Gain Says Proposed Township Water System "Is Not Dead" - - - Page 1

FARMINGTON'S OWN HOME COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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SIXTY-NINTH YEAR — NUMBER 15 FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1957 SIXTEEN PAGES

TOWNSHIP TO SEEK PROPERTY FOR TWO NEW FIRE STATIONS

Offer Contract For City Owned Industrial Site

Council Accepts Bid Of Federal Industries

A contract offer to purchase 10 acres of city-owned land, south of the Grand River Cut-Off between Farmington and Gill Roads, was awarded to Federal Industries Incorporated of Southfield Township, by action of the City Council at its regular meeting Monday evening.

Two bids were received for the property, with the contract going to Federal Industries at a bid price of $22,000. The other bidder was the Langlois Tool and Die Company of Detroit. The contract was offered subject to the arrangement of a satisfactory agreement between the two parties on the conditions of the purchase. The Council indicated that it would request some assurance that the firm would construct a building on the site in the near future. According to officials this is the last remaining parcel of land in the city-owned acreage south of the Cut-Off.

DESPITE the fact that Federal Industries offered $3,000 less for the property than Langlois, it was generally agreed that the city would benefit more in the future by awarding the contract to Federal Industries. This was based on the fact that the plant they propose would have a substantially higher yearly inventory thus providing more tax returns and would hire a considerably larger number of men. The plant with equipment as proposed will have an estimated valuation of one and one-quarter million dollars and will hire as many as 400 workers.

A proposal that the city renew a one-year contract with the Township Board authorizing the Township police department to use City

(See COUNCIL, P. 8A)

THE FIGHT against polio isn't won yet and young Bruce DuBois, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald DuBois of 28260 Newcastle, apparently knows it. Bruce, not yet five years old, is shown above making his small contribution to aid in the fight by dropping his pennies into a March of Dimes canister, one of several in stores and business places throughout the community.

Announce New Projects To Benefit Annual March Of Dimes Campaign

Issue Plea For Additional Volunteer Workers To Assist During Annual Mothers' March

A growing list of activities is being organized on behalf of the 1957 March of Dimes campaign as the annual Farmington area drive moves into its second week.

A special March of Dimes booth has been set up in the lobby of the Farmington branch of the National Bank of Detroit under the direction of Mrs. Marion Nelson. The booth is being operated during regular banking hours. Various civic and service organizations, including the Blue Star Mothers, Eastern Star and American Legion Auxiliary are assisting with the collection of funds at the booth.

Plans are also underway for a polio benefit bake sale to be held within the next few weeks. Mrs. Lou Schaupeter is in charge of the sale. Members of the various Boy Scout troops in the Farmington area have a polio display at Farmington Sales and Service which they prepared as part of their project for the month of January.

On Saturday, January 19, members of the Boy Scouts will also take part in the annual Blue Crutch Day project. The Boy Scouts will be stationed at key locations throughout the various business centers of the community during the one-day campaign.

March of Dimes officials stated that volunteer helpers are still needed for the annual Mothers' March which will be held on January 31. Anyone interested in helping is asked to call the chairman in their area. The chairmen are: Kathryn Cotter, City area, phone GR. 4-5114; Mary Legg, Township area, phone GR. 4-2584, and June VanZant, Clarenceville, GR. 4-1996.

RECOMMEND VOTE ON PROPOSED CITY ANNEXATION

The Boundaries Committee of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors has recommended that the proposed annexation, from the Township to the City, of a strip of land along the east side of Farmington Road between Eight Mile and Nile Roads be placed on a special election ballot.

The Committee suggested that the election be held on Monday, April 1. Property owners in the area to be annexed as well as the City of Farmington will vote on the proposal. The Committee recommendations will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for formal action at their regular meeting on January 17.

Vote Registration Deadline Set

Legal notices are being published and posted this week designating Monday, January 21 as the final date of registration for the Biennial Township Primary Election.

Floyd A. Cairns, township clerk, stated that new registrations will be taken Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Applications should be at the township clerk's office in the Town Hall. Only those persons who are not already registered need to make application.

On the final day of registration, January 21, the clerk will be in his office, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. for the purpose of accepting new applications and reviewing the existing registration list. Persons must be registered by the deadline to be eligible to vote in the February 18 Primary Election. Any resident of the Township having questions about his registration status is urged to contact the township clerk prior to the deadline.

The purpose of the Township Primary is to nominate candidates from the various political parties for township office.

City Participation In Joint Water Sytem Doubtful

Council Voices Concern Over Cost Of Project

At an informal conference held last Thursday evening, individual members of the City Council expressed reluctance in committing the City to participate in the proposed joint Farmington Township water system.

