

In Our Opinion

Decide on the Individuals Very Carefully

This coming Monday, city voters will go to the polls for the most important, if not the most important, election to select councilmen in the history of Farmington.

There are only three seats to be filled and there are more than this number of good, well qualified candidates running in the field of seven. For the past several weeks now we have been pondering over how much easier it would be for us to make our decisions if we had a seven instead of a five-member council. Regardless of the outcome of the election, The Enterprise feels that serious consideration should be given to the establishment of a seven-member council.

Even more importance exists in this election than any other that we can think of in the history of Farmington because of the fact that a group of three men have banded together as candidates to run as a team or slate in an effort to take over all three seats to be filled on the five-member council.

The three-man team is the FRS slate consisting of incumbent Henry Forrest, Robert Rogers and Ernest Sauter. They are waging a strong team effort. Despite frequent comments by each of these candidates that they would be independent candidates, if the team is elected it would not be the subject to the substantial number of citizens who have mustered to promote FRS, serious doubts still exist in our mind.

One or two good controversial issues involving business interests and home-owners could very well result in the team being fired together and making that time forward in deciding and voting as a unit against the remaining two members of the council on numerous issues.

The risk of winding up with a three-man controlled city council is too great in our mind for us to be able to pledge our support to the FRS team. Even a five-member city council is too small, in our opinion.

We strongly urge each and every city voter to consider and vote for the three men they consider best of the seven candidates on the basis of their own merits and qualifications only. Our comments and feeling about each of the candidates, ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS ONLY, follows:

One candidate who gets our whole-hearted and unqualified support is his wife, "Sandra". He has been in Farmington for seven years in a public utility council and planning commission. Brotherton has demonstrated to us an unflinching dedication to treat fairly both homeowners and business interests on matters that have come before the council. His willingness to devote extra time and effort to details and knowledge regarding problems and to carefully weigh the points made on both sides of the controversy or problem before making his decisions is most commendable. Brotherton's knowledge and experience is too valuable to the city to be lost. His efforts for the improvement and betterment programs have been helpful in getting in motion have yet to be completed.

Incumbent Henry Forrest has come up with many good proposals for city improvements in his four years as a councilman. He has shown a real willingness to devote time and energy to council matters. Unfortunately, however, Forrest has far too sharp a tongue and has frequently leveled cruel and unfair criticism against city employees, appointed city representatives to various positions, business people, fellow councilmen and citizens coming before the council. Frequent public ridiculing of this kind, often times before getting all the facts straight, is not a good attribute for any public official. Changing his position on matters when it has been discovered by him to be politically expedient, as he is another poor characteristic we note in Forrest. He has done much to raise controversy in city governmental operating affairs that has proven detrimental to the orderly and smooth operations of the city's government and we cannot in good conscience endorse him for re-election.

John Allen has had an important part in many of the improvement programs and projects undertaken in the city over the past eight to ten years and has an exceptionally good knowledge of building codes, zoning and what ingredients are needed for a truly fine community. A longtime local resident, Allen has demonstrated on numerous occasions a willingness to devote a lot of his personal time and energies on projects and programs having as their objective community betterment. His years of experience on the planning commission, coupled with his professional experience as an architect and in doing architectural work both for the city and people living here, make him a man who would be a very good addition to the council, we feel.

Of all the candidates, excluding the incumbents, none have demonstrated a keener interest in keeping abreast of matters to come before the council than Ralph Yoder. He has been an aid but a couple of regular council meetings since 1957, and to listen and not do political grandstanding. His attendance record has really been better than those of any number of the present councilmen themselves. In addition to this, Yoder is a member of both the city planning commission and the board of appeals and in these positions has demonstrated understanding and fairness in making his decisions. Almost a lifelong resident of this area, Yoder states that he has no vested interests other than in seeing Farmington become a better place to live in which to raise a family. We know that he makes this statement with sincerity. Yoder also would be a good addition to the council.

Of the FRS team candidates, Ernest Sauter has been the man who has impressed us most. He has demonstrated an ability to present his points of view in a constructive manner without making charges against individuals or flaring into rages. We feel that he has the ability to work with others in getting a satisfactory job done even though his views may be somewhat different from those he is working with. It is unfortunate that he has allied himself with two other men to form the FRS team. Could he divorce himself from the FRS if elected is the big question in our mind. We would feel far more prone to endorse him if he were running as an individual on his own merits and abilities. As an individual with no strings attached, he could be a very valuable man to have serving the city.

