

# Commissioners OK a hold-line budget

By Pat Murphy staff writer

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners has approved a \$296 million budget that calls for spending \$20 million more next year without raising millage rates to residents or businesses.

"It's basically a hold-line budget," said Commissioner Nancy McConnell, R-Bloomfield Hills. "We'll spend more money, but it's necessary. The increase will generally be offset by growth and a higher state equalized valuation."

County Executive Daniel T. Murphy characterized the budget big enough to provide adequate services, but lean enough to avoid any millage increase.

The 1990-91 budget was approved Thursday, after more than a month of item-by-item review.

**THE BUDGET INCLUDES:**

- Pay increases of 4.5 percent for about 4,000 county employees, including the county executive, the prosecuting attorney, clerk, register of deeds, drain commissioner, sheriff, treasurer.
- Increases in the county's portion of salaries paid to judges. The county's supplement to circuit judges will increase from \$38,295 to \$39,416, bringing their 1990 salary to \$39,081.
- The county's supplement for probate judges will increase from \$45,817 to \$47,047 while its supplement for district judges will go from \$39,847 to \$41,047.
- The 1990 salaries for probate and district judges, including the state's portion, are \$93,817.
- Almost \$400,000 to establish a child sexual assault unit within the prosecutor's office.
- The money will add three assistant prosecutors and two social workers who will specialize in handling the increasing number of cases sexual abuse involving children.
- Cutting travel and education funds by 10 percent.
- While most of Thursday's meeting, the last of 1989, was consumed with routine, end-of-the-year measures, commissioners found time to pass a resolution congratulating Bo Schembecher for his accomplishments as football coach at the University of Michigan.
- Commissioners passed another resolution wishing Comm. Lillian Jaffe Oaks, D-Southfield, a happy birthday.

# Rates stable at county courses

Oakland County residents will continue to get a break on the use of its nine parks and golf courses.

The Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission has adopted a budget of \$9.7 million for 1990 with which to operate its nine parks and golf courses.

A primary goal for 1990 was to limit the rise in fees for county residents, while raising fees proportionately higher for those who live outside of Oakland County, according to parks commission manager Ralph Richard.

"This provision gives residents a cost break," Richard said.

So daily park entry fees remain at \$3 per Oakland County and Oakland County residents. Non-residents will pay \$5. Weekend/holiday fees stay at \$4 per county resident, \$6 non-resident.

Daily rates for camping at Addison Oaks and Groveland Oaks will be \$8 for primitive sites and \$12 for modern sites. Non-county residents will pay \$11 and \$15 respectively.

Weekday greens for golf will be \$6.50 for nine holes and \$11 for 18 holes for county residents. Non-residents rates for golf will be \$8.25 for nine holes and \$14.50 for 18 holes.

Senior citizens will receive a 25 percent discount on most fees.

FROM THE PROPOSED revenue budget, \$4.3 million will be generated from fees and charges. Another \$5.4 million will come from a quarterly mill tax for county parks as well as interest on investments.

The owner of a \$90,000 home in Oakland County pays \$11.25 per year to maintain, operate and upgrade Oakland County Parks.

The proposed operating budget for 1990 is nearly \$8.3 million with some \$1.5 million for capital development projects.

Park facilities and programs now range from two wave pools, a nature center and tennis complex to boating, fishing, tennis and cross-country skiing.

Many of the capital improvements planned for 1990 will focus on existing facilities and services or refurbishing and updating aging sites, according to Lewis E. Wint, parks and recreation commission chairman.

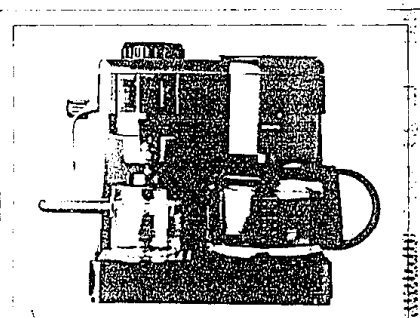
Major capital projects include: electrical, roofing and air conditioning improvements at the Addison Oaks Conference Center; new group picnic shelters at Addison Oaks; parking improvements at Groveland Oaks; and asphaltting the park entry road and expanding the beach area parking at Independence Oaks.

At Waterford Oaks, an addition will be constructed at the technical support building, eight tennis courts will be resurfaced and restrooms will be completed at the bicycle motocross track.

**PROJECTS PLANNED** for the golf courses are irrigation and sprinkling systems improvements at White Lake Oaks and Glen Oaks; a golf cart storage building at Red Oaks; and increased parking areas and improved lighting at Springfield Oaks.

For more information, call the Oakland County Parks at 858-0908.

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