

Library Service Is Purpose of B'field Questions

GENERAL PURPOSE OF THE TWO PROPOSITIONS

At present Bloomfield Township has no tax supported library service. Some of its residents, by paying a yearly fee, have been issued cards for use at Birmingham's Public Library.

This service will not be available after July, 1964, as Baldwin Library has announced it can no longer offer service to residents of areas outside of Birmingham, except on a contractual basis which requires tax-based support.

If approved by the voters, these two propositions will provide tax support for library service and the formation of a legally constituted Library Board to administer it.

LIBRARY TAX LEVY PROPOSITION

Shall the Township of Bloomfield, County of Oakland, Michigan, levy a tax of not to exceed one (1) mill on the assessed valuation, as equalized, on all taxable property in the Township for a free public library, this proposition to carry only if the qualified electors also approve an increase in the constitutional tax-rate limitation of one (1) mill for ten (10) years, the years 1963 to 1972, inclusive?

Only property owners may vote on the Tax Levy Proposition.

EXPLANATION OF LEVY PROPOSITION

The Township of Bloomfield is asking the voter for permission to levy a tax not to exceed 1 mill on all taxable property in the Township.

This tax would be used for the operation and maintenance of library service for all Bloomfield Township residents. According to Michigan law an affirmative vote of a majority of those voting on the proposition is required for approval of the proposition, but its adoption is contingent upon approval also of the Library Millage Increase Proposition.

INCREASE PROPOSITION

Shall the limitation of the total amount of taxes which may be assessed against property in the Township of Bloomfield, County of Oakland, Michigan, for all purposes except taxes levied for the payment of principal and interest on obligations incurred prior to December 8, 1962, be increased as provided in Section 21, Article X of the Constitution of Michigan, by one (1) mill of the assessed value of the equalized, of all property in the Township for a period of ten (10) years, the years 1963 to 1972, inclusive?

POLLING PLACES OF BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

VOTING HOURS: 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Precinct 1 Bloomfield Township Hall

Precinct 2 Bloomfield Village School

Precinct 3 Wing Lake School

Precinct 4 Hickory Grove School

Precinct 5 Bloomfield Hills Junior High School

Precinct 6 Bloomfield Township Fire Station No. 2

Precinct 7 Brother Rice High School

Precinct 8 Bloomfield Village Fire Hall

Precinct 9 Marian High School

Precinct 10 Bloomfield Township Fire Station No. 3

Precinct 11 Bloomfield Hills Junior High School

Precinct 12 Washington Irving

Precinct 13 Harlan School

Precinct 14 Eastover School

Precinct 15 Conant School

Elizabeth S. Bagby

"I think the most important aspect in the future planning of the City of Birmingham is the communication to the residents and to the merchants of proposed plans, why they are being planned and how these plans will materialize and be financed."

"At present, we must make the residents and the merchants aware of the importance of the plan to modernize the downtown shopping area of Birmingham. An explanation must be made of how modernization will take effect to provide beauty, adequate and available parking and flowing traffic to this downtown area."

The steps of construction and the financing of the plan must also be clearly explained. The residents and the merchants must understand the CBDP Plan and other plans, and the Commission must gain their support."

Frederick G. Bahr

"The major problem in future and present planning is the central business district. Any plan must be gauged to solve two problems."

"The apparent one is access. There must be adequate parking and a free flow of traffic. Less apparent is the equally important need of any plan to provide adequately for the shopping needs of Birmingham proper residents."

"Birmingham residents represent a wide range on the income scale. They, obviously, are going to have to bear a significant portion of the cost of any major redevelopment."

"This being so, the plan may not be geared to cater only or mainly to any one income group. Any plan must consider all income groups."

In so doing, prime consideration should be given to relieving pressure for spot business zoning which has been, and otherwise will continue, eating into present residential areas."

David F. Breck

"It is imperative that all future planning for our city be aimed at preserving Birmingham's residential atmosphere. On the drafting boards is a broad, long-range program for all of Birmingham, including the residential areas."

I believe implementation of CBDP at this time would be piecemeal municipal planning and, therefore, I propose waiting

until the entire master plan is finished so that the central business district is properly integrated with the residential, school, recreation and business areas outside the central zone.

"On the one hand, we must improve parking and traffic conditions and prevent decay in the central business district; but on the other hand we are duty-bound to the residents to avoid excessive taxation by realistically appraising and budgeting costs of reconstruction. Also, we must cooperate with the board of education so that our school children are not neglected."

"I suggest the balanced, healthy growth of Birmingham."

The Birmingham League of Women Voters asked each of the 11 candidates for the three, three-year commission terms in the Birmingham city election of April 1 this question:

"What is the most important aspect in the future planning of the City of Birmingham?"

