

Sever has own plans for solving economic question

Continued from Page 1

"I cannot support a charter amendment to give the council authority to increase taxes while they still have options," he said. "I think there are a lot of worthy needs in the capital-improvement program. The major concern is the method of financing."

But council's suggested method of financing the improvement program is what bothers Sever.

"My feeling is there are a number of

options for the council to pursue," said the owner of TL Printing on Grand River.

Sale of the city-owned San Marino Golf course preferably to "an entrepreneur interested in maintaining it as a golf course" is an option council has failed to consider, according to Sever.

His sale could provide city coffers with at least an additional one-quarter mill. The money could then be used to build the new police building listed in

the city's capital improvement program, Sever said.

Another option, suggested Sever, is allocating a half-mill out of the city's operating budget. That half mill would be put into a capital-improvement fund to pay for priority projects listed in the plan.

Council could also pursue state or local legislation "that assures that new business development pays its share of capital improvements," Sever suggested.

THAT TYPE of legislation could be useful along the 12 Mile growth corridor where new business development is locating. That area is targeted for major road improvements.

After the city's immediate capital needs are determined, council could consider financing through a "short-term higher millage as opposed to stretching it out and paying a lot of interest," Sever said.

"I don't want to pay 1.5 mills for 20 years and have 30 percent of it go for interest payments."

Saying he has studied the figures, Sever expects the city's state equalized value (SEV) to increase, providing about another one-quarter mill in revenue.

If one-quarter mill could be generated with the sale of San Marino, another

one-quarter mill from increased SEV, then council would have one-half mill to put toward capital improvements, Sever said.

"If another one-half mill could then be generated from 'something else,' council would have a full mill, he added.

Although opposed to a charter amendment for additional millage, Sever supports a special millage, under certain conditions.

"I would support a special millage for capital improvements but less than 1.5 mills with a time period," he said. "The only type of special millage I would support (for example) would be one mill with a five-year renewal."

While recognizing the need for major improvements in the city, Sever said he nonetheless "doesn't particularly support the whole program as it is now."

WHAT IS needed, according to Sever, is a citizens task force which would review the program. The group would determine which are the most needed projects.

Some items in the city's improvement plan bother Sever.

The Caddell Drain, for example, is "necessary because of new development in the area." But while "we have no alternative" than to pay for the project "there must be a way to expect

new developers to pay their fair share," he said.

The construction of an estimated \$2 million police building is also a bone of contention for Sever.

"I don't think it is a necessity as described in the capital-improvement program," he said.

Construction should be completed in three phases and paid for on an "as-you-go" basis without issuing bonds, Sever said. The size of the facility could be doubled with a smaller financial commitment, he added.

While council has been moving forward with architectural designs for a proposed police building, Sever said, it hasn't taken the time to determine if its cheaper to build in phases rather than paying interest on bonds.

Sever supports the city's purchase of the Spicer property. But he would like to see the 211 acres left in its natural state.

The Spicer property is another project which Sever says should involve the community. A committee would propose a 10-year plan of how the land should be used and what expenses would be incurred.

On another front, Sever supports allowing the Farmington Community Library system to become independent. It would be able to levy its own operating millage.

"I would like to put the library board and Friends of the Library in a position where they have to act what they want," he said.

THE LIBRARY'S independence, Sever said, would relieve the "personality influence" the council has on the current library. Independence would also free up money in the city's budget that is now allocated for the library, he added.

In making decisions, Sever says he has "some different ideas" which he can "live with."

One of those different ideas includes changing the method of making appointments to the city's boards and commissions.

What should happen is that the chairman of a particular commission should recommend an appointment rather than leaving it in the mayor's hands.

"It would also eliminate the political appointments of people who may be less capable of offering expertise to the commission," Sever said, alluding to the council's recent controversy over the latest two appointments to the planning commission.

When the mayor makes an appointment with council's consent, Sever said, there is too much pressure on a commission member to vote on issues according to what the mayor and council want.

Farmington honored for safety record


Farmington has won a pedestrian safety citation for its pedestrian protection program from the American Automobile Association.

Farmington won the award in the 10,000 to 25,000 population group by going seven years without a pedestrian fatality.

The highest honor for the year in Michigan went to Grosse Pointe Woods, which earned an Award of Excellence for top performances in both pedestri-

an safety program activities and pedestrian death and injury records. The city has had no traffic fatalities since 1957.

A total of 41 Michigan communities and the state were honored by AAA for their 1983 pedestrian safety achievements. Nationwide, 285 top citations were awarded in the 45th annual Pedestrian Protection Program. More than 2,500 cities and 29 states participated in the AAA survey.



SIDEWALK SALE

BURTON HOLLOW PLAZA

50% OFF SELECTED ITEMS

20% OFF ALL PORCELAIN DOLLS AND LAMPS & SHADES

10% OFF ALL STOREWIDE GOOD, FURNITURE INCLUDED

W&L County Merchant

17126 Farmington Road • Livonia, MI 48152
313/425-4210

Six Mile & Farmington Rd. • Livonia
Thursday, Friday & Saturday
August 2, 3 & 4
10-6 P.M.

19 Great Stores & Services

- Danny's Foods
- Burton Hollow Drugs
- Whichcraft Arts & Crafts
- Spartan's Place Barber Shop
- Janard's Hair Styling
- Mr. B's Pizza
- Baskin-Robbins Ice Cream
- Gags & Games
- Hinkle's Fabrics
- Country Merchant
- Mayflower Card & Book
- Golden Gifts Jewelers
- Pro-Am Bowling & Trophy Sales
- Century 21 Realty
- Secretary of State
- John S. Starcevic DDS
- Olde & Co.
- Permanent Staff Co.
- Burton Plaza Cleaners

Alma's Clip & Curl
(formerly Janard's Hair Styling)

Porcelain Nails
BY APPT. Reg. \$35 \$28⁰⁰

Perm Special \$25
Complete with ad
Haircuts \$8
Includes Shampoo, Rinse & Blow Dry
Thurs., Fri. & Sat. Only - Aug. 2, 3 & 4
W&L-425-4210, 4211

Which-Craft ARTS & CRAFTS

Thurs., Fri., Sat., August 2, 3, 4

"We can teach you arts & crafts"

10% DISCOUNT
on class tuition if you sign up during the sidewalk sale

Thurs., Fri., Sat., August 2, 3, 4
Good only With This Ad
P.S. Our new fall class schedule is now available. Pick one up during the sidewalk sale.

COUPON

Mayflower Book & Card Shoppe
Holland Creek

Under New Ownership
25% to 50% Off

ALL HARDBACK BOOKS • SELECT JEWELRY
PARTY GOODS • CANDLES
CARDS • CERAMIC GIFTS
A MUCH MORE

PHONE 427-2505

STOP BY

DANNY'S FOODS

FREE PRIZE DRAWING

COKE and HOT DOGS 25¢

Many In Store Weekly Specials

Open 24 Hours 7 Days a Week

SIDEWALK SALE TABLE 25 1/2 Off

IN STORE DISCOUNTS

15% Off On all arts & craft supplies

Visit Our **SALE ROOM**

50% Off OVERSTOCKED & DISCONTINUED ITEMS

425-0410

PRO-AM BOWLING and TROPHY SALES

SAVE 10%-15%

OFF ALL BOWLING AND TROPHY SALES

50% Off

BURTON HOLLOW DRUGS

SIDEWALK SALE

TOILET PAPER
59¢

Costume Jewelry
50%

Discounts On