

City Manager Gives Details on Project For Detroit Water

This is the second in a series of articles giving details about the City of Farmington's present water system and the proposal to convert to a Detroit water supply. City voters will be asked to go to the polls on Monday, April 11, to cast ballots on a \$250,000 general obligation bond issue proposal to finance the proposed conversion.

What amount of work will be involved in converting the entire City of Farmington over to Detroit water? There is a substantial amount of work involved and the costs for doing it are not minor.

Detailed engineering plans that have now been worked out set the total cost at \$249,000. This proposed project, however, is planned to meet more than just immediate needs. It has been planned to satisfactorily meet the ultimate water needs of the city within its present boundaries with only minor additional costs, if any.

BECAUSE of the substantial cost of the proposed project, it would be impossible to finance it with general funds. This is why voters are being asked to approve a general obligation bond issue to finance the work.

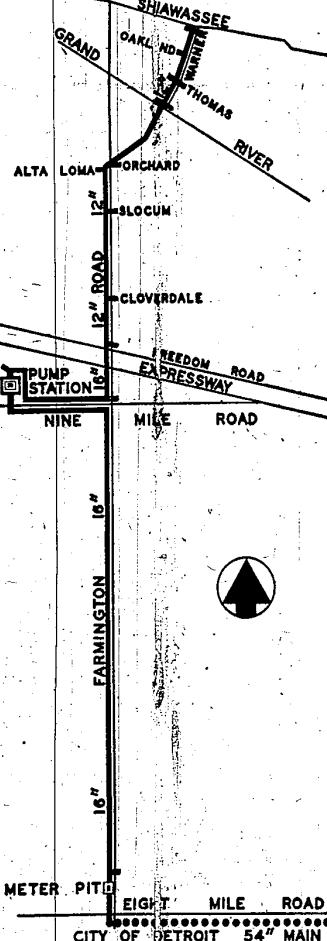
The project calls for a 24 inch outlet from the 54 inch Detroit-supplying main running along Eight Mile at Farmington Road. Just to the north on Farmington Road a 1,000 foot to one of the city's two present water systems. Cost estimate for this phase of the proposed project is \$73,640.

FROM The metering pit a 16 inch concrete main would be laid along Farmington Road as far as Nine Mile and then turned to the west and extended about 800 to 1,000 feet to one of the city's two present water systems. Cost estimate for this phase of the proposed project is \$73,640.

It is at this point, it has been determined, that it will be necessary to construct a pumping station to get enough pressure to push the water through two different mains extending on northward to the large new city water storage tank at the extreme northwest corner of the city.

A large 20x36 foot brick veneer building is specified according to City Manager Earl Scherffius. In it will be housed three 700 per-gallon-minute pumps. All the piping for a fourth pump will also be put in. Manager Scherffius added. When water needs become greater, everything will be ready for the installation.

See CITY MANAGER - Page 6A



THIS MAP shows the route of the proposed new water main to be installed in the City of Farmington if voters decide to convert to the Detroit water system by approving the general obligation bond issue to be voted on next month. Also shown is the location of a necessary meter pit and pumping station. Points where feeder lines will be connected are also indicated. Not shown on this map is a present 10 inch main which runs from the city well site (also the site of the proposed pumping station) on Nine Mile to a northwesterly direction along the expressway to Gill Road and thence north along Gill to the city's water storage tank.

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Stick-Out Signs Needed, Some Merchants Say

Downtown businessmen, in their meeting last Thursday, were almost unanimous in expressing opposition to the present City of Farmington sign ordinance.

The ordinance requires that all advertising signs extending more than 15 inches into any street or public right-of-way must be removed on or before June 1, 1960. The highway department owns land along certain roads as a right-of-way in excess of the actual pavement or sidewalk.

In effect, the ordinance would call for removal of protruding signs which are used by the great majority of merchants.

Several automobile dealers among the group of 23 in attendance voiced strong protest against the ordinance. Earl Vangeloff of Farmington Sales and Service, local Plymouth-Volant dealer, stated that he must depend on transient business and that a large display sign is a 'must'. He added that he often hears comments from customers who had trouble finding his place of business.

HE-QUESTIONS what would happen if he were to remove his large display sign in favor of a flat one. Earl Vivier, Oldsmobile dealer; Bob Dusseau, Lincoln-Mercury dealer; and Russ Conway, used car sales manager of Bill Ross Chevrolet echoed the same sentiments. Vivier said it would cost \$600 to remove his present sign.

It was generally agreed that a business that didn't depend on transient trade could use a flat or less noticeable sign with no loss of activity. But with the heavy traffic needed, the sign is all important. The majority concurred.

