

GROSSE POINTE CIVIC NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
OF GROSSE POINTE TOWNSHIP

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NUMBER 2

ANNUAL MEETING OF SCHOOL BOARD

The annual meeting of the school board held July 14 at the Cadieux School immediately after the election of trustees was attended by approximately 110 electors.

The meeting was called to order at 10 P. M. The secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting which were approved.

The report of the election committee was read and approved.

It was moved that Mr. Hickey, the newly elected trustee, take his place upon the board. The motion was ruled out of order by the chair who expressed an opinion that the newly elected trustee could not take his seat until the following meeting of the school board. The counsel for the board supported this opinion, which, however, was contested by several attorneys present.

It was pointed out that the salaries of school board officials of neighboring communities were only nominal, and a motion was made that the salaries of the members of the Grosse Pointe board be set at \$500 for the secretary, \$500 for the treasurer and \$100 for each remaining member.

It was the contention of the school board and its counsel that only the salary of the newly-elected trustees could be set at this meeting, and that salaries previously voted carried over for the other trustees. This contention was abandoned.

The motion before the meeting was amended setting the salaries of each member of the board at one dollar a year. The amendment was approved. At this point the recommendation of the Bureau of Governmental Research was reviewed that the Board appoint some one as an assistant to the superintendent, to do the work of the secretary and treasurer.

A motion was approved authorizing the purchase of four and one-half acres of land adjacent to the property of the Cook School near the Lochmoor golf links.

A motion was approved appointing Mr. L. S. Trowbridge to fill the

vacancy on the school board building committee made by Mr. Hickey's election to the board.

At this point the chair called for a motion to adjourn. Objection was made to an adjournment without having heard the treasurer's report.

It was the contention of the board that the treasurer's report was not essential to the meeting. However, the chair entertained a motion calling for the treasurer's report. The motion was approved, and the report read. The report was not accepted pending the reading of the budget.

The chair informed the meeting that the trustees were not submitting a budget for the ensuing year. This action was a surprise to the citizens assembled. The counsel for the school board in supporting the stand of the board read a communication from the Superintendent of Public instruction to the effect that there were some items of expense that the board could appropriate funds for while certain other items must be voted upon by the people.

A motion was approved that the treasurer provide the electors with a copy of his report, and that he submit a budget at a later meeting.

A motion was carried setting the date of the annual school election and meeting for the second Monday in June instead of the second Monday in July as heretofore.

A motion to adjourn for 30 days was approved.

ADJOURNED MEETING

On Wednesday the 13th of August the adjourned session of the annual school meeting will be held in the Cadieux School at 8 P. M. The time of this meeting was set at the annual school meeting held July 14, 1924.

The meeting is of as great importance to the electors of our school district as the first meeting on July 14 and should be well attended.

**ADJOURNED ANNUAL
SCHOOL MEETING
WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 13,
8 P. M.
CADIEUX SCHOOL**

RIVARD DRAIN

Work will soon start on the construction of a drain on Rivard Boulevard in the village of Grosse Pointe.

The drain will run into the Black Marsh ditch and will comprise a part of the county drain which runs as an open ditch from Harper Avenue in Gratiot Township as far as the Hanstein School. From this point to the ditch it will be vitrified tile.

It is planned to install the drain on the west side of the street, and to have it of 30-inch tile with a connection for every lot on the west side and a 6-inch lateral crossing the street to every lot on the east side.

The expense is to be defrayed on a co-operative basis with the county. The village paying for all connections, laterals, and a portion of the main line to the equivalent of a 12-inch tile which is the size that would have been used if the drain were confined to the village.

The drain is essential to the construction of a pavement from the ditch to Mack Road. It is understood that this section will be the next paving work to be constructed in the village.

TROMBLY ROAD

The Village of Grosse Pointe Park is filling in at the foot of Trombly Road. The substantial filling of property on either side of the road has extended the shore line out so as to place the foot of the road in a pocket where flotsam collects. The work is being done at small expense since the material is from excavations, etc.

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:

H. P. Breitenbach, President.
Dr. L. E. Maire, Vice-President.
Wm. M. Mertz, Secretary.
Jos. L. Hickey, Treasurer.
Mrs. H. H. Sanger Chas. Parcells
Raymond K. Dykema

RE-REGISTRATION

The law requires a complete re-registration of all electors every fourth or presidential year, and such re-registration is being held in the township of Grosse Pointe during this summer.

From June 1st until August 20th (inclusive) qualified electors may register at the clerk's office, 468 Cadieux Road. The office will be open from 8 A. M. to 4 P. M. daily, according to notices posted. Those electors who do not qualify at the clerk's office during the period mentioned, may be registered at the booth located in their voting districts on any one of the following days—August 21, 22 and 23, from 8 A. M. to 4 P. M.

