

Lathrup Residents Discuss Zoning Law at Public Hearing

Proposed \$82,313 Budget Presented For Consideration

LATHRUP—The city's proposed 1955-56 budget, calling for appropriations of \$82,313, was presented to the council last Monday night by City Administrator Leonard Watchowski.

The proposed budget, not quite \$4,000 over last year's \$78,004.58 expense sheet, was accepted but referred to the budget advisory committee, by the council, which was on the brink of a public hearing on a proposed zoning ordinance.

All other business that could be delayed was pushed aside for the public hearing, including the budget, which calls for a 5% tax levy to cover operation, plus a 1% mill assessment which would go to a municipal building fund.

"AN INCREASE in salaries and wages for employees has been included in the budget for merit and added responsibility, and to bring our wage scale more in line with other municipalities," said Watchowski's report, pointing out that city employees receive no fringe benefits.

Provisions were also made for an additional clerk-typist employee at \$2,500 per year. "This is necessary due to increased work as a result of paving assessments, added general clerical work, and a backlog of ordinance typing and other typing that has never been completed," said Watchowski.

THE PROPOSED budget, which runs 1/2 mill over original aims to keep the operating expenses down to five mills, was termed an "absolutely minimum budget," by Watchowski's report.

"To meet all the requests for services that come into the office daily would require a tax rate for city operation much greater than five mills. Many requests have been received for a full time police officer, better dog policing, dust control on our streets, more frequent rubbish collection. I only mention these for your consideration," the report concluded.

Plan International Affairs Seminar At Cranbrook

CRANBROOK—Young Americans will have a unique opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge about the political and cultural affairs of Russia and Europe during a two-day seminar April 28-29 at Kingswood and Cranbrook Schools, Bloomfield Hills.

The seminar, which will feature distinguished members of six foreign nations, is open to students from all schools in the area as well as representatives from public schools in Birmingham and the East Hills.

From the University of Michigan Professors A. Lobanov-Rostovsky, Vincent A. Scano, and James H. White, and from the Institute of International Affairs and Western Europe, respectively. Foreign consultants now stationed in Detroit are Helmut G. Franke, W. H. Van Alkemade of Western Germany and John M. Fisher of Great Britain, will also be in attendance.

"IT IS HOPED that through an intensive program such as this, students will gain an understanding of international problems as they concern the United States, and their relationship with foreign powers," conference chairman Ben M. Snyder of Cranbrook School stated.

The Kingswood-Cranbrook seminar is an outgrowth of an original program proposed several years ago by the United Nations. Speakers from foreign delegations were invited to various schools of the country to participate in school conferences, but the program became too costly and was abandoned.

Southfield Club Hears Pros, Cons On Incorporation

SOUTHFIELD—The last of three new members was inducted into membership by the Kiwanis Club of Southfield at the regular meeting April 13.

Roman Wendell, 21219 Hiawatha, is the most recent member.

At previous meeting, Charles Marando and John Hipel were inducted. All are residents of the result of a current drive for new members.

In addition to the induction ceremony the club considered the pros and cons of incorporation under the discussion leadership of Jack Holmer.

The June 7 election on the question of incorporating the town-ship made the program interesting and important.



ETHEL MERRILL, LEE BOSARD, ANTON PATTI, GERTRUDE SLEGT

Medical Assistance members meet informally with toastmaster Patti before dinner. (Eccentric Photos)



MRS. CHARLOTTE ASH, MRS. ELSIE PECK

State MA president (left), past president meet.

Urge Avoidance of "Strip" Building

Some of the reasons for avoiding "strip," "ribbon," or "hoeshirting" type commercial zoning, were listed last week in a report issued by the Detroit Metropolitan Area Regional Planning Commission.

Since such construction is underway or planned for the nearby communities, it might be well to list several of the more important reasons for avoiding "strip" development.

The mixture of homes and stores that usually accompanies "strip" commercial depreciates the street for both purposes.

"Strip" development on both sides of a busy street makes pedestrian crossings difficult, and hence impedes successful merchandising.

