



MORE THAN 50 residents who own property that borders an alley running from 14 Mile to Lincoln along Woodward appeared at Tuesday's plan board meeting to protest a proposed zoning change. They said the change, from R-4 (two-family) to parking, would almost triple their taxes but decrease their property value.

S'field Council Overrides Mayor's Veto on Rezoning

SOUTHFIELD — The council Monday night reaffirmed its position on rezoning of property at the northeast corner of Evergreen and Nine Mile roads from residential to ERO (education, research, office).

The vote overrode the veto of Mayor S. Jangi Clarkson who had defined his position in a four-page veto message to councilmen.

The original rezoning of the land on Dec. 17, opening the way for construction of a three-unit research office for Buhr Machine Tool Co., stirred up an incident Dec. 30 between a resident and a councilman that may yet lead to court.

CLARKSON commented to The Centric about Monday's action, that the council had repudiated the desires of residents in the area that he rezoned. The council, Clarkson said, evidently felt that rezoning was in his perspective. He noted that there were about 100 residents at the meeting from the area in question and that none of them was given the floor.

Clarkson also commented that he understood that residents in the area near the property were circulating petitions for a referendum. Under the charter, Clarkson said that if the residents get 1,500 signatures, the council will be left with two choices: either to rescind the rezoning action or to put the question on the ballot.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT C. Hugh Dohany, in a statement to The Centric, said that Clarkson's veto was used as a political tool for the forthcoming election. Dohany claimed that the rezoning was the best possible action for the city and that some of the best residential areas elsewhere in the city already had ERO zoning.

He used Northland Gardens subdivision, in the vicinity of 8 Mile and Southfield roads, as an example and said that the average home there is worth about \$50,000 and that construction in this price class is still going on to take advantage of the adjacent ERO zoning.

AS FAR AS Monday's council meeting was concerned, Dohany said there were only about 25 residents present and noted that the meeting was not a public hearing. A hearing had been held, he said, and rules of council procedure do not permit comments from residents at a council meeting after a hearing has been closed. The only exception, he said, would apply when a councilman directs questions at a resident.

CITY ATTORNEY James Ginn has asked Southfield detectives to investigate the Dec. 30 incident in which John Ripinger said that he was struck and knocked down by Councilman Clarence Durbin.

Durbin, who called police because he believed that an ordinance which prohibits circulation of anonymous publications was being violated, denied the charges by Ripinger. 19780 Mahon, that he had struck or knocked him down.

Durbin said he heard that anonymous leaflets had been attached to parked automobiles at St. Michael's Catholic Church, on 10 Mile west of Lahser. He went to the church,

accompanied by Dohany and Councilman Alex Perinoff.

THE LEAFLETS called upon citizens to support Clarkson's veto of the rezoning action. At the bottom of the leaflets was a notation, "Neighborhood Committee for better government in Southfield."

The leaflets, in addition to disagreement with the original ordinance approval of the rezoning by councilmen, also criticized Durbin. The councilman said people had called him to tell him that the leaflets were being circulated. He said he had gone to the church to find out who was circulating them. Durbin said he might press charges for violation of the ordinance ban-

ning such publications.

ADDING TO THE confusion, Perinoff denied an accusation by a Southfield council candidate, Jim Wells, 19831 Saxton, that the councilman had tried to take a camera from Wells.

Detectives said there were no witnesses to the incident at the church but that they took statements at the scene. Ginn asked for the investigation before issuance of a warrant, taking the matter under advisement.

Meanwhile, the mayor in his veto message, said he had "decided to spend more time in pointing out to the council that the issue here (of rezoning) . . . goes right to the heart of the entire zoning problem of our city."

CLARKSON CITED the danger of non-residential encroachment on residential areas and availability of ERO property elsewhere. The Evergreen-Nine Mile site is now zoned R-4, the city's highest residential zoning, Clarkson said. Involved are 500 feet frontage on Evergreen and 290 feet on 9 Mile.

The mayor also said that the issue was "whether or not we are going to have planning and zoning formulated on the direction of the city planner" after study by the planning commission and final determination by the legislative body. Planning and zoning based otherwise, he said, would result in chaos.

