

# THE TIMES

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15 CENTS A COPY

## New Township Council



Albert Theurer



Alan M. Augustine



Walter Grote



Lawrence Newcomb



William Kitz

## Fanwood Elects



Van Dyke J. Pollitt



John A. McCall

## Fanwood Plans Board Explains Workings Of Maintenance Code

A proposed Property Maintenance Code was introduced and passed on first reading by the Fanwood Borough Council at their regular meeting on October 11, 1972. The proposed code, the result of several years study by the Borough Planning Board, was initiated at the request of the Mayor and Council. It was approved by both the 1971 and 1972 Planning Boards.

This article is the first of two aimed at informing borough residents of the intent and scope of the code and encouraging them to participate in the two scheduled Public Hearings on Monday, November 20, and Wednesday, December 13, prior to final consideration.

This first article, prepared by Planning Board members, deals primarily with the background and need for such a code. The second article will explain more fully the proposed workings of the code. A complete copy of the Property Maintenance Code was published in the legal section of this paper's October 19th edition.

The aim of the code is to encourage Fanwood property owners, operators and tenants, to keep their property in good repair, free of unsightly accumulations of debris so as to preserve it generally in as-built condition. This is the general definition of maintenance. The proposed code applies primarily to properties exposed to public view and use. It is proposed to be administered by a Public Officer who will add this function to the present duties of Building Inspector, Tax Assessor and Zoning Officer. No regular inspections of homes or properties is planned by this office for this official, but com-

plaints of alleged violations from citizens or other agents of the Borough will be investigated in a routine fashion.

The Planning Board designed this code as a logical adjunct to the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances, both of which are designed to provide sufficient local control of property use to protect the people living in the borough. The proposed code does not infringe on the controls exercised for new construction under the Building Code, or on the regulations exercised by the Fire Prevention Bureau, or on the necessary enforcement of Public Laws by our Police, or on matters under the jurisdiction of the Board of Health. Rather this code applies when lack of maintenance and progressive deterioration will cause certain properties to create a blighting condition, which if not curbed and corrected may grow and spread and in time require the expenditure of large amounts of public or private funds to correct.

The code, therefore, protects the health, safety and welfare of persons living in the borough by establishing minimum standards governing maintenance, appearance, and conditions of industrial, commercial and residential properties. Logical

## GOP's Retain Control Of Governing Bodies In Plains & Fanwood

### But — Margin Of Victory Was Too Close For Comfort

As a Republican President, Richard M. Nixon, carried the nation and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood community by a landslide, local Republicans in both communities eked out measly victories. Although all the local government contests were won by GOP men, the victors were strongly challenged by a very healthy showing from Democrats in both Scotch Plains and Fanwood — with narrow margins the order of the day everywhere.

FANWOOD Incumbent Councilmen Van Dyke Pollitt and Tony McCall hung onto their Council seats for another three-year term, just nosing out Democrats Richard Bonner and Howard "Van" Towle. Pollitt has served on the Council for seven years, while McCall is a relative newcomer, named last year to fill the unexpired term of Jerome Borye, who resigned.

Only 93 votes separated McCall and Bonner when unofficial absentee returns were tallied. The vote in this close race was: Pollitt-2362, McCall-2181, Bonner - 2088, Towle - 2054. The absentee voters (unofficial count) cast 202 votes for Pollitt, 128 for Bonner, 116 for Towle and 187 for McCall.

The local campaign in Fanwood was one of the hardest fought in that borough's political history, as Dems sought to gain two more seats on the Council. There are now two Democrats serving on the governing body, which includes four Republican Councilmen and a Republican Mayor. Elsewhere on the ballot, Fanwood was GOP all the way, by more than 2 to 1. Nixon gathered 2948 Presidential votes in Fanwood, while McGovern tallied 1083.

The Fanwoodites chose Republican Matthew Rinaldo 2721 over Democrat Jerry English, 1274 in the race for Representative, and they favored incumbent GOP

SCOTCH PLAINS

A new form of government — Council-Manager Plan B — will replace the present Township Committee on January 1, but the faces will remain the same. The five incumbent Republicans

who now serve as Committeemen in Scotch Plains will serve as the Councilmen when the new government is seated in January. The victorious candidates, who won by very close votes, are Alan Augustine, B. Lawrence Newcomb, Walter Grote, William Kitz, and Albert Theurer. Augustine was top vote-getter of the five.

The Democratic team presented a real challenge as the five Republicans and four of the five Democrats on the ballot all tallied votes in the 4,000 range, but the Dems were unable to overturn the Republican domination. Only 80 votes separated top Democratic candidate Anne Wodjenski and Albert Theurer at the polls. However, absentee ballot unofficial count widened the Theurer victory.

The vote registered at the polls: Augustine - 4802, B. Lawrence Newcomb - 4,762, Walter Grote - 4,740, William Kitz - 4,719, Albert Theurer - 4,601. The Democratic vote: Anne Wodjenski - 4,521, Donald Dimitzio - 4,430, Sylvester Green - 4,260, Philip J. Carroll - 4,083, and Louis Bender - 3,946.

Independent candidate Marvin Agran gathered 2,517 votes.

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DISTRICTS**  
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