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The Observer

OF FARMINGTON

This Week's Press Run
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THE OBSERVER NEWSPAPER GROUP, founded by Paul M. Chandler, publishing newspapers in the cities of Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington, Garden City and Westland and Townships of Plymouth, Redford and Farmington

VOL. 3—NO. 4 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1966 33425 Grand River, Farmington Philip H. Power, Publisher

Township Remains Quiet on Consolidation Action

Members of the Farmington Township Board had no comment Monday night on the City Council's action last week to form an impartial, non-partisan study committee on the question of consolidation for the entire community.

Nothing was said during the course of the Board meeting, but Township Supervisor Curt Hall told The Observer after the meeting that he thought the best way to handle the question would be for the "City and Township to put up the money to

hire an expert who was an unrelated person to the issue." Hall repeated his stand of a few weeks ago that this was a "nice trick" but said that actual consolidation would not come for "10, 15 or 20 years." He

cited the different tax levy in the two communities and the resultant different level of services. He did tell The Observer, however, that the Township would be guided by requests of the committee if appointed and by whom when asked

what action the Township Board would be expected to take on the question. Hall emphasized that he could not speak for the Board as a whole at this point. Last week the City Council went on record as being prepared to sponsor a committee

to examine the various avenues toward consolidation. At that time the Council emphasized that it was not taking a stand either for or against consolidation, but was merely sponsoring the study. The Farmington Board of

Commerce and the Farmington Jaycees are cooperating in a similar undertaking. Neither of these groups have taken a stand on the proposal either, but merely are sponsoring information studies with the thought of making the full information public.

In today's Observer appears the questionnaire prepared by the Jaycees to determine whether or not the residents in the community are at all interested in even thinking about consolidation of the entire community.

Township Approves \$800,000 Balanced Budget



GOVERNOR ROMNEY

Romney Sets Visit To Area

Michigan's Governor George Romney is coming to Farmington on Thursday.

Wending his way down from the state capitol in Lansing the Governor is making several stops in the area and will arrive in Detroit Friday for the GOP State Convention.

He will meet with members of the Greater Farmington Board of Commerce at a luncheon at the Boisdorf Inn at noon for what is termed a "non-partisan" visit.

At 11:30 a.m. he will visit and tour the Star Cutter plant on Grand River.

Romney is expected to leave Farmington for Redford Township where he has a date to address the Redford Rotary Club in the early afternoon.

Annexation Vote Is Set For Nov. 8

The question on whether or not the City of Farmington will annex more than 2,000 acres of Farmington Township will be decided by the voters at the general state election Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Last week the Oakland County Board of Supervisors voted to set that date thus accepting the recommendation of the Board's Advisory Committee.

Two separate proposals are involved in the election. In one the City wishes to annex the Woodcroft Subdivision and the other involves the portion of the Township containing Independence Green, the Farmington Freeway Industrial Park and the Star Cutter plant.

Residents of the city and those living in the affected areas of the Township will vote on the question Nov. 8. In order to pass the proposals must carry in both the City and in the Township areas.

The last day of voter registration is Oct. 8. In order to vote in the State of Michigan you must have resided at the address for 30 days.

Bus Drivers, School Agree on Contract

Bus drivers for the Farmington Schools can go to work in September as the Board of Education has approved a master contract with the Farmington School Bus Drivers' Club.

The contract, which runs from Sept. 1, 1966 to Aug. 31, 1969, provides for an hourly salary ranging from \$2.45 per hour during the first year of employment to \$2.70 an hour after five years.

A special rate of \$2.20 per hour is established for field trips and the substitute driver will earn \$2.35 per hour.

This contract, like that signed with the Farmington teachers, contains a no strike or sanction provision. Under the terms the Club agrees that "There shall be no sanctioned or condoned strike, slowdown, stay-in, slowdown or work interference or curtailment of any kind" during the entire period of the contract.

The bus driver's organization also agrees to "take prompt affirmative action to prevent or stop unauthorized strikes" and to take the same action to prevent wildcat strikes.

Any such action as prohibited in this article will provide the Board of Education with the right to obtain injunctive relief and damages for breach against the Club and the Board may then cancel the agreement 48 hours after serving written notice of such cancellation to the club.