Although no formal action was taken, the Council members generally agreed that it would not be advisable to join in the program at this time. Prior to the discussion, Lawrence Pate, engineer, explained the plan and cost figures on the proposed system, which would include portions of Farmington and Southfield Townships as well as the City of Farmington.

THE COUNCIL members expressed concern over the additional cost of bringing water from the City of Detroit, in view of the present bond issue which is currently being levied against the existing well system. It was also pointed out that considerable alteration of existing mains within the City would be required to make the system workable. Additional storage and pumping facilities might also be required. Under the proposal, the City's share of the cost of the main system would be approximately $384,165.

There was some discussion of the advantages of participation in the program, including softer water and a more dependable source of supply. It was the general opinion of the councilmen that the City's supply is ample for present needs, however it was suggested that cost figures be obtained on the possibility of installing water softening plant. It was also recommended that an estimate be secured on the cost of running a separate main of sufficient capacity to serve the City of Farmington from the Detroit system. This would be used for comparison purposes and as a guide for possible future need.

Plan Board Action On H. S. Furniture

The Clarenceville School Board is expected to take action at its regular meeting Thursday evening on the style and type of classroom equipment and furniture to be installed in the new high school building.

Members of the Board, the administration and the teaching staff examined various styles and types of furniture during a special showing last Thursday. A total of four companies were represented at the showing. They included the McFadden Equipment Company, the Oglesby Equipment Company, the Michigan School Service and the Standard School Service. The various Board members, administrative staff and teachers will submit their preferences prior to the Thursday meeting.

As soon as the general type of furniture has been selected adver-

(See BOARD ACTION, P8A)

TOTALLY DEMOLISHED was the 1955 Chev. convertible shown above in which a local boy was fatally injured in a two-car auto accident on Farmington Road just south of the city last Friday night. Township Police Chief Irving Yakes is shown above pointing out the twisted steering wheel and other damaged parts of the car. Roy Maki of Farmington, driver of the auto, was killed when the car rolled over on him after being hit in the rear by another vehicle and driven into a ditch. Two teenage girls also of Farmington and passengers in the Maki auto, suffered only minor injuries. William Critcher, driver of the second car involved in the accident, was not injured.

Roy Maki Fatally Injured In Auto Accident Friday

Two Local Teenage Girls Injured In Crash

Roy Maki of 21177 Flanders Street was fatally injured Friday evening shortly after 9 p.m. in a two car auto accident on Farmington Road at Stocker.

Maki, 19, died as the result of serious head and chest injuries suffered when the car which he was driving overturned after being hit in the rear by another vehicle operated by William Critcher of 33720 Harlow, Farmington. Elaine Ryerson, 15, of 33018 Slocum, a passenger in the Maki car, suffered bruises about her back and head and a cut knee. Paula Natham, of 33076 Hayden, another passenger, suffered bruises about the head, shoulder and leg. Neither of the girls was injured seriously. Critcher was not hurt.

BOTH vehicles were heading south on Farmington Road when the crash occurred. Critcher told police that he did not see the Maki auto until he was almost on top of it.

He swung out to pass Maki and apparently misjudged the distance, police stated. The Critcher vehicle smashed into the right rear of Maki's auto and drove it forward into the ditch where it overturned. Critcher's car was spun around by the impact and ran into a ditch but did not roll over.

The fatality is the first to be recorded in the Farmington area in 1957. Roy's father, Arthur Maki, is Township building inspector.

Temporary League Of Subdivision Associations Formed In Township

Representatives Elect Governing Board To Draft Proposed Constitution And By-Laws

The initial step toward the formation of a permanent League of Subdivision Associations in Farmington Township was accomplished Monday evening with the election of temporary officers for the new organization.

The officers will be charged with the responsibility of drafting a proposed constitution and by-laws for the League and setting up the basic committee organization. Prior to the election of officers, the group, including representatives from 21 out of 24 organized subdivisions in the Township, unanimously approved a resolution to form the temporary organization. The resolution was introduced by Harry Lang, Jr., of Woodcreek Farms and seconded by Dr. Bernard Schmidt of Franklin Forest and Fairways and I. B. Kaufman of Holly Hills.

After some discussion, the representatives approved a motion that the Residents Committee officers continue to serve as members of the Board of Directors of the temporary organization. These officers include: Elliott Rogers, Robert Nelson, George Squires and Kenneth Fuoco. The group then nominated and elected five additional members with the provision that the Board select its own officers. The five additional members are: Frederic Fairchild, Arnold Michlin, Charles McCaughan, L. W. Beals and Robert Burton.

