

The Birmingham Eclectic

BIRMINGHAM MICHIGAN

'round the towns news

LATHRUP • FRANKLIN • WING LAKE • GILBERT LAKE • WALNUT LAKE • FOXCROFT • W. & E. BEVERLYS • THE BERKSHIRES • VALLEY WOODS • SOUTHFIELD, BLOOMFIELD & W. BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIPS

State Reveals Giant Northwestern Plans

B'field Plans 3rd Fire Station Near Maple, Telegraph

BLOOMFIELD—A third Bloomfield township fire station in the Maple-Telegraph area is probably by late 1936, Trustee Homer Case revealed Monday night.

The township is now in the process of construction of its second fire station near Eastover school to serve the eastern section of Bloomfield.

Case announced plans for the third station when asked for an opinion on a projected fire protection pact between Bloomfield Village and Westchester.

He said "unless we have to go to court to condemn property for a site, we will have a third station in 1936."

CASE SAID A site on Maple road would be much more desirable than one on Telegraph because of traffic conditions. The station would be operating at the latest by January 1936.

The new station would have a one-man fulltime staff, he said. The township board Monday night rejected all bids received for construction of its new eastside station to be finished by 1936.

Eight bids, including one which arrived a few minutes after the deadline, were received. The lowest bid—for \$34,497—was the late one. It came from William Pulte, township residential builder.

THE OTHER seven bids ranged from \$36,000 to \$42,000. Case said he has several revisions to be made on plans for the eastside station. One would include a half-basement at the rear of the ranch-type structure, patterned after the new fire station on Big Beaver. Some of the changes might save money.

Construction of the new eastside fire hall is designed to fit in with the subdivision.

The board decided to readvertise bids, incorporating the changes in the new plans.

Case said Monday a fire truck is on order for the new station. It will be staffed fulltime by one man. A volunteer department will be set up in the interim.

HE SAID A truck from the present station on Telegraph near Long Lake would also answer any home fire calls received by the eastside station.

HE ADDED he plans to make the present fire station a central dispatch station for both Bloomfield fire and police departments. A fire radio frequency for the township is also being considered.

It Seems Just Books Don't Make a Library

By DOROTHY ZATELL, Eclectic Correspondent

LATHRUP—What's a city without a library? What's a library without a home? Just a stack of books—700 or more, all catalogued and ready to circulate.

But, asked to okay a library, city attorney Everett Hayes, the zoning board of appeals and the Lathrup council say "No, taint legal."

Monday night the council turned down the Lathrup Woman's club who wanted to use a room in the house-in-the-woods as a public library. This was done to prevent additional non-conforming use of the house—zoned residential, but now being used not only as a city hall and post office, but as a bi-monthly meeting place for the woman's club. Each additional non-conforming use weakens the zoning restriction, Hayes warned.

Dr. and Mrs. C. E. Stebbins of 256 1/2 Morningside thought that the library being established there Lathrup school would be adequate. Mrs. Stebbins said she had a room in the house-in-the-woods as a club members as well as a reading room for club members without adding a non-conforming use.

MRS. GEORGE Ritter and her library committee have worked for a year collecting and sorting books. They were donated by Lathrup residents, and others were bought from a private dealer. The books are now overflowing from shelves in the library alcove just off the council chambers in the house-in-the-woods.

When the club members began the work on the library they planned to furnish an upstairs room in the house-in-the-woods with chairs and tables and develop a "really fine library" for the use of all residents. Shelves for the books are donated by a resident. The library was to be staffed by volunteers and girl scouts.

SCHOOL CHILDREN through high school as well as adults were to benefit from the convenient located library. To get the project started the club voted \$500 to be spent for additional equipment.

The project was proceeding smoothly with the blessing of the club's 215 members. It is but a snag—they found they needed a permit to use the house-in-the-woods. Application was made for



It's a wide, wide world for Kathy Kimmins and her little Lady.