Another argument against the use of flat signs was that they could well create a traffic hazard because of people driving along trying to pick out a particular sign.

See STICK-OUT SIGNS Column 1 - Page 6A

Hopes High for Federal Help To Re-Develop

Some assistance from the Federal government for commercial redevelopment in the Downtown Farmington area might be forthcoming. The City Manager Earl Scherffius reported Monday.

A representative from the Urban Renewal Program administrative office in Chicago was here last week to look over the situation in the downtown area. Maps and plans of proposed redevelopment projects in the downtown area were reviewed. Manager Scherffius said and the federal representative taken on a tour of the area.

THE CITY might well qualify for some sort of Urban Renewal project and federal aid to carry it, the representative was quoted as saying.

The Urban Renewal Program was set up originally primarily for the purpose of clearing up sub-standard housing conditions and providing for improved housing in the areas cleared. It has more recently been expanded to include redevelopment in older communities where somewhat rundown housing and old commercial buildings are located close together in the same area.

It was felt by the federal representative here last week that an authority from the Urban Renewal planning division should meet with local officials to review the entire matter more carefully and come up with a suitable plan which would qualify for federal aid.

HE STATED that the situation here was somewhat different than in other areas where Urban Renewal projects have been undertaken. He was about to be, according to Scherffius. The difference was reported to be the fact that many older homes in the city here are still in very good condition and will be useful, yet for several years to come. Clearance of sub-standard buildings in a total area would, therefore, not be possible.

Manager Scherffius said that he had been told the representative from the planning division of the Urban Renewal office would be here the first part of April. It was indicated that he would spend two or three weeks here and then return to the city to outline a plan which he feels will qualify for federal assistance.

Enjoy Coffee, Cookies While Electing Four New Officials

Taking on many of the appearances of a social gathering, an election was held in Wood Creek Farm Village Monday at which time voters selected two new councilmen and a new clerk and treasurer.

As in the past, voters were served coffee and cookies when they came to the polling place at 2847 Eastbrook, the private home of Mr. and Mrs. James Frank, newcomers to the village. Although the Wanliks are newcomers, they agreed to having the election in their home since it had been the polling place in the past.

All School Employees To Get Pay Hike



Wendell Brown, township; Joseph DeVriendt, city; Mrs. Zar Reader, citizen and active PTA member who spearheaded the formation of this committee; Raymond Wilcox, township; and Floyd Cairns, township. Other members, not present when the picture was taken are: Bayard Tupper and Donald Clifford, schools; and City Manager Earl Scherffius.

Blanket \$200 Boost Granted To Teachers

A new salary schedule calling for pay increases for all personnel in the Farmington public school system for the 1960-61 school year was adopted by the board of education at its regular meeting Monday night.

Prior to board action, a report was made by a spokesman for the School Citizens' Advisory Committee. He indicated that both the personnel subcommittee of that body and the committee as a whole had thoroughly studied the proposed new schedule, as drawn up by administration, and wholeheartedly recommended it's adoption.

The board was unanimous in approval of the new schedule. CALLED FOR a blanket increase of \$200 a year for all teachers in the system. This is in addition to a \$250 increase for the first three years and increments ranging from \$150 to \$250 for the remaining years of experience under the maximum salary has been reached.

The new schedule boosts the starting pay for teachers to \$4,500 and the maximum pay to \$6,500. Teachers with masters degrees get an additional \$300 on the schedule.

During earlier discussion on the proposed schedule, the Farmington Education Association had asked for a blanket \$300 a year increase for all teachers. The feeling expressed by the administration was that such an improvement in the schedule could not be made and still have a balanced budget unless the present compensation program was curtailed in some respects.

UNDER THE new salary schedule, a blanket \$100 yearly increase is shown for all clerical and maintenance personnel who have not yet reached the maximum. This is in addition to an anticipated \$200 increment of \$200. The maximum pay for employees in these categories has also been increased. Those already at the maximum will receive no increase.

Column 4 - Page 6A

Sign-Up 118 Voters in City

There was a flood of last minute registrations in the City of Farmington Monday, the last day for registering to qualify to vote on the Detroit water question April 11. Clerk Treva Quinn reported Tuesday.

A total of 118 new voters were signed up during the special registration period and of this total approximately 90 waited until the last day, according to Mrs. Quinn.

A major portion of the new registrants - close to 75 - were from the new Farmington subdivision development east of Farmington Road and a short distance north of Eight Mile, it was indicated.

