

State aid to towns may well be tardy

By Tim Richard
staff writer

Local governments will get \$35 million in state aid a month later this fall amid some Republican charges of "voodoo bookkeeping."

The House of Representatives voted 55-30 to delay paying local units their cut of single business taxes until the first of October, instead of September, the last month of fiscal 1992.

"The compromise we worked out in committee will allow the state to bring its books for this year closer into balance," said Rep. Dominic Jacobetti, D-Negaunee, chair of the House Appropriations Committee.

"SMOKE AND MIRRORS" replied maverick Republican Rep. David Jaye of Utica. "It's like extending the fiscal year in the Milliken era." "It's happened before," warned Rep. Tom Mathieu, D-Grand Rapids, a proponent of community college funding. "We deferred payments to the colleges, and the colleges never got it."

But Jacobetti insisted that "the

local governments will be assured of their fall revenue sharing payments."

Jacobetti's panel rejected Gov. John Engler's proposal — to cut more than \$34 million from fiscal 1992 revenue sharing.

"We didn't think it was right to try and balance the state budget at the expense of the operating funds the local governments rely on."

"The inconvenience of waiting a month for the money is small in comparison to the damage that would have been done to local services if the payments were eliminated altogether," he said.

HERE IS HOW Observer & Eccentric area representatives voted: YES — Democrat Maxine Herman of Southfield, and Republicans Joe Dolan of Farmington Hills and Gordon Sparks of Troy. NO — Republican Barbara Dobb of Union Lake.

ABSENT — John Jamian, R-Hooverfield Township. The bill goes back to the Senate for concurrence in the House amendment.

No way! Oakland sues over Detroit rate increases

By Pat Murphy
staff writer

Oakland County has filed suit in federal court challenging the proposed 13 percent increase in water and sewer rates announced by the City of Detroit and the Detroit Water & Sewerage Department (DWSD) for municipal customers.

Oakland filed its suit Thursday in U.S. District Court in Detroit, challenging rate increases scheduled to take effect July 1. The case is assigned to Judge John Feikens who as early as this week is expected to schedule a preliminary hearing.

The suit is part of an on-going feud Oakland has had over water rates with the DWSD since 1977, said George W. Kuhn, Oakland County Drain Commissioner. Oakland claims imposing the rate hikes violates the terms of a court-sanctioned rate settlement agreement reached in July 1978.

Specifically, Oakland claims the water board is violating that 1978 agreement by, among other things, increasing rates to pay for a \$130 million capital improvement bonds.

THE SUIT further claims, the board acted improperly by writing off more than \$13 million in bad sewage debt as uncollectable accounts within in the City of Detroit.

Not collecting those bad debts necessitates the need to unjustly pass financial burdens onto suburban customers, the suit contends.

At least part of the proposed rate hike will also cover late charges that should not be allowed to be passed along, Kuhn said. "For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1991, DWSD incurred late charges of \$359,000 on Detroit Edison bills because of the city's failure to make payments on time."

Under the rate agreement of 1978, DWSD is allowed to pass along only legitimate costs related to operations, Kuhn said. The board is not allowed to pass along expenses related to mismanagement.

Before filing the suit, Oakland officials tried to get information from the water board and the Detroit Common Council about the rates, Kuhn said. "We wanted an accounting of revenues and expenditures and why the rate hikes were necessary."

"We were before the council in February," he said. The county wanted the increases rescinded or reduced. But both the water board and the common council ignored Oakland's requests.

Kuhn said Oakland County is the only plaintiff, but he expects that to change. "We've talked with officials in Macomb and Wayne counties," he said, "and I believe they will join us."

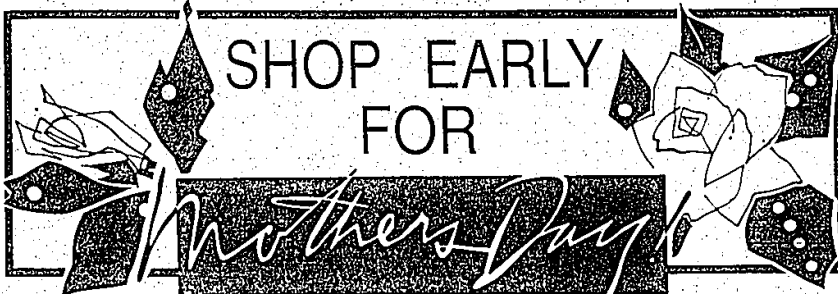
SOUTH REDFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

26141 Schoolcraft Road
Redford, Michigan 48239
INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS
FOOD SERVICES MANAGEMENT COMPANIES

Sealed proposals for the purpose of entering into a contract for furnishing school lunch program management services for the 1992-93 school year will be received in the Board of Education Administrative Services Center until 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 1992. Public bid opening will be on Tuesday, June 9, 1992, at 8:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Administrative Services Center, 26141 Schoolcraft Road, Redford, Michigan 48239. A mandatory prebid meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 12, 1992, at 10:00 a.m. The food service management company would provide management service according to specifications to meet or exceed United States Department of Agriculture and State of Michigan Department of Education regulations and guidelines. The District currently has 3116 students and 6 schools. Inquiries relative to submitting a proposal should be directed to Dr. William F. Weber, Assistant Superintendent, South Redford School District, Administrative Services Building, 26141 Schoolcraft Road, Redford, Michigan 48239, telephone (313) 535-4000.

PATRICIA BILICKI,
Secretary
South Redford Board of Education
South Redford School District

Published April 27, 1992



SHOP EARLY FOR Mother's Day

Mother's Day Specials!

