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SIXTY-NINTH YEAR - NUMBER 19

The Farmington Enterprise

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SERVICE-OUR GOAL

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1957

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Wayne and Oakland Counties

SIXTEEN PAGES

CITY CONSIDERS BUYING MUNICIPAL CENTER SITE

Township To Seek Detroit Water Line Extension

Schedule Conference
With Detroit Officials

The possibility of extending the water facilities of the City of Detroit closer to the boundaries of Farmington Township will be the subject of a discussion to be held February 12 between Albert Gain, Township Supervisor, Gerald Reim, Chief Engineer and General Manager of the Detroit System and Pate and Hira, Engineers.

Gain reported Monday that representatives of Pate and Hira arranged the meeting which will be held at the Water Board office in Detroit. The Supervisor added that every effort will be made to encourage the City of Detroit to extend their facilities westward. "This would greatly reduce the initial cost of the proposed system to serve the southern and eastern sections of the Township and would facilitate the bringing of water to the critical 'dry area,'" Gain stated.

At the present time the water line of the Detroit system are located near Eight Mile and Telegraph Roads. Gain added that any extension of the facilities would greatly benefit the Township. "The Supervisor stated that the City of Detroit has recently approved some extensions to suburban areas and has worked out to assist Farmington Township."

A second meeting has also been planned for February 20 at which time officials of the Water Authority will discuss the possible extension of the South-eastern Oakland County Water Authority to include Farmington Township. Gain said that Earl Scherfuss, Farmington City Manager, Judge Arthur E. Moore, attorney, Pate and Hira, engineers and officials of the Water Authority will participate in the discussion.

It has been suggested that the Authority extend its main line along the road to provide initial service to the southern and eastern 'dry areas' of the Township and later to serve the central portion of the Township and the City as the need arises.

Township Plans Water Meeting

Albert Gain, Township Supervisor, reported this week that arrangements have been made for a joint conference between the Township Board, the Citizens' Water Committee and John E. Vogt, secretary of the State Health Department, to discuss plans for the proposed water system.

The meeting, set for February 19, is being called at the suggestion of the Citizens' Water Committee. In a letter to Gain, the Committee stated that it has agreed to meet with the Board to discuss the water problem. The Committee requested Gain to arrange such a meeting and to advise the secretary of the date, time and place of the conference.

Gain stated that members of the Township Board have been contacted and have agreed to meet February 19. Now that arrangements have been completed, Vogt as well as the members of the Water Committee will be invited to attend the conference. The Supervisor added that he is open to any practical suggestions which will help to speed the construction of these needed facilities.

TICKET 182 MAKING ILLEGAL LEFT TURNS IN CITY LAST MONTH

A record number of 182 drivers were apprehended making illegal left turns from Farmington Road onto Grand River Avenue at the city's main intersection during the month of January, Police Chief Joseph DeVriendt, disclosed this week.

Violations are continuing at an alarming rate, he stated, despite the fact that "no left turn" signs have been placed at the intersection since last month and a half. DeVriendt pointed out, however, that a major portion of the violations were not Farmington residents, but were drivers from other jurisdictions. A similar program authorizing the levy of a special school operation tax expires this year.



FINAL ARRANGEMENTS

for the Township Political Rally, to be held Wednesday evening, February 13, at the Farmington Senior high school, are checked out by George Steinberger, president of the Township Civic Association, and Mrs. Douglas Hummel, president of the Farmington Chapter of the American Association of University Women. The two organiza-

tions are sponsoring the Rally, which will feature the various candidates from both political parties who will be seeking nomination at the coming Township Primary Election. Each candidate has been invited to give a short campaign speech which will be followed by questions from the audience.

Three Injured In Accidents On Grand River

Two Of Three Injured Farmington Residents

Three persons, including two local residents, were injured this week in two separate accidents on Grand River Avenue.

Donna Kovarovich, 21, of Riverside, Ontario, suffered multiple abrasions and bruises Sunday when she was struck down by a motorcycle while standing along side of parked cars at the curb waiting to cross Grand River near Orchard Lake Road.

Robert C. Carlson, 28, of 21335 Renascence, Farmington, driver of the motorcycle, was proceeding east on Grand River. He suffered a fractured clavical, head injuries, bruise and abrasions. Both were taken to Redford Receiving Hospital for treatment. The accident occurred around 8:15 p.m.

Mary Bever, 44, of 21870 Colgate, Farmington, was injured Monday morning around 8:30 a.m. when her car was hit broadside by a semi-truck on Grand River at Colgate Street. She was taken to Redford Receiving Hospital with internal injuries and facial lacerations.

PROCEEDING south on Colgate, Mrs. Bever's brakes apparently failed at the intersection and her auto continued onto Grand River and directly into the path of the truck. The truck driver was not hurt.

School Operation Tax Increase Proposal Explained

Considerable misunderstanding has been expressed regarding the proposal to be placed to a vote of Farmington School District taxpayers March 4 seeking approval to increase the school operation tax rate in the District for a five year period.

