

GROSSE POINTE CIVIC NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
OF GROSSE POINTE TOWNSHIP

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No. 9

FARMS PROPOSES THREE IMPORTANT BOND ISSUES

Three bond issue proposals to authorize borrowing half a million dollars are on the ballots for the annual election in Grosse Pointe Farms, March 10th. Officials are asking voters to approve plans to lay a 40-foot pavement on a 60-foot right-of-way on Lake Shore Road to replace the present 18-foot "bottle-neck" for a distance of approximately 9,000 feet north of Fisher Road, at an estimated cost of \$36,000.

A second proposal is to re-finance \$150,000 of the \$235,000 cost of widening, opening and paving Kercheval Avenue from Fisher to Moross Road. Eighty thousand dollars have been raised in taxes for this project since it was authorized by the council in 1927. The balance, which it is now proposed to bond, has been met by short-term borrowing as the work proceeded.

Water Works Plan

The third proposal is to issue \$314,000 25-year bonds for the construction of a 6,000,000-gallon-a-day unit of a proposed 12,000,000-gallon water works to be located on Moross Road back of the Highland Park water works at Moross and Lake Shore Road. Though service from Detroit is satisfactory, village officials point out that the Detroit Board of Water Commissioners is required by its charter to charge outside communities double Detroit rates, making it highly profitable for such communities either to be annexed to Detroit or to provide their own water supply.

Since it is believed little likelihood exists of Grosse Pointe ever being annexed to Detroit, Grosse Pointe Farms officials have concluded, after a careful engineering survey, that the village can make a profit in the first ten years' operation of its own water works of approximately \$400,000, or an average of \$40,000 annually, the profit increasing during this period and

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SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DELINQUENCIES PROMPT CHARTER AMENDMENTS IN VILLAGE OF LOCHMOOR

Three commissioners and a president will be chosen by the voters of Lochmoor Village on March 10th. Terms expire of President Edmund C. Vernier and Commissioners Clyde M. Goodman, Arthur H. Post and Edward Vanderbush. Mr. Vernier will be succeeded by James W. Carter, the only candidate to file for president. The three retiring commissioners are being opposed for re-election by George A. Ross, Sidney J. Bockstanz and Walter S. Conrad. (Lochmoor's president and commissioners serve without pay.) At the same time the electors will be asked to ballot on a bond proposal and three proposed charter amendments.

Officials have decided to try to obtain approval of a \$40,000 bond issue for a site and a municipal building and its furnishings prior to proceeding with designation and purchase of the site. What size the site ought to be and how large the village hall should be has been discussed frequently without arriving at any definite conclusions or plan other than to sound public opinion by the bond proposal, and then, if the necessary three-fifths vote is recorded to work out the details of expenditure.

The three charter amendments to be voted upon would provide: (1) Permission for the Commission to extend the period for payment of special assessments from four to fifteen years in the case of local grading, paving, curbing, sewer and drain construction and from four to ten years for other local capital expenditures; (2) Authorizing the village commission to borrow in anticipation of the collection of special assessments to meet interest and other charges on special assessment bonds falling due whenever collections are insufficient to meet these obligations, instead of meeting the deficiencies from the general

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TOWNSHIP ELECTION

A contest for the office of township treasurer on April 7th is all that remains following the nomination of candidates for township offices at the primary, March 3rd. Nominees on the Democratic ticket are Edmund C. Vernier for supervisor, Daniel G. Allor for clerk, James M. Rasmussen for treasurer, Walter Schweikart for justice of the peace, Jerry Vanderbusch for board of review, Andrew T. Phillips, Frank W. Defer, Bert Forton, Emmett O. Pentecost for constables. The only Republican nominee is Joseph H. Primeau for treasurer. Statements received from the candidates for treasurer follow:

PRIMEAU, Joseph, H.: Attorney, 593 Rivard Boulevard, 48 years old, graduate University of Michigan Law Class 1910; owns real estate in Grosse Pointe, candidate for township treasurer on Republican ticket, has never held public office before. Statement: "I have always been interested in civic matters, and have spent considerable time in civic improvement associations, having served as president of the Jefferson Improvement and United Community Associations, and feel qualified by experience and ability to give this office real progressive and constructive administration."

