

The Observer

OF FARMINGTON

This Week's Press Run
87,450

The six Observer News-Papers of Michigan's Largest Weekly Newspaper Group, cover a 100-mile radius area of local interest, saturating coverage of dynamic Western Water County.

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Committee Recommends June 6 Incorporation Vote

It looks as though the general election on the question of incorporating Farmington Township into a home rule city will be Monday, June 6.

At least that's what the boundaries committee of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors voted to recommend.

The Board of Supervisors will meet to act, but indications are that it will follow the recommendations of the boundaries committee and set the June 6 date.

Committee action on setting the date came last week after the committee heard an opinion from corporation counsel Robert P. Allen that neither the committee nor the Board of Supervisors had any authority to determine the legality of the petitions filed and that this

action by a legislative body prior to that group taking action.

Wendell Brown, attorney in the suit which was filed by Conrad Braseth of Farmington Township, has told The Observer that as soon as the Board of Supervisors acts he will request a ruling from the court.

It was estimated that the cost of the election to the Township would be between \$2,200 and \$2,400 to pay the election workers in the 15 precincts.

The \$500 filing fee with the county clerk will cover both the ballots and the election policies.

An interesting point to this

election is the fact that the county will oversee and conduct the election. Township officials will not be in charge of the procedures.

Township voting machines will be used, however. With the annual school election scheduled just one week later, Township Clerk Floyd A. Cairns was

making scheduling plans which would allow him to hold some machines in reserve for the use of the schools.

The voting machines used in the June 5 election could not be used for the schools as they must be locked up for 10 days pending any request for a recount on the outcome.

Subcommittee Reports Finances Better in City

By LOU CARTIER

The talk was money and the statements were concrete as Tuesday night's incorporation meeting. This was the fourth in a series of public discussions, designed as aids to the public understanding of an imminent issue, that of Farmington's becoming a city or remaining a township.

Clifford B. Morehead, acting chairman of the subcommittee charged with the research and presentation of the community's financial resources, offered a complete and hard-hitting report of the facts, opinions and analyses researched by his committee.

Members of the finance committee were Thomas A. Duke, of the Farmington Township Board; Calvin F. Opperhauser, citizen member and Moorehead, also a citizen member. All are represented on the parent incorporation study committee as individuals, rather than representatives of a political office.

Their report hit on taxes, fees and other county and state revenues, and various forms of disbursements, such as road maintenance, police and fire departments, justice courts and rubbish removal. They presented this information in the form of a mock balance sheet, listing the receipts and the deb-

its which Farmington Township has faced over the fiscal year ending March 31, 1966, and its counterpart, had it been a city during the same period of time.

Supplementing this comparison was a projection of the fiscal year for the township as of 1965, were it to lose through annexation a key fragment of its boundaries, namely the home of Farmington's two largest taxpayers, The Star Cutter Company and an Independence Green.

This "target area," used for purposes of illustration, comprises 14.7 percent of the total township land area; and, under present zoning regulations, will provide 22.8 percent of the ultimate tax base and will hold 10 percent of the ultimate population.



Foltz Resigns DPS Position

Farmington's Director of Public Safety Maurice D. Foltz has resigned, effective April 1, to accept a position as police commissioner of Sterling Township.

That was the announcement by City Manager John Dinao after a meeting with Foltz.

Farmington Trades With Jonesville

Farmington's Mayor Willber V. Brotherton will travel to Jonesville on Monday, May 16, as part of the annual Mayor's Exchange Day of Michigan Week. In turn Jonesville's Mayor Graydon East, will visit Farmington for the day.

Jonesville is a rural community of about 2,000 in the southern part of the state. It is located just north of Hillsdale.

Farmington Township Revamps Election Precincts, Polling Spots

Farmington Township Clerk Floyd A. Cairns has announced the realignment of voting precincts in the Township and the addition of five new polling places thus bringing the total number of precincts to 15.

Under state law a precinct must have at least 600 registered voters but no more than 1,400 voters within its boundaries. There are currently 13,700 registered voters in the Township.

If the election date on the incorporation question is set for June 6 registrations must under state law be closed 30 days prior. This means that one must register at the Township Clerk's office on or before May 10 to vote in either the June 6 election or the annual school election which is set for June 13.

New precinct boundaries, polling places and number of current registrations are:

Precinct 1 bounded by Gill Rd. on the east to Tuck Rd. on the west, Eight Mile on the south to Folsom on the 1966 expressway on the north, will vote at the Gill Rd. School with 995 registered voters.

Tuck Rd. is the eastern boundary of the new precinct two, which goes north to Grand River, west along Grand River

to Middlebelt then north to 8 Mile Rd. and then west to Orchard Lane. The polling place will be located at the fire hall on Wheeler St. There are 738 registered to vote in this area. Boundaries for precinct three (Continued on Page 18-B)

Spring Adult Education Team Features 4 Classes

Four new classes are being offered in the spring term of Farmington Public School's Adult Education program. They include Golf, Driver's Education for Adults, Current American Foreign Policy Issues and Advertising.

Registration for the 10 week term which begins the week of March 28 has been set for March 23 and 24 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. in Farmington High School Lobby.

The golf class, designed for men and women, will be taught by George Gwendich. Participants will meet in Farmington High School gym, followed by 8 outdoor lessons at the All Star Driving Range, Grand River Ave. The class meets Monday and Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. The course fee is \$10.

