

Southfield Leaders Express Opinions

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between Greenfield and Southfield and most of the 191 homeowners there were against the charter. In the charter, we're more or less going against it on several points. I vote for incorporation but I like a few changes in the charter. The treasurer and clerk should be elected, not appointed. The first meeting should be held over there, concluded Mrs. Bagan. Home owners will meet Sunday to take a definite stand on the charter.

JAMES FORD, 26410 West 10 Hill road, past president, Edgewood Hills Property Owners Ass'n. "I am not speaking as an officer of the association but I have been delegated to speak out against the charter. The chief objection we have against the charter is its weak city manager type of government. We also object to the four year terms of councilmen and the 10 mill tax limit as established by the charter. If the charter is defeated we will look for a charter that corrects the basic problems in the present charter because we are not against incorporation."

Edgewood Hills Property Owners Ass'n represents 15 homeowners, chartered from 10 Mile to 10 1/2 Mile road with Inkster as its western boundary and Holy Sepulchre cemetery on the east and north. **John Ellis**, 26725 Beechfield road is president of the association.

"AS FAR as I know, most of them were for a whole township," said Robert E. Faroni, 22424 Fairway, president of Golfview Home Association, with 20 families between 9 and 9 1/2 Mile and Telegraph.

BEN F. WILSON, 24755 Lathrop, president, Southampton Home Owners Ass'n. "We're holding a meeting to discuss both sides of the question, but the association has not gone on record either for or against the charter or incorporation. Public opinion here seems to be divided. I would guess that it is 50-50 for and against the charter."

SOUTHFIELD Citizens League has not gone on record for or against the charter, said its president, **Howard Coleman** of 21240 Telegraph road. "There are four reasons in my opinion, but we haven't considered any of them worth a fight," said Coleman whose

group contains 200 to 300 families between 10 1/2 Mile road and the north, and Southfield on the

HENRY DE MEYER, 24107 Telegraph, president of Oakland Village Civic Association, a township trustee and candidate for city council, said he favors of 200 families has gone on record against the charter. The subdivision is north and south of 10 1/2 Mile between Telegraph and Inkster road.

"I am sure our efforts to bring the facts before the people that the charter would be a bad one for Southfield, have not been wasted. We who have worked against the charter are confident that the citizens of Southfield will defeat it. We hope that every registered voter will vote in the election and their vote for or against the charter will guide us in our future course of action in efforts to establish the best possible government for Southfield," concluded De Meyer.

"THE MAJORITY of my neighborhood," said **LAWRENCE J. HAAS**, 21720 Maplewood, whose husband heads the Maplewood Improvement Ass'n, including Eight Mile between Lakeside and Telegraph.

"BASICALLY we are against any incorporation," said **MARVIN MARSH**, president of Citizens for Southfield. "Beyond that we're against this specific charter because we feel that this particular charter will take all control of government out of the hands of the people. We feel that the \$45 tax rate is absolutely too high."

RICHARD BLACKHALL, 19878 Elizabeth, president, Beverly Arlesan Improvement Ass'n. "We haven't gone on record either for or against the charter or incorporation. We have tried to give the people of our association the whole story and let them as individuals make up their own minds. At our last meeting, held last Thursday night at the Birmingham Community House, we had speakers for and against the charter and we had a good turnout. About 75 to 80 members of our association attended but we didn't take a vote." The Beverly Arlesan Improvement Ass'n is just a little beyond a year old. Boundaries of the association, which represents 104 homes, are 13 Mile on the south, Pierce on the east, Lauderdale on

the north, and Southfield on the

WILLIAM SLOCUM, 17429 Beechwood, treasurer, turned secretary of Beverly Hills No. 5 Ass'n. "We've gone on record against the charter. No decision was made on incorporation. The various points in the charter that our group is not in favor of concern the four-year terms, treasurer and clerk being appointive officers, the tax rate and the one-year system."

There are about 145 members in the association which takes in the area of Southfield to Pierce and Beverly in Kinross. The township is about six or seven years old. **Dr. Sexton**, 17556 Beechwood, is president.

"NO THEY haven't gone on record," they're very much divided," said **PAUL E. MILLER**, 25700 Lois Lane, co-chairman of Hillcrest Arlesan Association which has 25 families between 10 and 10 1/2 Mile and Lakeside and Lois Lane.

JOHN S. HOLMES, 18470 Westhaven, president of the 75-member Lakewood Ass'n. "The charter was formed with the sole purpose of incorporating Southfield and the present are helping the commission to bring the various points of the charter before the people."

"I believe the people that wrote it and some of the people that are running are reliable. Ninety per cent voted in favor of incorporation of Southfield, but I don't know the feeling on the charter," said Faroni.

"WERE AGAINST it," said **VINCENT SOTO**, president of Washington Civic Ass'n. "There are three points that we can't compromise: taxes should be lower, clerk and treasurer should be elected and there should be a new charter commission."

NOBERT B. SWARTZ, 24287 Lois Lane, McEllan College View Association, said 75 per cent of the 50 families favored the charter. "The area is south of 10 Mile, one block east of Lakeside."

WALTER HEMSLER, 19320 Middlesex, president of the Northampton Civic Ass'n representing about 85 home owners. "We haven't had a general association meeting since last spring, just an informal showing of hands on how the group felt about incorporation. It was not official but the indication then was strongly for incorporation and I don't think the opinions has changed since."