RASMUSSEN, James M.: Merchant, 298 Moross Road, 38 years old, seventh grade education; owns real estate in Grosse Pointe, candidate for township treasurer on Democratic ticket; constable eight years, policeman six years, village trustee in Grosse Pointe Farms three years. Statement: "If elected, I shall endeavor to give work of the office my close attention with the object of serving the taxpayers to the best of my ability."

TROMBLY CONTRACTS LET

The Board of Education on February 20th, awarded contracts on an 11-room addition to Trombly elementary school, as follows: Construction, Corrick Brothers, \$66,005; plumbing and heating, James W. Partlan, \$26,174; electrical, Stanley Electric Co., \$8,321; total, \$100,510. Bids were received February 17th from 13 contractors, 8 plumbing firms and 14 electrical contractors. The completion date is August 15th. Smith, Hinchman & Grylls are the architects.

Grosse Pointe Civic News

Grosse Pointe, Mich.

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TOWNSHIP ARTICLE

Lack of space prevents publication in this issue of the final article in the township government series. It will appear in the next issue of Civic News. Statements of candidates for village offices are published in this issue. Those not represented either have no opposition for re-election or did not get their statements in before press time.

Grosse Pointe Park

Seven candidates have filed for four offices to be filled at the election in Grosse Pointe Park on March 10th.

For president, two-year term, salary \$720 annually: Alfred J. Garska, incumbent, 1029 Nottingham Road, and John Bery, 1142 Nottingham Road.

For commissioner, two-year term, salary \$600 annually: William P. Shoemaker, incumbent, 721 Balfour Road; Samuel Bastien, incumbent, 1101 Lakepointe; Thomas W. McGilligan, incumbent, 753 Barrington Road; Harry J. Le Fevre, 1062 Wayburn; Noah G. Paye, 1091 Lakepointe.

Incumbents seeking re-election have served the first two-year terms provided under the commissioner charter adopted in 1928. Prior to adoption of the new charter, it was customary to make an annual financial report to taxpayers. None has been made for two years.

Grosse Pointe Park's charter provides that the commission may appoint a village manager if it sees fit. No manager has been appointed thus far, the management at present being divided among the seven legislative officials—president and six councilmen—who receive a total of \$4,320 annually for their services.

BERY, John: 63 years old, 1142 Nottingham Road, Grosse Pointe, butcher for 40 years, common school education; pre-

vious public office six years as village trustee; candidate for two-year term as village president in Grosse Pointe Park. Statement: "I am seeking office that the taxpayers get an even break for their money."

Grosse Pointe Farms

President Kenneth L. Moore of Grosse Pointe Farms is unopposed for re-election March 10th, as are also Clerk John R. Kerby, and Treasurer Harry A. Furton. Incumbent trustees unopposed for re-election for two-year terms are James M. Rasmussen, William J. Mason and Herman Dondero. Francis J. Hock, recently appointed to a vacancy on the council when Barnard B. Mason resigned to take charge of the village's new sewage pumping station, has filed for election for the remaining year of Mr. Mason's term. Candidates for assessor are Alonzo R. Bachman, incumbent, and Clarence J. Semon. A third assessor candidate, Douglas Allard, was eliminated at the primary February 10th. President and trustees serve without pay in the Farms. Treasurer's salary is \$900, clerk's \$600, and assessor's \$800.

GROSSE POINTE VILLAGE

One contest marks the election in Grosse Pointe Village this year, there being four candidates for three trusteeships. Richard P. Connor, president; Norbert P. Neff, clerk; Charles A. Poupard, treasurer; and Neil Blondell, assessor, are unopposed for re-election. Three trustees are seeking re-election, D. M. Ferry, Jr., William Fisher and Chester Carpenter. A fourth candidate for trustee is Frank Moulin, a gardener, 17000 Jefferson Avenue, from whom no statement had been received by Civic News prior to going to press. Statements of the other trustee candidates follow:

CARPENTER, Chester F.: Salesman, 671 Washington Road, 32 years old, grammar school education, owns real estate in Grosse Pointe, candidate for re-election as trustee of Grosse Pointe Village, an office he has held for two years. Statement: "Have endeavored to represent the section of the village north of Kercheval Avenue and to promote the best interests of the village in every way."

FERRY, D. M., Jr.: Seed merchant, insurance and banking, 17100 Jefferson Avenue, 57 years old, graduate of University of Michigan and Columbia University, owns real estate in Grosse Pointe, candidate for re-election as trustee of Grosse Pointe Village, an office he has held for ten years; was member Michigan house of representatives, 1901-04, president State Board of Education, 1908-12. Statement: "Am pleased to serve on Council when it comes around nicely and without unpleasant features; have tried to help on the budget system, proper auditing, adequate sinking funds back of bond issues and to make village a residential district."

