

GROSSE POINTE CIVIC NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
OF GROSSE POINTE TOWNSHIP

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ANNUAL TOWNSHIP ELECTION, APRIL 7

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES

A general election will be held in the several precincts of Grosse Pointe Township on Monday, April 7, for the purpose of electing candidates for all township offices.

At the same elections the preferential presidential primaries will be conducted.

The election will be held between the hours of 7 A. M. and 8 P. M. at the Town Hall, corner of Roosevelt and Maumee Avenues; the Village Hall, corner of Jefferson and Maryland Avenues; the Village Hall on Kerby Road and the Village Hall, corner of Vernier and Lake Shore Road.

Following are the candidates for the township offices:

Democratic nominee for supervisor, Charles A. Poupard for re-election, unopposed; Democratic nominee for clerk, Charles A. Paye, for re-election, unopposed; Democratic nominee for treasurer, Edmund C. Vernier opposed by the Republican nominee, Edward J. Tucker; Democratic nominee for Justice of the Peace, Noah G. Paye, unopposed; Democratic nominee for Highway Commissioner, Walter W. Allord is opposed by the Republican nominee Joseph Defer; Democratic nominee for a member of the Board of Reviews, Michael C. Beaupre, is up for re-election, and unopposed; as Democratic nominees for Drain Commissioners, William Diegel and Jerry Vandebush are unopposed; the four Democratic nominees for Constables: Andrew T. Phillips, Henry A. Graul, Jr., James Rasmussen and Albert E. Liley, are opposed by one Republican nominee, Joseph Van Simeays.

It is a matter worthy of note that of the twelve offices open there is competition for only three of them.

DRINKING WATER

The extent of pollution of the water of Lake St. Claire is not generally known to the people of Grosse Pointe. The raw water of our lake shows innumerable bacteriological counts, and the pronounced presence of B-Coli, in which family is the dangerous typhoid fever germ *Bacillus Com-munis Colleen*.

Fortunately for Grosse Pointe this danger is under constant observation by a vigilant health board. Daily bacteriological counts are made of the water as it comes out of the taps and the presence and strength of B-Coli noted. The amount of chlorine to be added to the water is computed from these counts. The additions of chlorine to the water supply as it is pumped in at the water station is under the supervision of the engineer of the village of Grosse Pointe Farms.

The usual chlorine treatment of drinking water taken from running streams is approximately three and one-half pounds per one million gallons, but to make the water of Lake St. Claire drinkable it requires five pounds in the winter and from seven to nine pounds in the summer.

Major E. D. Rich, state sanitary engineer, communicating on one of Grosse Pointe health officer's report of last summer, said, "Your July report on water is conclusive evidence of the urgent necessity of a filtration plant."

The statement was prompted after a Sunday morning break in the chlorinator, allowed raw water to flow through the pipes of Grosse Pointe. On the particular occasion the hydrants were flushed and the water treated with ten pounds of chlorine to the million gallons for one day.

Shortly after this accident an auxiliary chlorinator was installed at the pumping station.

RAPID TRANSIT

The Rapid Transit Commission of the City of Detroit, as appointed by the Mayor, composed of Messrs. Sidney D. Waldon, H. W. Allen, Andrew H. Green, Jr., C. W. Hubbel and Willard Pope, with offices at 4612 Woodward Avenue have approached the various communities within the 15-mile circle of the City Hall with plans for the promotion of a super highway for surface transportation in connection with the proposed underground system of the City.

The plans of the commission have the approval of the authorities of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties and the villages and townships within the prescribed area.

The villages of Grosse Pointe are favorable to the project although very little roadway of our community is included in the proposed development.

The Moross Road and Mack Avenue from the Moross Road east will form parts of the super highway. The plans recommend the opening of Warren Avenue thru Grosse Pointe Township to Mack Avenue.

The aim of the Rapid Transit Commission is the early and timely approval of practical workable plans for a net work of highways in Detroit and environs that will function in connection with the future development of the city's rapid transit and motor traffic ways.

The plans of course meet the approval and get the co-operation of the City Plan Commission and when carried into execution will help to distribute traffic.

Over \$100,000 worth of building permits were issued by the Village of Grosse Pointe during the month of March. This is over 17% of the total amount issued for the entire year of 1923.

Grosse Pointe Civic News

Grosse Pointe, Mich.

H. P. Breitenbach, Consulting Editor.
Lincoln Maire, Editor.

Printed once a month as the official publication of the Citizens Association of Grosse Pointe Township, under the authority of the following board of directors:

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NEW SCHOOL

The excavation for Grosse Pointe's new grade school on Kercheval and Nottingham Avenues, is well underway and the general contractor has promised the building for use by the first of November.

The General contract was let to M. A. Mahoney for \$183,500.00, Andrew Sisman Co. doing the carpenter work. The heating, ventilating and plumbing contract went to Drake Avery Co. for \$46,698.00 and the electrical work was given to McCleary, Harmon Co. for \$5,910.00. This makes the total of the contracts let for the building \$236,608.00. The bond issue for the school building was \$250,000.00.

