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TOWNSHIP BOARD APPROVES REZONING FOR RACE TRACK SITE

Citizens Declare Intent To Circulate Petitions For Referendum Vote

The rezoning of 244 acres of land in the southwest section of Farmington Township as a proposed race track site was unanimously approved by the Township Board Tuesday evening.

The resolution, presented by Fred Westlake and seconded by Mrs. Elise Avery, actually calls for the rezoning of the property from Residential Four to Commercial. The proposed site is located at the southeast corner of Hagegey Road and Nine Mile Road with a portion extending to Nine Mile Road. The resolution was unanimously approved on a roll call vote.

Prior to the Board action, the proposal was discussed in detail by an overflow audience which jammed the Township Board Room. Township Supervisor, opened the meeting by reading notes which he took during a conversation with the State Racing Commissioner. Eagle emphasized that the notes were not direct quotations from the interview but rather impressions he got from the conversation. The Supervisor stated that formal applications for zoning licenses has been filed by the developers with the State. However, when such an application is made, detailed plans and specifications will have to be filed with the State and since they are expensive to prepare, it would not be practical to require them from the developer until the property was rezoned. Eagle stated that the Commission makes a thorough examination of the finances of the developers before the action is taken, and unless the Commission is completely satisfied no license is issued.

Council Approves New City Zoning Ordinance

The newly revised City Zoning Ordinance was unanimously approved by action of the City Council at a recessed meeting held Monday evening in the Municipal Court Room.

The ordinance itself was approved following a brief discussion of last minute changes regarding sections of the Board of Appeals and the Planning Commission. Several paragraphs were added to the Board of Appeals section, spelling out the provisions under which variances could be granted. The section pertaining to the Planning Commission was taken out of the text, since a new and separate Planning Commission ordinance was recently adopted by the Council.

Eliminate Commercial Zone On S. Farm. Road

In separate action, the Council adopted the revised Zoning Map, including a number of changes which will be noted in the final drawing. The motion covered a change in the proposed zoning of the west side of Farmington Road, between the Cut-Off and the south end adjacent to Alta Loma Drive, from commercial to residential. It also included a change in the proposed zoning of four lots facing Farmington Road immediately west of the intersection with the Township.

In answer to several legal questions which were presented at the last meeting, Judge Arthur E. Moore, Counsel for the Township, stated that the Board has the right to propose or initiate amendments to the zoning ordinance and that as the legislative body they have final action. He added that the Zoning Board may also propose amendments.

Mayors' Exchange Plans Completed

Alonzo G. Aylsworth, Village President of Empire, will arrive in Farmington early Monday morning for a day-long visit of the City as part of the Annual Exchange of Mayors program.

Earl Scherffus, City Manager, stated that members of the Exchange Club will take the Village President on a tour of the business and industrial establishments of the City shortly after his arrival. School officials have also made plans to take Aylsworth on a visitation of educational facilities in the community. Prior to noon, the visiting officials will have an opportunity to inspect city buildings and equipment with Scherffus and other city officials.

Request Student Views On Dances

The Clarenceville School Board, Thursday evening, approved a resolution requesting the Student Council to secure a consensus of opinion on the type of dancing desired at school parties.

Prior to the approval of the resolution, a letter was read from the Mothers' Club Council suggesting that the Council conduct a survey among the student body. The letter, signed by Eunice Clemens, secretary of the Mothers' Club Council, was entered in the minutes of the Board meeting.

Wind, Rain Hit Farmington Area

The Farmington area, along with other sections of southeastern Michigan, was swept by a vicious storm Tuesday night and Sunday morning, resulting in wind damage, flooded streets and basements, and several fires.

A garage at 35565 Anland, west of Farmington Road and north of Thirteen Mile, was demolished in what was described as a tornado-like wind. The garage, located on the property of Clarence G. Orling, was reportedly lifted from its foundation, then carried about 20 feet and dropped to the ground. According to Township Police, no one was injured.

Inside Features

Classified Ads 6A, 5A, 6A
Correspondence 2A, 5A, 6A
Pg. 35, 39, 49, 57, 7B
Pg. 29
Pg. 28
Pg. 27
Pg. 26
Pg. 2A



THESE LITTLE DOGIES were put through a second, round-up last Friday morning, within bawling distance of busy Grand River Avenue, when the cattle truck in which they were being overturned at the intersection of Rockwell Avenue. Volunteer citizens, State Police and cattlemen assisted in the roundup. Several calves were killed in the accident, while some others took off for greener pastures in neighborhood yards. However, the majority were corralled after considerable reluctance and herded into trucks for the continued trip to market.