The qualifications for registration and voting, as defined by the constitution, require that persons shall have obtained the age of twenty-one, be citizens of the United States, residents of the state for a period of six months, and of the township and precinct for twenty days prior to any election. Naturalized citizens should be in a position to furnish information as to the time when, and place where final and second papers were granted, and it would facilitate matters if such papers were presented when making application for registration.

All electors desiring to vote at the fall primaries to be held September 9, 1924, must re-register during the period above mentioned, either at the clerk's office or at the booth. Electors failing to do so will not be allowed to vote at the fall election, notwithstanding the fact that they may have registered for, and voted at previous elections.

Qualified school electors who have not already done so should register at the clerk's office, who is also secretary of the school board, at the time of re-registration for the fall primaries.

STATE TAX

At a recent meeting of the board of directors of the Citizens' Association the committee in charge of investigators on the State Tax Commission's assessments in Grosse Pointe was authorized to engage legal aid if in their judgment such action seemed advisable.

Since the discussion of this subject in the last issue of the Civic News the matter has been given attention in the Detroit papers, and some interesting facts have been printed.

The equalization board will meet Monday, August 18, in the senate chamber of the Capitol, Lansing, and will start its hearing on the commission's recommended assessments. Counties having complaints against the valuation recommendations may present their claims.

It is expected that Wayne County will make a strong appeal for a readjustment in the valuations. Wayne will probably be the only county to make a claim. A peculiar feature about the recommendations of the tax commission is that, while it raises the valuation of the state nearly a half a billion dollars, only two counties, Wayne and Dickinson, will be paying an increase in percentage of the total state tax.

In the case of Dickinson County the increase in percentage of total state tax from .0034 to .0036 is nominal. Wayne paid 40 per cent of the state tax in 1923 and if the present recommendations hold for 1924 Wayne will pay 45 per cent of the total state tax.

In 1923 the equalization board placed the valuation of Wayne County at \$2,664,740,000. The 1924 recommendation of the tax commission is \$3,163,333,000.

The increase in the valuations for Wayne County was approximately 20 per cent, while in Grosse Pointe Township the increase was over 40 per cent.

Last year Wayne County officials obtained an adjustment at the hearing before the state equalization board and have expressed confidence of obtaining an adjustment this year.

DEFER SCHOOL

The new school on Kercheval Avenue and Nottingham Road has been named the George Defer School. A stone bearing the name is now in place over the entrance.

HANSTEIN SCHOOL

The heavy construction work on the addition to the Hanstein School is now finished and the completion of the work has been promised by the architect and builder in ample time for the school opening this fall. The equipment has been ordered. The new construction includes three class rooms, manual training and domestic science rooms, library, office, clinic, gymnasium, showers and an enlarged heating plant.

ANN ARBOR CONFERENCE

The institute of Government and Politics of the University of Michigan in co-operation with the National League of Women Voters held a conference at Ann Arbor, July 22-26th.

Courses were offered in state and county administration, political parties and nominating methods, law-making bodies, legislation and social progress, international relations and popular methods of teaching government.

A very capable staff of speakers was assembled to aid in the work.

The conference was attended by several Grosse Pointe members of the local branch of the League.

A CORRECTION

In the June issue of the Civic News the survey of the Bureau of Governmental Research stated that the president of the school board received an additional \$300 besides the \$300 given to school trustees. The president of the board received the same salary last year as the other trustees.

Very worthy work was done by the challenging committee in the recent school election. Mr. Hobart Hoyt, who was appointed chairman of this committee by the Citizens' Association, and the citizens who aided in the challenging work at the booths, deserve much credit.

The treasurer of the school board has 1,000 copies of his annual report printed in booklet form for distribution.

The report was not printed in time to be used as copy in this issue of the Civic News, and its length would make it difficult to print in this paper.

TAXES DUE

The village taxes in the four villages of Grosse Pointe are still due and payable at the respective municipal buildings.

In the Village of Grosse Pointe there will be no collection fee added and the tax collection will be without penalty until August 15. Thereafter will be added a flat penalty of 2 per cent. Taxes will be payable under this penalty until the middle of October at which time the roll will be turned over to the county treasurer.

In Grosse Pointe Farms the taxes were due and payable without penalty until July 31. Now a charge of one per cent is added for August and an additional one per cent will be added each month hereafter, and such charge rendered in the statement as a collection fee until the tax roll is turned over to the county treasurer.

In Grosse Pointe Park the taxes will be payable without penalty until September 9, after which a flat penalty (probably 2 per cent) will be added until the rolls go to the county treasurer's office about October 9.

In Grosse Pointe Shores a one per cent collection fee was added to all taxes in July. Thereafter a three per cent fee will be added until the tax rolls go to the county treasurer about October 10.

In all cases where delinquent village taxes are paid to the county treasurer a fee of four per cent will be added and three-fourths of one per cent interest charged.