THE DISTANCE between stores necessitates excessive walking or a number of short driving trips which tend to discourage the multi-purpose shopper.

The additional traffic generated by planned shopping centers to make street widening, require purchases of expensive commercial frontage; (2) vehicles turning into and out from many access points interrupts through traffic and creates serious traffic hazards; (3) the community having to provide necessary off-street parking, and general compaction of the whole off-street parking problem.

The type of businesses attracted are often of the less stable type, and add relatively little to the tax base of the community.

Achievement Day Rewarding for Bloomfield 4-H'ers

Bloomfield 4-H Club members succeeded in carrying away many awards in the competition on Oakland County Achievement Day, held in Pontiac on April 2. Work finished since the 4-H fair last August was displayed and judged.

On the basis of these awards and general all-around good participation in club work, two members became eligible each year in Oakland County for a four-year tuition scholarship to Michigan State college, either in the school of agriculture or home economics.

IN ADDITION to awards previously published, the following received ribbons: in photography, blue ribbons to Sharon Brodie, Lynn Granger, Sarah Snyder, Lois Saylor, Larry Myers and Nan Ribbons; red ribbons to Carol Brodie and Priscilla Snyder; white ribbons to Priscilla Snyder and Ralph Hoxie.

In handicraft, blue ribbons went to Sharon and Carol Brodie, Priscilla Snyder, Elnor Hellenberg and Sandra Smart; red ribbons to Jerry Chalmers, Carl Hellenberg, Sarah Snyder, Mary Emery, Helen Miles, Larry Myers; a white ribbon to Ralph Hoxie.

IN CLOTHING, blue ribbons to Sharon Brodie, Pat Rander, Renee Moulthroop, Elaine Hall, Sarah Snyder, Andrea Smart, Christine Myers and Christine Layman, red ribbons to Nan Jones, Lois Saylor, Carol Brodie and Priscilla Snyder. In foods, blue ribbons went to Ralph Hoxie and Pat Rander; in knitting, a red ribbon to Mary Emery; as a junior leader and a 4-H Club Girl, two blue ribbons to Pat Rander.

In tractor maintenance, a blue ribbon went to Ralph Hoxie; red



"GREETINGS: It is the decision of this Government that you will join the Union of Amalgamated Farmers not later than May 15, 1955. Failure to comply will result in..."

Medical Group Holds Meeting At Kingsley

By ELIZABETH BUNNELL

Medical assistants of Oakland County held a dinner meeting at Kingsley Inn on April 12 to discuss incorporation.

Invitations were sent to all girls employed in medical offices of doctors in good standing in the Oakland County Medical Society by Mrs. Ethel Merrill, Mrs. Lee Bosard and Miss Gertrude Slegt. About 120 attended the meeting.

Dr. Vincent Russell, of Royal Oak, president of the Oakland County Medical Society, gave the welcoming address, offering any assistance which the society could give.

Dr. Arthur Young, president-elect for 1956 of the Oakland County Medical Society, and Dr. Otto Beck, of Birmingham, past president of the Michigan State Medical Association, were among the guests.

CHARLOTTE ASH, of Kalamazoo, state president of the Medical Assistants society, spoke of the history and meaning of the organization, and Elizabeth E. Peck of Detroit, past president of the state organization, served as chairman and guided the group toward the order of business.

Master of ceremonies for the dinner was Anton J. Patti, of the Michigan Medical Service, which was also represented by William Boyles, director of public relations, and Gordon Cox, Pontiac, Blue Cross district manager.

Community Planning Conference In Flint

The 1955 Annual Michigan Society of Planning Officials Conference will be held in Flint at the Durant Hotel May 6 and 7.

This is the 11th state-wide conference and is open to persons interested in improving their community.

The theme of Friday's meeting will be "Suburbanizing and zoning problems," which will be presented by a panel.

On Saturday two panels will discuss zoning and state plat act deficiencies.

Other topics of interest to small and large communities will be given consideration during the conference.

