

Township Building Up, City Holds '59 Pace

Residential building in Farmington Township was up considerably during the first six months of the year as compared to the same period last year. Through June 1960, 272 permits were issued in the township, as against 182 last year. Total value of this year's permits approaches the \$4 million mark, compared to \$3,400,000 in 1959. Additions to existing buildings are running about the same in number this year as last but value-wise, 1960 is considerably ahead of 1959 with a total value of \$3,600,000 as against \$2,500,000 in 1959. The building picture in the City of Farmington is somewhat different, showing a slight rise in the number of permits issued in 1960 over 1959, but a slight decrease in value. The building picture in the City of Farmington is somewhat different, showing a slight rise in the number of permits issued in 1960 over 1959, but a slight decrease in value. The building picture in the City of Farmington is somewhat different, showing a slight rise in the number of permits issued in 1960 over 1959, but a slight decrease in value.

Bel-Aire G'belt Hearing Mon.

A public hearing on the proposed vacating of the greenbelt behind the Bel-Aire Hills Shopping Center and residential property immediately following the hearing will be held Monday night, July 11, at 8 p.m. The meeting has been scheduled for 7:30 p.m. The plan is to eliminate the greenbelt with half of the property going to abutting residential property owners and the other half to the owner of the shopping center property. Efforts to get the center property out of the greenbelt were made by the center owner to get the greenbelt vacated on the old wooden fence separating the commercial development from the residential property have been to little avail. It is felt that a masonry wall be put up to separate the commercial from the residential land, but City Attorney Robert Kelly has said that he is in doubt whether the owner of the property should be required to put up such a wall. It was suggested that the center owner and owners of the surrounding residential property share the cost on such a project.

Again Reject Re-zoning To Industrial In Township

Proposed re-zoning from residential to light industrial in approximately 22 acre parcel of land west of G. Hill Road and south of the U. S. 16 Expressway has been rejected by Farmington Township officials for the second time. The proposal to re-zone this parcel of land to permit the construction of industrial laboratory buildings was first presented to the township planning board over a year and a half ago. The planning board decided at this time to deny the re-zoning request made by Attorney Allen C. Ingie on behalf of the owners of the land. THE MATTER remained dormant from this time until about a month and a half ago when Attorney Ingie appeared before the Farmington City Council asking that the city purchase the land and then annex it to the city and zone it for industrial use. He indicated that a local industrial firm wanted to build a plant there and that a large corporation was interested in building a laboratory on the same site.

Re-Elect Hartom as C'ville Board Pres.

Albert Hartom was re-elected president of the Clarenceville School Board at the reorganization meeting held Tuesday evening. Richard Gaul was re-elected treasurer and Thomas Wilson, who is a newly elected member of the Board, was elected secretary.

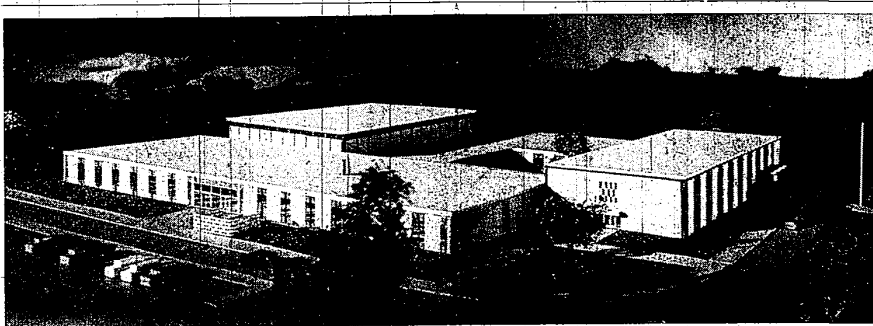


ANNABELLE HEOGLUN, Farmington school teacher, keeps busy during the summer supervising youngsters in the Farmington recreation program. She is shown here at the Shawanese School instructing a group in the craft of copper tooling. The summer recreation program presently has an enrollment of 1,000 school children with more coming in every day.

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SEVENTY-SECOND YEAR - NO. 41

LOWER PROPOSED FARMINGTON SCHOOL TAX RATE



AN ARCHITECT'S RENDERING is shown here of the new North Farmington High School which will be going under construction in very near future on an approximately 40 acre site at 13 Mile and Farmington Road. The building will be used as a combination junior-senior high school for the first few years it is occupied until such time as enough enrollment warrants its exclusive use as a second senior high for the Farmington School District. The schedule for getting construction started is running a little behind original plans but hope is that the building (or at least a major portion of it) will still be completed and ready for occupancy by the beginning of the 1961-62 school year.

