

New Development Being Considered

Something big is brewing for downtown Garden City. This was the conclusion drawn after Building Inspector Phillip Sletten reported to the City Council Monday that two to three development plans are being considered for the land now occupied on or near the Square Deal Club building, now vacant, on Middle Belt, just north of Ford Road.

BPW Women Active

The Garden City Business and Professional Women's Club observed the national observance of its special week with a busy schedule last week and this. Armed with a proclamation signed the previous week by Garden City Mayor Timothy J. Murphy, the mayor and Mrs. Murphy accompanied Club President Fran Thibodeau and other groups to the Michigan Business Women's Week dinner last Wednesday in Ann Arbor. With them were Garden City members Marge Rayl, Olga Taylor, and Maybelle Shon. The Michigan BPW clubs traveled to Lansing Saturday for the 50th anniversary year and Golden Torch Award banquet.

Today, Wednesday, the club will take part with Garden City Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary and Jaycee clubs for an inter-group dinner at West High School. The club's regular monthly dinner meeting will be held tomorrow, Thursday, at Schoolcraft College with Dorothy Bokor serving as hostess. A panel to talk on adult education will be made up of John Brian, vice president of the college; Edward McCallally, dean of student affairs; Joe Adams, dean of technical vocational instruction; and Robert Stenger, dean of academic instruction. The club's annual card party and smorgasbord will be held Saturday night, Nov. 4 and is open to the public. Interested women may obtain tickets from BPW club members.

Councilman Robert Wildish commented that the building is "a pain in the neck" since it was closed several years ago and something should be done about the mess. Councilman James Lowe pointed out that the building is in an area being considered for a federally-financed urban renewal project.

Lowe also suggested that since the federal government has new and more strict criteria for renewal projects, the City Council, Planning Commission, urban renewal director, city attorney, and planning consultant convene to discuss the issue and take quick action. Sletten told the council that the region has to be officially designated an urban renewal area so building permits for new improvements could be stopped.

BUT THE NATURE of the region has improved in recent months with the opening of a new Chatham Supermarket and New Life Carpets located in the northeast section of the downtown area. There are at least two groups interested in buying the Square Deal Club (now owned by two attorneys) and "quite a development could be built." Lowe replied that Sletten's remarks "point out the urgency of the matter and we move on it this week."

Mayor Timothy J. Murphy concurred and said that a meeting would be scheduled for this week.

IN OTHER ACTION at Monday's council meeting, approval was granted to the bid of \$9.90 per ton of salt. The salt will be delivered by the International Salt Co., recommended by Dept. of Public Works Supt. George Langford. The bid was one of three proposals, which were identical. No reason or comments were made on why the International Salt Co. was given the contract over the other two firms.

Police Capt. Frank H. Sanders was given another one-year extension past the city's retirement program maximum age. The council concurred with the recommendation of Police Chief Robert Behrendt. Sanders, a long-time officer in the department, will retire next October when he reaches the mandatory retirement age of 65.

CITY CLERK-TREASURER William Coyer was given authority to advertise for bids for a new garbage rubbish pickup contract, which expires next April.

It was commented by several councilmen that if the bids come in near the \$1.90 per unit price (which is being paid by Livocis) the city's own D.P.W. could handle the pickup for less costs. The city now has a three-year contract calling for 71 cents per pickup, about half of what most neighboring communities are paying.

A request to have the Royal Cab Co. of Dearborn Heights operate in the community was tabled to allow City Councilmen to obtain more information and to await the outcome of next Monday's court case involving the current cab company, Garden City Cab.

Car Thief Caught

Known acts of car theft led to the arrest and upcoming trial in circuit court of 17-year-old Norton A. Zimmerman, Jr., 9968 Kialoch, Redford. He was arrested by Redford Township Police Oct. 7 and charged with unlawfully driving away an auto from the E.J. Korvette parking lot. Pleading not guilty at Justice Court arraignment Oct. 9 he was bound over to circuit court.

A Redford Township Police officer arrested Zimmerman after questioning him some time after the theft. Zimmerman was sought because he was a known offender in the past.

Bomb Threat Shot Down

Disappointed that teachers hadn't struck his school, perhaps, an unknown youth attempted to get it closed with an old, old ruse. The boy's voice on the telephone told Grace Keller, clerk at Beech Road school, that a bomb would go off in 15 minutes, at 12:30 p.m., Oct. 16.

She called police, explaining that the voice hadn't said in which school. Assistant Superintendent Jim Mathison took the awful risk. Considering it a prank, he refrained from evacuating the building.

The bomb failed to explode.

The Quiet One



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