

City Preparing To Take Paving Bids For Shiawassee, Drake And Gill



YOUNG SKATER — David Neuhaus, 3, of Farmington, is an enthusiastic skater who enjoys the outdoor skating pond at Farmington Rd. and Shiawassee. (Event photo)

FARMINGTON The Farmington City Council Monday night authorized the city manager to take bids for major road improvement projects in the city.

Scheduled for concrete paving are: Shiawassee from Farmington Rd. to Grand River; Gill from Grand River to Freedom Dr.; and Drake from Grand River south to the city limits.

THE CITY engineer, the firm of John E. Hitz & Associates, has completed the design for those projects, and bids will be opened on Feb. 11.

The city will not be in a position to finance these improvements until July 1, explains City Manager John Dinan, but it may be that the contractor might be willing to begin work prior to July 1 without receiving payment until the beginning of the city's next fiscal year.

"We believe that this is an excellent time to take bids during the winter months as we should receive better competitive prices," Dinan told the council.

Dinan adds that the city has an understanding with the State Highway Department that Drake will be classified as a major street if it is paved.

If Drake is not reclassified, Dinan continued, it would have to be deleted from the paving program.

However, Dinan expects the state will reclassify Drake so it can be paved.

IN OTHER action, the council instructed Dinan to write a letter to Gov. William Milliken urging that funds not be eliminated for a training program for firemen.

A small part of Milliken's recent budget trims was a recommendation to eliminate allocation of about \$20,000 to conduct a study on the need for a training center for firefighters.

Presently, the University of Michigan operates the only training center available for suburban firefighters.

The \$20,000 has been allocated since 1966. But never spent because the governor has never appointed a director to administer the study and come up with a recommendation, says Robert Deadman, director of Farmington's Public Safety Department.

Deadman reported that the U-M training center is overcrowded and another center someplace is definitely needed.

The action was taken to relieve the agenda of the Zoning Board of Appeals, which has been considering many requests for variances on setbacks from homes in older subdivisions setting on smaller lots.

The city agreed to lend its support to a brochure promoting the Farmington Area providing support is also given by Farmington Township and the Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce.

The civic brochure would be printed by Tri-State Publications of Livonia as a joint city-township venture promoting the Farmington community.

The brochure is designed to present the past, present and future of the community, information on schools, churches, hospitals, libraries, cultural advantages, residential areas, recreation, industrial and commercial complexes, and the area's potential.

The brochure can be used by the Chamber in promoting the Farmington Area for prospective new residents, business and industrial inquiries, explained Dinan.

There will be no financial cost to the city, township or chamber because the brochure is financed by advertising from local merchants.

Tri-State has printed brochures for neighboring communities such as Southfield and Plymouth and for Wayne and Macomb counties.

storm sewers in the Alta Loma subdivision. Sale of the bonds must now be approved by the Michigan Municipal Finance Commission, and Dinan hopes the city will have the proper funding to begin construction this spring.

THE COUNCIL named Dinan as the legislative contact representative for the city with the Michigan Municipal League.

The council approved the following special weeks: Jan. 17-23, Farmington Jaycee

Week: Jan. 21-28, Farmington March of Dimes Mothers' March Week: Jan. 24-30, Camp Fire Girls Candy Week; and Jan. 31-Feb. 6, United Service Organizations (USO).

The USO is observing its 30th anniversary in 1971.

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Sgt. Santo Welcomes Son Home

Philip M. Santo, 21-year-old son of Farmington Township Police Sgt. Steve Santo, returned home after nearly four years service in the U.S. Navy this month.

Young Santo, who attained the rank Aviation Electrician Third Class, attended elementary and high school in Farmington before enlisting and taking basic training at Great Lakes Naval Base, Great Lakes, Ill.

Sgt. Santo said his son traveled and served in several states, including Alaska, California, Florida, Nevada and Maryland.

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At Ft. Knox

FARMINGTON Army Pvt. Dennis W. Musselman is assigned to Company E, 11 Battalion, 4 Brigade in the Training Center, Armor (USATC), at Ft. Knox.

Following completion of basic, Pvt. Musselman who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Musselman of 27910 10 Mile Rd., Farmington will receive at least an additional eight weeks of either advanced instruction or on-the-job training to qualify him in a specialized military skill.

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OCS Graduate

FARMINGTON Marine 2nd Lt. Robert W. Davenport, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Davenport of 29201 Davis Lane, Farmington, rank upon graduation from the Officer Candidate School at the Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Va.

He attended Washab College at Crawfordsville, Ind.

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