

'No Plans For Annexation,' Claims City

Rumors of a city move to annex a portion of the township were denied Wednesday night by Farmington City Manager John Dinan at the meeting of the Future Farmington Area Study Committee.

Dinan told the group that "the city has no plans for annexation of portions of the township even though this was the biggest issue in the incorporation election.

"We will not try nor will we encourage any moves until the study is completed and some form of decision is made. The Council would, in addition, discourage any attempts toward annexation by the residents and any votes for annexation by city residents until the study is completed," the city manager said.

"I believe that I am speaking for the entire Council in this regard," Dinan asserted.

Councilman John Allen, who was present as the city's representative to the committee, said that Dinan's comments summed up the feelings of the Council.

MAYOR WILBUR V. BROTHERTON is out

of town and could not be reached for comment.

Mayor Pro Tem Howard Thayer told The Farmington Enterprise & Observer that "the Council has agreed to do nothing that would hamper the proposed study.

"We feel this is only fair if the committee wants to make a concentrated effort for an area-wide study," Thayer said.

REPORTEDLY the council had met with representatives of the study committee prior to the Oct. 23 incorporation but had declined to make its stand public until after the vote.

The councilmen believed that if it made its position public then the city could be accused of meddling in the township campaign.

Dinan alluded to this Wednesday night when he told Township Trustee Thomas Nolan that "we didn't want to get into the township election."

Nolan told the committee that "I am sure John means what he says. He is a man of integrity, but that will not stop any annexation attempts by the residents.

"The city officials can't stop such attempts any more than I can stop any further incorporation attempts in the township."

SINCE MONDAY'S narrow defeat of the incorporation proposal, the prospects for a new incorporation petition being filed with the County Board of Supervisors seems almost certain.

Frederick Lichtman of the Citizens Council for Community Development said Monday night that he anticipates such an effort.

Any such moves toward either annexation or incorporation are feared by the Future Farmington Area Study Committee which hopes to be able to sponsor an objective study of the growth and development of the entire 36 square mile area without having any hot local political issues intervene.

The committee, comprised of representatives of the Jaycees, the Farmington Board of Commerce, the League of Women Voters, representa-

tives of the city, the Villages of Quakertown and Wood Creek Farms, was formed almost a year ago to explore various alternatives of future development.

Nolan serves on the committee as "a private citizen" and not as a representative of the township board.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT the committee discussed the idea of requesting the citizens to hold off on any such moves, but rejected the idea on the supposition that it could not tell the citizenry what to do.

At Wednesday night's session the committee repeated its stand that it was taking no stand either for or against consolidation or unification of the area.

The members asserted that they are seeking a study outlining all the various alternatives available.

In spite of its public stand, the committee has been tagged with the "unification" or consolidation label in the mind of the public.

Weigh Study Scope

The Future Farmington Area Study Committee reconvened Wednesday night after an adjournment since May.

Representatives of the Michigan State University Institute for Community Services were present to assess "the environment" for a study at the present time.

What emerged from the meeting was the consensus that a study needed to be done, but some questions as to the scope and what should be included.

The MSU officials said that they would let the committee know within a week if the Institute would submit a proposed study idea.

LAST MAY, the Institute proposed a \$3,500 study providing statistical data for the four different units of government and the citizens to use in planning for the future.

The MSU people backed away from the proposal, however, when the township voted not to make any decision about supporting the study until after the Oct. 23 incorporation election.

Wednesday night they told the committee that the Institute had made commitments for projects during the summer and that even if they made a study proposal work would not begin on it until after Jan. 1.

This information came after the entire committee agreed that the time element was important because at this point the local political scene is free from any impending issues.

Township Trustee Thomas Nolan told the MSU staff that "no-one is certain how long this condition will exist."



TINY CAROLE ROBINSON hugs her huge Jack-O-Lantern in anticipation of Halloween. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dorvil Robinson of 3064 Old Bedford, Carole grew the pumpkin

from a seed. The 30-pound product took over her mother's rose bed. On Tuesday night all the witches and goblins will be out on the streets. If you're driving remember to watch out for them.

Apartment Plan Advanced Over Area Protests

Over protests of residents of the area, tentative approval of a recommendation for rezoning to allow the construction of apartments at Middle Bell and Northwestern was granted by the Farmington Township Planning Commission Thursday.

Thursday's public hearing climaxed three years of controversy over what has been called the township's "problem corner."

TAKING MORE than an hour and a half, the hearing saw representatives of the developer, Ivan Frankel, outline the history of the corner and describe the proposed development as including 33 residential homes, selling on the market for \$45,000 to \$50,000, and a plot plan for 120 apartment units, ranging in size from

1,200 square feet to 2,200 square feet with rents from \$250 to \$350 per month.

They restated the commitment that all the residential homes would be abutted by single family residential.

Township Attorney Joseph T. Brennan noted that one lot on Old Franklin Dr. would be backing into the apartments and that it was his understanding that a home would be built on this lot.

