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The Farmington Enterprise

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LEADERSHIP-OUR PURPOSE SERVICE-OUR GOAL

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Council Temporarily Delays Action On Drainage And Elevation Problem

Seek Added Facts From Engineer On Grades In Southern Section Of Bel-Aire Subdivision

Action on a possible solution to the drainage and elevation problems in the area adjacent to the southern portion of the Bel-Aire Subdivision was postponed Monday evening pending a special meeting of the City Council to be held at the earliest possible date.

The decision to postpone action came during the regular meeting of the Council Monday, which was attended by a large delegation of residents from Shilwassee Street as well as Abe Green, developer of the Bel-Aire Subdivision. The Council directed James Tennant, City Manager, to contact L. N. Hayden, engineer, and arrange a meeting with the Council as soon as possible. The residents and developer were advised that they would be notified of the date of the meeting.

Hayden has been requested to draft an elevation chart for the southern portion of the Bel-Aire Subdivision, showing the existing grades and the proposed drainage plan. He has also been asked to explain the reasons for the establishment of the particular grades and the drainage plan. Hayden stated that the present drainage problem would be taken care of with the completion of the subdivision sewer work.

RESIDENTS along the north side of Shilwassee between Powers and Prospect are protesting both the elevation and drainage in that section of the development adjacent to their property. They emphasized that the grade in some places is as much as five feet above their back yard levels, and that the drainage problem has been blocked, creating an extremely bad condition. They asked the Council why this situation was allowed to continue since it was brought to the attention of officials as early as last June. Trace Conroy stated that the Council approved the lay-out (Continued on Page 6A)

Hitchhiker Robs Man In Township

Albert B. Schiltz, 1851 1/2 Pennsylvania, decided to give a fellow a lift last Wednesday and ended up minus \$38.

According to police, Schiltz picked up a hitchhiker at the intersection of Ten Mile and Inkster Road Wednesday afternoon and proceeded north on Inkster Road. As the car approached Shilwassee, the hitchhiker pulled a pistol and demanded Schiltz's money. After taking \$38.00, the hitchhiker got into a car with another man who was waiting at the intersection. The car drove south on Inkster Road. Schiltz took up the chase but lost the pair at Ten Mile and Inkster. The car was identified as a 1954 Chevrolet. The hold-up man was listed as between 20 and 22 years old. Schiltz is employed at the Star Cutter Company in Farmington.

AROUND THE BLOCK

THE NEW YEAR—The new year is getting a head start on the stroke of the bell to a roaring bang shortly before and after the stroke of the bell last Friday evening. The heavy artillery seemed to be out in force to signal the arrival of a New Year. If noise is any indication, the year 1955 should be a booming success. The racket of guns and firecrackers sounded mildly like an invasion from Mars or some other distant planet at any rate. Young Master 1955 was given a rousing welcome while Mr. 1954 was hobbling off to the land where old years go. Now we can all settle back to the ever-continuing job of making this new year of 1955 a little better than the last.

THE LAST BIG—Ice storm that hit the Farmington area which, incidentally, was Wednesday, will not be soon forgotten by many residents, especially Irving Yakes, Township Police Chief, and Mrs. Herman Stolpmann, 2124 Farmington Road. The storm began while Yakes was busily engaged in unraveling a traffic jam caused by the icy conditions of the roads late Wednesday afternoon. While so engaged he received a call over the police radio that Mrs. Stolman had discovered an owl in the cupboard and Mrs. Stolman was extracting from its temporary quarters. Yakes advised the dispatcher that he had his hands full at the moment, but would answer the call as soon as possible. The story has a happy ending, however, since Yakes was able to clear the traffic jam and clear the cupboard, too, but it was a mighty busy few minutes for the police chief. The owl was taken to a spot in the first place.

A NEW SERIES—Changes are about to get under way in the Farmington Township School District. The new winter term will feature "separate subjects" for the education and entertainment of Farmington area residents. During the past four or five years the adult education program has grown and expanded until it has become a major activity of the community. The program is not only afforded a major educational and recreational opportunities to its citizens but is utilizing more fully the tax-supported facilities of the school district. The residents of Farmington are extremely fortunate in having this broad program of continuing education available to them. It is hoped that they appreciate it from their growing interest and participation.

