

School board to discuss budget Feb. 3

FARMINGTON—Next year's projected school budget and the question of increased millage will be placed before the school board in a special study session 8 p.m. Monday.

The reason for the special session is that school officials would like adequate time to prepare for an April millage vote, should one be requested by the board.

"We've got to come to grips with it," said Supt. Marinus VanAmeyde. If a millage vote is requested, types of campaigns, financing and timing will also be discussed.

A CRITICAL FACTOR in the millage question will be the 1975-76 tentative working budget, com-

plied by Business Manager William Prisk. "They always receive it (the budget) too late," VanAmeyde said.

By the time the budget is usually received, it is July, which means the board must contend with vacations by board members and citizens who would ordinarily have attended the study, he said.

"I don't think it's fair to the people," VanAmeyde said. "There is no reason why employees and the community should not have their say in the matter, too."

Five preceding millage increase requests were defeated. The only millage vote successful during this time was for renewal of the 22 mills already allotted the district.

An increase of 4.5 mills for four years was defeated June 14, 1971. The next vote, Aug. 24, 1971, crunched a request of 3.5 mills over a year's time. April 24, 1972, saw a similar request squashed.

Four mills for 10 years was asked June 10 and July 30 of last year, and was soundly defeated both times.

But to infer that the operating budget has not increased because of millage failure would be inaccurate, Prisk said.

Millage is computed using the total value of school district property, equalized at the state level for tax purposes, he said. FOR EXAMPLE, he said, one mill is equal to

\$43,000 during the 1974-75 school year. Next year, figures project one mill equal to \$474,000. "As the State Equalized Valuation (SEV) increases, we collect at the same rate. It's that the taxable base has increased, giving us more money," he said.

But as the taxable base increases, state aid decreases according to the provisions of the state aid act, known as the Bursley bill.

No teachers have been laid off, although attrition has become noticeable between the last school year the present one.

"We haven't given anyone pink slips yet, but we have to be prepared," one official said. Lay offs would be selective, not a blanket, he said.

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Fifteen Cents

Dolan is named member of Hills council



Jan Dolan receives some help from Councilman Bill Ortman after she was appointed onto the Farmington City Council Monday

night. She replaces Margaret Schaeffer who resigned after being elected judge in the 47th district. (Photographed by Craig Newman)

By JUDY OWEN

FARMINGTON HILLS—The city council began operating at full capacity Monday night with the appointment of Arna Janette Dolan to fill a vacancy.

Mrs. Dolan, known to most of her friends as Jan, lives at 3024 Wicklow. She said that she brings a new dimension to the council in that she represents homemakers in the community.

"I don't think that they've ever had a woman who is not a career person," she said. "I could probably represent a large number of homemakers."

Although she has been involved in civic activities in the community, this is her first involvement in politics.

She said that her contacts with various organizations in the community should provide a different input to the council.

A RESIDENT of the city for nine and one-half years, she was a member for five years of the city's beautification commission.

She is past president of the Kim-

berly Homeowners Association.

Mrs. Dolan is also a member and past president of the Farmington Garden Club and Western area chairman.

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Vagnozzi questions why runnerup wasn't picked

By JUDY OWEN

FARMINGTON HILLS—A resident of the city did a little second guessing of his own Monday night and criticized the city council for not filling its vacancy with a person who narrowly missed a council seat in the last election.

Aldo Vagnozzi asked the council to explain why Jan Ann Smith was not chosen to fill to vacant council seat created by the resignation of Margaret Schaeffer, newly elected 47th District Court Judge.

Vagnozzi's remarks preceded Earl Oppertbauer's motion to appoint Arna Janette (Jan) Dolan to the post.

Vagnozzi said that Mrs. Smith had lost by 23 votes.

VAGNOZZI asked why Mrs. Smith was qualified enough to run as a part of a team which included present Mayor Frederick Lichtman, Robert

McConnell and Keith Deacon, but not qualified enough to fill the vacancy?

He said that the council's action feeds the feeling that what the voter does in the ballot box does not make any difference.

He said it was a matter of principle that was being violated. Lichtman said that Mrs. Dolan was chosen from a field of 19 applicants.

"I AM satisfied that the selection process was fair and that it was equitable," he said. "Every consideration was given to every candidate."

He said that the council deliberated for three weeks before making its choice.

"The final selection process could not have been more democratic," he said. The council unanimously approved Mrs. Dolan's appointment.