ROBERT WUERFEL, 25120 Circle drive, president of Murphy Orchard Estates Ass'n for three years. "We have gone on record 100 per cent for the charter and are in favor of incorporation. We realize there are excerpts of the charter that all do not fully agree upon, but we feel that the city should be incorporated as soon as possible. Then, if we decide later, we can make any little changes we may find necessary. We feel that the facts that are not agreed upon now are not important enough to vote the charter down."

Boundaries of the Murphy Orchard Estates Ass'n are Lois Lane on the west, 10 Mile on the south, Northwestern highway on the east, running back to about 10 1/2 Mile. The association is seven or eight years old, and represents 72 home owners.

prized group," according to Swartz, according to one president.

EUGENE SWEM, township supervisor, chairman of the charter commission, and leader of Southfield Improvement Association, a township trustee and president of Telegraph between 8 and 9 1/2 Mile, said the 1,100 families there were split about 50-50.

"There is a rather large indifferent group that think incorporation doesn't affect them directly. I personally have nothing to gain by incorporation, but I feel for the township as a whole. We should incorporate and this charter is the best charter that we could get together at this time."

"I feel strongly enough about it so that I put in all the hours that I can stand and pay my own postage and distribution expense. I don't keep right on going if it doesn't pay for itself directly. I personally have nothing to gain by incorporation, but I feel for the township as a whole. We should incorporate and this charter is the best charter that we could get together at this time."

DAVID J. CLARK, Washington Heights Civic Ass'n. "Our association, which is nine years old, represents approximately 75 homeowners of the bounded by Southfield on the east, Santa Barbara on the west, 9 1/2 Mile on the south and Lakeside on the north."

"We voted for incorporation but since the writing of the charter, our group feels that there are a few things in the charter that should be ironed out. They are trying to rush the charter through. As far as our group is concerned, we are going to vote this charter down."

JOHN OSUND, president, Forest Glen Improvement Ass'n. "The association has not gone on record for or against either the charter or incorporation but I believe the feeling of our group is against incorporation and against the charter, too. The majority of our home owners are not here for one reason... they wanted the country atmosphere and want it to remain that way."

EMANUEL CHRISTENSEN, 17450 Cornell, city commissioner, candidate, charter commissioner and past president of the Magnolia Civic Ass'n. "I am not the president of the association now but I have been for the past five years. I know how the association feels about the charter and incorporation. There are always some individuals who feel differently and will vote differently but, as a whole, the group feels in favor of incorporation and the charter. Basically, there is nothing wrong with the charter."

ROBERT STANSBERRY, 17155 Buckingham, president, 250-home Beverly-Golfhurst Ass'n. "What we have tried to do in our association is give information to people so they could be informed. We had a meeting last June prior to the incorporation vote and while the group did not go on record against incorporation, their views were clearly expressed by the election vote, about 3 to 1 against."

"At a meeting held Monday night, Association members voted unanimously against the charter," Stansberry said, "and they will continue to be against it until the time comes when a charter is written that will leave control in the hands of the people. The astronomical tax rate and the four-year terms which may put a small group in control are two things we especially don't like about this charter."

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The Beverly-Golfhurst Ass'n formed in 1932, is bounded by the south side of 14 Mile, Pierce on the west, Mahan, 25th Avenue, the east and Southfield, on the west.

WILLIAM C. RAMSDALE, 28032 Spring Arbor, president of Cambridge Gardens Ass'n, said that at a joint meeting of his group and Cambridge Village residents last week to hear pros and cons of incorporation and the charter, he felt that those who attended leaned against the charter.

"The association has gone on public record stating that there is no excuse for not allowing the zoning situation by means of the charter or major zoning amendment and that a definite plan to help Beverly Hills, which was suggested by an attorney representing city officials and Milton, whose group has been fighting bitterly against zoning commercial use."

GEORGE W. MURPHY, 32065 Verona circle, president of Greenfield Hills Improvement Ass'n, said his area, which encompasses 400 homes, has gone on record against incorporation, as well as the charter.

"I'm convinced that many of the people who were carried away by the early campaign of those sponsoring the 'city' movement are now at least on a more complete and accurate information has been brought to light."

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it would be a good thing to sit back on our ears and study it. Perhaps someday it would be good. I'm not convinced we should do it now," concluded Ramsdale.

"WE HAVEN'T gone on record for or against it, but I think the feeling is to start out our city with a real feeling is that we don't like the charter as it is written. I've checked and double-checked it so far as I can see. There can be no error as in the John Holwood, president of the past. And three civil service jobs in the charter which I feel should later be eliminated, said Ramsdale.

"I am against the present charter—strongly as I can be. As far as the issue of incorporation, I voted for it last summer, but now I think I'm changing my mind."

"Some of the people in the area are quite strongly in favor and some are tolerantly if not vehemently against the charter. I think most people don't know and don't care. This is the worst part," said Ramsdale.

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to within one-half mile of Greenfield. "I think the charter has been the effort of a few dedicated people and there are some provisions in the charter which I feel should later be eliminated, said Ramsdale. "One the tax ceiling is too high to start out our city with, and three civil service jobs in the charter which I feel should later be eliminated, said Ramsdale.

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