

Insurance official raps recycling 'fee'

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"He (Anderson) has not provided us with any law, no case law, to back up his claim," said Farmington City Manager Robert Deadman. "We checked out that what we were doing was proper before we even adopted the law (recycling ordinance that includes billing fees)."

Farmington Hills Mayor Aldo Vagnozzi said the cities have two opinions already and are waiting for another. "The opinion we received is that it is perfectly legal," he said.

Deadman, chairman of the Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County, said the organization of communities, including Farmington Hills, received a legal opinion about the fees prior to both council's adoption of the recycling ordinance earlier this year.

"He (Anderson) is accusing us saying we've stumbled along," Deadman said.

ANDERSON, WHO was expected to meet with officials of both cities Friday to again discuss his claims, wrote Farmington Mayor Shirley Richardson a letter when he received his first recycling bill Sept. 10.

In the letter, Anderson, a Farm-

ington resident, complained that the bills predate his request for city council hearings on the recycling fee and the scheduled meeting Friday.

"To date, the administration of Farmington Hills has delayed sending out its billing notices until after its council can convene and review the ordinance."

To send out Farmington's notices before a similar review by our (Farmington) is unfair, prejudicial and imprudent," Anderson wrote to Richardson.

Anderson described Deadman as a "city official who's disregarding and one (Farmington Hills City Manager William Costick) who is being very careful," Anderson told the Observer.

But Costick said Thursday that recycling bills were only in part delayed to Farmington Hills residents because of Anderson's claims. Because, he said, were also delayed because the city council agreed to allow exemptions for residents with financial hardships or physical disabilities.

"Where was he (Anderson) when we were discussing this?" Farmington Hills Mayor Aldo Vagnozzi said, referring to discussions prior to adoption of the city's recycling ordinance.

on the agenda

Below are highlights from the agendas of government meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

Farmington Hills City Council
Council chambers
31555 11 Mile
7:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 16

Four public hearings are scheduled including: consideration of vacation of St. Francis Street; consideration of a cost bearing for sanitary sewer improvements for Belfast; consideration of cost bearing for road improvement for Ambeth and Salisbury; and consideration of cost bearing for road rehabilitation in Colony Park.

Under unfinished business, the council will consider: approving a consent judgment between developer Mel Kalfan and the city; adopting a resolution authorizing the payback of Heritage Park watermain; enact-

ing an ordinance to regulate cats; approval of final plat for Sinacola Woods sub; and enacting an ordinance regulating farms in single-family districts.

Under new business, the council will consider a dance permit for Wing Hong Restaurant, appointment to the Historic District Commission and hear a report on the recycling program fees which went into effect July 1.

The city manager will suggest setting a date to study the city's proposed temporary sign ordinance, offer bid consideration for the Belfast sanitary sewer project and for road rehabilitation projects in Colony Park and on Ambeth and Salisbury roads.

Farmington City Council
Council chambers
23600 Liberty
8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 16

A letter from Patrick Anderson

regarding the recycling fee will be discussed by the council, and a report given from Girls State representative Julie Ritter.

The city manager will request contractor and engineering payments for the city's sewer improvement project, make a recommendation on public safety radio equipment purchases, recommend establishing a City Risk Control Committee and propose a fee schedule for city services.

The council is also expected to take action on enacting a cat control ordinance and another: one to adopt the Basic National Fire Prevention Code.

Downtown Development Authority
Farmington City Hall
Meeting Room A
23600 Liberty
8 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17

The DDA board has called a special meeting to discuss long-term plans for a promotions program.

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Sign law splits council

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law which addressed temporary signs.

The new law was designed to handle Wander's situation, where three stores in Farmington have varying window sizes.

Wander said last week he is frustrated by the apparent impasse on the situation. He has said in the past that small business people depend on windows as a main advertising source, unlike larger stores which have advertising budgets.

"We're very angry," he said. "They didn't think they should vote on it. In hopes that they might, we have our three stores now conform

with the (proposed) regulations." But Wander did say the city had been good about leaving him alone until the situation is rectified. "They've agreed to leave me alone. I've agreed to compromise," he added.

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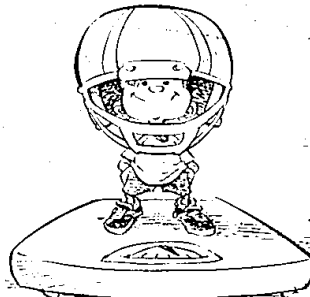
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