## New township law restricts health spas

Editor's nate: Health spas have also come under fire in Farmington Hills recently following the police raid of five Oriental spas and subsequent arrests of 10 Oriental women and one man on iliqual sex charges. Concerned residents have asked the Farmington Hills City Council to consider adopting an ordinance restricting health spas. City staff is studying the issue.

By Mary Lou Callaway special writer

An ordinance severely restricting

massage parlors and requiring town-ship licensing of masseurs was unani-mously approved by the West Bloom-field Township Board Monday.

It will become law upon publication, Wednesday, Dec. 11, said township at-torney Richard Pochiman, and affect businesses that now give massages and any to come.

The ordinance was prompted by objections from township residents and merchants to a proposed health spa in Honer's Bloomiteld West shopping strip on Orchard Lake Road. The location is

just up the road from West Bloomfield High School and in a shopping strip fre-

High School and in a shopping strip frequented by teen-agers.

Spa owner Jin Sung Chung had applied for a certificate of occupancy. The spa has passed building inspection, according to township Building Director Russell Crites, but not all departments have approved his application. Treasurer Dorothy McIntosh said she won't give her approval.

CRITES SAID CHUNG, who had called his office nearly daily asking for the certificate of occupancy, has asked for his \$500 bond to be returned.

If the bond is retirmed, that will indicate that Chung doesn't intend to open, according to Crites.

Last month, township residents and merchants presented hearly 1,000 petitions objecting to the spa, threatening picketing and buycotting if it were allowed to open.

The new massage ordinance is modeled after Royal Oak's, which has been tested in court, Pochliman said. Some isanguage has been changed.

It requires that the anniberate are

If requires that the applicants get medical certification within 30 days of application for a literace that masseurs be free of any contaglous or communi-cable disease; and that they not have of any criminal convictions other than traffic violations.

A license may be desied if the "character, reputation, moral integrity or physical or mental condition is inimical to public health, safety, morals or gen-

apkanis

A DENIAL may be appealed to the formship board at a public hearing. Violations call for fines of up to \$500 as pin just upon conviction. Officials believe the new law will prevent Chung from opening. This is a real step ahead for control," Supervisor John Doberty said. "We feel it will be effective." But, the added, fees charged to prospective spa operators were not meant to be public to legitimate businesss.

"We're trying to avoid legalized prostitution but not legitimate business."

"We're trying to avoid legalized prostitution but not legitimate business."

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"All existing spas would have 60 feet to comply." All existing spas would are to comply." The new law also will affect masseurs operating health or beauty salons that offer massages in well affect masseurs operating health or beauty salons that offer massages in the same transport of the same transpo

## Tax bills payable at banks

Just when you breathed a sigh of re-lief over getting the summer tax bill out of the way, taxes are due again. And as in the summer, Farmington Hills taxpayers can avoid long lines at city hall by paying their taxes at sever-al area banks.

city hall by paying their taxes at severlarge labes.

Due Feb. 14, winter taxes can be
paid at National Bank of Detroit (a fee
will be charged), Michigan National
Bank of Detroit, Michigan National
Bank of Detroit, Michigan National
Bank of Farmington, Michigan National
Bank of Farmington, Michigan National
Bank of Petroit, Branch offices
also will accept payments.

Another way of avoiding the lines
and parking problems at city hall while
the new police building is under construction is by dropping off payments
in a drop box on the east wall by the
front courtyard of the administrative
building at 31555 11, Mile. Taxpayers
may use the drop box during and after
business hours.

To avoid a 4 percent penalty on the
unpaid balance, payment must be
made by the close of business hours.

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unpaid balance, payment must be
made by the close of business hours
Feb. 14, said Earsel Barker, Farmington Hills deputy treasurer. Bills malled
to taxpayers and mortgage companies
last week mixtaken'y list Feb. 15 as the
due date, "We're hoping most people
will realize it (the due date) is Feb. 14,"
Barker said.

AFTER FEB. 28, Farmington Hills will not accept direct payment. Tax-payers will be forced to pay their win-ter taxes after that date at the Oakland

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County Treasurer's office in Pontiac.
The county also levies a penalty for late payments, Barker said.
Farmington Hills taxpayers' property taxes are divided almost equally into a summer and winter payment. Winter tax bills include 5.1 mills for Oakland County (Including, 75-mills for Oakland Intermediate Schools) and approximately one-half of the total mills leviced by one of three local school districts attended by Farmington Hills residents.

Taxpayers living in the Farmington

Taxpayers living in the Farmington Public Schools district will pay 17 mills

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Classifieds

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for schools for a total 22.8 mills. In the Clarenceville district, taxpayers will pay 20.7 mills for schools for a total 26.5. Taxpayers in the Walled Lake school district will pay 19.8 for schools for a total 25.7, according to Barker.

Farmington Hills summer tax bills (for those who live in the Farmington school district) hecided payment of 8.8 mills for Farmington Hills, 1.75 mills for Oakland Intermediate Schools, 14. mills for Oakland Community College and 17 mills for the local school dis-trict.

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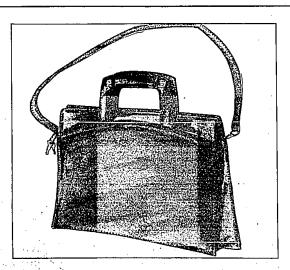
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