

Farmington school board votes to retain legal firm

By Tom Baer
staff writer

The Farmington School District will be doing business with the same legal firm thanks to a decision made by the board of education Tuesday night.

The Farmington Board voted, 6-0 (board President Helen Prutow was absent), to renew for one year its contract with the Birmingham firm of Clark, Hardy, Lewis, Pollard and Page to represent the district in educational and

union matters.

The district will pay a retainer fee of \$9,600 for all services rendered up to 120 hours. Additional services will be billed at the rate of \$90 per hour, an increase of \$5 an hour over last year's rates.

"They represent a goodly number of school districts in Oakland County," said William Prisk, assistant superintendent for finances and services. He said the firm has represented the Farmington District since the early

1970s.

The district also retains attorney Robert Kelly to represent it in real estate and business matters, Prisk said, at a fee of \$400 a month. Kelly, who has served the schools since the early 1950s, is the Farmington City Attorney.

"The only extra we pay Kelly is for the time he spends preparing for a court case and the time he spends in court," Prisk said.

IN OTHER ACTION Tuesday, the

board voted 6-0 to spend \$5,402 for an automatic scrubbing machine, which will be used to clean William Grace Elementary School.

The Colman Co. of Detroit, low among three bidders, will supply the machine.

The piece of equipment will "help maintain a clean building, especially in bad weather," said Superintendent Lewis Schulman.

About the size of a desk, an automatic scrubbing machine is battery operat-

ed and self-propelled. It will wash, wax and buff floors, according to custodians.

The district owns nine such ma-

chines. Of the total price, \$4,000 will come from William Grace's capital outlay account, and \$1,402 will come from the district's general fund.

Computer courses offered by MSU

Adults take the chill off of winter and warm up to a computer by registering in one or more computer courses designed specifically for the adult learner who possesses little or no computer experience.

Registration is in progress at MSU's Birmingham Center, 20500 W. 13 Mile (Groves High School). Most classes are limited to enable participants to have sufficient use of their own IBM-XT computer at the center. For further information and to ensure your place in class, call 845-5410 for details.

Michigan State University's Birmingham Center offers word processing, spread-sheets, home computing and data processing made simple to suit everyday uses and needs without the fear of becoming lost in a world of computer confusion.

It's official: building named after Cairns

The Farmington Hills city hall will finally have a name of its own — the "Floyd A. Cairns Municipal Building" — in honor of the first city clerk.

"It was just formally clipped-in stone," said Thomas Blaisell, public services director, about the city council's unanimous resolution Monday to name city hall.

Cairns, who retired Dec. 31 after 29 years of service to Farmington Hills

was in Florida when council passed the resolution. But he was informed of the decision to name city hall at 11 Mile and Orchard Lake Road in his honor a week earlier at a goodbye dinner.

"It's quite an honor and well-deserved," Blaisell said.

Council's resolution states that city hall will be named after Cairns "in recognition of his lifelong service to his

community, his dedication, steadfast spirit and many contributions and achievements . . ."

Besides documenting his work in civic and governmental organizations, the resolution also lauds Cairns' years in providing "continuous and inestimable leadership and service in helping to guide his community from a rural agricultural area to the dynamic and growing city that it is today."

A plaque in Cairns' honor will be put up inside city hall, near the main entrance, as soon as possible, Blaisell said.

When an outdoor sign bearing the city hall's new name will be erected is still undetermined because city officials have not yet decided whether to proceed with the construction of a new police building.

A new police building would involve moving around administrative offices as well as changes in the outside area of the city complex, including the location of parking lots.

"We don't know if we want to put up something permanently that will later have to be removed," Blaisell said.

Job trends brighten

Despite some cooling of the economy last fall, the employment picture looks bright for 1985, according to a human resources management consultant.

Andrew Sherwood, president and CEO of the Goodrich & Sherwood Co., points to an increase in help-wanted advertising, encouraging hiring plans of companies and information that

fewer companies plan to cut staff in the year ahead. A recent survey by his firm of 900 businesses reveals that 75 percent will hire at the same or increased rate over last year.

Businesses where white collar hiring may slacken, he says, include banking, financial services, high tech companies and troubled industries like steel and coal.

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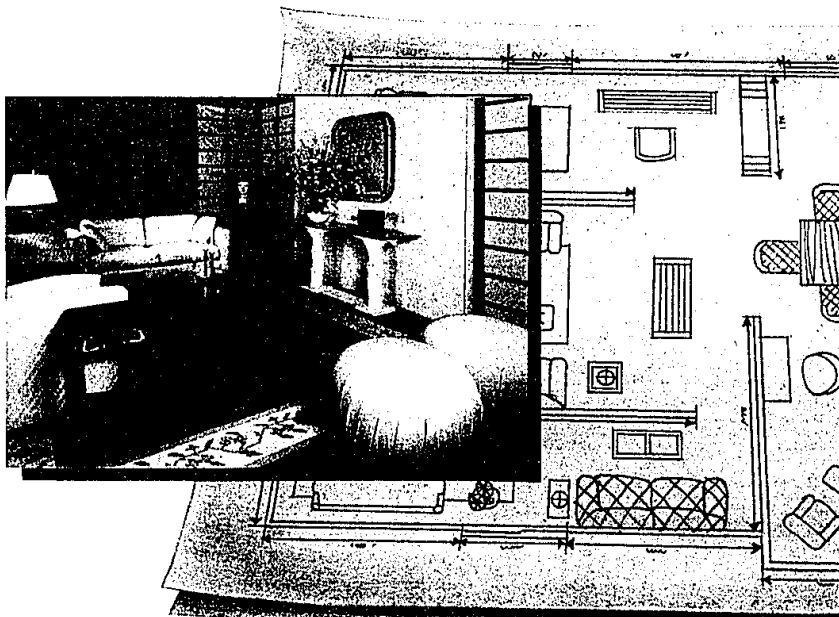
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