

In Our Opinion . . .

Laws — Effective Only When Enforced

"The less government we have the better," Emerson said. However, once an ordinance is enacted, provisions should be made for its enforcement.

Members of the Farmington Township Planning Commission at their last meeting discussed setting up some kind of "follow through" to see that park area requirements are met in planned development subdivisions.

Under the PUD ordinance, developers are required to submit plans by approved landscape architects showing the various improvements planned for the park areas. Before final plans are approved by the Township Planning Commission and the Township Board, the developer is required to advance funds (approximately \$2,000 per acre) to be held in escrow by the Township and released in vouchers by the Township Clerk as the landscaping work progresses in the park areas.

The suggestion to follow through and verify that the required work has been done before funds are released was a surprise, since one would assume that this practice is already in effect. However, if funds are being released only upon presentation of invoices, then the point is well taken and some system of verification of the landscaping requirements should be set up at once.

It was suggested that a committee of the Planning Commission be established to verify work done on the park areas. However, this could be a hardship on both the Commission and the developer. Commission members already have a full "part-time" job in study work, planning work, inspection work, where they are constantly familiarizing themselves with zoning

details, extra meetings, and a myriad of other duties that are presented to them each month.

On the other hand, developers are already faced with a good deal of "red tape" in connection with meeting the many regulations dealing with the development of subdivisions. A hold-up in getting approval for money to be released might prove to be an unnecessary hardship in some instances.

The Planning Commission and the consultant hired by the Township spend many hours going over plans and recommending green belts, road changes, acceleration and deceleration lanes, parking changes and many other details not necessarily parts of the proposed buildings themselves.

It would seem desirable, if financially possible, for the Township to consider hiring a part-time person with some knowledge of landscaping to inspect all PUD park areas, green belts, road changes, and any other items having to do with grounds around proposed buildings and not directly with the buildings. This inspector could work with the building department and make reports to the Planning Commission as well.

We are inclined to agree with the example used by the commission member who suggested the verification. He said if an invoice calls for 50 trees, who checks to see if 50 trees have actually been planted? At what point does a tree cease to be a seedling?

There are a great many other questions that could be asked, and it is hoped that the Planning Commission will seriously consider following through on the suggestion and make a recommendation to the Township Board in the very near future.

How About A Festival Facelift?

Building a tradition can be uphill work. Just ask any of the Founders Festival committees as they play away at their jobs. They would like to make this second annual Festival attain the success of last year's or even top it. With the help of every Farmingtonite they'll do it, too.

What can John and Jane Q. Public do to foster the Festival in addition to attending it? At the risk of offending Ladybird, we suggest: Plant a flower box. We mean this both figuratively and literally.

Stung by a dictum issued recently by a Swiss architect doing research in our area that Detroit is an ugly place, and almost equally stung by his dictum that a strain in saying anything about Farmington, we set about to take an informal poll of other knowledgeable people.

Some of the people who toll for their daily bread in the downtown section were asked for suggestions on how to make the area more attractive. Answers ranged from adding pitched roofs and painting all the buildings a uniform Colonial grey with white shutters, to a simple little hint on putting pebbles around the bases of the sidewalk trees to discourage weeds and refuse. Let's just concentrate on the little things which wouldn't be a financial drain on anyone but would add so much to an Operation Facelift.

First of all, we cannot refrain from mentioning what has become just about eyesore No. 1 in the heart of downtown. This is the old Whitehead house on Grand River and Warner which is plastered with campaign posters and seems to be in danger of being strangled by the weeds growing up around it. It is a fine old stone building and deserves a better fate. Surely the weeds can be eliminated at no great cost to anyone.

Then, we would like to commend the Farmington Garden Club and the city for trimming up the central park areas so fetchingly that it is a joy to drive past. We wonder if they will go that added mile and manure the grass

area between sidewalk and curb? And some day it would be a beneficial gesture to remove the old ramps that lead to the old Whitehead house.

Now that the Masonic Temple has been redecorated and made into a useful structure, we feel sure that everyone would echo the need for a little extra attention to its grounds, for that particular site is one of the focal points of the city.

One merchant who definitely practices what he preaches remarked that everyone would be amazed what a difference it would make if each property owner fronting on a business thoroughfare would plant a flower box. Let's have a flower box on every sidewalk once a week. It would add much freshness and sparkle. Street washings, too, it was offered, would help greatly to eliminate the dusty look of midsummer.

Other small cost investments preferred were: additional paint stores, front shutters, carriage lamps (which need not be expensive) and Ladybird's windowboxes. These, however, must in no way obstruct the public walkways.

Councilman John Allen deplored an increasing tendency to use paving materials to discourage weeds and refuse. Let's just concentrate on the little things which wouldn't be a financial drain on anyone but would add so much to an Operation Facelift.

Since it is to be hoped that a large number of visitors will be attracted by the Festival going on, it behooves each householder, too, to look about and see what small improvements might still be made in the time that remains. Anything that might add a slight measure of beauty should not be ignored.

When we consider the heritage left in our keeping by those founders whom we commemorate with the Festival, the charming old houses, the magnificent trees and rolling hills, let's show their hovering spirits that we're not letting them down. And don't think they won't be around checking up. After all, they are the ghosts of honor at this shindig.



