

Schools 'Almost' Reject Rink

FARMINGTON
The City of Farmington plans for a civic arena-ice rink received a reprieve Monday night when the Farmington school board ordered a study of the district's needs for the site proposed.

Although likely to emerge in a drastically altered form, the proposal for the ice arena remains alive by the school board's action.

SEVERAL WEEKS ago, city councilmen set forth a plan to build a \$3-million civic arena, featuring an ice rink, on a site owned by the school district near Farmington High School. A major prerequisite for the city's original plan was donation of the use of six acres of school land.

Elections Can Be Inexpensive

FARMINGTON
Conducting a primary election campaign can be pretty expensive for candidates not facing elimination.

Candidates assured of a spot on the general election ballot can save their money for the "big" campaign.

THAT'S THE conclusion which can be drawn after examining expense accounts forms filed with the Oakland County Clerk's election division.

By law, the campaign expense reports were to have been filed by Aug. 15. However, as of Aug. 31, six candidates for Farmington Township offices had not filed their reports.

Those failing to file expense reports were: Supervisor Curtis Hall; Supervisor-Elect Earl Teeple; Mrs. Jean Nankervis, the unsuccessful treasurer's candidate; William Hatton and David Stader, trustee candidates; and H. George Reaume, constable candidate.

The law requires filing even if the candidate did not spend any money during the campaign.

AMONG THOSE filing reports were six candidates who reported not receiving any contributions and not spending any money during the primary campaign.

All four candidates not spending money did not face elimination in the primary election Aug. 4.

Candidates who did not spend any money were: Floyd Cairns, running unopposed for clerk Nov. 4; Harris Berger, lone Democratic nomination for treasurer and facing Thomas Nolan Nov. 4; and two constables assured of election, William Stoenberg and Bernard Christy.

Also among the frugal candidates was Earl Oppenhausser, incumbent trustee, hopeful of re-election. Oppenhausser reported he did not receive any contributions and spent only 12 cents for two six-cent stamps.

Dr. Burton Levy, trustee candidate, reported a \$28 contribution from the Farmington Democratic Club and an expenditure of \$28.52 to mail letters.

Mrs. Nyla Archer Wells, unsuccessful treasurer's candidate, spent \$15.22, which must have been from her own pocket because she did not report any contributions. The money was spent for printing done by News Tribune Publishing.

THE BIG SPENDER, among those candidates reporting, was Nolan, who faced the most opposition with two Republicans running against him for the treasurer's nomination.

Nolan reported contributions totalling \$540 and expenditures of \$515.82. His fund balance is under negotiation with a printing company which delivered bumper stickers "very late," Nolan reported the \$163 for bumper stickers was still under discussion.

Among those contributing to Nolan's campaign expenses were four doctors, a lawyer and an insurance man. All were Farmington area residents except B. Polotzker of Detroit who donated \$25.

Other Nolan contributors were: B. Gross, \$100; Emanuel Maisel, a member of the Future Farmington Association, \$100; Dr. Edwin C. Blumberg, \$100; Dr. Richard Knight, \$50; Dr. A.J. Searchilli, \$50; Dr. P.A. Parente, \$25; M. Rosenhaus, \$50; R. H. Bergstrom, \$10; Harold Larson, attorney and member of township's police review board, \$50.

Among the expenses were: \$216 for signs; almost \$100 for newspaper advertising; \$95 for printing; and \$68 to day dis-

tributors of campaign materials and sign placement.

THE COUNTY clerk's office said reminders will be sent to candidates who have failed to file expense reports.

Candidates must file reports even if they did not spend any money. Committees working for candidates must also file expense reports.

It is generally known that money was spent on behalf of three of the six candidates who did not file expense reports.

A letter was mailed promoting Hall's candidacy by an ad hoc committee which was also not listed with the assumed names division of the clerk's office.

Expense incurred in mailing the letter must, by law, be reported by either Hall or the committee.

MONEY WAS also expended for Teeple's campaign but not reported as required by law. Either Teeple or his backers spent money for political signs during the primary campaign.

Mrs. Nankervis, or her backers, spent money for political leaflets and newspaper advertising.

It is not known for certain if either Stader or Hatton spent or received money during the campaign.

Reaume probably did not spend any money because he was one of three constable candidates assured of election in November. There were four constable positions open and only three candidates filed.

School Board trustees seemed unanimously in rejecting the donation idea when first proposed. The school board's public hearing on the issue where most persons who spoke also were against the idea.

Monday night at a special session, the school trustees reinstated their opposition to donating land to the city but were careful not to end all consideration of the project.

AFTER LENGTHY haggling over wording of a motion on the city's plan, trustees finally ordered the district's administration to study future need and present use of the proposed site.

"I think we're all agreed we're not going to give the land away," Trustee Aldo Vagnozzi commented shortly after discussion on the subject began.

At the public hearing, ideas for the changes in the plan included a joint city-township building authority to find a new site and the possibility that the school district might sell the land for the arena.

BOARD PRESIDENT John Washburn III noted ice arena plans have been adequately discussed.

"We're here tonight not so much to debate the merits of an ice arena but to decide whether the property is available," Washburn said.

Trustee Ken Perrin then moved to deny the city's request for the land. His motion was defeated by a vote of 5-2.

Washburn and Vagnozzi argued that Perrin's motion went beyond merely stating the school district will not donate the land, which is on the west side of Orchard Lake, north of Shiloh street.

Perrin answered by noting the city had made a specific request which included donation of the land.

"It merely turns down this proposal," Perrin said.

SEVERAL CITY councilmen attended the school board session, including Dr. John Richardson, principal city spokesman for the plan.

Richardson agreed that the school board should determine if the land is available. If the school district can't donate the land, it should determine its value so an offer to buy could be considered, Richardson said.

The city councilman added that the city will not consider another site until the Orchard Lake property is discarded.

Richardson was quick to admit further investigation into the ice arena plans is needed.

"I certainly feel it needs more study and exploration before it's decided this is not the place for it," Richardson said.

The school board should decide "whether or not you have a use for that property," the councilman said.

FARMINGTON CITY Mayor Wilbur Brotherton agreed the district should decide the fate of the Orchard Lake site.

"As far as I'm concerned, you've got to go one step further and decide whether the land is available for any reason," the mayor commented.

After city representative spoke, school trustees seemed ready to allow the proposal to remain under consideration with the understanding that the land won't be donated.

Trustee Gary Lichman noted that "as long as our feelings are clear, action from us is inappropriate."

RICHARD PETERS first suggested the administration study the present and future use of the land.

"There is no point in going through a couple of sets of proposals and then finding out what these people need to know right away," Peters said.

He recommended "at least a study to indicate whether there is a need to keep that property."

Ren. Emmitt, recently elected trustee, commented: "It is quite obvious to everyone in the room what our feelings are." He noted time is needed for further study.

Vagnozzi supported Emmitt's feelings.

"What I would hate to do is slam the door tonight on this proposal," Vagnozzi said.

Emmitt urged the ice rink supporters to continue their efforts.

"There is tremendous amount of interest outside of the city in the ice rink," he commented.

TOWARDS THE END of the meeting, after city representatives had left, Peters mentioned a problem largely dismissed by Richardson.


He noted that Little League baseball diamonds now occupy the proposed site and the Little League use could justify retaining the site.

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