

# The Farmington Enterprise

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FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1966

FOURTEEN PAGES



JACK COTTON, Chairman of the Farmington M.C.A. Board of Managers, is shown briefing six of the seven elected board members. This brings the number of Farmington M.C.A. directors to twenty-four. Pictured

are (L. to R., standing) Alastair McGraw, William E. Morgan, Dr. M. L. Hutton; and (L. to R., seated) Jean Talph, Allan L. Kennerston, Glenn A. Tinnah. Not pictured is Robert J. Clarke.

## Costs To Increase Under Twp. Or City

"Costs for necessary services to Township residents will increase with growth no matter what kind of government is in effect," has been stated before and was reiterated at the Township's Monday night meeting of the Pre-Incorporation Study Committee at William Grace School.

A special sub-committee report on local needs of the community in the areas of municipal services and public improvements and utilities, prepared by Charles Fritz, Norman Kreider and Russell Nankervis, was presented to the committee and an audience of about 100 citizens.

sonable to predict that the next five years will show an increase in costs whether under a Township or a Home Rule City."

**THE REPORT LISTED AS "essential" the following services: fire, police, sewer, water, refuse disposal, health, roads, justice, and building department. "Elective" services listed were: parks and recreation, library, street lighting, and sidewalks.**

The report explored each service separately as follows: Under Township government police and fire protection as provided by voted levies which must be renewed by vote or services curtailed. Under a City government, the services would be paid from total millage permitted in the charter, would not have to be re-voted, and service would be assured.

Water and sewer facilities under Township government.

See INCORPORATION Page 6A

## Election Date Pending For Incorporation Vote

The Oakland County Boundaries Committee met last Thursday, February 17, to consider a petition from Farmington Township for incorporation as a city. The committee said it would meet again prior to March 16 meeting of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors at which time it is expected they will set a date for a special election to allow voters of Farmington Township to decide the incorporation issue.

It is not expected the special election date will be set before the end of May and probably will not fall until sometime in June. Members to a charter commission must also be elected at the same time.

**APPROXIMATELY 20,000 residents living in Farmington Township and in the villages of Wood Creek Farms and Quaker town will be affected by the incorporation.**

Attorney Wendell Brown led a group of Township residents in objecting to the incorporation at the Feb. 17 meeting of the Boundaries Committee. Farmington Township Supervisor Curtis H. Hall and Township Attorney Joseph J. Brennan attended the meeting representing the petitioners.

Supervisor Hall, in commenting on lawsuits started by those objecting to the incorporation, termed the court action as "the kind of gymnastics designed to thwart the will of the people."

**BROWN QUESTIONED the legality of the petitions and asked the Boundaries Committee to "use the greater limits of your time" in setting a date for a special election. He is hopeful a decision from Judge Adams in Oakland County Circuit Court will hold the petitions for incorporation invalid and preclude any special election.**

Brennan told the Boundaries Committee he was not acting in his official capacity as Township Attorney in the incorporation movement. He said he had no financial interest in it. He also stated charges from Township residents leveled at officials were unfounded. "I can't understand the rationale of their arguments at all," he said. "They (Township officials) will be out of a job."

See ELECTION DATE Page 6A

At the February 7 meeting Charles Lorion suggested that a sub-committee be appointed to explore the question with city officials; and at last Monday's meeting Terry Brennan appointed Richard Gak, Thomas Duke and Clifford Moorhead to work with him in carrying out the suggestion.

**Offer Best Wishes To Newspapermen**

The Farmington City Council unanimously approved a motion from Councilman Pete Peterson to draft a letter of appreciation to Michael J. Kiley, Executive Assistant to the Publisher of the Farmington Enterprise, for his 12 years of service to the community as Editor and General Manager of the Enterprise.

Councilman Peterson said, "I know I express the feelings of the entire council when I say we are sorry to see him go but wish him well."

## City Approves Appointments

Appointments to the Farmington Youth Guidance Committee were given the stamp of approval from the Farmington City Council at their regular meeting Monday night, February 21.

The same list of appointments is expected to be acted on by the Farmington Township Board and the Farmington School District Board of Education at their regular meetings next Monday night, February 28.

**YOUTH GUIDANCE appointments are:** James Alstrom (owner), Sanford Bloomberg, M.D. (psychiatrist), Jean Brush (homemaker), Ruby Klein (teacher), Edward Klein (pharmaceutical salesman), Wesley Mitchell (engineer), Margaret Morris (teacher), Hugh Wilson (Director of Special Education, Farmington Public Schools), Clayton Weeks (junior high counselor), Norman Stainbrook (Juvenile Officer, Farmington Township Police) and Robert O. Deadman (Juvenile Officer, Farmington City Police).

