

the farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

Wednesday, December 22, 1971

15¢ a Copy

today's hot line

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what's inside

Accountable!

Many country weeklies print legislators' columns, but Observer Newspapers takes pains to check up on how your state senators and representatives voted on the hot issues in Lansing—wiretapping, a Detroit stadium, welfare, billboards. Clip and save these for the next election.

Pages 8A, 12B

Annexation & Paving

The Farmington City Council Monday night adopted a formal resolution requesting annexation of two parcels in Farmington Township previously asked to be attached to the city. At the same meeting, councilmen set a hearing to pave Drake Rd. with asphalt from Grand River south to the city limits.

Pages 3A, 7A

No Holiday Papers

Observer Newspapers will not publish weekend editions on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, the Christmas and New Year's holidays respectively.

Publisher Philip H. Power said the unprecedented decision was made in order to give employees and carrier boys and girls a full holiday weekend.

In addition, ONI offices will be closed on the two Fridays preceding each holiday—Dec. 24 and 31. The main office at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, and the Southfield office at 20099 W. 12 Mile will thus be closed from Thursday at 5 p.m. until Monday at 9 a.m. for each holiday weekend.

A trend has been developing in the metropolitan area to suspend publication on such holidays, Power noted.

Deadlines for the editions of Dec. 22 and 29 will be the normal Wednesday edition deadlines: Monday at noon for women's and church news, Monday at the close of business for general news, and Tuesday at 11 a.m. for classified advertising.

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Happy Holidays

The Observer wishes you
and your family much
happiness during this
holiday season.

observer
newspapers

36251 Schoolcraft Rd.
Livonia 48150

Main Office Want Ads Home Delivery
261-5800 622-0900 261-3800

Teachers Strike Averted; Contract Settlement Reached

By EMORY DANIELS

A settlement was reached Saturday afternoon, averting a possible teachers strike in Farmington Schools.

The board of education voted unanimously to accept the new contract Tuesday night and the ratification meeting of teachers is expected to be called almost immediately after the Christmas holidays end.

The overall salary increase is four per cent with individual hikes ranging from 2.5 per cent to six per cent.

The new pay pact will cost the district an extra \$270,000 more than last year's contract. Supt. Roderick J. Smith said he was relieved there would be no strike the first of the year and especially pleased a two-year contract could be negotiated.

AGREEMENT was reached on a layoff policy, but the question of class size was sidestepped with the contract allowing an increase of up to 17 per cent without violation.

The first year of the two-year contract will begin Nov. 15, expiration date of the 90-day wage freeze, and it was agreed that increments from last year's contract would be paid for the 90-day period if approval is given by the federal Pay Board.

Negotiations had reopened

Friday, Dec. 17, and continued until mid-afternoon the next day when the final offer of the board's negotiators was accepted by the Farmington Education Association (FEA), Sole bargaining agent for Farmington teachers.

LEROVY BARTAN, the board's chief negotiator, said the salary settlement was within the financial limits established by the board.

Robert Neuhauser, FEA president, said the union is pleased with the contract and will recommend ratification to teachers who will meet when school resumes.

Negotiations had been called off and a fact-finder asked to settle the remaining dispute on salary for first-year teachers.

THE NEW contract will give first-year teachers a salary of \$8,200, a 2.5 per cent hike over last year's \$8,000 starting plateau.

The teacher with a bachelor's degree and 10 years' experience in the district will receive \$13,850, a hike of almost five per cent over the old contract pay step of \$13,200.

The highest a teacher in the district can be paid in the new contract will be \$16,175, an increase of about six per cent over the previous master's maximum of \$15,300.

NEUHAUSER said the settlement was about the same as the FEA's last informal offer, although Bartman claimed the FEA's last official offer in writing asked an overall eight per cent hike.

The new contract places Farmington School District about one-third of the way down in comparison with what other school districts in Oakland County are paying teachers. The contract provides teachers will maintain the same ranking for the second year's pay scales.

Neuhauser said the layoff provision was especially important to the FEA because of a recent ruling by the State Tenure Commission that districts were not required to give 60 days notice if the layoffs were caused by serious economic problems.

The policy provides the district cannot lay off teachers unless they are notified at least 45 days before school ends in June that they will not be retained in September. The staff may be reduced, however, by failing to hire to fill vacancies of teachers who leave.

Neuhauser said only three-fourths of the new pay rate will be paid by the district because the FEA did waive

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Deadman Acting City Manager

By EMORY DANIELS

Robert Deadman was named acting city manager, effective Feb. 1, by the Farmington City Council Monday night.

Deadman, the city's public safety director, will assume

the position on an interim basis when City Manager John Dinan leaves office Feb. 1. Dinan has resigned to pursue a private career in business and the city is advertising nationwide for a permanent replacement.