Their answers are printed on this page. The League also compiled biographical information of the candidates; but The Eccentric is not publishing that here in deference to our own presentations, including photographs, on Page 4-B in this week's paper.

In the columns at the left, the League explains the two questions in the context of the Birmingham-Bloomfield Township.

The League and The Eccentric present these articles here as a cooperative community service effort on behalf of the citizens in the Birmingham-Bloomfield area.

William H. Burgum

"Future planning for Birmingham must be directed to the one central theme of preserving and maintaining the quality single-family residential character of our City."

"In order to accomplish this aim within the tax burden we residents can afford, it will be necessary to execute plans for the strengthening of our business community, which serves 50,000 people and pays over 30 per cent of Birmingham's tax bill."

"Our central business core is today adversely affected by through traffic volumes generated by cities around us and by competitive shopping centers located outside Birmingham. We must relieve Maple Road through traffic, and at the same time protect the residential areas from other than service vehicles."

"In order to alleviate this congestion will have to be alleviated by additional offstreet parking facilities, either public or private—possibly both."

"Whatever we do, we must act

equally proud of an attractive, high type downtown business section, confined within its present district."

"Central Birmingham can either become a deteriorating eyesore or the finest and most attractive business area in Greater Birmingham. It is up to us to keep Birmingham unique."

"Better public relations will do much to accomplish this."

"Recent signs of deterioration require an alertness on the part of all groups—citizens, merchants, city planners and commission. It is responsibility should not and cannot be avoided."

"Then, the entire program must be feasibly financed. However, we must start at the very beginning, to reach the desired end. I therefore, dedicate myself to the needs and wishes of every citizen of Birmingham. I do indeed desire to serve as a Citizens' Representative on Birmingham's City Commission."

"I moved to Birmingham because it was a place in which I wanted to live not just shop, but just do business, but live in."

"All Birmingham is now concerned with the Central Business District Development Plan. This is the one thing most likely to affect the city as a place in which to live."

"Recently, we have seen a not-so-gradual creeping of the business community into the residen-

cial community and this alarms me."

"If this trend continues, it is quite possible to envision a pre-emption of the business community throughout the residential areas and a vast wasteland in the center of town."

"The residents, therefore, have the greatest stake in what happens to the downtown area. It is vital that a plan be effected that will entice quality business to stay in the downtown area and assure residents that they will not be invaded by business."

William B. Woodburn

"I feel the most important aspect for the future planning of our City must be a concerted effort to bring to fruition the Central Business District Plan."

"The Birmingham Eccentric and many city-minded groups are doing many things to aid this development since its inception in 1961. Much remains to be done."

"A means of financing must be developed which will place the cost equitably throughout the community, since the downtown merchants cannot be expected to carry the full load for what is a community development benefiting all."

"All media should be used to get the message to all Birmingham citizens to create or reinforce an awareness and pride of our City and solicit aid in the Plan wherever possible or take support from those that cannot give their time."

"Our city is a reflection of ourselves; let it be one of beauty and pride."

POLLING PLACES OF CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

VOTING HOURS: 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Precinct 1 Chestfield Fire Station

Precinct 2 Holy Name School

Precinct 3 Congregational Church

Precinct 4 Municipal Building

Precinct 5 Barnum School

Precinct 6 Adams Fire Station

Precinct 7 Grand Trunk Station

Precinct 8 Seaholm High School

Precinct 9 Pierce School

Precinct 10 Y.M.C.A.

Precinct 11 Torry School

Precinct 12 Adams School

Precinct 13 Quanton School

Precinct 14 Midvale School

Precinct 15 Y.M.C.A.

Precinct 16 Elton Rink

Appraisal Hike Angers Residents, Companies

Southfield's seven-man council unanimously approved a request to the board of review to cancel major increases in property taxes. Involved is \$20 million in additional assessed valuation.

The mayor, James Clarkson, had previously warned that property tax faces bankruptcy should the re-appraisal be canceled. He said the city could not meet operating expenses within the approved property tax limit without the new appraisals. He called on the council to say where they would get the money.

THE COUNCIL met with the three-man board of review Saturday and heard about four hours ofirate complaints from taxpayers protesting the increase.

The proposed hikes were made by Assessor Gerald Eastlick on the basis on a blanket re-appraisal made by the J. M. Crenshaw Co. of Cleveland, real estate appraisers. The hikes were all based on increases in land valuations.

Party Executive Attends Meeting Of COP Women

Mrs. Elly Peterson, vice-chairman of the Republican state central committee, was the honored guest of the Beverly-Franklin Republican Women's Club on March 13.

The meeting was held at the home of Mrs. E. T. Downs, 32576 Robin Hood Drive, Birmingham. Mrs. Peterson spoke on the proposed new constitution and the new administration. The meeting began at 9:30 with a coffee prior to the business meeting.