Change Place For Hearing on Urban Renewal

The meeting place for the public hearing on the proposed Urban Renewal Project to be undertaken by the city has been changed.

The hearing which will be held on Monday, July 25, at 7 p.m. prior to the regular City Council meeting was originally planned at the Council Chambers.

Since there are a large number of property owners and families living in the area proposed for re-development around the core downtown business district, it was decided that the Council Chambers were not big enough to accommodate all who will be interested in attending the hearing. Considerable interest has been indicated in the proposed re-habilitation project, city officials stated.

The hearing has now been scheduled at the Farmington Junior High School building at 33000 Thomas Street. It will be held at the same time in either the gymnasium or cafeteria. Those attending are requested to enter through the east gymnasium door.

A map showing the proposed area for re-development will be displayed at the hearing and an outline given of the kind of re-development proposed for the various areas where re-habilitation is called for.

At the public hearing all proposals with respect to the relocation of persons and businesses in the project area will be heard and discussed.

This Urban Renewal Project is a very tentative, city officials have emphasized. It is only a proposed plan in an effort to obtain some Federal Funds through the Urban Renewal plan, they stated.

Will Order Signs

Wood Creek Village will place an order for new street signs at a total cost of \$114.37.

Sell \$1 1/2 Million Worth of School Bonds; Get Good Rate

One and one-half million dollars' worth of school building and site bonds were authorized for sale at a special meeting of the Farmington Board of Education last Wednesday night, June 29.

This is half of the total amount of bonds approved for sale by a vote of the people at a special school election last November. The money is earmarked for use in the construction of the new North Farmington (combination junior-senior high school) on 43 Mile Road just east of Farmington Road.

Rec. Program Attracts 1,000

Approximately 1,000 youngsters have already registered in the summer recreation program being conducted at eight Farmington schools.

With new registrations pouring in every day, Warren Piche, director of the program, predicts that more children will participate this year than in any previous summer. Final registration figures last summer topped the 1960 mark.

Last Friday 288 children from the south Farmington area made their annual special trip to the zoo.

This Friday, July 8, the group from the north will be taking their zoo trip. All youngsters are asked to bring 15 cents to cover cost of going to the chimp show and their train ride. They should also bring lunches. They will meet at the playground at 8:30 a.m.

During the first week of the program which got underway June 27, 1,035 children have been taken to Kent Lake in Kensington Metropolitan Park in four separate trips.

MONDAYS and Wednesdays have been designated as swim days. See REC. PROGRAM Column 3, Page 6A

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Zoning Hearing Expected to Be Ended Mon.

A recessed session of the public hearing on proposed new residential zoning called for throughout Farmington Township will be held this coming Monday, July 11, at 8 p.m. in the Township Hall.

The proposed new zoning, calling for substantially larger residential lot sizes in many sections of the township, is a matter that has been under study and discussion for more than a year now.

THE HEARING Monday night is a continuation of the first public hearing before the Zoning Board on this important subject, which was held June 8, 71, resulted in three hours of rather heated debate, with residents in attendance strongly advocating the proposed new zoning and builders and developers equally as strong in their opposition to it.

With debate still going on at 11 p.m., Zoning Board Chairman Edward Schmidt decided to recess the session and hear any additional facts which others might care to present at this later date.

SCHMIDT indicated that he did not intend to allow spokesmen who had already spoken at the earlier hearing date to re-state their position. He said that the session this Monday evening would be primarily for the purpose of hearing comments from people who had not already been heard from at the hearing a little over a month ago.

The hearing is expected to be closed Monday night after which the Zoning Board will make a final review of the new zoning ordinance and text taking into consideration facts brought out at the hearing. When this review is completed, the map and text of the new zoning ordinance and the Zoning Board's recommendations will be submitted to the Oakland County Coordinating Zoning and Planning Committee for that body's study and recommendations. It will then be ready for Twp. Board action.

Tentative plans are to put the last \$1 1/2 million worth of 1960 school building and site bonds for the 1960 bond issue up for sale the latter part of this year or early part of next year.

City Registers 125 New Voters

Since June 13 there have been 125 new voters registered in the City of Farmington, Clerk Treva Quinn reported Wednesday morning. This boosts the total number of registered voters in the city to 3,722.

