

# Trustees seek right word to sell bond proposal

BY MARIE CHESTNEY  
STAFF WRITER

You call it remodeling. We call it renovation.

The use of the word remodeling instead of renovation in official election paperwork caused angst Thursday among trustees of the Clarenceville Board of Education. "We don't want to risk losing this bond issue; that's why we're questioning the language," said trustee Linda Brandemil as they considered several election-related documents prepared by the district's attorneys, Shantz and Booker.

The documents repeatedly report that Clarenceville plans to

remodel facilities if voters approve a \$4.4 million bond issue in the June 12 election.

The word was first used by state treasurer Douglas Roberts who, in an April 20 letter, authorized Clarenceville to seek a bond issue to partially remodel and partially re-equip Clarenceville's four schools.

The trustees believed the word "remodel" connotes work that is less urgent and can be put off, such as tearing out kitchen cabinets.

The word "renovation," they said, connotes work that is more urgent. Because of their age, Clarenceville officials believe the

## CLARENCEVILLE SCHOOLS

four schools are in dire need of repairs.

The language must stand, said a Shantz and Booker attorney, because it's the language authorized by the state.

But in election information being sent to residents, the word renovation will be used, said board president Dale Weighill.

The bond issue is one of two financial questions facing voters on the June 12 ballot. The two questions are:

■ A 2.1-mill bond issue for renovations and technology that would generate \$4.4 million over 10 years.

■ A 0.75-mill sinking fund for building repairs that would generate \$2.1 million over the next 10 years.

A sinking fund comes with legal restrictions on how the money can be spent, said Superintendent David Kamish. "It limits us in what we can do. If we think we can do something, we'll have to check with Lansing to make sure."

Administrators say the ballot contains two different proposals because the state does not allow districts to buy technological

equipment with money from a sinking fund.

However, a sinking fund alone, they say, would not give Clarenceville enough "up-front" money to accomplish what needs to be done within the next three years.

Together, both questions would raise \$6.5 million over the next 10 years.

Administrators say it's crucial that both ballot questions pass because they work hand-in-hand to raise the money needed to do the most-needed repairs and renovations.

If the bond issue passes, Clarenceville will do the most-urgent repairs and buy and install new equipment with the \$4.4 million generated.

If the \$2.1 million generated by the sinking fund tax passes,

Clarenceville will space out the rest of the repairs over the next 10 years. It also will have the money on hand to pay for such emergencies as a new boiler or roof.

Throughout May, principals will hold meetings to tell residents how money from the two questions would be spent in their building.

The district also will mail out informational letters, and urge unregistered voters to register by May 15.

If both proposals pass, Clarenceville taxpayers will pay 2.55 mills more in taxes. For a house worth \$60,000, assessed at \$30,000, this amounts to another \$84.50 a year. For a house worth \$100,000 and assessed at \$50,000, this amounts to another \$142.50 a year.

## ON THE AGENDA

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

**Farmington City Council**  
City Council Chambers, 474-5500  
8 p.m. Monday, May 1

Agenda items include:  
■ Consideration to set public hearing for cable franchise renewal.

## Candidate forum set

Linda Enberg and Jennifer Levin, the only candidates for the open seat on the Farmington Board of Education in the June 12 school election, are expected to participate in a candidate forum 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 3, in the council chambers of the Farmington Hills City Hall, 11 Mile and Orchard Lake roads.

Moderator of the program — sponsored by the Farmington Area Republican Club — will be Dulane Whinnery, past president of the club. The forum will be broadcast live on MetroVision's Channel 12. Those who attend the forum will be able to present questions to the candidates.

## Band performs concert May 7

The Farmington Community Band will present its annual May concert Sunday, May 7, at 3 p.m. in the Harrison High School auditorium.

This year's program, titled "Melodies of Love," will feature Mike Deja from WJR Radio as guest. Deja is well known as the Sunday morning host of "Patterns in Music" on WJR and returns to join the Farmington Community Band for the third time with a program guaranteed to bring back memories.

Farmington senior citizens will again be honored guests at this concert.

"Being a community group, we feel it is our responsibility to share our talents and provide a service to residents of neighboring nursing homes to enjoy a day out," said FCB business manager, Ginny McDonald. "Nursing home residents are bused to the concert and provided with refreshments both before and after the concert."

This annual event is a joint effort of many Farmington community groups working together to honor and transport senior citizens and handicapped individuals to the concert.

Participating with the FCB in this effort are the Farmington Area Arts Commission, the Farmington Public Schools and participating Farmington Service Groups assisting on the buses.

This concert is free and homemade refreshments will be served. Harrison High School is located on 12 Mile Road, between Middlebelt and Orchard Lake roads. For more information call 478-5014 or 480-3412.

The program will be repeated on Monday, May 8 at the South Lyon High School at 8 p.m.

■ Approval of public hearing notice 1995-96 budget and increase in property taxes.  
■ Amendments to traffic control orders: parking.

**Farmington Downtown Development Authority**  
City Council Chambers, 473-7276  
8 a.m. Tuesday, May 2

**Farmington Hills City Council**  
Special meetings  
Lower level conference room, 474-6115  
6:30 p.m. Monday, May 1, 1995

Agenda items include:  
■ Review of capital budget  
■ Executive session concerning a lawsuit

**Joint City Council Meeting**  
Farmington Hills City Council Chambers  
7:30 p.m., Monday, May 1, 1995

Agenda items include:  
■ Public questions and comments  
■ Council members comments and announcements  
■ Transmittal of 1995/96 budgets for general fund, special revenue funds and debt service funds and consideration of establishing dates for 1995/96 fiscal year budget review and setting the date of May 22, 1995, for a public hearing.  
■ Consideration of approval to adjourn into a study session to review the public works and roads budget.



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