

The Farmington Enterprise

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FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1965

SIXTEEN PAGES

Stage Hearing On Apartments In Flood Plain

The Farmington City Planning Commission staged a public hearing Monday night, September 13, to hear objections to a proposed 106-unit apartment development in the flood plain area north of Grand River Avenue between Power Road and Lakewood Avenue.

Annexation Area Plans Complete

Wednesday, October 6, has been set as the date for discussion of the proposed development plan that the City of Farmington would follow for the 580 acre parcel which it is seeking to annex from Farmington Township.

Citizens of the area proposed to be annexed will be invited to meet with the City Council and City Planning Commission at 8 p.m. in the City Council chambers on that date to go over the proposed development plan in detail and raise any questions they would like to about the plans as developed. City Manager John Dinn stated that the City Planning Commission worked out the master plan in some detail earlier and that week met with members of the City Council to review the proposed plans in detail. There was general agreement on the plan.

In order to retain the rural characteristics of much of the area which topography seems to make desirable, the plans call for a substantial portion of the area to be zoned "country-estates" with good sized lots and a minimum number of dwellings.

A small portion of the area to the extreme west would be zoned for industrial, it was indicated.

require the re-zoning of a 8.1 acre parcel of land. The property is presently zoned General Commercial (C2) and one Family (R1) and would have to be changed to an (R3) Multiple Family District in order to allow apartments.

THE PLANNING Commission also received reports Tuesday night from the City's Department of Public Safety and City Attorney Robert Kelly.

Chief Maurice D. Foltz of the Public Safety Department reported that in the event of emergency calls to the apartment units, if they came into being, his department would be able to handle them without any foreseeable difficulty. His department, it was pointed out, is kept informed of weather forecasts and could alert people occupying the flood plain apartments if dangerous flood conditions existed. It was also pointed out that an emergency ingress and egress route into the proposed apartment development could adequately handle traffic in such a crisis.

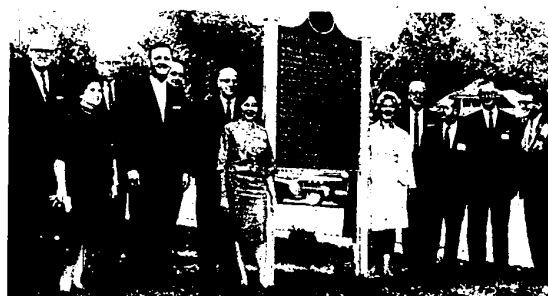
Attorney Kelly's report stated the City's liability in regards to possible damage to property on the flood plain. His opinion stated the City could not be held liable for any financial loss suffered by developers of the proposed raised apartments.

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN to the apartments and the affect on abutting property in the event of a severe flood was the main concern of residents at the hearing. City Planners appeared satisfied, from reports received from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and architects and engineers for the project.

Correct Mistake On Twp. Assessment

Action to correct a mistake which was made in spreading the special assessment roll for the Kimberton Park sanitary sewer improvement project was taken by the Township Board at its regular meeting Monday night.

One parcel of property had been assessed as having three benefiting homesites when actually it should have been assessed for only two benefits, Supervisor Curt Hall explained.



UNVEILING CEREMONIES of Farmington's historical marker designating the community as the site of one of the first Quaker meetings attracted representatives of local government as well as other dignitaries. Pictured above at Saturday's unveiling in front of the Farmington City Hall are (l. to r.) Councilman Howard Thayer, Township Treasurer Elise Avery, Township Clerk Floyd A. Cairns, Farmington Mayor Sandy Brotherton, Councilman Ralph Yoder, Township

Supervisor Curtis H. Hall, Farmington Historical Society President Kay Briggs, Farmington Historical Society members, Yule Lorlan and Paul R. Schreiber, Professor of history at the University of Michigan and featured speaker Dr. F. Clever Bald, Vice President of the Michigan Historical Commission, Mr. Harrison Merand and Director of the Michigan Historical Society William K. Alderfer.

To Study Regulations On Turning Lanes in Twp.

At the suggestion of Township Board Trustee Earl Opperthaus, a more thorough study has been called for by the Township Board with respect to regulations regarding turning and deceleration lanes into commercial and business centers and subdivisions on major roadways in the township.

Award Contract For Paving

A contract for the paving of the service drive between the Farmington School District's administration building and Our Lady of Sorrows property was awarded to Cadillac Asphalt Paving Company at a meeting of the Farmington Board of Education on September 13.

Bids for the project, taken on September 13, ran from Cadillac's low of \$7,600 to Oakland Paving's high of \$11,540. The cost will be shared equally between the Farmington Public School District and Our Lady of Sorrows parish.