Cattle Truck Crashes, Overtakes, Calves Released Near Grand River

Neighborhood Residents, Police Assist Cattlemen In Round-Up Friday Morning

Numerous cattlemen, along with police officers and concerned neighborhood residents, were kept busy for nearly four hours Friday morning, rounding up over 150 calves, let loose to roam when the cattle truck in which they were being hauled tipped over on Rockwell Street just off Grand River Avenue.

Driver of the cattle truck, Burton D. Kainne of Breckenridge, Michigan, told police that he was proceeding on Grand River when he saw a car in the water across the highway just east of Rockwell. He stated that he applied his brakes to slow down but they failed to work properly. Attempting to avoid crashing into the car ahead, he cut to the right on Rockwell and temporarily lost control.

Contract For Fire Equipment Let

The Farmington Township Board, at a special meeting Friday afternoon, accepted the bid of the American Fire Apparatus Company for the purchase of an auxiliary pump and equipment for the Station No. 2 fire truck.

According to the specifications, the bid included a 500 gallon front-end pump, 1100 feet of 2 1/2 inch hose, a hose dryer and other necessary equipment. The total bid price was \$5,684.50. The two bids were received on the proposed equipment by the Board.

City To Receive Sewer Plan Mon.

Plans and cost estimates on the proposed construction of a new sewer, designed to eliminate flood basements and yards along State Street, will be presented to the Council at its regular meeting next Monday evening.

L. N. Hayden, City Engineer, advised the Council Monday that the information would be submitted next week. He has proposed that a new 12-inch sewer be constructed along the south side of State Street empty into a 24-inch line on Alta Loma. The engineer stated that in his opinion this would be adequate to take care of the city's sewerage problem.

Boom Continues Farmington Township Leads County In First Quarter Building Activity

Farmington Township led all of Oakland County in pre-building activities for the first quarter of this year, according to a report from the Detroit Regional Planning Commission issued last week.

A total of 192 building permits were issued in the first quarter period. Building preparation activities were heaviest during the month of February, when 98 permits were issued. During January 61 permits were taken out and another 33 were released during March. Total estimated cost of construction on new buildings and additions was set at \$2,651,150.

Preparatory building activity was second heaviest in the City of Pontiac, where a total of 156 permits were taken out during the quarter. Other Oakland County reports from the Farmington Township Building Department this week. A total of 103 permits were issued by the Township during the month of April and more than 30 during the first ten days of May. Permits issued in April included 27 for residential buildings, an estimated value of \$1,367,089, 17 for garages at a value of \$23,475, 13 for additions at a value of \$21,800, and 3 for commercial buildings valued at \$50,100.

BUILDING activities in the Township for the first quarter of this year almost tripled those of a year ago when only 69 permits were issued during the first three months of the year. This is in sharp contrast to the overall county building picture. According to the Regional Planning Commission, building activities were felt in Oakland County during the first quarter of this year as compared with the same period last year. During the first quarter of this year a total of 29 permits were issued as compared to 29 for the same period last year. During April the City issued three permits for new homes, one for a store and one for a copier building. The remaining 17 permits issued were for the construction of garages.

School Board Rejects Church's Bus Proposal

Decide To Retain Present Bus Policy

By a vote of four to one Monday night the Farmington School Board stamped its disapproval on the controversial proposal requesting transportation of students from the local parochial school children on public school buses. Wendell Brown, president, was the only Board member in favor of the proposal.

Detailed discussion on the proposal was curtailed when a two-minute limitation on individuals speaking for or against the issue was called for by Trustee Don Lines. Harmful and agreed to by a majority of the Board, James Randolph, representing Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, voiced objection to the limitation on the grounds that it would not provide sufficient time for the presentation of information relative to the church's position. Randolph pointed out that this information was specifically requested by action of the Board at its last previous meeting.

AFTER hearing from four others in attendance at the meeting, those in opposition to the proposal and in favor of the Board concluded discussion and put the question to a vote.

Contests Assured In Annual School Board Elections

Five Candidates File For Farmington Race

Contests have been assured in both the Farmington and Clarenceville School Board elections as a result of the filing of nomination petitions last Saturday, officials announced this week.

