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Negotiations Continue On Weekend

Labor Complaint Filed

By DAN MCCOSH

A negotiation session is scheduled Saturday morning between striking Farmington teachers and school board representatives.

State mediator Harry Reinfelder called the meeting after a short session proved fruitless Thursday afternoon.

The Farmington Education Assn. filed an unfair labor practice complaint against the board of education Thursday morning, the third day the teachers have stayed away from classes in the first strike in the district's history.

Later in the day, negotiators from both sides went into what at first promised to be a lengthy session with a

state mediator in Farmington High School.

"The board of education has not taken a position on getting a court injunction against the teacher walkout, although Monday it characterized the walkout as 'illegal.'"

"We are waiting on advice from the superintendent and attorney," Board President, Mervyn Ross said.

"I feel the majority of the community is behind the position of the district," he added.

The unfair labor charge was based on the allegation that the district backed down on an economic offer to the teachers, according to FEA executive secretary Roger Allen.

"They made a substantial

increase in their offer and then backed away from it," Allen said, adding the negotiations were "stymied."

Picketing continued with the most pickets at the school administration and smaller groups at each of the high schools.

No organized protest from parents materialized.

He also indicated the board had made no movement towards the teacher's demand there be a "cap" on class size.

Present practice is to limit the size of classes by averaging all those in a building. The teachers have been asking for a maximum individual class size, added to the language of the contract.

Second major issue left unsettled is the question of teacher's salaries. Teachers are asking for a "cost of living" increase—defined as approximately six per cent.

At the time of the walkout, the negotiators were reported about one per cent apart on salary offers.

Southfield, recently settled for a five per cent figure.

The teacher strike has delayed school openings about four days, but only dependent students have been scheduled for classes for the whole period.

The first day of high school was not due to begin until Friday.

Parents are asked to wait for notification by either radio or television before sending their children to class.



UNHAPPY, Robert Coleman (left), negotiator for the administration, and Roger Allen, executive secretary for the FEA, sit down at the table again Thursday afternoon at Farmington High. The meeting proved fruitless, and another was scheduled for Saturday. (Evert photo)

Police Also Recruited

Part-Time Firemen Are Wanted

An auxiliary fire fighting unit, comprised of approximately 10 men, will be organized in Farmington in the near future.

The City Council this week authorized \$1,000 from federal shared revenue added to the operating supplies account of the Public Safety Department to purchase 10 sets of gear for the auxiliary.

Capt. Daniel A. Byrnes said he will begin a recruiting process soon with the hope of obtaining 10 auxiliary firemen.

The Fire Marshal's Bureau will have the responsibility of organizing and managing the program. The recruiting process may take about two months, followed by approximately six months of training.

Following this timetable, the volunteer firemen should be operating about July 1, 1974.

A probationary period of one year is necessary before the appointment will be considered permanent.

To provide raincoats, helmets and other fire gear to the volunteers, Byrnes anticipates the cost would be \$100 for each man, or a total of \$1,000.

The 1974-75 budget year will include purchase of 10 home receiving units for instant recall, payment of salary for the initial and refresher training, as well as compensation for the times the volunteer unit is called to fight fires.

The second year's estimated cost is \$3,600, Byrnes figured.

The estimated yearly cost thereafter to maintain the auxiliary unit will be approximately \$1,900 to \$2,000, depending on the length of training sessions and number of fires where auxiliary firemen are utilized.

City Manager Robert F. Deadman told the council he believed Byrnes' program is a good one. "If the department is successful in recruiting the 10 men, the department should have a capable

backup unit fully trained by July of 1974," he said.

In addition to recruiting firefighters, the Department of Public Safety is continuing its program of seeking auxiliary police officers.

The department has 14 auxiliary officers at present but continues to accept applications.

Use of auxiliary officers to support the regular force is not new in Farmington. The program has been in existence some 20 years.

These men are called upon to assist police in an emergency, aid in patrolling and directing traffic during a special event, such as the Founders Festival, and assist in the police station.

Requirements for becoming an auxiliary officer are set by the Farmington Department of Public Safety.

The Harrison High band warned up for another marching season by attending a band camp for a week at Lesliana School on Lake Michigan, near Glen Arbor.

The band rehearsed six hours daily in marching drills, sectionals and full band rehearsals.

Band Director Paul Barber, assisted by Mrs. Barber

and a staff including faculty members and parents, said the students quickly achieved both precision and good tone quality.

The opening game and first performance of the Harrison band is Sept. 15, at Farmington High.

Solicitors for the Detroit Diesel plant collected \$5,853 from about 750 employees for the 1973 Boy Scout membership drive in northwest Detroit and Redford.

The funds, raised for the scouts' general fund, represent 104 per cent of this year's goal.

The community-wide drive was led by chairman Robert F. Brueck, director of personnel services at Diesel Operations.

Hawthorne Street, from Shiawassee to Fink Street, will be paved by next summer. Despite high bids received on the project by the Farmington City Council.

The council absorbed the \$4,000 over estimate on the project, since a public hearing on the assessments had already been held.

The contract for \$22,900 went to Detroit Concrete Products, of Novi.



MICHELLE GRUENWALD'S perky navy blue and white back-to-school dress won her the first prize in a sewing contest sponsored annually by Singer, in competition at Tel-12 Mall. She lives at 28495 Cumberbund Dr., Farmington Hills, and becomes an automatic contender in the state competition this fall. (Evert photo)

Trespassing Motorcycles Are Prohibited

Farmington residents may now notify the police and give them permission to ticket motorcycles or recreational vehicles trespassing on private property.

The Farmington City Council recently adopted an ordinance similar to one previously approved in Farmington Hills, allowing police to write tickets to trespassers without receiving a complaint from a property owner.

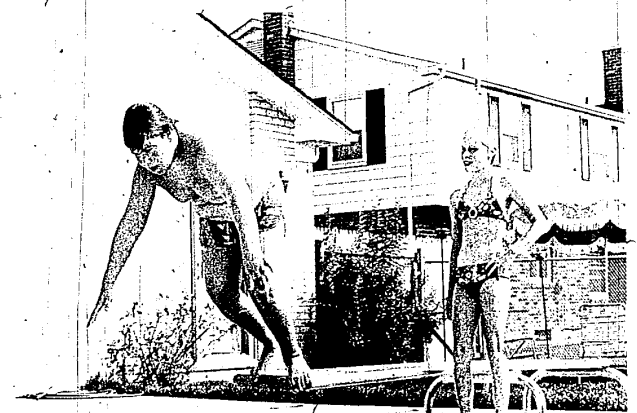
The ordinance limits the responsibility of the city police regarding enforcement on private property, but gives property owners the option of notifying the department if they wish the police to remove trespassers from their land.

Lee Ratliff Is Appointed To Zone Board

Lee Ratliff was appointed to the Farmington Zoning Board of Appeals recently by the city council.

The appointment was made to fill a vacancy left when Donald Stoddard was elected chairman of the planning commission.

Ratliff represents the planning commission on the zoning board of appeals.



MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY gained \$358 when 14 teenagers in Larkshire subdivision swam for 34 hours in a "swim-a-thon," raising money for charity. The teens swam a total of 4,864 lengths of a pool at 25353 Castlereigh to collect on pledges for the marathon. Here Ross Josephson takes off while Kim Rieger watches. The record was 130 laps, set by Jenny Oldani, 16. (Photo by Fran Evert)

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