FISHER, William: Retired storekeeper, 509 St. Clair Avenue, 62 years old, public and high school education, owns real estate in Grosse Pointe, candidate for re-election as trustee of Grosse Pointe Village, an office he has held for six years; previously served terms as township treasurer and justice of the peace. Statement: "Economy should be the watchword of public officials this year and every year."

GARBAGE AND RUBBISH

The garbage and rubbish disposal problems of the Grosse Pointe district are being studied by village officials with a view to agreeing upon some plan of co-operation to cut the present expensive long hauls and to give a permanent and practical solution of the problem for the future. A movement for an incinerator, perhaps on the site of Grosse Pointe Village's present sewage disposal plant in Detroit north of Mack Avenue, was given impetus by Alfred J. Garska, president of Grosse Pointe Park, at a meeting of village presidents called by President Fred A. Behr of Grosse Pointe Shores to discuss mutual problems of the five villages, on February 20th.

Mr. Garska announced that he is having a survey made, which will be completed soon, to acquire facts as to the amount of garbage and rubbish being disposed of now, cost of disposal, and recommendations for future disposal methods. It was suggested at the presidents' meeting that Mr. Garska confer with John W. Reid, public works commissioner of Detroit, on the possibilities of co-operating in an incinerator plant to serve all of Grosse Pointe and a portion of the east side of Detroit. Detroit has been studying the advisability of constructing incinerator plants in various parts of the city for several years, an object being to reduce the present expensive long hauls.

Jerome Burt, principal of Grosse Pointe High School, announced recently that he has applied to the officers of the National Honor Society for a charter. This society, organized to recognize high scholarship, leadership, citizenship, character and service on the part of high school students, has been termed the Phi Beta Kappa of secondary schools. Charters are granted only to high schools of accredited standing, after which a small percentage of the junior and senior classes may be elected to membership by the faculty.

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thereafter as consumption increases with growth of population. This estimate is based on the assurance that Grosse Pointe Village will accept a 10-year contract to buy water from the Farms, at a considerable saving. Later, it is expected that Lochmoor and Grosse Pointe Shores will also buy from the Farms at a saving over Detroit rates.

Engineer's Estimates

The engineering estimates on which the proposed bond issue is based include a filter and pumping station, \$260,000; 12-inch cross main in Charlevoix Avenue needed both for Grosse Pointe Farms and to serve the Village, \$25,000; and 10 per centum engineering, legal and incidental fees, \$28,500. Hoad, Decker, Shoecraft & Drury of Ann Arbor are the engineers. It has been arranged with the engineers to permit Robert O. Derrick, Inc., architects, to draw the plans for the structure to house the water works to insure that it will be of pleasing design in keeping with the ideals of this residential district. A pamphlet explaining the water works plan has been distributed to residents of the Farms by the village officials. It contains an approval of the project by the new village plan commission appointed by the council—consisting of Roy D. Chapin, Robert O. Derrick and Kenneth L. Moore—with respect to the appearance of the new structure.

The engineer's estimates and written report were received by the village council at a special meeting February 20th, five days after Detroit began serving the Farms with filtered water. Farms officials declare they are speeding plans for the new water works so as to be able to ask bids immediately to take advantage of whatever opportunity there may be at present to get the job done as inexpensively as possible.

The contract with Detroit is revocable on six months' notice. Frank H. Stephenson, engineer of the Detroit Board of Water Commissioners, which is now serving the entire Grosse Pointe district, said the Detroit board's practice is never to interfere with local plans for such a vital necessity as water supply but always to stand ready to co-operate in every way asked. He declared he knew no reason why a properly constructed small filter and pumping station should not be

TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

In an effort to check the sufficiency or insufficiency of motor bus transportation services in the Grosse Pointe district, the village commission of Grosse Pointe Park in January asked and received the headway summaries of the Mack and Vernor bus lines of the D. S. R. and the Kercheval and Jefferson bus lines of the Detroit Motorbus Company. On February 7th the commission authorized the employment of checkers to determine how closely

the schedules were being adhered to.