**FARMINGTON ATTORNEY Albert P. Herzog, Jr. of 515 Schulte Drive in Farmington was re-appointed to the Farmington District Library Board by action of the City Council Monday night. Herzog has served as Chairman of the Library Board. The new term expires March 19, 1970.**

In another appointment confirmed at Monday night's Council meeting, Mrs. Hazel Leland was re-appointed as delegate to the Beautification Council of Southeastern Michigan.

## Four To Talk Merging Of City And Twp.

A sub-committee of the Township of Farmington's Incorporation Study Committee has been appointed to meet with City of Farmington officials to discuss the possible merging of the City and Township.

The question of the advisability and/or possibilities of combining the two governmental areas into one city has come up repeatedly at all four of the sub-committee's meetings as well as outside of the meetings.

At the February 7 meeting Charles Lorion suggested that a sub-committee be appointed to explore the question with city officials; and at last Monday's meeting Terry Brennan appointed Richard Gak, Thomas Duke and Clifford Moorhead to work with him in carrying out the suggestion.

# Farmington Soldier Killed in Viet Nam

The first Farmington soldier killed in Viet Nam fighting will be buried with full military honors this Saturday, Monday, February 21, would have been Sgt. John W. Groover's twenty-sixth birthday but he was killed February 14 in action north of Saigon when an anti-personnel

Christina, 8, were visiting her family in Ulm, Germany when news came of his death. Mrs. Groover and the children are now making their home with his mother, Mrs. Edmund Zbikowski of 32840 Raphael in Farmington, and her family.

Sgt. Groover's body is being returned to Farmington Wednesday night (February 23) and will rest at the Thayer Funeral Home, Grand River Avenue at Liberty Street in Farmington, until services on Saturday morning, February 26, at 9 a.m. from the Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Farmington.



Sgt. Groover

Six soldiers from the U.S. Army's 28th Air Defense Artillery Group stationed at Selfridge Air Force Base will serve as pallbearers. Another six soldiers from the 28th will serve as an honor guard at the church and firing squad at graveside services. Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield, For Army Service is also planned on Friday evening, Feb. 25, at 8 p.m. in the Thayer Funeral Home.

**Sgt. GROOVER attended the Farmington Public Schools from the kindergarten through the fourth grade. He left high school in his junior year to pursue his Army career. He had served four years in Germany where he met his wife and had been stationed in Washington and Hawaii the past two years prior to being sent to Viet Nam.**

Mrs. Zbikowski quoted Sgt. Groover's letters from Viet Nam as saying "the people over here are treacherous. We can't tell the South Vietnamese from the Viet Cong. We are in continuous state of apprehension." His mother said, "We have no business over there. We should be in Cuba, if anywhere, we should be in our own country." The last time she saw her

son was in 1962 after his return from Germany.

**Sgt. GROOVER'S wife and children had been with him in Hawaii where he was undergoing jungle warfare training. They were planning to await his return from Viet Nam in June at his mother's home.**

Surviving Sgt. Groover be-



Sgt. JOHN GROOVER'S widow holds up a picture of her husband, killed in Viet Nam fighting February 14, as their children (L to R) Johnny, 4, Joseph, 2, and Christina, 8, look on in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Zbikowski of 32840 Raphael in Farmington. Mrs. Groover and her children plan to live with the Zbikowskis until they can find a home of their own.

## Four Injured In Car Mishaps On Icy Roads

Four persons were injured in two separate accidents this past week in Farmington Township. The accidents occurred last Friday.

Walter W. Lavaley, 16, of 29701 Belfast in Farmington and a passenger in his car, Dave Johnson, 14, of 20548 Poinciana in Detroit, suffered serious injuries when their car spun out of control on Kenwood Street just north of Eight Mile Road, and skidded off the road and crashed into a tree stump.

John H. Akley, 46, of 32260 Meadowbrook Lane in Livonia was seriously injured when his car crashed into the rear of a car driven by Joan Gail Patrick, 41, of 28333 Bayberry in Farmington. The woman, who was waiting for traffic to clear up on Orchard Lake Road before making a left hand turn, suffered minor injuries. Both cars were headed south on Orchard Lake Road when the accident occurred.

## Long Evening Ahead For Township Planners

A long evening seems to be ahead for the Township Planning Commission this Thursday, February 24, with a total of 18 items on the agenda, including two public hearings.

Scheduled for public hearing is a request for rezoning of Drake Road, north of the western extension of Oakland Avenue, and south of a 540 foot deep commercial zone on Grand River. To allow construction of an apartment development to be known as Kiristone Downs. This request was reconsidered and set for public hearing after ter proposals submitted on their development would bring in a badly needed sewer for the area.

Another public hearing concerns rezoning of lot 82 of Regal Orchards subdivision from residential to general business. The lot fronts on Haynes Street, between Nine Mile and Grand River and the owner wishes to use it for rental purposes.

