

The Farmington Enterprise

Forty-Second Year—No. 24

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Township Tax Levy To Be Same, As That Of 1929

Amount To Be Raised By Taxation Set At \$55,000 By Town Board

Farmington Township's tax levy for 1930 will be the same as for 1929, it was determined at the meeting of the Township Board Tuesday evening. The amount to be raised by taxation is \$55,000.

The Board, with the new Supervisor, Arthur C. Goers, presiding for the first time, discussed possibilities of lowering the tax levy, but finally voted unanimously to set the amount at the 1929 figure.

There will be some change in the apportionment of the funds, but the tax rate will not be affected. For the contingent fund, \$35,000 will be raised, and for the road fund, \$20,000. A year ago \$30,000 was raised for the contingent fund, or general expenses, \$20,000 for the road repair fund, and \$5,000 for the retire an overdraft in the road repair fund.

Supervisor Goers suggested that the contingent fund levy might be reduced to \$25,000 for the coming year. Justice Ward Eagle pointed out that lighting bills total nearly \$15,000 and salaries \$8,000, thus making \$23,000 with out other incidental expenses. The list of Township expenditures for the past year was looked over in an effort to see what items of the past year will not appear in the coming 12 months, but only a few were found.

Return Tax Serious

The seriousness of return taxes as a problem of finance was brought out. During the past year, only 60 per cent of Township taxes were paid, as compared with 70 per cent the year ago, a decrease of 14 per cent in the taxes received. The Township was required to pay \$11,000 in taxes to the County Treasurer that was not received. As a result, the Township this year finds it necessary to borrow \$45,000 to carry on its business, as compared with \$40,000 last year.

Justices Ward Eagle and Walter Headler contended that the aim of the Township should be to try to reduce this debt and that if too small an amount of taxes was levied, it would result in necessity for an even larger loan at the bank next year.

Hiring of an attorney by the year was suggested by Supervisor Goers, who said he believed it advisable for the coming year at least. Action on the matter was deferred. It was voted to ask Attorney J. H. Lynch for his bill for work on the Town Hall matter to date.

The new treasurer, Mark Bachelder, took up his duties Tuesday night. The Board will meet again Friday evening to take up matters of finance.

FORMER RESIDENT, MRS. E. POWER, IS TAKEN BY DEATH

Member Of Pioneer Family Left Farmington Years Ago For Williamsburg

Funeral services were held for one of Farmington's pioneer families, Mrs. Eugene Power, who died at her home in Williamsburg, Mrs. Power was in her seventies.

Mrs. Power's maiden name was Service. The Service family lived on Shawwassee street on the site now occupied by the Al Chaney dwelling. She attended Farmington Schools and was married in Farmington to Eugene Power, a Farmington boy. They left Farmington many years ago.

Surviving are the husband, a son, Glen Power of Traverse City, and a sister, Mrs. Mary Cloyes of Ypsilanti.

DECISION DAY AT M. E. CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Last Sunday was Decision Day in the M. E. Sunday School. Mrs. H. F. Whitte read the story of Saul's conversion and S. D. Harzer talked on the subject of "Right Decisions."

Next Sunday is Easter and all are urged to come and help reach an attendance of 200.

Salaries Of Farmington Township Officials Will Remain Unchanged

Farmington Men Told

About Sewer Break

Members of the Farmington Exchange Club probably know more about the Southfield sewer collapse which has disturbed Detroit than most Detroiters, as a result of the talk by George H. Ruhling Wednesday at the Club.

Mr. Ruhling, who has been retained by the City as one of the staff of engineers to investigate the break, told of the land conditions where the sewer is located, and the difficulties. He was unable to reveal any of the findings of the investigators due to the fact that their work is not completed.

Bidwell Family Hurt In Crash

Postal Carrier's Wife In Hospital Following Head-On Collision On Grand River

The family of Almeron Bidwell, Farmington postal carrier, is covering from injuries suffered in a head-on collision of automobiles Sunday night west of Brighton. Mrs. Bidwell, the most seriously injured, is in a hospital at Ann Arbor, but her known car having been broken in the crash.

The Bidwells were returning home Sunday night. As a machine approached, westbound, other behind it turned out directly into the path of the Bidwell car. Mr. Bidwell had no chance to turn off the road.

Mr. Bidwell and the child suffered bruises and cuts. The front portions of both cars were smashed.

Mr. Bidwell will be unable to return to his home for another week. Charles Habermehl is carrying the mail in his absence.

PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION TO ELECT OFFICERS

Deferred Election Will Be Held At Meeting Next Thursday Afternoon

Officers are to be elected by the Farmington Parent-Teacher Association next Thursday afternoon, April 24. The meeting will be held in the school building.

