

State Funding City \$12,000 To Develop Drake Rd. Park

The Farmington City Council, meeting in special session last week, authorized application for \$20,000 in federal funds to be used for developing Drake Road Park. The step was taken after the city learned it will receive a \$12,000 state grant from the \$100 million recreation bond issue approved in 1968.

THE CITY had applied for \$20,000 from the state with the city contributing \$8,000. But that request was trimmed and the park development project is now \$20,000 short.

Councilmen hope to make up the \$20,000 shortage by applying under the federal land and water conservation program.

Federal funding is approved. Drake Park will be improved with construction of restrooms, storage areas, lighted tennis courts, additional lighting for the ballfields and additional off-street parking.

Without federal funds, the project might be limited to addition of the restrooms and storage areas. The council voted 5-0 to approve application for the funds and to designate City Manager Robert Deadman as agent for the city. Deadman assumed duties Feb. 1 as acting city manager.

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COUNCILMEN also voted to increase the down payment from \$100 to \$800 for purchase by the city of the bookkeeping building at 3320 Grand River. The property is needed to expand parking facilities on the north side of Grand River in the downtown area.

The council also voted to increase the sales price from \$1,990 to \$2,300 of two partial lots being purchased by the city for the parking improvement.

The city manager was authorized to enter into an agreement to purchase the Dairy Maid property on Grand River for \$15,000 from George Checketts. That purchase is being made for parking improvements in the Downtown Farmington Center.

Costs for these purchases will be reimbursed to the city by special assessments against those merchants who will be benefitting from the added parking spaces.

Councilman John Richardson was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Councilman Fred Siebert on the Zoning Board of Appeals. The term expires in June 1973.



NOW THEY ARE THREE and are getting cuter and more frolicsome daily. They are the Pulter quads, the only group in Observerland, and as the picture shows it is a lively, happy group. They are: (from left) Stacy, Brad, Suzanne and Stephanie -- the children of Mr. and Mrs.

Gustave Pulter Jr., of Dixie Ave., in Redford Township. The Observer brings its readers this full color scene through the use of its new techniques and the Goss Metro press which makes color printing possible. (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

today's hot line

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what's inside

Innovating Pupils

A do-it-yourself mood has hit a Farmington elementary school. The pupils designed and laid out a reading area which makes use of a variety of books, filmstrips, record player with earphones and an overhead projector.

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Police Training

A new training program is under way for Farmington Township police officers. A report is given inside on the program which involves in-service classes and use of police academies.

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FISH Going Strong

A program for neighborly help set up just four months ago now has 200 volunteers and they're keeping busy. The story of FISH is in our Church Section.

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Singing Family

A famous singing family will be featured at Madonna College next weekend. We have details in our Amusements section.

Page 12A

South Seas

If you'd like to forget your troubles (for a few hours) and visit the South Seas, you'll be able to do it most inexpensively at Schoolcraft College any one of five evenings this week. The Masque Players have been busy again.

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Waldron Park Given Boost

About 80 residents attended the park hearing Wednesday night and most responded favorably to the proposed community park at Waldron and Independence Sts. in southeastern Farmington Township.

THE HEARING, sponsored by the township's parks and recreation committee, was held in Edgewood Elementary School of Clarenceville Schools.

THERE WERE mixed reactions from the audience but the proposed five-acre park received strong support from some neighborhood residents, scouts and school officials.

Of the 80 attending, it was estimated that about one-third or 20 residents were definitely opposed to either the park or its location.

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Commission and Parks committee members.

BEAUCHAMP said he was especially encouraged because, after the hearing, about 18 residents gave their names as volunteers to work with the parks committee in planning Waldron Park.

The committee is now waiting for the final approvals to return from the state. The next step the committee will take is to begin working with the residents who volunteered to help design a park acceptable to the residents.

The preliminary site plan shows facilities for picnicking, tennis, basketball, ice skating, volleyball, badminton, horseshoes and shuffleboard.

The committee has decided against using an existing building on the site as a drop-in center because the structure is in bad condition.

The state has approved a grant to the township of \$102,000 to acquire and develop the site. To receive the state funds, the township board must authorize a local investment of \$25,000.

That \$25,000 can be lowered, however, by contributions being made in way of equipment by local civic clubs.