A total of five candidates have entered the Farmington School Board race with three to be elected. Candidates for the one year term include Bayard Tupper, 33725 State Street, present Treasurer of the Board; and Joseph F. McHugh, 32781 Eleven Mile Road. Those candidates filing for three year terms are: Vernon Fisher, 28329 Wellington Drive, present Board Trustee; Leland G. Clifford, 33630 Hillcrest, and Dr. Joseph Gubaw, 33925 Oakland.

Mayor Lindbert Proclaims Special Poppy Days In City Next Week End

Special proclamations have been issued by Mayor Robert Lindbert, commencing May 24, 25 and 26 as Poppy Days in the Farmington community.

The proclamations were issued in behalf of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion Auxiliary, who will be conducting their annual sales next week end. In the V. F. W. proclamation, Mayor Lindbert recognizes the official Buddy Poppy sale as one worthy of the support of each and every citizen. The Mayor calls on all persons to wear a Buddy Poppy as a badge of their gratitude to the men of this nation who left their native soil to fight for the cause of freedom which we continue to enjoy as American citizens.

GRAHAM ELECTED PRESIDENT OF JAYCEES

Sam Graham was elected president of the Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce for the year 1956-57 at the Annual Election of officers held Monday evening.

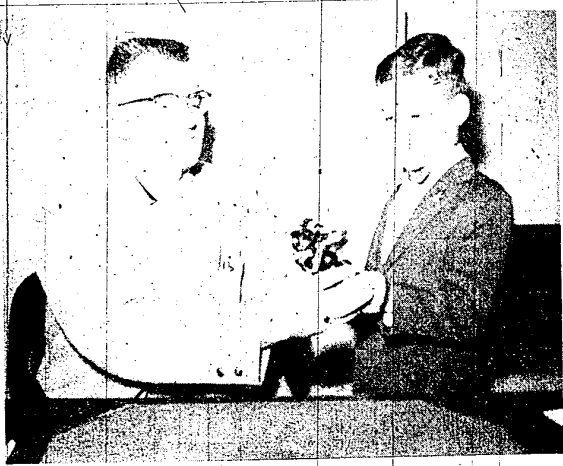
Other newly elected officers included: George Isley, first vice-president; Jack Hinbern, second vice-president; Norman Potts, secretary; and Donald Robbin, treasurer. Fred Hamlin was elected to the Board of Directors. William Connor, current president, will also become a member of the Board at the close of his present term.

WE ALMOST HATE TO MENTION

the weather but we have to, for a very important reason. During the past week end, Farmington as well as most of Michigan was subjected to probably the worst weather in its history. Fortunately, it escaped the rough blows although it was a pretty rugged experience. This leads us up to the important reason we just referred to. Throughout the storm Saturday night and Sunday morning, the Farmington City and Township police were flooded with calls from persons wanting to know when a tornado would strike and what to do if one approached. At the same time, the officers on duty were being swamped with emergency calls regarding wires down, flooded streets and possible fires. In case of future alerts, persons are urged to request not to call the police department unless it is an emergency. Keep tuned to your radio and be prepared to seek shelter if the alert becomes a direct warning. This way you will get the latest information on the situation and at the same time will be keeping the phones open for emergency calls.

FOR THE SECOND YEAR

in a row, Roger Pendl has won the Teen Age Road-E-O, sponsored by the Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce. Roger clinched the title Sunday afternoon during the special driver tests held on the Lucky Super Market parking lot. Other trophy winners were Stanley Feit and Charles Piper. As the first place winner, Roger will take part in the State Teen-Age Road-E-O to be held June 2 on the Michigan State University Campus under the sponsorship of the Michigan Junior Chamber of Commerce. Judging in the Farmington contest was based on the results of individual written examinations and practical driving tests which were given to each entrant in the Road-E-O.



SPECIAL POPPY DAYS will be observed in the Farmington area this year on May 24, 25, and 26. On those three days Poppies and Buddy Poppies will be sold by the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, respectively, on streets throughout the community.

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AROUND THE BLOCK

A FLURRY OF ACTIVITY is taking place all along the Grand River Cut-Off as work is being speeded up on the construction of the new Farmington - Brighton Expressway. With the coming of warmer weather, construction crews and survey teams have been hard at work in preparation for the big push this summer and early fall. The principal activities at the present time are centered around Halsted Road and Grand River and Farmington Road and the Cut-Off. However, a lot of ground work is being done all along the right-of-way. This would include the clearing of brush and trees in the landscape within the next three or six months. So keep watching. It should prove interesting.

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