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BOOK TWO

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Former consultant to become planner

Daily Herald - August 14, 1979

Richard Greenwood, a planner of the consulting firm that prepared Wheeling's downtown redevelopment study, has been hired as the village's full-time planner.

Greenwood, 32, becomes the village's second planner, replacing Ted McMullan, who resigned his post in June to take a planning job in his home state of Louisiana.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, who hired Greenwood to fill the planner's job, said Greenwood's experience with the consulting firm "was a little added factor" in hiring him over 50 candidates who applied for the $24,537-a-year post.

"I would say that was a feature — he's familiar with the village," Leikvold said. "We didn't hire him for that reason alone. It wouldn't have been fair to the other candidates."

THE CONSULTING FIRM, Harland Bartholomew and Associates, Northbrook, recently completed a $25,000 study of the redevelopment of downtown Wheeling.

Among its recommendations were proposals to build an emergency medical clinic, senior citizen housing and a center for senior citizens and handicapped persons — all near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street.

The firm also is completing a $20,000 study outlining the needs of Wheeling's senior citizens and the feasibility of building a center for seniors and handicapped persons. The firm last year conducted a $10,000 housing study for the village.

LEIKVOLD SAID Greenwood will begin working for the village this week. He said Greenwood "is articulate. He can write well, and he seems to be a good team worker — he'll fit in well."

Greenwood, a Lake Forest resident, graduated from Southern Illinois University in 1970 with a bachelor's degree in design. He served as city planner in Carbondale from 1970 to 1972. He also worked as a planner for Highland Park from 1972 to 1977.

After leaving Highland Park, Greenwood joined Harland Bartholomew as a planning assistant. He could not be reached for comment Monday.

Club owner talking 'sale' to developers

Daily Herald August 15, 1979

by Mary Poker
Herald staff writer

Local developers and Wheeling and Buffalo Grove officials have been discussing the possible purchase and development of the 150-acre Arlington Golf Club on Dundee Road, property Buffalo Grove has set aside for open space and multiple-family housing.

Wheeling Director of Community Development Larry Oppenheimer said his staff met recently with two local development firms that are considering the purchase of the course, located east of Buffalo Grove Road and north of Dundee Road.

The developers apparently want to build high-density multiple-family housing on the course.

The course owner, Daniel Taggert, said he has not advertised to sell the club but, because of "out of sight taxes," has started discussions with developers who are interested in buying the club.

Oppenheimer said one of the interested firms has proposed donating a nine-hole golf course to the village and building multiple-family housing on the rest of the site.

ONE OF THOSE interested firms is the Corley Co., Oppenheimer said. Corley built the Mission Hills condominium development in Northbrook with the Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Co.

Buffalo Grove Village Mgr. William Balling said he met informally last year with a representative from the Corley Co. about the development of the Arlington Golf Club but added the firm never sought permission for annexation to Buffalo Grove.

Oppenheimer said he couldn't recall the name of another firm he had talked to. He said no one has asked permission to annex the property to Wheeling. Most of the property is in unincorporated Cook County.

Bernard Katz and Co., a Skokie development firm, has received preliminary approval from Buffalo Grove to build 102 condominiums on five acres at the southeast corner of the club that was annexed to Buffalo Grove last year.

BUFFALO GROVE planner Bart Delaney said village officials have planned for the club to be annexed to Buffalo Grove since 1972. They thought the land would be used for a multiple-family development with about half the site left as open space.

"That's been our intention all along," Delaney said.

Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said he did not believe the club was designated as part of Wheeling on his village's overall development plan. He said village officials routinely meet with developers who want only to talk about what type of development the village wants on a particular parcel.

"**HONEST TO GOD**, I have no designs on it one way or the other," Leikvold said.

Although he hasn't advertised the sale of the course, Taggert said high taxes have forced him to listen to sales offers made by developers interested in buying it.

"We're getting taxed out of sight," Taggert said. "We wish we could stay here forever, but we're getting sour on the area." However, he said he is not considering a panic sale "or anything like that."

Although he refers most of the developers who call to his attorney, Taggert said many have talked about building a combination of multiple-family and single-family housing on the site with some commercial development on the section bordering Dundee Road.



Holy Family presents plan for walk-in clinic

Countryside Reminder - August 16, 1979

By ALLAN HEYDON

After an hour-long presentation by Holy Family Hospital of Des Plaines, Wheeling officials seemed content with the proposed walk-in clinic Holy Family has in mind for the village.

The walk-in facility Holy Family presented is in line with the village board's plans to build a senior citizens and handicapped persons complex complete with senior citizens housing in the northeast corner of the village.

Before the hospital's presentation at Monday's board workshop, Village Manager Carsten Leikvold told the board the village's request for federal funds to purchase the land for the complex is virtually certain and their request for funds from Cook County for the senior citizen's housing is almost as certain.

Sister Patricia Anne told the board the hospital is nearing the end of negotiations on a 2¼-acre parcel of land in the midst of the area the village wants to build the complex. She said the contract should be signed within 10 days and that there is enough vacant land around the parcel to complete the village's planned center.

The walk-in center visualized by the hospital would be open daily for eight to 12 hours.

"This would be a walk-in clinic, not a place for emergency care," Sister Patricia Anne said.

As the hospital released last week, plans for the center include:

–pre-admission testing;

--a small laboratory;

--several doctor's offices. "We hope to have one doctor for each specialty," Sister Anne said.

--a pharmacy. Several village officials asked hospital representatives about the need for a 24-hour pharmacy, but Sister Patricia Anne said there are eight pharmacists on 24-hour call to the Wheeling area.

--community services.

--care for minor industrial accidents and industrial employee physicals.

--occupational and physical theraphy programs.

"We feel we can do a lot for the village in the area of community services," Sister Patricia Anne said. "We do a lot of outreach programs (meals on wheels) and we think that sometimes senior citizens do not have the ability to walk to the clinic. We'll provide these services to them."

Several of the trustees and representatives of the industrial parks asked if there was a need for a 24-hour clinic, but hospital representatives did not seem to think so.

"If the need can be demonstrated then we can open the clinic 24 hours. But if the need isn't there the result will be inflated health care costs," Sister Patricia Anne said. She said costs at the clinic will otherwise be lower than costs in an emergency room.

"The question of 24-hour service is a very emotionally charged question and the decision has to come down to how much the community is willing to pay," she said. "How much is the extra 6 or 8 or

(Continued on page 60)

Clinic plane—

Countryside Reminder August 16, 1979.

(Continued from page 7)

12 hours the clinic would be open at night worth to the community?

"You have to compare the costs of staffing a clinic all night against the costs of a brief ride to the hospital," she said.

Trustee Sheila Schultz agreed with the hospital representatives that the costs have to be kept low.

We have to be very careful not to do exactly what we're trying so hard to avoid," she said. "We don't want to drive the cost of health care up."

Sister Anne said that while some persons have suggested the clinic be planned as the beginning of a full-service hospital, Holy Family Hospital does not see a need for a hospital in Wheeling.

"We still have in the area hospitals who have not opened up 80 beds and another I dare say has not opened up 100 beds," she said. "We're probably not looking at a full-service hospital in the future."

While originally three hospitals have been involved in Wheeling's search for health care only one remains. Northwest Community Hospital recently opted for their own clinic in Buffalo Grove and Lutheran General Hospital of Park Ridge is also withdrawing from playing a major role in the planning of the Wheeling facility.

A representative of Lutheran General told the board that the hospital would be willing to assist in the development of the clinic, but would let Holy Family take the major initiative. The spokesman said Lutheran General, because it is a teaching hospital, would like to encourage its doctors to move into the Wheeling area and work in the clinic.

The clinic concept also received a good deal of support from the industrial area of the village. One representative from the industrial parks and another from Rexnord Corp. urged the hospital to set up a 24-hour clinic which treated emergencies.

"We are looking for a service which is beyond our capability where someone can tell us what we have to do," Rexnord's representative said.

"If they were close by, we would use them."

The village board is expected to adopt a resolution endorsing Holy Family's plan and agreeing to work with Holy Family in development of the clinic and complex.

Ho hum

Village meetings running too late in WH and BG



In the midst

BY JOANNE KANTER

Wheeling Life - august 16, 1979

PEOPLE ASK ME lately why I am always yawning. I know there is some sort of medical explanation, but as I see it, I'm just plain tired.

No, I don't have middle-age slump. The problem is that I'm not getting enough sleep. And the reason I'm not getting enough sleep is the late hour at which Wheeling and Buffalo Grove officials end their meetings.

Three weeks ago I attended a board meeting in Wheeling. Wheeling recently enacted a resolution to end meetings at midnight. The exception to this rule is that discussions which are going on hen midnight strikes may be concluded. The meeting may proceed, however, only by unanimous vote of the board.

Well, at about 11:55 p.m. on that night three weeks ago, Village President William Hein began to speed up things. In fact, he got so speedy that he began an item which he knew would be in for long discussion at 11:59 p.m. Naturally, when midnight rolled around, the board had to conclude its discussion on this item (at 12:50 a.m.).

THERE WERE PEOPLE in the audience who had been sitting since 8:30, when the meeting began, waiting for an item which never came up. They were told to come back in two weeks — the date of the next official board meeting.

The next week I attended the Buffalo Grove village board meeting. They finished all their business, but it took until 1 a.m. to do it.

Last week I was back in Wheeling and the meeting ended at 12:15 a.m.

Do you wonder that I am tired? And do you wonder how village officials can make reasonable, intelligent decisions when they have been sitting in the same chair for three or four hours? Do you wonder that agendas become so lengthy that it is impossible to conclude the business of the evening before the early morning hours?

ONE OF THE WAYS to solve the problem would be to have shorter agendas. Perhaps this is impossible in the thinking of the village managers who make them up, but it is unfair to the people of the community, who elected their officials to make sound decisions, to have such long meetings. It is also unfair to the officials who have worked all day, and then must get up early to go to work the next morning.

Another idea, which many communities have used, is to have a consent agenda. That is, everything on the agenda which is not likely to be discussed is lumped together and can be voted on in one motion. Items trustees decide to talk about may be taken off the consent agenda. But, in most cases, this procedure shortens meetings considerably.