Virgil Cornwell, a local builder and developer as well as a city homeowner, played the major role in the move to get the badly deteriorating downtown business section back on its feet a few years back. He has some fine ideas on what must still be done to help make the city an even better and more balanced community with an improved tax base through proper redevelopment. He is a man with some very fiery characteristics who believes in diving into a project or problem and getting it done or resolved. Perhaps a man with this drive would be of value on our city council. Our concern, however, would be with whether he would be able to exercise enough controls over his personality to be able to work harmoniously and constructively with fellow councilmen and city employees.

Of the seven candidates, Robert Rogers is the candidate we have the most reservations about. Until some zoning, greenbelt and building regulation matters in his own immediate neighborhood came up, we can recall no real interest having been shown by Rogers in City of Farmington affairs. Dissatisfied with some of the actions of city employees and officials on matters affecting his own personal property, or at least which he felt did, Rogers has been carrying a chip on his shoulder ever since. He has acted as if to grant that could prove very detrimental to the city in its orderly future growth and development if he is elected. Rogers possesses the knowledge and ability to make him a good councilman but we feel that his motives, as we see them, for deciding to run for a council seat are all wrong.

Worth Making a Little Sacrifice For

Tax increases, tax increases and more tax increases.

This is very likely the thoughts of very many Farmington Township property owners as they ponder how to vote on the two library millage proposals to be on the Farmington Township April 5 ballot.

They have been our thoughts as well. But, ask you a question and answer it in a more honest before making your final decision, please. The question is this: Didn't I know when I moved to Farmington that it was a rapidly growing community with very little industrial and commercial tax base and few of the facilities that I would want for myself and my children and that there and more taxes were going to be needed to provide them?

After you have answered this question with sincerity then consider one more significant point. The one-half mill proposal is only asking you to continue pay-

ing what you are presently paying for library facilities. The three-quarters of a mill second proposal would place an adequate, modern new main library facility at a convenient-to-get-to location in the township itself at 12 Mile Road just east of Farmington Road.

What will the additional cost be to the homeowner in a house with a real market value of \$20,000 and a state income tax of \$1,000 a year? It would be approximately half this amount? The answer is about \$7.50 per year in additional costs over what you are now paying.

It represents less than three cartons of cigarettes a year or a couple of fifths and many more than three cartons of liquor or a modest dinner out for you and your wife.

We think that the value of an adequate public library system in our community is well worth sacrificing any of the above mentioned things.



TICKETS ARE GOING FAST for the Wayne State University theatre group production of Jack and the Beanstalk, to be staged this Saturday, April 2, in the Farmington Junior High School auditorium, sponsor for the Farmington Area PTA Council. Pictured above are Eagle School students with some of the adults helping to plan the fairy tale presentation in Farmington. The students are (L to R) Rick Sinko, Don Malsel, Allison Dusters, Keefe Brooks and Susan Hult. Pictured in back row are (L to R) Mrs. Rose Bogdanoff and Mrs. Emanuel Matel of the PTA Council and Eagle School Principal M. C. Cottrell.

Looking Back in the Files

5 Years Ago
MARCH 31, 1960
Street Paving
Bids were opened this week on several paving projects planned for this summer in the City of Farmington. Two major projects, the widening and paving of Farmington Road between Stoughton and Nine Mile Road and from Ten Mile Road to Shawwassee Avenue, are included among the projects.

Business Signs
Whether to allow merchants along Grand River Avenue to have signs extended into the City right-of-way in front of their stores is now under consideration from the Farmington City Council.

New Grade School
The new grade school planned in Farmington Township's Section 14 will shortly go under construction. The Farmington School District Board of Education approved a resolution at their regular meeting Monday night authorizing the architect to proceed with plans for the building, which will be similar in design to the Long-acre School.

No Parking Zone
The Farmington City Council has passed an amendment to the Traffic Ordinance establishing no parking zones along Grand River Avenue in the vicinity of residential intersections from 30 feet on the west to 30 feet on the east. No parking will be allowed on the north side of Grand River from Power Road east to Violent Street.

Spring Roads
A number of roads in the City and Township of Farmington are presenting problems to area residents who have found the going very rugged trying to negotiate over some muddy, near-impassable sections.

10 Years Ago
MARCH 31, 1955
Spring Election
Candidates seeking three available seats on the Farmington City Council to be elected in the Spring Election to be held next Monday, V. O. Bates, William L. Burke, P. S. Calkins, Frank E. "Red" Chapman, Francis A. Nichols, James M. Nourjian and Sylvester J. Pheneay are all seeking election to the Farmington City Council.

