

An Editorial

WHEN FARMINGTON Township residents go to the polls Monday to vote on the incorporation proposal they will also elect a nine-man charter commission.

Whether you vote yes or no on the incorporation question (The Farmington Enterprise & Observer believes a "No" vote is called for) you should vote for nine of the 16 candidates for the commission. They will serve only if the proposal passes.

We believe that the nine-member commission should be knowledgeable about local government and should represent all segments of the community.

From the field of 16 there are 10 candidates who, in our judgment, should be elected.

THESE candidates are:

EDWIN C. BLUMBERG, a local family doctor; this is his first entry into the political arena. He is noted for his ability to "get the job done" and will bring a fresh approach to the commission.

JOSEPH T. BRENNAN, Brennan is the township attorney and has a background and knowledge of municipal law which will be valuable to the commission.

RICHARD L. GOULD, A new face among the candidates, Gould is an architect with a background in urban planning. This knowledge is crucial to an area growing as rapidly as the proposed City of Farmington Hills.

FREDERICK LICHTMAN, A member of the Citizens Council for Community Development which has worked hard to spearhead the drive for incorporation, Lichtman has shown a knowledge of both the advantages and pitfalls of city government.

The Citizens Council is running a slate of four candidates who are committed to the platform of maintaining the density controls and the right to petition and referendum by the residents. The other well qualified candidates on the Citizens' Council slate is **ROBERT PIERCE**, its president.

Both Lichtman and Pierce are lawyers and seem to have an understanding of the complexities involved in writing a charter. Either one of these candidates would be an asset to the commission.

MARGARET SCHAEFFER, Mrs. Schaeffer is the only woman in the field of candidates. A Detroit lawyer, she has been a resident of the township for a number of years. We think that her point of view will help achieve a balance on the commission.

L. DAVID STADER, JR., A member of the township planning commission, Stader has a good knowledge of the projected growth of the area and of the philosophy behind the current township planning. He is committed to the idea of planning to provide for an industrial base with some apartments and maintaining the present population density.

CHARLES H. WILLIAMS, the current president of the Farmington Jaycees, Williams is an auditor. As such he has a knowledge of municipal financing and budgets which is necessary in framing a responsible and efficient city charter.

ALDO VAGNOZZI is a familiar face in the area as the spokesman for the Democrats. He is a political animal (and there is nothing wrong with this) and has a knowledge of local and state government. With all the other outspoken or nominal Republicans on the commission he will also help to provide a balance.

KENNETH W. VESEY, An engineer, Vesey would bring another kind of talent to a commission already weighted by lawyers. His background as a sales engineer has provided him with experience in dealing with people. While he has no specific professional background in government, his approach might not tend to be as rigid as the "experts."

FROM THE STATEMENTS of these candidates both at various public meetings, in campaign literature, and in answer to the candidate's questionnaire prepared by this paper, these 10 represent a good cross section of informed opinion.

Included among them are out and out consolidationists, along with those who say that an independent study should be conducted and those who simply want to see the township incorporated into a home rule city.

The outcome of both the election and an area study, if conducted, is doubtful. However, we believe that these people are reasonable and responsible. From the work of these commissioners should emerge a workable charter which is responsive to the wishes of the residents.

—The Farmington Enterprise & Observer

Citizen's Council Objects To Paper's Stand

EDITOR:

The Citizens Council for Community Development takes strong exception to your editorial on Oct. 18 opposing incorporation. Many of the arguments were not factual. Many of the assumptions were not realistic.

You assumed that an objective consolidation study could be carried out if incorporation is defeated. We do not see how this is possible. True, the citizens of the City of Farmington could study at leisure any data presented to them. But the Township residents would still be faced with the threat of annexation—an imposed pressure that would make impossible any objective study efforts.

You suggest that the Farmington city council should be asked to "give up any thoughts of any annexation until a complete study of local government in the entire area can be made." City officials have absolutely no control over annexation efforts which can be, and are, initiated by private citizens. And how reliable would be any data collected if the boundaries were changed through annexation during or immediately following the collection of the data?

THE FUTURE Farmington Area Study Committee was established to obtain facts regarding the area and to make them available to all citizens. We at no time questioned or challenged the Committee's objectives. Specific recommendations as to what changes should be made in local government, if any, were not collected by the Committee's objectives although that assumption has been made by many voters.

THE OPINIONS expressed in your editorial appear to have been based on limited information gathered at the only meeting on incorporation you chose to attend. More information—much more—was available to you.



OLD BASKETBALL TEAM—One of Farmington High School's original basketball teams was organized by the boys themselves with one of the teachers for a coach. In 1915 the high school had no organized athletic department. Members of the team are (top from left): George Walters Lee; Cyrus Cox; George Gildemeister; Howard Osmus; Norman C. Lee; (bottom from left): Chester Pickett; Gus Gustoffson; Ralph J. Auten, coach; Carl Goers; and Willard Travis.

Pollution Is Reviewed By House

State Representative Raymond L. Baker (R-Farmington) announced that the Michigan Resources Commission will hold a public hearing on proposed watercraft pollution rules on Thursday, Oct. 26 in Lansing.

The 64th District Representative said, "I hope many people from our area will take the opportunity to express their views on these proposed pollution control regulations."

Baker said that the main objective of the proposed rules is to regulate the use of marine toilets.

Toilets on boats will be outlawed as the rules are written, unless equipped with a device to retain all waste materials or treat it so it is rendered non-pollutational.

Baker said that the commission had requested that persons wishing to testify at the Oct. 26 hearing submit a written summary of their views and evidence in advance.