Lastly, (and I do not advocate this idea) boards could go back to holding official meetings more than twice a month. At one time, both Wheeling and Buffalo Grove held official meetings each Monday. If there was a fifth Monday, either a workshop was scheduled or trustees (and everyone else) had a night off. Workshops were scheduled on other nights of the week.

I REALIZE that the reason official meetings were reduced in number was so that trustees could hold workshop sessions and get more detailed information on some agenda items. This was supposed to cut down lengthy discussion on official meeting nights. However, it has not worked. And I think it is time for these two communities especially, to realize that because they are quickly expanding they have longer agendas than other municipalities. There should be some reasonable solution.

It is time for the communities to come up with one — before the trustees begin snoring at the meetings.

Restaurant tries to open

Wheeling Life, August 16, 1979

WHEELING — Owners of Mr. B's restaurant would like to complete expansion and reopen, but they are not quite sure what the village of Wheeling expects of them.

At a plan commission meeting, Thursday, Aug. 9, the owners, Peter Arvanitis and Jim Barbarigos, appeared with their attorney, Phillip Muzock, and contractor John Marino with new plans incorporating Wheeling zoning board recommendations.

After seven months of appearing before village commissions, Mr. B's people were told their case had been referred to the next week's plan commission workshop.

Originally, Mr. B's obtained a permit to remodel the existing structure. Remodeling has been completed and the owners are trying to have their plans approved for an addition that would increase seating capacity from 96 to 126, said Muzock.

ACCORDING TO plan commission Chairman Tony Alteri, the plans submitted could use more landscaping and one of the entranceways should be moved further south, away from the intersection of Milwaukee and Manchester. The other entranceway and exit on Manchester should also be moved further away from the intersection.

Originally there were four entrances and exits, Muzock said. Closing two of the exits was suggested in June, he added. Tuesday, it was approved by the zoning board, Muzock noted.

Community development director Larry Oppenheimer said the plan should go into workshop because it could take a long time to straighten out.

THE NEW PARKING arrangement suggested by plan commissioner's at the Aug. 9 meeting would not comply with village requirements for the number of parking spaces, according to Muzock. The zoning board had suggested increasing the 40 parking spaces by 11 additional ones, and the owners complied, Muzock said. However, plan commissioners suggested removing parking spaces and putting in landscaping, and one plan commissioner even suggested cutting a new entrance and exit between two existing entrance and exit ways thus requiring the petitioners to appear before the state.

With a little imagination, Oppenheimer said, they could come up with a better parking arrangement.

When asked why Mr. B's has been in and out of village commissions for such a long period of time, Oppenheimer said the restaurant owners began petitioning the village without the proper guidance. They could not fill out the forms or apply for a public hearing, Oppenheimer said.

Meanwhile, construction costs are continuing to go up, and the contractor said he would like to begin construction before they get any higher.

ARVANITIS AND BARBARIGOS are still making mortgage payments on the restaurant they purchased four years ago and the restaurant is still closed.

"We try to make improvements," Arvanitis said, "and they do this to us — I don't understand."

Arvanitis said that he had to borrow money to feed his family, because the restaurant was his income. Both owners said they suffered financial duress because the expansion to better accommodate their clientele was taking so long.

Plan commission members said that they were merely trying to do their job and protect the community.

Mr. B's, located at the corners of Manchester and Milwaukee avenues was open 24 hours. It first opened eight years ago and became somewhat of a community landmark.

Lanes closed on Dundee Road

Countryside Economist - Aug. 16, 1979

Traffic will be limited to two lanes along a distance of 100 yards on either side of the intersection of Dundee Road for several weeks, Wheeling police have reported.

Because of repairs on the tracks. These repairs, which began road will be limited to two lanes for the on the Soo Line, the Monday, are expected to last until Monday, Aug. 27.

Village tax rate may stay the same

Daily Herald August 16, 1979

Wheeling residents' taxes next year will remain about the same if the village board approves the $1.4 million tax levy proposed by Finance Director Gregory Peters.

The 1979 tax rate, which applies to 1980 property tax bills, should remain at 95.7 cents per $100 assessed valuation, Peters said. That means a resident with a home assessed at $10,000 will pay about $96 in village taxes. The village tax accounts for about 10 percent of the total tax bill.

Peters said the tax rate was considerably lower than he had expected. He had predicted last year a 35 percent jump in village taxes, from the 1977 rate of 86 cents to $1.16 per $100 assessed valuation, mainly to pay for the new $3.8 million municipal building complex. However, the village's assessed value, which was computed by the Cook County Assessor's office a few weeks ago, was set at $160 million, which produced the lower tax rate.

PETERS SAID he expected the village's assessed value to be about $143 million, and was at a loss to explain the unexpected increase. "I use a percentage increase based on what the AV has gone up in previous years," he said. "And it's better to be conservative on your estimate. I don't know why it went up so much this year."

Peters estimates next year's assessed value will be only $146 million because of elimination of the corporate personal property tax, which will account for an 11 percent reduction in the village's assessed value.

However, Peters estimates the income tax placed on businesses and utilities, which was approved by the state legislature as a replacement for the corporate personal property tax, will bring an additional $200,000 into the village coffers by 1981. He is proposing that money be set aside for a special "capital improvements" fund.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said he plans to update the village's comprehensive plan, which designates water, sewer and traffic improvements needed in the village as well as land uses. The village's comprehensive plan has not been revised since 1965, he said, adding that once the plan is updated, the village will decide what projects should be given top priority and financed through the capital improvements fund, he said.

THE $1.4 MILLION levy board members are slated to approve Monday supports about one-fourth of village spending. The balance of the $5.8 million 1979-80 budget approved by trustees in April is covered by water and sewer fees, vehicle sticker fees, sales taxes, building and inspection fees and business licensing fees.

That budget, a 4 percent increase over last year, includes the salaries of village employees and the cost of providing services in the village.

Many service offered

Wheeling Life - August 16, 1979

Cable TV approaches WH

WHEELING—Village President William Hein has received a proposal from Cablevision of Chicago to have Wheeling purchase a cablevision franchise from the Oak Park firm.

Five communities in the metropolitan Chicago area already have granted franchises to the firm: Oak Park, Justice, Lyons, Bedford Park and Burbank.

The letter says Cablevision will install a "dual trunk system" when constructing the lines, to keep future costs down. The dual trunk system will have the ability to send up to 57 channels to the community and receive 16 channels from the community.

THE COMPANY IS in the process of restructuring its rates and proposes to charge $4.50 per month for a 36-channel "family cable" service. There would be no installation charge.

Family cable would include:

- All Chicago VHF channels.
- All Chicago UHF channels.
- Channels from nearby cities, such as Milwaukee, WI, and South Bend, IN.
- Channels from distant cities, such as New York, San Francisco, Atlanta, Los Angeles and Boston.

In addition, family cable would include a community channel with 24-hour community news and announcements.

Other services offered include a 24-hour weather/commuter service, entertainment and sports programs, and news from Springfield. Many other special services are offered.

Premium services would be available for extra cost.

THE NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL conference (NWMC) is studying proposals from cable television companies.

However, Village President William Hein said it is his belief that "the first village to make a deal will get the best deal."

This is the second wave of activity in this decade concerning cable television. Interest peaked about five or six years ago, but there was little offered at that time and proposals fell by the wayside.

Judge's all wet on sprinkling ban penalties

Courier, Dem. - 8-16-79

Though Wheeling officials and the Wheeling police consider violating the village's water sprinkling ban a ticketable offense, judges in the Wheeling court appear to think the village is all wet.

According to figures released last week by Police Chief Ted Bracke, Wheeling police had issued 68 tickets to persons violating the water ban.

But of the first seven complaints to reach the Wheeling branch of the Second District Circuit Court, only one received the $10 fine. Judges dismissed the other six cases for reasons ranging from ignorance of the ban to persons who said they were exempt from the ban.

Of the six dismissed cases, three persons said they were allowed to sprinkle their lawns, yet police records show their name is not on the list of exceptions.

Bracke, however, said he expects most of the remaining 60 violators to be fined the $10 plus $5 for court costs.

"I think the problem at the beginning was that the judges were not familiar with the water situation in the village," Bracke said. "The judges are not from Wheeling, they're from other municipalities and they didn't see the water violations as a major problem. Water violations are not something that frequently comes across a judge's desk.

Bracke said, however that since the dismissal of the six cases the judges have been informed, via the court liaison officer, of the water problem in the village.

"I think you're going to see them in the future to be a little more strict," he said. "The judges know what the situation is now."

Wheeling beer-brat fest Sunday

Countryside Reminder - Aug. 16, 1979

Sixty half-barrels of beer; 700 pounds of bratwurst; 300 pounds of hot dogs; 750 dozen ears of corn; 600 pounds of German potato salad; and six barrels of sauerkraut will greet the more than 5,000 area residents expected to attend the Wheeling Park District's Beer and Brat fest Sunday.

The festival in its ninth year will begin at noon at Chevy Chase Clubhouse, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave.

The afternoon's activities include a German band from 2:30 to 5:30 and an art show sponsored by the Community Art League.

Admittance to the fest is free, but the food costs money.

Despite new density law Plan unit OKs Three Lakes

Wheeling Life - August 16, 1979

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — Despite new density requirements passed by the village board Monday, Aug. 6, the plan commission approved the preliminary plat for Three Lakes village, Thursday, Aug. 9, and will send its recommendations to the village board. Village Attorney Gary Weintraub explained that the developers had submitted their petition prior to June 30, the cutoff date for adherence to the new ordinance.

About 15 senior citizens and Strong street residents attended the meeting because they had hoped to see the property selected for senior citizen's housing as suggested in the Harland Bartholomew study, recently completed in Wheeling.

Developers of the property, Thomas Popke and Lambert Domas, plan 114 units of two-bedroom condominiums on the 10.75 acres east of Chamber park.

The project has eight three-story buildings on 1.05 acres with 2.77 acres for parking and 7.48 acres open space, including two lakes for water detention basins. Estimated selling price is less than $60,000 per unit.

Plan commission members requested a letter from the builders agreeing that they would install curb and gutters and street pavement on First and Second streets. Commission approval was contingent upon the agreement.

Set brat and beer fest

Life - August 16, 1979

WHEELING—The tenth annual Brat & Beer Fest will be held from noon to 7 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 19, at Chevy Chase, 1000 N. Milwaukee.

