City Seeks to Annex 560 Acres from Township

In a surprise move over the weekend, petitions were circulated by a group of citizens calling for annexation of 560 acres of Farmington Township land into the City of Farmington.

The area proposed to be annexed into the city is that property located west of Gill Road between Grand River Avenue and the I-96 Expressway and extending all the way to Halsted Road, one mile east of Farmington Township's western boundary.

According to City Manager John Dinan there were approximately 15 who circulated the petitions over the weekend and they obtained the signatures of 592 citizens. The city manager said that he was certain that while some of the signers were township residents the bulk of those signing were from the city.

A map showing the area proposed to be annexed appears on Page 8-A.

At 8:30 Monday morning the petitions were filed at the Oakland County Clerk's office. There can be little question that there are not enough valid signatures on the petition, the city manager said. The law requires the signatures of only one per cent of the total population as of the last official census which was in 1960. The combined city and township population as of the 1960 census was approximately 35,000, Dinan stated.

The proposed annexation will now be referred to the boundaries committee of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors for review and then come before the Board of Supervisors for action and the setting of a date for an election. The city manager estimated that it would probably take 90 days or more before the election could be held which would make it sometime in September at the earliest.

Most of the 560 acres proposed for annexation remains undeveloped except for a few scattered homes and other buildings. The only well developed area to date is Woodcroft Subdivision just south of Grand River Avenue and west of Gill Road, the present western boundary of the city of Farmington.

It is understood that the decision to petition for annexation actually emanated from discussion at a meeting of some Woodcroft Subdivision homeowners held Friday night regarding the need for and cost of obtaining water and sewer facilities for this exclusive subdivision with good sized lots and above average price range homes on them.

Hearings are already in progress by the township to establish the necessity for setting up a special assessment water district for Woodcroft Subdivision. The subdivision is also included in the township established special assessment sewer district to be serviced by the Tarabusi Sewer Arm coming up from Eight Mile Road in the township.

Five reasons were cited by city officials and the petitioners on why they felt annexation of this parcel to the city would be beneficial.

1. The property is located ideally to be serviced by the city because of the close proximity of existing utilities that could be extended and its geographical location to the center of the downtown area.

2. The city could service this growth in population with a minimum increase in personnel because the city's basic departments could service up to 15,000 people with no major change in organizational structure.

3. Increased assessed valuation from the city's present $27,000,000 valuation to a potential of$45,000,000 upon ultimate development would be a big economic advantage. Based on the present city tax rate of $11.50 per thousand this would provide an additional $200,000 in revenue, which would offset increased cost in operation, it was stated, and this would provide flexibility for expansion in such areas as recreation, park development and other refinements.

4. Increased population from 10,000 to 15,000 people would provide greater purchasing power for commercial development and annexation would provide one and one-half miles of Grand River Avenue frontage which has a tremendous potential for commercial and industrial development.

5. It would give the city space in which to prosper and grow. The present status of the city is that 95 per cent of the residential properties are developed and a good portion of the commercial and indus-

See ANNEXATION
Page 10-A

The Farmington Enterprise

Official Publication for Farmington City and Township

SEVENTY SEVENTH YEAR NO. 39 — FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 1965 — TWENTY-TWO PAGES

Twp. Funds for Baseball Diamonds Unavailable

The Farmington Township Board made it clear at its regular meeting Monday night, June 14, that any moneys allocated for recreation purposes would have to be for programs that all in the community could take part in and not just boys and girls or adults from one area.

Officials of the North Farmington Baseball for Boys organization appeared at the meeting in an effort to determine what financial assistance might be given their organization in developing more ball diamonds in the northern portion of the township. Joe Kilmer, spokesman for the organization, stated that the summer baseball program was continuing to grow each year and that more diamonds and an ever expanding program was necessary. The league is adding about 150 new boys each year, he commented, and most of them are in the younger 8 to 12 age group.

IT WAS pointed out to Kilmer and another spokesman from the Baseball for Boys organization that there would be complications in granting any township-at-large funds to the organization in view of the fact that only boys living north of 11 Mile Road could participate in their program. It is further complicated by the fact that a good percentage of the boys playing Little League ball in the North Farmington Baseball for Boys program come from the West Bloomfield Township area, Turstee Byron Walter emphasized.

