

Officers to be confirmed

GOP lines up on county budget

By TIM RICHARD

Republicans on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners planned today to amend the 1977 budget to something more closely resembling the November proposal of County Executive Daniel T. Murphy, a fellow Republican.

As of Jan. 1, the GOP has a 15-12 majority on the board of commissioners. Last year they were a 14-13 minority, and Democrats rewrote Murphy's budget to cut the executive's staff and put more money into social, health, research and road programs.

Commissioner Paul Kasper (R-Bloomfield Hills), as chairman of the new finance committee, said that he would introduce 15 pages of resolutions to amend the budget.

"WE CAN DO this because on the

first day we'll be operating under temporary rules," said Kasper. Ordinarily, such matters would have to lay over five days in committee.

The Democratic budget, introduced at the final meeting of 1976 by then-finance chairman Larry Pernick (D-Southfield), had amended Murphy's budget most significantly by transferring out or eliminating a number of jobs under the county executive's jurisdiction.

A county lobbyist was cut out. A public information officer was cut to half-time. A special projects coordinator (1976 sheriff candidate Leo Hazen) was cut out. And 43 Department of Public Works positions were transferred to the jurisdiction of the drain commissioner, an independently-elected office held by Republican George Kuhn.

Democrats sought to transfer \$50,000 to the road commission and to give the sheriff (Democrat, Johannes Spreen) \$125,000 to aid the organized crime task force under the jurisdiction of GOP Prosecutor L. Brooks Patterson.

Kasper contended many of the job cuts from Murphy's staff were illegal because the board of commissioners had never amended the county organization chart to eliminate them.

THE BOARD'S MAIN item of business today was to go through the motions of electing 1977-78 officers, who have already been decided on in the GOP caucus, and of restructuring committees.

New officers—all Republicans—were to be: Wallace Gabler of Royal Oak, chairman; Lillian Moffitt of Bloomfield Township, vice-chairman; Kasper, finance committee

chairman; Robert Page of Birmingham, general government committee chairman; Dr. Joseph Montane of Orchard Lake, human resources committee chairman; John McDonald of Farmington Hills, personnel committee chairman; Richard Wilcox of Ortonville, planning and building committee chairman; and Henry Hoot of Troy, public services committee chairman.

In addition, Kasper said Republicans planned to reduce all committees by one member.

Thus, finance, which used to have 11 members with a 7-4 Democratic majority, will have 10 members with a 7-3 Republican majority. The others, which used to have 10 members with a 6-4 Democratic majority, will have nine with 6-3 Republican majorities.

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County union walks for COLA

The two sides appear deadlocked in a strike of 700 union employees against Oakland County.

The union—Local 1990 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)—is insisting on a cost-of-living escalator, which the county refuses to negotiate.

The union also objects to the presence of a citizen observer, John H. King of Bloomfield Hills, at negotiations.

"THIS ADMINISTRATION is not going to negotiate cost of living because the county can't afford an open-ended contract," said a spokesman for County Executive Daniel T. Murphy.

"We can't raise the price of a car next week the way an auto company can to cover a wage increase. The taxpayer won't dig into his pocket any more."

The county's position, the spokesman continued, was that a cost-of-living increase would necessitate "laying off some to protect others."

The county is offering wage increases of about five per cent in both the first and second years of a new contract.

"WE WOULD accept a one-year contract to get the cost of living," said an AFSCME spokesman, Byron DeLong.

The union, he said, would prefer a multi-year contract "so we can take a long-range look at some of the fringe benefits."

Union bargainers objected to King's presence as a citizen observer appointed by Murphy because "if the state is to have 'sunshine' bargaining, that should be dealt with by the state legislators and not in one isolated area," said DeLong.

He added there was no personal animosity against King.

THE STRIKE idled some 700 of the county's 2,300 employees.

The strikers are grounds, maintenance and custodial employees; animal control employees; some personnel in the Friend of the Court office; training leaders and social workers; licensed practical nurses and aides in the county hospital; grounds workers in the park system; and some employees in the drain commission and Department of Public Works.

"It's business as usual," said the executive's spokesman, adding that volunteers and supervisory personnel were keeping operations going. He said the effect of the strike was "not critical."

DeLong said county operations would suffer because of the strike. "There sure is a reduction in service," he said. The two sides have not met since Dec. 30, the day before the old two-year contract expired. State mediator Leon Corfield is assigned to the dispute.

GORMAN'S GALLERY OF GOOFS

Gorman's does it again! And, dear friends, if Gorman's keeps on doing it—well, suffice it to say, here with is another installment in the sad saga of items we're sorry our brilliant buyer ever saw, let alone bought.

But while this may be the winter or our discontent, it's a winter sale where you can pick up savings of 23% . . . 33% . . . 50% . . . and more. Yes, and we'll even throw in the services of our talented design staff at no extra cost.