THE CHAIRMAN of the meeting, Elliott Rogers, emphasized that the proposed constitution and by-

(See LEAGUE, P. 8A)

Schedule School Bus Driver Class

Farmington will be the next stop for the Michigan School Bus Driver Education program which is sponsored by the State Department of Public Instruction in cooperation with Michigan colleges and universities.

School bus drivers from Farmington, Novi and Clarenceville will participate in the local program, which is scheduled for January 10, 17, 24 and 31. The series includes 12 hours of instruction designed to provide better training for school bus drivers and greater protection for children riding school buses.

Merton J. Turck, instructor in the College of Education at Michigan State University, will conduct the classes, including first aid, safe driving practices, the Michigan Vehicle Code, emergency procedures and the role of the school bus driver in the total education program.

Plan Appointment Of Committee To Study Sites

A resolution, providing for the appointment of a three member committee to select two pieces of land as proposed sites for future fire hall buildings, was approved by the Township Board at its regular meeting Tuesday evening.

The resolution, as introduced by Trustee Fred Westlake, stipulates that the committee be composed of three members of the Township Board. It also proposes that one location could be in the Gill Road-Eight Mile section and the other could be in the Twelve Mile-Farmington Road district. During the disecussion, Westlake stated that he had no specific parcels of land in mind but was concerned with only the general location of the sites. No specific action was taken on the appointment of the committee.

A letter of resignation was received by the Board from Joseph Measel, member of the Township Planning Committee. Measel stated in his letter that he was advised of his re-appointment to the newly organized Planning Committee through reading it in the paper. He added that if the Board had contacted him prior to the selection of members he would have declined the appointment. Measel stated that he believed it was advisable to appoint someone who could devote more time to the job. He urged greater cooperation between the Township Board and the Planning Committee and suggested that more prompt consideration be given to the Committee's recommendations and that steps be taken to implement a master plan and subdivision controls. The Board accepted Measel's resignation with regrets.

THE BOARD approved a motion to rezone two lots at the northwest corner of Middlebelt and Ten Mile Roads from Residential Two to Commercial. The Zoning Board had recommended that the request be denied on the grounds that it involved "spot zoning." Albert Gain, Township Supervisor, stated that in view of the fact that there is considerable commercial property in the area and that the site is not suitable for residential use, he was of the opinion that the property should be rezoned. James Randolph, who owns property opposite the site, stated that he had no objection to its being rezoned.

Floyd A. Cairns, Township Clerk, stated that he had obtained an estimated price on the purchase of a truck with grader blade through the Oakland County Road Commission, in the amount of approximately $12,000. It is proposed that such equipment be purchased for repair and maintenance of

(See TOWNSHIP, P. 8A)

Community House Meeting Planned

Plans have been completed for the first annual meeting of the Farmington Community House Association to be held Monday, January 14, in the cafeteria of the Farmington senior high school on Shiawassee Street.

The plans were formulated at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors held last Monday. Reports from all standing committees will be presented at the annual meeting and five new Board members will be elected. William Conroy, membership chairman, stated that new members will be welcomed at the meeting. Applications for membership will be available at the high school Monday evening, thus affording all interested individuals an opportunity to join and participate in the election of new Board members as well as any other issues which may come before the meeting.

It was revealed that the Community House Association now has more than 700 members with approximately $2,000 in the treasury. It is hoped that the new year will result in even greater progress toward the Association's goal of establishing a Community House in the Farmington area.

The annual meeting is scheduled to begin at 8:00 p.m.

AROUND THE BLOCK

A REAL PRECEDENT . . . in efficiency and unity was set Monday evening during the temporary organization of the League of Subdivision Associations. Elliott Rogers, chairman of the Residents Committee, did an outstanding job in handling the meeting. The other officers of the Committee added materially to the value of the discussion through their explanation of the various objectives of the organization. A spirit of cooperation and direction was very evident among all of the representatives present at the meeting. It was an excellent demonstration of what can be done when civic-minded citizens work together in a common cause.

DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS . . . there should be considerable activity around the office of the Farmington Township clerk. The reason . . . between now and Monday, January 21 all persons who are not already registered in the Township must get their name on the dotted line if they wish to vote in the Biennial Primary Election. While the registration period is not expected to attract any great deluge, there are still a lot of citizens who are qualified but not eligible to vote at this point. We sincerely hope that the situation will be different at the close of business on January 21. All of us spend a lot of time talking about freedom and democracy, but how many of us actually do something about it? Let's not just be talkers . . . let's be doers!