Purebreds, Doggone Mutts Steal Show

BLOOMFIELD—A canine carnival was had by area children and their pooches Monday at the north parking area of the Wright's Super Market at Telegraph and Maple.

Varied faces from varied places made friends at a dog show, sponsored by Wright's and the Kennel-Ration division of the Quaker Oats Co.

A four-foot great dane nuzzled a four-inch puppy. A French poodle strutted the premise in baby clothes. And the non-descript, all-inclusive mongrels behaved admirably in the company of registered spots.

No skirmishes occurred, but much nose-pricking and loush-tugging did.

Judges awarded prizes to the best costumed dog, the dog with the most spots, dog with the longest tail, shaggyest dog, best groomed dog and best of show.

A great dane copped first in the long tail contest. The only problem in judging this event occurred when a meek collie preferred to sit on his tail rather than have it measured.

Judges dabbled in complotometry when the "dog with the most spots" was selected. The winner snatched first by a hair—or a flea—or something.

A small dog ironically donned hand-me-down overalls and a faced blue T-shirt to win the "best dressed" award.

Prizes included gold and silver cups, travel kits for dogs, a working globe, phonograph records, T-shirts and ribbons. Every award was given.

Many dogs were given medals with a ribbon and every child received a sun-viser cap and a campaign-type button.

CAMPBELL finished third in the 10-candidate race for two board seats, but contested runner-up Milton Huber's claim to one of them to fulfill a property requirement.

The board finally appointed Campbell, who finished fourth at the polls, after hearing the state attorney general's decision in a similar case. The ruling there was that a vacancy existed.

In a letter to the board Campbell said the board decision to appoint Ernest Coverdell "should be challenged and acted in court."

"This would require considerable time and money," Campbell wrote, adding, "A job I cannot afford to undertake as one individual."

Huber announced, "After much consultation I have decided to refrain from starting any legal action that would cause further confusion and expense."

He said he would seek election to the balance of the four-year term at next year's election. As a board appointment to fill a vacancy, Coverdell can serve in the next public election, when he can become a candidate for the remainder of the term.

Westwood Shudders At High Sewer Cost

WESTWOOD—The cost of sewers-to-be set Westwood councilmen shuddering Monday.

Fresh from a meeting about the Evergreen interceptor at Westwood price tag of \$220,200, the councilmen winced when county drain commissioner Dan Barry tossed out \$357,518 as Westwood's 12-Town drain bill and dropped baleful hints about an Artesian drain to come.

Barry explained that the 12-Town actually will drain only about 153 acres in Westwood, making the per acre cost about \$2,330. Barry figures there are about three homes per acre, making the cost about \$777 each, without interest. The usual 30 year payment arrangement would add almost double this amount by adding interest charges.

The Westwood area involved is between Greenfield and Sheridan and its and 1 1/2 mile road Barry leaves it to each community to decide how the money should be raised, but special assessments of property owners involved is the usual method.

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Double-Deck Expressway In Southfield

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Lathrup Zones 'Unrealistic,' Board Says

LATHRUP—Mayor Richard Cogger has set July 23 for a special meeting of the township board of review regarding zoning on Southfield, 11 and 12 Mile roads.

In a letter to the council, the board of review members, Harry Mack, L. C. Becker and A. Ken-Edwards called the single residence zoning of property fronting on Lathrup's main thoroughfares "unrealistic."

When these lots were assessed, city administrator Leonard Watchowski told the council, assessments had been based on a high sales value. However, because zoning affects the assessment, and the lots were zoned residential, the board of review had been forced out the assessments back.

WATCHOWSKI said the city had lost large tax revenues from important business locations because of the residential zoning of property where residences would be inconceivable.

In his letter, the board of review asked the council to establish a special zoning committee to give special help from zoning experts and review the city's zoning laws.

Lathrup Manager Is Not Named Yet

LATHRUP—No new city administrator for Lathrup yet.

Leonard Watchowski is dividing his time between finishing up Lathrup business for his successor and getting acquainted with his new job in Roseville.

