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Philip H. Pover, Publisher



RAIN DIDN'T DAMPEN these spirits at the Founders Festival. The crowd was waiting for the final judging of the Elks Beard growing contest Friday night when the downpour started. From the expressions on their faces it seems that the rain added to the festivities.

Township Planners To Struggle Again On Problem Corner

Farmington Township Planners will wrestle with the township's "problem corner" at Middlebelt and Northwestern again Thursday (Aug. 24) night when the commission holds its monthly meeting.

Originally scheduled for consideration in July, the proposed rezoning for a combination apartment and single homes development was postponed when all public meetings were cancelled because of the Detroit riots.

A public hearing on the proposal will be held during the meeting beginning at 8 p.m. at the O. E. Dunkel Junior High School on 12 Mile Rd. just east of Farmington Rd.

The request which has been filed for the 24-acre parcel is substantially the same as was first filed for the property in 1964.

Specifically, the request, filed by Ivan Frankel Co. of Birmingham, calls for the rezoning of approximately 14 acres for apartments and the remainder of the land for single family homes.

In 1964 opposition from the residents of the northeast corner of the township caused the planners to deny this proposal. A year after Planning Consultant Charles Leman recommended it.

The owners then filed a proposal for an apartment on the corner and the residents again objected. Again the planners denied the request despite a recommendation for approval by Leman.

This time it seems that most of the opposition to rezoning of the corner, which is currently zoned for single homes, has died out.

In the covering letter to the application for rezoning, The Frankel Co. notes that "The proposed land use plan is essentially the same as evolved in 1964 and favorably reviewed by Planning Commission subject to public hearing. The opposition defeated the proposal. However, there have been positive changes in neighboring attitudes which tend to indicate that this proposal may now be the acceptable solution."

"This proposal for land use (Continued on Page 4A)

City Council:

Majority Wins on Paving Two Nature Trails

Majority rule carried the day Monday night when the Farmington City Council voted to drop the concrete paving project on Brookdale between Nine Mile and Grand River.

At the same time, however, the council directed City Manager John Dinan to determine whether the residents would support an asphalt paving project.

This would cost about \$5 a linear foot rather than the quoted \$12 price for the concrete. The addition of curbs and gutters to the street would add about \$3.50 a foot to the price.

The council action came after the residents of the street appeared in masse before the council to oppose the project.

This action by the residents came after the necessity of the project had been determined and after the city spent an estimated \$2,000 on engineering costs. The council voted to make a survey of the resident's desires and stated that the majority would rule.

Dinan told the council that 75 per cent of the residents returned the city's questionnaire on the concrete paving project while 20 were opposed.

The new proposal calls for a seven inch "deep strength" asphalt surfacing with the addition of some drainage. Dinan told the few Brookdale residents who were at the council session that this would improve the situation.

A show of hands among these residents indicated that seven were in favor of the asphalt while six people were opposed. On the strength of this the council directed Dinan to conduct the survey.

In other action the Council:

- Passed a resolution calling for a change in administrative procedures for traffic signal improvements from the authority of the state highway department to the district traffic engineer.
- The council noted a city's long standing battle to have a light installed at Powers Rd. and Grand River in passing the resolution.
- Gave its approval to the first phase of a three-part program proposed by the Planning Commission for the development of nature trails.
- Heard a progress report

City Planners Propose

A three phase program has been developed by the Farmington City Council for the creation of two nature trails and another city park.

The nature trails ran into some political flack from Councilmen Howard W. Thayer and Hugo E. Peterson when it was originally proposed.

That was just after the re-slaying of two young girls in a deserted Westland field. Thayer charged that the creation of nature trails would invite deviates and psychopaths into the currently undeveloped area.

The first phase of the program will be to make a new trail in the existing city park. The trail will travel northwest along to the Rouge River and will be approximately 1,500 feet long.

It was suggested that local Boy Scouts, garden clubs, and biology classes could be used to clear out and improve the area.

Phase two would be the development of another trail across the river. A foot-bridge would connect the two trails.

The other trail would run north of the river to Shawwassee. John Dinan, city manager, said that this trail would cut through some private property. He said the city needed permission of the owners to use the land.

Development of another city park is the last phase. It would be located in the same area north of Shawwassee as the second proposed trail.

Dinan said that the cost of the first trail would be small. All the city needs is shovels, he said.

Phase two would cost more than the first because of the need for the foot-bridge.