Repair and resurfacing of the drive, which runs from Ten Mile Road to Shawansee Road, will bring it up to the City of Farmington's road specifications. School officials have requested that the City take over ownership of the drive since it is used as a through road by so many motorists.

with entrance-ways onto major roads. It does not seem to be too clear just what the specifications and regulations are for requiring the developers to provide extra roadway width at entrance-ways to assure safer ingress and egress, Opperthaus commented.

OPPERTHAUS was of the opinion that present regulations and requirements within the township has on this matter might need more strengthening and clarification. Other Board members expressed agreement with him on this point at Monday night's meeting.

Opperthaus, the Township Board's representative on the Planning Commission, was instructed to bring this matter up for discussion at the next regular Planning Commission meeting. He agreed to do this and report back to the Township Board.

IN CONNECTION with this a serious problem presently being experienced on Middlebelt Road in front of the East Junior High School was brought up for brief discussion. A letter from James Read, an assistant superintendent for the Farmington Public School, disclosed that traffic has been backed up for some distances on Middlebelt Road to both the north and the south.

See REGULATIONS Page 8A

THIS MEETING will be open to the general public.

The Township Board was advised in a letter from W. C. Roman of the Community Planning Division of the Michigan Department of Urban Planning that such a meeting would be necessary before the township's application for federal assistance could be approved. The letter was read to members of the Township Board by Supervisor Curt Hall at the Board's regular meeting Monday night.

FHS Teacher Stricken at 45

Joseph J. Manzi, a teacher 21 years and for the past 18 years a physics and chemistry teacher at Farmington High School, was stricken with a heart attack Friday night, September 10, and died Saturday in St. Mary Hospital in Livonia at the age of 45.

Mr. Manzi came to Farmington to begin his teaching career here in 1947. Previous to that time he had taught school in Pennsylvania for three years in the Belvedere district, a public school district. He was graduated from State Teachers College in Schroeder, Pa. with a Bachelor of Science Degree. He had done post graduate work at both Rutgers University and the University of Detroit.

MR. MANZI rested at the Schrader Funeral Home in Plymouth until Tuesday of this week when services were conducted from the Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth with the Rev. Father Francis C. Byrne officiating. Interment was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, Ruth; his father, Andrew Manzi; two daughters; one son; two brothers and four sisters.

Set Date for School Election

The Farmington Board of Education, at a regular meeting on September 13, set Monday, November 15, 1965, as the date for a special school election. Monday, October 4, will be the last day to register to vote in the election.

Voters will be asked to decide three propositions: a \$6,100,000 Bond issue for future site and building needs; renewal of the present 3 mills operating levy which is about to expire; and approval of an additional 3 mills for operations.

Approval of all three propositions will require no raise in total school taxes, according to Superintendent Gerald V. Harrison.

The decision to hold an election was made last July after studies and reports were made by various sub-committees on the future needs of the school district.

The building needs, sites and improvements needed will cost the district approximately \$6,100,000.

One of the propositions will ask for renewal for a ten-year period of a present 3 mills levy for operations which expires in 1968. Renewal of this millage will not affect the tax rate which is 32.5 mills.

It is anticipated that 4 additional

millage will be needed over a four-year period for operational costs of the district. Supt. Harrison explained that this millage can be had without changing the 32.5 mills now being paid by taxpayers by levying 1 mill each year for four years for operations and by correspondingly reducing by 1 mill each year for four years the amount of millage the school district allows to debt interest and retirement. A state law has provided this flexible action for rapidly growing school districts like Farmington.

To Add New Special Ed Classroom

The Farmington Board of Education, at a meeting on September 13, authorized the addition of a new special education classroom in the district for perceptually handicapped children.

Interim Special Education Director Douglas Smith explained the perceptual development program. The Farmington schools will be given entitlement for the room through the Oakland County program, thus making only a negligible cost to the district, he said.

Smith received authorization to designate Mrs. Donald (Nancy) Broderick as teacher for the new room. Mrs. Broderick is presently a teacher for the mentally handicapped pre-primary room at Gill School. Another teacher will be hired to replace her there.

Smith explained that the program is designed for children who have faulty perception — though they have good, measurable intelligence, they do not achieve in school because they are unable to perceive normally. Classes are usually limited to eight or ten children, most often in the age range six through ten.

These children can all be taught, Smith said, and when they acquire social academic skills and the means to learn despite their handicaps, they can be returned to the regular school classroom.

Reject Bids On New School

After a report from architect Linn Smith, the Farmington Board of Education, at a meeting on September 13, took action to reject all bids taken for construction of the proposed Fairview School.