Improved Township Lays Considered

A new township planning act is expected to be placed in the hands of Michigan legislators by 1956.

The Zoning Technical Planning Committee of the Detroit Regional Planning Commission recently made known their intention of creating a more effective piece of legislation in behalf of the townships.

The committee called on communities to submit to them any special problems encountered under existing zoning and zoning legislation, so solutions of these problems might be included in the proposed act.

Members to Jerry Chalmers, Dan Nagelvoort, Peter Sinter, Paul and Carl Hellenberg and Larry Myers; a white ribbon to John Nagelvoort.

Mandamus Filed By Oil Concern Against Lathrup

LATHRUP—A writ of mandamus has been filed in Oakland County Circuit court by the Highland Oil Company asking a show-cause order why the city administrator should not issue a permit to the company to build a gas station on the northeast corner of Glenwood and Southfield. A hearing will be held April 25.

"Restrictions on the deal allow the construction," according to James Hartwick, who with Clarence C. Gillespie, both of Pontiac, represent the oil company.

CLAIMING there was no zoning ordinance now in effect, Hartwick said the request was proper and was "contrary to nothing."

Residents of Lathrup, are for the most part, opposed to any gas station construction within the limits of the city, and also contend that, although they have no city zoning ordinance they are still opposing under the Southfield zoning ordinance, which allows commercial building along Southfield, but at where Highland wishes to build.

List 3 Reasons For Annexation Move by Vickers

By ELIZABETH BUNNELL

TROY—Norman R. Barnard, supervisor, gave three possible reasons Tuesday night why Vickers Inc. wishes to have its 75-acre tract at Maple and Crooks roads annexed to Royal Oak, when he spoke to about 100 persons at the Troy High school during incorporation progress report.

Listing the first two as water, which has less mineral content and a lack of understanding on sewage disposal, Barnard said the third, which had most basis in fact but came from a "good source," was based on taxes.

Meeting Centers on Road Planning

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HILAND M. THATCHER, West Bloomfield township supervisor, will comment on the local situation, and J. D. Carroll Jr., traffic study director, will be available for questions.

Charter Commission Petitions Prepared

BINGHAM FARMS—Petitions for five charter commission members have been completed, it was announced last week by William King, chairman of the incorporation movement in the subdivision.

The petitions are due to be filed by May 6 with the Oakland County clerk, and should be filed in a few days, according to King.

Named on the petitions are King, Dr. Frank E. Lamberson, William E. Hyland, James McQuire and Carson Bingham.

Audience Favors Ordinance

By WILLIAM H. THOMAS

LATHRUP—A turn-away crowd of 250 residents packed the council room Monday night to hear the council dispose with minor business before tackling the public hearing on a proposed zoning ordinance.

During the hearing almost the entire audience, when asked by Councilwoman Kathryn Freyresen to stand if they favored the acceptance of the proposed zoning law, arose to their feet.

A recording machine and a stenographer, who took the record of the meeting's exchanges, failed to note, for the records, the audience's applause and cheers, demonstrating the viewpoint of the speaker. Most of those present favored early adoption of the zoning law.

BEFORE the hearing James Campbell presented the council with a petition signed by 100 persons, urging protest of any proposed gas station construction in Lathrup.

Fourteen signed letters were received by the council since last week's meeting when two oil companies made overtures for station construction in the city. Most, if not all, the letters asked that the stations be barred.

After the 3 1/2 hour meeting was at an end, councilmen recessed until Friday night when they will again take up the zoning ordinance and have other business affairs neglected Monday.

TWO SQUABBLERS, not unusual for a Lathrup council meeting, also presided the hearing.

Councilman J. C. Freyresen raised objection to including the names of Everett Hayes, city attorney, and other appointments.

Miss Freyresen claimed parliamentary rule as the prerogative of the council chairman.

Councilman William Harvie disapproved the arbitrary appointment of Hayes as city attorney, and recessed meeting said, "Why is it you just establish a date without any deliberation?"

