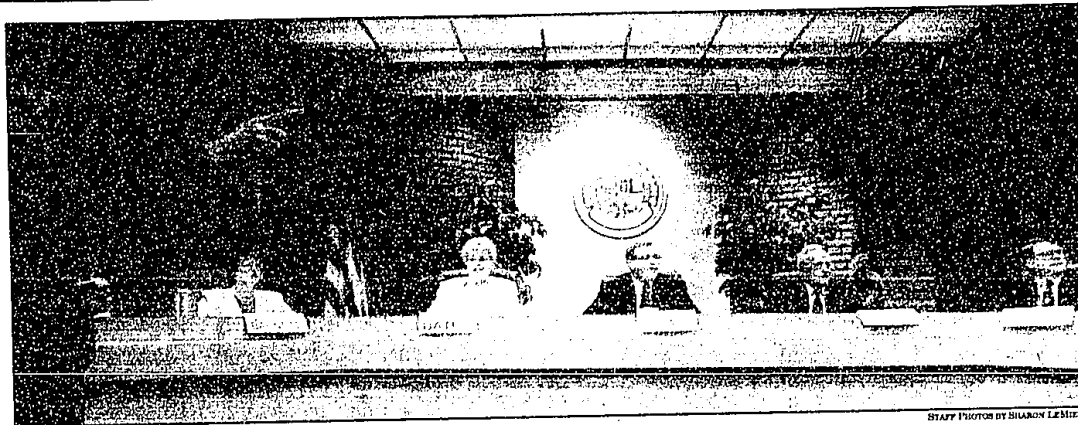




Face off: Barry Brickner explains the rules for the debate between five council hopefuls: challenger Vicki Barnett (left), incumbent Nancy Bates, challenger Dennis Fitzgerald, challenger Ben Marks, and incumbent Terry Sever.

STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LEMIEUX

Debate from page 1A

Sowerby challenged Vagnozzi's record of supporting "tax increases" over the past six years. Vagnozzi responded that most of those increases were like the SMART, Oakland Community College and other tax issues that voters approved.

Sowerby also took Vagnozzi to task for his support of buying a second Zamboni machine for the city's ice arena. Vagnozzi said he questioned the purchase and added that the money came from a voter-approved bond issue that would not cost the city money. It is being paid for with revenue the arena generates.

The candidates also differed on the proposed public safety tax, which voters will decide when they select a new mayor. It calls for a 1-mill tax specifically for increased police and fire personnel and equipment.

Vagnozzi, who supports the proposal, said he supported the proposal and challenged Sowerby to show where he would cut the budget.

Sowerby said he supports

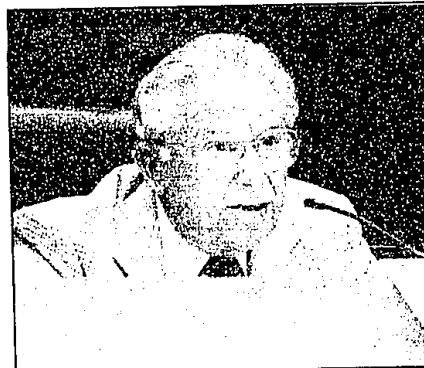
increased fire and police protection — and has the support of the police officers union, said he could not specify where money for additional officers and firefighters should come from without studying the budget.

"Mr. Sowerby says we don't need the police and fire millage but he says he hasn't studied the budget," Vagnozzi said. "But he says we can get the money out of the budget."

Sowerby and Vagnozzi were asked who their top campaign contributors were.

Sowerby said it should not be an issue, but did name a friend and a former college roommate. After the debate, Sowerby said his campaign letterhead contained the names of his biggest contributors. Those include Congressman Joe Knollenberg and Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson.

Vagnozzi named his wife, himself and questioner Shpiece along with neighbors. After the debate, Sowerby said having Shpiece, who he thought was



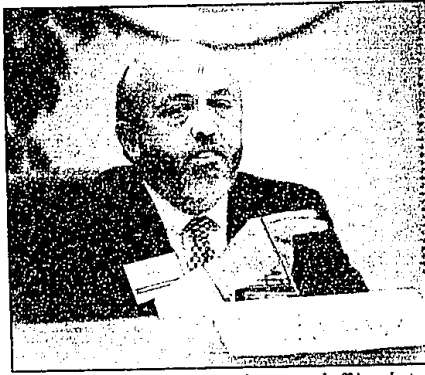
Candidate replies: Farmington Hills' mayoral hopefuls Aldo Vagnozzi, left, and Paul Sowerby squared off in what at times was a heated debate during Thursday's candidate forum sponsored by the Farmington Democratic Club.

more harshly questioning him, as a contributor to Vagnozzi's campaign, was a conflict of interest.

After a break, the debate turned to the five candidates running for three council seats:

Vicki Barnett, Nancy Bates, Dennis Fitzgerald, Ben Marks and Terry Sever.

Sever and Bates are seeking re-election to the council. Marks, who had been on the city council for nine years before los-



ing out in 1993, is trying for a seat.

Fitzgerald has served on the parks and recreation commission and now serves as chairman of the ice arena advisory committee. Barnett ran unsuccessful-

ly for state representative and was successful in a statewide petition drive to secure stop-gap school funding.

Unlike the mayoral candidates, all five said they were in favor of the public safety tax.



Ice concern: Hills resident Richard Dagunno, above, clarified an issue involving the Zamboni for the new Hills Ice Arena, saying it is being paid for by a voter-approved bond.

At right, Hills resident Judy Parren told Aldo Vagnozzi she was concerned that he was on city council during the years of heavy development.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS WEEK OF OCTOBER 15, 1995

Mark your calendar!

17/TUESDAY

HALCYON DAYS COLLECTION SHOW
Halcyon Days artist Brenda Avery will demonstrate how these fine collectibles are made.

11 am to 4 pm, Fine Jewelry

COUPLES DINNER

A charming introduction to our Bridal Registry in a quiet "after-hours" setting. Bridal Coordinator Ann Massey hosts. RSVP, 810-645-8669.

Store for the Home

20/FRIDAY

DREA KADILAK PERSONAL APPEARANCE
Hats galore! Meet the designer.

1 to 4 pm, Millinery

BACCARAT COLLECTION SHOW

Experience the beauty and quality of fine crystal.

11 am to 4 pm, Fine China

21/SATURDAY

LALIQUE COLLECTION SHOW

An introduction to the creative genius and history that is Lalique.

11 am to 4 pm, Fine China

Jacobson's

336 W. MAPLE RD. • BIRMINGHAM
MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND SATURDAY, 9:30 AM TO 6 PM
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, 9:30 AM TO 9 PM, SUNDAY, NOON TO 5 PM
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