Taxes in Grosse Pointe Park are payable to the village treasurer at the municipal building on Jefferson at Maryland Avenue; in the Village of Grosse Pointe in the municipal building on Roosevelt Place near Maumee Avenue; in the Farms at the municipal building on the Kerby Road and in the Shores at Lake Shore and the Vernier Road.

A statement of one's taxes may be secured by writing or telephoning the treasurer in question.

SCHOOL OPENING

The public schools of Grosse Pointe will open Wednesday, September 3, for pupil registration and attendance. On September 2, teachers' meetings and organization work will be in progress.

HIGH SCHOOL ON UNIVERSITY LIST

The following communication from the University of Michigan to the Superintendent of Grosse Pointe Schools will no doubt prove gratifying to many citizens and especially to the students:

Mr. W. L. Walling,
Superintendent of Schools,
Grosse Pointe, Michigan.
My dear Mr. Walling:

I take great pleasure in informing you that upon the recommendations of the committee on Diploma Schools, the diploma relationship between your school and this University is established for the term of one year ending June 30, 1925.

The committee wishes to urge a careful examination of the standards for two years accrediting as well as the announcement of the policies of the committee as explained in the enclosed form letter.

Very respectfully yours,

J. B. Edmonson,
Sec. Committee on Diploma
Schools.

This means that the first graduating class from Grosse Pointe's High School will be admitted to the University of Michigan without examination. It is customary for the other colleges of the state to admit graduates of schools on the University list.

The action of the committee on diplomas of the University comes as a result of a personal examination of the methods and subjects taught at the Cadioux High School and an investigation of the credentials of the teaching staff.

To provide for the enlarged attendance in the high school and to house additional equipment due to the introduction of the twelfth grade this fall, it was deemed expedient to build a temporary school in the rear of the Cadioux School. Work has commenced on this structure which will be completed before September 1.

The building is a sectional frame type put up by the Circle A Company, of Lansing. It consists of three class rooms 20 by 30 feet each with a furnace heater and ventilator. The building has a seating capacity of about 120 and will be used for high school work only.

ANNEXATION AGAIN

Petitions for the annexation of portions of Gratiot Township have been properly filed with the City of Detroit. The matter will be before the people of the territories concerned at the fall elections.

Portions of Gratiot township contiguous to Detroit made petition for annexation last spring but at the April 7 election, although annexation was approved in Detroit, it failed to carry in Gratiot township.

The voters in the district, the annexation of which is now to be decided, contend that the outer part of Gratiot Township was the determining factor against annexation. The proposition this fall will be so worded that the contiguous portion of Gratiot petitioning for annexation will be admitted to the city if the voting in that section favors annexation regardless of the disposition of the rest of the township.

Thus the fall election will doubtless change the boundary lines of Detroit in the northeast section. In all probability the city limits will be contiguous to our township line 1600 feet north of Mack Road as far east as the Seven Mile Road.

Detroit has consistently approved of the annexation of adjacent areas. It is the policy of the city to keep abreast of the phenomenal growth that at present shows no indication of stopping. In 1915 Detroit had an area of 46.97 square miles and in 1923, or 8 years later, it has 92.68 square miles, a hundred per cent increase. Population forecasts have been made by the city departments and public service corporations such as the Rapid Transit Commission, City Plan Commission, Water Board, Michigan Bell Telephone Company, the railroads and R. L. Polk and Company. These estimates indicate a population for Detroit in 1936 of 2,250,000.

Grosse Pointe must expect to see the boundaries of this marvelous metropolis go far beyond it in a few years to come.

ELECTION RESULTS

At the annual election for the Rural Agricultural School District No. 1, comprising Grosse Pointe Township and a contiguous portion of Gratiot Township, Mr. Edward J. Hickey and Mr. Charles A. Poupard were elected to the office of school trustees for three-year terms. Both candidates led their opponents by a substantial majority.

The balloting was the largest in the history of local school elections and indicated in every respect a keen interest on the part of the electors. There were 1319 votes cast.

**SCHOOL SECRETARY
APPOINTED**

At a recent meeting of the school board, held shortly after the July election, Edward J. Hickey qualified as a trustee, and Dr. W. G. Merdian was elected chairman of the board.

The board engaged its own secretary, Charles Paye, to act in the capacity of executive secretary at a salary of \$2,500 a year.

A committee was appointed to select a suitable office for the school board.

NEW PARK

The Village of Grosse Pointe is considering the condemnation and purchase for park purposes of a four-acre tract of land bounded by St. Clair Avenue, Waterloo, Neff road and the Black Marsh Ditch.

There are but three houses on this land. These are in a group in the southwest corner and could be utilized as rest rooms and dressing rooms to supplement the athletic field.

The size of the area provides ample room for athletic fields, etc.

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**CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
GROSSE POINTE, MICH.**

1c Paid
Detroit, Michigan
Permit No. 335

"I look forward with great hopes to the service which private agencies may render in co-operation with the government."

—WARREN G. HARDING.

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