Make Her Feel "SPECIAL!"
Give Her The Gift of "GOLD"

Large Selection of Jewelry - The Gift That Keeps On Giving



14K Gold Diamond Charms
\$19.95 each



14K Mother's RINGS
Starting From \$94.50

14K Gold Diamond Earrings or Pendant
\$19.95

HURRY! SALE ENDS MAY 10th
REDFORD COIN & JEWELRY
25904 W. Six Mile
Redford
(1 Block West of Birch Daly)
592-8119

SPRING DECORATING SALE

With our in stock patterns, there is time to make your home beautiful for spring.

IN STOCK WALLPAPER 20%-70% OFF

30% OFF

All Special Order Books
Excludes previous sales and fabrics.
Expires 4-30-92

COUPON \$2.00 OFF
Any Gallon
Fuller O'Brien Paint
Expires 5-31-92

HunterDouglas
WINDOW FASHIONS

CANTON
Hunter Shopping Center
5825 Sheldon Road
451-2560

NOVI
Novi 10 Mile Center
41810 W 10 Mile
348-2171

LIVONIA
Midway Shopping Center
29448 Five Mile
427-5600

In Stock WALLPAPER, INC.

OPEN 7 DAYS Mon. Fri. 10-6 Sat. 9-6 Sun. 11-4

GRUB BUSTERS

Save your LAWN Before it's GONE!

CALL NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

\$24.95* (Crab Control for Average Lawns)

Jimmie's
Lawn Maintenance Plus

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION GUARANTEE • COMPLETE LAWN RESTORATION & MAINTENANCE • AERATION • POWER RAKING • SEEDING • 15% SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT • SOO

Serving Metro Detroit **537-9814** Fully Insured

Village Doors

Elegant Styling
And Uncompromised Quality
In Premium Oak Doors and Sparkling Beveled Glass Inserts

- Custom Cabinets
- Oak, Steel & Fiberglass Doors
- Marvin Windows
- Peachtree Windows & Doors
- Fine Quality Tiffany Lamps

711 Starkweather
Plymouth, MI 48170
453-1660

Rawlinson Photography and Sunny J's Lingerie

Present:

A Bridal Affair



Wednesday
May 6, 1992
Doors Open at 6:00 pm

At The Mayflower Meeting House
455 South Main Street • Plymouth, MI 48170

Tickets are \$3.00 in advance • \$4.00 at the door.

Fashion Show • Exhibits • Prizes

Bridal Salons

Jewelry

Shoeing Museums

Hair Makeup Salons

Wedding Photographers

Disc Jockeys

Wedding Cakes

Real Estate Agencies

Men's Formal Wear

Bands

Limousine Service

Party Rentals

Houses

Wedding Invitations & Gifts

Travel Agencies

Small Banquet Services

Free Engagement Portrait of all Wedding couples in attendance

Call for Ticket Information: 453-8872 • 453-8584 • 453-1620

Special Appearance!

Doll Artist KATHY HIPPENSTEE

at our store Saturday, May 2, 1992

THE ASHTON DRAKE GALLERIES



"My First Tooth"
Patricia
HAPPINESS IS
by K. Hippenstee
Issue Price: \$69



"Alex"
Growing
Young Minds
by K. Hippenstee
Issue Price: \$79



"Davy Crockett"
Born to be Famous
by K. Hippenstee
Issue Price: \$92



"Christopher"
Baby Book Treasures
by K. Hippenstee
Issue Price: \$63



"Danielle"
Picture Perfect Babies
Issue Price: \$69



"Justin"
You Can't Join Us...
We'll have your purchase signed & shipped to you.
Issue Price: \$75

UNIQUE MOTHER'S DAY GIFTS THAT WILL ALWAYS BE TREASURED
Kathy Hippenstee will be present to sign dolls. Select your dolls now & we will reserve that size for you.

Authorized Bradford Exchange & Ashton-Drake Dealer
We offer a full line of Limited Edition Dolls • Collector Plates • Figurines
• Lanyards & free shipping available.

Copper Cricket • **Calvin & Doc**
32524 Warren • at Veroy • in Hunter Park Plaza • Westland
Between Veterans & Wayne & 425-6977

Savings up to **50% OFF** on 5 pc. place settings
ALSO SIMILAR SAVINGS ON OTHER FINE BRANDS

ROYAL Doulton Wedgwood Noritake

Item	Price	Item	Price
Cups	\$14.95	Golden Sherry Cowl	\$13.95
Plates	\$13.95	Standard 12	\$8.95
Platters	\$13.95	Murano	\$14.95
Bowls	\$12.95	Quilt & Lace	\$14.95
Teapots	\$12.95	Bamboo	\$14.95
Natural in Basket	\$13.95	Hampton	\$14.95
Antique	\$14.95	American Flowers	\$14.95
Humidor	\$11.95	Woodstock	\$14.95

Buy the BEST for LESS at

Perfect Package

HOURS:
Mon., Tues., Fri., Sat. 10-6
Thursday 10-4

Westland **ORCHARD MALL**
855-5222

NOW AVAILABLE
AS
ENTERTAINMENT
OR
WARDROBE
IN STOCK

20% OFF Regular Price

The YANKEE CARPENTER

1751 S. TELEGRAPH • BLOOMFIELD HILLS • 338-0441
Between Square Lake and Orchard Lake Roads
Hours: Mon., Tues. & Fri. 10-9, Wed. 10-4, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 12-4