Clarkson said the ballot box would be the ultimate weapon for those who oppose council rezoning of this land.

APPROVAL FOR the Wrigley property parking space allowance, for additional buildings to be erected on their land at 13 Mile Road and Southfield, will be on the agenda for the next regular council meeting. Some additional figures are needed.

Allied Supermarkets, the chain which owns Wrigley's, feel they need only the space specified by the present ordinance requirements, Edward F. Dolan, chairman of the planning board, felt that the master plan requirements would specify more parking and the number of present parking spaces might be reduced eventually by the county's plans for the widening of Southfield Road.

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Parking

(Continued from 1-A)
those wishing to park in front of a commercial establishment and that the Woodward lots are too narrow to develop both commercial establishments and provide adequate parking.

"ON-STREET parking exists on the residential streets bordering the Woodward commercial corridor," he said. "This means many of the residential structures closer to Woodward are confronted with employees and shoppers parking in front of their homes rather than in lots."

Possible widening of Woodward in the future might cause the elimination of parking in front of establishments on Woodward, Brownfield said.

He also felt that well screened and maintained parking areas would be a needed buffer between Woodward business areas and adjacent residential zoned properties.

Although none of the residents protested strongly against Kravnick's petition, they all felt that a blanket rezoning of the property would be unfair to them.

Birmingham's 1962 tax rate compares favorably with that of many other communities in the area. City Manager L. R. Gare told commissioners Monday night.

A report from the Oakland County Board of Supervisors shows that Birmingham's tax rate, based on state equalized valuations, is in line with that of other area communities.

BIRMINGHAM residents in 1962 paid a total of 45.92 mills. Municipal tax totaled 12.92 mills while the 10 c school tax was set at 25.35 mills. All communities paid an average 42 mill county special school tax and a 5.25 mill county tax.

Other municipal tax rates in the area are: Labrum, 5.13; Southfield, 6.81; and Bloomfield Hills, 14.54.

Reassign Marinch

Airman Second Class Ronald V. Marinch of Southfield, is being reassigned to grade AF8, Calif., following his graduation from the United States Air Force technical training course for autopilot repairman at Amarillo AFB, Tex.

The airman, a graduate of Southfield High School, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor L. Marinch, 21604 McClung, Southfield.

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Gov Denies Split In Chairman Choice

Charles L. Lyle, county chairman of the Republican Committee of Oakland County, has denied reports that there is a division within the party over the choice of a state chairman.

Other Republicans have suggested that party members Arthur G. Elliott, Jr., and John A. Gibbs will be pitted against each other at the GOP state convention in Grand Rapids Feb. 18-19.

George M. Van Purenem, the present state chairman, is not expected to seek reelection, according to those reports.

Says Lyle: "Whether he will choose to run again for this position, I cannot say; but at this time there is no announced candidate for this position, and therefore hardly any matter for the party to 'split' over."

OAKLAND COUNTY'S four Republican state representatives are presently seeking a stronger voice in the control and operation of the House in Lansing.

They have launched their program in the belief that the state's largest Republican-controlled county should have authority in the House of Representatives equal to that it now has in the executive office in George Romney of Bloomfield Hills and is expected to have in the Senate.

Southfield Man Gets Probation

SOUTHFIELD — Eugene V. Fassler, 42, of 29300 Thorncliffe, has been sentenced to two years' probation with all driving privileges revoked and fined \$750 plus costs for his part in the accident death of Leah Marie Sloan, 23, of Wayne.

Miss Sloan died from injuries suffered when her car and one driven by Fassler collided head-on on Southfield Road, near 10 Mile. The accident occurred last June. Fassler also was injured in the accident.

Fassler pleaded guilty to negligent homicide a month ago. He was sentenced by Circuit Judge Frederick C. Ziem.

"The plan would not be augmented if the commission adopted changes in the zoning ordinance," he added.

The joint meeting between the city commission and the planning commission is expected to be scheduled within the next three weeks.

Meeting (Continued from 1-A)

MARK WESSEL
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Phone 682-1452

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