

The Nation's Top Prize-Winning Suburban Weekly

City Won't Sell Parcel for Golf Course

For More News of Lathrup and Cranbrook Village:

City Government Is Explained 3-A
Zoning Changes Pondered in City 3-A
Residents' Party Goes Oriental 6-CC

Voters Reject Sewer Issue In Franklin

Move to Amend Charter Loses in Record Turnout

By NITA HARD
Special Writer

FRANKLIN — Voters rejected sewers for Franklin with a resounding turn-out of a proposed charter amendment at Monday's special election.

More ballots were cast than in any local election since the village incorporated in 1958.

Of the 236 ballots cast, 589 were against the amendment authorizing the council to contract on behalf of the village to become a part of the Oakland County Evergreen sewage disposal system. Franklin has about 1,150 registered voters.

Only 140 "yes" votes supported the issue. (There were seven "spoiled" ballots in the election.)

OPPOSITION to the amendment developed a full head of steam after nearly 200 people attended a town hall meeting on the issue Sept. 5. The council, the bonding attorney, Charles Moon; Oakland County DPW authorities and sanitation committee chairman Paul Robertson comprised a panel to answer questions on the issue.

(See VOTERS, 6-A)

Community House Fund Campaign Exceeds Goal

For the first time in several years, the Community House Fund Drive has gone over the top. Thurn H. Wiant, president, announced today.

He said that the 1962 goal of \$50,500 had been exceeded and that contributions still were being received.

"The additional gifts are most welcome, and they will be used at the right time to activate our plans to make the Community House even more useful to the whole Birmingham-Bloomfield area," Wiant said.

Currently, he pointed out, the Community House is "at an all-time high, in terms of service," attracting an annual attendance of more than 150,000 persons, including approximately 2,000 who attend adult education, children's and craft-hobby classes there.

Wiant paid tribute to Edward H. Lereben, drive chairman, and Mrs. C. Theron VanDusen co-chairman, "for their untiring and inspired leadership of the successful 1962

Townships View Interceptor Arm Legal Problems

By SAVILLA SLOAN
Staff Writer

An attempt by Oakland County DPW to renew plans for construction of the Walnut Lake arm of the Farmington Interceptor has run into legal complications in both townships which the sewer system would serve.

At a meeting of West Bloomfield Township board last week, Township Attorney Joseph Brennan advised board members that he could find no legal authority by which two separate governments could jointly construct a sewer arm by special assessment.

Bloomfield Township Attorney Tom Dillon gave a similar opinion to Bloomfield Township board members at their meeting Monday night.

ACTING UPON the attorney's advice, both boards refused to pass a DPW resolution which would have authorized construction of the arm.

However, Bloomfield Township's board did pass a simple resolution agreeing to pay the township's pro rata share of preliminary engineering which would have to be made before the sewer district could be set up.

DILLON RAISED two additional legal questions which will have to be solved before the Walnut Lake arm becomes a reality.

He questioned whether Bloomfield Township has sewerage rights in the Farmington Interceptor, when the township did not participate in the cost of building it.

Jim Scott, head of the township sewer and water department, answered that the DPW had assured him that this would be no problem. Dillon also pointed out that other sewer arms in the township have been financed by general township obligation rather than special assessment of township residents served by the sewer arm.

Township Supervisor Arno Hulet explained that the same method of financing is no longer available.

(See PROBLEMS, 6-A)

Firemen Check For Cause of \$100,000 Fire

Firemen are checking the remains of the fire-ridden home of Ernst F. Kern to determine the cause of the \$100,000 blaze Monday at 925 Ridgewood, Bloomfield Hills.

It was the second major fire to strike the Kern family in less than a decade. In 1955, fire leveled the home of Kern's father, Otto, son of the founder of Kern's department store in Detroit.

The Otto Kern residence was located at Squirrel and Long Lake Roads in Bloomfield Township. It was the second major fire to strike the Kern family in less than a decade. In 1955, fire leveled the home of Kern's father, Otto, son of the founder of Kern's department store in Detroit.

STADLER SAID THE area in which the fire is now believed to have started had a chimney effect which helped the blaze rush through the house. Fire departments of Bloomfield Township, Troy and Cranbrook were called in. Firemen had to pump water from tank trucks and nearby private swimming pools.

The second floor of the 15-room frame and stone house was gutted, and there was severe water damage to the first floor.