15 Years Ago
MARCH 20, 1950
Elected President
Donald Kobman, 20, a 1947 graduate of Farmington High School, has been elected President of Theta Chi Fraternity at Michigan State College. A junior majoring in English at State, Kobman was Captain of the FHS football team and President of his senior class at Farmington.

Falcon Thindlands
A record number of prospects have turned out for drills with the Farmington High School track team, head coach Don Hossler reports.

Roads Go Out
The City and Township of Farmington was paralyzed on March 27 by muddy roads, churning into a pudding consistency by vehicles and covered by water which was unable to drain away due to the ground level. Mail deliveries were unable to be made in some areas served by dirt roads as long as four days. School buses, milk trucks and others found it necessary to route themselves around impassable roads.

PUBLIC LETTER BOX

Letters submitted to the Editor for publication and he signed. Names will be withheld upon request. Opinions expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the policies of this newspaper. Maximum length is 1,000 words.

Dear Mr. Isley:
Two weeks ago a Farmington resident wrote in expressing his dismay over the apparent adult apathy in the candidates running for State Senator. Monday night, I sent in an off-the-cuff letter, thirty-six teenagers were present. Following the question and answer period Mr. Roberts commented, "You kids really provide a tough and stimulating audience."
All in all, I think the evening again showed that tomorrow's generation is becoming an increasingly better, more mature, and prepared citizenry. Sincerely yours, Thomas A. Waring 33152 Maplenut

Looking For Bargains? Look no further than The Enterprise Classified Ads.

Praises TARS Work

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Properly-balanced wheels can actually "double tire wear" on your special wheel-balancing equipment checks unbalance... indicates exactly how much and where to attach lead counterweights like the one above. This inexpensive service pays off for you in longer life and a smoother, safer ride. It's just one more example of the excellent returns you get when you bring your Oldsmobile, Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac or Cadillac to Pioneer Olds for quality Guardian Maintenance services.

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Bonds Okayed For Twp Sewers

The Municipal Finance Commission announced that the Commission approved \$275,000 of "1954 Sewer Special Assessment Bonds, Series I" for the Township of Farmington, Oakland County.

The proceeds will be used to construct sanitary sewer in Special Assessment Districts Nos. 19 through 21 in the Township of Farmington. These bonds are payable primarily from a like amount of the future due and unpaid installments of special assessments in 14 annual installments, with the full faith and credit of the township pledged to meet principal and interest should the installments be slow in coming in.

John Clappison Sells Insurance Phone GR. 4-3511

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Local Unit	Voted Increases	Years Increase Effective
Walled Lake Consolidated School District	10.50	1953 to 1972 Incl.
	1.00	1980 to 1981 Incl.
	4.00	1982 to 1985 Incl.
	7.00	1986 to 1987 Incl.
	1.00	1988 to 1989 Incl.
Township of Farmington	2.00	1964 to 1973 Incl.
	1.00	1982 to 1981 Incl.
Farmington Public School District	12.50	1952 to 1970 Incl.
Oakland and Wayne Counties	9.00	1956 to 1973 Incl.
	3.00	1982 to 1986 Incl.
	5.00	1985 to 1972 Incl.
	2.00	1963 to 1973 Incl.
	3.00	1964 to 1973 Incl.
School District No. 5, Fre. of the Townships of Farmington, Livonia and Redford, Oakland and Wayne Counties	7.00	1961 to 1965 Incl.
	4.00	1962 to 1966 Incl.
County School District of Oakland County	1.00	1962 to 1966 Incl.
Oakland County College	1.00	1964 to 1968 Incl.
Schoolcraft College	1.00	1962 to 1981 Incl.

Notice Relative to Opening and Closing of the Polls

ELECTION LAW, ACT 116, P. A. 1954

SECTION 720. On the day of any election, the polls shall be opened at 7 o'clock in the forenoon, and shall be continuously open until 8 o'clock in the afternoon, and no longer. Every qualified elector present and in line at the polls at the hour prescribed for the closing thereof, shall be allowed to vote.

THE POLLS of said election will be open at 7 o'clock a.m. and will remain open until 8 o'clock p.m. of said day of election.

FLOYD A. CAIRNS, Township Clerk

March 24, 31

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and Himmelspach DINING ROOM

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33219 Grand River Farmington GR. 4-2161