The event originated with the Diamond Jubilee celebration of Wheeling's 100th birthday in 1969. The Wheeling park district took over the event in 1970 and then the Wheeling Historical society organized it for the next eight years. This year, the Brat & Beer Fest will be sponsored by both the park district and the historical society, with proceeds going to recreational and historical projects.

From 2:30 to 5:30 p.m., the German band Donauschwaben Blaskapelle will perform.

THERE IS NO admission charge to the Brat & Beer Fest. In addition to bratwurst and beer, sweet corn, sauerkraut and German pototato salad will be on sale. There will be three policemen at the gate to check identification to clamp down on previous problems with under-age drinking, according to a park district official. Because Chevy Chase is under the jurisdiction of Lake county and not the village of Wheeling, the drinking age for beer will remain 19. Wheeling raised its drinking age for beer to 21 several months ago.

Park district officials warn teenagers that they will have to be 19 "and prove it," in order to drink beer.

IN ADDITION TO food, an art fair will be sponsored by the Community Art league. Crafts, jewelry, dollhouses, portrait artists and a portrait raffle will be featured.



Wheeling Life - August 16, 1979

DENNIS MIKOSZ HOOKS UP a pump that will supply a mix of alcohol and water. Wheeling is experimenting with the mixture in one of the public works trucks in an attempt to get better gas mileage. (Photo by Steve Donisch)

Two lanes on Dundee

8-16-79

WHEELING — Work has begun on repair of the Soo Line tracks over Dundee road, located between Old McHenry and Wolf roads. As a result, for approximately 10 days, traffic on Dundee will be reduced to two lanes at that location, according to the Wheeling police department.

Plan $4.5 million clinic

Wheeling Life - August 16, 1979

Negotiations begin for site

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — Holy Family hospital has begun negotiations for a 2¼-acre site in Wheeling for a $4.5 million health care facility, said Sister Patricia Ann, president of Holy Family Hospital Assn.

At a workshop session of the Wheeling village board Aug. 13, Sister Patricia Ann told the board that the facility would try to provide services different from those of the hospital. However, there will be emergency services, certain types of outpatient services, and educational programs for the schools, she said.

Representatives from business and industry and the school district generally favored the clinic and asked questions about the types of services and the hours.

THE CLINIC will plan for the needs of the village, Sister Patricia Ann said, including giving physicals for industry, and handling industrial accidents, if needed. Senior citizens home care, daily calls, and other programs will be designed according to village needs, she said.

Dr. Jerome Hahn, of Lutheran General hospital, said Lutheran General did not submit a proposal for the facility, because it is basically a teaching hospital. However, he said, Lutheran General would cooperate with Holy Family hospital in providing services, and interns, who may consider moving to the village.

Trustee Sheila Schultz asked if the health facility and pharmacy would be open 24 hours a day. That depends upon the needs of the village, Sister Patricia Ann replied. "If it is an emergency and the patient needs a hospital in the middle of the night, he had better get to the hospital," she added.

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold told the board he talked to the Cook county housing authority, and Wheeling's applications for senior citizens housing, a medical clinic, and senior citizens service center have been approved by the county. He said they felt sure the requests for funding will be approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

THE CLINIC was one of the recommendations in the Harland Bartholomew study for revitalizing Wheeling's old downtown district along Milwaukee avenue. Although the exact location of the land under negotiation has not been divulged, the study recommended the area south of Strong street, on Milwaukee avenue.

When Wheeling Village President William Hein asked Sister Patricia Ann if the health care facility would ever become a hospital, she said that it would not. However, she said, they hope to have interaction between the hospital, paramedics, and the health care facility. Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld brought to the board's attention that the paramedics who work with a hospital cannot take patients to a nearby clinic.

The proposed senior citizens housing should be located in an area south of Strong street, near Milwaukee, according to the Harland Bartholomew study. However, 10 acres east of the Chamber park and south of Strong street is the site of the proposed Three Lakes Village, a Domas and Popke development. Thursday, Aug. 9, the plan commission approved the preliminary plan for the development.

HOLY FAMILY'S attorney, James DiLeonardi, told the board they expect to have a contract on the 2¼-acre site within the next 10 days. He said he will meet with Wheeling's staff in regard to zoning, and the land possibly could be zoned with the senior citizens project.

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld asked Sister Patricia Ann about the Holy Family hospital services for senior citizens. She replied that the hospital provides occupational and physical therapy programs for seniors. At this time, the hospital has a meals-on-wheels program for seniors in Des Plaines, Wheeling township, and Mt. Prospect, she added.

Some of the outpatient services provided by the hospital are: exercise stress testing, dynamic electro-cardiograph, which measures heart activity, physical therapy; a preventative medicine program; daily call program, diabetic classes; CPR course; and several others.

"**SHOULDN'T WHEELING** have its own hospital serving Wheeling, Riverwoods, and Lincolnshire?" asked Arnold Mass, of Highland Park, and a property owner in Wheeling.

Hein replied that the problem had been addressed two years ago, and the trend did not show that Wheeling needed that type of facility. There is no need duplicating those services, Hein said. Additional hospital beds, Sommerfeld added, are not necessary. However, with sufficient planning, such a facility could be incorporated if needed "on down the road in years ahead."

According to the Amhurst study, based upon 1975 statistics, Wheeling had 820 admissions to Holy Family hospital, and Buffalo Grove had 200 admissions. More than 12% of Holy Family's patients come from Wheeling and Buffalo Grove. Of emergency care, 48% was given to Wheeling, according to Marian Jennings, who presented the study. Village ambulatory care would require 20.1 full-time physicians per week, based on 10 half-days per week.



Daily Herald August 18, 1979

PLUCKING OUT the strains of an old German melody is Walt Murphy, a member of the band that performed at last year's "beer and brat fest" at Chevy Chase Golf Course, Wheeling. German bands, an art fair and thousands of hot dogs and bratwurst will be a part of the festival, which starts at noon today.

German patrons expect the wurst at Wheeling fest

Daily Herald August 18, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer (Herald photo)

It may not be an authentic "Schlachtfest," but Wheeling's "Beer and Brat Fest," now in its 10th year, has proven so popular that park district officials expect as many as 5,000 persons Sunday at the festival of food, song and art sales.

The festivities start at noon at Chevy Chase Clubhouse, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave. In anticipation of the crowds, park officials have bought more than 6,000 hot dogs and bratwursts, 600 pounds of potatoes, 60 barrels of beer and ample portions of sauerkraut and sweet corn.

"Donauschwaben Braskapelle," an eight-piece group from Wood Dale, whose name means "brass band," will perform old-time German tunes between 2:30 and 5:30 p.m. The Wheeling-Buffalo Grove Art League will sponsor a day-long art fair.

The beer and brat fest was started 10 years ago in conjunction with Wheeling's 75th anniversary by the Wheeling Historical Society as a means of raising funds for various projects. Although the first festival produced a crowd of about 300, historian Marshall Balling termed it "an immediate success."

"I DON'T KNOW for sure how many people we served, but we ran out of everything," he said.

The festival continued to make money and the historical society used the funds to help move the old village hall from the spot where the Dundee Road Dunkin Donuts now stands to its present site at Chamber Park. But the festival continued to grow to the point where members of the historical society felt they didn't have the manpower to run the festival.

So this year, the historical society turned the show over to the park district, although its members still plan to pitch in and help.

The festival itself is relatively new, Balling says, but the idea of having a sausage festival dates back to the Middle Ages.

"It was called 'Schlachtfest,'" he said. "That means killing feast. It probably goes back to the days of Martin Luther in Germany when they butchered the fat hogs in the fall.

"BEEF, YOU KNOW, can be preserved. But the fresh pork had to be salted and cured immediately. It had to be eaten right away."

So the affair became an annual celebration. And when German immigrants began migrating to the United States in droves in the 1800s, they carried on the tradition.

Although Wheeling's first settlers were Scotch-Irish, Balling says, the village was a natural place for the Germans to make their homes.

"They all heard about the Midwest, where land was plentiful and cheap," he says. "Here there was no aristocracy on their backs, no conscription to go into the army." Wheeling, with land that was conducive to farming, offered almost exactly the same conditions they had in Germany."

So shortly after the Civil War, the German immigrants quietly had their annual Schlachtfests in the roadside inns that popped up along Milwaukee Avenue, a common stopping point for travelers making the journey from Chicago to Milwaukee.

IN THE 1930S, an enterprising ex-waiter from Chicago's Berghoff restaurant by the name of Charles Forbach turned the Schlachtfest into more of an extravaganza.

"He was president of the International Union of Waiters, which was a huge organization," Balling says. "But nobody in Wheeling was too impressed with that. However, he had a lot of Chicago connections and brought some of the bigger celebrities out here. I think some of the other German restaurants were just a little jealous.

"And the spread that he'd put out was just incredible," Balling says. A typical Forbach menu featured champagne and imported cheeses for appetizers, followed by a variety of relishes and homemade dill pickles. The soup usually was "metzel suppe" — a form of lentil soup.

The main course featured a host of sausages — leberwurst, blutwurst and bratwurst, as well as roast pork. The feast was accompanied by sauerkraut, potato dumplings, applesauce and red cabbage. Apple pie a la mode, Roquefort cheese with crackers and coffee capped off the meal.

"All that for $1.25," Balling says. And the place was crawling with interesting characters to boot. Like DeWolf Hopper, father of renowned gossip columnist Hedda Hopper.

"HE WAS a great actor in the 1920s," Balling says. "He was the guy who made 'Casey at the Bat' famous."

Hans Schmidt carried on the Forbach tradition of good food. He served as the town's butcher and mayor in the 1940s. "He made his own sausages from scratch," Balling says.

But the German roadside inns eventually died out, although Hans' Bavarian Lodge on Milwaukee Avenue retains much of the German flavor with it annual Octoberfest.

And the annual beer and brat fest has become one of Wheeling's more popular social events. "We've had everyone involved," says Bob Burger, historical society president. "The village government, the businesses. It a way of keeping the tradition alive.

"I don't know," Balling says. "Maybe with the gas shortage and everyone taking their vacations at home, these local ethnic celebrations will really make a comeback."