TAX COLLECTIONS

The Township treasurer collected \$506,941.02 of the 1923 taxes at the time the tax rolls were turned over to the County Treasurer for collection of delinquent taxes. The total roll for 1923 was \$573,422.28 leaving \$66,681.26 uncollected. In other words 88.4% of the taxes were collected by our township treasurer which is about on a par with the results of former years.

This is the first year that a township treasurer of Grosse Pointe has not worked on a commission basis and it is gratifying to note that the results are as satisfactory under a salaried treasurer. The above taxes are no longer payable in Grosse Pointe but must be paid at the County Building, Detroit.

NORTH OF MACK—ANNEXATION

At their 1924 spring election the City of Detroit votes upon the annexation of a large section of Gratiot Township. That area north of the Township of Grosse Pointe and west of the Seven Mile Road will in all probability become annexed to the metropolis and thus the city limits will mark the boundary line of our township on the north, west and south sides.

The proposed development of the area to be taken into the city by the extension of the two arteries Harper and Warren Avenues, with water and sewer and possibly car line, predicts a growth that is certain to have its bearing upon Grosse Pointe.

The boundary of the three lower villages of Grosse Pointe on their northerly side is the center of Mack Avenue. In the case of Grosse Pointe Park this is also the Township line, but in the case of the Village and the Farms there is a strip of unorganized area some two thousand feet wide north of Mack. In the event of Detroit extending its limits this spring this unorganized portion of Grosse Pointe Township will lie between two organized and developed communities.

In the past five years there has been considerable building in the "North of Mack" section. No other section of our Township has witnessed the construction of more homes. The area lacks improvements. Most of the homes are on streets unpaved and without sidewalks, sewers, or water. In some cases the people carry water in buckets the distance of a quarter of a mile.

Naturally, the residents have been anxious to remedy the conditions, and have looked to the organized villages of Grosse Pointe for annexation.

The past failure of any accomplishment along this line has been due to a lack of unified effort on the part of the people north of Mack and also to the indifference of the organized areas.

Now the situation has taken on a new light. If the spring election finds Detroit annexing the southeast portion of Gratiot,

Grosse Pointe cannot afford to neglect the annexation or organization and subsequently the development of any part of the township adjacent to the City, unless it is expected that at some future time Detroit will annex the area in question.

It may be that the best solution to the problem is future annexation by Detroit. However it is obvious that now is the time to decide upon the integrity of the boundaries of Grosse Pointe Township.

In any event the residents of the area in question are the principal ones to be considered. Certain citizens among them have been working upon an early election of the question of annexation, particularly the section north of the village of Grosse Pointe, and it is possible they may have their petitions in form in sufficient time to have the question before the electors at the general township elections April 7.

RIVARD DRAIN

The County Drain Commissioner has requested the Village of Grosse Pointe for a right of way on Rivard Boulevard from Mack Avenue to the Black Marsh Ditch for the purpose of installing a county drain sewer. The sewer will be tile within the confines of the village but will be open and tile north of Mack. The improvement will permit the paving of Rivard and the Village expects to handle this work at an early date.

MAUMEE PAVING

The contract for the paving of Maumee Avenue in the Village of Grosse Pointe has been let to the Detroit Asphalt Paving Company, work to commence at an early date. The bonds will be for sale immediately.

The pavement will be 30 feet wide with 3 inches of asphalt over an 8 inch concrete base.

Cost of the pavement will be defrayed from the general taxes. Adjacent property holders are not assessed on street pavings running east and west in the Village of Grosse Pointe.

VILLAGE ELECTION RESULTS

GROSSE POINTE VILLAGE

In Grosse Pointe Village the bond issue for \$70,000 was approved by a vote of 323 to 99. The purpose of the issue is the paving of Maumee Avenue from Cadieux Road to the Fisher Road.

The election charter amendment was affirmed by the vote of 299 yes and 83 no. This amendment provides for a petition fee accompanying all nomination statements of candidates. The amendment has been duly signed by the Governor of the State.

Following are the officers elected for the ensuing term and the votes they received:

President, Richard P. Connor, 289; Clerk, Norbert P. Neff, 355; Treasurer, Julius A. Stork, 342; Assessor, Napoleon E. Des Rocher, 238; Councilmen, two year term: D. M. Ferry, Jr., 279; William Fisher, 230; and Edgar Trombley, 221; Councilman, one year term; Charles B. Hull, 249.

The candidates in opposition received the following votes: President, Julius Neff, 148; Councilmen; Stephen Van Tiem, 173; Frank Moulin, 166 and Meininger, 144; Assessor, Frank Diegel, 184.

GROSSE POINTE FARMS

The total votes cast in the Farms was 480. The following officers were elected:

President, Theodore Beaupre, 312; Clerk, John R. Kerby, 351; Treasurer, Walter A. Allord, 319; Assessor, William C. Seaman, 248; Councilmen: Neil McMillan, Jr., 248; Daniel D. Allor, 240; and William P. Stevens, 225.