New officers who conducted the meeting included Mrs. Paul Robertson, president; Mrs. E. Downs, vice president; Mrs. Thomas Raleigh, recording secretary; Mrs. Harold Speicher, corresponding secretary and Mrs. T. E. Dougherty, treasurer.

Committee chairmen included Mrs. Richard Diederich, program; Mrs. Howard Koenig, membership; Mrs. D. A. Johnston, Jr., publicity; Mrs. Charles Lyle, hospitality; Mrs. W. T. Burwell, volunteer; Mrs. Richard Van Dusen, finance and Mrs. Harold Reasoner, campaign.

Road Commission Set to Acquire Rights-of-Way

The Oakland County Road Commission may proceed with plans to acquire right-of-way property for 24 paving, widening and reconstruction projects, according to a resolution passed by the board of directors.

The resolution will eliminate necessity for Circuit Court condemnation proceedings. Road Commission Chairman Sol D. Lomerson said this is a terminable under state law to expedite road projects.

A faster proceeding will allow a public hearing on the need to take the property for a project. The hearing would be held before the county's road commission. Once need is established, the commission may proceed and put money into an escrow account to pay for land taken.

Independent appraisals of the land would be made to set a price on property. The Circuit Court later would determine if the price is right through a three-man commission. If the escrow money is inadequate, the road commission would make up the difference.

Twenty of the projects are scheduled for this summer. Affected are 14 Mile, 11 Mile, Southfield, Adams, Baldwin, Big Beaver, Cranbrook, 9 Mile, Greenfield and 12 Mile roads.

Mrs. Romney Speaks To Friends of Baldwin

"It is each citizen's responsibility to his community to see that good comprehensive library service is provided—that it keeps pace with population growth," Mrs. Romney stressed at an audience of library lovers at the Community House Monday morning.

Friends of the Baldwin Library, the Citizens Library Committee of Bloomfield Township and library devotees of the township heard Michigan's first lady applaud the Baldwin-Bloomfield residents' efforts toward expanding and improving library service for this rapidly growing community.

INTRODUCING MRS. Romney, C. W. McLoughlin, president of the Friends, touched briefly on the area growth and the resultant burdening of the library.

"However," stated Jeanne Lloyd, Baldwin librarian, "we face other libraries facing the same problems as ours. All over the country, new suburban areas are being annexed into the city. The City of Birmingham has developed so fast that some of the services their residents need and want have had to lag behind so it's a pleasure to see Bloomfield Township coming of age, recognizing the need for public library service and working with such enthusiasm to achieve it."

IN URGING A "yes" vote on the library proposal in the April 1 election, Mrs. Romney Sheldon, chairman of the Citizens Commit-

State Highways To Be Expanded

The state highway department will open bids April 3 for construction of 13.5 miles of paving in Oakland County.

The estimated cost of paving and widening two strips is \$610,000. Included are 1.7 miles of paving on Orchard Lake Road from Telegraph Road to M-50 near Pontiac and a 12.2-mile strip near Wixom.

The work is part of a \$5.5 million program involving 13 projects in the state.

Getting ready to sell your car? Advertise it in the Classified Ads.

Township LWV Schedules Meeting

Township services of West Bloomfield with special attention to fiscal problems will be the discussion topic for the West Bloomfield League of Women Voters on Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. when they meet at the home of Mrs. John Hoover, 4416 Patrick.

Assisting Mrs. Hoover, chairman, will be Mrs. George Cheney, Mrs. Paul John, Mrs. William Shay and Mrs. Donald Benton. Members and guests are invited to attend.

QUALITY THE PRESCRIPTION PHARMACY SERVICE

IT NEVER WAS NECESSARY TO

"Enjoy" POOR HEALTH...

Many people seem to "enjoy" poor health. They would not care to be without a cupboardful of odd medicines for self-treatment—some of which may not be in keeping with sound, competent medical advice.

The better way is to enjoy good health—by careful planning. Consult your Doctor at regular intervals; more often if required. He will prescribe only the preparation that you need—preparations of the highest quality, such as those from the laboratories of Parke, Davis & Company—prescriptions which we will be pleased to compound for you. The necessity for medication will pass, and life with abundant health can become a pleasure indeed.

13 interesting colors, attractive multi-level texture, and long, long wear makes Wedgefield a stand-out. See it at BEST.

Open till 9... Woodward at 11½ Mile

MILLS PHARMACY

1740 W. Maple, at Chesterfield MI 4-5060

Always a place to park

CUSTOM FURNITURE

- STYLED RIGHT
- PROPORTIONED RIGHT
- SO COMFORTABLE TO SUIT YOU DECORATIVELY

Elliot's of WATERFORD

"Fine Furniture & Quality Carpeting Since 1924" 5400 Dixie Highway 334-0981

"Representatives will bring samples and frame catalog" Open Monday & Fridays 'Till 9 P.M.