

Democrats Ask For Resignation

The Farmington Democratic Club is asking that Township Trustee Earl Oppenheimer resign his position on the police review board.

At its October meeting, the club adopted a resolution requesting the resignation and sent a copy to Township Supervisor Curtis Hall.

The resolution claims that when the review board was established "it was the intent and purpose of the township board that no member of its body would serve on the Police Civilian Review Board."

Oppenheimer was appointed to the review board and then later was named to fill a vacancy left on the township board by the resignation of Charles Williams.

The Democrats' resolution asked the township board to "request the immediate resignation" of Oppenheimer from the review board. In addition, the club urged the trustees to appoint a new member "whose qualifications would dispel any impression that the new appointee would be a representative of the administration or law enforcement agencies but rather that the person to be appointed truly represent the citizens of Farmington Township."

Farmington Calendar

PTA COUNCIL

Oct. 22. Farmington Area Council of PTA Associations will meet at 8 p.m. in the Farmington Junior High library. The program will include the film "Why Billy Can't Learn," sponsored by the Michigan Association for Children with Learning Disabilities. Mrs. Norma Ringquist will answer questions.

NEWCOMERS CLUB

Oct. 22. Farmington Newcomers Club will spend the afternoon at the Detroit Race Course. Luncheon will be served at noon in the clubhouse. For reservations call Marie Faunce, 476-9238. The evening meeting will be held at 8 p.m. Oct. 27 in the Farmington Community Center. The program will be on the making of Christmas decorations. For reservations call Pat Ewing, 476-7436.

ALAMEDA PTA

Oct. 22. The newly-organized Alameda PTA will hold a school open house. Memberships will be available. At 8 p.m. Nov. 6, the new grading system and report cards will be explained at the PTA meeting.

PIONEER GOLDEN AGE CLUB

Oct. 22. The Pioneer Golden Age Club will meet at noon for luncheon at the Skippers Table, Livonia. For transportation, phone in advance to Luther Duell, GR 6-4865.

CONSOLIDATION MEETINGS

Oct. 22. The Joint Study Committee will hold its second township hearing at 8 p.m. in Dunkel Junior High School. Pro speaker will be Fred Lichtman, Con-John Allen; Dr. John Richardson will moderate.

Oct. 22. Russ Gilbert will talk on the benefits of consolidation at a noon meeting in the Senior Citizens Drop In Center, Farmington Masonic Temple.

Oct. 23. A Board of Commerce meeting on consolidation will be held at 7:30 a.m. in the Roma Inn (formerly the Pizza Inn), 2861 Grand River. Gerald Ellsworth will be pro speaker, John Allen con.

FHS CINEMA GUILD

Oct. 23. The Farmington High School Cinema Guild will present the film, "Mickey One," starring Warren Beatty, at 7:30 p.m. in the FHS auditorium. Admission 50 cents.

OLS CARD PARTY

Oct. 23. The Altar Society of Our Lady of Sorrows Church will hold its annual card party at 8 p.m. in the church social hall. Tickets at \$1.50 each are being sold in advance and may be obtained by calling 474-0765.

TEN MILE BOOK FAIR

Oct. 23, 24 and 25. Ten Mile PTA's annual book fair will be held in the school gym. Hours are: Thursday 4-9 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m.-noon. Orders will be taken and some books will be available on a take-home basis.

SENIOR CITIZENS SOCIAL CLUB

Oct. 24. The Senior Citizens Social Club will meet at noon in the First United Methodist Church social room. A social afternoon with cards will follow the business meeting. Bring a sandwich.

BOND PTA SPAGHETTI DINNER

Oct. 24. Bond School Parent Teacher Organization will hold a spaghetti dinner in the school gymnasium. Children 75 cents, adults \$1.25.

CAMP FIRE GIRLS

Oct. 25. The Junior High Camp Fire Girls of Oakland County will hold a hay ride at the home of Mrs. John Rex in Fenton. Mrs. Irene Lang will accompany the Farmington Camp Fire Girls.

Why Small Cities Have Problems

By JOHN RICHARDSON

Can a small 2.5 square mile city surrounded by several large cities be a viable voice in the 1970s and '80s?

THIS IS the question city voters must confront themselves with Nov. 4. Should consolidation vote fail, incorporation of the existing township around us is virtually a certainty. This of course would eliminate the city's ability to grow through the process of annexation as it has in the past.

Why is it important to grow? If you will look at the tax rates levied by the city over the last 20 years, you will see the city levied 17 mills from 1950-56 and in 1957 it was necessary to levy 20 mills to meet city expenditures.

The city fathers recognized the need for more tax base to support the level of services desired by the residents of 190 acres, which was to become Farmington Meadows and Farmington Oaks in addition to some industrial property along Eight Mile, was annexed to the city.

THIS ANNEXATION, coupled with a reassessment, resulted in a tax rate decrease from 20 mills in 1957 to 10 mills in 1958. Through the early '60s the tax rate rose slightly and leveled

(Following is another in a series of articles written by City Councilman John Richardson explaining why city residents should vote "yes" Nov. 4 on consolidation.)

off at 11.5 mills from 1962 through 1966. In November of 1966, the city annexed Woodcroft, and Chatham-Hills and this additional tax base coupled with another reassessment again enabled the city to lower its tax rate to 11 mills in 1967, 10 mills in 1968 and 9 mills in 1969.

THE NINE MILLS currently levied in Farmington is the lowest of any city in Oakland County with the exception of Novi, which levies seven mills and incidentally is a new large city of about 30 square miles.

The big question is: How long can we continue this prosperity before we are burdened with the same problems that confront the small, landlocked cities along Woodward Avenue? Virtually all other cities have tax rates from 16 to 21 mills and face an increasing demand for service with decreasing revenues due to a depreciated

worn out tax base.

I hear the argument, "I like Farmington because it's small and I want to keep it that way." My question to you is: "Are you willing to pay for the luxury of smallness with higher taxes?"

BUT WAIT! On Nov. 4 we're not really voting on consolidation. We're only voting to elect a charter commission to further study the pros and cons of a single city for the greater Farmington Community.

Along with the higher tax rate, the smaller city is not able to provide the broader and more diversified recreational and protective services that a larger city can offer.

To reject the formation of a charter commission at this time would deny, probably forever, Farmington voters the opportunity for governmental self-determination on a community-wide basis.

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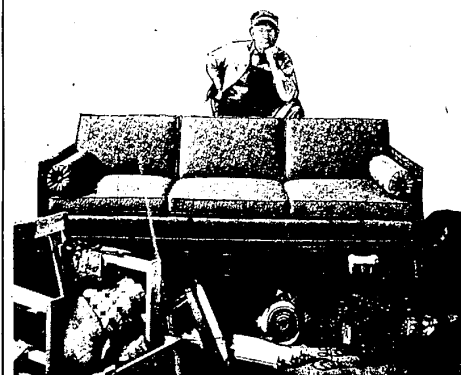
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