

New Building

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less at 4 the previous year
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OTHER BUILDING department figures for the City show residential construction declined to 39 permits valued at \$704,180 last year, down from 42 home permits issued in 1964 at a valuation of \$806,546; 34 garage permits issued at a value of \$37,980, down from 49 permits at \$37,826 in 1964; commercial buildings, 4 at a valuation of \$100,000, down from 1964 when 9 permits were issued at a valuation of \$467,336; and industrial buildings, 3 permits at \$107,800 issued last year, down from the 1964 mark of 7 valued at \$74,154.

THE RE-MODELING program at the Farmington Masonic Temple, F. and A. M. No. 151, accounted for much of the \$89,300 in valuation placed on 6 special permits issued last year. This is up from 5 special permits issued in 1964 at a valuation of \$15,880.

An industrial addition to the City's Rapistan-Keystone Company, 3900 West Nine Mile Road, accounted for a \$600,000 chunk of the \$107,800 valuation placed on the three industrial additions started in 1965. Large commercial permits included B & O Enterprises, 22800 Orchard Lake Road, at \$42,500. Largest of the commercial additions was at the Automatic

Laundry, 22806 Monroe, valued at \$22,000.

THE CITY'S LARGEST industrial plant for 1965 was a \$500,000 plant started by Mills Products, 33106 Eight Mile Road in July, Chesley Industrial, 23777 Chesley Drive, had a permit valued at \$92,000 in another sizable gain.

The breakdown of building activity in Farmington Township for the final quarter of 1965 shows the Orchard Ridge Community College development, a multi-million-dollar project, which opened its first phase of construction valued at \$418,000 and a new bank put under construction (Detroit Bank and Trust) at 12 Mile and Farmington Road. The D&B branch is valued at \$178,657 and was started in November. There were 25 apartment house units put under construction in the Township during October of 1965 valued at \$124,400. Also in October there was a \$35,000 industrial addition started by Approved Manufacturing and two commercial buildings started at a total valuation of \$30,500.

AN ADDITION to the Edgewood Elementary School on Osborn Street in Farmington Township totaled \$150,000 in value. It was started in December. In the Farmington School District, ground was broken for a \$500,000 elementary school on Rockledge in Old Franklin Township Subdivision. Work on the new grade school, Fairview Elementary, was started in November.

There were 17 industrial construction permits valued at \$1,321,600 issued by the Township in 1964; 222 permits issued for building additions valued at \$1,586,399; and 380 home permits valued at \$48,802,293. Farmington Township experienced its best year in residential home growth back in 1955.

APPROVAL of the expenditure of \$325 for the camera equipment and initiation of the program was given with the understanding that the program would be on a trial basis.

During discussion, Councilman Allen questioned why it would happen to the film after a court case was concluded. He was advised that it would be destroyed immediately if a conviction was not obtained and kept as strictly confidential evidence even if a conviction was obtained.

Councilmen were promised that the equipment would be used with utmost discretion and with the approval of the shift commander.

Numerous other uses that the movie camera equipment could be put to by the department in addition to taking photos of alleged "drunks" were cited.

Local Sailor Killed in N.Y. Auto Accident

A Farmington serviceman, 20-year-old Mark Thomas (Tom) Devine (USN), was killed in an automobile accident while returning to his base at Norfolk, Virginia with two Navy companions. He was a passenger in the car and the only one killed.

Devine joined the Navy in October of 1962 and was due to be discharged in April before his twenty-first birthday on April 18. His family, which includes four brothers and three sisters, has made their home in Farmington for the past 11 years. He attended Our Lady of Sorrows grade school and Farmington High School prior to enlisting in the Navy.

During his three and one-half years in the Navy, Devine served on the destroyer, USS Robert L. Taylor (DD-921), during two Mediterranean cruises and one Caribbean cruise. He was last home on leave to Farmington on Thanksgiving of 1965 and had been stationed in Norfolk since that time. Information on funeral services set for tomorrow (Thursday, January 20) before 10 a.m. at the St. Francis Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington can be found in the obituary column of this week's Enterprise.



The accident happened Saturday, January 15, near Whitehall, New York.

Devine, a Fireman First Class aboard the USS Robert L. Wilson, was returning to Norfolk.

Lawsuit Started

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committee, alleged by the plaintiff and his attorney, to be made up of men selected by the Township Board who favor the change of the township form of government to a home rule city.

4. The spending of township funds to have printed and distributed by mail to all township registered voters a brochure on the proposed incorporation.

