

E. Maple Widening Pact

City, County Reach Accord On Project

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

Another step toward the widening of E. Maple Road between Adams and Coolidge was taken by Birmingham city commissioners Monday night.

Commissioners gave tentative approval to an agreement with the Oakland County Road Commission on the project. Several minor sections of the agreement still have to be worked out by the city engineering department and the road commission.

When the project is finally completed, it will make Maple Road four lanes from Telegraph on the west to Coolidge on the east.

THE COMMISSION'S decision last Nov. 15 to widen the road more than two miles of controversy on the project. In 1960 no necessity was declared after a public hearing.

In 1961 the county road commission announced plans to widen the road to 48 feet. City commissioners, in an effort to protect residents of the area, effected a compromise plan with the county.

Plans now call for a pavement width of 41 feet from Adams to Columbia, 45 feet from Columbia to the viaduct and 45 feet from the viaduct to Coolidge.

ALTHOUGH THE agreement approved Monday night did not go into construction details, City Engineer William T. Killen said his department was satisfied except for several minor points.

Commissioners discussed the removal and replacement of several trees that would be involved once construction work was started. The County will replace four of the approximately 12 trees that will have to be removed, according to Killen. The city will have to pay for the replacement of the others.

Two trees not discussed at previous hearings — one at Cambridge and Maple and one at Rugby and Maple — will have to be removed, also, Killen said.

COMMISSIONERS directed the administration to notify the property owners on whose land the trees stand and the subdivision officials of the change.

Both Birmingham and the city of Troy will share in the cost of the project. The final copies of the agreement will be prepared after the road commission receives tentative approval from both cities.

Property owners in the area had felt the widening would lower their property values, but the agreement recommended the adoption of the project last November City Manager L. R. Gage said prospective buyers would tend to discount the heavy traffic factor in prices they would be willing to pay for any property on E. Maple.

SURVEYS conducted by the city showed an increase of 50 per cent in traffic in a nine-year span dating back to 1953. From 1960 to 1962 there was an increase of more than 10 per cent.

The E. Maple widening is part of a county three-year road development project.

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Budget Calls For Tax Hike For Lathrup

By DAVE PHILPO
Staff Writer

LATHRUP — All good things must come to an end. This is how City Administrator Gerald D. Stone prefaced the 1963-64 proposed budget for Lathrup which will mean a tax increase for residents in order to pay for storm and sanitary sewers as well as other improved services.

The tax rate for city services, however, will remain the same. The total budget proposes income and spending of \$237,515, an increase of \$27,545 over the 1962-63 budget. Of the total, \$144,000 is allocated for general city operation, \$48,000 for DPW and \$45,465 for sewer debt retirement.

IN PROPOSING the new budget, Stone commented:

"We cannot continue to improve and increase our programs without a corresponding increase in revenues. While the following chart shows that our assessed valuation has increased by 100 per cent in the past five years, the trend in the preceding years was a decline, the amount of additional revenues is insufficient to balance the expenditure of present necessary budget items."

Among the items showing an increase, Stone mentioned fire protection (a \$7,300 increase over last year's adopted budget); sewer maintenance (\$1,500 over last year); and insurance (\$1,700 over the 1962-63 budget).

THE 1963-64 proposed budget calls for a total tax of \$12.50 per each \$1,000 of assessed valuation, which is an increase of \$2.70.

The \$7.50 general fund tax will continue at the highest rate allowed under the city's charter. The sewer debt tax increases from \$2.30 to \$5. The assessed value of Lathrup has risen \$348,270 to \$9,093,060, a four per cent increase, Stone said.

Reasons for property along Southfield Road, 12 Mile Road and unplatted land will increase the rate of building, resulting in increased assessments as taxes.

THE CITY administrator predicts a surplus of \$27,500 from the general fund at the end of this fiscal year. The money will be applied to the 1963-64 general fund.

Also included in the proposed (See BUDGET, 4-A)

Commission Postpones 'Walk Study'

A petition from the Pembroke Manor Association for the installation of sidewalks in the Derby Junior High area was tabled without action by the Birmingham City Commission Monday night until residents of the area can be notified about the project.

The signatures of about 750 persons representing approximately 500 homes in the Pembroke area requesting the sidewalks was also presented to the commission.

Commissioners, however, said that the proposed lot was not a secret but they would be glad to discuss the matter with representatives of the CBRA.

UNDER THE city charter it would not be necessary to hold a (See RESOLUTION, 6-A)

Hills Board Gets Tough On Smoking in High School

Adopts Policy Requested by Students

A proposal by the Bloomfield Hills High School student council to curb illegal smoking at the high school was officially adopted by the Bloomfield Hills School Board at its meeting Tuesday night.

Based on severe punishment for infraction of the no-smoking rule, the policy adopted calls for a 30-day suspension from high school for a first offense and suspension for the remainder of the school year for a second offense in the same school year.

