



Audited Circulation
12,242
As of June 30, 1967

The Farmington

ENTERPRISE & OBSERVER

This Week's Press Run

95,100

10 Cents

Vol. 80, No. 33

Wednesday, January 17, 1968

74 pages this issue

Philip H. Power, Publisher

An Editorial

The move on the part of the Farmington Township officials to sponsor a township-only governmental study rather than to join forces with the city and two villages might be smart politics, but it is irresponsible government in light of the needs of the total Farmington community.

It also reflects an astounding change in the philosophy espoused by the township board slightly more than a month ago.

It's irresponsible because the township is not an entity in itself. It is a part—an important part—of the Farmington community.

It's irresponsible because it indicates a reversal on the part of the township officials from their original agreement to participate in an area-wide study.

IN NOVEMBER, Township Trustee Earl Oppertbauer proposed that consolidation petitions for the entire 36-square-mile area be filed and a study on the question be completed before the election.

Oppertbauer asked the four governmental units to "cooperate on a per capita basis to pay the cost of hiring a professional firm to make a detailed and objective study."

The township board adopted a resolution going along with Oppertbauer's proposal on Nov. 27, 1967.

The resolution asserts:
"The primary purpose of this proposal being to preserve the status quo of all communities until a development study can be made, reports completed and decisions made on the alternatives for the future development of the Farmington area."

"Be it further resolved, that the Farmington City and Council and the Councils of the Villages of Quakertown and Wood Creek Farms be urged to consider the same action so that such a study could in truth and in fact actually be made 'without any outside political influence or activity so that conclusions can be derived by unbiased and objective determination.'"

WHAT HAPPENED?

Not long ago the township board went on record as supporting, in principle, an area-wide study.

Last Thursday, however, the township board heard a proposal made at its invitation by Donald M. Oakes, a private consultant based in Grand Rapids.

Oakes proposed a study that would "assist Farmington Township in studying the pros and cons of incorporation and consolidation and the impact of them on the people of the township."

From the acceptance of an area-wide study to a township-only study in slightly more than a month is fast footwork.

Unfortunately, the township board has persisted in casting itself as the "heavy" in all dealings with the study committee.

It was township action which blocked a proposed study idea in May 1967.

It is township action which has stalled the implementation of any study idea to date.

WE HAVE NO quarrel with the previously stated township position of exploring more than one study idea.

We do have a quarrel, however, with the blatant sandbagging of the study committee and its proposal which took place last Thursday night.

The trustees put the MSU representatives on the defensive about the East Lansing proposal. The board members questioned every single aspect of the outline submitted.

After more than an hour of this barrage, the MSU people were allowed, to relinquish the floor and Oakes took over.

Oakes read a one-page letter, previously mailed to Township Supervisor Curtis H. Hall and spent the rest of his time listing his many clients throughout the state.

The trustees listened politely, asked a few questions, heard Oakes express some doubts about working for anybody other than the township and then adjourned the three-hour meeting.

One had the impression that the presentation was a mere formality.

SUCH ACTION on the part of the township officials is dangerous.

The township is the largest of the four governmental units which make up the community.

If the township officials continue down the road toward an independent study, the people of Farmington (city, villages and township) will suffer from the short-sightedness of this policy.

We think that the people of the township and all of Farmington deserve better treatment.

—The Farmington Enterprise & Observer

Police Win Bargaining Acceptance For Two Separate Organizations



WIND SWEEP WASTELAND—Looking east from Halsted Rd. on Monday morning, Grand River looked like anything but a main thoroughfare.

Snow whipped across the roadway at 40 miles an hour and piled the 11-inch snowfall into huge drifts.

Tyler Is Promoted To Coach

Richard Tyler, 32, who held the head football coaching job at Farmington High School as an interim assignment in 1965, was returned to the position on a permanent basis this week as successor to Robert S. (Bob) Mistle.

Principal James Geiger, in announcing the personnel switch said Mistle, 40, had requested that he be relieved of his coaching assignments in football and baseball.

Tyler will succeed him in both head coaching roles.

