

5 Cities Think U.S. Checks Too Small

An Observer Roundup
Juggling of federal revenue sharing figures resulted in five local communities getting less than they anticipated as their first checks arrived last week.

When the balancing act was finished, Livonia, the City of Plymouth, City of Farmington, Garden City and Westland ended up with less than their original projections.

Wayne County also experienced a loss — nearly \$1 million under — original projections. This loss may cripple attempts to build a jail.

In contrast, Southfield and Plymouth Township received more than they anticipated and Redford Township, Lathrup Village, Canton Township and Farmington Township received almost exactly what they expected.

MOST LOCAL officials were satisfied with the amounts they received, but both Livonia and Wayne County officials were frankly disappointed.

The federal government hasn't explained why the

figures varied from original projections. The checks were for the first six months of 1972. In January, the checks for the first six months will be mailed to local units.

Livonia's first check of \$120,000 was \$125,000 short of projections. If the amount of the first check set the pattern, Officials received a check for \$11,500 from the U.S. Treasury Dept. last week. This puts the city's annual allotment at \$83,900, a two per cent increase for the city's \$1.5 million budget.

Livonia Mayor Edward McNamara plans to go to Washington in January and determine why the funds were short. Officials considered using the funds for a third city ice rink and park facilities.

WAYNE COUNTY had anticipated \$15.5 million per year but will receive \$11.7 million if the first check of \$5.8 million was correct. Officials had relied on the funds for creating a \$9 million deficit and creating a surplus which would be set aside for capital improvements.

Officials hoped to use 1972 and 1973 funds for construction of a jail after voters

turned down a bond issue for the facility in November.

The anticipated \$7 million surplus in 1972 and 1973 was virtually eliminated by a traffic loop and parking lot reduction in shared revenues.

The City of Plymouth will get \$40,000 less than the original projection of \$122,000 if the first check set the pattern. Officials received a check for \$41,500 from the U.S. Treasury Dept. last week.

WESTLAND'S finance director, Leonard Bartos, said the city received \$218,900 for the first six months of 1972 and had estimated an income of

\$230,000. Bartos said the city anticipates \$460,000 annually and explained the discrepancy saying the government was withholding one per cent for future adjustments.

Garden City fell \$50,000 short of original projections when it received its first check of \$156,000. Clerk William Opper said the city anticipated \$352,000 rather than the \$312,000 it may receive now.

Sen. Robert Griffin's (R-Mich.) office attributed the difference to omission of small

towns from original projections, Opper said. He was told by Griffin's office that nothing can be done about retrieving this year's "lost" money.

SOUTHFIELD'S first check totaled \$137,500 bringing the annual total to \$275,000 — or \$45,000 more than was anticipated.

Although officials couldn't explain the increase, they said the funds would be used for expansion of the municipal building, development of a

senior citizen-youth center and rental of space for the probate division of the 46th District Court.

Plymouth Township received \$138,000, bringing its annual share to \$276,000. Township officials said the check was higher than expected.

Canton Township's first check was for \$18,400, bringing its annual share to \$36,800.

Canton Clerk John Flodin said the township didn't know "what it was going to be,

practically, until we received it."

A similar opinion was expressed by Redford Township Supervisor Bill Robbins, who said the first check totaled \$193,700. This indicated the annual share will be the expected amount of \$287,000.

Farmington Township should receive the anticipated \$162,000 since its first check was \$81,000.

Lathrup Village received \$9,700 for the first six months of 1972 indicating it will get \$19,400 annually.

Park Concessions Open For Bids

Sealed bids are being accepted by the Dept. of Natural Resources in Lansing for leasing concessions at 12 state parks and recreation areas in Michigan, starting with the 1973 season.

Lease bids covering these operations may be made for one, three, and five - year periods, preferably the latter.

Sealed offers are to reach the DNR's Parks Division in Lansing by 10 a.m. Jan. 8, when they will be publicly opened for awarding of the 12 concession leases.

Each bid is to be submitted on a percent - of - gross basis not exceeding 16 per cent of the concession's total sales.

FOLLOWING IS a list of concessions open for leasing and their latest annual gross receipts:

Park store: Bay City State Park, \$10,696;

Bathhouse concession, park store and boats, Burt Lake State Park, \$33,309;

Bathhouse concession, Grand Haven State Park, \$13,270;

Park store, Hartwick Pines State Park, \$21,780;

Bathhouse concession, Highland Recreation Area, \$6,189

Park store and bathhouse concession, Lakeport State Park, \$22,227;

Bathhouse concession, Mears State Park, \$12,778

Big Fish Lake Bathhouse, Ortonville Recreation Area, \$8,828;

Bathhouse concession, Pontiac Lake Recreation, \$20,242;

Bloomer No. 2 Unit park store, Rochester - Utica Recreation Area, \$7,448;

Bathhouse, park store and boats, Van Riper State Park, \$11,717; and

Bathhouse, park store and boats, Wilson State Park, \$15,770.

FIGURES FOR the Highland and Rochester - Utica operations cover the 1971 season. Their concessions were not in business in 1972.

Details on bidding procedures and descriptions of the offered concessions may be obtained from each of the 12 state parks and recreation areas, and from the Parks Division's Lansing office in the Stevens T. Mason Building.

OU Has 2 Optical Programs

ROCHESTER University's division of continuing education announces a new ophthalmic optometric assistant certificate program and revision in two certificate programs.

The new program offers courses in medical science background, optical theory and methodology, and business procedures and communications. The program was developed to train aides to perform pertinent office duties delegated by the doctor and to handle optical dispensing.

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