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## Fanwood Council OK's \$80,000 For Curb And Sidewalk Improvements

The Fanwood Borough Council meetings of late have come to be marked by extensive political divisions of opinion and controversial discussion. Therefore, an hour-long Council meeting is now considered unusual. However, a lull settled over the Borough Council for last week's monthly meeting, and only road construction and curbing ordinances highlighted the hour.

The Council approved an ordinance which sets \$80,000 for construction work related to the reconstruction of LaGrande Avenue - Laurel Place. The county plans to do the road work, but as is customary in such instances, the Borough is responsible for accompanying construction of curbs and sidewalks. The \$80,000 also includes work required to increase the corner radius at LaGrande Avenue and Terrill Road, where some land acquisition and traffic light relocation is involved. Of the \$80,000 total, \$43,000 will come from the state aid for roads. A total of \$4,000 will be set aside from the capital improvement fund and the remainder will be bonded.

Concrete curbs are assessable to the benefiting property owners. However, borough officials noted that because of the state aid, only about 25 percent of the total, or around \$1 a foot, would be charged to the property owners.

In another ordinance which received final approval last week, the Council set \$191,000 for reconstruction of roads. The roads involved include: Paterson Road between Elm Avenue and Terrill Road; Beech Avenue from LaGrande to South; and Old South Avenue East.

It was pointed out that the Public Works Committee, Engineer, and the Superintendent have examined all roads in the borough and have formulated a priority

list for needed improvements. These three areas have been deemed in worst condition and in greatest need of improvement.

Councilman Stephen Ritter pointed out that potholes and road conditions are so bad in some of these locations that they could cause damage to an automobile. He said money for road repairs would be wasted because of conditions.

Benefiting property owners will be assessed for curbs on the three streets. A "guesstimate" would indicate a possible cost of around \$3.50 per foot, with some state aid likely to somewhat reduce costs in only the Paterson Road project.

It was announced that the Mayor and the Planning Board have contacted the county freeholders, seeking a reconsideration of county legislation regarding sump pumps on county roads. The borough was recently advised of a county ruling that sump pumps may not empty onto county roads posing a problem for homeowners on several county roads which run through Fanwood.

Christie A. Piekarski was named to membership in the Fanwood Fire Company. He is the son of Fire Chief Henry Piekarski.

Two dog wardens, Irving Higgins, Jr. and Paul Schaeffer, were named special police officers.

## Zoning Ordinance Gets Council OK

### Imperfections Are Noted By Residents- May Require Periodic Adjustments

Scotch Plains finally has a new zoning ordinance, passed by the Township Council on Tuesday, following years of preparation by Planning Boards, extensive study, and any number of public hearings, both formal and informal. Only a few residents spoke to the ordinance on Tuesday with the majority of them concerned over garden apartments in the B-1 zone.

The B-1 zone includes a single piece of land across Route 22, the entire length of Front Street from Terrill to Park, the south side of South Avenue, a portion of land at the corner of Forest and Westfield Avenue, and the two sites of existing garden apartments - Bayberry Gardens on Lake Avenue and the apartments under construction next to the Post Office.

It was pointed out by Mayor William Kitz and Council members that this zoning designation does not automatically permit garden apartments. Such construction still would require a special exception approval from the Board of Adjustment, which fact was incorporated in order to insure careful controls and building standards for such apartment construction in the future.

One resident questioned why B-1 had been specified for such apartments, and Councilman Albert Theurer said it was felt that this zone would be least likely to interfere with traffic flow, air flow, sunlight, etc.

In the old Master Plan, a three-acre minimum was specified for garden apartments. Why had this been reduced to a one-acre minimum, the Council was asked. Professional planning consultants and the planning board feel the one-acre minimum would permit eventual accumulation of a few rundown older homes in deteriorating neighborhoods, construction of garden apartments, and eventual upgrading of such areas.

Originally, the new zoning plan had included apartments in the R-3-A zone but neighborhood opposition resulted in removal of that specification.

Although one or two comments on garden apartments were negative, Mrs. June Shoemaker of Cooper Road urged specific zoning for them, in order to provide within the community living for all types, including the elderly, young couples, etc. She also favored some lowcost housing.

Mayor Kitz pointed out that unfortunately there is not too much developable land left within the community for future development.

One facet of the zoning ordinance was noted by Councilman Larry Newcomb. There is a provision wherein one half of all property owners in a given zone may initiate a petition for a change in zoning designation. They can start the wheels in motion themselves, rather than waiting for official action.

It's not a perfect ordinance, but there are no perfect ordinances, developer Sidney Gray-

bar told the Council. He urged them to go ahead and pass it, rather than "trying to write another new zoning ordinance with all the changes and comments from the hearings."