5. The holding of meetings in the Township Hall, at the expense of taxpayers, with respect to the petition to change the township form of government to that of a home rule city.

The action taken by the Township Board at a meeting on Dec. 27 authorizing funds to retain Donald Oakes to work with the study committee. The complaint is that the spending of township funds for the hiring of such a consultant is premature until such time as a charter commission might actually be elected by the voters.

7. The using of township employees and equipment to facilitate the distribution of the brochures mailed on the proposed incorporation.

8. The encouragement by township officials for voters to change the change in government and use their official positions and facilities of the township to do so.

Pioneer Club

A number of miscellaneous items of business were discussed at the regular City Council meeting Monday night. Council approval was given on a request from the Groves-Walker American Legion Post for the city to agree to a party to Wolverine Boys' State at East Lansing this summer. The city has sponsored a boy for several years now. The cost will run \$40.

A request from the Farmington Women's Sorbath League to again have use of the lighted diamond in the city park on Thursday nights this summer was tabled. All requests for use of the lighted diamond are to be considered at the Council's second meeting in March.

A REQUEST from Architect Charles D. Hannah to purchase approximately one-third of an acre of city owned land along the south side of the Rouge River branch was referred to the planning commission for study and their recommendation. Hannah indicated that he wanted to clean up this parcel of land adjoining his office building property and utilize it for more parking area. It was pointed out during brief discussion that with the acquisition of this additional property near Power Road it would provide an access route out onto Power Road.

The Farmington City Club's request to be moved to the city's sanitary sewer system for property it owns just outside the city on Orchard Lake Road was accepted.

LENGTHY letter from the Farmington Human Relations Council outlining its organizational structure and proposal of activities for the Human Relations Commission it seeks to form was received and filed. In brief discussion councilmen agreed to meet at any time with Human Relations Council officials to discuss in more detail what part they wanted city officials to take in the forming of the proposed commission.

The ordinance introduced at the last regular Council meeting that will give the police department greater control over parking and motor vehicles in private parking lots was officially adopted.

IN TWO OR three different places in the legal document which is the material of the Township Board functioning as a "propaganda bureau" in connection with the petition calling for a vote on the home rule city question.

Served with his summons as one of the defendants in the case Monday afternoon, Supervisor Court Hall stated he had not had time to read over thoroughly all the charges made.

All expressed confidently, however, that he was certain that all actions which he and other Board members had taken or planned for the future regarding the incorporation question were totally legal. He believed the charge that members of the Township Board were functioning as a "propaganda bureau" in connection with the petition for incorporation proposal as "absurd."

The defendants have been given 20 days from the date of the filing of the summons to make a formal answer in defense of the charges made against them.

Council Acts On Several Misc. Items

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appropriate rules for its own community. We feel it is our duty that Farmington is politically mature and able to regulate its own municipal concerns.

QUESTION: There have been numerous rumors about the relationship of the existing villages to the incorporation plans. I think the villages should retain control of their own affairs. I have a legal opinion on the laws regarding the incorporation of the two villages.

ANSWER: (By Norman Kretzer, President of Good Creek Farms Company) We have already asked Mr. Allen, Corporation Counsel of Oakland County, for the Attorney General for the State of Michigan for their opinions. Don Oakes suggested that the Villages study the new State Constitution—that villages incorporated by incorporated municipalities automatically become cities, whether they want it or not under a new provision.

QUESTION: Steps should be taken to protect the Township from further annexation moves should the incorporation move fail. Citizens should support legislation in the present session which would protect incorporation grants. Senate Bill 703 would protect charter townships.

ANSWER: Through lobbies and other interests municipalities and counties in State legislature than Townships do. Anyone waiting for annexation laws to be changed may be old people before this happens. There has been no real in this area for over 30 years.

QUESTION: It is my understanding that the name of the proposed city which is used on the original petition (City of Quakertown) would have to be the name of the City if incorporation carries.

ANSWER: Mr. Allen, Corporation Counsel of Oakland County, says the name does not have to appear on the petition. The Charter Commission decides on the name of the City.

QUESTION: We should explore the possibilities of consolidation with the City of Farmington if the incorporation proposal fails.

ANSWER: Consolidation is tough. There has never been a consolidation gone through in Michigan. Consolidation laws permit Townships to consolidate with cities, but there are many different votes required. Townships should first become Village-States.

QUESTION: Why can't we vote to be one City—including the City of Farmington?

ANSWER: Under present laws, if we tried to incorporate both the City and the Township must vote "yes." If the City of Farmington voted "no," we would be right back in our present vulnerable status.