SPEAKING OF THE TOWNSHIP . . . election, one familiar name will be absent from the list of candidates when voting day rolls around. Thomas Tardy, who has been a Township official for over 10 years, is retiring from public life. During his tenure on the Board, he has honestly and conscientiously attempted to serve the people of the Township. Like all public officials, he has been the subject of comment and criticism, but he has taken it without malice or bitterness. While we have not always agreed on points of issue, we have always found him very cooperative and helpful. He has made a substantial contribution to the progress of the Township and we wish him well in his future endeavors.

Explains Proposed Expansion

Supervisor Voices Confidence In Success Of Water Project

Albert Gain, Township Supervisor, reported to the Enterprise this week that regardless of some of the impressions obtained at the December 27 meeting of the Board, the proposed water system for Farmington Township "is not dead."

The Supervisor added that planning is continuing and in his opinion some real progress is being made. Gain stated that plans and cost estimates for the basic system have already been studied and analyzed and that the Board has authorized the engineers to prepare additional figures on expanding the proposed district from Ten Mile to Twelve Mile Roads. "I sincerely believe that a water system can and will be developed to serve portions of the Township in the not too distant future," Gain stated.

As a result of the discussion at the December 27 Board meeting, some misunderstanding has developed, the Supervisor added. "At no time did I imply that the proposed system could not be accomplished. I did express serious doubt that the present 2,400 home owners in the Township section of the proposed water district could afford to pay the estimated $2,500,000 for the system. However, this is one of the basic reasons why I was interested in securing cost estimates on expanding the district," Gain stated. The Supervisor suggested at the December 27 meeting that the Board authorized Pate and Hirn, engineers, to prepare cost figures on extending the system to Twelve Mile Road in order to reduce the unit cost per home and to obtain an advancement of funds from interested land developers to make the necessary bond issue more saleable.

Gain stated since the State is now requiring Townships to participate in the operation of new subdivision water systems and since numerous land developers have indicated an interest in advancing funds for the proposed system, it seems logical to expand the district. He added that this can be accomplished without any particular delay since the Township must of necessity wait for action from the City of Farmington and Southfield Township on whether or not they wish to participate in the proposed system. Gain stated that there is approximately 3,000 acres in the area north of Ten Mile Road and 500 acres in the area along Eight Mile Road west to Drake Road that could be added to the district. Developers of land in these areas have indicated interest in the system. "If these developers will advance sufficient cash toward the project, the unit cost of the system can be reduced substantially and the resulting bond issue will be far more attractive to bond buyers," Gain stated.

In connection with the water program, the Supervisor reported that rates have been established for the existing systems serving Kendallwood, Westbrook Manor and Old Homestead Subdivisions. The rates were set up by Joseph Lynch, consultant, based on an analysis of the charges made for water in all the areas surrounding Farmington Township as well as a study of the income that will be necessary to provide a working system for the Township.

The consumption charge has been set at $1.50 per 1,000 cubic feet. The monthly meter charge for a 5-8 inch meter, normal for home use, is 50 cents. Other charge rates have been set up for larger meters. Thus the minimum water bill will be $4.00 per quarter plus a sewage disposal charge of $4.00 per quarter, where homes are connected to a township operated disposal plant. It can be assumed that the average home owner will use approximately 2,500 cubic feet of water per quarter. His bill would be $3.75 plus $1.50 for three months meter service charge or $5.25 per quarter. To this would be added $4.00 for sewage disposal service if the home is connected to a township operated plant.

All bills will be due on the 15th of March, June, September and December. The Township has assumed responsibility for the billing operation, however the actual systems will not be taken over by the Township until there is positive proof that they are self-supporting.

City Delays Action On Traffic Lights

The Farmington City Council, Monday evening, withheld action on a request from the State Highway Department for joint participation in the cost of erecting new traffic lights at the intersections of Grand River and Nine Mile Roads and Grand River and Farmington Roads.

It was explained that the action was being delayed to allow more time for study of the proposals. Mayor Robert Lindbert stated that he still objected to the recommended location of the traffic light at Nine Mile. He added that in his opinion the light should be erected at Orchard Lake Road and Grand River. Earl Scherffius, City Manager, was asked to contact the State Highway Department and request that they have a representative present at the next regular meeting

(See TRAFFIC LIGHTS, P. 8A)

TAXES ON PERSONAL PROPERTY DUE THIS THURSDAY

City and Township merchants and businessmen are being reminded this week that personal property taxes must be paid not later than Tuesday, January 15, to avoid penalty while real estate taxes in the Township are payable up to March 1 without penalty.

Inside Features

Classified Ads	4A, 5A
Correspondence	3A, 3B, 4B, 5B, 6B, 7B, 8B
Editorials	Pg. 2B
Looking Back	Pg. 2B
Michigan Mirror	Pg. 2B
Church	Pg. 2A