

Patterson considers private funding to keep Lions

By PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

If Oakland commissioners are reluctant to commit tax money to help keep the Detroit Lions at the Pontiac Silverdome, county executive L. Brooks Patterson said he may turn to the private sector.

Such talk may be putting the cart before the horse, because Patterson hasn't officially approached the Board of Commissioners for help and commissioners may indeed be willing to cough up some money to help the executive help Pontiac keep the Lions at the dome.

It's almost inconceivable that

commissioners would not be willing to help keep the Lions here, Patterson said Tuesday through press secretary Bob Dushman. But if commissioners were reluctant to come up with some money, he would turn to the business community.

At a highly visible press conference last week, Patterson talked of his concern over the City of Detroit negotiating with the Lions about moving to a new stadium in the Motor City.

He talked about suing his old friend, Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer, under a state law Patterson said makes it unlawful for a

third party to intentionally and improperly induce a party to break a contract. The assumption, of course, is that Detroit or Archer — who openly said he'd like to see the Lions downtown — is somehow tampering with the existing contract between Pontiac and the Lions.

Patterson outlined some steps he's contemplating in light of efforts to lure the Lions out of Pontiac to Detroit or anywhere else. Some of those steps the executive could take on his own without help from county commissioners.

Patterson could, as he outlined, sue Detroit and/or Archer. He

could also unilaterally pressure the legislature to change in the Hotel-Hotel Tax, so money paid at Oakland hotels and motels (an estimated \$5.5 million in 1994) no longer goes to reduce the debt on Cobo Hall.

"We (Oakland businesses) are getting beat up with our own taxes," Patterson said, referring to money paid in Oakland that subsidizes Detroit, which in turn tries to lure the Lions away. "This is not personal (with Archer), nor is it anti-Detroit," Patterson said. "This is business."

County commissioners enter

the picture on those items the executive could not do on his own. Items like the county paying half the expenses (with Pontiac paying the other half) of a professional negotiator to represent the city in negotiations with the Lions.

Pontiac, as of last week, wasn't represented in negotiations by someone with the authority to speak on behalf of the city. The death last month of Mayor Charles J. Harrison Jr. and a city council unable to appoint and empower a representative effectively have left the city unrepresented at the bargaining table, Patterson said.

"And when you're not at the table," Patterson said, "someone else eats your lunch."

Patterson said the cost to the county for helping Pontiac would likely be small. But it would also be specific — like helping to hire an experienced negotiator to represent Pontiac or earmarking road patrol grants to pay for sheriff's deputies to help with traffic around the Silverdome on game days.

But Patterson pledged to help. "This is business," he re-emphasized, "and we (county government) won't sit back and watch the Lions leave."

Commissioners: Patterson hasn't named dollar amounts

By PAT MURPHY
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Oakland Executive L. Brooks Patterson has already approached county commissioners about the county helping Pontiac in negotiations with the Detroit Lions.

But the approach — on two separate occasions — was informal and no specific dollar amounts were mentioned.

That's not likely to change Thursday when the Oakland County Board of Commissioners holds its regular meeting. The

agenda doesn't include any items — such as a proposal for the county to share in the cost of hiring an experienced negotiator to represent Pontiac.

Furthermore, Patterson doesn't plan to personally appear before commissioners to make a pitch — or even soften them up for later — according to press secretary Bob Dushman.

"Mr. Patterson has no plans to address commissioners," Dushman said Tuesday.

When Patterson approaches commissioners — and it's likely a

matter of when, not "if" — he will see a county board willing to listen and anxious to help, providing it's not too costly.

"It's not a given" that commissioners would simply fork over money without first getting some assurances, according to county executive Lawrence R. Pernick. "But I think commissioners would be willing to listen. We want to keep the Lions in Pontiac."

"The Lions and the Silverdome help throughout Oakland County," Pernick said, "and they help us sell the county and attract busi-

ness."

