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The Observer OF FARMINGTON

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THE OBSERVER NEWSPAPER GROUP, founded by Paul M. Chandler, publishing newspapers in the cities of Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington, Garden City and Townships of Canton, Plymouth, Redford, Nankin, Farmington VOL. 2—NO. 29 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1966 33425 Grand River, Farmington Philip H. Power, Publisher

Township Drops Incorporation Suit

Farmington Township has decided to drop its action in the civil suit filed against it by Raymond N. Felix of 28033 Brandwyn Rd., Farmington Township a few weeks ago in the Oakland County Circuit Court.

Last week Judge J. Adams issued a temporary injunction prohibiting the Township from: • Spending any public funds of the Township for the purpose of incorporation; • Incurring any debt on behalf of the Township in the matter;

• Hiring or appointing any person or corporation either with or without compensation to advise, aid, or assist in the formation of a home rule city; • Appointing or fostering a group of persons or corporations to look into the feasibility of such an incorporation; and • To solicit names for the proposed home rule city to supplement the Township form of government.

Drop Portion of Civil Suit

Attorney Wendell Brown, who is representing clients in the civil suits fighting the move to incorporate Farmington Township into a home rule city has told The Observer that the point of the Township officials personally responsible for any funds spent has been dropped. Filed in the Oakland County Circuit Court by Raymond N. Felix of 28033 Brandwyn Rd the suit was heard before Judge Clark J. Adams.

Grace School Is Study Group's Site

The study committee examining the possibility of the incorporation of Farmington Township into a home rule city will meet Monday, Feb. 21 at the William Grace School.

Topic of the public meeting, which will begin at 8 p.m., is local government services of the community. Municipal services and public improvements and utilities will be discussed.

The William Grace School is located at 29040 Silwassee, just east of Middlebelt and north of Grand River.

Public Session Stated

The Boundaries Committee of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on the question of the incorporation of Farmington Township Thursday, Feb. 17 at 10 a.m. in the auditorium of the county service center at 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac.



GEORGE A. NAUSTOLL, JR., treasurer of the Farmington Board of Education, dons a new role in the current Farmington Player's production of "George Washington Slept Here" in his role as Mr. Kimber, a handyman. The production, which opened last weekend at the Players Barn on 12 Mile Rd., will play Feb. 18, 19, 20, 25, and 26. Tickets may be purchased by calling GR 4-7367 or at the Wesley House of Music in Downtown Farmington. (See related story on page 6-B.)

torney Joseph T. Brennan, who has represented the Township in the suit told the Township Board Monday night that the question would be decided by the time the courts decided on the matter as the question would, in all probability, be settled by the voters, by that time.

Brennan said that Attorney Wendell Brown, who is representing Felix, suggested that the Township enter a stipulation that the temporary order be named the final order.

This would eliminate the cost of a lengthy court case, Brennan said. The Township Board agreed.

Improving of Drake Road Is Scheduled

Drake Rd. between Grand River Ave. and 11 Mile Rd. will be improved and paved under a joint project between Farmington Township and the Oakland County Road Commission.

Approval of the project which is estimated to cost slightly more than \$200,000 was given at last night's regular session of the Farmington Township Board.

The cost would be borne on the following ratio: 50 percent by Oakland County Road Commission; 25 percent by the Township; and 25 percent by the Star Cutter and Thompson Brown.

In other action the Board received a letter from the Oakland County Road Commission informing that Highway 10, between 12 and 14 Mile Rds. would be improved during the construction seasons of 1966 and 1967.

Farmington Township Supervisor Curt Hall told the Board that in 1966 the County would prepare the base and dig the ditches, while the hard surface would be done in 1967.

Examine Offstreet Parking Requirement

The City of Farmington Planning Commission has instructed City Manager John Dinan to develop the number of off street parking spaces required by ordinance prior to action on imposing off street parking on the north side of Grand River from Hawthorne to Violet.

The spaces would be based on the number of square feet of buildings and their uses in accordance with the City Code Offstreet Parking Regulations.

Has Unexpected Trip

Michael J. Sides, 20, of 32040 Marheland, Farmington, had an unexpected trip to Botolph Claydon General Hospital Feb. 11 following an accident in which his car slid into a ditch on Haggerty Rd. just south of 14 Mile in Farmington Township. He told Township police that he was coming over the hill and was in control on the dry, rough road and slid into the ditch.

with him and authorized him to take the necessary steps. What this action will do is simply to provide a kind of detour around the Township officials' push toward incorporation. The Judge refused to prohibit the Township officials from advocating the incorporation of Farmington Township into a home rule city during their "non working hours" and as "private citizens."