DETAILS Of the student council proposal were presented to the board by student Bill Calhoun, Robert Dale and Judy Raskin. Council president Calhoun told the board that its provisions had been decided by the council after "study, debate, compromise."

He said that the provisions had been presented at an all-school meeting and had the backing of 90 per cent of the students in Hills High School.

In addition to the suspension penalty, no provision is to be

made by the school for make-up of school work missed during suspension.

STUDENT SMOKING is defined as any student possessing a cigarette in hand or mouth, seen exhaling smoke or throwing away a cigarette in the school building or on the school grounds.

No student may report another student for an infraction. The student must be reported by a teacher or administrative official who has caught the student in person.

All parents of students in the high school will be notified of the provisions of the new school policy by registered mail. It will go into effect two weeks after the letters are sent.

PRESENT punishment for smoking at the high school is five-day suspension.

The student representatives told the school board that the present punishment has not proved a preventative for widespread smoking in high school washrooms.

They said that congregation of smokers in the washrooms was leading to other bad student conduct such as "gambling, swearing and a loss of respect for other people's property."

THE STUDENT council has been studying means of controlling washroom smoking for a number of months. It first asked the board to establish a smoking area at the high school for students with parental permission to smoke as a solution to sneak-smoking.

The board investigated the legality of following the first proposal, made several months ago. It was advised by school attorneys that it would be contrary to state law.

The second proposal, before being presented to the school board, was presented before the high school PTO board and received its endorsement.

It was adopted in its entirety by the school board, with only the specification added that a second offense meant a second offense in the same school year.

City Delays Parking Lot Resolution

Birmingham city commissioners postponed discussion Monday night on a parking lot condemnation resolution in the southwest quadrant of the city until next week.

Residents of the area might attend the commission meetings.

Robert W. Verzyer, president of the Central Birmingham Residents Association, sent a letter to the commission asking for the delay because six of the seven directors of the group were unable to attend Monday's meeting because of a PTA gathering at Baldwin School.

The city attorney had been directed at the April 15 meeting of the commission to prepare a proposed resolution to obtain the private property in the block immediately south of Shain Park by condemnation procedure.

ALTHOUGH NO formal steps have been taken, the City has been investigating for some time the possibility of constructing a parking lot in the block bounded by Merrill, Bates, Townsend and Henrietta.

The City has contacted several of the property owners on the block about purchasing their land for a parking lot.

Representatives of the CBRA who attended the April 15 meeting told the commission they had not been officially notified that another municipal parking lot was going to be constructed in Birmingham.

Commissioners, however, said that the proposed lot was not a secret but they would be glad to discuss the matter with representatives of the CBRA.

UNDER THE city charter it would not be necessary to hold a (See RESOLUTION, 6-A)

Case Still Open, Says Township Police Chief

Joseph Grinnan writes letter to township supervisor praising Dick Dehne, other police in their handling of the Bobby Grinnan case — see Page 2-A.

Norman Township Police Chief Norman Dehne said Wednesday morning the Bobby Grinnan case was still open.

"I can't close the case because we still don't know how the boy got in the lake," Dehne said.

The body of the 12-year-old mentally retarded boy was found by two girls last Tuesday in a man-made lake within a half-mile from his home at 5515 Peshawar.

The discovery ended an extensive 26-day nationwide search for the boy. He was reported missing by his mother at noon on March 22 when she was unable to find him playing near a construction project near his home.

DEHNE said that Oakland County pathologist Dr. Richard Olsen did not set a definite time for the boy's death.

The doctor termed the boy's disappearance as an accidental, according to Dehne. The chief said he was not disputing the doctor's ruling but he still could not officially close the case.

Dehne said a woman neighbor who told police she saw Bobby riding in a car the morning of his disappearance is "more insistent than ever."

The woman told police the same man had asked her directions to "Sportman's Lane" the week before Bobby was reported missing. There is no Sportman's Lane in Bloomfield Township.

All-Weather Vehicle for Police

April showers won't bother Patrolman Donald Graham or other officers of the Birmingham Police Department on parking meter duty now that the three-wheeled "Patrolster" has replaced the conventional motorcycle formerly used. The new vehicle is topped with a fiberglass cab as protection from rain and cold. Similar vehicles are used by the Birmingham Post Office.

Believe in taking fines in the kitchen, over the telephone, in a lawyer's office or to a secretary. Justice of the Peace Alice Gilbert appears before the township board Monday night to request township officials to furnish her with a court clerk to facilitate payment of traffic violation fines.

The township board took no immediate action on her request and tabled it for further study.

Judge Gilbert told board members that more than 50 per cent of persons issued tickets instructing them to appear in her court ignore the summons. She attributed the disregard to the fact there was no way to pay traffic fines except by appearance in her court.