QUESTION: Our vulnerability to annexation seems to be the only reason for incorporating. It will only mean more services, higher taxes and more bureaucracy to support. If people were treated fairly in the Township, they would vote against annexation attempts.

ANSWER: We have about 700 acres on the western boundary of the Township zoned for light industry. There are only a few people in the area relatively few voters. Not long ago we received information, through good sources, that people in Novi were interested in annexing some of the Farmington area. Farmington has put sanitary sewers and city water into the industrial area and has encouraged industry to build there. The contributions of present plants, plus the six to be completed in 1968, will contribute much revenue to the Township budget and the school District. Annexation alone does not affect school district boundaries, but after a certain population has been reached, the school district would then still have the industry, but none of the tax revenue. We would then have to locate industry property somewhere else or let the residential property bear the full tax burden.

QUESTION: What is the assessed valuation of the industrial park area? What is the total assessed valuation of the Township?

ANSWER: The industrial park area is mostly vacant now, but by July 1, 1966, it will have a valuation of about \$3 million. It has a potential of \$75 to \$200 million, or \$100 million equivalent. The total Township equalized valuation is \$50 million.

QUESTION: If we become a City, we must take services now being provided by the County. Do we have a comparative analysis of the costs?

ANSWER: This will be taken up in detail at the next meeting. However, we have some figures on roads. If we become a city, \$430,709 additional revenue for roads would be realized. The County pays they now spend substantially less than that in Farmington.

(Continued from Page 1)

Through the weight tax and the gasoline tax, Farmington could completely support its own community. We feel it is our duty that Farmington is politically mature and able to regulate its own municipal concerns.

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ent of the incorporation proposal.

"THE LAWSUIT," we are informed, seeks to enjoin the Township Board from sponsoring the incorporation proposal or from spending any money in connection with the proposal. It alleges that I put up the cost of \$500.00 in connection with the filing of this petition but suspects that I have been reimbursed by the Township.

"If Mr. Brown and Mrs. By had been less interested in playing cloak and dagger games they could have saved themselves a considerable amount of time by asking me or Mrs. Avery, the Township Treasurer, whether I had been reimbursed by the Township.

(Editor's Note: Mrs. By later denied any knowledge of a lawsuit and stated she has no connection with Wendell H. Brown. She said she was surprised to hear of the lawsuit.)

"As a matter of fact, I have been reimbursed. There is no secret about it and the only reason my check was used in the first instance was because the petitions were filed on a Monday morning before the Township Hall opened for business."

"The Township Administration has repeatedly said that the annexation proposal was sponsored and approved by the Township Board and the Township Planning Commission.

"The letter which was sent to all of the township voters was sent out at the expense of the township and the township has employed Mr. Oakes, an expert on incorporations, to assist this

committee in gathering facts. I never met Mr. Brown's lawsuit in court but suffice to say that the Attorney General has ruled that public funds may properly be used to educate the electorate with respect to matters of public concern.

Beyond the legal questions however is the question of the motives behind these attempts to prevent you from obtaining all of the facts prior to the incorporation election. We would strongly urge all citizens to be skeptical of representations made by letter or over the telephone. If there are legitimate objections to the incorporation proposal, let them be made here where they can be thoroughly explored in public and reported in the press."

In commenting on the lawsuit, Brennan stated, "Anybody who has \$15 can file a lawsuit." He said that the purpose of the committee is to bring the facts to the people and that the final decision will be with the people at the polls.

Set Special Session

A detailed, combined monthly and annual report on the activities of the Farmington City Public Safety Department, 1965 was presented to the City Council Monday night.

The Council decided to hold a special session on Tuesday, Jan. 25, at 8 p.m. to review and discuss this report as well as taking up other matters relative to the operations of the public safety department.

A couple of other matters are also expected to be discussed at the special "executive session."

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Movies

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this would be a good mechanism in corroborating a police officer's observations of a driver charged with drunk driving. Brennan's feeling was that this type of evidence would be equally as legal as the use of speed timing devices by police departments and would be upheld by the Supreme Court if put to a test. He commended the city police department for its ingenuity and industry in attempting to make local streets safe to travel on.

APPROVAL of the expenditure of \$325 for the camera equipment and initiation of the program was given with the understanding that the program would be on a trial basis.

During discussion, Councilman Allen questioned why it would happen to the film after a court case was concluded. He was advised that it would be destroyed immediately if a conviction was not obtained and kept as strictly confidential evidence even if a conviction was obtained.

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