Therefore, the study committee is, in the words of one Township official, "an unofficial group appointed by the Township Board members acting as individuals."

The group will continue to meet and Brennan reported that funds were being donated to ensure that the committee's final report be mailed to the voters in the Township. Farmington Township Supervisor Curt Hall added that the Board action was probably the most "prudent and expedient" course at the present time and that the funds necessary for the drive would be raised through private sources. An additional suit filed by Brown for Conrad Brashoff of 21217 Waldron St., Farmington Township, seeking to restrain Oakland County from acting on the petitions was stayed last week when Judge Adams ruled that his court could not rule on the action of a legislative body prior to that body's action.

Jaycees Ready to Circulate Petitions For Swimming Pools and Auditorium

The Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce has been granted permission by the Farmington Public School Board to circulate petitions in the school district for construction of swimming pools and auditoriums in three schools. This action was taken after considerable debate, at the regular Monday evening School Board meeting.

In order to put this question before the voters on the June ballot, the petitions must bear 2,000 signatures of qualified voters.

The campaign to attempt to circulate the petitions was launched originally by the Jaycees as an outcome of their recent Community Attitude Survey. They, in turn, approached the School Board, Monday evening's action came after two study sessions held by the two groups.

The petitions will request signatures to put two propositions on the June Ballot. First would be a bond issue for construction of the pool and auditoriums. The second proposal would be a request for one mill every third voter in the last

school election and received 221 replies. Asked whether they would vote for auditoriums if it appeared on the ballot, 33 said "yes," 19 "no" and 16 couldn't give an opinion. This sample of 68 persons question gave a 3-2 approval to the auditoriums.

Sixty-three persons were asked if they would vote for swimming pools. Fifty-three said "yes," 6 "no" and 4 with no opinion. This sample approved pools by a 9-1 margin.

Ninety persons were quizzed on a package of both pools and auditoriums. This received 64 "yes," 15 "no" and 11 undecided for a 4 to 1 margin in favor of the two together.

College Students Plan for Industrial Park

Lawrence Institute of Technology Students are preparing a comprehensive development proposal for Farmington Township's Industrial Park as a part of regularly assigned class work according to an announcement from William Bowman, chairman of the Township's Industrial Development Commission.

What's new when the project is completed in June, the commission will award a \$150 prize to the best design. Between six and seven seniors at Lawrence Tech are participating. They are members of a class taught by George Zona at the school.

Zona told The Observer that the project was an integral part of the class and added that "it becomes more interesting when associated with a real piece of land."

The project will be judged by the professors at Lawrence Tech. Included in the assignment are six different things to be considered for the 560 acre parcel. They are: • A commercial area; • An industrial service center; • A prototype of an industrial building; • Communications system including streets and facilities for services; • Parking facilities; and • Building and use restrictions.

The plan should be general, according to the ground rules, but must be developed in accordance with attention to existing and future developmental character of the total property considered feasible when the park is completed and developed.

The proposed commercial center would involve 15 to 30 acres and include stores, barber and beauty shops and dining facilities plus office space for doctors, lawyers and consultants.

Family Returns, Discovers Home Ransacked

The Donald Holt family of 21316 Farmington Rd., Farmington, returned from a week-end trip Sunday to find their home broken into and ransacked. Whoever cut the screen on a bedroom window to enter the house, Holt's pipes, in fact, he left a note next to the collection stating "nice collection of pipes ya got."

Holt told Farmington City Police that the only thing he was certain was missing was six silver dollars which had been stored in a metal tin. A Lincolnshire Estates Subdivision told the Township officials that the items into a store in the Downtown Farmington Center Feb. 12 and left six bags of groceries in her car. When she returned a short time later four of the bags were gone. The missing groceries were valued at about \$25.

Advertisement for Econoline '211' featuring a cartoon character and the text 'SOMETHING NEW IS COMING... Econoline "211" WATCH FOR IT IN THE CLASSIFIED WANT ADS.'

for operating expenses for the swimming pools (this would mean about \$8 a year for a \$20,000 home). Debate stemmed from just which proposals should appear on the ballot. Some Board members favored presenting only the pool issue to the voters. These members said they had not heard sentiment expressed from voters for auditoriums.

Other School Board members felt that two separate bond issues, one for swimming pools and another for auditoriums, should be offered so that voters could record their approval or disapproval of each individually.

The final decision to lump together both pools and auditoriums under one bond issue was a compromise on the part of several Board members but one that concurred with the sentiment of the Jaycees.

