

MICHIGAN'S PROPOSED NEW CONSTITUTION

Will Protect Civil Service And Keep Its Budget in Line

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is one of a series of articles prepared by the Farmington Enterprise to present to the voters of Farmington a complete and accurate picture of the proposed new Michigan Constitution. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Farmington Enterprise.

Michigan's proposed new constitution protects civil service by continuing the requirement that one percent of the classified service's payroll must be appropriated for the work of the civil service commission. In order to protect public funds, constitutional status is given to the current practice of returning unexpended balances to the state treasury. This must be done six months after the end of the fiscal year, annual financial reports must be made, and the commission is subject to annual audit.

The new document also expands the anti-discrimination clause to include not only removals and demotions, but also appointments and promotions, shall not be made for "religious, racial, or partisan considerations."

ONE CHANGE is due to the fact that several times in the past, when the state's pay scales have been given in the middle of a fiscal year, forcing the governor and legislature to find money after the budget and taxes were set, or forcing layoffs in the departments affected. Although this has not happened since 1961, the commission, the convention felt this should be avoided. Therefore, the requirement was added that any increase in pay effect only at the beginning of a fiscal year and shall be given to the governor who must pass a law to that effect.

The governor may not reject proposed increases nor refuse to put them in his budget. However, the legislature may increase during the fiscal year.

Further, the legislature, if it acts within 60 days, may increase the pay scales scheduled by the civil service commission. Since this can be done only by a two-thirds vote of the members of each house.

James F. O'Neil addresses PTA

James F. O'Neil, Republican candidate for the State Board of Education, today enthusiastically endorsed Gov. George Romney's proposed education bill.

Like the idea of the community improvement grants being provided, we must say that also we can't help but keep looking at the larger and larger national debt that is being piled up. Big interest payments on the national debt must also be paid each year and over the past few years we haven't even been able to stay even.

It's an era of deficit spending and long term financing we're living in but the big deficit spending binge we've been on is going to have to end sometime and should be soon now, in our opinion.

Remember, while these Federal grants may look like a gift on the surface, they are really not. It's your Federal tax money and mine that is being given away. We may be faring better right now than some other areas but it can be the other way around on Federal grants later on.

It would require bi-partisan support and would be most unlikely to occur except in case of a financial emergency. Legislative juggling of classes is prevented by the provision that any reduction must be applied uniformly to all classes affected and cannot change pay differentials between grades or classes. Also the legislature cannot reduce wages below those in effect at the time the increases are proposed.

ANOTHER NEW provision allows the voters of any unit of local government to set up or abolish a merit system. Employees of any city, village, township, county, school district, or authority may be included except for teachers under contract or tenure. It was felt that civil service for teachers might conflict with existing laws concerning contracts and tenure.

The state civil service department will be allowed, under the new constitution, to furnish services at cost to local governments. This will allow them to have professional services at lowest possible cost.

Among the constitutional amendments were the election of the leaders in the original battle for civil service in this state. Dr. James K. Pollock of the University of Michigan, known as the "father of civil service," and Mrs. Dorothy L. Judd of Grand Rapids, former president of the League of Women Voters of Michigan, and a member of the present civil service commission. Both were members of the 1958 Civil Service Study Commission which drafted the original civil service statute. Both are of the opinion that the new constitution provides an excellent civil service system, adjusted to the needs of the years ahead.

Next article: Declaration of Rights

Name Dist. GOP Director Here

Announcement was made this week of the appointment of Robert B. O'Neil, Jr., to the post of District Director for the Republican Party in Oakland County.

The announcement was made by Charles L. Lyle, GOP county chairman. O'Neil, in charge of the Casualty and Surety Department, for Aetna Insurance Company of Michigan, has worked as a block worker, precinct captain, township director for Farmington, delegate for state and county conventions and has served as a member of the Republican County Committee.

HE IS A MEMBER of the Westbrook Manor Association and has served the Association as chairman for various functions during the past few years. He and his wife, Eleanor, have two children, Carol Ann, 17, and Lynn, 15. O'Neil replaces William Davis, former director who resigned due to the press of business.

