

Microwave firm moves out of Hills

Omni Spectra, Inc. of Farmington Hills will move headquarters and product development activities to Merrimack, N. H.

The company is a leading manufacturer of microwave electronic components and subsystems.

Presently the corporate headquarters and OSM Division are located at 24000 Hallwood Ct. The Farmington Hills plant will continue to operate as a manufacturing and engineering facility.

The OSM Division designs and produces miniature coaxial connectors and microwave components for a wide range of communications, satellite and commercial electronics applications.

Omni Spectra has additional plants in Dover, N. H. and Tempe, Ariz. The Dover plant produces microwave connectors for the OSM Division. The Arizona company, Microwave Subsystems Division, manufactures high

technology electronic counter-measures equipment. Omni Spectra's Security Products Division produces microwave security systems for commercial and industrial applications.

"The move to New Hampshire will be in phases," a company spokesman said. "Sales and engineering will be moved within the next two weeks."

Company President William P. Sharpe explained the move. "We selected the New Hampshire site because it puts us in proximity to major electronics markets and to our vendors. New Hampshire is an excellent location for well-trained technical people and the state offers a skilled and enthusiastic work force."

The company eventually plans to employ about 300 people in the Merrimack facilities which include a 25,000 square foot manufacturing plant and an 18,000 square foot office and laboratory building.

Federal funds give unemployed jobs

A new federal program will give Farmington Hills \$511,000 to hire unemployed workers for the city.

A new version of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) signed into law recently by President Gerald Ford will give the city five times the money it previously provided. City manager George Majoros said the city may be able to hire twice as many formerly unemployed workers, depending on the job classification.

Officials are now assessing their employment needs.

The city currently has 22 people employed with CETA funding, many of whom are part-time summer help. The additional money, Majoros estimated, may translate into 13 full-time positions.

AN EXACT NUMBER of job slots is not yet available.

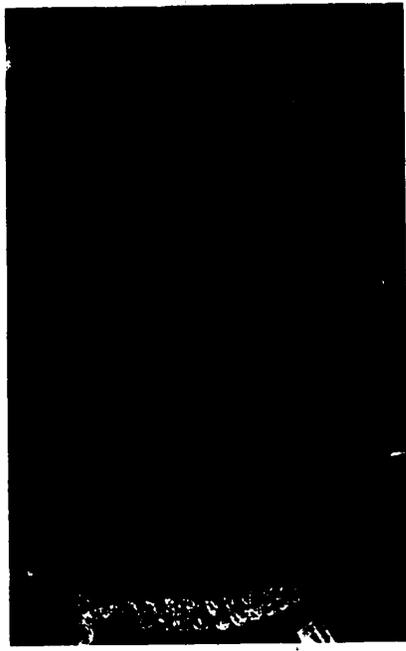
To use CETA funds, Farmington Hills must hire city residents who have been unemployed from 15 to 30 days.

Majoros reported at Monday night's council meeting the city would be re-

sponsible for one-eighth of the cost of the planned improvement of Drake River Avenue.

The avenue is slated to be widened to five lanes and resurfaced at a cost of \$43,000 to the city. The construction, which may begin later this year, will be between Drake Road and the I-96 intersection, Majoros said.

In other action Monday night, Oakland County Commissioner John MacDonald presented the city with a plaque from the Oakland County Board of Commissioners.



Maybe next year

Debra Miller, contestant in the Miss Farmington Pageant, awaits the judges' decision. Although losing, Miss Miller says it was a worthwhile experience. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

T. H. Grant *Geologist*

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