

round the towns news

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM MICHIGAN

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

Southfield Still Looking For Bookkeeper

SOUTHFIELD—It appeared to council members Monday that there is a difference between the words, "bookkeeper" and "accountant" that amounts to exactly \$1,000 annually.

Last week, in their fever to keep the budget at a \$5 per-thousand or less valuation, the council cut \$1,000 from the scheduled year by salary of the city bookkeeper. This week they learned that a good accountant had been recommended by auditors Reeves and Kent. The man is available at a salary of \$5,200 annually, but not at \$4,200.

Although they could have used funds from unallocated surplus, the council was unwilling to change the title of bookkeeper or the salary. The city, therefore, remains without a bookkeeper until applicants for the job have taken a civil service examination and the civil service board makes recommendations.

MONEY MATTERS took a slightly different direction, however, when Councilman Neil McGreary, although a bookkeeper and an engineer at a salary of \$500 more than the \$7,000 provided in the budget. The resolution was approved by the council after brief discussion. The additional \$500 will be paid out of unallocated surplus.

Among other matters settled on the long agenda Monday, the council agreed that the police department members soon to be paid by the city, will issue licenses, do clerical work, and help with the handling of women prisoners.

A tentative date for an information meeting with the Evergreen tract, garbage and hospital authorities has been set for July 1.

A NUMBER of residents represented by Jack Peitz, 28024 Selkirk in the 12 mile road, complained to the council about drainage and paving promised them by their builder. Council member John Hollywood directed the residents to "get together with City Administrator Eugene Swann, Frank Gidley," to solve the problem which was having a "second long airing."

Swann reported that he has a crew of 20 men started on a ditch cleaning project. He said it would probably work on Selkirk this week. Swann also told the council the paving on Selkirk had not been permitted because the builder had intended only a double coat which is not up to city specifications.

Residents were told to petition for paving through regular channels.

APPOINTMENT of John H. Bennett, a hydraulic engineer, to the board of appeals was approved Monday. Bennett met with the board Tuesday evening for the first time after being sworn in by the city clerk.

Council actions at the special meeting June 18 included: Authorizing the building department to condemn the riding stable that has upset its neighbors on Northwestern near Lathrup.

Passing an ordinance setting procedures for expenditures. Seeking for a better condition of employment in the police and fire departments and recommendations for change.

Authorizing paying charter commission attorney Herbert Burdick his fee of \$3,000 for legal advice in writing the successful charter.

Paving Schedule For 1958 Passed LATHRUP — A resolution for the scheduled 1958 paving was adopted at a special meeting of the Lathrup council Monday. There is a possibility that the paving of the street will have to be held until the base settles because the street is entirely new, and it is not advisable to black top it until the base has settled for a matter of months.

Zoning Appeals Count: Five Down, Four to Go

WESTWOOD—Five members were appointed Monday as the nucleus of the village's zoning board of appeals. The board will consist of nine members, the council decided.

The members appointed Monday were nominated by the civic associations in the village. They accept association suggestions the council hopes will have representatives of each part of the village as well as board members who reflect the feeling of the residents.

NAMED MONDAY were Arthur Laffoon, 32251 Arlington, of Greenfield Property Improvement Association; George Dettlinger, 18889 Hillcrest, of West Beverly Hills Association; Hugh G. Albrecht, Sr., 1742 Southview, of Beverly Number 12; Paul McGarity, 20155 Woodhaven, of South Berkshires; and David M. Thompson, 16156 Madoline, of Beverly Manor.

Laffoon and Dettlinger got three-year terms; Thompson and Albrecht, two-year; and McGarity, one year. Still to be named are one member from Valley Woods, one from Beverly Circle, one from Beverly Artesian and one to represent Beverly Number five and Beverly Golfhurst.

THE NEW BOARD will hold an organization meeting Monday at the fire hall on 131 Mile Road. Council members will attend too and explain the board's function and the council's views on maintaining the character of the village.

Three appeals cases are now on file for action by the board, and several have been decided with the village council sitting as an appeals board.

Zoning appeals cases are often controversial and involve lengthy hearings and high fees. The board decides whether to allow deviations from the zoning law in specific cases.

Another resident complained that a tree had been removed, threatening erosion and flooding of his property although he had already spent nearly \$2,000 to protect his home.