Ten hours of classroom training and five hours driving time are included in the Driver's Education for Adults class which will meet on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. in Farmington High School. The fee is \$35.

Current American Foreign Policy Issues will examine (Continued on Page 18-B)



R. LEWIS "BOB" BROWN was honored last week when he received a Senatorship to the Farmington Jaycee. He is the first Michigan Jaycee who rocks. Brown and his wife, Margaret, have four children. They live in Farmington Township.

Committee to Preserve Township Status Organizes

A Committee for the Preservation of Farmington Township, Inc. to oppose the move toward incorporation of the township to a home rule city has been formed.

Wendell Brown, attorney and spokesman for the group, said that it would file the necessary papers with the state to qualify as a non-profit organization.

He told The Observer that approximately "50 people" were

present at the by-invitation-only meeting held last week in the bank building at Orchard and 10 Mile.

Under this the group would not be required to pay taxes on any funds raised and individuals could not be held financially responsible for any debts incurred by the organization.

Brown said that the group has been formed to operate during the coming campaign on the election on whether or not

to incorporate as a home rule city.

Last week the Boundaries Committee of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors voted to recommend to the County Governing Board that an election on the incorporation issue be set for Monday, June 6.

Brown promised that this committee would present the case against incorporation to the public. To date the study committee set up by the Township to consider the question has been emphasizing the positive benefits that would be derived should Farmington Township become a city.

Annexation Talk Set at East Junior

Dr. William R. Gable, assistant director of the Institute of Public Administration and an associate professor at the University of Michigan, will discuss "City Incorporations and Annexations" March 18 at the East Junior High School gymnasium. Beginning at 8 p.m., the program is open to the public. It is sponsored by the University of Michigan Extension Service and The Republican Women's Organization of Farmington.

Gable received his BA and MA degrees from the University of Louisiana and his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Chicago. While in Chicago he also served as Ford Foundation Fellow.

He has been active in research, consultation and teaching in the local and metropolitan government field since joining the U. of M. faculty in 1956.

In 1959-60 Gable was secretary of the Metropolitan Government Study Commission in Michigan. From 1957 to 1964 he assisted in the formulation of research projects and conducted research for the Southern Michigan Metropolitan Research Corporation and the Metropolitan Fund.

He has written articles for local, national and international journals on topics related to local, metropolitan and public administration education problems.

The newly formed committee has 20 members on its Board of Directors and Brown said that the officers had not been chosen as yet.

On the sign-in sheet which Brown showed to The Observer there were approximately 25 to 30 signatures or two thirds of the sheet was filled out.

Four names stood out: Felix Raymond and Conrad Braseth, both of whom have filed civil suits opposing the incorporation move in the Oakland County Circuit Court; Audrey Fogel, the wife of a councilman from the Village of Quakerston who spoke against incorporation at a public hearing of the Boundaries Committee in Pontiac; and George Nahstoll, Treasurer of the Farmington Board of Education.

Tables Electrical Ordinance

The adoption of a city ordinance repealing the requirement for metal electrical raceways in industrial and commercial buildings was tabled at Monday night's Council session of the Farmington City Council.

Councilman John A. Allen asked for the reconsideration of the ordinance, which was scheduled to be enacted upon, until its next regular session.

The Council also directed City (Continued on Page 18-B)

Sewer Problem Plagues Bel Aire Sub. Resident

Boyd Baker of 23823 Colchester, Farmington, appeared before the Farmington City Council Monday night to complain about a sewer problem in the Bel Aire subdivision which has caused an estimated \$3,500 worth of damage to his basement over the past five years.

"Nothing has been done about the problem," Baker said, "and I am fed up."

City Manager John Dinao told the Council that the City had conducted a TV inspection of that sewer line during the past few weeks and could find nothing that was causing the

back-up.

"There is really no positive action which can be taken," he said, "other than a closer surveillance and maintenance of the pipe."

Dinao pointed out that an eight inch line was constructed in the Bel Aire area rather than the usual 12 inch, but added that he did not think that this was the cause of the blockage.

He pointed out that a roller sewer could be constructed and estimated that this would cost \$2,000, but wondered if this would alleviate the situation.

The other possibility suggested by Dinao would be to install an alert system in the line which would give the city 24 hour coverage of the area and give the city a chance to clear out the line when it appeared ready to back up. He estimated that such a system would cost about \$500 to install.

Councilman John A. Allen suggested that perhaps a sump pump could be installed in Baker's basement to keep it from flooding.

Dinao told The Observer after the meeting that the city would not get involved in installing private sump pumps and any city action that would be taken would deal with the public sewage system.

Baker told the Council that he believes that it is simply a matter of time before the sewer on a roller coaster type of grading. He said that he thought the entire line should be dug up and a new one installed.

The Council instructed Dinao to examine the matter further and to report back at its next session with possibilities for solving the problem.



THE FARMINGTON FLYERS Midget Hockey Team will represent the metropolitan area March 19 and 20 at a national tournament in Dayton, Ohio. Last weekend the team was in Ontario representing the area in the Mitchell's Minor Hockey playoffs. They tied one game and won one in that competition. All members of the team are between the ages of 14 and 16.

March 27 thru April 7
HELP US CELEBRATE!
WIN \$50

Watch for Details in Next Newspaper

Clean-Up Is Promise

The members of Girl Scout Junior Troop #78 have promised to clean up the city parks at regular intervals as their promise to the community as a part of Girl Scout week. Farmington City Clerk Trent Quinn made the promise to the City Council at its regular session Monday night.

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