Lathrup city council members will meet again tonight about naming a new administrator. Watchowski resigned a week ago and will leave Lathrup July 22.

Fix 11 Mile In 1937?

LATHRUP—Residents unhappy about the condition of 11 Mile road from the county road commission were given some hope Monday when council members read a letter from the county road commission telling them 11 Mile had been placed on the construction list for 1936, or possibly 1937.

The road commission will also widen Southfield at 12 Mile in 1939 according to their letter.

Franklin Councilmen To Study Problem Of Business Parking

FRANKLIN—Increased parking problems in the business district along Franklin road may prompt a review of the village's present ordinance, councilmen considered Monday night.

A report made by Fred Worden, chairman of the planning commission, revealed that even though most of the new businesses were providing the required space for parking, conditions seemed to be getting more congested.

IN OTHER ACTION, the board approved architects' plans for a proposed new junior high school at 11-Mile and Evergreen, to be built along the lines of Lederle school at an estimated total cost of \$1,000,000. Bids for construction work and other installations will be due Aug. 18, the board decided.

Contracts totaling \$206,579 were awarded for work on an additional 1200 sq. ft. addition to the school. The present water system at the school will be replaced with a city water line. An additional \$1,500 would be paid the subdivision in line-pay fees.

AN HOUR-LONG argument by residents of Roseland Park subdivision resulted in the council's decision to grant a zoning change for the Lederle school playground and amending its requirements on a grading job for the same area.

New bids were asked for a five-foot fence after residents protested a six-foot one as being an eyesore. The board agreed to preserve all trees possible in grading playground area to help separate it from nearby homes.

THE BLOOMFIELD board of trustees did, however, appoint a representative and alternate to the board of trustees of the north Evergreen sewage disposal authority.

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Leaves B'field Zoning Board; Joined in 1940

BLOOMFIELD—Mrs. Elizabeth Dowling, E. Long Lake road, resigned Monday night from Bloomfield township's zoning board after serving on the body for 18 years.

Mrs. Dowling, who joined the zoning board Jan. 22, 1918, and served until the township's original zoning laws, gave ill health as her reason.

Her replacement for her has been named.

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Franklin Health Officer Sings the Sewer Blues

FRANKLIN—"I'm the Art Carney of Franklin" lamented councilman Jack Roberts, who, as health administrator of the village, has been checking sewage problems.

His song of the sewers has the sound of the blues.

Pool Problems Face Trustees

BLOOMFIELD—The township board of trustees "cool" problems on its agenda Monday night.

Trustees acknowledged and agreed to a proposed swimming pool and recreation center in an adjacent subdivision which is an annoyance, nuisance and would devalue adjacent property.

Paul Robertson, Royal Oak developer, is planning the "swimming pool" for subdivision residents. The complainants are residents of Hickory Heights No. 1 and Hickory Heights No. 2.

THE BOARD also heard from two persons objecting to the ordinance requiring fences around swimming pools. It asked Attorney A. Floyd Blakelee, to consider a request from Dr. Harry L. Ciggs, 840 Franklin, for use of a cover rather than a fence on his pool.

THE BOARD also recommended that the zone body study a possible change in the zoning laws to give the township control over lighting signs and similar matters.

The three Franklin requests denied by the Bloomfield zoning board would have given him additional commercial frontage on both Telegraph and Maple roads.

The zone board left as residential one 36-foot wide strip to provide an outlet and possible road landlocked property behind the commercial area.

Clarkson Seeking Legislature Seat

SOUTHFIELD—James Clarkson, making his second try for a seat in the state legislature, bases his campaign on the "need for progressive legislation and improvement of the Northwester highway traffic problem."

Clarkson is opposed in the Democratic primary for the fourth district seat.

He is 33, a lawyer, a director of the South Oakland county child guidance clinic, a trustee for Southfield Upper Tennis club and a member of the Southfield board of health.

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