Patterson first approached commissioners at the Sept. 7 meeting when he talked at the Democratic caucus about Pontiac not being represented in negotiations with the Lions.

Patterson didn't ask for money. He merely asked that commissioners who represented Pontiac — JoAnne Holbert and Jeff Klingzett — to use whatever influence they had to appoint a negotiator. The executive also talked with a few commissioners last Wednesday, shortly after his

press conference at the Silverdome, according to commissioner Charles E. Palmer, R-Troy and Clawson.

"He wasn't specific," said Palmer. "But it was clear he'd seek our help when the time came."

Palmer too said commissioners were likely to listen carefully and kick in, providing the cost wasn't excessive and the goal was specific. "We definitely don't want to lose the Lions," he said.

Commissioner Don Jensen, R-Birmingham, was less enthu-

sia-tic. "If I had to vote on providing money for the Silverdome right now, I'd probably vote against it," he said. "I'll keep an open mind, but I don't want to get into a long-ranged commitment. I don't want anything that will require the county to continue spending tax dollars."

Commissioner John Garfield, R-Rochester Hills, said he's anxious to hear what the executive has in mind. "When he's willing to talk, I'm willing to listen," he said.

CLASS REUNIONS

As space permits, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Please include the date of the reunion and the first and last name of at least one contact person, and a telephone number.

Benedictine
WITH ST. SCHOLASTICA
Looking for 1939-1959 graduates and former parishioners.
Director of Alumni Relations, 17320 Rosemont, Detroit 48219, or (313) 531-0140

CLASS OF 1955
Is planning a reunion.
(810) 643-0040 (days), (810) 952-1527 (evenings), or (810) 881-1464

Berkley
JANUARY-JUNE CLASSES OF 1951
Aug. 17, 1996, at the Northfield Hilton Inn, Troy.
(313) 886-0770

CLASS OF 1955
Oct. 14 at the Farmington Hills Holiday Inn. Cost is \$40 per person.
(810) 751-4957

Birmingham Baldwin
CLASSES OF 1940
Are planning a reunion.
(810) 645-0043

CLASS OF 1948
Is planning a reunion.
(810) 363-3030 or (810) 642-9685

Birmingham High
CLASS OF 1958
Nov. 3-5 at the Laurel Park Marriott Hotel, Livonia.
(810) 626-0673 or (810) 649-6032

Bishop Gallagher
CLASS OF 1971
July 20, 1996, at the Gowanus Golf Club, Mount Carmel.
(313) 886-0770

Bloomfield Hills Lahser
CLASS OF 1975
A reunion is planned for Nov. 25.
(810) 360-7209

CLASS OF 1996
Oct. 27 at the Old Woodward Grill, Birmingham. Written to Kristine Roth, 4301 Echo Road, Bloomfield Hills 48302.

Center Line
CLASS OF 1975
Sept. 30 at Zuccaro's Country House, Clinton Township.
(810) 294-4558 or (810) 263-6182

Clarenceville
CLASSES OF 1959 AND 1960
Sept. 30 at the Livonia Holiday Inn, Livonia.
(810) 420-0773 or (313) 720-6594 (class of 1959), (810) 427-8725 or (810) 427-8777 (class of 1960), (800) 542-6666 or (810) 473-8520

CLASSES OF 1944 THROUGH 1958
Are planning a reunion.
(313) 534-5721 or (810) 474-6263

CLASS OF 1978
Oct. 7 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Livonia.
(810) 437-9625 or (810) 437-9131

Crestwood
CLASS OF 1978
Oct. 7 at the Red Horse Hotel, Nov. (810) 333-5753

Dearborn Fordson
CLASS OF 1960
Nov. 9, 1996, at the Italian American Club, Dearborn. A reunion get-together or who da Nov. B.
(313) 274-0094 or (313) 654-3668 and (313) 441-4051 for the pre-reunion get-together.