This is the third contract signed this year by the Board of Education. The others agreed upon were with the Farmington Education Association representing the teachers and with the secretaries' organization.

Recent legislation passed in the State of Michigan provides public employees with the right to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining.

Regular lunches for the school children will remain the same as last year—30 cents for elementary students and 35 cents for junior and senior high.

Ella Plichta, cafeteria supervisor, told the Board that "a considerable increase in labor and food costs" made the increases necessary.

Hardest hit are the special dinner and banquet prices which will be increased 45 per cent.

The cost of an adult luncheon in the schools will jump from 30 cents to 50 cents, with the cost of a cup of coffee will go from five to 10 cents.

All adult milk will cost 10 cents over last year's level of six cents and the cost of chocolate milk for students will go from two to three cents.

The Board turned down a request from Mrs. Plichta to issue paper and disposable serving units in the schools with instructions to the administration that it wanted to learn more about the situation.

At that time in answer to Vagnozzi, Hall said that a member would probably be appointed "within a month" and added that there is "no hurry. The Township always allows time for suggestions."

That month has passed and questioned as to why the vacancy still exists. Hall said that they have been operating with a four and five member Board and he didn't like to take any action until all six members could be present.

This calls for more delays. Presently Township Clerk Floyd Cairns is vacationing and after his return Treasurer Elise Avery is expected to be away.

It is entirely up to the Board to appoint the person to fill the vacancy. And, with a Republican Board, it is safe to assume that whoever is appointed will be a member of the GOP.

Inflation Hits School Meal Costs

Inflation is very much a burning issue today. Monday night it came home to Farmington when the Farmington Board of Education was forced to raise its prices on adult lunches, chocolate milk and on its service for catering dinners and banquets.

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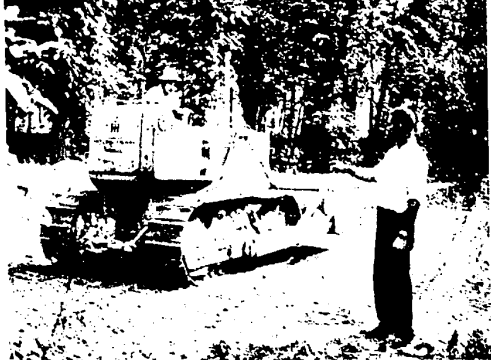
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CHECKING OVER the walkway from Glenmuir to Canterbury Commons are Farmington Schools District personnel Frank Hulbert (on the tractor) and Leslie Tinson. This walkway and the one from Canterbury Commons to the Bond School has been filled with gravel and compacted. It is as high as four feet in spots thus creating a safe thoroughfare for school children in all seasons. With the completion of this walk no bus service will be provided to school children in this area.

Township Rescinds Trash Ordinance

What started out as an ordinance to satisfy complainants of residents of Farmington Township has turned out to be a real issue.

Several weeks ago the Township Board passed an ordinance stating that there could be no trash pickup from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. Monday night the order was suspended.

Supervisor Curt Hall said his office had been flooded with calls after the July 4 pickup by Willard Sanitation stating that the trash trucks were noisy, woke residents up and numerous other complaints about the night-time service.

Now that the ordinance has been passed, the other side to the issue has come forward with some 375 signatures on petitions asking for repeal of the ordinance.

This people contend that daytime trash sitting on the streets attracts dogs, children, flies and takes away from the attractiveness of the neighborhood. They further say that they find the present service entirely satisfactory and if it does wake them up it is only for a moment.

In view of the objection, the Board suspended the motion and has asked The Observer to print a ballot in the Aug. 31 issue asking for a vote on night versus day trash pickup. Township Supervisor Curt Hall said he would hope for 2,000-3,000 returns.

Spectators at the Monday Township Board meeting loudly protested the ordinance. One man echoed the sentiment of many present by saying, "I'm satisfied. I'm paying for the pickup and it is a private matter. If other people don't like it they don't have to use the service." He received a round of applause.

