# Board **OKs TV** meetinas

TRUSTEES NIXED a lesser proposal for \$10,500 that offered just one camera and no sound system, and a more expensive plan for \$103,600 that offered a system similar to the one in the Farmington Hills City Council chambers. All agreed that a good sound system would be a must the board currently uses no sound system at its meetings. The anonyment has its receited to

The approved plan is expected to cost the district \$26,400 for start-up, members requested The approved pian is expected of cost the district \$26,000 for start-up, though board members requested administration to return to them with appropriate bids for the project and a timeline. Once installed, it will cost about \$6,000 per year to operate, with most of the cost being to pay audio and video operators. School/community relations director Pamela O'Malley said some of the equipment will take six to eight weeks for delivery. Plans include cablecasting regular \$p.m. meetings live on TV-10, the cluection cable channel which has its studies in North Farmington High School. O'Malley said meetings which have to be moved to accommodate larger crowds could be handled through a remote cablecast.

through a remote cantesast.

The proposal does not address cablecasting special board meetings or any board committee meetings usually held before the 8 p.m. hour. O'Malley said it might be possible to tape some of those additional meetings for future cablecast.

# Auditor says schools are healthy — for now

Auditors said last week the Farm-ington Public School District is "rea-sonably" healthy, but lower cash reserves this year and political is-sues beyond its control could cause problems in the future.

problems in the future
"The overall position is that it (the
district) is in reasonably good
shape," said Fred Haller of Plante of
Moran — the Southfield accounting
firm which does the district's annual
audit — answering parent David
York's question during an Oct. 15
presentation to the Farmington
school board.

But with an undesignated fund balance of \$3.2 million as of June 30, the district is left with a sayings ac-count amounting to a little more than three percent of its current

'It's less than the state average, and there's a lot of storm clouds on the horizon. It's certainly a time to be careful."

– Fred Hailer of accounting firm

\$96.95 million budget. It's enough to operate the 10,400-student district for about one week of school, sald school officials.

"It's less than the state average, and there's a lot of storm clouds on the horizon," Haller warned. "It's certainly a time to be careful."

The cash reserves, called a "fund

equity" in district financial statements is "assulty a barometer for a spool district," Halier said, who didded that the state average for a district is about a percent.

"As we talk about all these uncertainties, it becomes increasingly important that you have a fund balance." School officials have fought in recent years with some factions of the community who have claimed the district shouldn't have kept any sort of each reserves.

IN THE PAST year, school offi-cials said they were relieved there was something there to carry them through a potential crisis in which \$5.8 million was taken away by the

state.
Future uncertainties could include
how the recently approved tax base
sharing plan is implemented by the
state, how soon the state recapture

program is phased out, how the 1992 property tax freeze will impact the district, and how Michigan residents vote. on, any number of ballot issues real. A straight of the str

Bruce Barrett. One hundred and for ty jobs were cut.

PROGRAMS WERE pared, in-cluding transportation, business ad-ministration, and support services. And, where the district had previous-ly budgeted a 10 percent cash re-serve in years past, that has been pared back to five percent for current year.

Barrett noted the district has tak en a conservative approach, and is in decent shape because of having a fi-nancial cushion in place.

But that may change in the future, depending on legislative changes to properly tax laws. "We're in an envi-ronment of undertainty," be added, "Major change has begun and we've had to respond." He said he foresees "radical changes" to how schools are financed in the future.

# Canfield residents battle city's plan to pave street

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

As far as James and Dorothy Woolley are concerned, 50.1 percent int cause of a majority to force homeowners on Canfield Street to have their graved street paved. That's when the Woolley's hit the pavement, canvassed their neighborhood and got nearly two-fairlds of their neighbors – 51.1 percent – to sign a petition against the proposed pavement.
"We moved here because we loved."

"We moved here because we loved the country atmosphere," said James Woolley.

The couple presented their peti-

'People just didn't realize how much the total amount they would have to pay for paving.'

- Dorothy Woolley Canfield resident

tions to city hall staff. The problem was that earlier in September, the city council had already adopted a resolution for paving Canfield, from Grayfield to the northern tip of the

road.

So back to the drawing board. The city council a week ago agreed to have another informational meeting

about road paving along Canfield followed by a public bearing at 7:30 pm., Monday, Nov. 18 in city council chambers, 3:135-11 Mile.

"People just dight' realize how much the total amount they would have to pay for paving," said Dorothy Woolley.

RESIDENTS WERE originally told that the cost of paving for each to owner — whose frontage abuts on Canfield — was roughly \$3,984. That's true. But the Woolley's say there's more truth to be known. For example, if a lot owner decides to stretch out payments over 10 years, the paving would cost about \$5,090 including interest. Over £5 years, the lot owner would pay \$3,000. "One person owns four lots. A lot

"One person owns four lots. A lot

of the residents are senior citizens and young couples," James Woolley said. "Everyone I asked, I said, 'Did you know much this will cost?' When I showed them what it would be with interest, they thought was too much money."

With a 63-percent majority in fa-With a 63-percent majority in Iavor of not paving, councilwoman
Jean Fox said she saw no reason to
have yet another public hearing. The
city's policy is to go abead with road
improvements if 50 percent of the
property owners are in favor:
"I think 50.1 percent is a pretty
small margin." James Woolley told
the city council.
But Mayor Aido Vagnozzi said,
"We do have a policy on a majority."

CANFIELD RESIDENT Tim Schmidt asked for another public hearing. "It only works if everyone is properly informed. Apparently that's not the case on this issue." The resident called the change in petitions an "amaring reversal. Mr.

\*FRANKIE & JOHNNY (H)

RICHOCHET (R) 12:00, 12:13, 2:30 6:46, 7:00 8:30 (51:45)

woolley is not what I would call a high pressure salesman. Though his wife could charm the socks off everyone."

Money, however, isn't the only concern, James Woolley sald, Homeowners don't have city water answery etc. "First things Itar."

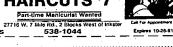
Yet Dick Mecham, a Canfield resident who circulated the petition that received 50.1 percent in support of paying, said the paying issues is splitting up his neighborhood. "Hight now it seems it's getting to be homeowner treas who move the said of the didn't force any neighbors."

Mecham said he didn't force anyone to sign his petition. "I don't belong to the Mafia. I didn't twist. It is also the didn't the said with the said the doesn't like the idea of

He said he doesn't like the idea of He said he doesn't like the idea of changing decisions. "Why people I approached changed their minds, I don't know. Can I petition after you make a decision on this (Woolleys petition). We can carry this on to doomsday."



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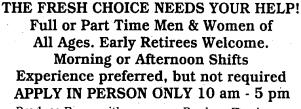
PEN 11:30 A.M. DAILY, 9:30 A.M. FISHER KING (R)
1894, 199, 149, 786 9 20 (17.00)
NECESSARY ROUGHNESS (PG-13)
1904 179 47 504 608 7 15 9 20 (19.20)
DEAD AGAIN (R)
1909 1746 7 30 6 400 7 19, 9 36 (19.20) \*TAXING OF BEVERLY HILLS (R) TERMINATOR II (R)
1990 1 00 4 90 1 00 4 30 (17 00)
Starting Wed. HOUSE PARTY II

SUBURBAN COMMANDO (PG)
1960, 11 46. 1 41. 2 41. 6 60. 7 45. 9 36 (1) 307
FREDUTS DEAD: THE FINAL HIGHTMARE (R)
1860, 12 64. 2 16. 4 60. 7 41. 2 15. (1) 307

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