Dearborn Sacred Heart
CLASS OF 1975
Oct. 14 at the Park Place, Dearborn.
(313) 441-1721 or (313) 622-4034

CLASS OF 1975

Is planning a reunion.
(313) 558-8101

Detroit Cass Tech
CLASS OF 1977
A reunion is planned for June 1997.
Elizabeth Bell Smith, 19306 Deaconsfield, Detroit 48224 or (313) 372-6657 after 4 p.m.

Detroit Central
JANUARY-JUNE CLASSES OF 1956
Are planning a reunion.
(810) 651-1408 or (810) 626-7479

CLASSES OF 1944-45
8 p.m. Sept. 29 at the Polish Church, Detroit.
(313) 330-0232 or (810) 616-3332

CLASS OF 1956
A reunion is planned for Nov. 30, 1996.
(810) 559-4039

Detroit Chadsey
JANUARY-JUNE-SEPTEMBER 1945
With class of 1944, Oct. 8 at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club, Westland.
(810) 363-4039, (313) 535-3936 or (313) 886-9770

Detroit Cody
JANUARY-JUNE CLASSES OF 1970
Sept. 29 at the Northfield Hilton Inn, Troy.
(313) 886-0770

Detroit Cooley
JANUARY-JUNE CLASSES OF 1940
Oct. 28 at the Northfield Hilton Inn, Troy. Cost: \$50 per person.
(313) 416-1822 or (810) 684-2886

CLASS OF 1955
Sept. 30 at the Livonia Holiday Inn.
(313) 886-0770

CLASS OF 1978
Nov. 18 at the Albemarle Hotel and Conference Center in Greentown, Detroit.
(313) 438-1601

Detroit Denby
CLASS OF 1950
Oct. 14 at the Sterling Inn, Sterling Heights.
(810) 565-2083 or (810) 647-3833

JANUARY-JUNE CLASSES OF 1975
A reunion is planned for Oct. 13.
(810) 373-1031

CLASS OF 1945
Nov. 25 at the Northfield Hilton Hotel, Troy.
(313) 886-0770

JANUARY-JUNE CLASSES OF 1956
Are planning a reunion.
(810) 548-7983 or (810) 977-3324

Detroit Eastman
CLASSES THROUGH 1960
Oct. 6 at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, Warren.
(810) 755-6169

Detroit Finney
CLASS OF 1978
Sept. 14, 1996, at the Sterling Inn, Sterling Heights.
(313) 886-0770

CLASS OF 1978
Nov. 24 at the Danforth House, St. Clair Shores.
(313) 886-0770

Detroit Henry Ford
CLASS OF 1975
Oct. 7 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Livonia.
(810) 437-9625 or (810) 437-9131

Detroit Redeemer
CLASS OF 1948
Oct. 14 at the Parkside Towers, Dearborn.
(313) 533-3264

Detroit Gesu
CLASS OF 1971
Nov. 25 at the Royal Oak Woman's Club, Royal Oak.
(810) 478-4590

Detroit Henry Ford
JANUARY-JUNE CLASSES OF 1971
A reunion is planned for Aug. 17, 1996.
(810) 534-5721 or (810) 474-6263

CLASS OF 1978
Oct. 7 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Livonia.
(810) 437-9625 or (810) 437-9131

Detroit Mackenzie
JANUARY-JUNE CLASSES OF 1940

Reunion planned for Oct. 14.
(810) 549-5245 or (313) 637-0641

CLASSES OF 1964, '65, '66, '67
Combined reunion will be Nov. 11 at the Novi Hilton, Novi.
(810) 745-3340

Detroit Mumford
CLASS OF 1958 REUNION
Oct. 28 at the Albemarle Hotel and Conference Center in Greentown, Detroit.
(313) 886-0770

Detroit Murray Wright
CLASS OF 1976
Oct. 14 at the Albemarle Hotel and Conference Center, Detroit.
(313) 886-0770