Below you'll find just a sampling of this year's Goofs. There are (ugh!) dozens more in the store. So hurry, while the selection is at its worst — the sooner you buy, the sooner we'll have room for the good stuff.

	WAS	NOW
Eye dream of a dining room that looked like a porch? Then open your eyes and look at our leather-bound RATTAN TABLE by FOUNDERS, complete with 6 chairs. We don't know how it got here, but we know how it's leaving: 10% . . . 20% . . . make it 30% OFF! . . .	\$1899	\$1266
Back by popular neglect, our award-winning PRAGUE chairs by THONET. Natural bentwood and cane seats and backs. At this price, it's a Czech of a value. . . .	90	49.95
You can't beat this price anywhere in town, mostly because nobody else in his right mind would keep a THAYER COGGIN LOVESEAT in heavy beige fabric with attached formica-top shell. It's slightly soiled, slightly dusty and slightly fashionable. . . .	\$625	\$299
Hand crafted wormholes make this DREXEL WOODBRIAR DINING COLLECTION look lived-in even before we deliver it. Why nobody has bought this chine cabinet, buffet, table and 6 cushioned chairs beats us, but we'll give it away for back rent. Worms extra. SAVE 1/3. . . .	3393	2262
If your home is crying out for a LOVESEAT, this one by HERITAGE could be the answer. Tuxedo arms, black and white forest print cover. Could be the star of your next garage sale. . . .	1219	518
ODD CHAIRS . . . boy are they odd! Vinyl, metal, leather and genuine whatnot, they were parts of sets broken for customers. If they don't get in here and buy the rest, we'll sell these \$98 to \$250 chairs to you for HALF OFF. . . .	AS MARKED	SAVE 50%
If you were 36" square, had a polished chrome frame, had been here so long your copper top had mottled, and were still hanging in there after being turned down by hundreds upon hundreds of buyers, you'd be a pretty GAME TABLE, too. Buy this for almost 50% OFF and we'll throw in Boardwalk and Atlantic Avenue. . . .	349	188
Our buyer wasn't sure whether he ordered a 19" sofa or a 91" SOFA, but it didn't sell so he's willing to throw in a co-ordinated print fabric chair and sell two pieces. Must see to believe, but we're not sure even that will work. . . .	920	620 for both
"Shinning" is what our buyer called FLAIR's 4 pc. PIT SECTIONAL in brown and white stripes. It's a heavy Haitian bark fabric. We still haven't regained consciousness, but we think we can unload this one if you have an octagonal room that needs help. . . .	2795	1988

	WAS	NOW
We've been trying to broom this 3-UNIT WALL SYSTEM from INTERLOK too long, it has brushed chrome door panels. It's white, with glass shelves and it features a 5' foldaway dining table. You'll recognize it by the very nervous bookkeeper standing next to it. . . .	\$1065	\$699
VARIATION'S DINING TABLE in white Formica herringbone pattern would make a terrific 4' x 4' floor if it weren't for the legs. Seats eight in a pinch, and counting the grooves and bumps makes a great pastime. . . .	300	180
We knew we really had something on our hands when we got this custom-covered VEL-SUEDE MODULAR SECTIONAL by FORECAST: 7 pieces of brownish color furniture and one very testy bookkeeper. When purchased for physician's waiting room, includes selection of old Life, Look and Post magazines. . . .	2670	1399
Our 102" MILANO SOFA by SELIG features topgrade velvet cover and exclusive bathrobe styling. Unfortunately, we'll be the ones taking a bath when we let it go for 50% OFF. . . .	1185	592
We defy you to match these LOUNGE CHAIRS by HICKORY TAVERN, with box pleated skirts. Exclusive print covers have at least four different patterns, all available nowhere. Take them both off our hands and you'll have 50% savings and our eternal gratitude. . . .	329 each	329 the pair
This 6 pc. MODULAR SECTION in beige velvet was special-ordered for a lady who changed her mind. If she reconsiders she can have the three corners and three armless pieces for \$100 apiece. If not, come in and watch our buyer eat them. . . .	988	599
Huge SWIVEL-BASE LOUNGE CHAIR by SELIG comes in satin-grained "leather look" vinyle. Sit in it and your head will spin. (And if you don't buy it for over 50% OFF, heads will roll.) . . .	455	199
Store long enough at the white-on-blue dots and flower print cover, and you'll be ready to open up this THAYER COGGIN SLEEP SOFA and fall into its queen-size foam mattress. Also features white formica base. You are getting sleepy, very sleepy. . . .	880	499
At prices like these, SELIG'S UPHOLSTERED FIRESIDE BENCHES won't last forever — but they're giving it a good try. We're down to one black and one white in vinyle, each with a pair of cylindrical pillows our buyer claims are not edible. (That's what he thinks.) SAVE 62.6% . . .	345	129

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