The following candidates were in opposition: President, Edward J. Tucker, 151; Assessor, Edward A. Reno, 210; Councilmen: George S. Hendrie, 122; Clement D. Furton, 164; and William Van Dyke, 201.

GROSSE POINTE PARK

In the Village of Grosse Pointe Park the Peoples' party were re-elected to all offices. The election was featured by strong balloting. Some 770 votes were cast which is a 30 percent increase over any past election in this Village. The large voting may be attributed

to the increase in population and to the strong personnel of the opposition.

Following are the officers elected and the votes they received: President, George Defer, 507; Clerk, Waldo J. Berns, 594; Treasurer, Clyde C. Burgess, 497; Assessor, Edmund F. Poupard, 551; Councilmen: Samuel Bastien, 481; Arthur H. Scratch, 471; Theodore Gorenflo, Jr., 481; Election Commissioners: Frank Paye, 497; Oscar G. Kirsch, 492; Bertram Levillier, 471.

Following were the candidates on the Progressive Party: President, Albert H. Lindley, 255; Treasurer, Emil Huber, 254; Councilmen: William Krapp, 288; Walter Krausman, 256; Bert J. Van Marter, 240; Election Commissioners: Harold Strickland, 252; Otto Lang, 255; and Paul Henning, 248.

PUMPING STATION

Grosse Pointe Farms and Highland Park are rapidly reaching an agreement upon the water pumping station. The next issue of the Civic News will contain the detailed results of the contract. At the present time it is known that Highland Park will pump the water and furnish the power in the place of the Edison Electric Company and at the same rate per million gallons with a slight increase in the assured annual payment.

The appraisal made upon the property for the Edison Company was approximately \$143,000. Highland Park will take the building and the ground immediately surrounding it and Grosse Pointe will take the property to the rear of the building facing the boulevard with easements to the lake.

The portions of the purchase price to be assumed by the respective parties will be definitely determined and a final agreement signed within a few days in view of the retirement of Highland Park's present Water Commissioner at the Spring elections.

Grosse Pointe Park made rapid work of the clearing job on the John Bery property.

SPRAYING

Grosse Pointe Shores is taking the initiative this year in the battle against insects and scale on trees. Through the activities of the municipality every tree in the village is being sprayed this spring. No exception will be made regardless of the location of the tree.

The large trees along the Lake Shore Road were cared for by the Wayne County Road Commission with a high powered compressed air pump using a miscible oil.

KERCHEVAL BUSES.

A number of citizens in the Kercheval Avenue district of Grosse Pointe have become active in the circulation of petitions to their local council urging favorable traffic regulations for the introduction of Bus service on Kercheval Avenue.

These citizens have been encouraged in their actions by reports that the Detroit Motor Bus Company would continue their Kercheval Avenue line through Grosse Pointe to the Fisher Road with six minute service if they were given a franchise by the local authorities.

The attractive part of getting the Detroit Motor Bus Company to operate upon this important highway seems to be the feature of continuous service into the city and the consequent elimination of the inconvenient transfer at the city limits on Jefferson Ave.

The width of the pavement is a factor in using Kercheval as a motor traffic highway. Its position through the center of our community makes it the coming street for bus business. Unlike Jefferson Avenue the buses here would serve the center of the community and not one side of it.

The official opening of Kercheval through the Farms and its connection to the Boulevard at the Moross Road will permit in the future a straight line extension to the Weir Lane of any bus service instituted now.

Another possibility mentioned is the extension of the present Grosse Pointe motor bus service, so that it would operate on Jefferson, Kercheval, Fisher Road and Wayburn Avenues in the form of a large loop.

SALE OF FIREWORKS

Commissioner Harry H. Jackson, of the State Department of Public Safety, has issued a formal order prohibiting the sale of any sort of fireworks or Fourth of July balloons except when the council of any city or village or the township board of any township approves a public pyrotechnical display under the direction of a competent handler.

The order delegates to the State Fire Marshal, his deputies, and to local law enforcement officers the right to seize and destroy all fire works for sale or on display.

Our local merchants contemplating ordering a stock of fireworks for the customary Fourth of July business should consider this state order.

The order reads as follows:

"Whereas it appears by records of this office that for the past several years the sale and use of fireworks in Michigan results in an increasingly large number of deaths and destruction of property, and whereas on the Fourth of July, 1923, the promiscuous use of fireworks caused the death of eight persons and the destruction

of \$300,000 worth of property: and

"Whereas, such loss of life and destruction of property seems unnecessary and is contrary to the spirit of the day we celebrate, I hereby amend former regulations so that no person shall sell within the State of Michigan any toy pistol, blank cartridges, toy cannon, toy cane, or toy guns in which explosives are used, any balloon which requires fire underneath, any fire crackers, torpedoes or any fireworks containing any explosives or inflammable compound of any sort."

Return Postage Guaranteed.

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
GROSSE POINTE, MICH.

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Detroit, Michigan
Permit No. 335

"It may be of little importance to determine at any time just where we are, but it is of utmost importance to determine whither we are going."

—Calvin Coolidge.

Mr. Bernard B. Vogt,
696 Cadieux Rd.,
Grosse Pte. Village, Mich.