The Jaycees arrived at their decision to recommend one bond issue for both as the result of a telephone survey which they conducted during the past week. They polled approximately every third voter in the last



CUB SCOUTS were in Farmington's Municipal Court—as observers—last week. Members of Court 45 of Den 2, from left, Miles Bentley, 9, Randy Williams, 10, Herb Smith, 8, Gary Waiden, 9, and Kevin Schooley, 9, examine the City's Ordinance Book while Judge Michael J. Hand explains how it applies in the courtroom.

The scouts, who met at Cloverdale School, attended the session as part of the observance of Know America Month.

Drainage Problems Are Constant in Township

Drainage and its problems came under scrutiny at the regular meeting of the Farmington Township Board Monday night.

Three separate items dealing with the ever present drainage problems came up. They were: • A problem in the Lincolnshire Estates caused by an improper connection between the Estates and East Lincolnshire;

• A problem on Radcliff and Danirk caused by the blockage of a natural creek providing drainage in the southern portion of the Township;

• A letter from the Oakland County Road Commission detailing its findings from the survey conducted during and following the flooding in the Kendallwood area on Christmas Eve.

The group of people from the Lincolnshire Estates Subdivision told the Township officials that they first contacted them last summer when it was "obvious even to the layman that something was wrong and that the two engineering plans would not connect properly."

Farmington Township Supervisor Curt Hall told the group that he had been in contact with all the parties involved—the developer, contractor, builder, engineer, etc.

Hall added that in such cases it was sometimes hard to fit the responsibility for error but that the Township and the interested parties had been tentatively scheduled for Friday and he was hopeful that the problem could be resolved. He offers the opinion that he thought the cost would be "somewhere between \$600 and \$800" to construct a catch basin to handle the overflow of surface water.

Township Trustee Thomas Duke pointed out to the group that once the area of responsibility is fixed the Township has means of bringing pressure to bear on the interested party to take care of the problem.

"We do have ways of letting them know that they had better correct the situation if they want to do future business in the Township," Duke said.

Both Hall and the Township Clerk Floyd Cairns told the group that the problem of the creek blockage was handled by the Oakland County Road Commission. However, they promised they would "get on the problem" and have it taken care of.

Barking Dog Is Problem for Neighbors

Howard Buchler, of 22417 Hawthorne, Farmington, has 10 days in which to dispose of his dog or make provisions to keep it in the house.

That was the ruling handed down by Municipal Judge Michael J. Hand at night court last week after hearing Buchler's neighbors complain about the dog's "constant barking."

Hand told Buchler that he was also placing him on 30 days probation. "However," Hand cautioned, "if you have not made any provision for the dog within 10 days I will order you to dispose of it and impose a fine."

Farmington City Attorney Robert J. Kelly told The Observer that under the city ordinance dogs are supposed to be kept inside and that a fine of up to \$100 could be imposed for a dog which creates a constant nuisance to the neighborhood.

Board Buys More Land; Hires Aide

The regular Township evening meeting of the Farmington School Board was a lengthy session with decisions coming on everything from the purchase of a plot of land to the appointment of a consultant on personnel policies.

The Board unanimously resolved to purchase a lot which will affect future expansion plans at Kenbrook Elementary School.

This package of land includes approximately two and nine-tenths acres at a price of \$3,000 per acre in a \$1,000 previously paid the seller for building easements. Additionally, the School District agrees to pay \$1,402 in remaining sewer assessments as well as the cost of the land survey.

James C. Covert, retired (three years) superintendent of Royal Oak schools was the consultant named to work with the superintendent on the development and refinement of personnel policies as required under recent changes in Michigan statutes. No salary was stated.

In other business: • A used school bus was sold to the sole bidder for \$400.

• A subdivision for Camelot Courts which is to include 68 single residences, 88 four-bedroom apartments and 124 two-bedroom apartments on the 17 acre site in the southeast corner of Section 13 was approved.

• The driver training car fleet will be enlarged by the addition of two cars.

• After a discussion of the National School Boards Association Annual Convention to be held April 23-26 in Minneapolis, no one from the Board felt that they could attend.

What's Inside FARMINGTON

Table listing local news items: Amusements 6-7B, A&P Food News 11A, Business Directory 10B, Church Directory 12A, Classified Pages 9-17B, Crossword Puzzle 10B, Editorial Page 16A, Food Fair News 6A, Home Improvements 5A, Kruger Food News 13A, Lunch Menu 20B, Obituaries 16A, Sports Pages 2-3B, Obituaries 4B, Women's Page 4-9A

DR. EDWARD A. BANTEL

DR. EDWARD A. BANTEL, professor of educational psychology at Wayne State University, will address the 17th Annual Elementary School Parent-Teacher's Association in Farmington Township, Feb. 21. His talk will be a part of the traditional Founder's Day program, which will begin at 7 p.m. with a buffet dinner.