The bids, opened on September 1, were \$74,000 over the budget that had been set for the school and board members recommended ways of cutting the costs. With the large number of changes that were proposed, it was decided that new bids would have to be taken. Advertisements will be placed on September 22 and 29, and the new bids will be taken on October 13.

New YM Director Starts This Week

The first executive director of the Farmington YMCA assumed his duties this week in a climax to the local organization's attainment of branch status last July.

DAVE COMFORT, a 29-year-old Springfield College graduate who has been working for the past several years in the Recreation and Youth Leadership Program in the South Oakland YMCA, was named by Farmington YMCA Board of Management Chairman, Mr. Williams to take over the new position.

Until now, the Farmington YMCA has been under the guidance of Extension Director Chuck Wise and program director Rose Berberian. Mr. Wise is now working with lay

leaders in Livonia for the establishment of a YMCA in that community. Miss Berberian will continue on in her present capacity at the Farmington branch.

MR. COMFORT and his wife, Diane, who is a native of Grosse Pointe and graduate of the University of Michigan, now make their home in Farmington. He is planning to relocate in the Farmington area. The new executive director spent three years at Princeton University and two years in military service with the U.S. Army personnel Corps prior to joining the YMCA organization in 1961. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Recreation and Youth Leadership from Springfield College.

THE BOARD took official action calling for a special election to be made to take place a month on the number of complaints they answer at this establishment and what operating improvements they witness.

Based on these reports, the Township Board will determine at a later date whether to revise the number of trees the establishment now has or allow the owner to keep his license.

Twp. Bd. Gets Report on Elm Tree Disease

A report was made by Mrs. Elise Avery at Monday night's Township Board meeting on the investigation she had agreed to make regarding steps that might be taken to prevent or control the spread of Dutch Elm Disease in the Township.

She reported that the various authorities she had contacted were in general agreement that there were no chemicals yet available to stamp out the disease once trees were infected. Their only recommendation is that affected branches or the entire trees be cut down, she commented.

Spraying with DDT and other chemicals is felt to be helpful in preventing the disease in trees, she commented, but not in stopping it altogether. Supervisor Curt Hall stated that a state agricultural department official had indicated to him that he felt the answer was to water and fertilize trees frequently to prevent the trees from becoming diseased in the first place. Mrs. Avery stated that a substantial amount of information about the care of elm trees could be obtained from Bulletin 193 which could be obtained from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Football Contest Starts This Week-Cash Prizes

Will the Lions beat the Packers? Will the University of Michigan win out over Michigan State?

Picking the winners of these and other football games being played across the country each week during the current football season will not only be lots of fun for all you pick-slinging enthusiasts but can also bring you some big cash prizes.

Cash prizes will be given away each week throughout the season to the winners of the weekly Farmington Enterprise Football Contest, being sponsored by the Enterprise in cooperation with a number of local community business places.

OVER \$30 in cash will be given away each week.

Details on the procedure to follow in entering the contest each week can be found on the football contest page which is page 8-B in this week's issue of The Enterprise. Get in on the fun and a chance at the prizes this first week and continue to enter throughout the season.

It's really quite simple to take part in the contest. Just read all the ads on the contest page and then get yourself a pencil and piece of paper and make out your entry form listing the name of each advertiser and then the name of the team you think will win the game sponsored by that advertiser.

In one of the ads your guess on the score of the game as well as who you think will win will be requested. You must make this guess.

form and mail it so that it will be postmarked before noon Saturday or deliver it to The Enterprise office in person before the Saturday noon deadline.

THE FIRST place winner of each week's contest will win \$15. The second place winner will receive \$7 and the third place winner \$3. If you take your entry form to a participating merchant and have them stamp or sign it before delivering or mailing it to The Enterprise office you are then eligible to share in an additional \$6 merchants bonus jackpot.

Route Unsafe

School Board Grants Busing

A delegation of parents from West Franklin Estates, a subdivision south of Fourteen Mile Road and east of Farmington Road, appeared before the Farmington Board of Education on September 13 and were granted bus transportation to Bond School for the 23 children in their area.

A black-topped and busway has been provided for students through the Canterbury Commons, a new subdivision going in at Thirteen Mile and Farmington Road. Parents contend that, while the walkway may be satisfactory in the future, it is unsatisfactory and unsafe at present.

Gene Glenn, spokesman for the group, said that youngsters have to walk through woods, over three bridges that have no rails, through an open field, and through mud on the mile and a half trip. He stated that the construction work is a temptation to children and that until the subdivision is more completely and properly occupied, the walk is too isolated and is unsafe.

Board members, three of whom had walked the route on Sunday were in agreement with the parents and took action to provide bus transportation until such time as the walkway is considered safe.