A group of residents submitting the petitions said that in all their contacts they only found one person unwilling to sign a petition calling for repeal of the ordinance.

Hall read an unsigned letter in favor of the ordinance and another that presented several points against it.

Two amendment studies for existing Township ordinances and the election of officers for the coming year will highlight the monthly meeting of the Farmington Township Planning Commission this week.

The session will begin at 8 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 25, at the Township Hall on 11 Mile Rd. It is open to the public.

Added to this business is a rezoning request for the northeast quarter of section 34 which, if granted, would change the zoning from general business to multiple 4 or apartment construction.

However, no layout or statement has been presented with the proposal and it is doubtful that the commission will act upon the request until further information is provided.

Officers to be elected by the commission are chairman, vice-chairman, and executive secretary. H. N. Wiest, staff secretary for the commission, is also expected to present the appointment period for each member of the commission.

The two ordinance amendments are concerned with the ordinance defining the required distance for a separated garage for fireproofing and the discussion on underground utility lines.

Both of these items have been before the commission previously and action has been delayed on them for a variety of reasons.

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Fiscal Year Ends March 31

The Farmington Township Board adopted a balanced \$800,000 budget Monday night for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1967. Twelve spectators, one of the largest crowds ever, turned out for the public hearing.

The total budget, \$800,000, was \$27,200 over the proposed revenues and disbursements listed on the preliminary budget approved last March 28. This increased revenue is accounted for by a large share of equalized tax valuation than expected. A large share, \$13,500, of these increased funds will be spent on roads, highways and signs. The police department will get an additional \$8,000 for the purchase of another car and uniforms. The remainder will be dispersed throughout the budget.

Township revenue is broken down into four main categories: taxes which total \$369,300; state revenue, \$260,300; permits, licenses and fees, \$184,000; and interest and miscellaneous sources, \$5,000.

Disbursements break down into: salaries for supervisor (10,000), clerk, \$4,500, Treasurer (\$8,000), and Trustees (\$3,600). The justice court will incur expense of \$800 while elections will cost \$17,300. The building department's budget is \$72,400, while the assessor's department calls for \$36,700 in salaries and expenses (this calls for the hiring of another assessor in addition to the two existing ones. There also are two girls in the department).

General operating expenses will take \$112,500 while staff agencies receive \$37,400. The police department has a budget of \$261,350 while the volunteer fire department will receive \$43,000.

Roads, highways and signs are budgeted \$41,700 while \$12,000 goes for rubbish removal. Other miscellaneous agencies and projects such as youth guidance and recreation, consultants, etc. receive \$21,650.

\$48,300 is budget for capital outlay (\$35,000 of this amount is for a new fire truck to be received in four to five months), while \$58,000 is set aside for purchase of five station sites and purchase of land.

Only questions on the (Continued on Page 5B)

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NOT ONE OR TWO, but seven pedigreed miniature ponies arrived last week at the David Schone home at 21121 Tuck Rd., Farmington. The mother, Tina Jeanine, protects her brood while nine-year-old Janice and four-year-old Paula show the new puppies off. Seven is a large litter for a miniature poodle — the average number being about four or five.

Tell Your Views On Consolidation

The following survey is a joint effort by the Farmington Board of Commerce and the Farmington Jaycees to establish whether or not the people of the Greater Farmington Community are interested in a non-political, non-biased study to determine the feasibility of the unification of the governing bodies of the City of Farmington, Farmington Township and the Villages of Quakertown and Woodcreek Farms.

Do you favor a non-political non-biased study and analysis of the liabilities and benefits involved in the unification of the municipal governments of the areas mentioned above.

☐ Yes ☐ No

I am a resident of:

☐ City of Farmington ☐ Village of Woodcreek Farms
☐ Farmington Township ☐ Village of Quakertown

The effectiveness of this survey is dependent upon the responses of all persons living within the affected areas. Additional comments are welcome and may be attached to this form.

Please mail this form and comments no later than Saturday, Aug. 27, 1966.

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Amusements 45B
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Editorial Page 6B
Food Fair News 7C
Home Improvements 3B
Kroger Food News 32D
Sports Pages 2B
Want Ads 31D
Women's News 5C