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.

To the Editor:
July 1, 1966
Mr. Edge T. Cope
2718 Longacre St.
Farmington, Mich. 48024

Dear Edge:

Thank you for your letter of recent date which I received on June 23, 1966. Inasmuch as it is addressed to the Committee for the Preservation of Farmington Township, as well as to me, I will see that your letter is brought to the attention of your letter is dated June 24, 1966, and I wondered why it came in an envelope post marked June 23, 1966. I received your letter on June 20th. The evening of June 20th I saw the Farmington Observer which carried a portion of your letter, and I understood the reason for the time lapse between the date of the letter and date of its mailing.

The evening of June 20th I read the letter you sent me in The Farmington Enterprise, also. You have always taken an active interest in public affairs in our community. In view of your letter, I am a little surprised that you didn't take a public stand on the matters you discuss in the letter, prior to election, as a few others did. We met at church 2 or 3 times a month, during the campaign to preserve Farmington Township, and I voiced no objection to me. You were utterly silent when by voicing an opinion you might have influenced the June 13th special election. Maybe (?) you could have won the day for your side (incorporation) and have made your vote count.

YOUR LETTER COMES three weeks after the close of the special election, at which the people spoke resoundingly in the retention of Township form of government. Yours is the only dissent which has come to my personal attention, other than one phone call. It is quite unlike you, to condemn without a hearing; not to recognize differences in viewpoint.

The annexation proposal will receive a referendum. Please don't count the vote lost. A few battles have begun. Remember, the major portion of the anticipated tax revenues will be derived from the (1967), from the Industrial Area will go to the School District and for Education, regardless of the government collecting the taxes. As of now, you have lost nothing, except perhaps your vote for incorporation.

AS YOU SAY, you and I have been personal friends for several years. Your withdrawal of your friendship with me is unilateral, and I am sorry you feel it to be the case. From my standpoint, I shall always have a very friendly feeling for you and Mrs. Cope, irrespective of this turn of events. May God bless you.

Thank you for suggesting that, for stated purposes, you may support my candidacy at the coming primary. The support of so outstanding a citizen as you will always be welcome. My very best regards to you folks.

Sincerely yours,
Wendell Brown.

Farmington Honors Its Own

William Spaller, 33309 Orchard St., better known as Bill was born August 7, 1878 in Bedford, which was then known as Sandhill.

His parents had emigrated here from Germany and he had three sisters and three brothers. When Bill was eight years old the family moved to Farmington and were farmers.

Edith Schroeder and he were married August 22, 1902. They occupied the old Pettibone Farm on Farmington Road north of Ten Mile Road. He planted many of the trees in Glen Orchard Subdivision.

There were three children born there, two boys Norman and Percy and one daughter Lucille.

Mrs. Spaller died February 13, 1946. Bill was employed by the City of Farmington for a number of years and has many friends in the City and Township. Even though he will be eighty-eight this year he enjoys his garden and is active.

No. 90,439 4805

STATE OF MICHIGAN
THE PROBATE COURT FOR
THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND

In re: ESTATE OF E. GILMORE, Deceased.

It is Ordered that on July 12, 1966, at 9 a.m., in the Probate Courtroom, Pontiac, Michigan, a hearing be held on the petition of Marion Gilmore for the admission to probate of an instrument purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of said deceased, and for the granting of administration of said estate to the petitioner, the executrix named therein or to some other suitable person, and to determine who are or were at the time of death the heirs at law of said deceased.

Publication and service shall be made as provided by Statute and Court Rule.

DONALD E. ADAMS,
Judge of Probate
Dated: June 15, 1966
Ingle & Burke, Attorneys
2523 Grand River
Farmington
June 22, 29, July 6

No. 90,437 4806

STATE OF MICHIGAN
THE PROBATE COURT FOR
THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND

In re: ESTATE OF WALTER NEAL, Deceased.

It is Ordered that on August 1, 1966, at 9 a.m., in the Probate Courtroom, Pontiac, Michigan, a hearing be held on the petition of Edwin R. Oglesby, executor praying for the examination and allowance of his final account, for the assignment of the residue of said estate and for the discharge of said fiduciary.

Publication and service shall be made as provided by Statute and Court Rule.

NORMAN R. BARNARD,
Judge of Probate
Dated: June 20, 1966
Edwin R. Oglesby, Atty.

Sincerely Yours,
Lettie Fry
Debra Brinkman
Sharon Overfield
Barbara Hebel
Vickie DeMaestri

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF HEARING ON SPECIAL ASSESSMENT SEWER IMPROVEMENT Township of Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

1. That the Township Board of the Township of Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan, has tentatively declared its intention to construct sewers in said Township to be located as follows:

Edgell from Middlebelt to W line of Supervisor's Middlebelt Ten Mile No. 2.

2. That plans showing the aforesaid improvement and the location thereof and an estimate of the cost thereof, are on file with the Township Clerk for public examination.

3. That the Township Board has tentatively designated the following special assessment district, against which the cost of said improvement is to be assessed, to-wit:

Lots 67 thru 144, inclusive.