Clerk Quinn also informed The Enterprise that absentee ballots will be available on Monday, March 21. She urged that all who will be out of town on the day of the election to pick up an absentee ballot as soon after this date as possible.

The final date for picking up an absentee ballot will be Saturday, March 9. The Municipal Building will be open on this date for those wishing to pick up such ballots between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m., the clerk said.

There are now 3,213 registered voters in the city, Mrs. Quinn said proudly in a concluding statement.

Teacher Appointed; Assigned to Dunclel

Don D. Kuick, 31, formerly employed at Boys Republic as a teacher and supervisor of teaching staff of the Farmington public schools by action of the Board of Education Monday.

Column 3 - Page 6A

New Grade Classroom Building Plans Made

Action to get work moving ahead on plans for the construction of additional elementary classrooms in the Farmington School District was taken by the board of education at its regular meeting Monday night.

Instructions were given to get architects started on plans for a six classroom kindergarten and a six classroom addition to the school in Section 14 at the same time that bids are to be put out for construction of a new 12-classroom school in Section 14.

Board members also asked that original plans for a new elementary school in Section 14, to the northeast of Springfield and LaMuer (subdivisions) be pulled out of moth-balls. It is the site that has been selected for the next new grade school.

A REVIEW of the original Section 14 plans will be made for any possible revisions which might be wanted. It was asked that plans and specifications be set up in such a way that bids can be taken for the standard 12-classroom and two kindergarten units and a six classroom addition, as an alternative bid, at the same time.

Indications have been given that new residential development may move ahead rapidly in Section 14 to warrant more than a 12-classroom school. The site within a relatively short period of time.

School officials pointed out that the six classroom addition to the school in Section 14, at the same time that bids are taken on the smaller sized school, would result in a substantial saving to the district. If the need shows itself for a larger unit before contracts are let for the smaller one then a contract could be let for the 12-classroom school instead. It is cheaper to build the total unit all at once than to have to make addition into it later, it was emphasized.

Earlier this year, parents in both Section 14 and Section 11 (directly to the north in the township) had filed separate petitions, each calling for construction of the next new elementary school in their section.

Considerable study and consideration was given both to the petitions and to the construction of the next new elementary school in their section.

Approval is desired now so that plans can be made to include special education rooms in some of the new school units to be put under construction shortly, Harrison told the board.

Cost of the classrooms and the equipment used in the special education program as well as the salaries of the teachers is paid for by the county.

Hope for Record Vote Monday On 3 Civic School Proposals

This is the final article in a series giving details on the three propositions (Clarenceville School, Farmington Junior High School and the Village Junior High School) to be voted on Monday, March 21.

Hope was expressed this week that record numbers of voters would turn out at the polls this Monday, March 21, to voice their opinion on the three separate Clarenceville District Civic School Association proposals.

Approval on both the bonding proposition and the millage proposition will increase the school tax to 2.5 mills. The millage proposition will increase the school tax to 2.5 mills. The bonding proposition will increase the school tax to 2.5 mills.

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Action Being Taken by New Safety Comm.

The cooperative spirit which is being shown by representatives from all local government units in a joint effort to provide the safest possible walking conditions for youngsters was highly praised at the Farmington School Board meeting Monday night.

Members of the newly organized community traffic safety committee - representatives from the city, township and school board as well as from the Oakland County highway department - have met twice to date.

A detailed report on unsafe conditions for walking school children which had been prepared over a year ago has now been reviewed and plans to broaden on it made it was reported.

At the request of the committee, studies are now being made by a traffic engineer from the AAA in the vicinity of the various schools in the district. Conditions which he feels to be hazardous around the schools are being compiled for the committee, it was revealed.

Visits to the numerous school areas to review alleged unsafe conditions on the spot have been scheduled by the safety committee. This Saturday morning members of the committee will visit in the vicinity of the Alameda and Longacre schools, it was disclosed.

It is felt that present facilities can take care of needs for the 1960-61 school year but may be cramped before it is over.

OVER HALF the money being asked for would be used for elementary school needs with the balance to be used for high school needs. While many improvements and enlargements of sites, school officials have stated.

Regardless of how fast or slowly the new school development goes on, the need for more classrooms will continue, it was emphasized. According to school officials, the study increase in the number of classrooms will be started in September of this year to provide for enrollment increases expected. This is due to the fact that it takes a minimum of 18 months from the time voters approve a bond issue until classrooms are ready to be occupied.

The \$550,000 being requested to satisfy anticipated classroom needs through the 1962-63 school year. Needs are based on these enrollment projections: 1960-61, 1,015; 1961-62, 1,065; 1962-63, 1,115.

Column 3 - Page 6A