The third phase is the most expensive. It would take a little longer to complete than the other projects and that it would be more sophisticated than the trails, according to Dinan.



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Friday... A Bad Day For Youth

Last Friday was one of those days for William Joseph Francis, 20, of 24887 Edgemont, Southfield. He couldn't seem to do anything right.

In the morning he pleaded guilty to carrying a concealed weapon at the City of Farmington's Municipal Court and in the afternoon he pleaded not guilty to a charge of reckless driving at the Township's Justice Court.

Municipal Judge Dennis Pheny fined Francis \$30 and \$10 court costs. Township Justice of the Peace Byron (Continued on Page 4A)

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Set Registration For Story Hours

Registration for preschool Story Hours are now being taken at the Farmington District Library.

As in the past, this activity is open to all four-year olds. There will be two sessions, one at 10:30 a.m. and the other at 1:30 p.m. each Tuesday.

The first session will be held Tuesday, Sept. 26.

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Money Shortage Cuts Road Work

Oakland County's Board of County Road Commissioners has announced that the county has been forced to cutback on several types of maintenance services on all county roads throughout Oakland County.

The services halted are a complete discontinuance of roadside mowing on all county roads except in emergency situations and discontinuance of all tree trimming, except where a definite hazard exists.

County Highway Engineer, Paul Van Roekel, said "We are just plain running out of money."

Roekel said that the road commission is not in a position to raise funds for itself and it, therefore, depends completely upon the state legislature for operating capital.

Roekel said that there will be a special session this October in Lansing. There is a good possibility that the package will come before the legislature again. He said that if it fails to pass this time the commission will not be able to function as it should.

Uniforms Ready For FHS Band

With the opening of the school year close at hand, all Farmington Senior High School Band members are requested to report early to be fitted for their complete band uniforms.

A busy football season will face the band as soon as school opens. The first home game at which the band will march is Friday, Sept. 15 when Farmington Senior High meets Bentley High School.

It is important that all of the band members get their uniforms before beginning of school. This will permit use of band class time for preparation.

All juniors and seniors are requested to get their uniforms on Monday, Aug. 28 and sophomores on Wednesday, Aug. 30. The uniforms will be distributed in the band room between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

It will be to the advantage of the band members to report at their scheduled time to assure themselves of a properly fitted uniform.

McKaig Assigned

Army Private John H. McKaig, II is assigned to Company C, 9th Battalion, 3rd Brigade, at the United States Army Training Center, at Ft. Knox, Ky. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. McKaig, 31845 Bella Vista Dr., Farmington.

Nothing Stopped The Founders Festival

The Third Annual Farmington Festival is now history despite postponement and poor weather.

The Festival was originally scheduled for July 27, 28, and 29, but was postponed to last weekend because of the Detroit riots.

Crowds were in attendance at most of the Festival events and merchants and concessions reported that even the rain failed to keep the people at home.

Commenting on the Festival Russ Gilbert asserted that "the festival is here to stay." Gilbert has been active in planning and promoting the Festival since its start in 1965.

Despite the rain and cloudy skies during the three days only two of the scheduled events were cancelled.

The Farmington Jaycees were forced to cancel the barbeque in the City Park on Saturday afternoon. The Jaycees announced that re-funds would be made to those persons purchasing advance tickets when the tickets are returned with their name and address to Box 33, Farmington.

The City-sponsored square dance, which would have concluded the Festival on Saturday night was also cancelled because of the rain.

Friday night, however, the rain did not slow down the dances at the community-wide dance sponsored by the Township Police Officers Association. The merry-makers simply moved under the cover of the walk in front of the stores at the Denery Center.



THE TOWNSHIP MOUNTED POLICE led the Festival Parade on Saturday. Overcast skies had the festival planners worried, but the rain held off until afternoon. In spite of the threatening weather, crowds lined the Grand River parade route to see this highlight of the Third Farmington Founders Festival.



THIS TRIO of lovely misses was featured left: Gloria McKenna of 29114 Greening in the Festival parade. Representing the Blvd. Queen Tammy Leemy of Detroit; American Legion and the VFW are, from and, Debra Smith of 21109 Laurelwood.



LOOK MA all these pictures. At least that seems to be the reaction of Thomas McDonald of Hillcrest Drive at the Farmington Artial Club Exhibition at the City Hall on Saturday. The day-long art exhibit has become an annual feature of the Founders Festival.