The proposal, as it will appear on the ballot, is for voters to approve a special school operation tax levy of \$3.00 per \$100.00 State equalized valuation for the next five years.

The belief expressed that the proposal, if approved, will result in a \$3.00 increase in the school operation tax rate of \$12.82 over this year's rate is incorrect. The proposal is not to increase the school operation tax rate \$3.00 over the year's rate but rather to increase it that amount over the base school operation tax rate set by the County Tax Allocation Board, Superintendent O. E. Duncanson.

A similar program authorizing the levy of a special school operation tax expires this year.

Expect Large Turn-Out At Township Political Rally Next Wednesday

Primary Candidates Invited To Participate In Non-Partisan Program At Senior High School

Arrangements are being made for a large turn-out of Township residents for the glacial political rally scheduled for next Wednesday evening, February 13, at the Farmington high school gymnasium on Shawnee Street.

The program being jointly sponsored by the Farmington Township Civic Association and the Farmington Chapter of the American Association of University Women, is scheduled to begin at 8:00 p.m. All candidates from both political parties seeking nomination in the February 18 Primary Election have been invited to participate in the program. Officials of the two sponsoring organizations stated that the purpose of the rally is to give residents of the Township an opportunity to see and hear the various candidates as well as provide a means for the candidates to get better acquainted with the people.

AT THE OPENING of the Rally all of the candidates will be given an opportunity to express their views in short campaign speeches. This will be followed by a participation period, at which time members of the audience will be invited to discuss questions at the various candidates. Refreshments will be served at the close of the Rally and a program of entertainment is being planned.

Mrs. Douglas Hummel, President of the A.A.U.W. and George Steinberger, President of the Civic Association, expressed confidence that the Rally would attract a large audience. They are requesting that only persons of voting age attend the program to assure adequate seating space for all.

Approval of the proposal, therefore, will not result in a \$3.00 increase in the school operation tax rate but rather to increase it that amount over the base school operation tax rate to be set by the County Tax Allocation Board, Superintendent O. E. Duncanson.

The exact school operation tax to be levied, if the proposal is approved, cannot be established since the base rate set by the Tax Allocation Board varies from year to year. Superintendents Duncanson and Carlson stated that the \$2.50 voted increase in effect brought the total school operation tax to \$12.82 per \$100.00 equalized valuation.

In addition to the chairman meeting held at the curriculum school planning, location of school sites, building and school personnel.

Another meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, February 21.

TOWNSHIP BOARD CHANGES MEETING TO FEBRUARY 14

The regular meeting of the Township Board, originally scheduled for Tuesday, February 12, will be held on Thursday, February 14 at 8 p.m. in the City of Farmington.

Albert Gain, Township Supervisor, stated that the regular meeting date is being changed, since February 12, Lincoln's Birthday, is a legal holiday and no official business can be transacted by the Township Board on that date.

Council Requests Appraisal Of Land Adjacent To Fire Hall Building

The possible purchase by the City of two parcels of land, one adjacent to the city park and the other adjacent to the Fire Hall building, were discussed in detail at the regular meeting of the Council Monday evening.

A motion was made and approved authorizing the City Manager to obtain an appraisal on both pieces of property and to report the findings at the next regular meeting of the Council. The parcel adjacent to the park is located on the west side of Powers Road between Grand River and Shawnee. The irregular shaped property includes approximately 700 foot frontage on Powers and at one point extends west across the Rouge River.

The second parcel is located at the northeast corner of State and Liberty Streets, immediately south of the Fire Hall building.

Earl Scherfuss, City Manager, suggested that the Council take early action to obtain the site adjacent to the Fire Hall building for future expansion of the proposed Municipal Center. The property includes 215 feet on Liberty Street and 110 feet on State Street. Several members of the Council expressed reluctance to move too quickly on either of the proposals until further appraisal figures can be obtained.

A PETITION was presented to the Council, signed by property owners along Floral Avenue north of Shawnee, requesting that the City erect a barricade at the north end of the street to prevent the street ends at Elm. Property owners stated that on several occasions, cars traveling at a high rate of speed have failed to stop at the end of the street and have plowed into the marsh area north of Elm. They also stated that they would strongly object to any attempt to extend Floral Avenue into the Township at that point.

Following a brief discussion, the Council approved a motion to erect a barricade at the end of Floral Avenue at Elm Street. The City Manager was instructed to take care of the details as soon as possible.

Mayor Robert Lindbergh suggested to the Council that a letter be drafted pointing out the hazard which exists at the intersection of Warner Street and Powers as a result of youngsters walking along the roadway. He also suggested that officials of the Township and the City be requested to read the letter before the various classes and then copy the letter into The Farmington Enterprise. Councilman Harvey Chapman also recommended that the City Manager be authorized to request a sidewalk along at least one side of Shawnee between Elm and Powers.

(See CITY COUNCIL, p. 8A)

Applications for absentee ballots should be filed with the Township Clerk at the Town Hall, Monday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or on Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Only those persons who will be absent from town on election day and who for physical reasons cannot go to the polls will be allowed to use absentee ballots.

