

Hard times forces district into hard decisions

By Philip Jerome
Novi-Walled Lake News

The removal of a millage increase proposal from the June ballot by the Walled Lake Board of Education last week countered its request of last month to raise taxes to help deal with a

\$3.2 million deficit in the 1982-83 budget.

The decision to ask voters to approve additional millage was reached at the board's March 21 meeting and was an integral part of a proposed bail-out plan for helping the district cope with the \$3.2 million deficit.

That bail-out plan called for the 2.5-mill increase for two years which would bring in \$1.6 million, \$1 million in program and personnel cutbacks, and concessions from the district's 11 bargaining units.

Board members said part of the reason for making the millage proposal off the June ballot was the anticipated negative response from district taxpayers.

TRUSTEE BETTY Champion said the millage hike was not well received by the community. "They're asking us to make cutbacks instead and I think we should do what they ask."

Board members also were concerned about seeking a millage without having access to all the data needed to clarify the district's financial situation.

A number of factors could have a significant influence on the size of the 1982-83 budget deficit, according to district officials.

The projected deficit is the best estimate at present. But it is based on a 3.6 percent increase in the district's State Equalized Valuation (SEV). The state equalization department maintains Oakland County is underassessed and has threatened to levy a factor of any

where up to 10 percent on county assessments.

The county, meanwhile, is fighting a factor and last week took steps to take the fight into the courts.

If the state does levy a factor and the SEV is increased, it will mean more revenues for the district.

An increase of 1 percent in the SEV equals about \$645,000 in revenues.

A second factor is the scope of wage concession from the district's employee unions.

Potter plies trade at college

By Nancy Ferguson
staff writer

Dusty, a look-alike to Morris the television cat, stretches, yawns and appears to be right at home.

So do 170 ceramics students who are busy day and evening in Oakland and Community College's Southeast campus in Royal Oak.

Charles Blosser, instructor and founder of the program, says many persons take up ceramics as therapy. It helps them to relax and relieve their tensions.

But ceramics technology also has serious industrial uses.

A FORMER administrator, Blosser started OCC's ceramics technology program in 1974.

He always had wanted to be a pottery teacher since he first took a class in clay while working on the first of two industrial arts degrees at Kent State University in Ohio in the mid-1950s.

"I just knew that was where I wanted to be," Blosser said. After graduation, he stayed on at Kent State and taught pottery for one year while another instructor was on leave.

Blosser would have liked to continue teaching, but there were no jobs at Kent State. He spent the next years teaching industrial arts at Michigan State University.

For six years, he was a school administrator in Germany. But he never lost his love for ceramics. He visited

many potteries while in Europe.

BLOSSER RETURNED to the U.S. and accepted an administrative position with OCC in 1969. As dean of the Southeast Campus System, he coordinated extension programs.

By 1971 he had earned a doctorate in curriculum development from Wayne State University.

In 1974 Blosser had an opportunity to develop the ceramics tech program for OCC and stepped out of administration to accept the challenge.

OCC is the only midwestern college offering an associate degree in ceramic technology and one of fewer than a half-dozen in the entire U.S.

The program includes 11 courses in the production of clay products, their decoration, glazing and firing. Ceramics skills may be used either as a fine arts form or an industrial craft.

CERAMICS is more than decorating bowls, vases and mugs, Blosser points out. Ceramic technology is necessary to industry.

Ceramic tiles made it possible to reach the moon. In space shuttles, ceramic tiles were used in the first rockets.

And hundreds of space-age products are being developed from ceramic technology.

Despite the industrial possibilities, Blosser likes what he's doing. "I like teaching best. Second, I like being a potter."

"My life is greatly enhanced and made worth while because of my students. They keep me getting up in the morning."

