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School Budget Defeated

The second budget submitted to voters by the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education was defeated yesterday. The budget totalled \$7,173,264 - \$101,574 in capital expenses, \$6,363,558 in current expenses, and \$708,132 in debt service.

The initial budget, defeated 3 to 1 with a 32% voter turnout, was trimmed by \$144,335, which represents a reduction of 13% of the increase.

The budget next will be considered by the combined Township Committee of Scotch Plains and the Borough Council of Fanwood. This body, after extensive consideration, will suggest a figure which it considers reasonable. If the figure is unacceptable to the Board of Education members, they may appeal to the State Department of Education, which sets a figure for operation of local schools. No further public hearings are customary at this stage of budget negotiations.

Vote - 3-1 Opposed
Turnout - Light

Neighborhood Aroused by Dog Attack Incident

Several residents in the area of Cook Avenue and Nicholl Avenue in Scotch Plains have expressed strong concern and protest over a dog-bite incident which occurred on Wednesday, February 14. A German Shepherd owned by the Chmielewski family of 333 Cook Avenue attacked and bit a passing schoolgirl, Donna Seda, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Seda of 202 Harding Road. The girl and a companion were on their way to school when the dog, being moved from garage to backyard pen by Mrs. Chmielewski, jumped from her grasp and bit the girl severely in the nose, mouth, and under the chin and hospitalized her for five days. She also had a minor wound on her upper arm. Mrs. Seda said that she will require extensive treatment over a long period of time.

Neighbors reported that they have notified police on numerous occasions that both Chmielewski dogs were running loose. They said they have been warned that the dog was being trained to attack, and that they should keep their children away from the yard.

A housewife on Nicholl Avenue, which runs into Cook Avenue in the vicinity where the incident took place, said she has been afraid to allow her children in the area for some time. She pointed out that the street is used by children going to four nearby schools. She said many neighbors have felt that the backyard fence used to pen the dog is insufficient in strength. She claimed it is a small pen, and is of chicken wire.

Another said "I don't consider this a dog bite. I consider it a vicious attack. If the owner hadn't been behind the dog to pull it off the girl, it would have killed her".

Chmielewski said that the dog had not been trained to attack, but had attended dog obedience school, and had a certificate from the school. He said the dog was, on the whole, good, gentle, and obedient. It was one year old last month. Chmielewski said that neighborhood children poke sticks in the dog's cage, throw stones at it, cut through the yard, and tease it all the time. He said that the dog is still a puppy, although big, weighing 70 to 75 pounds. It was a very unfortunate happening he said, and the dog, usually taken by the collar from garage to pen by his wife, probably wanted to play. The family has no plans to get rid of the dog, he said. They have had telephoned threats to poison the dog.

Scotch Plains Police Chief Os-

nato said that the dog must be quarantined for ten days, pending a report from the Board of Health. Then, he said, an investigation will take place to determine how vicious the dog is, what provoked the attack, and if the dog is a hazard. The case will be considered after the investigation, he indicated.

A neighborhood group plans to question borough authorities on ordinances for the fencing of large dogs.

Beetham Names Committee for Business Development

Fanwood Budget Hearing Set for Feb. 28

A public hearing on the municipal budget will be held at Fanwood Borough Hall on February 28, at 8 p.m. Copies of the budget may be obtained in the borough clerk's office in advance of hearing. Mayor Beetham encouraged community interest and attendance at the budget hearing.

Another public hearing, scheduled for March 13 at 8 p.m. in Borough Hall, will be concerned with municipal salaries for 1968. Two ordinances listing proposed salaries for municipal employees were introduced at the February 13 council meeting.

Salaries of officers and employees have been set as follows: Collector, \$4500.00 (unchanged from 1967); Assessor \$6900.00 (increased \$400); Clerk, \$5000 (unchanged); Attorney, \$3000 (unchanged); Director of Welfare, \$400 (increased \$100); Magistrate, \$2750 (unchanged); Building Inspector, \$1600 (unchanged); Borough Administrator, \$4500 (increased \$400); Treasurer, \$5200 (increased \$300); Court Clerk, \$1200 (unchanged). The Borough Engineer's retainer is increased from \$3000 to \$4500. The \$1500 added amount, however, will cover expenses, (secretarial, supplies, etc.) previously paid separately. The above employees do not receive longevity benefits.