O'Neil in turn appointed Byron D. Waller, 2844 Grosvenor Trail, to replace him as Farmington Township Director. **WALLER'S POLITICAL** experience includes having been a statutory committee member of the 17th District of Wayne County; Chairman of the Redford Township Republican Organization; precinct delegate; delegate to the state and county conventions; and at present he is a Republican candidate for Farmington.

Waller, an associate with the law firm of Monaghan, Monaghan and Cramer of Detroit, is married to the former Marion Carlin. The Wallers have four children, Sandra, 18, Susan, 12, Eric, 10, and Martha, 8. O'Neil says that he has never already assumed their duties and that their areas are up to date with the Republican Spring Victory Plan.

A STANCH supporter of the proposed new state constitution, O'Neil also told his audience that the major provision of the new document would provide Michigan with one of the finest school systems in the nation. He pointed to the Michigan Congress of Parents and Teachers, the Michigan Education Assn. and the president of the state's largest universities. (University of Michigan, Michigan State University and Western Michigan University) who favor the new constitution.

PUBLIC LETTER BOX

Letters submitted to the Editor for publication must be signed. Names will be withheld upon request. Opinions expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the policies of this newspaper. Maximum length is 1,000 words.

Water Issue Getting Pretty Muddy

To the Editor: I read with some amusement Mr. Brennan's letter to the editor in which he accused one of the political parties of making political hay out of water for the dry areas and then proceeded to become guilty of the same thing.

However, my amusement stopped short when I noticed some of the inaccuracies and contradictions the letter contained.

For instance: (1) He stated that "the township water system is one of the crowning achievements of the present Republican administration's four years in office." In the next paragraph admitted that the construction of the system had not been started.

(2) He stated that "the project was at a standstill four years ago after the Democratic administration," when in truth there was no Democratic administration since the township board had a five to two Republican majority and it is the entire board that determines the affairs of the township, not the supervisor.

(3) He states "the present administration had to start from scratch, with the exception of the petitions." Mr. Brennan knows perfectly well that the petitions were the spade work and without them there could have been no water system.

Anyone who has intelligently followed the affairs of the township knows that the exception of the petitions was so long in the making was the inability to finance the system. One of the reasons for this was that the Section 23 systems had been allowed to go into the hands of receivership which put the credit of the township in a precarious position. It was impossible for the fact that the residents of the area were unable to support the system made the sale of bonds all but impossible. The legislation that enables the federal government

Says Change Needed

To the Editor: At election times we have a contest of candidates and our voters. We who live try to put forth our best man. We go along with the man who we think is best and that the one elected will be fair to everyone. Now when you are not feeling well you see your doctor. He looks over things and says you are anemic and need a change. That's what Farmington Township needs—a change.

The township covers a large area that has north, south, east and west boundaries and not just boundaries on the north. We are asking for an ordinance to prohibit filling in where it endangers people's property and health. State, county and township officials say "no," I will interpret as I see fit.

What is Farmington—there will be a day of reckoning when it will cost more than just a few loads of fill. All these law suits are very expensive and cause hatreds. We are our brother's keeper so let us get rid of anything that causes this rank condition.

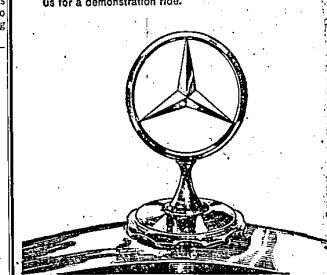
So I say again we in the Township need a change. Give all of us a chance to share in the Township's rights.

Hazel Stevens.

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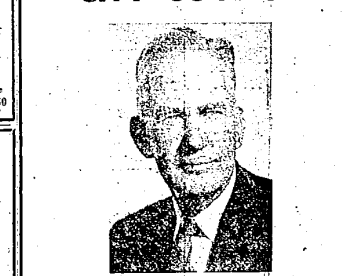
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VOTE for VIRGIL CORNWELL FOR FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL



I have often been asked to explain the operation of our City Government. We have a City Manager type of Government. He is appointed by the five member Council. The five member Council selects one member to act as the City Manager or Mayor. Also one member acts as Mayor Pro-tem.

The five member Council is elected in the following manner: Each of the five Council members are up for election and the two receiving the highest number of votes receive a four year term and the third man receives a two year term.

