

At residents' request Bank and office complex nixed

By MARY LOU CALLAWAY

More than 60 homeowners who objected to a 2.5-acre rezoning for a bank and office at Fourteen Mile and Drake roads in West Bloomfield won the denial they wanted Monday night.

The West Bloomfield Township Board listened to lengthy arguments from the homeowners, a National Bank of Detroit representative, developer Max Sheldon's attorney James Ginn and a Farmington Hills planning commissioner before issuing the denial.

Petitions had been submitted earlier from four subdivisions in both communities against the proposal and one resident for it.

Fourteen Mile Road divides Farmington Hills and West Bloomfield.

Ginn argued the township's planning commission had recommended the rezoning 5-3 and the Oakland County Coordinating Committee had unanimously recommended it.

"It is a small parcel. Viable development is impossible. You could only get six dwellings on it. It's kitty-corner from a church, near tennis courts and on two major road frontages," said Ginn.

But West Bloomfield Estates subdivision President Arthur Amati said "We have millions invested in our home because it's residential. We left Detroit where there's a bank and gas station on every corner. There are already too many banks in the area. It's unfair. I don't know about illegal."

Other residents spoke representing West Bloomfield Woods and Farmington Hills subdivisions, Woodbrook and Rolling Hills.

"I FEEL LIKE David against Goli-

ath. I'm interested in renting an office there. Change your mind."

Randall Phillips, another township resident who works in the health planning field, asked the board to support the township's professional planners recommendations.



Press manager

Joseph Lugar of Farmington Hills was named sales manager for the Detroit area U.S. Suburban Press Inc., the national representative for over 1,100 suburban newspapers with a circulation of almost 14 million. Lugar was a travel advertising sales manager at the Detroit Free Press and has held various management positions.

Farmington Hills Planning Commissioner Phillip Arnold said that both West Bloomfield, Farmington Hills and Oakland County professional planners had recommended against the rezoning.

West Bloomfield Trustee Raymond Holland, who also serves as planning commission secretary, said the township master plan is just a guide to land use planning. The township master plan shows the area in question as being zoned residential.

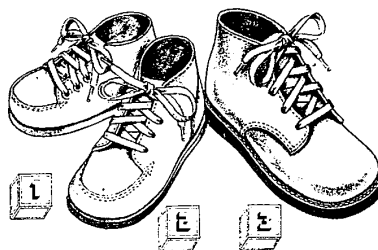
It was brought out that a 10-acre parcel just east of it will be submitted to the planning commission for a cluster development by Sheldon. Sheldon said he represents two unnamed landowners.

He's promoted

Fred M. Molner of Farmington Hills has been promoted to vice president, commercial loan division of Michigan National Bank of Detroit. His responsibilities include administration of the accounts receivable department, which he helped establish. Molner joined Michigan National in 1971.



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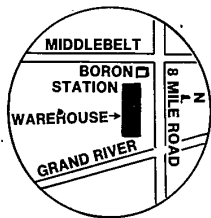
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