MISTLE joined the FIS staff in 1964 as assistant grid mentor and head baseball tutor. It was announced that although he will continue on the faculty as an instructor in social studies.

In the two seasons he directed the Falcon eleven, 1966 and 1967 Mistle's team compiled a record of seven victories, 10 defeats and one tie. His team was 6-3 in 1966 and dropped to 1-7-1 mark last fall.

TYLER WAS a star athlete in his own prep days at Farmington High School, graduating in 1953.

He joined the faculty in 1957 immediately after graduation from Eastern Michigan University, being hired to serve both as a social studies teacher and assistant coach.

Study Agencies Contrast

Academician or pragmatist? In brief, if a comprehensive study is made of Farmington area governmental alternatives, will it be by a classroom-oriented agency or by one born of municipal firing line experience?

Michigan State University's Institute for Community Development Services has offered to conduct such an analysis as an educational research project headed by Special Consultant Kenneth Verbarg.

Although Verbarg now is attached to the State Department of Education, he formerly served the Institute as a coordinator and in 1960 authored a treatise entitled "A Study of the Legal Powers of Michigan Local Governments."

This recently has been dated in light of changes wrought by Michigan's new constitution.



DONALD M. OAKES
Pragmatist

Aiding Verbarg in the assimilation of information from the Farmington community's four governments would be other MSU political science experts and research specialists.

The Institute's proposal has been recommended at a fee of \$5,000 by the Future Farmington Area Study Committee, supported by the city and two villages, but it hasn't gotten off the ground because of a lack of township endorsement.

THIS IS where Donald M. Oakes, head of a Grand Rapids public management consulting firm, enters the picture. Oakes is as much a practical voice as Verbarg is a scholar.

Before he hung out his shingle as a consultant eight years ago, Oakes had served as city manager of three different Michigan cities a total of 17 years.

However, where MSU has geared its proposal to a study of all of Farmington, Oakes has made his bid to the township alone.

THE BUG in that prospect

If It Is News, Then We Have It

Continuing its expanded news coverage during the blackout caused by the strike of Metropolitan Detroit dailies, the Observer Newspapers offer choice items for the pleasure of all readers.

Roundup of national news, Page 2A.
Livonia Police nab 13 in narcotics raid, Page 3A.

Three in Observerland die of heart attacks from shoveling heavy snow, Page 3A.

State and local news roundup, Page 3A.
Wayne County Ponders major rubbish campaign, Page 8C.

Roundup of news from around the world, Page 13C.
Senators Hart and Griffin vote alike on most issues, Page 13C.

Highlights of Gov. Romney's state of Michigan address, Page 15C.
Packers still best in professional football, Page 2B.

Centennial of Governments does little in General Assembly meeting, Page 8C.
Editorials on Page 14C.

Area obituaries, Page 7B.
What's doing in the world of women, Pages 1-3C.

Continuation of Observerland churches, Pages 4-5C.
Week-long television programs, Page 4F.

Crossword puzzle, Page 4F.

The City of Farmington police officers have grouped themselves into two separate organizations for bargaining with the city.

The City Council Monday officially recognized the Farmington Public Safety Officers Association and the Sergeants of the Public Safety Department as two bargaining agents for the officers and supervision in the department.

A total of 15 officers and sergeants is included in the groups. Not included are the department's cadets, its female clerks or Director of Public Safety Robert F. Deaman.

CITY MANAGER John Dinan told the council that the city administration would begin meeting with these organizations along with the union representing the Department of Public Works employees during the week.

"This will provide ample time to review the employees' and the city's positions before the budget is submitted to the council," Dinan observed.

In his report to the council, Dinan asserted: "We believe that it is a healthy situation for management and personnel to sit down and discuss economics, working conditions and other related matters so that both positions can be discussed and understood prior to the development of any recommendations for the next fiscal year budget."

IN OTHER ACTION the Council scheduled two public hearings for 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 5, on rezoning matters. Both of the questions had been recommended to the council by the City Planning Commission. The specific proposals: Rezoning to allow the con-

struction of apartments on Farmington Rd. north of Maple Nut.