DON'T FORGET—To join the fight against polio. Your help is needed now more than ever before. The battle is to be won. Look for the "test tube" container in your favorite store and fill it with your dimes and dollars. You will be helping to protect yourself and your neighbors. You will become another crusader in the front line against this dreaded disease. Give now and give often.

LARGE FIELD OF CANDIDATES ENTER TOWNSHIP RACE

Ice Closes McGee Hill Except For Sled Traffic



A sheet of ice topped with a light covering of snow succeeded in bringing out the road barrier. It was too expensive to sand and salt the hill during emergency periods, but added that the road would be kept open as much as possible throughout the winter. Although the closing attracted some attention, the younger set seemed to go for the idea in a big way.

Board To Hear Progress Report On New Schools

The Farmington School Board will hold a special meeting Friday evening for the purpose of hearing a progress report on the construction of the three new elementary schools and gymnasium-auditorium addition to the new high school.

Representatives of Elbert Smith and Associates, school architects, will be present at the meeting to present and explain the report. Members of the various construction firms will also be present at the meeting. Several minor alterations in the building plans may be discussed with the architect. O. E. Duncel, superintendent, stated that all three elementary schools, as well as the high school addition, are now well under construction. The elementary school at Truck Road and Shilwassee is the furthest advanced, with construction on the three buildings. The Truck Road building was started prior to the other schools, is located on Gill Road between Elbert and

1954 Tops List New Home Construction Reaches Record Volume In Farmington Area

New home construction continued to hold the business active spotlight in the Farmington area during 1954, based on a tabulation of building permits issued by the city and township offices. The city experienced a terrific rise in building activity while the township maintained its normal high level. During the first eleven months of 1954, the city issued permits for construction estimated to cost \$2,655,256 as compared to an estimated \$254,000 in 1953. In the first eleven months of 1954, the township issued permits for an estimated \$2,655,256 of construction compared to \$5,840,512 for last year.

Development of the Bel-Aire Subdivision, the Warner Farms Development and the start of the Alta Loma Park Subdivision were largely responsible for huge increases in the city. During July a total of 136 permits for new home construction were issued with an estimated value of \$1,556,500. The month of August was even greater as 228 permits were issued with an estimated value of \$2,005,756. New commercial buildings also took a decided jump upward during 1954, with construction estimated at \$381,500 as compared to \$38,000 in 1953. Actually more permits were issued in the township during 1953

Receive Approval Of Federal Aid At Clarenceville

Funds To Be Used For Edgewood Addition

Officials of the Clarenceville School District have been notified by telephone that a letter has been forwarded from the U. S. Office of Education approving the District's application for \$88,560 in Federal Aid for the purpose of the fund to be used by the District for the construction of a new addition to the Edgewood Elementary School, Louis Schmitt, superintendent, after hours that he had talked with Curtis Booher, U. S. Office of Education, and was informed that the letter of approval had been forwarded to the Clarenceville Board of Education.

AS A RESULT of the telephone conversation, a special meeting of the Board has been scheduled for Thursday evening for the purpose of discussing the proposed Edgewood School addition as well as possible additions to other elementary buildings. Plans are now being drafted by Walter Anka, architect, for three classrooms at the Edgewood School with an alternate of an additional room. Several other minor alterations to the present building are being planned.

Discussion of possible additions to other elementary schools is being held at the next Board meeting approved by the voters last summer for gym buildings, sites and equipment. No definite plans have been developed for additions other than the Edgewood School project.

Expect Opinion On Township Hall Site

A legal opinion on whether or not the Township Board can proceed with the purchase of a parcel situated at the northeast corner of the Township Board building without a vote of the people will be presented at the next regular meeting of the Board on Tuesday evening.

John Stanchard, Township Supervisor, stated Monday that he had contacted A. G. Leonard, attorney, regarding the opinion and was assured that it would be presented at the next Board meeting. In addition to the opinion regarding a site, Leonard will submit a report regarding the procedures in connection with the possible construction of a building.

A special committee, appointed by the Board, has recommended two proposed sites in the township for the location of a new office building.