She will serve until the next city election.

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Shoveling wreckage

A short circuit in the electrical system is believed to have caused a fire Tuesday which resulted in \$35,000 in damage to the interior of a home located at 29985 Fourteen Mile, Farmington Hills. There were no injuries in the fire which rerouted 7 a.m. rush hour traffic in the

Fourteen Mile-Northwestern Highway area because a fire hose was across the road. Two stations responded to douse the blaze. The home is owned by Mary Zabell. (Photographed by Craig Newman)

Council approves plan for 305-acre complex

By JUDY OWEN

FARMINGTON HILLS — The city council paved the way for work to begin on a 305-acre planned residential development (PRD) to be located in the northwest corner of the city.

In a 5-0 vote, the council approved the preliminary PRD plan for Ramblewood, a development proposed by Melvin Rosenhaus, Councilman Earl Oppertbauer abstained from the vote saying that he had owned a small portion of the parcel at one time. Councilman Robert McConnell was absent.

Approval of the PRD zoning designation means that Rosenhaus can move forward with plans to construct single-family homes, cluster residences, garden apartment units and ranch apartments.

One-third of the parcel is to be left in its natural state for use as open space.

ROSENHAUS developed Hunter's Ridge at Fourteen Mile and Orchard Lake roads. That complex, surrounded by a wall, provides access only to residents and visitors through security checkpoints.

The developer told the council that he plans a similar security arrangement at Ramblewood. The project will utilize landscaped berm areas as

well as the natural wooded areas to take the place of a wall.

Still to be worked out with the city is the question of private roads in the development.

Rosenhaus had planned to maintain control over the roads and their upkeep. The city officials are opposed to this and prefer to maintain the roads.

IN OTHER ACTION, the council approved office zonings for three parcels on the south side of Twelve Mile between Farmington and Drake roads.

A 15-acre parcel is planned for use as international headquarters of Jervis B. Webb Co., a manufacturer of conveyor systems.

P. Alexander Fisher requested the rezoning of the remaining two parcels, one 6-acres and one 12-acres.

The planning commission had forwarded the request to the city council. The change is in keeping with the city's master plan.

Owners of the Farmington Elks Lodge and the Westhill Medical Clinic on Orchard Lake Road swapped two lots and obtained rezoning from multiple family to office use.

The swap gives the Elks two lots to the south of its property and Westhill Clinic two lots which separate the Clinic from the Elks lodge.

The council will seek bids for con-

struction manager and general contractor for phase one remodeling work on the first floor of the police wing at city hall.

The council had received \$12,500 estimate from Leonard G. Siegal Associates, architects, to serve as construction manager.

Concerned about the cost of the service, council member Joan Dudley asked that the city seek other estimates.

The council approved appointments of William Ortman, council member; Gladys Thomas, deputy city clerk, and Robert Harkness, a resident, to the newly created Unemployment Compensation Appeal Board.

In announcing the appointments, Mayor Frederick Lichtman said that the board would include representatives from the city council, the city employees and the community.

Harold Larson, a Farmington Hills attorney, was appointed to the board of review.

The council took its first step toward the establishment of a historical commission. The commission must be established by ordinance.

Proposed to serve on the council are Kathryn Briggs, Floyd Cairns, Nelka Czubak, Jean Fox, Gwen Grinager, Robert McConnell, Albert Moelmann and Robert Rowe.

Free clinic may close soon

New federal regulations may have sounded the death knell for free medical clinics which have been operating in Farmington and Birmingham.

The clinics which offer treatment primarily to young people are operated by the Farmington Area Advisory Council (FAAC) at a Common Ground in Birmingham. They are the only free clinics in the county.

FAAC officials were to meet Wednesday with city managers from Farmington and Farmington Hills to discuss further financing of the Farm-

ington Area Free Clinic if the federal grant were cut off.

Both facilities had been operating under a federal grant from the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA). The grant was administered through the county's department of substance abuse.

NEW CRITERIA drawn by NIDA will require that clinics provide complete physicals for each patient who comes in for treatment.

An FAAC spokesman said that the area free clinic does not have the

facilities to conduct such examinations which would require extensive blood work, X-rays and electrocardiograms.

This type of examination is important for drug-related cases, the spokesman said, but it is not always necessary for some of the other treatments that the clinic offers.

The most common services offered in the area free clinic are venereal disease diagnosis, pregnancy tests and treatment of mononucleosis, hep-

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