Detroit Northwestern
CLASSES OF THE 1940S
Sept. 29 at the Laurel Manor, Livonia.
(810) 649-6016 or (313) 421-0936

Detroit Osborn
JANUARY-JUNE CLASSES OF 1970
Oct. 28 at the Danforth House, St. Clair Shores.
(810) 751-3081, (810) 779-3883 or (810) 651-5176

Detroit Pershing
CLASS OF 1950
Including class of 1949 and 1951, Oct. 7 at Zuccaro's Holiday House, Clinton Township.
(810) 751-3081, (810) 779-3883 or (810) 651-5176

Detroit Redford
CLASS OF 1948
Is planning a reunion.
(313) 453-4687

CLASS OF 1978
Nov. 18 at the Detroit Athletic Club, Detroit.
(313) 522-0172 or by fax, (313) 522-1865

Detroit St. Andrew
CLASS OF 1957
Oct. 4, 1996, at Laurel Manor, Livonia.
(313) 453-1022

Detroit St. Cecilia
CLASSES OF 1968, '69, '70, '71
Are planning a reunion.
(810) 786-6959

Detroit St. Theresa
CLASS OF 1948
Is planning a reunion.
(313) 458-7941 or (313) 381-2024

Detroit Southwestern
CLASS OF 1958
Is planning a reunion.
(313) 382-4235, or Southwestern Class of 1965, P.O. Box 32463, Detroit 48232

CLASS OF 1978
Is planning a reunion.
(313) 238-6037, (313) 534-3366 or (313) 372-1026; or Southwestern Class of '78, P.O. Box 44026, Redford 48239

Detroit Visitation
CLASSES OF 1964 AND 1968
Are planning a reunion for October.
(810) 887-7293, (313) 591-7715 or (313) 453-7161

CLASS OF 1948
Is planning a reunion with the eighth-grade class of 1941.
(313) 634-0717, (810) 773-2358, (810) 645-0629, or (313) 530-8880 or (313) 533-1414

Detroit Western
CLASS OF 1958
Is planning a reunion.
(810) 643-7001 or (313) 507-5807

JANUARY-JUNE-SEPTEMBER 1965
Sept. 30 at the Ramada Inn, Northline Road, Southgate.
(313) 626-8011 (June or August) and (313) 383-3444 (January)

Farmington
CLASS OF 1964
Is planning a reunion for 1995.
(810) 477-3134 or (810) 478-0288

CLASS OF 1948
Sept. 30 at the Hunting and Fishing Club.
(810) 229-7885 or (810) 478-6746

CLASS OF 1968
Nov. 4 at the Barton Manor in Livonia.
(810) 390-7004

Farmington Hills Harrison

CLASS OF 1975
Nov. 24 at the Bay Pointe Country Club, West Bloomfield.
(313) 591-6869, (810) 966-1758, (810) 447-6203, or Harrison Reunion 1975, P.O. Box 531494, Livonia 48153-1494.

CLASS OF 1984
Nov. 25 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Livonia.
(810) 488-0074

CLASS OF 1925
A reunion is planned for Nov. 25.
(810) 344-0445

Ferdale Lincoln
JANUARY-JUNE CLASSES OF 1948
Are planning a reunion.
(810) 544-0298 or (810) 547-2511

CLASS OF 1950
Sept. 30 at the Northfield Hilton Inn, Troy.
(810) 546-3005 or (810) 474-3559

JANUARY CLASSES OF 1953
A reunion is planned for Sept. 30.
(810) 855-9683

Fraser
CLASS OF 1953
A reunion is planned for Oct. 7.
(810) 740-3344 or (810) 852-5435

Garden City
CLASSES OF THE 1950S
The Sept. 29 to Oct. 2, and dinner-dance Oct. 7, at the Marriott Hotel, Romulus.
(810) 421-0278, (313) 427-0535 or (313) 427-2168

Garden City East
CLASS OF 1970
Is planning a reunion.
(313) 825-3732 or (313) 464-1659

Garden City West
CLASS OF 1978
A reunion is planned for October.
Send name, address to reunion 1978, 55222 Eight Mile, No. 31, Farmington Hills 48335-5176.