There were complaints that the ditching operation created a new dust situation and that fine silt covered the roads and turned to hazardous mud during recent rains.

REIM defended the operation by saying that the village had bettered its drainage at the minimal cost of about twenty-five cents a foot. This, he said, was a definite step in the direction of long range over-all road improvement.

Residents asking that numerous real estate signs appearing in the vicinity of 13 Mile and Telegraph be removed were told that Horace Colwell, zoning officer, had written offenders and was in the process of enforcing the ordinance.

The township board voted to participate in the Huron Valley authority at a cost of three cents a person. It also accepted a low bid to replace 300 feet of fire hose. A proposed heating code presented by the building inspector was tabled for further study. A soft drink permit was issued to a Walnut Lake boat livery at 5500 Putnam.

Get 'Copter Rides SOUTHFIELD—Helicopter rides for St. Michael's youth club members who recruited the most new members in a recent drive, highlighted a teen-age dinner dance recently.

NO SPECIFIC date was set for further action, but present building operations are subject to the existing code.

A lengthy section controlling the size and types of signs in the village should be scheduled for more discussion.

Leaving Franklin

After serving about a year on the Franklin village council, Robert Yingling has resigned. He and his family are moving to Coldwater, Mich., later this summer.

COUNCILMAN Don Kiglar objected to the "debris" left on vacant property and urged that the contractor, Sterling Garrett, be made to haul it away.

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ALL our DEADLINES—NEWS and DISPLAY ADVERTISING—CLASSIFIED ADS—are ADVANCED ONE FULL DAY

Just help us by getting your NEWS and ADVERTISING copy in just as early as possible.

Public Hearing Set for July 7 On Rouge Project LATHRUP — A public hearing will be held on July 7 in the council chambers on the Rouge number 1 project.

City clerk Gerald Stone will send letters to residents inviting them to attend the meeting with County Drain Commissioner Daniel Barry. During warm summer days the little stream known to Lathrup residents as the Evans ditch, becomes evil smelling and stagnates in pools along its course.

The proposed widening and deepening would cost close to \$100,000 and widen the stream to 28 feet and a depth of 13 feet.

Believe it or not, an underwater weed cutter. Sights and Sounds on Gilbert Lake GILBERT LAKE — If you're looking for interesting things to see, just drive past Gilbert lake. A likely positive lakeful of activity may unfold before you.

Last Monday, a typical sunny June day, there were kids swimming, fishing from boats and docks, and riding water bikes. Ashore there were people pruning trees, operating a bull dozer, grading land and planting grass. There was a horse about to go wading, a laborer retrieving dashing madly in and out of the water to retrieve everything the kids threw in the



Back to Nature... A Little

Valley Woods Girl Scout style, a campout involves a cluster of tents arranged around a swimming pool. Troop 142 spent last week preparing, making cook stoves, shopping, planning menus and all the rest for the big week-end event in the backyard of the Bert Gatzward's Bellview trail home.

The weather, however, exhibited an unco-operative spirit and added a few uncivilized raindrops before it relented.

THE DIRECTORS named Tuesday—all but four of them presently in their own local associations—were: Arthur Picotte, 4019 Larkwood, and Mrs. Margaret Begovich, 1750 Ward.

Other bylaws and the organizational plan were adopted enthusiastically and unanimously.

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Evergreen Meeting Spurs Speculation On City of Franklin

FRANKLIN—The somewhat lackadaisical study of whether or not Franklin should become a fifth class city was given a jolting shot in the arm Monday night by president Grant Striver's report of Franklin's position in the Evergreen interceptor.

Councilmen, meeting primarily to review the proposed revised building code, found their thoughts drastically diverted to pondering the hows and whys, how much and when of the big sewer project.

As Striver reported his meeting, Thursday with the Southfield township board and Harold Schone of the Oakland county department of public works, councilmen Edward Green and Eugene Kawekw (present for press clarification of the fifth class city plan as a way to sidestep the issue.

AT ALMOST the same moment, William Hyland was reporting the same Thursday meeting to his Bingham Farms council colleagues.

GREEN questioned Franklin's need for entering into the project, which he said would cost \$200,000 and Bingham only capacity rights and does not include the eventual cost of trunk lines, lateral connections and processing.