Election was to have been held at the February meeting but the nominating committees asked for an extension of time. The election was not held in March, due to the meeting being held in the evening and devoted to the address of Mrs. C. Pettencill, State president.

Rev. Elmer W. Palmer is president of the Parent-Teacher Association. A. R. Crawford is vice-president. Mrs. Lester is secretary, and Miss Evelyn Van Dyne is treasurer.

Casino Pavilion At Walled Lake To Open

The New Casino Pavilion at Walled Lake, known as "America's Finest Summer Resort Ballroom," will open for the 1936 season next Monday evening, April 21, with a grand opening event. A crowd of nearly 1,300 couples attended, it was reported.

The Broadway Collegians orchestra, popular musicians, will return for their third successive season. Their music will be broadcast by radio this year, on each Tuesday, Thursday and Friday night from 11 o'clock until midnight. Next week only, they will broadcast on Monday, the opening night, and Thursday and Friday.

L. Teletone is proprietor and manager of the ballroom.

PETITIONS APPEAR

Petitions nominating candidates for various Oakland County offices appeared in Farmington this week. Among those noted were petitions for Melvin H. Lee, for State representative, Sheriff Frank Schram, William A. Wheeler, and Les Pack for sheriff.

Meyers, Veteran Special Deputy Fired By Schram

Farmington Man, Special Officer For Many Years, Loses His Commission

After having been a special deputy for many years under several sheriffs of Oakland County, Ben Meyers of Farmington had his commission revoked Tuesday without warning by Sheriff Frank Schram.

Politics, the Sheriff himself indicated in his letter, is the reason for the dismissal. The letter was received by Mr. Meyers via

YES! Schram Is Going To Run This Year

Exclusive information to the effect that Sheriff Frank Schram will run for a fourth term this year is obtained by the Enterprise this week. Sheriff Schram was reported Tuesday in the press as saying that petitions nominating him "were being circulated by friends" and that he had made no definite decision whether he would again be a candidate for sheriff.

In a letter to Ben Meyers, however, printed in this issue, the Sheriff states definitely that he will run, his letter including these words: "due to the fact that I am going to be a candidate for the coming election."

GETTING NAMES ON PETITION FOR RECALL FINISHED

Action On Suggested Increase For Massey Deferred—By Board

Circulation of petitions for recall of three members of the Farmington Board of Education, completed according to W. Allen Nelson, in charge of the petitions. It is stated that the quota of names desired has been obtained, and that there are more than the number required by law.

The petitions will be gathered up and checked over in preparation for filing, Mr. Nelson stated. An echo of feeling against treatment accorded members of the faculty this spring was heard at the meeting of the School Board last Thursday night.

The president of the Board, Mrs. Blanche Ross, suggested an increase of \$40 in the salary of Edward Eaton, music instructor and director of the school band and orchestra.

Mrs. Ross stated that Mr. Eaton had interviewed her, and that the people of the District were aware of the hard work and long hours he has put in. She stated that they could not very well raise his salary for the ten-month period, but could give him \$40 more for summer work. Mr. Eaton receives \$1,300 for ten months and is paid at the same rate for the two summer months, \$260.

None of the Board members appeared to move that the suggestion be adopted, and Trustee Arthur Lamb suggested that the matter might well be deferred for a time.

A recommendation that \$50 be allowed each teacher for transportation of each class to Mr. Pleasant Normal for scholastic tests in competition with students of other schools was made to the board by Supt. Baker. The appropriation was voted on motion of Trustee Lloyd Gullen who said that "inasmuch as so much stress is being placed on athletics and music, and so little scholastic attainment, I believe it is a step in the right direction."

HEAR ANSWER READ

Supervisor Arthur C. Goers of the City of Farmington attended the meeting of the Michigan and Oak City Commission Monday evening at which Supervisor Frank Springstein of that city replied to questioning of his Oakland County. He also attended a get-together meeting of supervisors at Fox-and-Hounds Inn, Bloomfield Center, in the afternoon.

Business Places To Close For 3 Hours

Business places in Farmington will be closed from 12 to 3 p. m. Friday, due to the Good Friday services to be held at the Salem Evangelical Church. Farmington Public Schools will also be closed.

The Baptist, Evangelical, and Methodist Churches will unite in the Good Friday program. Ministers of all three churches will participate.

Clarenceville Teachers Going

More Than Half Of School-Faculty Not To Return Next Year

More than half of the faculties of Clarenceville and Edgewood Schools, District No. 5, fractional will not return to their positions next year. The Board of Education and the newly-chosen superintendent, Jay L. Prescott, are now engaged in selecting new members of the faculty.

There are eighteen teachers in the two schools in the District, the Clarenceville School on Base Line road and the Edgewood School north of Grand River avenue. It is understood that less than half were tendered contracts for the coming year. Among those who will not return, it is understood, is the principal, Mrs. Lina Herrington.