Residents of the area's Old Franklin Towne and Franklin Fairways subdivisions who filled about three-quarters of the cafeteria space at O.E. Duncle, heard objections to the proposal and questions about it from their neighbors and lawyers.

NOT ONE PERSON spoke in favor of the proposal and the

crowd applauded the speakers a total of six times and even cheered one resident who asserted that "I have no interest in whether the homes are built or not, I am against the apartments."

Over cries of "No, No" from the crowd, the commission voted 5-1 to approve the resolution.

Attorney Wendell Brown was present as opposed.

Following the hearing, Brown told The Enterprise & Observer that if the rezoning was approved then the next step would be a referendum.

Eligibility For Federal Aid Asked For Area

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has been asked officially to survey the southeast corner of Farmington Township to determine its eligibility for redevelopment assistance.

Involved is the area which lies between Grand River and Shawassaw, from Inkster Rd. to the city limits.

Township trustees this week endorsed a unanimous recommendation of the Township Planning Commission to pursue the upgrading of the section by taking the necessary steps toward a conservation program.

FIRST NECESSITY was to request the Department of Housing and Urban Development (H.U.D.) to send a representative to Farmington to get a first-hand look at the area. A reply to this request is being awaited.

If it is ruled that the sector is eligible for federal aid, formal survey and planning applications will be prepared.

As explained by Planning Commission Chairman Charles Lorton: "These two applications apply for an advance of funds

from the Federal Government to determine the exact feasibility of the program and to prepare detailed plans for the entire area.

"These applications in no way obligate the Township to undertake the program.

"It is the opinion of the Planning Commission that the best opportunity for upgrading this area to a modern residential environment is through a concentrated program of public improvements and private initiative building on the strengths of the area and eliminating its weak points.

"The Conservation program includes the provision of new streets, sidewalks, storm sewers, parks, etc. The addition of these improvements as well as the availability of direct, low interest (3 per cent), long term loans will encourage the individuals to rehabilitate homes.

"Substandard or deteriorated structures which exhibit a blighting influence on the area would be removed. However, it would appear that demolition will be limited in extent as many sound structures exist in the area.

Pvt. Paulson
At San Diego

Marine Private Theodore A. Paulson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon K. Paulson of 21224 Roosevelt, Farmington, was graduated from eight weeks of recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, Calif.

"THE AREA under consideration is substantially the same throughout, but it is too large to undertake as one project.

"In order to capture all the non-cash credits provided by the sanitary sewers, spread Township costs over a longer period of time, and plan the area as a cohesive unit, a General Neighborhood Revitalization Plan should be prepared.

"This would include the treatment of all problems of the area, and thereby insure the long term stability of the area. Individual projects will then implement the plan over an eight to 10-year period.

"The non-cash credits for the sanitary sewers in this area will pay for a large part of the Township's financial share of a project but these credits will expire in some two years.

"It is, therefore, important that we begin immediately if we are to utilize this program to assist the conservation and rehabilitation of the area.

"It would appear that the remaining Township share of project activities could be paid through special assessments, or general obligation bonds."

One Killed, 2 Hurt In Township Traffic

Three traffic accidents in Farmington Township this week claimed one life and left two persons hospitalized.

Richard Jerome Zack, 20, of 1229 Electric, Lincoln Park, received fatal injuries in a daylight collision Tuesday morning at the intersection of Halstead and 12 Mile Rds.

Zack was northbound on Halstead when his vehicle was struck by one driven by Robert Keith Spradling, of 208 S. Wing St., Northville, at 10:50 a.m.

Spradling, who was headed east on 12 Mile, suffered only minor injuries. The investigation of the accident is being continued by township police officers to determine whether either driver was guilty of any violation.

DOMINIC JANNETTE, 48, of 13061 Filbert, Detroit, was charged by township police with falling to yield the right of way when his vehicle collided with another at 13 Mile and Farmington Rds. at 8:44 a.m. the

same day.

Jannette was northbound on Farmington, while the driver of the second car, Frances Mann, of 30018 Old Bedford, Farmington, was driving east on 13 Mile when struck. Neither suffered serious injuries.

AN 11-YEAR-OLD boy suffered a broken leg Wednesday evening when struck by an automobile while riding his bicycle along 13 Mile Rd. near Orchard Lake Rd.

The youth is Gerald T. Spence, of 31902 Bella Vista, Farmington. He is a patient in St. Mary Hospital, Livonia, where a spokesman described his condition as "satisfactory."

Andrew B. Gilmore, 41, of 30095 Foxgrove, Farmington, told police he was driving west on 13 Mile when the Spence lad veered from the south shoulder directly into the path of his car. His statement was verified by witnesses, but police still are seeking the boy's version.

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TWO YOUNG Farmington residents romp on the site of a proposed elementary school at 11 Mile Rd. and Old Homestead Dr. At left is Brian Brunt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Brunt of 26594 Old Homestead Dr. His playmate is Kathleen McMillan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mc-

Millan of 36333 Paddelford Rd. With homes being built in their subdivision with the addition of an adjoining development, Independence Commons, the Farmington School District estimates that the added classrooms will be needed by the time the two enter kindergarten.