Fight looms to keep RTA route

Daily Herald August 17, 1979

A suburban Regional Transportation Authority board member says he has enough support to save a Wheeling-to-Chicago bus line the RTA staff wants to eliminate in a cost-cutting move.

"Yes, I have enough votes," said Daniel Baldino, RTA board member from suburban Cook County. He said other suburban board members, as well as Chicago board members Kenneth Sain and William Dart, will join him in opposing the staff proposal to cut the northern leg of Route No. 211.

Baldino also says he will oppose the recommendation to raise fares from $1.25 to $2 on bus routes 211 and 210, the latter a similar run that originates in Glenview.

A fare increase to $1.50 would be "more equitable," he said, adding such an increase would be out of line with fare hikes being proposed on other bus runs to raise funds to help bail the RTA out of its perilous financial state.

RIDERS OF THE 211 repeatedly have fought previous efforts to eliminate the run and say they are willing to pay a little extra for the service, Baldino said.

And riders' fares pay for 55 percent of the cost of running the route -- a figure that stacks up well against other suburban bus routes. "If every route we have did as well, we wouldn't have nearly as many problems," he said.

In an effort to erase a growing deficit, the RTA staff in April recommended a series of service cutbacks, including elimination of the 210 and 211, Route 332 from Mount Prospect's Randhurst Shopping Center to Oak Brook and a Des Plaines shoppers' special to the Loop.

After hundreds of angry residents from Wheeling, Glenview and Lincolnwood protested the move, the staff revised its plan and recommended keeping the 210 and the Mount Prospect line intact.

The staff, however, proposed the 211 route be shortened and begin at Glenview Road and Milwaukee Avenue in Northfield Township, south of Wheeling.

RICHARD BARAZDA, an RTA planner, says ridership between Wheeling and Northfield Township is low. "Much of (the area) is forest preserve, and there isn't going to be that many riders," he said.

But Sain says that area is growing and the low ridership may be a result of poor publicity. "To eliminate 211 would mean cutting off a vital link between Wheeling and the Loop," he said.

"It's a growing and expanding area, not only in housing but in industry. Instead of spending $1 million on a general, area-wide TV ad, we should be spending more money in the communities themselves."

William Levin, a rider of the 210 and 211 who has led residents in the fight against the cutbacks, said riders probably would support a fare hike to $1.50 but no more.

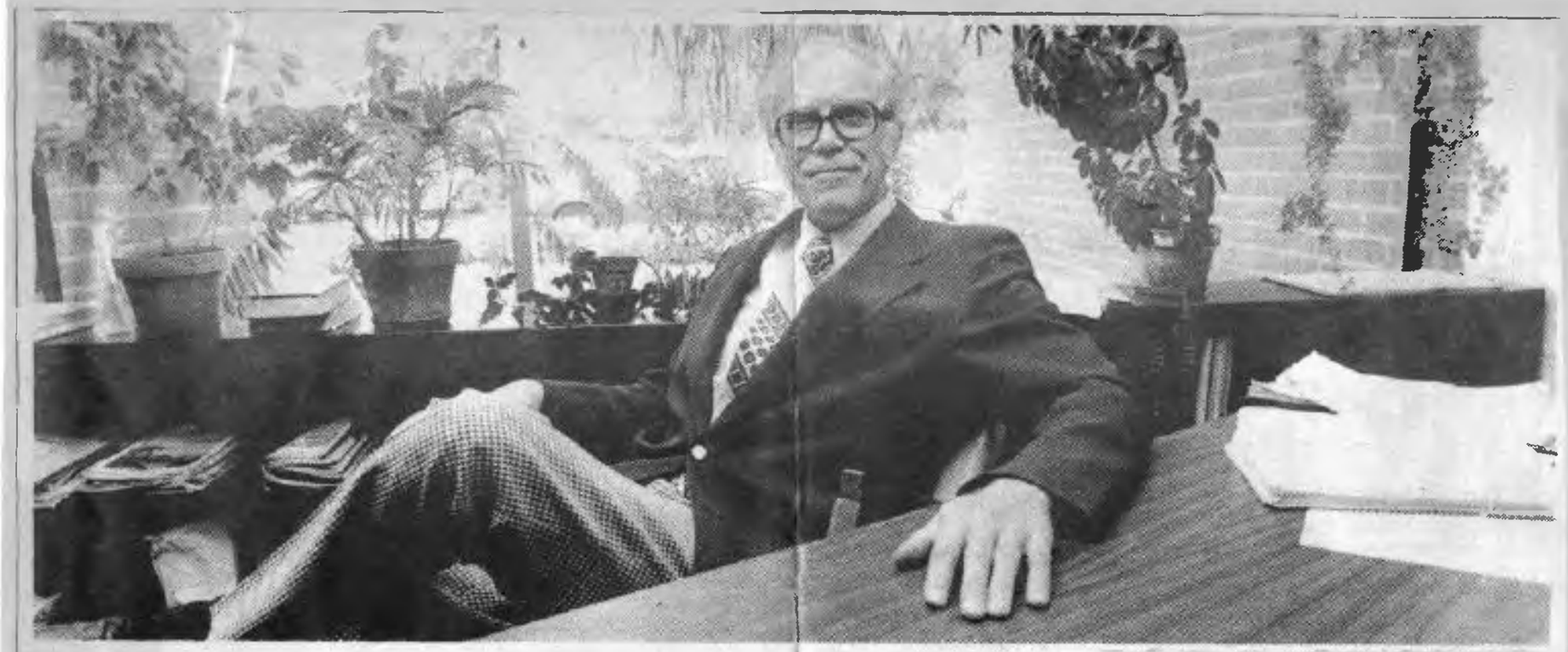
"I WOULD GO out on a limb and say it would not only be tolerated, but it would be actively supported. But the $2 fare would cause some problems. There's no reason to pay substantially higher fares (than other RTA routes). We're willing to share the load, but it should be shared equally."

Officials from the North Suburban Mass Transit District also are opposing the elimination of Wheeling from the 211 route and are recommending the fares be increased to no more than $1.75.

"A 40-percent increase would be unfair, when they're talking about a 20-percent increase in the standard fare (from 50 to 70 cents)," said Joseph DiJohn, NORTRAN executive director.

RTA board members are slated to vote on the service cutbacks and fare increases next month.





Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold...under fire

Tenure of Wheeling manager in doubt

Countryside Reminder August 16, 1979

Board split on Leikvold firing

By ALLAN HEYDORN

Despite the dissatisfaction of several Wheeling trustees with the way Village Manager Carsten Leikvold is doing his job, Leikvold does have the support of at least two trustees and the village president.

An informal poll by the Countryside Reminder News indicates trustees Robert Ross, Roger Powers and Village President William Hein basically support Leikvold.

Trustees Charles Kerr, and Sheila Schultz said they were basically dissatisfied with Leikvold's performance, while Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld declined to comment on the situation. Trustee John Cole, who was critical of Leikvold prior to the April election and who has criticized Leikvold since then, was unavailable for comment.

Kerr and Schultz, who said during the election they were not happy with Leikvold, said after the election they would give him an opportunity to work under the new board. Both now think Leikvold has had that chance.

"I think Mr. Leikvold has had the opportunity to prove his capabilities since the election," Kerr said Tuesday. "I think prior to that time there was a situation which put him under certain pressures. I think he's had the opportunity and I'm not happy with his work."

Kerr said that if he has his way, Leikvold will not be Wheeling's village manager at the end of the year.

"I think it now behooves the board to get someone who can perform the way we think he should perform," Kerr said.

Kerr said he is particularly unhappy with the way Leikvold deals with developers who violate sign or appearance ordinances and the way he dealt with the village's water situation.

"Basically, he doesn't have real control over other areas in the village. There's a lot of things happening that he's not even aware of that he should be," Kerr said.

Kerr said he hasn't started any action against Leikvold because he was "kind of reluctant to start anything. I was waiting for someone else to do it first. But I think something will be initiated in the very near future," Kerr said.

Schultz, who said during election she wanted Leikvold to have time to work

(Continued on page 71)

'Its's my job to take heat'

By ALLAN HEYDORN

Though several trustees have said they are not satisfied with his performance, Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold said Tuesday he is personally happy with the job he has been doing.

"There has always been a strain between elected officials and the manager," Leikvold said. "Inherently that's the way it is in a council-manager form of government. There's always some strain and some stress but what I like to do is keep the stress and strain at a minimum. Sometimes you just can't do that."

Leikvold said elected officials frequently want things done immediately, but that some things take a while to implement.

"My primary goal is to improve the personnel administration throughout the village and I'm personally pleased with the work we've done in that area," he said. "That's somethig that has to be done slowly over a period of time and if I don't do anything else besides that I think I will have accomplished a lot for the village.

"If I leave—whenever that may be—if another manager can come in and just take over I think I will have accomplished a great deal."

Leikvold said he has spent a great deal of his time working on the major projects in the village including: the downtown redevelopment plan; the water and sewer systems; the health care; Palwaukee Airport study; and the municipal complex.

"I am personally satisfied that on the major issues for the villages I am getting things moved ahead as fast as we can," he said. "And we've been able to do all these things and the taxes have not been increased. We're doing a lot of big things," he said.

Leikvold said a major problem with working on "big things" is that the board, the public and even the manager don't see results for some time.

"We're now working on the village's traffic problem and it's flooding problem," Leikvold said. "It takes years to get projects like that into the pipeline and then get them implemented.

"The elected officials want things done and they want them done right away, but sometimes it just doesn't work that fast.

"The only thing a village manager can

(Continued on next page)

Board split—

Countryside Reminder August 16, 1979

(Continued from page 5)

with the new board before she made a decision, seems to have made up her mind.

"I feel very uncomfortable with this. I have to admit that what I've seen has not impressed me. I'm very disappointed," she said Tuesday. "I don't know what's holding him back from doing a better job."

Schultz said she sees a terrible lack of organization and lack of communication in the village government.

"And if it were isolated incidents I'd overlook it, but it's not isolated, it's routine," she said.

A major complaint of the trustees is the reports given them by Leikvold. Schultz said a major report on the home mortgage loan program was given to the board three months after it was requested. Leikvold, however, said that report was to come from the bank, not him.