I believe all good citizens should occasionally attend their City Council meetings to better acquaint themselves with the operation of the Council and its efficiency.

For further information, be a good citizen and attend your City Council Meetings.

Vote For CORNWELL for COUNCIL
Paid Pol. Ads.

Gifts That Aren't Really Gifts at All

Federal grants for various projects and improvements in Farmington City and Township have been coming fast and furious in recent months. It almost seems like we're getting more than our fair share although the improvements these Federal grants will help provide will be good for the community, we must agree.

The latest and biggest of these Federal grants for local projects was a \$1.1 million grant for a new hospital here approved only last week. In addition to this the Township has received a \$265,000 grant for the 13 Mile Sewer and the City a \$62,500 grant for construction of a new municipal building. The school district has also been coming in for some fair sized grants to improve its science, mathematics and foreign language curriculums.

Farmington Township still has high hopes of getting another good sized grant for a second sewer arm, but that which is under the industrial park area in the west-central portion of the township. If approval is given on the grant applied for on this sewer arm it could run the total in Federal grants received by our community in the past year and a half up close to the \$2 million mark.

Other communities across the country might not be faring as well as we but many that we have heard of are also

getting some good sized chunks of cash.

In a community with a total population of under 35,000 can get as much as \$2 million in Federal grants and you like the idea of spending over a whole nation with a population of over 150 million it represents a pretty big chunk of money.

The endeavor is to use Federal money on a matching contribution basis to pump new life into the nation's economical growth. While it does help but like the idea of the community improvements being provided, we must say that also we can't help but keep looking at the larger and larger national debt that is being piled up. Big interest payments on the national debt must also be paid each year and over the past few years we haven't even been able to stay even.

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Looking Back in the Files

15 Years Ago
MARCH 18, 1948

Junk License
The Farmington Township Board has approved the two applications for the renewal of licenses to operate junk yards in the Township. The applicants are both residents of the Township and both received one-year extensions which will allow them to continue using their premises for the purpose of dismantling old automobiles.

Honor Students
Patricia Ann Everly and June Beverly Toth were named valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, of the Farmington High School graduating class of 1948.

Spring Sports
Farmington High School's spring sports program moved in to high gear this week with candidates for both the baseball team and the track squad beginning workouts in preparation for their coming seasons.

New Legion Home
Work on the new Legion Memorial Home on Grand River across from Lavery Avenue has progressed further than originally anticipated by this time due to the excellent cooperation given by members of the Groves-Walker Club, who have freely given their time on Saturdays and Sundays in past months to forward work in the building.

10 Years Ago
MARCH 19, 1953

School Funds
Sufficient funds are anticipated from the state in the next few days to operate the Farmington Township School District. The balance of the school year's budget has been received.

Alter Zoning
The Farmington Township Board approved the redraft of a proposed amendment which will change a portion of the zoning property from residential to commercial zoning.

City Parking
The Farmington City Council authorized the purchase of several lots south of Grand River and east of Farmington Road for the purpose of providing off-street parking in the downtown business district.

Council Race
A total of seven candidates have filed petitions for the three council seats up for contention in the coming Spring election. Only one candidate filed for the office of Municipal Judge and also only one candidate is in the race for the Associate Judge ship.

Special Election
It is anticipated that a special election may be required on the construction and financing of the proposed expressway which would extend the entire width of the Township.

5 Years Ago
MARCH 20, 1958

Studies Under Way
The future of Farmington, both the City and the Township, is presently being studied by two groups in the interests of providing area residents with information of a different form of local government. The Greater Farmington Chamber of Commerce and the Farmington Subdivision Associations are the two groups conducting the studies.

Honor Society
A total of 18 seniors from Farmington High School were formally inducted into the National Honor Society during an assembly program at the high school last week.

Summer Baseball
The biggest summer baseball program ever offered by Farmington is currently in the final stages of planning. Support from the local merchants is being sought now to help in the coming season. In both the Little League and Babe Ruth League ranks.

Expressway Route
Tentative plans for the construction of an expressway between 11 Mile and 12 Mile Roads in Farmington Township were revealed this week by the State Highway Department. The proposed expressway would extend the entire width of the Township.

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