CLASS OF 1975
Families party and homecoming game Oct. 6, dinner at Roma's of Garden City, Oct. 7, and family picnic at the Real Life Farms in Garden City, Oct. 9.
(810) 474-5006

Grosse Pointe
CLASS OF 1954
June 15, 1996, at the Lochmoor Country Club, Grosse Pointe.
(313) 886-0770

Grosse Pointe South
CLASS OF 1971
July 27, 1996, at the Assumption Cultural Center, St. Clair Shores.
(313) 886-0770

CLASS OF 1960
Oct. 7 at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, Filed Auditorium.
(810) 885-3505

Harper Woods
ALL CLASSES
Oct. 21 at the Barton House, St. Clair Shores. Cost: \$35 per person before Oct. 7, \$40 after Oct. 8.
(313) 839-1290 or (810) 790-0212

Hazel Park
CLASSES OF 1938-1940S
Oct. 6 at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, Warren.
(810) 544-4834, (810) 526-5460 or (313) 632-4458

Highland Park Liberty
CLASSES OF THE 1930S AND 1950S
11 a.m. Oct. 14 at the Clouston Troy Elks Club, Troy.
(810) 280-1053

Holy Redeemer
CLASS OF 1940
Oct. 14 at the Shakers in the Parkside, Dearborn.
(810) 553-4272

Howell
CLASS OF 1978
Nov. 25 at the Knights of Columbus in Howell.
Don Walt: (517) 544-5905

John Glenn
CLASS OF 1978
Oct. 6 at the Laurel Manor, Livonia. Cost is \$35 per person.

Livonia Bentley
CLASS OF 1978
Aug. 24, 1996, at St. Aldan's Banquet Center.
(810) 360-7004

Livonia Churchill
CLASS OF 1978
June 15, 1996, at the Nov Hill Hotel, Novi.
(313) 886-0770

Livonia Franklin
CLASS OF 1978
Nov. 24 at the Dearborn Inn, Dearborn.
(800) 677-1800

CLASS OF 1958
Nov. 24 at the Laurel Manor, Livonia.
(313) 677-2747

Livonia Stevenson
CLASS OF 1980
Nov. 25 at the Barton Manor, Livonia. Cost is \$37.50 per person, \$75 per couple.
(313) 531-7090 or (313) 625-6647

Marion
CLASS OF 1970
Nov. 25 at the Glen Oaks Golf Club, Farmington Hills.
(734) 869-4840

Mount Clemens St. Mary
CLASSES OF 1950-58
Oct. 13 noon Mass followed by social in school gym.
(810) 463-5210

North Farmington
CLASS OF 1955
Nov. 25 at the Barton Manor, Livonia.
(810) 380-6100

CLASS OF 1958
Aug. 10, 1996, at St. Aldan's Banquet Center, Livonia.
(810) 360-7004

Oak Park
CLASS OF 1978
Nov. 25 at the Somerset Inn, Troy.
(313) 886-0770

Plymouth Salem/Canton
CLASS OF 1960
7 p.m. Oct. 21 at the Nov Hill Hotel. Tickets in advance by mail only.
(810) 691-2012; leave name and address.

CLASS OF 1978
Oct. 7 at the Holiday Inn-Livonia West.
(313) 459-6950 or (313) 459-6959

Plymouth Salem
CLASS OF 1978
Aug. 10, 1996, at the Nov Hill Hotel, Novi.
(313) 886-0770

Pontiac
CLASS OF 1968
Is planning a reunion.
(810) 333-1914 or (810) 887-7824

Pontiac Central
CLASS OF 1953
A reunion is planned for 1st fall.
(810) 673-7797

Redford Thurston