A major portion of the new voters were signed up on the last day for registering a qualified elector in the (Primary Election) on August 2. There were 81 names added on Tuesday prior to 8 p.m.

Instituted in May, 1957, the St. Francis K. of C. Council now has a membership of 409.

Wielding the spade at the ground breaking ceremony were Building Corporation President James A. Mason of Lathrup Village. He was assisted by Grand Knight Nicholas J. Wyles of Southfield, Deputy Grand Knight Cecil L. Harris of Farmington, Chaplain Francis X. Hoff, OF.M., designer and builder Clarence A. Durbin of Southfield and Past Grand Knights Arthur J. Droste and Thomas J. Grady, both of Southfield.

Registrations Heavy in Twp.

If new voter registrations are any indication, there is a lot of local interest in the two special elections and General Primary election to be held August 2.

The names of between 700 and 800 new voters have been recorded in the poll books at the Township Clerk Floyd Cairns reported Wednesday morning.

As is usually the case, several waited until the last minute to sign up. On the last day of registration, Tuesday, July 5, a total of 304 were signed up.

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Equalized Value Hike Permits Rate Cutback

Total 1960 school tax rates for the Farmington School District were set somewhat lower than originally planned by official action of the Board of Education at a special meeting last Wednesday night.

Based on the recommendation of State Rep. G. V. Harrison, the Board established the total rate at 29.11 mills or \$29.11 for each \$1,000 state equalized valuation. This is only .59 percent of a mill or .59c higher than the \$28.52 per \$1,000 equalized value rate assessed property owners a year ago.

At a special election last November voters authorized an increase of two mills in the rate allowed for operation which would have boosted the total 1960 school tax rate over the \$30.00 per \$1,000 equalized mark.

BOTH the operating and debt service rates are being lowered. The total operating rate will be 18.05 mills and debt service rate 11.06 mills or 96 mills lower than a year ago.

These rate reductions are made possible as the result of a sharp increase in the total state equalized valuation for the district this year.

The tentative rates which had been determined would be necessary to meet both operating expenses and payments on outstanding bonds during the 1960-61 fiscal year were based on an estimated state equalized valuation for the district of \$78,000,000.

Had the state equalization board followed its previous practice of the past several years of establishing the same equalized value on communities in Oakland County as the county equalization board, the estimated \$78,000,000 valuation for the Farmington School District would have been \$80,000,000.

See TAX RATE Column 3, Page 6A

Wood Creek Village council members voted Tuesday to accept the resignation of Richard Norwalk as road commissioner, effective immediately.

Norwalk had submitted a letter of resignation at the April meeting but council members prevailed upon him to reconsider and the letter was left unopened at that meeting was adjourned.

At both the May and June meetings Norwalk again stated his desire to be relieved of duties. He was asked to stay on until a replacement could be found by the two man committee of Ambrose and Krier.

Norwalk asked for speed in finding his replacement.

No replacement has been named as yet so the committee will carry on the road maintenance program until a new road commissioner is appointed.

A proposed road budget of \$6,200 for the 1960 year beginning July 1, 1960, an ending June 30, 1961, was approved by the council at Tuesday's meeting.

In the other weekend accident a driver of a car owned by Clarence Gilbert of Detroit hit a parked car at Grand River and Maple causing some damage to the car.

City and Township police each reported just two other minor accidents during the week preceding the long holiday weekend.

Increasing traffic on the expressway began to get heavy about 3:30 p.m. on the 4th and stayed that way until about 5 p.m. when it thinned out and began a normal flow again. Even during the peak, traffic kept moving reasonably well and weekend vacationers were able to move along on schedule.

Report Only 2 4th Accidents

Only two minor accidents were reported in both the City and Township over the long 4th of July weekend.

In one of the weekend accidents a car driven by Peter Zahara was stopped at a light on Grand River and Maple when it was rear-ended by a car driven by Herbert Riddell of Farmington. One of the passengers, the Zahara car received a minor injury and was treated by his own doctor. The accident occurred when Riddell's gas pedal stuck.

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Report Fewer Stray Dogs in Wood Creek

The stray dog problem in Wood Creek Village is some what improved since forms advising all residents of the dog ordinance had been delivered to each home, according to Alger Clark, Village President.

The printed leaflet advised that all dogs either be kept on a leash or within oral control of their owner at all times and that violation of the ordinance is punishable by a fine of \$100 or 90 days in jail.