Situated at the extreme north end of the township, Bingham and Franklin councilmen wonder if the villages would receive any direct benefits for many years to come. Schone has said that the township or the three villages, Westwood, Franklin and Bingham Farms, could pay their share by any of three methods: a connection charge of about \$200 per home; an increase in the sewage charge; or by keeping a tax.

SCHONE said the township share comes to about \$200,000. Of this \$220,000 is for Westwood and about \$80,000 for Franklin and Bingham. Westwood officials have met with Schone but have not taken any action yet. Schone hopes that the communities involved in the sewer signed up by July 10.

The township could act for all three villages, but officials have not entered into separate contracts. The interceptor is scheduled to begin construction in the fall and to be finished by fall of 59.

PAINTER and Ruthenberg Trucking company will collect Westwood's rubbish twice a month for three years, at a total cost to the village of \$52,200.

The village council approved Painter and Ruthenberg's bid Monday night, thereby clearing up a problem that has plagued councilmen since the village incorporated. Until now rubbish pickup had been arranged on a month-to-month basis.

THE PRICE set Monday leaves the village with a surplus of \$1,600 over the 1958 budget. The surplus, which was set high because the village had to estimate costs.

The contract will be based on collections from 2,600 homes. As the number of homes in the village increases, the contract allows for additional cost at the same per unit rate.

The contract does not include garbage collections. Persons who want garbage collected will have to make individual arrangements, either with Painter and Ruthenberg or with some other contractor licensed by the village.

Fetch Your Scythe WESTWOOD — The village produced a surplus of \$1,600 over the 1958 budget. The surplus, which was set high because the village had to estimate costs.

Property owners who do not cut weeds are subject to having the village do it for them—at an hour.

Question Delays In Blacktopping At W. Bloomfield

W. BLOOMFIELD — Delays in blacktopping streets in Westwood Village and Sylvan Manor subdivisions were questioned at the June meeting of West Bloomfield township.

A delegation from Sylvan Manor was assured that blacktopping will be done this summer. The township had been waiting until future sewer routes were planned. It has been determined that they will be along easements and will not disturb paving.

Action on Westwood Village blacktopping, however, was deferred until the state supreme court rules on legality of the Farmington interceptor. If constructed, its main line would be beneath the blacktopping.

The township board voted to participate in the Huron Valley authority at a cost of three cents a person. It also accepted a low bid to replace 300 feet of fire hose.

A proposed heating code presented by the building inspector was tabled for further study. A soft drink permit was issued to a Walnut Lake boat livery at 5500 Putnam.

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My Neighbors Rubbish Bid Is Accepted At Westwood

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ELSEWHERE IN THE ECCENTRIC Library Raises Non-Resident Users Fees Fr. Schwager Honored, New Assistant Pastor Assigned, Newcomers Club Begins 11th Year, Women's Open Starts Today At Forest Lake Country Club



Why, Mr. Witty? Who ever filed you under 'WIT'

Youths Arraigned In \$500 Burglary PONTIAC — Pleas of not guilty were entered Monday for two 17-year-old youths charged with burglary of a Westwood home.

Bail for Dale Agar, 20966 Pointeclair, Southfield, was continued at \$5,000, and for Edward Christensen of Livonia at \$500. They were arraigned before Circuit Judge Frank L. Doty, and will be tried in fall.

Westwood police said the youths admitted breaking into the home of Edward Hess on Woodhaven and taking property worth about \$500. Agar's bond was set high by Southfield Justice Ted Surra because of his record.

Tracks in the garage showed that a heavy vehicle was driven into the garage to be loaded, according to patrolman Edward Rittenour.

Singer owns auto wash racks and a similar shop in Detroit. Southfield's largest bakery was at the home of the Harry Suchers about a year ago.

PTA Protests Food Fair LATHRUP — Lathrup school PTA came out against the proposed Food Fair market in a letter to the city council Monday.

Chosen Sweetheart DeMolay sweetheart chapters in Michigan district 5A is Kay Lee, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest M. Lee, 1561 Bataan Boulevard, Southfield. Kay will compete in the state-wide contest Nov. 14 for the "De-Molay Sweetheart of Michigan."