Walter and Supervisor Curt Hall both emphasized that if any money were allocated to the North Farmington group a proportionate amount would have to be contributed for boys living south of 11 Mile in

See TWP. FUNDS
Page 10-A

Twp. Budget Hearing Set For June 29

Official action was taken by the Township Board at its regular meeting Monday night, June 14, setting the date for the public hearing on the proposed 1965-'66 township operating budget for Tuesday, June 29, at 8 p.m. at the Township Hall.

The proposed budget will be published in The Farmington Enterprise prior to the public hearing for review by any interested citizens.

AN EXECUTIVE session of the Township Board will be held on Saturday morning of this week to make final modifications in the proposed budget now that the tax levy the township will be allowed to make has been officially established by the Oakland County Equalization Committee.

The township will be allowed to levy 1.2 mills or $1.20 per $1,000 equalized valuation this year compared to last year's levy of $1 per $1,000 allowed, by the allocation board.

The preliminary allocation which the equalization board had indicated it would allow the township was 1.4 mills but it was adjusted downward .2 mills due to strong objections by officials of the Farmington School District. The additional amount the township gets is taken away from the amount the school district is allowed to levy out of the total 15 mill levy allowed each year for the schools, county and township combined without special vote approval.

DURING THE question and answer period at the Township Board meeting, Aldo Vagnozzi, chairman of the Farmington Area PTA Council, questioned whether the township planned to appeal.

Supervisor Curt Hall stated that a final decision on this matter had not yet been reached by Board members but that he felt satisfied that the allocation board had weighed the needs of both the township and school system.

Award Contract To Crown Fence

A contract for construction of approximately 800 feet of chain link fence at the Highmeadow School was awarded to Crown Fence Company at a regular meeting of the Farmington Board of Education on June 14.

Anchor Post Products Fence Division's bid of $1.49 was only one cent higher than Crown's $1.48. New Hudson's bid of $1.15 was disqualified because they bid on tubing instead of the specified top rail.

Wants Twp. to Get Fair Share

Trustee Byron Walter questioned at the regular Township Board meeting Monday night, June 14, whether the township was being kept fully informed on various federal and state funds being made available to local communities to improve conditions and the welfare of township people.

He stated that it seemed that many other communities were receiving substantial grants for various improvement programs and that he felt the township should make every effort possible to get its share.

Supervisor Curt Hall assured him that he was being kept informed on what funds were available and that the township had already received a substantial amount in federal grants.

THE BRIDGE SPANNING the Upper Rouge River in front of the old Children's Hospital in Farmington Township has been labeled by the Army Corps of Engineers as a problem spot in their recent survey of the Rouge flood plain but Joseph Mash who owns and operates a nursing home in Grosse Pointe and plans to open a similar establishment on the old hospital grounds wants the bridge right-of-way to provide entrance and egress to the proposed nursing home. Pictured above attempting to reach a "meeting of the minds" are (L to R) Charles E. Gilbert who directed the survey by the Corps of Engineers, Township Supervisor Curtis H. Hall, Ronald Crane of the Water Resources Commission, Mr. Mash and his attorney, Ernest Levin. The bridge is located just south of Freedom Drive and west of Tuck Road.

Flood Plain Study Revealed By U-S Army Corps of Engineers

Representatives of the U-S Army Corps of Engineers and the Water Resources Commission met with Farmington Township Supervisor Curtis H. Hall and property owners in the Upper Rouge River flood plain district to discuss June 10 the cleaning and widening of the river channel.

Charles E. Gilbert of the Army Engineers' flood control section and Ronald E. Crane, a civil engineer with the Water Resources Commission, met with Supervisor Hall and four interested property owners at last week's meeting.

GILBERT EXPLAINED that the study requested by Farmington Township in November of 1963 of flood plain conditions in the Upper Rouge River basin which traverses the Township from the north to the southeast boundary has disclosed several serious blockages or restrictions in the form of small bridges which span the Rouge tributary have caused back-waters which in the past have resulted in property damage during flood stages of the stream.

The two bridges mentioned by Gilbert were the small bridge over the stream on the entrance route from Freedom Drive to the old Children's Hospital property, now owned by Joseph Mash who has proposed a nursing home for the site, and further to the east the bridge across the stream at Tuck Road just south of Freedom Road. Mash and his attorney, Ernest Levin, were both present at the June 10 meeting.