Called by the School Board, the meeting was attended by approximately 40 persons representing various subdivision groups, organizations and clubs in the community.

A considerable portion of the meeting was devoted to talks by members of the Board on present and future school needs, problems faced by the Board and the forthcoming bond issue and special operation tax levy proposals to be placed to a vote March 4. It was pointed out by the Board that a major project of the council, if it is formed, might be to work with school officials in making detailed studies on such school matters as these and relating findings made to all residents of the community.

Representatives were asked to consider forming committees with in the proposed council to study in detail, in conjunction with the Board, such fields as curriculum, school financing, location of school sites, building and school personnel.

Another meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, February 21.

Services Saturday For Harvey Blough

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon for Harvey W. Blough, Superintendent of the Water and Sewer Departments of the City of Farmington, who died January 31 following several weeks illness.

Mr. Blough was employed by the City of Farmington for 27 years prior to his moving to Rose City, Michigan, in 1951. He returned to the City two years ago as Superintendent of the Water and Sewer Departments. Mr. Blough, who lived 2805 F & A.M., was passed away in the Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital.

He was born in Canada, July 20, 1891, the son of Frank and Mattie (Rudolph) Blough and was united in marriage to Ida May Slater on April 13, 1904. Mr. Blough was a member of the Elks Lodge No. 55 R.A.M., Rose City, Chapter No. 55 R.A.M. Northville and Commandery No. 39, Knights Templar, Northville.

Mr. Blough leaves his wife, Ida; his children, Frances, Mrs. Elsie Gots of Dearborn and Captain Harold Blough, United States Air Force, Bilibid, Philippines, seven sons, including Harold Lawton of Detroit and three great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held from the Spencer J. Henney Funeral Home at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, under the auspices of Northville Commandery No. 39, Knights Templar. Interment was in North Farmington Cemetery.

Estimated assessment valuation for the year 1956-57. The deadline of March 1 has been set by the City Council and will be the time for the preparation of assessment rolls and the letting of contracts prior to the start of the construction season. The amount of special assessment tax to be levied in any given year is fixed by law. The \$100.00 figure is based on present conditions and is an estimated assessment valuation for the year 1956-57.

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DIMES AND DOLLARS

were the center of attention at March of Dimes Headquarters in the Municipal Building last Thursday evening as this group of volunteers tried to keep up with the record flow of contributions which poured in from the annual Mothers' March. Over 300 volunteers from the Farmington, Clarenceville and Novi communities collected \$5,748.21 during the one-hour campaign.

Mother's March Hits Record Total

A record total of \$5,748.21 was collected throughout the Farmington, Clarenceville and Novi areas during the Annual Mother's March held last Thursday evening.

Of this total, \$2,322.56 was received from volunteer solicitors in the Farmington, Township area. A total of \$4,500 was collected during the Annual March last year.

A complete tabulation of all funds collected during the month of March of Dimes campaign will be announced next week.

DRAFT OF VILLAGE CHARTER NEARLY SET FOR GOVERNOR

The final draft of the proposed charter for the Village of Wood Creek Farms is expected to be forwarded to the Governor for examination and signature in approximately a week, P. G. Scherfuss, chairman of the Charter Committee, reported Tuesday.

As soon as the Governor has signed the proposed charter it will be returned to the Commission on the Charter of the City of Farmington at a series of public meetings. A special election on the proposed charter has been set for April 1.

AROUND THE BLOCK

SOME CONFUSION

apparently developed over the use of the word "available" mentioned in a feature story on the proposed new library building published last week. The story referred to the fact that \$20,000 was available in the building fund. The word "available" has been interpreted by some to mean "ready for use," and thus have criticized the Board for not taking prompt action. It should be pointed out in the story that the money was not to be placed in the building fund but rather to be used for the purchase of land for the library. The Board is doing a conscientious job in trying to get adequate library facilities as soon as possible and we regret any confusion which may have resulted from last week's story.

VERBAL ORCHIDS

are in order to the 300-and-some volunteer women in the Farmington, Clarenceville and Novi areas who took part in the Annual Mothers' March last Thursday evening. They not only braved the chilly night to do their part in the fight against polio but they came back with a record collection of contributions which will be turned into weapons against this dreaded disease. When the battle against polio is finally won, and that day is not far off, much of the credit must go to the women, in hundreds of communities like ours, who have contributed their time and effort in this giant crusade. We want to congratulate these volunteers for the success they have attained and express the appreciation of the entire community for the contribution they have made.

AGAIN THIS YEAR

the Farmington Garden Club will sponsor the planting of the Crismen Almey Crab Tree as part of a community-wide beautification program. It is the hope and objective of the Garden Club that more and more of these trees will be planted throughout the City and Township. To aid in this program, the Garden Club will have available 200 trees for Spring planting. Since the Almey Crab should be planted between March 1 and March 15, it is important that you place your order now by calling Mrs. Howard Richards, Garden Club Roadside Chairman, at GR. 4-5561.