Mercy Subdivision, on 29 acres north of Eleven Mile Road and east of Our Lady of Mercy High School, will be reviewed. The new rezoning will change the area as Mercy Sub and presented. Proponents for Camelot Court Sub, proposed on 77.12 acres along Inlander Road from 11 Mile Road to the I-696 expressway, will request slightly under 22 acres to be rezoned from residential to multiple, seven units per acre; and will under 12 acres, from residential to multiple, ten units per acre. The other 43 acres would be for single family residential and needs no rezoning.

A site plan for a proposed apartment development on 12.3 acres on the south side of Twelve Mile Road approximately 700 feet west of Orchard Lake Road will be presented for review.

**ANOTHER REQUEST for multiple zoning will be for 10.3 acres at the southwest corner of 13 Mile and Farmington Roads. To be called Colony Park Subdivision, the request calls for eight apartment buildings with a total of 82 units.**

In order to meet state health requirements, owners of the Hutcheson Convalescent Home at 21620 Middlebelt Road will ask for rezoning of a lot to allow expansion of their facilities. The lot, 105 x 105 feet, is located on Middlebelt Road between Liberty and Independence streets.

A continued review of a request for commercial zoning of three lots facing Shiawassee Road between Purdue and Colgate streets will be made. The intended use is for a proposed office building.

The Clarenceville School District has requested the Planning Commission to reconsider its approval of the Waggon Wheel Trailer Court extension and is so listed on the agenda.

**Collections Log On Citizens Fund**

Contributions are lagging on the citizens fund which is to be used for dissemination of information regarding incorporation of the Township into a Home Rule City.

The total in the fund, started two weeks ago after it was announced that the Township is enjoined from spending funds for this purpose, is only \$43 to date.

The money collected will be used to prepare and mail to every home in Farmington Township a copy of the final report of the pre-incorporation study committee. Douglas McArthur, a member of the study committee, is acting as treasurer of the fund.

Contributions may be made by mail to McArthur at 21218 St. Francis Street, or to Terry Brennan at 32345 Grand River Avenue.

## Planners Outline Six-Year Program

A six-year capital improvement program schedule developed by the Farmington City Planning Commission was presented to the Farmington City Council Monday night, February 21, and will be held for further study and review.

A total of 16 projects were outlined in the City Planners' report. The improvement program covers the period of 1966 through 1971 with cost estimates and method of financing listed for each project.

Highway improvements accounted for five of the projects with the City's share of all capital improvements estimated at \$1,191,600 of a total program cost of \$2,843,000.

**THE PROGRAM includes plans for a community activities building, swimming pool and area incinerator project as well as a park development, street lighting, sidewalk construction, off-street parking and other projects. It will be used as a guide by the City Council in the development of budget appropriations in capital out-**

lays and will be reviewed annually by the Planning Commission for possible updating based on present needs and financing.

The Farmington City Planners also submitted to the Council Monday night their report on a proposed off-street parking plan for the north side of Grand River Avenue between Hawthorn and 14th streets. The plan, which will be further considered by the Council at their next regular meeting, March 7, calls for dividing the off-street parking improvement program into three-block sections.

The Planning Commission maintains each block has its own independent problems and each can best be solved within the separate blocks.

A meeting with the affected property owners will be called once cost estimates on the proposed improvements are obtained. The program would be financed by the establishment of a special assessment district if the property owners are agreeable.



**THE FIRST CHEVROLET** to join the fleet of Driver Education Department cars in the Farmington School District is pictured above being turned over to Allen B. Judge (right), Coordinator of Driver Education for the Farmington Public Schools. Bob Leppo, General Manager of Bill Root Chevrolet, 32315 Grand River Avenue in Farmington. The participation of local automobile dealers in the Farmington School District Driver Education Program has helped considerably in keeping the cost down while allowing the program to expand with each year's new increase of student drivers.

## Announce Dates For Bd. Of Review

The only time of the year that property owners may question the assessments on their properties and have assessments lowered if they feel they are too high is drawing near again.

Each year during the early part of March, as required by law, the Board of Review for both the City of Farmington and Farmington Township convene to hear any and all complaints that property owners may have concerning the valuations that they have on their assessments.

After the board of review sessions are concluded and any necessary changes in assessments have been made, the tax roll for the coming year is officially established and cannot be changed until the following year.

**MEMBERS OF THE city board of review, Delos Hamlin, Harrison Johnson and John**

Clappison, will meet on four separate occasions to question assessments with individual property owners. The meetings, to be held in the municipal building at 26800 Liberty Street, are scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, March 8 — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Monday, March 14 — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Tuesday, March 15 — 9 a.m. to 12 noon.  
Wednesday, March 16 — 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The township board of review members are James Skillman, Harold Rowe and Douglas MacArthur whose appointment to replace Robert Harris is expected to be formalized at next Monday's Township Board meeting. This board will meet at the Farmington Township Hall, 31555 Eleven Mile Road, at the following times:

Tuesday, March 8 — 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
Monday, March 14 — 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
Tuesday, March 15 — 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.