Ethics panel to be formed

God's sake," city councilman Marks said.

said.

But others, such as Grant, believes there's a need for rules governing council members' conduct and meeting procedures, even if it's only Roberts Rules of Order.

ing procedures, even it it's only Roberts Rules of Order,
But others, such as Grani, believes
there's a need for rules governing
council members' conduct and meeting procedures, even if it's only Roberts Rules of Order.
Lichtman, however, is more concerned with how council members
conduct themselves outside of meetings. 'I think they all have to do with
the same issue — that's integrity in
government.
Councilman Terry Sever also
asked for rules governing residency
who may make untrue or misleading
comments before the council.
'I think the public gets manipulated many times (by comments made
by residents), "Sever said. 'I think
it's a bad reflection on the whole

it's a bad renection on the city."

Lichtman's report provides an example of a section from the Municipal Cierks City Council Rules of Procedure. It covers "personal, impertinent or slanderous remarks" made before the council.

unent or sianucerous remarks made before the council.

RESIDENT JULIEANN Hovanc-sian opposed such rules. "I think he's hinting of that," she said, referring to Lichtman. 'And I'm a little bit afraid of it."

afraid of it."

Lichtman said he is not trying to limit free speech and included the example because he thought it was interesting and had not seen any-

Ben Marks doesn't believe Farm-ington Hills elected officials should be forced to disclose their incomes and how they earn them. Jonathan

Grant agrees.
"I'm very, very upset hearing about disclosures. This could very well turn out to be a witch hunt," Marks said.

well turn out to be a witch hunt," Marks said. Providing financial disclosure for public scrutiny—to be sure there is no conflict of interest — surfaced during the elty council's discussion on council members' tethics, including meeting procedures and council members' behavior. Marks told his colleagues that income is 'personal business' and that the job of council member in Farmington Hills doesn't warrant such disclosure. "I' think it's wrong to ask you where your money is coming from," the builder-developer continued continued. We're getting into some dangerous territory. Just make people aware of a conflict. That's all that's necessary."

GRANT, WHO owns a business in

GRANT, WIO owns a business in Farmington Hills, agreed with Marks, who has had the spoilight turned on him over the years for possible conflicts of interest. But he said that property within city limits owned by council members should be disclosed. "That clearly should be a matter of public record."

Others disagreed to varying degrees.

grees.
"This stre," said councilwoman
Jean Fox, who is retired. Once
you're an elected official, she said,
the public has a right to know where
council members get their money,
she added.

she added.

Councilman Aldo Vagnozzi, who works for a Detroit publishing company, believes in limited disclosure

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STREET WISE

By Joanne Meliszewski staff writer

Council disagrees

on income disclosure

'i believe it's a gross violation when the minority opinion is expressed as the majority opinion . . . I think it's very serious when a minority opinion takes control of the majority."

-- Nancy Bates councilwoman

Councilwoman

thing similar elsewhere.

Council members said they didn't wish to open old wounds. But members referred to concern about an apparent breach of an executive session resolution by former mayor Fox and Mayor Vagnozzi in 1990 and contacted representatives in the governor's office and Gov. James Blanched and the service accept. A resolution adopted in a closed city council session prohibited dicussion. "I think there's a lot to be said about letting voters decide who should be removed from office; blichman said, But, he said, there should be intermediary steps short of removal — that can be taken against council members when devendencessions."

Take questions and the said in the said of the said

of property and income for just council members, not their family members. Councilwoman Nancy Bates, on the other hand, believes sources of

income, property and relationships to proponents who come before

But Bates, a legislative aid to Re-publican state Rep. Jan Dolan of Farmington Hills, said she doesn't believe it's necessary to disclose in-

orne amount.
"I just feel we've got to be more up front," Fox said.

cil on some type of request must

council.
"I think we have to be very careful about the majority taking a position and the minority cannot stick by their position." Vagnozzi said.

tion and the minority cannot stace, their position, 'Vegnozi' said.

Council woman Nancy Bates disagreed. 'Ib elieve it's a gross violation when the minority opinion is expressed as the majority-opinion...' It think it's very serious when a minority opinion takes control of the majority. 'To take disciplinary action against council members, who are entitled to due process, the misconduct must be discussed in public, Vagnozzi said. But, for example, the council cannot fully discuss the resolution Fox and Vagnozzi apparently violated because it was adopted in closed session and minutes of the meeting cannot be made public. Nontheless, Vagnozzi agreed that discipline procedures are necessary. 'But I think we need to be careful on what we base this.'

Body shop closes doors

the cars for safekeeping, and all customers were even-tually contacted. Police say there was no criminal in-

But for Larcinese, that's not the end of the story and his frustration.

He said 47th District Court Judge Fred Harris had He said 47th District Court Judge Fred Harris had ordered his eviction for non-payment of rent in July while he was under hankrupicy protection and claimed he got no support from the Farmington Department of Public Safety on the incident. Harris and police officials tell a different story, though they said sympathize with Larcinese. Although he did not recall specifics of the case, Harris said he would not have taken the eviction action had be been presented with an order from the federal bankrupicy court confirming the filing. "I can only assume I didn't have the bankrupicy order," the judge said. "People can come in here and say anything."

"I can sympathize with him— It's hard when your werd it's failing down around von."

anything."
"I can sympathize with him — it's hard when your world is falling down around you."
Farmington's public safety department wrote five reports regarding the business in July and August, ac-

cording to city records.

The reports included responding to a building alarm, handling a non-sufficient funds check complaint and several others involving the landlord-tenant eviction and theft in July.

According to that report, managers told police two large toolboxes and spray gons were taken from the business, but officers closed the case in August after repeated attempts to get a detailed list of stolen goods. The follow-up report also noted that some of directions had been returned, but details condition were can't said.

The followup report also noted that some of the Henshad been returned, but details could not be confirmed. At this time, we've done everything we can," said public safety director Frank Lauhoff. "We've taken all the reports they we reported."

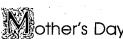
Meanwhile, longime employees like Druce Sticben who managed the Farmington business, have left the bad memories behind and are starting fresh. Sticben has opened his own body shop near Brighton. "It was not my business, but it sure felt like it," he said. "We busted our buts to make this thing run and everybody wanted it closed down. Our business went to heek in July — we never recovered."

Stitchen said he was concerned about the 10 families whose "breadwinners were put out of work" and the "mjustice of all the people that were wronged."

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