Construction of a combined motel, apartments and neighborhood shopping center to be constructed on Grand River just west of the new Chatham Hills development.

Charges Set For Tap-Ins

Tap in fees were established by the Farmington City Council Monday night for those people tapping into the Oakland County Sewer and Water facilities.

This action affects the residents of the portion of the city that was annexed in 1966.

Last week the city and township jointly agreed upon a contract with the Oakland County Department of Public Works for the payment of the facilities in the area.

Residents of the area from the west line of the Woodcroft Subdivision to Halsted and from Grand River south to the city limits would be required to pay a water connection charge of \$100 for each unit.

Under the terms of the ordinance an apartment building would have to pay a \$100 tap in charge for each apartment unit in this area.

The residents of the area bounded by Drake Rd., Halsted, Grand River and the southern city limits will be required to pay \$200 for a tap in to the sewer system and \$100 for water.

Courage To Help Others Is Hailed At Prayer Breakfast

Farmington's first Community Leadership Prayer Breakfast this week heard each man's courage to help another, called the answer to making each community "a city of God."

George E. Gullen, Jr., vice-president for university relations of Wayne State University and the president of the national council of YMCA's addressed more than 50 leaders of Farmington area governmental, civic and business affairs Monday morning in Himmelpach restaurant.

HIS THEME was "Revelance In A Time of Revolution," and he declared: "In God's scheme of things, when we are rightly attuned to God's concept, then life is good."

"But although God called life good, He never promised it would be easy."

"A city that understands God

is the city that will live." Referring to riots and burnings in American cities, Gullen said, "One of the first fruits of the scriptures is guts. The Negro has found his guts, and it's about time."

"We need to face today's problems realistically, with courage, with guts. History is full of the burning and sackings of cities and there will be more. But if cities are to be successful experiments in living, it's up to the individuals to find the courage to let others have opportunity for success."

"All of history suggests that the answer lies in each man's activity to help someone else—help in education, help in housing, help in providing an opportunity for financial assistance, or help in finding dignity."

THE BREAKFAST was sponsored by the Jaycees "in an

effort to bring to our community an opportunity to discuss and discover collectively the foundation stones of our nation's life."

It was modeled after a similar affair held annually since 1952 in Washington, D.C., and others which have been staged in numerous American cities since then.

The program was conducted entirely by laymen.

Mayor Wilbur V. Brotherton delivered the opening prayer, and President F.J. Orsini of Quakertown read a passage from the Old Testament.

A New Testament reading was given by Township Trustee Earl C. Oppertbauer, who the closing prayer being offered by President William E. Brown of Woodcreek Farms.

Chairman was Dr. John H. Richardson of the Jaycees, and vice-president Art Hill of the Jaycees delivered the welcoming comments.



PRAYER BREAKFAST LEADERS — Laymen who had principal roles in Farmington's first Community Leadership Prayer Breakfast, included, from left, President William E. Brown of Wood Creek Farms; President F. J. Orsini of Quaker-

town; Vice-president George E. Gullen, Jr., of National Council of YMCA; Trustee Earl C. Oppertbauer of Farmington Township; Mayor Wilbur V. Brotherton of the city; and Dr. John H. Richardson, chairman of the event.

Sidewalks, Snow Topics

The subject of sidewalks and enforcement of the city ordinance requiring the cleaning of snow came under considerable discussion at Monday night's meeting of the Farmington City Council.

What prompted the discussion was a story in the Jan. 10 edition of The Enterprise & Observer discussing the lack of enforcement of the city ordinance.

THE COUNCILMEN proposed that City Manager John Dinan prepare a budget on just how much it would cost the

city to clean any walks which were not shoveled.

This cost would then be passed on to the property owner as the ordinance provides for this city action if a walk is not cleaned within 24 hours.

Dinan told the council that private contractors did work in the city to clear the snow in the past, but that interest in the service was so slight that the contractor discontinued the work.

Councilman Howard Thayer termed the ordinance as "one that can't be enforced."