33245 Grand River Ave., Farmington, Michigan
June 29, July 6, 13, 1966

No. 90,430 4807

STATE OF MICHIGAN
THE PROBATE COURT FOR
THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND

In re: ESTATE OF IRENE J. FLAHERTY, Deceased.

It is Ordered that on August 1, 1966, at 9 a.m., in the Probate Courtroom, Pontiac, Michigan, a hearing be held on the petition of Irene T. Coughlin for the admission to probate of an instrument purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of said deceased, and for the granting of administration of said estate to the petitioner, the executrix named therein or to some other suitable person, and to determine who are or were at the time of death the heirs at law of said deceased.

Publication and service shall be made as provided by Statute and Court Rule.

NORMAN R. BARNARD,
Judge of Probate
Dated: June 20, 1966
Joseph T. Brennan, Attorney
3242 Grand River Ave.
Farmington, Michigan 48024
June 29, July 6, 13

CARL E. BEIER, et al

-VS-
TREASURER OF STATE OF MICHIGAN, et al

CIVIL ACTION
NO. 27427

OTHER GENERAL NOTICE OF PETITION TO VACATE PART OF FARMINGTON HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION of part of the West 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 2, Town 1 North, Range 9 East, Farmington Township, Oakland County, Michigan, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 28, page 32 of Plats, Oakland County Records.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that petition has been filed to vacate

Lots 10 and 11 of Block E

Dated: June 29, 1966
Harold A. Larson, Atty.
3106 West 1 Mile
Farmington
July 6, 13, 20, 1966

in Supervisor's Middlebelt Ten Mile Plat No. 2, Farmington Township, Oakland County, Michigan.

4. That the said Township Board will meet in the Township Hall, 31555 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington, Michigan, on the 12th day of July, 1966, at 7:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, to hear and consider any objections to the said improvement, to the said special assessment district.

That in the event that written objections to the making of said improvement under Act No. 188, Michigan Public Acts of 1954, are amended, are filed with the Township Board at or prior to said hearing by record owners of land constituting more than 20 per cent of the total land area in the above described special assessment district, then said improvement may not be so made unless petitions therefor are filed with the Township Board as provided in said Act.

THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN BY ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD.

FLOYD A. CAIRNS,
Farmington Township Clerk
Published: 6-29-66 & 7-6-66
Mailed: 6-29-66

Lots 10 and 11 of Block F, Lots 35 and 36 of Block H, Washburn Avenue, formerly Wilson Avenue, and Broad Blvd., both from the East line of Grand and Lake Road to the West line of Grand, formerly Pleasant Avenue.

That said petition will be brought on for hearing on the 12th day of August, A.D. 1966, at 9:00 A.M. or as soon thereafter as said matter may be heard before HONORABLE WILLIAM JOHN BEER, Circuit Judge, at the Court House, in the City of Pontiac, County of Oakland, State of Michigan.

By ALLEN C. INGLE & BURKE, Attorneys for Plaintiff
2523 Grand River
Farmington, Michigan
Phone: GR. 4444
June 29, July 6, 13, 1966

No. 90,570 4809

STATE OF MICHIGAN
THE PROBATE COURT FOR
THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND

In re: ESTATE OF RUTH C. GOULD, Deceased.

It is Ordered that on August 9, 1966, at 9 a.m., in the Probate Courtroom, Pontiac, Michigan, a hearing be held on the petition of Gloria R. Armstrong for the admission to probate of an instrument purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of said deceased, and for the granting of administration of said estate to the petitioner, the executrix named therein or to some other suitable person, and to determine who are or were at the time of death the heirs at law of said deceased.

Publication and service shall be made as provided by Statute and Court Rule.

DONALD E. ADAMS,
Judge of Probate
Dated: June 29, 1966
Harold A. Larson, Atty.
3106 West 1 Mile
Farmington
July 6, 13, 20, 1966

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Looking Back in the Files

5 Years Ago
JULY 6, 1961
Civil Defense
Ninety-nine persons received Civil Defense medical certificates in May. Mrs. A. Jarvis, nurse coordinator for Farmington Township Civil Defense, announced this week.

City Hall Remodeling
Work got underway Monday of this week on a substantial amount of remodeling work to be done at Farmington City Hall this summer.

10 Years Ago
JULY 5, 1956
Record Building
New home construction in Farmington Township is continuing at a record pace according to the latest tabulation of building permits issued during the second quarter of this year.

New Voting Machines
Public demonstrations on the use of voting machines will be conducted in the city prior to the August 7 primary election.

15 Years Ago
JULY 4, 1951
Oldest House of Worship
The Universalist Church at Warner and Thomas Streets, Farmington's oldest house of worship, is preparing to celebrate its 100th anniversary in 1953.

Twenty-five lots on Wilmarth, State, and Maple Streets, part of the Warner Estates have been turned over to Harry S. Wolfe, Farmington realtor, for home sites.

The Farmington Enterprise

"A Continuing Journal of Progress" Established 1853
P.O. Box 435 33623 Farmington Road, Farmington GR. 4-4225

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