"We're getting more reports now, that's true," Schultz said. "But all the ones we get say 'should do this' and 'should do that'. They shouldn't say what should be done. When you're in a position to do it, don't say 'should', just do it," she said.

But Leikvold has his supporters on the board too.

Ross said Leikvold does both good and bad things in his job.

"Some things he does are terrific and some things he does are dumb," Ross said. "If I like what he's done I tell him and if I don't like what he's done I tell him," Ross said.

He said he thinks Leikvold has done a particularly good job on the downtown redevelopment study and on getting a health clinic in the village.

"Is everybody happy with everybody every second of the day? We are human. We have faults. If we didn't have faults our name would be JC," Ross said.

Ross indicated that he thought part of the problem stems from the board.

"It seems as though when people get elected to a board they become all powerful and as far as I'm concerned that's a lot of BS," Ross said.

Trustee Roger Powers said Leikvold does well in some areas and not so well with the smaller jobs.

"On the big things that matter I think he's done very well. He's overseeing and managing the new municipal complex which is running on schedule and the cost of which is running on schedule," Powers said.

"He's successfully completed the looping of the village's water mains and he's also brought in the Johnson property. In terms of overall management and cost control I think he's done a very fine job."

But, Powers said, Leikvold does not do some of the small things well.

"I think there are times when he does not delegate or does not know when to delegate certain types of work to others," Powers said. "He's not a detail man."

"If there is a weakness it's his inability or reluctance to say 'Who cares?' or 'Why are you asking me that now?' in response to some of the questions asked by the board," he said.

"And sometimes I think the board overlooks the fact that the job of the village manager to run the village on a day to day basis, which I think Carsten does very well," Powers said.

Hein, who said he has a better insight into Leikvold because he works with him on a daily basis, said the village manager is doing a good job.

"He's a little bit different than our previous manager in terms of management style," Hein said.

"He's done a substantially good job for the amount of time he's been here. Carsten has got some high priority items and he's been going full-blast on those. And in the process some of the things which are important, but which he sees as less important, get slighted.

"That's what I mean by a different management style," Hein said.

Leikvold was hired by the village in late 1977 to fill a vacancy created when then Village Manager Terry Zerkle resigned his position.

Before his resignation, Zerkle had been fired, then rehired by the village board.

Before coming to Wheeling, Leikvold was fired from a village manager job in Minnetonka, Wisc., a job he held for five years. He was fired from that job after a $31,500 study criticized the lack of organization in the city government.

Leikvold, who was not given a chance to resign the position, defended himself at the time by saying he favored a flexible manager-council system while the board wanted a rigid system.

Village board wrapup

OK for factory plans delayed

Daily Herald - August 23, 1979

Approval of plans by Glenview developer to build a factory near the end of Pal-Waukee Airport's longest runway have been delayed until Oct. 1.

Wheeling trustees said they need more time to determine the impact the factory, to be built at the northwest corner of Hintz and Wolf roads, will have on airport landings. The Federal Aviation Administration has declared the building a hazard to safe air navigation.

However, attorneys for builder Sigmund Lefkovitz are appealing that ruling, arguing that the 5,000-foot runway was built closer to the roadway than federal safety standards allow. If the runway was moved to comply with FAA standards, they contend, Lefkovitz's building would not be a hazard.

Lefkovitz repeatedly has accused the village of deliberately holding up his building plans and says the delay amounts to condemnation of his land. Edward Rosen, one of Lefkovitz's attorneys, said if the village's "adamant refusal" to approve the building plans continues, he will sue the village.

Contract with law firm extended

Wheeling trustees extended the village contract for legal services with Jann, Carroll, Kruse, Sain and Dolin until April 30, 1980. The Chicago firm, which has represented the village since 1977, will receive a $5,000 a year raise, making its annual retainer $39,600.

Tax levy gets preliminary OK

A tax levy of $1.4 million, which is expected to keep next year's tax rate at its present level, was given preliminary approval by Wheeling trustees

Because the village's assessed value is expected to increase, the 1979 rate of 95.7 cents per $100 assessed valuation is expected to remain the same, said Finance Director Gregory Peters. That means a village resident whose house is assessed at $10,000 will pay about $96 in village taxes, which is about 10 percent of the total tax bill.

Panel reappointments made

Several reappointments to village commissions were approved by the Wheeling Village Board.

Given three-year reappointments were: appearance commissioners Edward Kurtzman and Raymond Meinke; health commissioner Joyce Stemp; plan commissioners Neil Brandt, Anthony Altieri and Allan Sobanski; police pension board member Kenneth Hartke; and municipal relations commissioner Gene Kavanaugh. The board also appointed Bing Zielka to fill a vacancy on the appearance commission and Steve Walenka to the zoning board of appeals.

Annexation approval delayed

Final approval of annexation of a 110-acre parcel south of Lake-Cook Road was delayed by Wheeling trustees. The delay was because of failure by the village and the state to sign an agreement to split the cost of building a bridge that is part of the annexation agreement.

Land owner William Johnson proposes to build an industrial park on the western 90 acres, with the eastern 20 acres to build developed as a shopping center. He also has agreed to donate 5 acres to the village for the proposed Wheeling-Buffalo Diversionary Channel. In exchange, the village and the state will build the bridge that would cross the diversionary channel from Wolf Road, leading to the shopping center. Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said the agreement should be ready by the next board meeting.

No watered-down rulings in sprinkle cases: Bracke

Daily Herald - August 23, 1979

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

Wheeling Police Chief Ted Bracke predicts Cook County judges will be tougher on violators of the village's summer-long sprinkling ban when the balance of the cases are heard during the next few weeks.

Bracke says he has talked to two of the judges and written a letter to those who regularly hear village ordinance violations in the Wheeling branch of Cook County Circuit Court. He says he has informed them that the ban, which for most of the summer has prohibited residents from watering their lawns or washing cars, is "a serious matter."

"I'm not going into open court and telling the judges to hand out fines," he said. "I'm simply counseling the judges on what's happening in our community."

BRACKE EARLIER had complained that judges considered the sprinkling violations "no big deal." Most of the 70 or so tickets that were written have not yet been heard in court, he said. However, of the first seven cases heard, the court fined only one violator $15. The other six cases were dismissed, a problem Bracke attributed to "lack of communication."

"Let's face it, there's a lot of people who live in their own world and are just not informed and go about their own business," despite announcements made by police over loudspeakers and flyers distributed throughout the village, he said. Judges, he said, might view a sprinkling violation in the same manner they would view "expectorating on the sidewalk — they don't see too many of those kinds of complaints."

The sprinkling ban was imposed in early June when emergency water supplies dropped below the level village officials want to have on hand in the event of a major fire or other emergency. The ban was temporarily relaxed later that month to allow sprinkling during certain hours but reimposed two weeks later after lightning knocked one of the village's wells out of commission.

On Monday, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold lifted the ban, allowing residents with even-numbered addresses to sprinkle on even-numbered days of the month and residents with odd-numbered addresses to water their lawns on odd- numbered days. No sprinkling or other "non-essential uses" is allowed, however, between 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily.

BRACKE SAYS the village should adopt an ordinance making those hours mandatory every summer from June to September, thus eliminating the confusion caused by total and partial bans. "I've been here 17 years, and every summer this has been a problem," he said.

Leikvold could not be reached for comment Wednesday on Bracke's suggestion. However, he has said a sprinkling ban might not be necessary next summer because a new well at Hintz and Longtree roads should be completed by then. That well will have a one million gallon storage reservoir. Also, a new well planned on Milwaukee Avenue, south of Dundee Road, should be begun this fall.

Leikvold has described the water situation as one of his biggest headaches this summer and says plans to improve the village water system should be a "top priority."

In July, a group of angry residents called for a building moratorium until the village finds a way to end the sprinkling bans. Leikvold rejected that idea, saying a building halt would open the village to a host of legal actions by developers.

Some trustees criticized Leikvold's handling of the sprinkling ban, ordering him at one point to start enforcing the ban because residents apparently were not complying voluntarily. He had argued that he had hoped residents would comply with the ordinance without tickets being written.

Harmony Village

Keep private streets

Wheeling Life - August 23, 1979.

By JUNE STEWART

Correspondent

WHEELING — Harmony Village joined the ranks of Lakeside Villas and Tahoe Village, Monday, Aug. 20, when the board approved a preliminary agreement for an easement to maintain the private streets in the development.

The village of Wheeling will collect an impact fee of $200 per unit, or $45,000, payable over a five-year period, according to the agreement.

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld questioned the plat submitted with the agreement and noted that some of the areas designated as streets appear to be parking areas.

Representing Harmony Village, the homeowner's association president Rick Ament, a Wheeling plan commission member, told the board the agreement covers two main streets and cul-du-sacs. He said it does not include the area around the pool or the driveways.

WHEN TRUSTEE Sheila Schultz asked if Harmony Village residents will have adequate parking with the overnight parking regulations in the village, Ament replied that there are two spaces per unit, one in the garage, and one in the driveway, which the plan commission discovered was inadequate. He said he had met with the police department to work out a solution.

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold was asked by Trustee Charles Kerr to check with the people in the village departments who are affected with the street takeover.

"We have had private plowing," Ament said, "and people were asked to move their cars."

Leikvold was directed by Village President William Hein to check over the area, and "be very careful in the cul-du-sac area," because of the way it was mapped on the plat. Some areas, trustees noted did not have curbs, and some areas marked as streets could be parking spaces.

The board accepted the preliminary agreement on the recommendation of Village Attorney David Epstein, who told the board they may want changes in the final agreement.

In November 1978, the board discussed the possibility of other developments with private streets requesting village maintenance and assistance because of high costs of street maintenance. At that time, Lakeside Villas and Tahoe Village presented requests to the village to take over their private streets and the village did.

Village lifts summer sprinkling ban

Daily Herald- August 21, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold Monday lifted the total sprinkling ban in Wheeling and said residents will be able to water their lawns — at least on a part-time basis — for the remainder of the summer.

Residents with odd-numbered addresses will be allowed to sprinkle on odd-numbered days of the month. Residents with even-numbered addresses will be allowed to water their lawns on even-numbered days. However, no sprinkling or other "non-essential uses" — such as washing cars — will be allowed between 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily.