Thomas B. Bedford, operating manager of the Detroit Motorbus Company, on January 31st reported that service additions made recently on the Kercheval and Jefferson lines during the heavy-riding period from noon to 5:30 p. m. appear to have relieved the unsatisfactory situation shown by a check on November 14th and 15th. The schedules are now as follows:

**ROUTE No. 12 KERCHEVAL
Gray and Jefferson to Fisher Road**

Time	Headway	Hour	Seats Per	Total Seats
5:10 A. M. to 5:30 A. M.	20 minutes			58
5:30 A. M. to 8:40 A. M.	10 minutes	348		1,102 One extra bus
8:40 A. M. to 4:10 P. M.	15 minutes	232		1,740 Three extra buses
4:10 P. M. to 7:10 P. M.	10 minutes	348		1,044 Four extra buses
7:10 P. M. to 11:40 P. M.	15 minutes	232		1,044
11:40 P. M. to 1:00 A. M.	20 minutes	174		232
				5,220

**ROUTE No. 19
Jefferson City Limits to Weir Lane**

Time	Headway	Hour	Seats Per	Total Seats
5:25 A. M. to 5:55 A. M.	15 minutes			116
5:55 A. M. to 8:55 A. M.	10 minutes	348		1,044 (5 extra buses)
8:55 A. M. to 11:55 A. M.	15 minutes	232		696 (from Fisher)
11:55 A. M. to 6:55 P. M.	10 minutes	348		2,436
6:55 P. M. to 12:25 A. M.	15 minutes	232		1,276
12:25 A. M. to 12:45 A. M.	20 minutes	174		58
				5,626

ROUTE No. 12: Average number of passengers carried per day.....2,260
 ROUTE No. 19: Average number of passengers carried per day.....2,380
 ROUTE No. 12: Average miles operated per day.....1,553
 ROUTE No. 19: Average miles operated per day.....1,719
 Additional service to care for school children.....39 trips
 Approximately 1,700 school children accommodated.

Frank Peppler, supervisor of traffic of the D. S. R., on January 20th, submitted the following summaries of Mack and Vernor bus line headway:

**MACK BUS LINE
Mack Avenue Between Chalmers Avenue
and Seven Mile Road**

EASTBOUND
Leaving Chalmers and Mack Avenues:

4:45 A. M. and every 27 min. to 5:12 A. M.
5:12 A. M. and every 8 min. to 5:50 A. M.
5:50 A. M. and every 6 min. to 5:56 A. M.
5:56 A. M. and every 8 min. to 8:10 A. M.
8:10 A. M. and every 14 min. to 8:24 A. M.
8:24 A. M. and every 12 min. to 4:12 P. M.
4:14 P. M. and every 6 min. to 6:06 P. M.
6:06 P. M. and every 9 min. to 6:24 P. M.
6:24 P. M. and every 12 min. to 11:00 P. M.
11:00 P. M. and every 15 min. to 12:30 A. M.
12:30 A. M. and every 20 min. to 4:30 A. M.

WESTBOUND
Leaving Seven Mile Road and Mack, same headways as eastbound service.

**VERNOR HIGHWAY BUS LINE
Vernor Highway Between Wayburn
Avenue and Livernois Avenue**

WESTBOUND
Leaving Wayburn and Kercheval Avenues:

5:24 A. M. and every 12 min. to 5:36 A. M.
5:36 A. M. and every 8 min. to 6:00 A. M.
6:00 A. M. and every 7½ min. to 6:45 A. M.
6:45 A. M. and every 5 min. to 7:10 A. M.
7:10 A. M. and every 4 min. to 7:42 A. M.
7:42 A. M. and every 8 min. to 9:00 A. M.
9:00 A. M. and every 7½ min. to 9:15 A. M.
9:15 A. M. and every 10 min. to 2:35 P. M.
2:35 P. M. and every 7½ min. to 3:50 P. M.
3:50 P. M. and every 5 min. to 4:00 P. M.
4:00 P. M. and every 6 min. to 5:00 P. M.
5:00 P. M. and every 7½ min. to 5:45 P. M.
5:45 P. M. and every 6 min. to 6:27 P. M.
6:27 P. M. and every 8 min. to 6:35 P. M.
6:35 P. M. and every 10 min. to 8:25 P. M.
8:25 P. M. and every 11 min. to 8:36 P. M.
8:36 P. M. and every 12 min. to 12:30 A. M.

EASTBOUND
Service leaving Woodward and Witherell Street approximately the same as westbound service leaving Wayburn and Kercheval Avenues.

capable of just as efficient service as a larger one.