Mr. Prescott met with the Board Monday evening for the hiring of teachers. He is now superintendent of schools at Nashville. He has been a superintendent of schools eight years and was a principal for one year. He joined Farmington Masonic lodge in 1935, and has done graduate work at the U. of M. in school administration, finance and supervision of the grades.

MAN WHO JOINED FARMINGTON LODGE IN 1858 EXPIRES

Edward C. Leach, Who Became Member Of Mason Order In 1858, Dead At 93

Until his death probably one of the oldest living men who had been connected with Farmington Masonic Lodge, Edward C. Leach passed away last week in Plymouth at the age of 93. Mr. Leach joined Farmington Masonic lodge in 1858, and it is believed he was one of the earliest elected members, if not a charter member. Records of the Lodge were destroyed nearly 60 years ago and thus are not available.

Mr. Leach was a member of Plymouth Rock Lodge at his death, having transferred in 1884. He had been a Mason 71 years.

Mr. Leach's family were pioneers of Livonia Township. His father bought land in the Township for 25 cents an acre, and it was on this farm that Mr. Leach was born. He was president of the Plymouth Savings Bank for 12 years, until 1903.

TO OPEN BARBECUE

Opening of a new barbecue stand, at the Graham Service Station, west city limits of Farmington, is announced for Sunday by Maurice Graham, manager of the station. The barbecue will be completely managed and give first-class service. Mr. Graham states.

Ask Farmington To Walled Lake Bus O. K.

Indications point to the possibility of bus service from Walled Lake to Farmington and Commerce this year. It is reported "Frank Capri has asked the Michigan Public Utilities Commission for permission to operate a bus line. Mr. Capri has conducted a bus line and has a number of vehicles available.

Walled Lake Exchange Club has voted to co-operate with the new firm in every way to help get bus transportation.

Says Building Of Sewer Will Not Raise City Taxes

Commissioner Points Out Reduction In Indebtedness Will Offset Sewer Cost

That it will not be necessary to raise taxes in the City of Farmington as the result of building the proposed sewer system to be voted on April 28 was brought before members of the Farmington Exchange Club Wednesday noon by Commissioner Emory Hatton, of the City's sewer committee.

Bond payments to be completed within the year are equal to the cost of the sewer, divided into

Only Citizens Taxed Can Vote On Sewer

Only those who are on the tax rolls of the City of Farmington can vote on the proposed \$55,000 sewer bond issue on April 28. It was stated this week.

There is no provision in the City Charter in this respect, but the matter is governed by State Law.

Twenty annual payments, Mr. Hatton stated. There are two of these bond issues, one of which requires \$2,000 a year in the budget and the other \$1,000. Both are on the water system.

The last payment on one of the bond issues was made during the past year and the other will be made soon, said Mr. Hatton. Thus, the sewer project amounting to \$55,000, to be paid for in 20 years, will add to the budget very near the same amount that is taken off through completion of the payment of the other bond issues. Mr. Hatton further pointed out that the City is in the best financial condition of its history, with an indebtedness at banks and with a sizeable amount of cash on hand.

Cites Low Bid

That now is the best time in years to build a sewer system; and that the amount of the bond issue proposed is very low for a system of the size planned, was expressed by two engineers present at the meeting. One was Mark Owen, formerly of Farmington, now in charge of all public works in the City of Dearborn. The other was George H. Ruhling, who has been in charge of the sewer work of large size.

"There is no question but that now is the time to build a sewer system," said Mr. Owen. "Contractors are bidding their heads off to get work of any kind. Prices are 50 per cent lower than I have ever known them before. We usually figure to pay \$150 for 12-inch creek. Now they are bidding as low as 80 cents and we had one bid at 79 cents. This is because not many cities are at present undertaking construction work of large size."

Mr. Ruhling told some of the history of sanitary engineering and the necessity for it from a health standpoint. "Cost Double Later." A number of questions were asked the engineers by the Club members. Mr. Owen, in response to a question, said that he believed if the sewer were not put in before the paving on Grand River, that it would cost twice as much later on to tunnel or break up the pavement. Relocating the pavement alone would cost five dollars a square yard, he said.

Mr. Hatton read a letter from the State Highway Department indicating that department's "willingness to share in the cost of the Grand River sewer if laid before the paving is done. This aid would amount to at least \$6,000, according to the letter."

Earl Maples, city controller of Dearborn, accompanied Mr. Owen and spoke briefly to the Club.

The Sunshine party of the Ladies' Aid of the Evangelical Church will be held Wednesday afternoon. "The Sunshine boxes" will be opened and the contents tabulated. After a short program lunch will be served.