This, however, is not mandatory and adequate time will be given for the expression of all views and opinions on the proposed pollution control regulations.

CHARLES H. WILLIAMS, Charter Commission Candidate, President, Farmington Jaycees

to you. For example, you state "the advocates of incorporation say Farmington Hills would get an increased share of the state gas and weight tax." This, you should know, is not speculation—it is fact. Incorporation automatically returns these tax revenues to you.

Further you question whether this tax rebate "would be enough to balance the expenditures needed to support the city administration." This rebate is not used for support of a city administration—it is for road maintenance and would be over \$100,000 annually in excess of what the county currently allocates for the same roads. This is another fact which you should have known, and which was available to you.

The first responsibility of a newspaper, as we see it, is to seek out the facts—all the facts. Surely you will agree that the opportunities were there. Our president and many of our members, including those running for the Charter Commission, were known to you. We suggest that a more objective and accurate editorial would have been possible had you obtained the facts. We devoted 10 months to a gathering of them; we would have been happy to have shared them with you and your readers had you offered us the opportunity.

You imply that a vote for incorporation represents "an irreversible step." This is not so, so you should know. A yes vote on incorporation expresses nothing more than the citizens' willingness to review a proposed charter, and if not to his liking, he will reject it. Not only is a future study still possible under a yes vote, but the opportunity for an objective approach is further enhanced by having our boundaries protected for a long enough period of time to carry out the study.

And we beguine in the intelligence of Farmington voters who will undoubtedly reject a charter if the results of a study suggest consolidation to be the better course. A yes vote affords the voter the opportunity for another choice at a later time.

IT SEEMS strange to us that you agree so readily with our diagnosis of the ills that beset the township, and yet you would deny citizens the right of self-determination, through incorporation, to cure those ills.

Are we to go on indefinitely with volunteer fire protection for 35,000 residents, an undermanned police department and impassable roads?

We offer Township residents a voice at the polls to correct these ills; you offer only further study, further debate, and further argument for an indefinite period of time.

The Citizens Council for Community Development has defined the problems, gathered and analyzed the facts, conscientiously studied the alternatives and is convinced that

He Agrees!

EDITOR:

I commend the position that your newspaper has taken in urging a "No" vote on Farmington Township incorporation. I had stated to think that I was the "long haul" in attending public meetings and being the only active candidate opposed to incorporation on the basis that a comprehensive study should be conducted first before action is taken.

The proponents of incorporation have agreed that they have acted in haste for the purpose of protection of boundaries. I agree that the protection of boundaries is important but definitely feel that there is no need for scare tactics. Let's remember that only eight per cent of our total tax dollar is committed to the support of our Township government. The loss of a section in annexation, even our undeveloped industrial area will not have a strong bearing on the eight per cent that we pay.

More important, we divide our community into five separate government units. Is this protection of our boundaries? Is it right to take the tax base of the industrial area away from the remaining Township? Do we have a greater right to the industrial park than they? Remember, they are paying taxes for the Tarabust Sewer Arm also!

Let's get on with the study by Michigan State University for the good of the entire community. Let's call for a moratorium on further annexation until the study can be completed. Then we are in a position to make an intelligent decision on the future of Farmington.

CHARLES H. WILLIAMS, Charter Commission Candidate, President, Farmington Jaycees

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(Formerly of Farmington Barber Shop)
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incorporation affords the best opportunity for the well-planned and controlled future of the community.

KENNETH F. PERRIN, Farmington Township Citizens Council for Community Development

EDITOR'S NOTE: This letter was addressed personally to Philip H. Power, publisher of the Farmington Enterprise & Observer. The references to "your editorial" and "your one visit." The editorial expresses the collective attitude of the Enterprise & Observer, and was put together by staff members. The people involved have been following the incorporation campaign, both for publication and our information, since the petitions were filed. The Citizens Council is correct when it asserts that a home rule city receives a rebate from the state taxes which is used for road maintenance. These funds are, at times, used to finance other functions of city government.

THE Council is also correct when it states that the vote is a go-ahead to draft a proposed charter, which must be voted upon by the people before it can be implemented. The vote Monday is, however, the first step toward incorporation which we believe is an irreversible step.

Miss Poladian Is Candidate

Paulette Poladian, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul P. Poladian, 7178 Riverstone, Birmingham, was among the candidates for 1967 homecoming queen at the University of Michigan.

A senior at the university.

Miss Poladian was chosen to represent Phi Sigma Sigma sorority. She will graduate this year with a degree in Spanish and a degree from the school of music. She attended North Farmington High School.

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VILLAGE ELECTION

To the Qualified Electors:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That a Regular Village Election will be held in the VILLAGE OF QUAKERTOWN, STATE OF MICHIGAN

AT

1st Presbyterian Church (Knox House)
26165 Farmington Road
WITHIN SAID VILLAGE ON

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1967

FOR THE PURPOSE OF VOTING FOR THE ELECTION OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS, VIZ:

One Village President
One Village Clerk
One Village Treasurer
One Assessor
Two Councilmen

Notice Relative to Opening and Closing of the Polls
ELECTION LAW, ACT 116, P.A. 1954

SECTION 720. On the day of any election, the polls shall be opened at 7 o'clock in the forenoon, and shall continuously open until 8 o'clock in the afternoon and no longer. Every qualified elector present and in line at the polls at the hour prescribed for the closing thereof shall be allowed to vote.

THE POLLS of said election will be open at 7 o'clock a.m. and will remain open until 8 o'clock p.m. of said day of election.

MATTY STRASSER, Village Clerk

October 15, 22

Farmington ENTERPRISE & OBSERVER

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