National Award Honors City's Beauty Efforts

The City of Farmington Beautification Committee has been awarded a distinguished achievement award for extensive civic improvements of the city by mid-February or early March.

THE AWARD, a hand-engraved plaque, will be sent to the city by mid-February or early March.

"The City Beautification Committee is, of course, gratified that we received national recognition of our efforts here," says Mrs. Carol Kurth, committee chairman.

"However, we have felt throughout the year that our efforts and results could only be achieved by the combined efforts of interested groups and residents, along with the support of businesses, institutions such as the schools and churches and, of course, our own city government."

"We hope that this national recognition will help spur our community on to bigger and better programs to help make Farmington the lovely community it is, and even more important, what it could be."

THE HUGE scrapbook entered in the contest was accompanied by a 14-page report summarizing the many activities the committee has been involved with in 1971.

The committee, organized in 1965 as a council sub-committee, has 15 members including two councilmen, two planning commissioners, a member representing the city's Historical Preservation Committee and the director of public services.

The committee is organized into standing committees to handle such tasks as the

25,000 persons throughout the U.S. It is the second successive year the city beautifiers have won the award in the contest, the oldest and largest such competition in the nation, which is sponsored by the National Clean Up-Paint-Prof Fix Up Bureau, a non-profit foundation established in 1912 and headquartered in Washington, D.C.

suggestion boxes, awards, environmental control, historical preservation, downtown redevelopment, public, photography and scrapbook.

Members have been actively involved with the new Drake Road Park, helping plan the dedication ceremonies and encouraging groups to help keep the park clean.

The committee is represented on the downtown redevelopment committee and has taken a number of "before" and "after" pictures of many views downtown which will be made into slides for community presentations.

The committee in 1971 sponsored its third annual Christmas decor contest with first and second awards being given to residences and businesses displaying unusual talent in exterior decorating.

The third annual tree planting program was started last spring. Since 1969, the city and residents have planted over 700 trees in public right-of-ways, on private property, school properties and in public parks.

On Arbor Day, April 21, a memorial tree was planted in Drake Park in memory of Carl Boehnke, former planning commissioner who died the month before. Members also attended Arbor Day ceremonies in Chatham Hills subdivision where residents planted trees and shrubs in the subdivision's park.

The beautification committee also co-sponsored a community-wide dedication ceremony for the historic maple tree, 300 years old, on Gill Road.

classes holding special projects and general clean up of city properties. The committee cooperated with the Farmington Area Jaycees in TRASH BASH '71 which involved some 60 persons working all day for a general clean up of the entire Farmington area.

THE MAJOR committee project in 1971, however, was the River Rouge Clean Up which was undertaken with the assistance of the National Bank of Detroit.

Hundreds of persons were involved in the massive clean-up designed to rid the portion of the Rouge running through the city of visual pollution.

Committee members became involved with ordinance drafting, providing assistance on a trash burning ordinance sign ordinance and weed control ordinance.

The committee attempted an electric lamp program but the response was light due to lack of interest, high cost of the lamp and perhaps a fear of increased electric load or air pollution, says Mrs. Kurth.

The lifting of restrictions on gas use by Consumers Power might allow the committee to

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Harrison Needs 2,600 Texts

Fearing that Harrison High School might be unable to receive accreditation because it presently lacks 2,600 books short of the number required for its enrollment, the Farmington Board of Education has decided to juggle some accounts and come up with the money needed to buy them.

"We're operating on a basis that borders on jeopardizing our accreditation at the present time," Richard H. Harrison would need 10,100 volumes in its library.

The board learned Tuesday that the Harrison library presently has 5,584 books on its shelves, 650 books yet to process and 1,321 books on order. This means they must purchase 2,635 books at an average cost of \$4.50 each for a total cost of about \$11,700.

A HIGH SCHOOLS are accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (NCACSS). NCACSS considers the number of books in the school library per pupil as one criteria of accreditation. According to their standards, Harrison would need 10,100 volumes in its library.

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Want Ads are an easy way to collect extra money, sell good things you don't need, move, just a list of good home furnishings and other things you'd like to sell and buy.

522-0900

Hearing Set On Millage

The Farmington Board of Education has called a special meeting for Tuesday night, Feb. 8, to determine whether it will set a millage election this spring.