

## History *from page 1A*

The commission can only make suggestions. The owner or builder doesn't have to heed the advice. The commission cannot halt a building project.

"Ninety-nine out of a 100 people usually take our advice,"

Nothing was written into the ordinance, however, for how the commission notifies the city of

such designations. City officials think that needs to be addressed. "I was surprised to find out there was nothing in the ordinance about notification of the city," Frank Lauhoff, city manager, said. "... I have no way of knowing how those have occurred in the past."

Said Leonard: "It's in the (historical commission) minutes."

## Students' jawing spurs 'jabbing'

**BY LARRY O'CONNOR**  
STAFF WRITER

An 11-year-old Power Middle School student has been suspended pending a review after the "jabbing" of another student with a paring knife.

The victim, also 11, suffered a small cut on his left thigh during the April 26 incident. He did not require medical attention, Power Middle School principal Laura Miner said.

"I'd like to refer to it probably as a jabbing more than a stabbing," said the Farmington Dis-

■ 'I'd like to refer to it probably as a jabbing more than a stabbing.'

**Don Cowan**  
Building, student  
services director

trict's Building and Student Services director, Don Cowan.

The jabbing arose from a name-calling incident earlier in a Life Management (home economics) class, where the student reported-

ly found the paring knife, Miner

The argument continued into gym class the next hour, and the assault took place in the locker room.

Farmington Hills police were called. Cowan said he doesn't believe charges are going to be filed against the juvenile.

"I don't think so," Cowan said, "Primarily because . . . the family is very cooperative."

On April 27, Farmington Hills police were called to the school after a fight between two eighth-graders. The fight started when one boy was hit with a football, witnesses said.

One boy was kicked in the head and legs, witnesses said, and was taken by ambulance to Botsford Hospital. He was treated and released.

"These are just two isolated incidents that happened in the same week," Miner said. "(They had) absolutely nothing to do with each other."

## Hills budget proposal: Drain fund balance

**BY BILL COUTANT**  
**SEAF WREITER**

The proposed budget for Farmington Hills will increase by 1.8 percent, but it will further drain the city's fund balance.

City Manager Bill Costick discussed a preliminary city budget during a study session with the Farmington Hills City Council Monday.

"Last year we used some of the fund balance to balance our budget," Costick said. "This year we're going to use almost all of it. We're getting thinner and thinner."

A combination of factors ac-

counts for the increase of \$545,625 in the proposed 1994-95 budget that will total \$30,339,445. Part of the problem is less money

"Our ordinance violations have been down for the last year," said Charles Rosch, director of finance.

Building and other fees were also down and the money the city saved in recycling costs will be reflected in lower bills to residents, Costick said.

Another factor increasing costs was a 48.4 percent increase in

workers compensation costs over the past two years, in part because of a new way those costs are figured. Fire department runs, mostly medical, also increased by 12 percent, driving up paid-on-call and overtime costs.

"We've always been lucky about projecting where we would be," Costick said, adding that he had not anticipated the dramatic increase in fire department runs.

The budget proposal also includes \$175,200 in new services, including \$43,700 to cover increased library hours (Sunday) at the Farmington library branch.

and the addition of a librarian. A part-time zoning inspector position (\$24,500) and part-time subpoena server (\$9,000) would probably be offset by money they would generate for the city. The budget also includes \$50,000 for park maintenance, \$33,000 to cover more paid call-back firefighting runs and \$15,000 for public rela-

The city will also pay more for its pension fund to cover a higher benefit for retirees, he said. The council will begin more detailed work on the budget in the coming weeks.

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