LOOMIS NAMED SECRETARY OF STATE BRANCH MANAGER

Official notification was received Wednesday morning by Kenneth R. Loomis, authorizing him to take over the Farmington branch of the Secretary of State's Office as soon as possible. Loomis stated that the change-over would be made sometime between January 24 and February 1. He added that alterations are now under way on his office and grounds at 2328 1/2 Farmington Road in preparation for the establishment of the branch.

New Police Car Joins Department

Representatives from various clubs and organizations in the Clarenceville area have been invited to participate in a meeting on January 10 to discuss plans for raising funds for a lighted field at the Clarenceville High School. The meeting is being called by a special committee of the Clarenceville Optimist Club, which has agreed to serve as sponsoring agency for the fund drive. The decision to call the special meeting was announced following a session on December 30, at which time representatives of the Optimist Club, the Board of Education and the schools discussed procedures for the conduct of the campaign. It was also decided during the session that the various organized clubs and groups in the community should be invited to participate in the January 10 meeting. The organizations are being requested to send at least two representatives to the meeting, which is scheduled for 8:00 p.m. at the high school. It is proposed that lights be added to the field which is being relocated in rear of the high school building.

Contest Certain For Major Offices On Republican Ballot In Primary

A total of 25 persons, all Republican, have filed nominating petitions as candidates in the Biennial Farmington Township Primary Election. It was announced last Monday. The list comprises one of the largest fields of candidates in the history of Farmington Township. In view of the fact that no Democratic candidates filed nomination in the Primary will mean virtual election. The Primary will be held on Monday, February 21. According to the petitions filed, the largest field of contestants will be seeking nomination to the Board of Trustees. A total of ten Republican candidates will be in the race for the four seats on the Board. Five candidates seek the Republican nomination for Township Clerk while three will run in the race for Township Supervisor. Two candidates will seek nomination for both the short and long term as Justice of the Peace and three candidates have filed for the Republican nomination for Constable. No petitions were filed for the office of Board of Review, and only one candidate filed for Township Treasurer.

Local Auto Dealer Injured In Crash On U.S. 16 Monday

Six Others Hurt In 3 Separate Accidents

Farmington Dodge (Plymouth dealer) Howard Otis was injured early Monday evening in a auto accident on U. S. 16 west of Drake Road. Otis suffered a fractured leg, lacerations and bruises which require hospitalization. He was taken to Mt. Carmel Hospital in Detroit for treatment. Another Farmington resident, Knutley Partridge of 25419 Greening, was injured in another auto crash at the intersection of Telegraph Road and Northwest. Partridge was struck by another car as he attempted to make a left turn from Telegraph onto Northwest. FORTSMITH received lacerations about the head and also was taken to Mt. Carmel Hospital for treatment. A three-car collision on Grand River near Grand Lake Sunday afternoon resulted in injuries to three Detroit residents. Injured were Gilbert E. Cowden of 19226 (Continued on Page 6A)

UF Public Meeting Set For Jan. 25

The annual public meeting of the Farmington United Fund and Community Chest will be held on Tuesday, January 25, at 8:00 p.m. in the new Farmington High School building on Shilwassee Street.

File Water Main Plans With State

Preliminary plans for the proposed water main extension which will connect the two new city wells with the regular system, have been submitted to the State Highway Department in the form of a request for use of right-of-way along the Cut-Off. James Tennant, City Manager, stated that the project involves only the use of right-of-way. Plans must also be approved by the State Highway Department before the installation of the main. It is proposed that the new main be extended along the south right-of-way of the Cut-Off from the well sites to Gill Road, then north along the east side of Gill Road to Grand River; then south along Grand River to the vicinity of Pickett, where it will be into the regular system. It is hoped that the project will be started early this spring.

TENNANT EXPLAINS POLICY IN CLOSING OF MCGEE HILL

In answer to several complaints regarding the closing of McGee Hill on Farmington Road last week due to ice and snow, James Tennant, City Manager, stated that the road was closed to keep the road open as much as possible, but that it was too expensive to maintain during emergency periods. The road was reopened Monday after being closed for five days. Tennant stated that sanding and salting the section from Shilwassee to Ten Mile Road was an especially expensive operation and that even under ideal conditions the road is not too safe. He added that something should be done to reconstruct the road and eliminate the hazard. He stated that because of the usage and expense involved, the Board and the City should participate with the city in the reconstruction.

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