

Search on to replace fired school chief

By Dave Varga
staff writer

The Bloomfield Hills Board of Education took a first step toward replacing Superintendent Fred Thorin Tuesday by authorizing two board committees to begin preliminary work on figuring what qualifications they are seeking and who will help them look.

David Littmann and Edward Fleischmann.

Peppard asked for preliminary reports by the two groups at the Jan. 8 board meeting so the district can start advertising for the opening in the American Association of School Administrators magazine's Jan. 22 issue.

The board voted unanimously Dec. 4 not to renew Thorin's contract, which he had requested to be extended for six months after it expires June 30, 1985.

Thorin cited political motives for the firing, saying he had been too closely associated with previous school boards in Bloomfield Hills.

The board has turned over completely during the last five years of Thorin's 15-year tenure as superintendent.

In response to Thorin's request to remain on for six months, the board voted unanimously Tuesday to instruct the board's attorney to explore the possibility of having Thorin continue on as a consultant. The attorney will also re-

view the superintendent's compensation and report back to the board.

Wilson, who moved for the board to take action on the consultant question, said there had been some discussion on the topic in the board's legal affairs committee.

"I believe that in fairness to him and to the board that we need to explore (a consultant position)," Wilson said.

THORIN HAD said he would not accept a consultant position. In a letter to the board, he called the proposed re-

duced-salary position "a token job."

Peppard spelled out the purpose of the two board committees.

The criteria committee will be charged with soliciting public opinion on the qualifications they want to see in a new superintendent. Peppard asked these members to get written input from "as broad a sampling of groups as possible."

He asked for the criteria committee information as soon as possible, including a preliminary set of requirements

by the next board meeting.

The consultant committee will attempt to find a firm to assist in the later stages of the superintendent search.

Board members discussed possibly establishing a third committee to narrow down the number of applications to only the most qualified candidates. Other suggested having the board secretary remove only the totally inadequate applications. In that case, all board members would see every qualified application.

WB miffed over local court costs

By Mary Lou Callaway
special writer

"Then let's get rid of them."

That was West Bloomfield Supervisor John Doherty's advice after recommending approval of the 48th District Court's \$43 million budget for 1985.

The budget includes 9-percent salary increases for the judges.

At a recent study session, Doherty said he wants to transfer the court to Oakland County's 52nd District for a purely fiscal reason.

"We're paying for everybody else's court (52nd District) and our own, too. If we could put the court under the county, we'd get a third of the revenue in return," said Doherty.

It is not a criticism of the 48th District judges, Doherty added.

Any transfer must be approved by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. The judges oppose the move.

West Bloomfield, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and Bloomfield Township are the court's control units. The court also serves Orchard Lake, Keego Harbor and Sylvan Lake.

The state pays \$36,630 and West Bloomfield \$29,659 to judges Gus Cifelli, Bernard Friedman and newly elected Edward Sosnick.

The entire budget is prorated on a case load basis, with the township's share totaling 30.73 percent.

TRUSTEE JEFFREY Leib said he had talked with Chief Judge Cifelli and court administrator Lana Hanrahan, who told him: "West Bloomfield is not going to take in as much money because we're down in ticket writing. I was told we have no traffic bureau and our officers have not been writing second offense drunk driving tickets, meaning charges come under state law with costs going to the county."

Court figures for the first 10 months of 1984 show West Bloomfield tickets down 1,657 (under 1983), Birmingham down 2,089; Bloomfield Hills down 120, and Bloomfield Township down 135, Hanrahan said.

Township attorney Paul Bibeau said the township cannot enforce high misdemeanors which call for higher penalties.

In 1985 the township is expecting a deficit of some \$50,000 in revenues, compared to a \$10,000 profit in 1984.

THE MAJOR budget change is for increased rent for the new building that will be built in Bloomfield Township next to the town hall on Telegraph Road. The new building will double the present court capacity. The current facility is at Square Lake Road and Telegraph.

"They will stay in the old building for about eight months. Our rent will increase by \$11,750," Doherty said.

"Bloomfield Township is our landlord," said trustee Raymond Holland voted against approving the budget because of the 9-percent salary increase for judges. He said that was too high. Judges now earn \$68,289 annually. Other court employees will get 4-percent increases.

DOHERTY SAID the traffic bureau had been established for two years under a funding grant. "We have been two police officers short but have now replaced them."

If the court is transferred, the township no longer would approve court budgets. "But we don't have any control anyway," Doherty said.

The present facility is lacking clerical space, probation and conference offices and parking spaces. There are no prisoner holding cells.

All control units now have approved the 1985 budget except Bloomfield Hills, which meets Jan. 8.

Area students get diplomas

Sixteen area students were among 1,835 candidates receiving their diplomas at Michigan State University's fall term graduation Dec. 8.

At the ceremony, undergraduates were addressed by Olympic silver medalist Judith Brown-King of Eugene, Ore., and Steven Spivey, a successful farmer in New Windsor, Ill.

Brown-King was a 1983 MSU graduate with a bachelor's degree in audiology and speech sciences. Spivey received his bachelor of science degree in animal husbandry in 1977 and a mas-

ter's in animal science in 1981, both from MSU.

Students from Farmington receiving their degrees at the ceremony were: James Bassman, Eric Chicketts, Mark Evangelista, Donna Gee and Douglas Williams.

Students from Farmington Hills were: James Bitterle, Katherine Bull, Timothy Deighton, Virginia Iaconelli, Kerri Langen, Craig Lazar, Steven Rauch, David Raznick, Jeffrey Rentz, Ana Schomaker and Dale Suetter.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 <small>Classified Deadline 5 p.m. Retail Deadline 12 noon</small>	21 <small>Creative Living 4 p.m.</small>	22
23/30	24/31	25	26 <small>Holiday</small>	27 <small>Classified Deadline 5 p.m. Retail Deadline 12 noon</small>	28 <small>Creative Living 4 p.m.</small>	29

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Because Christmas and New Year's fall on Tuesday this year, you'll find us at your home on the Saturday before each holiday (instead of Monday).

This means our carriers will spend Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve with their families.

This means your local business people can let you know about last minute Christmas gifts and specials in time for you to take advantage of them (the gifts, not the merchants).

This means you can do the same with our Classified section--place an advertisement or respond to one before the holiday.

And, finally, this means a few temporary changes in our deadlines:

Deadlines for Saturday, December 22 and Saturday, December 29 editions:
CLASSIFIED Thursday, December 27 -- 5 p.m.
RETAIL Thursday, December 27 -- 12 noon

Deadlines for Thursday, December 27 and January 3 editions:
CLASSIFIED Monday, December 31 -- 12 noon
CREATIVE LIVING Friday, December 28 -- 4 p.m.
RETAIL Monday, December 31 -- 10 a.m.

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