The Council did just that - but with a note that they plan to pass along the minutes of the hearing to the Planning Board for consideration. The ordinance can be changed, improved or revised at any time in the future, Kitz noted. He was very pleased with the very few criticisms in light of the many changes incorporated in the ordinance.

Councilman Larry Newcomb approved the ordinance, but will seek a change in two areas. He suggests specification of more modern measuring approaches for measurement of noise level in industrial areas and measurement of smoke emissions from industrial plants.

A moratorium on industrial building on Plainfield Avenue - Jerusalem Road area was lifted. The moratorium had been placed on building there until final resolution of zoning.

The Council introduced an ordinance providing for \$950 for

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## Mayor Kitz Will Appear In Radio Series

Mayor William Kitz of Scotch Plains will be one of the regular guests on a forthcoming radio series, Suburban Reports, on WCBS. Kitz and many mayors from suburbs in the metropolitan area will appear in one-minute spots from time to time, over the next six months.

Kitz welcomes announcements of interesting local events, school affairs, plays, fairs, etc. and Scotch Plains clubs and organizations are urged to inform Kitz of dates of their activities if they wish the announcements to be made on the WCBS programs.

The dates for Kitz' broadcasts are May 28, June 25, July 23, August 20, September 17, and October 15. Information for these shows should be forwarded to the Mayor about a week before each broadcast. Mrs. Alice Gould, who works for the township, may be notified by clubs and organizations, and may be reached on 322-6700.

To date, no time has been received for the forthcoming series of broadcasts.

## Recycling Center Open Saturday

Why not complete your annual spring clean-up by bringing all of your paper, glass, and metal wastes to the recycling center operated by the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Jaycees and the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Environmental Protection Group.

The center, located on the south side of the Fanwood Railroad Station, will be open Saturday, May 19th, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

All paper should be tied into bundles and the glass waste separated by color - clear, green, and brown.

## Lynch Files For Assembly

Owen P. Lynch, 41, of Fanwood, New Jersey, has filed for the New Jersey State Assembly in the Republican Primary set for June 5, 1973.

Mr. Lynch has been a resident of Union County for ten years and a registered Republican for the last 18 years. He graduated from Fordham University with a B.S. degree and attended the University of Louisville and St. John's University, New York, for a Masters degree in Business Administration. Upon his graduation from Fordham, he served as a Lieutenant in the United States Air Force assigned as a top secret combat operations officer in the Far East. He was discharged as a Captain.

Mr. Lynch was elected to the Board of Education of Scotch Plains-Fanwood in 1969. During his elected three years, he served as a Board member, vice-president, and was unanimously elected president in 1971. Included in his community activities are the YMCA Building Fund Program, Fanwood Youth Organization activities, Cub Scouts, and serving as an instructor at the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. Mr. Lynch is married to the former Lillian Heer. Their two oldest children attend the public school systems and their youngest child is a preschooler.

Lynch stated, "I believe that the overwhelming problem that faces both the voters of the 22nd District of Union County and the rest of the State is where we are going with education. The recent New Jersey State Supreme Court decision that negates local property taxes as a prime source for the funding of public education creates a very dangerous threat to the home-rule concept of control for our local public schools. If, in fact, Trenton will fund the state public school system, then it is absolutely imperative that monies collected by the State be allocated back to local school systems and controlled by local

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## Elizabeth Becker Retires - Remembered By Thousands

Mention the name "Miss Becker" to any former student in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district, and chances are, you'll get a smile of instant recognition and fondness. Elizabeth C. Becker is well known, as well she should be. She retires this year after 47 years of service to the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district. The beautifully groomed and most gracious lady is now a reading specialist at LaGrande School, but she has also taught first grade there and has served at many of the other elementary schools in the district as well.



ELIZABETH BECKER

Elizabeth Becker is a very familiar and much admired figure to lifelong residents of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood community.

However, although hundreds are familiar with her phonics abilities and her teaching talents, all too few are as well acquainted with her fascinating approach to life. All too rarely, one becomes acquainted with a person who truly lives life to the fullest, who approaches each day with a zest and a spirit which make for a great lifetime. Elizabeth Becker is one of the few.

For beginners, take her approach to retirement. Retire to stagnate? Hardly. She walks from her home near the center of Scotch Plains to LaGrande School daily. She'll retire only for a chance to do many more things. She looks forward to more travel, including a cruise to the Orient. She'll have more time for the symphony, music, hobbies, and home.

Not for Miss Becker - the farewell dinners and the ban-

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