DISCONTINUANCE a month ago by the township policy of allowing traffic violators to pay fines by "deposits," with waiver of rights to appear in court, is responsible for the breakdown in procedure, Judge Gilbert charged.

"I can only conjecture as to the change, but it was timed following the dismissal of a certain case," Judge Gilbert told the board.

BOTH SUPERVISOR Homer Case and township attorney Tom Dillon answered Judge Gilbert's intimation of why the policy had stopped taking the "deposits" at the township hall police headquarters.

Case said the step had been taken on advice of Dillon that operation of a collection bureau by township police was completely illegal.

"A township is not empowered by law to have a traffic violations bureau," Dillon said. "The township has no jurisdiction over the justice court and collection of fines."

Dillon added that it was highly irregular for the township to be issuing tickets to also receive the fines. He said township police were not bonded for the handling of monies.

JUDGE GILBERT said that her solution to the traffic fine problem would be the hiring of a court clerk to be available to the public at the township hall at times other than when her own court is held on Tuesdays.

In answer, Case said he didn't see why the township had to set up a city-type municipal court. He said other justices were willing to make themselves available and were willing to receive fines at other times than court hours.

Judge Gilbert countered, "I don't

Chairman Slates Weekend Tryouts For Festival Show

A call for actors, singers, dancers and stagehands has been issued by William Kegel, chairman of the Birmingham Arts Festival musical. The tryouts are scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, April 27, and Sunday, April 28, in Baldwin School gym, Chester at Maple, Birmingham.

The all-community production, "The High Court of Loving," is scheduled for four performances, June 20-23, during the 1963 festival.

"Tryouts are open to the public, and we want everyone who sings, dances or wants to help out backstage to turn out at tryouts," said Kegel.

Students Seeking Jobs for Summer Get Free Ads

See editorial on High School Employment Service, 1-B.

Free help for high school students seeking summer employment! The Birmingham Eccentric, in cooperation with the High School Employment Service at The Community House, is offering free classified ads to high school students during the months of May and June.

Any student in the Bloomfield Hills, Groves and Seaholm high schools is eligible for this service, if he is registered with the HSES.

The ads, up to 20 words, will be inserted in The Eccentric "Student Situation Wanted" column for as long as the student wishes without charge. An order form may be found on Page 8-A of this week's Eccentric.

The ad should include the student's name, age, address, previous work experience, High School Employment Service phone number and job qualifications.

The form, or a reasonable facsimile, must be returned to The Community House and officials there then will place the ad in The Eccentric.

League Will Hear Political Expert

An important political scientist will give Oakland Citizens League members and their guests a view on partisan and non-partisan politics when he speaks Thursday, May 16 at the League's annual meeting.

At the same time the Oakland Citizens League will present an award for an outstanding contribution on a nonpartisan basis toward good government.

Dr. Charles R. Adrian, chairman of the political science department of Michigan State University, will speak at the 7 p.m. dinner meeting at Devon Gables, Bloomfield Township.

"MYTH AND REALITY in Citizen Participation and Responsibility" will be his topic. He will discuss some of the snags citizens may encounter in participating in local, municipal and other levels of government.

Professor Adrian, was formerly director of MSU's Institute for Community Development, which mobilizes MSU and other resources in working toward solution of

governmental problems of Michigan communities. The political scientist is author of four books and serves as research consultant for the Michigan Constitutional Convention.

The dinner will be open to the public, a change from the League's traditional Oakland Citizens League nonpartisan dinner preceding annual meetings.

GENERAL CHAIRMAN Mrs. C. J. Thomas, of 880 W. Long Lake, Bloomfield Hills, said her committee is making plans for an attendance of 300 at the dinner.

Reservations may be made by contacting Ticket Chairman John E. Bloomstom, at 964 W. Adams Road, Birmingham.

Oakland University Chancellor Duward B. Varner and Richard Wallace of Farmington are co-chairmen of the speaker's committee for the dinner. Others assisting with arrangements are William T. Arline, Mrs. Maxine Baumhart and Mrs. William H. McLaughlin. Maurice A. Merritt, of Royal Oak, is awards chairman.

THE PETITION requested the construction of sidewalks on Pembroke and Derby streets from the west side of Elton Road. The association said that 125 residents in that area attend Derby school.

City Manager L. R. Gage said the matter had been under consideration for several years ago but the residents did not show any interest in the project at that time. He noted that the youngsters in the Pembroke area are older now and attend the junior high.

Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham made a motion that the sidewalks be put in. He was supported by Commissioner David F. Breck, but the motion was not voted on.

COMMISSIONER William E. Breck later said he felt that the notification of the residents was a "good policy" and thought they should be present when the commission discusses the project.

The motion will be brought up again as soon as property owners affected by the project and the Pembroke Manor Association officers have been notified.