"WE HAVE a certain schedule to do things in a short period of time," answered Mayor John G. Campbell.

Miss Freyresen gained considerable support from the audience when she asked, "What day was it we issued the bank permit?"

It was the issuance, at a special meeting March 18, of a permit to build a branch of the Detroit and the National Bank of Detroit to build a branch on Southfield at 12 Mile, which triggered a wave of protest from residents who demanded an immediate zoning ordinance at subsequent meetings.

CAMPBELL opened the zoning hearing by tracing the action of the zoning ordinance through the committee, which was created last fall and presented the council with a preliminary report at which time the first reading of the ordinance was heard, and a public hearing date set for last Monday night.

Holding discussions to three minutes per person, Campbell first called upon Lester Downie, who suggested an elaboration of the zoning ordinance.

Hayes pointed out that commercial zoning was considered for a block on each side of Southfield, south of 11 Mile, a block on each side of Southfield south of 11 Mile, and 7 blocks on each side of Southfield north of 11 Mile. All other lots would be zoned residential.

"HAVE YOU had competent legal counsel," asked former councilman, David B. Reiwold, "We're not on an equal ground. Our city attorney, it is alleged, said there are so many loopholes in this ordinance you can push a box car through it."

Hayes, demanding to know who alleged this, he made the statement, denied the quote when told it came from Harvie. Harvie said Hayes made the remark two weeks ago.

Mrs. Reed, who at the last meeting insisted that the zoning ordinance procedure could make council action null and void, asked Hayes, "Is a legal way, is there no reason to believe that the zoning ordinance is anything but legal in procedure?"

HAYES said that, "L. C. Andrews Jr. termed the proposed document a slightly drawn ordinance." The points out that each zoning ordinance stands by itself. We have no way of knowing the circumstances. We have to draw an ordinance as we know how," according to Hayes.

Andrews, when contacted Tuesday by The Eccentric, said he had pointed out the zoning ordinance and zoning committee were "kating on this ice, on some propositions," but added that these were covered by good red tape on the most part.

(See HEARING, Page 5, Sec. 5)

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AT A MEETING last week of subdivision residents at the Birmingham Community House, King and other leaders of the movement explained what has been accomplished to date on the petitions for approval for a vote to incorporate the subdivision as a village on June 7.

Earlier last week the Oakland County Board of Supervisors granted approval of Bingham Farms to go ahead with their vote on incorporation.

King walked rumors that another community has been behind the Bingham incorporation move.

Recent Rumors Named Persons From City of Lathrup

It was also emphasized by King at the meeting that Farms residents had no axe to grind with Southfield township.

"We have a problem and they have theirs," said King. "We just want to remain as we are now. There are certain areas of Southfield that do need city services, but that's not our business, and we are one of those."

Bingham Farms residents violently opposed joining Southfield as a city. Southfield votes on incorporation on the same day as do the Farms residents.

WHEN BOTH petitions for incorporation were approved last week, opposition in the subdivision melted away.

"We have acreage here. We're not interested in raw housing, because when you get raw housing you have to have sewers, added fire protection and other services that go with a city," King explained.

Among those present at the

Girls Run Through Traffic, Is Injured

Seven-year-old Carol Morrison of 402 Larchbia, was treated for a head injury when she was struck by an auto Sunday at West Maple and Chesterfield.

Witnesses and the car's driver, Mrs. Teresa McCabe, 67, of Ontario, Canada, said the girl dashed between halted eastbound traffic into the path of Mrs. McCabe's westbound auto, according to Birmingham police.

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LOCAL THESPIANS REHEARSING for the forthcoming Kingswood-Cranbrook production of the melodrama, "Gold in the Hills," are left to right, Linda Bates of Bloomfield Hills, Joanna Kellogg of Birmingham, Howard Nack of Flint, Martha Buhs of Birmingham, Jeanne Luce of Bloomfield Hills, and Joby Fredrickson of Birmingham. "Gold in the Hills" will be given Friday and Saturday evenings, April 22 and 23 in the Cranbrook School auditorium.