"That's what really kills us," said Leikvold in lifting the villagewide sprinkling ban that had been in effect since June, "when everybody comes home at 5 p.m. on a hot summer day and starts watering their lawns. We've got to build to that peak demand."

However, he added, the hours no one is allowed to water are times when watering does the least good because "most of the water gets evaporated anyway."

IT IS THE second time this summer Leikvold has modified the sprinkling ban, and the new hours will apply for the rest of the summer "unless we have some unforseen catastrophe."

For two weeks in late June, residents were allowed to sprinkle on the odd-even system. However, Leikvold put the total ban back into effect after one of the village wells was knocked out of commission by a bolt of lightning during a thunderstorm. That, combined with a well pumping 50 percent air and a third broken well, made the return to the total ban necessary.

However, the two broken wells have been repaired, and recent rains have cut down on the need to sprinkle, making the emergency water reserves adequate, Leikvold said.

A GROUP OF ANGRY residents in July called for a building moratorium until the village finds a way to improve the water situation. Leikvold rejected that idea, saying a building halt would open the village to a host of legal actions.

However, the sprinkling bans, which have been imposed during the summer months for the last several years, may come to an end next year, Leikvold said.

A new well being drilled at the corner of Hintz and Longtree roads should be completed by next summer. Another new well is planned on Milwaukee Avenue south of Dundee Road. Although it probably will not be finished by next summer, work on that well should be started this fall.

THE HINTZ ROAD well will have a 1-million-gallon storage reservoir that should ensure the village will have enough water on hand for a major fire or other emergency without imposing a sprinkling ban, Leikvold said. Also, the well that is pumping air should be repaired within the next month, "Unless we have some extremely hot and dry weather. Then we'll probably limp on through the rest of the summer with it," he said.

Although the water situation for next year looks "very good," Leikvold said, the village should consider some alternate water sources because water tables in northeastern Illinois are slowly falling.

The village two years ago lost an attempt to be included among towns in the Northwest suburbs receiving an allocation of Lake Michigan water. Leikvold said the village should consider reviving efforts to be included in the lake water allocation.

The possibility of using the Des Plaines River as a water source, "intrigues me," he said, although he added he does not know whether it is possible. "There might be some very good reason why we can't use it," he said. "It's might be worth studying, though."

Mortgage for village manager causes a stir

Wheeling Life August 23, 1979

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING — The fact that Village Manager Carsten Leikvold applied for and received approval for one of the village's low-interest mortgages upset last week-end.

Talk about Leikvold's dismissal was rampant because some trustees believed his family income exceeded the requirement of the mortgage. However, when examined further, the situation proved to be nothing more than "poor judgment" on the part of Leikvold in not informing the board of his mortgage commitment.

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld said Monday, Aug. 20, that Leikvold's income tax return used for the mortgage application showed his adjusted gross income below the limit required by the bank giving the mortgage. The legal limit for family income for the low-interest mortgage bond issue is $40,000. Leikvold earns $35,000 per year. The question arose about the legality of his application because Leikvold's wife is a paralegal whose earnings would have to be considered in the application.

BUT SOMMERFELD said it turned out there was much ado about nothing and that Leikvold simply has not used good judgment in failing to inform the board of his application.

"He knew we were very careful about the requirements used and that there was to be no favoritism in granting the loans," the trustee said. On the other hand, the trustee said, the manager is entitled to the loan as any other village employe if he meets the requirements of the bond issue.

Wheeling was one of the few communities to issue bonds for low-interest mortgages last winter.

Trustees have been seeking information from the village manager about location of the homes involved in the low-interest loans. At one time they said the information provided was too detailed, saying they did not want the addresses of the homes, just the general vicinity — so they would know the loans were spread throughout the community and not in one subdivision.

BY SATISFYING the trustees about the mortgage matter, Leikvold appears to have stemmed the latest talk about his dismissal, which has been a constant undercurrent at board meetings. It is a known fact that Trustees John Cole and Charles Kerr are dissatisfied with Leikvold's performance, and Sommerfeld also has expressed dismay over the manager's lack of action on some matters.

Leikvold was hired in November 1977.



Workin' on a railroad

Countryside Reminder August 23, 1979

All the live long day, it would appear, workers do repairs on a Soo Line railroad crossing along Dundee Road in Wheeling. Repairs, which began Aug. 13, have narrowed that section of Dundee Road to two lanes and have snarled traffic during rush hours. The work is scheduled for completion Aug. 27. (Staff photo)

Keeps law firm for now

Countryside Reminder - August 23, 1979

Wheeling board delays decision on attorney

By ALLAN HEYDORN

Temporarily answering the question of whether to hire a local, full-time attorney or retain a law firm, Wheeling officials extended the contract with their present law firm another nine months.

Board members voted unanimously Monday night to extend the contract retaining the Chicago law firm Jann, Caroll, Kruse, Sain and Dolin Ltd. until the end of the village's fiscal year April 30.

Under the old contract, the firm was paid $2,884 per month for general consulting and prosecuting services. The new rate will be $3,300 per month.

The increase stems from the increased use of the prosecutor for the village and a special request by the village staff that an attorney be on hand at all staff meetings following village board meetings.

Village Attorney David Epstein said the part of the $5,000 increase will cover the additional time the firm's prosecutor spends in court for the village.

He said where the prosecutor used to spend a half-day in court he now spends a full day.

"So essentially the time spent in court by the prosecutor has doubled," Epstein said. "And that's a natural occurrence considering the fact that the village is growing."

The presence of an attorney at village staff meetings the day after board meetings will cost the village $400 a month or $200 for each three-to four-hour meeting.

"This is prime time for the attorneys," Village Manager Carsten Leikvold told the board. "There's no question that it is prime time when the attorneys could otherwise be in court. But I think it's important enough and with all the things going on here it would help us."

Leikvold said the availability of the attorney at the staff meetings will help the board as well as the staff.

"Because the attorney is right there the staff will be able to get information it needs and questions answered on the Tuesday before the next board meeting," Leikvold said.

"This would help the staff, but mostly it would help the board. The business flowing to the board would go much faster."

The board's action delays the answer to the question of whether the village should hire a full-time attorney.

Leikvold had been asked to examine whether hiring a full-time attorney for the village would be feasible and the report he gave to the board in June suggested that hiring a full-time attorney would not be practical.

However, Trustee Charles Kerr criticized Leikvold for not getting all the facts on the hiring of a full-time lawyer.

"It's been six months since we asked for that report and we still haven't gotten it," Kerr said. "And I'm disgusted."

Leikvold said he responded to the board's question "at great length in the report" when he said the hiring of a full-

(Continued on page 16)

Wheeling delays—

Countryside Reminder August 23, 1979

(Continued from page 5)

time lawyer would be impractical.

"I've contacted a lot of village managers and the consensus was that a full-time lawyer is not practical," he said. "We could probably find a young attorney just out of school, but then he wouldn't have the backing of a law firm. And he also would not have the experience in the wide variety of areas the village would need him."

Leikvold said even if the village were to hire a full-time attorney he would require a secretary and a library which would cost the village additional money.

"It really gets to be almost a full-time department of the village," Leikvold said.

Kerr, however, disagreed with Leikvold that the village would have trouble hiring an attorney.

The board directed Leikvold to look into hiring a full-time attorney and to give a more detailed report to the board.

Should staff drive cars home?

Wheeling Herald - August 23, 1979

WHEELING — Should key personnel in Wheeling be furnished village vehicles to drive to meetings and to and from their homes?

That seems to be the question.

At a pre-meeting of the village board, Monday, Aug. 20, Village Manager Carsten Leikvold submitted such a proposal to formalize a practice already in existence, which has been criticized by some board members.

Under his proposal, Village-paid-for cars could not be used for any personal use, "except as authorized in writing by the village manager," and the village manager's car use would be established by the village board.

The proposal resulted, according to Leikvold, from "the board's frustration regarding use of village vehicles by staff to go to and from their homes."

OTHER REASONS given by Leikvold were to entice top-notch personnel to remain in key positions or to be interested in those positions. However, he said he is not recommending the board give each policeman a car to take home.

Trustee John Cole told Leikvold he is talking about a fringe benefit "that you do not have the right to negotiate."

One village employe- according to Leikvold takes a car home because he is subject to 24-hour call.

When Trustee Robert Ross asked Leikvold how many vehicles he wants for maintenance, Leikvold replied three to five, and three to five for community development.

Trustee Charles Kerr told Leikvold, "justify just one of them."

"If you want to do it, you can if you want to dock $3,500 from each employe," Kerr said.

Village President William Hein said the item should be included in the job description.

It is the manager's job to hire, Kerr said, but the board has the right to go to the manager, and "he must justify it to us if the board thinks he is out of line."

Meanwhile, Leikvold said that he is trying to have "rules established under which an employe can take a vehicle home." He said he wants the board to define the circumstances.

During the regular meeting, the board called an unscheduled executive session to discuss personnel. The session lasted 45 minutes and no comments were made on the session.

Wheeling water ban lifted Monday

Countryside Reminder August 23, 1979

Wheeling residents can now give relief to their thirsty lawns, dirty cars and hot water only on the even days of the month.

Officials announced Monday that the total ban on nonessential water use in the village has been lifted.

However, residents with an odd address may water only on the odd days of the month and those with even addresses may water only on the even days of the month.

Nonessential water use is not permitted between 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. on any day.

Officials had banned nonessential water use earlier this summer because two of the village's wells were shut down, while one well was operating at only half of its efficiency.

The week ahead

Daily Herald - August 27, 1979

Trustees to tour new building

Wheeling trustees today are expected to get their first guided tour of the village's new operations and maintenance building, the first building in the $3.8 million municipal complex expansion that is nearing completion.

The new building, located behind the present village hall, at 255 W. Dundee Rd., will consolidate the village public works and maintenance crews, which presently are scattered throughout the village, said Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold.

The building will feature a "telemetric system," which allows village crews to monitor water levels in storage tanks and pumps throughtout the village. The building also will have a shop that will allow maintenance crews to do carpentry, painting and major vehicle repair work, he said.

The maintenance department is slated to be moved in by Labor Day, with the balance of the public works employees to follow by Oct. 1. Traffic and misdeamor court and village board meetings temporarily will be heard in the new operations and maintenance building.