A second ordinance established the following schedule for Police Department salaries: Chief, \$11,400 (increased \$700); captain and lieutenant, \$9300 (increased \$500); sergeant, \$8800 (increased \$500).

All five categories of patrolmen, Class A through Class E, would receive a \$500 annual increase. Their salaries are listed as: Class A, \$8100; Class B, \$7500; Class C, \$7200; Class D, \$6900; Class E, \$6600. Probationary patrolman salary is set at \$6200, up \$200.

In addition, members of the Police Department as well as Public Works employees, receive longevity benefits at the following rate: 2 percent after 5 years; 3 percent after 10 years; 4 percent after 15 years; and 5 percent after 20 years. The longevity benefits are unchanged from last year. They are applicable only to employees who work 35 or more hours a week.

The N. J. Department of Motor Vehicles has approved installation of stop signs at a number of Fanwood corners. Action was taken on the signs in December.

Raiders Clinch Wrestling Title!

The Raider's high-flying wrestling team finished an unbeaten season and clinched the Watchung Conference Title for Scotch Plains - Fanwood High School on Saturday night by handing a hitherto unbeaten Bound Brook team it's only defeat. The final score was 25-16.

Watch for a feature story in next weeks TIMES.

An inauguration promise of Fanwood Mayor Roland Beetham reached fruition last week with the appointment of a five-member business development committee established to develop and implement a program to encourage new business and to aid growth of the present business community.

The five men named to the new board are David Ringle, an insurance man with the Peterson-Ringle Real Estate and Insurance firm of Scotch Plains; Lawrence Andrews, head of Young Paint and Varnish Co., in Fanwood, and ex-member and President of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education; Theodore Frankenburg of Pearsall and Frankenburg, Inc., a Westfield realty firm; Clarence Slocum, a former Mayor of Fanwood; Harry Diller, Assistant Vice President of Plainfield Trust State National Bank. All but Diller are Fanwood residents.

Beetham said he and the council were excited about the new committee, and hoped that their activity would increase tax rates and ease the tax burden slightly for Fanwood homeowners.

In further appointments, Beetham named Richard W. Sage of North Avenue to fill the unexpired term of Howard Van Towle on the local Planning Board. Towle resigned from his term, which expires December 31, 1969.

Edward Waller of Belvidere Avenue will replace Ernest Gebler on the Shade Tree Commission. Gebler, whose term expires December 31, 1971, resigned due to the burden of graduate school studies.

Joseph S. Fuhrmann was appointed as acting Borough Engineer in the absence of Borough Engineer Richard Luster.

An application for \$4385 in state aid was approved by the council for the completed Section 5 in the reconstruction of North Avenue.

