On Driver Dropped

Four Farmington residents were reported by the Michigan Secretary of State's Office as having lost their right to drive in an article which appeared in last week's Enterprise.

Later information revealed that one of the four, William H. Carruthers of 3750 Wendee Lane, appealed to the Secretary of State Board in Pontiac in June and had his sentence suspended and charges dropped.

THE IMPORTANT feature to this garage moving is that the front wall and a section on the south front side (shown here as the glass entrance area) will have to be removed and rebuilt of brick.

Interior walls will be removed. The children's section will be behind the glass windows at the right front. Later on the south side, there will be a small court or garden which can be viewed from the proposed new reading-lounge back of the glass entrance.

Pare Township Budget \$56,825

Unable to get an attorney general's opinion without a long wait, and having failed to receive an increased millage from the county tax allocation board, the township board met Monday night and cut the current budget back to about the same figure as the past year.

Proposed this year, \$287,324 Revised this year, 230,499 Cut out, 56,825

ONE LARGE item cut was \$16,855 in matching road funds for the county road commission. The township board also cut the amount will not get done this year.

THE ASSESSOR office was allowed to keep the two men (one temporary) recently hired, but otherwise its allocation was reduced. The assessor will do reappraisal work which would be completed within this fiscal year. Original budget was \$293,200 and this was cut to \$287,324.

There will be no safety increases for any township help. The sum of \$5,000 for voting machine work will be eliminated or pared into alternate fees, litigation fund, remodeling of library room, fire and bookkeeping machines and police expenses.

The minor additions included \$1,000 for recreation commissions. These are huge programs this summer. The Farmington group will get \$600 more, bringing the total up to \$2,100, and Clarenceville was boosted from \$1,000 up to \$1,400.

Youths Confess Area Break-Ins

Four Farmington youths, apprehended Monday night by Livonia police, have confessed to several break-ins in Farmington City and Township as well as Livonia.

They have confessed to at least some of the frequent break-ins at Moffatt's service station at 30259 Grand River as well as break-ins at Neelby's Pratchi Medicines on Grand River at Nine Mile and the Blue Flame Fuel Oil Co. at 3548 Eight Mile.

They also admitted breaking into the Meadowbrook Country Club in Livonia. Police officers expressed belief that they were also involved in other recent break-ins in the area.

Some of the items stolen from the various establishments include candy, pop, cigarettes and small amounts of money.

Because all the boys are under 17 years of age, their names cannot be disclosed. They have been turned over to juvenile authorities.

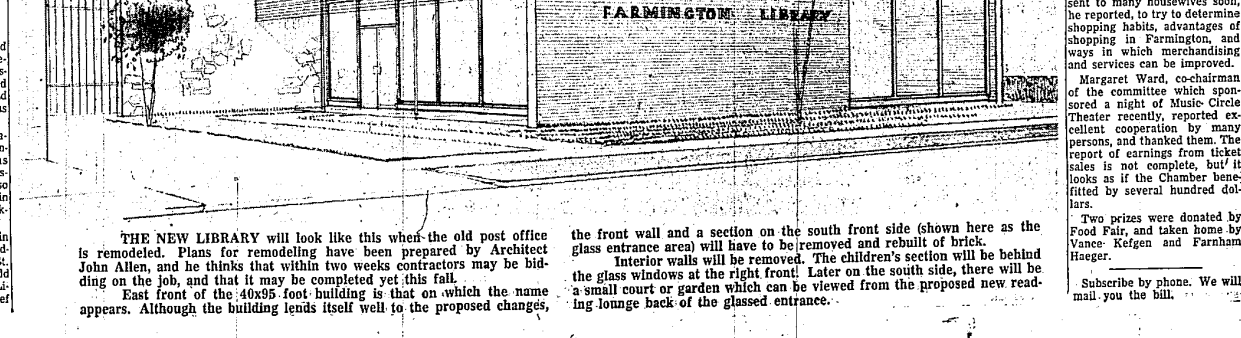
garage in its present location straddles the proposed road running from Farmington Road to the rear of the new post office. With permission finally granted, power company workers are moving a pole also in the way, and the rear entrance road will now be built.

CHARLES BRIDGES, Joycee president, told the Chamber members briefly about his active organization. He said there were 10 members, and told their plans for the coming circus, and the city park they intend to help develop.

Mrs. Charles Bridges reported the new membership committee has made a fine start, and the retail committee has been reorganized and asked to come up with some community activity soon.

QUESTIONAIRES will be sent to many households soon, he reported, try to determine shopping habits, with the year's shopping in Farmington, and ways in which merchandising and services can be improved.

Margaret Ward, co-chairman of the committee which sponsored a night of Music Circle Theater recently, reported excellent cooperation by many persons at the show. The support of earnings from ticket sales is not complete, but it looks as if the Chamber benefited by several hundred dollars.



THE NEW LIBRARY will look like this when the old post office is remodeled. Plans for remodeling have been prepared by Architect John Allen, and he thinks that within two weeks contractors may be bidding on the job, and that it may be completed yet this fall. East front of the 40x65-foot building is that on which the name appears. Although the building lends itself well to the proposed changes, the front wall and a section on the south front side (shown here as the glass entrance area) will have to be removed and rebuilt of brick. Interior walls will be removed. The children's section will be behind the glass windows at the right front. Later on the south side, there will be a small court or garden which can be viewed from the proposed new reading-lounge back of the glass entrance.