THE U-S ARMY CORPS of Engineers propose eliminating

See FLOOD PLAIN
Page 10-A

Twp. Police Promoted

Supervisor Curt Hall announced Monday the promotion of four men on the Farmington Township police force.

Arlo Newell and Steve Santo have both been promoted from patrolmen to the rank of sergeants.

William Kelly and Earl Teeples have been advanced to the position of detectives and will work directly under Russ Conway, chief of detectives, who has been handling nearly all of the detective work alone up until this time.

Hall announced the advancements at the regular Township Board meeting Monday night.

Appoint Interim Spec. Ed. Director

The appointment of Douglas H. Smith as interim director of Special Education in the Farmington Public Schools was approved by the Board of Education at their regular meeting on June 14.

Smith, speech correctionist for the Farmington Schools, will carry on the duties of Hugh Watson, Special Education director, who has been granted a leave of absence to work on his doctorate at Michigan State University.

THE INTERIM appointment granted Mr. Smith by the Board is unusual in the school district. It recognizes on the one hand Mr. Smith's abilities and administrative potential and on the other, it is an expression of confidence in Mr. Watson who plans to return to Farmington's Special Education program.

Smith received a BS from Michigan State University in 1953 and an MA in speech correction and administration from the University of Michigan in 1957.

Okay Request for Athletic Field

The Farmington Board of Education, at a regular meeting on June 14, approved a request by the Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce for use of the athletic field at the city park for parking purposes during their chicken bar-b-que in July.

The approval was granted with the provision that someone from the school administration be responsible for checking to see that the surface is hard and dry enough for parking.

JANET LAM AND ANDY LAWING pause for a chat after the North Farmington High Swing-Out program last Friday. Vice-president and president respectively of their class, both will graduate with high honors. Miss Lam is the recipient of a DePauw University Honorary McMahan scholarship which is given in recognition of superior academic achievement, character, leadership and academic potential. Lawing received the first annual Kathy Sevin Memorial Award as well as the first annual Raider Cup and an Alfred P. Sloane Foundation scholarship from Oberlin College. (See award story on page 2B).

Neal, Schwartz Elected; Millage Carries 2 to 1

Farmington School District voters approved the Special Education millage increase by a better than two-to-one margin in the Annual and Special School election on Monday, June 14. Voters also elected incumbent Herbert R. Neal and Sylvia F. Schwartz to four-year terms as trustees of the Farmington Board of Education. Mrs. Schwartz will replace Mrs. Patricia Dates whose term of office expires this year and who did not seek re-election.

The voter turnout was considered by school officials and community leaders to be a very poor showing for the district. The total of 1,991 votes cast represents 9.5 per cent of the total number of registered voters which is estimated at a little over 21,000.

Last year's annual election brought out 11.6 per cent of the approximately 16,000 registered voters.

The Special Education millage increase was approved by a 1,305 "yes" to a 605 "no" vote. The one-half mill already approved by the voters is now increased to one mill to be used for continuation and expansion of the county-wide special education program.

The county vote on the millage question carried in all twenty-nine school districts except Hazel Park where the proposal was defeated by two votes. The total vote countywide was 22,000 "yes" and 11,945 "no".

In balloting for the two local board of education seats, incumbent Herbert R. Neal received 1,416 votes or better than 71 per cent of the total number of votes cast. Sylvia Schwartz received 968 votes, 227 more than candidate John Douglas Cojeen with 741. Joe T. Collier garnered only 495 votes.

Cojeen carried precinct three over both winning candidates, topping Neal by one vote and Schwartz by 43. Neal and Schwartz were first and second respectively in all of the other three precincts.

New this year, as required by law, was the establishment of the Board of Canvassers which meets to canvass the returns of school elections. The Board met shortly after 9 p.m., canvassed the returns and certified the election of the two candidates and the passage of the millage question.

Table Action on Request by Union

A letter from officials of the American Federation of Governmental Employees Union seeking to represent Farmington Township employees asking to meet with the Township Board was read by Supervisor Curt Hall at the regular Township Board meeting Monday night, June 14.

No action was taken on the request. It was agreed to discuss the request in more detail when the Board plans to meet on Saturday morning

New Principals Appointed Here

The appointments of Lawrence G. Freedman and Walter J. Jablonski to principalships in the Farmington school district were approved by the Board of Education at their regular meeting on June 14.