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School's Out! School's over for the day at Westchester Elementary, newest school in the Birmingham district; and rushing out of the doors are (from left) Kevin Brands of 3401 Breckenridge, Yvonne Weiner, 760 West-

borne, and Karri Hubner, 319 Hillborn. Their spirited exit catches the attention of construction worker Floyd Kinnee. The school are (from left) Kevin Brands of 3401 Breckenridge, Yvonne Weiner, 760 West-

Crash Kills 2 Coeds; Driver Reported 'Fair'

A Michigan State University student is in St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital, Pontiac, in a state of shock following an accident Friday afternoon in which two of her classmates were killed.

The accident in Bloomfield Hills took the lives of Kathleen Ann Koehler, 20, of 4146 Par Hill, Bloomfield Township, and Jean Taylor, 20, of 1416 Yorkshire, Gray Pointe Park.

The bids were approved at a special board meeting, culminating a long series of study, planning and action sessions following voter approval of a \$425,000 bond issue in a special school election in November, 1961.

Low bids for the new junior high were:

- General — \$1,296,217, Palmer-Smith Co.
- Mechanical — \$367,700, Allen Hedges Co.
- Electrical — \$214,700, Rogers Electric
- Kitchen equipment — \$42,550, Great Lakes Hotel Supply
- Classroom equipment — \$74,802.

That's a total of \$2,095,769 for the school.

Architect is Tarapata-MacMahon Associates, Inc.

LOW BIDS FOR the science addition at Barnum were:

- General — \$86,817, Julian Wilson & Sons
- Mechanical — \$68,750, H. C. Beck, Inc.
- Electrical — \$32,900, Scheper's Electric.
- Laboratory equipment — (See ADDITION, 6-A)

Comments from... AS FOR THE Coolidge property south of the Ford tractor plant and adjacent to the Grand Trunk Railroad—Gare said that if the property were appraised now it would only bring \$4,000 to \$5,000 per acre.

But appraised after improvements (water, sewer, paved road) are installed, it would draw at least \$20,000 per acre and perhaps more.

"There is no need to keep it," Gare stated. "The piece is outside of the city limits; we have no use for it."

He said the property was acquired 13 years ago as an outlet for an

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Keep Entire Site At Sewage Plant For Recreation

By KEN WEAVER
Managing Editor

Birmingham city commissioners have decided against selling any portion of the City property at the old sewage disposal plant.

They did decide Monday night, however, to place on the Nov. 6 ballot a proposal to sell 11 acres of City-owned land on Coolidge Road south of Maple.

Commissioners agreed that the 62-acre site at the sewage plant site on S. Cranbrook between Lincoln and 14 Mile should be developed for recreational use.

They still must determine the specific use, however.

Plans had called for sale of a portion of the property with the proceeds to help defray the cost of constructing a nine-hole municipal golf course.

After sewer, water and other improvements were installed, there would be a net income of \$62,700, Gare said.

Sale of an alternate portion, along Cranbrook, would not only half that much, said Gare.

Commissioner William E. Robertson pointed out that both the city recreation and plan boards had recommended that the property "be confined to recreational uses."

He opined that revenue to be gained from sale of the parcel would not be sufficient to take any of the load off of taxpayers for development of the rest of the property.

He would be against putting it on the ballot or selling any part of it, the commissioner declared.

BECAUSE THE property would bring in more than \$2 per capita valuation, approval of the sale would have to come from the electorate.

Deadline to file with the county clerk any propositions on the Nov. 6 general election ballot is Sept. 18.

Thus, the commission would have to act by next Monday night in order to place the sewage plant park advisory board, Lou Sarkoff, expressed the hope that "the property will be sold and that money can be advanced to get this project going this fall or winter and not delay it another year."

Commissioners made no motions and took no vote Monday night.

Consensus of opinion was that the entire 62 acres besides four acres leased for the Birmingham Art Center) be retained for recreational use.

ASKED LATER what the next step would be, Gare said: "I suppose the commission will have to make a decision on what they are going to do. We have other property; 70 acres on E. Maple and the 11 acres on Coolidge."

In other words, the City can sell other property to gain funds for developing the sewage plant site.

AS FOR THE Coolidge property south of the Ford tractor plant and adjacent to the Grand Trunk Railroad—Gare said that if the property were appraised now it would only bring \$4,000 to \$5,000 per acre.

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