DEADMAN was selected when it became apparent there would not be sufficient time before Feb. 1 to hire a permanent city manager.

It has been suggested Deadman could become permanent city manager should he perform satisfactorily and desire the job if a more qualified candidate fails to apply.

The public safety department is now testing its officers for the position of lieutenant, a rank being created to provide a temporary command officer during Deadman's tenure as acting city manager.

"We felt the need for a lieutenant on our force, and this change has provided the impetus to create the position and begin testing," Deadman said.

DINAN, who announced his resignation last month, has been city manager for 11 years and was assistant city manager in Oak Park before coming to Farmington. He is a registered civil engineer.

Mayor Wilbur Brotherton said Monday night the council agreed unanimously in "executive" session that an acting city manager should be appointed and that Deadman was the best choice.

Brotherton said an interim appointment had to be made promptly to give the department enough time to replacement enough time to

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ROBERT DEADMAN
Acting City Manager

Board Adopts Athlete Dress Code

By MARTHA MAHAN

Farmington High School athletes will return to classes after the new year under revised dress and grooming code.

The standards, part of a set of new athletic guidelines, were approved unanimously by the board of education Tuesday night with little discussion.

Perhaps because of holiday

diversions, few were in the audience and none volunteered comment. In contrast, standing room only crowds fought similar grooming restrictions in the spring of 1970.

The new code reads: "It is desirable that hair and sideburns be of reasonable length. They must not create a health or safety hazard or be a detriment to the skill

proficiency of the participant; excessive hair and mustaches must not be worn;

"Only clothing issued by the department of athletics will be permitted to be worn for contests."

Violations may be penalized by suspension from athletics but a series of appeal steps is established.

A student, under the new code, may appeal to an

executive committee composed of secondary school principals and the director of athletics, which has the choice of inviting coaches and student government representatives to serve temporarily as advisors.

An appeal from the executive committee may be taken through administrative channels to the board of education.

Board attorney Robert Kelly said he saw "no problem" with the new standards, legally speaking, and called them "more defensible" than earlier proposals.

Trustees Aldo Vagnotti and Dr. Mervyn Ross expressed concern that coaches had not been given copies of the new guidelines before the board

was asked to take official action. But Supt. Roderick Smith said the revisions had been discussed with the staff and coaches "are not entirely without knowledge" of the new standards.

"I feel that there are some individual coaches who would like some words changed," Dr. Smith said, "but basically it (the new code) has very strong support."



LITTLE GIRLS give Santa Claus tall orders during the Christmas season, but Santa is ready to fill them Saturday. Mothers (from left) are Mrs. Tom Sweede, Mrs. Charles Schroeder and Mrs. Pat Jankowski, who took the kids to Crowley's Christmas party. Santa holds Cathy Schroeder, 6, Tammy Sweede, 6, and Sherry Schroeder, 4. Raggedy Ann's soft knees are a seat for Kim Jankowski, 5. The color photo was produced on the new Goss Metro offset press of Observer Newspapers Inc., who wish you a joyous holiday season.

Board Denies HTK A Hearing

By MARIE MCGEE

The touchy question of a multi-million dollar shopping center on 13 Mile between Halstead and Haggerty Roads in Farmington Township seems to be settled for the moment.

There will be none for the time being following action taken by the Farmington Township Board of Trustees at a special meeting Monday night.

THE BOARD voted to honor the request of HTK Corp. of Southfield asking that the firm's request for a public hearing be withdrawn. The action takes the board off the hook and puts any future action in the hands of the developer.

The request was contained in a recent letter from the Southfield-based firm which also asked that the township delay in setting the date for a

previously requested public hearing on the controversial development.

The letter stated that if the trustees felt compelled to take action, they could reject the request.

HTK's letter to the board was interpreted to mean that by withdrawing the request for a public hearing the firm was no longer interested in seeking the rezoning that would have to be done to allow the shopping center in what is now a residential zone.

"Feeling compelled to take action," the board resolution by Trustee David Stader said, "the board agrees to honor" the HTK withdrawal request.

A second resolution, also sponsored by Stader, stipulates that if HTK Corp. should reactivate the request it must begin all over again with a new submission of the proposal to the planning commission.

Trustees felt the withdrawal action was a safer route to go than an out-and-out rejection of the plan.

It was pointed out that by rejecting the proposal, the developers could have recourse in circuit court. The second resolution was a safety measure, board members felt, in the event the Southfield firm was merely interested in dodging the public hearing.

IN OTHER township business, Supervisor Earl Teeples reappointed four planning commissioners and set a definite period of time for each term of office.

Appointed to three-year terms ending in 1974 were: Robert McConnell, Grace Richardson, and Douglas Mann. Also reappointed was Barbara Benyo but her term will expire in 1973.

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