Both successful applicants are presently employed in the Farmington schools. The posts they will fill exist because the new Larkshire Elementary School will open this September and a vacancy has occurred at Highmeadow School. Highmeadow's principal, Donald Hoagler, has accepted a position as an elementary principal in the Nevada schools.

MR. FREEDMAN WILL be assigned to Highmeadow School and Mr. Jablonski to Longacre. James Lanigan, present principal at Longacre will be principal at the new Larkshire School. Lanigan requested the opportunity to serve as principal at Larkshire for the professional challenge and experience of opening a new building.

Freedman is a sixth grade teacher in Kenbrook School. He has been with the Farmington Schools since 1961. A graduate of Detroit's Central High School and Wayne State University (BS), he holds a Master's degree in education and

See PRINCIPALS
Page 10-A

C'ville Voters Return Bailey To School Bd.

Clarenceville School District voters elected incumbent Fred Bailey to the four-year term on the Board of Education in Monday's School Election. A total of 379 persons cast their ballots in the District.

Bailey led the field of four candidates for the one vacancy on the School Board by better than two-to-one. Bailey netted a total vote of 213 while his closest rival, Dorothy Idema, had 74. Edward May ran third with 59 and Alfred Forman had 40.

The added one-half mill tax levy asked for by the Oakland County Special Education Department passed by a more than two-to-one margin, 256 yes to 123 no votes.

Founders Days Plans Beginning to Take Shape

Plans are now being finalized for a wide variety of activities and events for the first Farmington Founders Days celebration to be staged the last three days in July under the sponsorship of the Farmington Board of Commerce and in cooperation with numerous local clubs and organizations.

Three days of festivities are planned starting on Thursday, July 29, and continuing through Saturday, July 31.

On Thursday morning, starting at 9:30 and continuing until noon, numerous games and contests will be staged at the Farmington Senior High athletic field or in the gymnasium in the event of inclement weather. Activities such as sack races, three-legged races and the like will be conducted for children under the direction of Chuck Wise, Farmington YMCA director. On Friday morning during the same hours a similar program will be presented at North Farmington High for boys and girls living in the northern portion of the community.

ON THURSDAY afternoon, starting at approximately 1 p.m. at a location still to be finalized on, a Fashion Show will be presented by Harvi's Suburban Casuals of the Farmington Plaza. In addition there will be a special flower show and garden exhibit put on by the Farmington Garden Club.

Kickoff ceremonies for the beauty queen pageant are scheduled for 5 p.m. on Thursday at the Botsford Inn. A motor parade from the inn grounds down Grand River Avenue to the Farmington Municipal Building will be conducted at approximately 7 p.m. with the beauty queen contestants taking part. At the municipal building grounds The Farmington Players are scheduled to put on a special program tracing the history of the development of Farmington.

On Friday special silent movies of by-gone days will be presented at the Civic Theatre at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

OTHER PROGRAMS tentatively planned for Friday are

See FOUNDERS DAY
Page 10-A

Magic Square Given OK

A request by the City of Farmington to build a "Magic Square" on the Cloverdale school playground came up for discussion at the regular meeting of the Farmington Board of Education on June 14.

It was noted that the first "Magic Square" located at the Flanders School has been used regularly. The magic squares are a joint project with the schools' furnishing the land and the city's developing and maintaining them as recreational sites.

The Board approved the request subject to receiving a plan showing the location on the school grounds.

Masons Start Remodelling Old Town Hall

Roy Line, President of the Farmington Masonic Temple Association, Lodge 151, announced that the Chesterfield Construction Company of Southfield has been awarded the contract for the renovation work to be done at the Farmington Masonic Temple.

Actual construction work will begin on Monday, June 21, with first repairs being made in the basement foundations and support beams. Remodeling on the upper floor of the building will not be started until July 1, when all the associated organizations who use the Temple will be recessed for the summer months. All regular meetings scheduled for September will be held in the Temple even though facilities in the kitchen and dining room will be incomplete.

The work schedule which was presented by Dave Gile, of Chesterfield Construction Company at the Temple Association meeting earlier this month indicates a tentative date of January 1966.

A public auction will be held on the Temple Grounds in July with all proceeds to be used in the building fund program. The sale will consist of lighting fixtures, plumbing fixtures, heating fixtures, and many miscellaneous attic treasures which are being donated.

Contributions to the Building Committee may be addressed to Richard Steele, Secretary of the Temple Association.