

In Clarenceville

District adopts wait-and-see stance towards proposed one-mill tax hike

Voters in the Clarenceville School District will be asked to approve a one-mill tax increase on the district's June election ballot, but even if approved the tax may not be levied.

The decision to seek approval for the increase was made at a school board meeting last week.

District budget figures estimate revenue for the coming year at \$5.2 million, but the real total won't be known until state aid formulas are released in July. Last year's budget in the 2,220-student district was \$5.4 million.

The board decided to seek the increase in June, when an election for school board trustees was already scheduled, in case state aid is reduced in July and the district's budget falls below the projected \$5.2 million.

"If we can get the mill and our revenue falls below \$5.2 million, then we'll have to levy the mill and use it. It all depends on what the state aid formula is," said School Board President Barry Sherman.

Sherman said if voters authorize the millage, the district won't levy it unless revenue projections turn out to be wrong. Even if the district gets less money than it plans on, Sherman said only a portion of the mill may, in fact, be charged to taxpayers.

City tax records indicate the district now levies 41.6 mills, including 36.756 mills for actually running the schools. Another 4.75 mills is used to pay off debts.

Sherman estimated one additional mill would generate about \$100,000 in

added tax for the small Clarenceville district.

CLARENCEVILLE voters have established a solid track record of approving millages.

"In its history, I think it has only turned down one millage, and that was later approved on another ballot," said Sherman. "The people in the district have usually seen the need when the board's asked for it."

City tax records show Clarenceville voters approved a nine-mill levy in January 1969 — which voters will be asked to renew next year — an 11-mill levy in January 1976, and an eight-mill levy in January 1977. All those levies were renewals, said Edward Salisz, district business manager.

"We feel that next year we'll be able to cut our debt retirement millage down at least a half a mill and maybe more. So if we do have the people vote in this millage, it may cost them a half a mill, or it may cost them nothing. It will be offset," said Salisz.

Salisz said the district is running at a \$300,000 deficit in its current budget, money which was made up by withdrawals from the district's surplus, or fund equity. Such fund equities generally average about 10 percent of budget, which in Clarenceville's case would equal about \$500,000. But Salisz said the fund will stand at between \$50,000 and \$100,000 at the end of the current fiscal year.

"We've never been that low before," said Salisz.

obituaries

JOHN STANLEY GROHOLSKI

Mr. Groholski, 46, of Farmington

Farmington Observer

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Hills died March 24 in Providence Hospital, Southfield.

He was born July 5, 1933 in Michigan. Mr. Groholski was a carpenter. He lived all of his life in Farmington Hills. He was a member of St. Clare of Assisi Roman Catholic Church, Farmington Hills.

Survivors include wife, Marilyn; sons, Danny J., Dale J.; daughters, Debra A., Delynn M. and five sisters. Services were March 28 at Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington and St. Clare of Assisi Roman Catholic Church with Rev. Joseph A. Drogowski officiating. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield.

EDWARD V. SQUIRE JR.

Mr. Squire, 72, of Farmington died March 28 in Grace Hospital Northwest.

He was a Farmington resident for two years. Mr. Squire was born Nov. 29, 1907 in Detroit. He was president of Squire Supply Co., Inc. which deals in wholesale supply refrigeration and air-conditioning systems. He was a member of Salem United Church of Christ, Farmington and the Refrigeration Service Engineering Society. Mr. Squire was a former member of Sevel Memorial Presbyterian Church of Detroit.

He was a member of the National Chrysanthemum Society.

Survivors include wife, Leona E.; mother-in-law, Mrs. Herman Gerds; brothers, John of Detroit, Howard of Caro.

Services were March 31 in Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington with Rev. James A. Nelson and Rev. Carl H. Schultz officiating. Burial was in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Memorial tributes may be sent to Joyce Gerds Medical Library at William Beaumont Hospital or Salem United Church of Christ, Farmington.

META WALLIS

Mrs. Wallis, 92, of Novi died March

29 in Providence Hospital, Southfield.

She was born Nov. 5, 1887 in Saginaw, Mich. Mrs. Wallis, who had lived in Farmington and Southfield moved to Novi one year ago. She was a housewife.

Survivors include: daughter, Mrs. Madelyn Cook of Novi; son, Roy of Phoenix, Ariz.; sister, Mrs. Gertrude Brownell of Saginaw; brother, Lee Cook of Saginaw; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Services were March 31 in Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington with Fr. James Wright of St. Alexander's Roman Catholic Church of Farmington officiating. Burial was in White Chapel Cemetery.



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