Meanwhile, work will be started to convert the old maintenance garage, at the rear of village hall, into the permanent new quarters for the village board and Wheeling branch of the Cook County Circuit Court. The old board room will house the community development department, which presently is operating "out of a closet," Leikvold said.

New parking spaces, the shortage of which has forced village employees and visitors to park in neighboring parking lots at Wickes Furniture Co. and St. Joseph the Worker church, should be completed within the week, Leikvold said.

The final phase of the municipal building plan calls for the new police and fire station to be completed next June.

Trustees will begin their tour of the new operations and maintenance building at 7 p.m.

• • •

BUFFALO GROVE officials today will consider whether the village should oppose plans for a subdivision to be built in the path of the northern extension of Ill. Rte. 53 in Long Grove.

At the request of Long Grove Mayor Robert Coffin, Buffalo Grove earlier this month delayed approving a statement requesting Long Grove to disapprove the proposed subdivision because it would add to the cost of highway construction.

Developer Anthony DiMucci wants to build 14 houses on 38 acres at the intersection of Lake-Cook and Hicks roads, directly north of where the expressway ends at Dundee Road. The Long Grove Plan Commission already has given preliminary approval to the project.

Long Grove officials say they have almost no choice but to approve the subdivision because they believe the state may never come up with the money needed to extend the expressway north through their village.

Coffin has asked Buffalo Grove to work with his town on three proposals he said are needed to relieve traffic congestion near the expressway whether or not it is extended north.

Coffin's proposals are to build a cloverleaf ramp at Ill. Rte. 53 and Dundee Road, build an entrance ramp that would bipass stoplights at Ill. Rte. 53 and Rand Road and to have the expressway end at Lake-Cook Road rather than at Belvidere Road, south of Grayslake.

The trustees will meet at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 50 Raupp Blvd.

Palwaukee feasible

Wheeling Life
August 30, 1979

Public airport?

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — There is no reason Palwaukee airport cannot be owned publicly, according to Larry Donoghue, of Ralph Burke associates, consultants for the study of the airport.

At a meeting of the Technical Advisory committee (TAC) Thursday morning, Aug. 23, Donoghue said the $120,000 feasibility study by his firm revealed the public could purchase Palwaukee airport, and made suggestions based upon projections into the year 2000. TAC met with members of the Northwest Municipal conference (NWMC).

An additional study for relocation of Wolf road will be required, Donoghue said, and estimated the cost at between $15,000 and $25,000. According to the consultant, expansion of the airport by the year 2000 will take in the area south of Hintz road to Palatine road, Milwaukee avenue and Wolf road on the west, including moving Wolf further west, and perhaps building an underpass for the intersection of Wolf and Hintz. He also suggested moving the Frontage road for the Palatine expressway.

THE MOTEL and office structures on Palwaukee property would remain, Donoghue said, and added improvements should be made to clear obstructions and keep the runways in an open area, such as moving hangars located on the southwest portion of the field to the northerly section closer to Milwaukee avenue.

STAGE ONE of the plan, Donoghue said, would be to acquire the airport and contiguous land. No costs have yet been determined, Donoghue said, however, the numbers $15 million to $20 million appeared frequently during the study.

Donoghue suggested thinking in terms of a block grant for financing the airport, possibly in developmental stages of one to five years, and 10 to 20 years.

Other suggestions made by Donoghue to improve the airport are to incorporate the drive-in theater area and develop hangars and an airport service station. Private industry will build their own hangars in some cases, Donoghue said. He said the airport should try to buy the land under the office building and hotel.

He also suggested relocating and enclosing the Wheeling Drainage ditch so it will run underground.

Although who or what will operate the airport has not yet been decided, Donoghue had a few suggestions. A municipal airport authority could be created by a referendum vote. This requires a petition signed by 500 or more electors, a petition, and a majority vote to create a board of at least five commissioners serving five-year terms.

The agency formed to administer Palwaukee airport must be capable of future expansion and be a multi-geographic district, so no single strong voice can dictate decisions, Donoghue said.

In addition, the agency must be capable of power to acquire, own, and operate the airport. Either the United States, state of Illinois, Cook county cities and villages, or an airport authority could own and operate Palwaukee, Donoghue said.

DONOGHUE SAID he is not suggesting taxation, but the airport must have cash to operate. This must be obtained either through funding or taxation, unless the airport is self-supporting. He noted the cost of public operation of the airport may be higher than costs to the private owner, George Priester, because many employes now working at Palwaukee work in dual-capacity jobs.

One major problem both Wheeling and Prospect Heights encountered is the building on lands adjacent to or in close proximity to the airport. Plum Creek gardens, an apartment complex, and two portions of Acco plaza were not approved by the Federal Aviation administration (FAA), although a third Acco site was approved.

FAA DETERMINATION of air hazard does not prohibit construction of the site, although the TAC committee warned that the owner of the building may have a problem obtaining liability insurance to cover his development in the event of an accident.

In addition, the TAC committee recommended that villages and cities in the area of the airport draft an ordinance restricting building in hazard zones.

"If you let the situation dissipate — a violation here and a violation there; from FAA requirements," Donoghue told the NWMC, "You won't have an airport."

Storage operators cited for violations

Daily Herald
August 25, 1979



The operators of a controversial mini-warehouse were ticketed Friday for doing business without a license, and Wheeling Police Chief Ted Bracke says additional citations will be issued each day they remain open illegally.

Bracke said he has heard "by word of mouth" that Illinois Self Storage Centers, 211 N. Elmhurst Rd., has been in business for three weeks without village permits.

He said about 60 of the 200 completed units are being rented. Plans call for the facility, which is used mainly by apartment dwellers who lack storage space, to contain 500 units.

Bracke doubts the citation could apply to the time the firm was doing business before the violation was spotted. Each violation carries a fine of up to $500. The owners are scheduled to appear in court Oct. 2 to answer the charges.

THE VIOLATION first were noticed when one of the owners, Robert Soudan, complained to the village board Monday that the building department would not issue him an occupancy permit. Under questioning from trustees, he admitted he has been renting space without either the occupancy permit or a business license.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said he was unaware the firm was doing business illegally. Larry Oppenheimer, community development director, said because the building department was denying the permit, it was assumed the mini-warehouses were not doing business.

"I don't think the question (of the mini-warehouse being open) ever came up in our minds," he said. "How do you know the warehouses are occupied? They've all got doors on them."

He said if building inspectors had seen someone moving in their belongings, "I'm sure we would have started asking some questions."

However, trustees say the violation should have been spotted long before the developer appeared before the board.

"It's incredible to me that there were 200 village workers around to report this or how the police could drive by without noticing something," Trustee Sheila Schultz said.

Bracke said that "type of violation might be difficult to spot. There are rows of concrete vaults, and an inspector coming on the premises would have to open every one."

MRS. SCHULTZ said she also was concerned about customers who have rented the storage facilities because they might be forced to vacate the premises because of the alleged violation.

Rise in population will increase funds

Daily Herald - August 28, 1979

Wheeling's official population now is 21,491, according to a special census conducted for the village by the federal government.

Although the national census will be conducted free next year, Finance Director Gregory Peters recommended spending $14,585 on the special census, which was taken in May. He said the increased population will bring about $75,000 in state gasoline tax revenue into village coffers within the next 1½ years — the same time it will take the government to certify results of the regular 1980 census.

The village's share of state gasoline tax is based on population, and Peters said the population increase also could generate an added share of state income tax and federal revenue sharing. The exact amount is difficult to compute because population is only a portion of the formula that determines a town's share of the funds, he said.

THE LAST SPECIAL census was conducted in 1974 and set the village population at 18,106.

The additional state funds will help bolster the village's road and bridge fund, one of Wheeling's weakest funds, Peters said. The fund currently is operating at a $50,000 deficit.

The village also is considering issuing bonds for street improvements, Peters said, as part of a capital improvements program being planned for the village. How large the bond issue would be and what improvements are being considered has not yet been determined, he said.

Peters said he also is expecting census officials to provide a more detailed breakdown of the special census. A tabulation of the village's population by age, sex and race as well as a the number of occupied and unoccupied housing units will be forwarded to the village within the next few weeks, he said.

THAT INFORMATION should be helpful in determining Wheeling's senior citizen population, Peters said. "Right now we're relying on figures from the county to determine how many senior citizens we have," he said. "We know we have a growing senior population," but how much it has grown is difficult to determine.

Because of the increasing senior population in Wheeling, the village board earlier this year approved applying for $2.7 million in federal funds, which included a center for senior citizens and a 200-unit rent-assisted housing complex for seniors.

The requests for $760,000 to build the senior center and $480,000 for the housing complex currently are pending before the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

Retainer is cheaper

-Wheeling Life - Thursday, August 23, 1979.

Decide against full-time attorney

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — The village Monday, Aug. 20, decided it is less expensive to pay a $3,300-a-month retainer to a law firm than hire a full-time village attorney.

In an agreement for legal services with Jann, Carroll, Kruse, Sain, and Dolin Ltd., the village will receive added services of an attorney at Tuesday morning staff meetings twice monthly. Additional cost above last year's agreement is $400 per month.

During a pre-meeting discussion, Village Manager Carsten Leikvold said the village staff "has felt the need for legal services in the daytime." An attorney at the staff meetings will be of much more help to the village board, Leikvold said, by helping staff and receiving input from village engineers and other departments which function in the village.

SOME OF THE SERVICES the attorneys perform for the village are: prosecuting, advising independent boards, and commissions such as police and fire commissions, drawing up ordinances, receiving documentation, agreements for bonds, and advising staff, said Village Attorney David Epstein.

The clause requesting a percentage of the village's general obligation bonds was deleted from the agreement. However, the law firm will receive three-fourths of one per cent of the first $1 million, one-half of one per cent of the next $5 million, and one-eighth of one per cent of the balance on revenue bond issues.

Epstein, a senior partner in the law firm, said the firm has to come up with an agreement they could live with, and still meet overhead costs. The firm has approximately 14 lawyers, Epstein said. As a law firm in business to make money, Epstein said, "we recognize we are not dealing with a business, or a profit making entity."

HE SAID THE MATTER does present a problem for lawyers because they (the attorneys) "want to provide public service the same as for a private client, but can't charge the same amount."