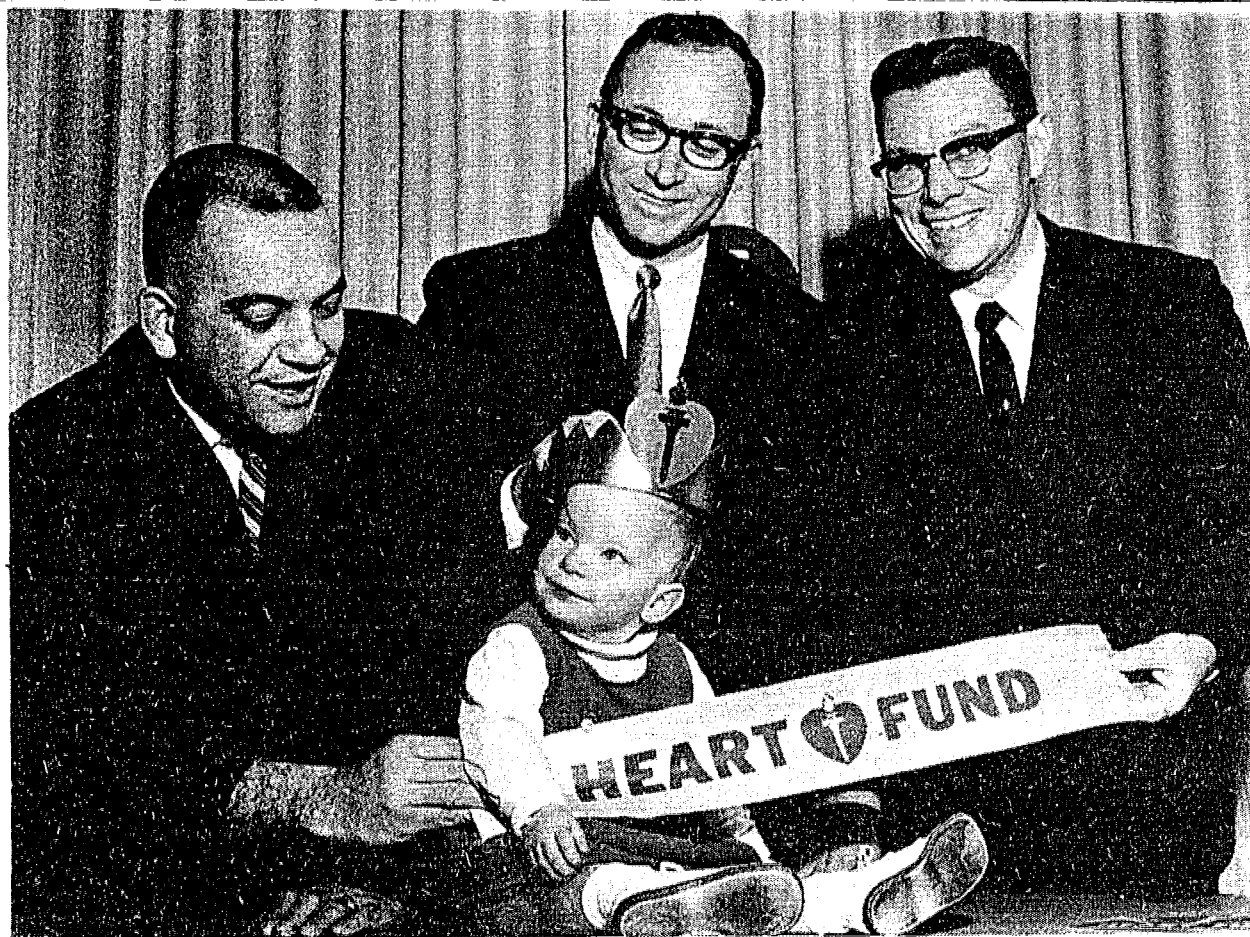
Contracts for tar and asphaltic materials to be used throughout the borough were awarded to A.L. Randolph of Bound Brook, tar and asphaltic materials, \$2814; Garwood Asphalt, bituminous concrete, \$9600; and Fanwood Crushed Stone \$2880 for crushed stone.

Home Burglarized

A burglary occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Scott, 1880 Winding Brook Way, Scotch Plains, sometime between 5:30 and 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14.

Damage included a ripped television antenna, and broken windows in the kitchen door and in the second floor bedroom. The Scotts reported many items missing, totalling \$1440 in value, including three television sets, cash, two radios, and other jewelry and appliances.

Robert Scott praised the efficiency and competence of both Patrolman Michael Ford and Detective Robert Lucas in investigating the burglary.



Three-year-old Sandra Graham of Kenilworth, Little Miss Heart Fund, receives attention from left to right Lawrence Roberts, Fanwood heart chairman; State Senator Matthew J. Rinaldo of Union, the county chairman, and Robert Haug, co-chairman in Scotch Plains. Roberts and Haug head scores of volunteers who will make their appeals for funds Sunday.