The Board of Education received a report from its attorney February 17th advising that the board has the right to publish facts on its junior

high school program in pamphlet form to distribute from house to house, through parent-teachers' associations and otherwise, the pamphlet to consist of experts' reports, personal interviews with board members and others, statistics, etc.

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fund; (3) Authorizing the transfer of the entire unpaid balance on a special assessment to the next general tax roll assessment upon a property delinquent in meeting an installment of a special assessment.

\$100,000 Deficit

The condition which prompted these proposed changes in the charter was revealed by the village auditors' report to the commission on January 21st that approximately three-fifths of the special assessments now due to meet maturing obligations are delinquent. Special assessment bonds outstanding total \$433,000. Of this sum, \$175,000 must be retired in 1930. To meet the maturing bonds, the village has on hand approximately \$60,000 in special assessment collections, leaving a deficit of \$105,000 that must be financed by direct taxation upon all property in the village—that is, an appropriation in the general fund for the coming fiscal year—unless the charter is amended to permit borrowing the sum due, either by short-term notes or a new bond issue.

Lochmoor's budget appropriations for the present fiscal year ending the fourth Monday in March, 1930, totaled approximately \$80,000. If it becomes necessary to collect the \$100,000 special assessment fund deficit from taxpayers in 1930, the budget will have to be increased from \$80,000 to \$180,000, with a jump in the tax rate from \$8.65 to \$19.44. Taxes are limited to two per centum of the assessed valuation. Lochmoor's assessed valuation approximates \$9,000,000, so that a

\$180,000 budget would just get in under the legal wire.

Per Capita Debt \$585

Lochmoor's population is estimated at 1,400. Its general obligation bonded debt is \$390,000; special assessment bonded debt, \$433,000; total, \$820,000 (less monies available in sinking fund and special assessment funds). The faith and credit of the village are pledged in the issuance of the special assessment bonds so the per capita debt may for practical purposes be considered \$585.71.

Candidates' Statements

CONRAD, Walter B.: Designer of interiors, 1883 Country Club Drive, 45 years old, public, high and art school education, owns real estate in Grosse Pointe, candidate for commissioner in village of Lochmoor. Statement: "If elected, I shall work for better transportation, better police and fire protection, a new municipal building, annual report of expenditures of taxpayers' money and shall endeavor to keep taxation down to normal."

ROSS, George A.; Salesman, 998 Roslyn Road, 59 years old, public school education, owns real estate in Lochmoor, candidate for commissioner in village of Lochmoor; has never held public office.

COTTAGE HOSPITAL

A free bed, financed by a \$2,500 fund set up by the Detroit Community Fund, is now available (after proper investigation of needy applicants) at the Cottage Hospital, the board of trustees at the hospital has announced. In free cases, because the patient's doctor also is required to serve without pay, he must be chosen from the hospital staff.

The hospital's 62 beds are almost constantly filled, according to the Superintendent, who estimates that there is need of a 50-bed addition to

meet demands for hospitalization in this district. The \$3 cubicle-ward beds for adults at the hospital are the lowest-priced of any in the metropolitan area and, perhaps, in any part of this state or any other state at a self-supporting public hospital.

Last year, a \$1,200 deficit was incurred due to inability to collect \$2,000 due for services. The hospital has 48 people on its payroll; annual expenditures approximate \$100,000. The \$150,000 nurses' home on Ridge Road back of the hospital—financed by Mrs. John S. Newberry and furnished by Mrs. E. L. Ford—was recently completed and occupied.

As yet there are no definite arrangements between the villages and the hospital for care of emergency cases, according to the Superintendent. This lack of arrangement for receiving public patients has sometimes caused misunderstandings of one kind or another between village officials and the hospital. The township supervisor has a definite arrangement by which the township undertakes to finance cases which it brings to the hospital.

As yet there are no facilities for hospitalizing contagious diseases in Grosse Pointe. At a recent meeting of the four presidents of the five villages, called by President Fred A. Behr of Grosse Pointe Shores, it was decided that a physician would be appointed by each village to a committee to investigate contagious hospital needs and to confer with the Wayne County Medical Society on administrative problems of the county and the local district in general health matters.

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In the last analysis, education rests upon the classroom teacher. Buildings and equipment are but the bulwarks to strengthen him.

—Frank Cody.

Mrs. B. Vogt,
1304 Grayton.
Grosse Pointe Park, Mich.