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CITY OF FARMINGTON
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
(Summary)
A Special Meeting was held April 5, 1982, at 7:00 p.m. in the Farmington City Hall, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan.
PRESENT: Mayor Bennett, Councilmen Hartsock, Mitchell, Tupper, Yoder.
ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Desmond, City Clerk Bushey.
Council reviewed the possible effect of next year's revenue level on the various agencies that are jointly funded by the City of Farmington and the City of Farmington Hills.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.
ALTON L. BENNETT, Mayor
JOSEPHINE M. BUSHEY, City Clerk



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In order to take the credit you must either make a home for a dependent child under the age of 15 from whom you can claim an exemption on your tax return, or for another dependent of any age who is disabled. There are special rules for divorced or legally separated parents, and for those situations in which one spouse earns less than the family's allowable expense credit.
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SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority (SEMTA) will hold a series of public hearings in order to bear testimony on a proposed fare increase as follows:

I. Basic Fare	Present	Proposed
Linehaul (Regular Bus)	\$.75	\$.80
Park and Ride or Limited	.95	1.10
Commuter Rail	1.15	1.30
SEMTA CONNECTOR	1.50	1.80
Community CONNECTOR	.95	1.30
II. Zone Fare		
Linehaul (including Park & Ride or Limited)	.20	.20
Commuter Rail	.20	.20
SEMTA CONNECTOR	.40	.40
Community CONNECTOR	N/A	N/A
III. Reduced Fare		
A. Seniors and Handicapped		
Linehaul Basic Fare (off-peak hours*)	.35	.45
Zone Fare	.10	.10
SEMTA CONNECTOR (all hours)	.75	.90
Zone Fare	.20	.20
Community CONNECTOR	.45	.55

*Seniors and handicapped can ride for reduced fares during off-peak hours only. Off-peak hours are: Weekdays - 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. - 6 a.m. Saturday - All Day Sunday - All Day Holidays - All Day

B. Youth, ages 6-18	Present	Proposed
Linehaul	\$.25 reduction from regular fare	\$.20 reduction from regular fare
SEMTA CONNECTOR	\$.50 reduction from regular fare on Saturday plus all off-peak hours in July and August	\$.40 reduction from regular fare on Saturday plus all off-peak hours in July and August
Community CONNECTOR	N/A	N/A
Commuter Rail	\$.95 flat rate (no zone charges) currently applies as promotional fare.	\$1.00 flat rate applies to group of 10 or more with advance ticket purchase.
C. Children, ages 5 and under riding with adult	Free	Free
IV. Special Fares		
A. Race Track (in season only)	\$1.25 flat rate	\$1.50 flat rate
B. Weekend Pass	1.50	1.80
C. 3 a.m. Sat.-3 a.m. Mon.	.50	.50
D. Train Feeders and GTW Shuttles		
Prepaid Fares	10% discount	10% discount
Tickets	32 x 1-way trip	32 x 1-way trip
SEMTACARDS		
VI. Transfers		
A. SEMTA Linehaul to other SEMTA or D-DOT line	.10	.10
B. SEMTA Connectors and Community Connectors to any line bus	.10	.10
C. Connector to Connector	Free	Free
D. Seniors, handicapped	.05 for A & B above	.05 for A, B & C above
E. Value of D-DOT transfer received by SEMTA	good for travel within boarding zone	good for travel within boarding zone
F. Value of SEMTA transfer received by D-DOT	good for travel within boarding zone	good for travel within boarding zone

The public hearings will be held:

1 p.m., Thursday, April 22, 1982
Southfield Parks & Recreation Building, Room 223-224
26000 Evergreen
Southfield, Michigan
7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 22, 1982
Southfield Parks & Recreation Building, Room 223-224
26000 Evergreen
Southfield, Michigan
7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 22, 1982
Harper Woods City Hall, Council Chambers
19517 Harper
Harper Woods, Michigan
1 p.m., Friday, April 23, 1982
Roseville City Hall, Council Chambers
29777 Gratiot
Roseville, Michigan
12 p.m. (noon), Monday, April 26, 1982
Veterans Memorial Building, Room 614
151 W. Jefferson
Detroit, Michigan
7:30 p.m., Monday, April 26, 1982
Kimball High School, Auditorium
1500 Lexington
Royal Oak, Michigan
7:30 p.m., Monday, April 26, 1982
Sterling Heights Public Library
40255 Dodge Park
Sterling Heights, Michigan
1 p.m., Tuesday, April 27, 1982
Henry Ford Centennial Library, Auditorium
16301 Michigan
Dearborn, Michigan
7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 27, 1982
Wyandotte City Hall, Council Chambers
3131 Biddle
Wyandotte, Michigan
For further information contact: SEMTA, Office of Public Affairs, P.O. Box 333, Detroit, MI 48231 (313) 256-8765.
GARY-KRAUSE, Acting General Manager
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