Senior partners Gary Weintraub and Robert Baker also assist in village legal affairs, Epstein said. In litigation cases, he added, the junior partners may participate.

Sprinkling ban will not be lifted

Life, August 16, 1979

WHEELING—Although well number six is back in service, the total sprinkling ban will not be lifted.

According to Village Manager Carsten Leikvold, well number two, a shallow well, will be back in service by the middle of August. But well number five, which is pumping at half-capacity will not be in full operation until the end of August.

Leikvold said some of Wheeling's key wells are now running 22 hours per day. "If we release the sprinkling ban, we will not be able to keep up with demand, If we tried, we could burn out a motor and be in serious trouble," he added.

The manager said he is planning to lift the total ban when well number two is back in operation.

"Enforcement of the sprinkling ban is not easy," Leikvold said, "but most people are complying. Violators are being cited. The staff is rewriting the plumbing code," which the manager says will provide for conservation of water and more definite rules on sprinkling and water bans.

The village board directed Leikvold to see that police enforce the sprinkling ban and said there are to be no exceptions from the ban.

ACCORDING TO LEIKVOLD, Wheeling will be in better shape next summer. All wells will have been overhauled, the looping system completed, well number seven should be on line and well number one will be nearing completion.

"With no breakdowns and with reasonable conservation measures, we will be able to meet demands, " he said, adding that the village is still expanding, which means there "is little reserve.

"When we ignore our water system in good years, we get into trouble," the manager said. "We should be planning now for 1985 and beyond. We are not sure which is the most economical and efficient — larger transmission mains, more wells, more storage, Lake Michigan water or a combination of these. Even after planning is done, it takes years to design improvements, secure permits, let contracts and get the equipment on line."

Wheeling applied to the Illinois department of transportation (IDOT), bureau of water, for a Lake Michigan water allocation. However, when the allocations were made in 1977, Wheeling was not on the list. IDOT officials said the thinking behind the refusal to give Wheeling lake water was that with its surrounding communities drawing water from Lake Michigan, Wheeling would have more ground water for its own use.

Leikvold said the staff will undertake to devise a comprehensive water plan for the village for the village board's consideration and approval.

It's my job—

Countryside Reminder August 16, 1979

(Continued from page 5)

do is address the major problems of the village and try to get started on them," he said.

Among the things Leikvold has been criticized for is the current ban on non-essential water use in the village. But the way he looks at it, he had no choice.

"The water system in the village had been neglected for years and since I've been here we've got a new well dug, one other well planned and a looping system put in," he said.

"It's just a coincidence that another well went down, one was struck by lightening and one was working only at half of its capacity. What else could I do? We had to ration water because people had to have it for domestic use."

Leikvold also has been criticized for the information he funnels to the board.

"The easy thing to do would be to just give the trustees everything I get. But if I did that their weekly packets would be a foot-and-a-half thick," he said. "You just can't assimilate that amount of material in a week, week after week.

"So I try to get information to the board and the newspapers that is easy to understand and assimilate and in trying to do this I've probably stepped on a few toes," he said.

"I could do it the other way and it would be easier for me. But I don't believe it's right and proper so I've been trying to put it together in some sort of coherent fashion."

Leikvold said managing a village like Wheeling would be difficult for any manager because of the large role politics plays at this local level.

"It's difficult for any manager in a community that's so politically divided," he said. "There's some deep enmity there and it's almost inevitable that the manager is going to get caught in between this. "What Wheeling needs is some sort of stability, more than anything else. And it needs some continuity. It sets a village back very badly when it lacks those two," he said.

"When I do leave I want to leave so there's a stable community and I want to see programs underway continued. It's part of a manager's job to take this heat from time to time."

Wheeling Life - August 23, 1979.

More parking spaces ready soon

AN ADDITIONAL 63 parking spaces — give or take a few — will be available to Northbrook and Wheeling commuters at the Northbrook station "on or about Labor day," according to Northbrook staff assistant John Novinson.

The lot, to the north of two existing lots for Northbrook vehicles only, is currently under construction. It will have its own entrance, lined up with Walters avenue, but cars will exit through the adjacent lot.

A decision on whether to include some spaces for compact cars will determine the exact number of new parking spaces.

It is anticipated the new lot will be heavily used, Novinson said.

THE VILLAGE STAFF working on a design for an even bigger lot on the east side of the tracks, extending from the present lot there to Illinois road. Protests from residents have led to the incorporation of criteria for their protection to be included in the design.

A hike in parking fees is anticipated, to help pay for the planned east side lot. Village trustees have talked about raising the fee from the current 50 cents to 75 cents. Novinson said the fee increase probably would come before the board for approval at about the same time the east side lot plans are up for a vote.

One concern, he said, is not to raise the price so much that commuters are discouraged.

THE WHOLE ISSUE of how many parking spaces will be needed is a difficult one, Novinson said. Proposed increases in train and bus fares, gasoline availability and pricing, and how the reconstructed Edens will affect commuting all are factors.

Currently, there are about 480 parking spaces in the east and west lots combined. In addition, many people are parking illegally in the area near the station.

'Pal-Waukee plans should wait'

Daily Herald - August 18 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling should not take any action on the plans of a Glenview developer for a factory near the end of Pal-Waukee Airport's longest runway until the village and Prospect Heights complete a study on whether the private airport should be publicly owned, says Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold.

That $120,000 study is at least 1½ years from being completed. The study is expected to determine whether the financially strapped airport can be run on at least a break-even basis under public ownership.

It is "foolish," Leikvold said, to spend money on the study while approving building plans that would hinder airport operations. Developer Sigmund Lefkovitz' building would be built at the northwest corner of Hintz and Wolf roads, directly in the path of the 5,000-foot runway that accommodates most of the airport's jet traffic.



Officials from the Federal Aviation Administration say Lefkovitz's 30-foot-high building would pierce the path that airplanes use to land on that runway. And such a building would force airport officials to shorten the runway by as much as 500 feet, making jet landings impossible.

Lefkovitz could not be reached for comment Friday, but he repeatedly has accused the village of deliberately holding up his building plans. Although the FAA has declared his building a hazard to safe air navigation, Lefkovitz says, the village is protecting an airport that already does not comply with federal standards, since the runway already is closer to the roadway than FAA standards allow.

THE FAA standards, he charges, are being used only when they protect the airport.

"He's got a good point," said Trustee John Cole. "It doesn't take anybody with any brains to figure out that runway should not have been extended that close to the roadway. That's the one thing with the FAA that gripes me. It's completely ridiculous to say, 'FAA rules only apply if it's a public airport. We can't do anything if it's private.' That doesn't make things any safer."

However, Cole said that does not mean the village necessarily should approve Lefkovitz' building plans. "The fact that the problem was allowed to develop doesn't alleviate the problem. Putting a building in the glide path is not a safe situation," he said, adding that rather than delay Lefkovitz' plans, the village should either approve or disapprove the plans.

"We can't use the airport study as an excuse to delay taking action," he said.

However, Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said he thought delaying a decision on Lefkovitz' building plans was a good idea. "Everything is contingent on the study," he said. "We've already spent a great deal of the taxpayers' money on it, and we should delay the situation the best we can to see what's in the best interests of the community."

LEFKOVITZ HAS owned his land since 1972 and says the village's refusal to approve his building plans amounts to condemnation of his land. He repeatedly has threatened to sue the village for holding up his building plans.

Asked if he thought the village was on firm legal ground in delaying Lefkovitz' building plans, Leikvold said, "I'll let the legal people worry about that."

Village Atty. David Epstein could not be reached for comment.

Trustees are scheduled Monday to approve a resolution that would delay Lefkovitz' plans until the airport study is finished.

Village may act on storage violation

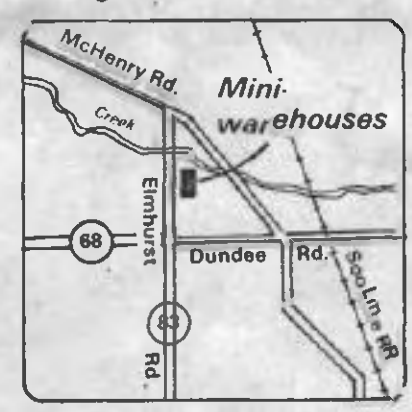
Daily Herald - August 22, 1979

Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said he does not know what, if any, action will be taken against the developer of a controversial mini-warehouse who has admitted doing business without an occupancy permit.

Robert Soudan, a part owner of Illinois Self Storage Centers, the firm building a 500-unit storage facility at 211 N. Elmhurst Rd., asked trustees Monday night to grant the occupancy permit the village building department has refused to issue.

But under questioning by trustees, Soudan admitted some of the completed storage units are being rented, although he does not have the occupancy permits or a business license. Village Pres. William Hein called the rental of space "a total violation" of village ordinances and ordered Leikvold to take some action.

LEIKVOLD SAID Tuesday he was "going to study the situation. We can't just go out and cite someone to be vindictive." He said a partial occupancy permit may have been granted that would clear Soudan's firm of any violation. However, he added he did not know if the permit was issued before the mini-warehouses were being rented.



"If it's proper to cite them, we'll do it," he said. The firm would be subject to a $100-a-day fine if it is violating village laws.

Although Hein and other trustees characterized the mini-warehouse problem as a clear cut violation of village ordinances, Leikvold said there is "constant pressure" by developers to occupy their buildings before all the paperwork is finished, and it is impossible to keep an eye on everyone.

"These things go on all the time," he said. "We do the best we can, but we can't catch everyone." He said he thought village ordinances were made to regulate, rather than punish violators, and village prosecutors and judges have little enthusiasm for prosecuting such violations.

He added the mini-warehouse situation "is not going to be treated any differently because it's controversial."

THAT CONTROVERSY began last year when Hein cast the tie-breaking vote to allow rezoning that cleared the way for the mini-warehouse project. The vote came against the objections of trustees John Cole, Charles Kerr and Hubert Sommerfeld, who argued the project would be unsightly and would cause flooding. Trustees Roger Powers and Robert Ross and former trustee Dolores Dahm voted in favor of the project.

After the rezoning was approved, building officials halted work on the project because the builder had started clearing the land without a building permit.

Village building officials now are denying the permit because sidewalks have not been installed, the parking area has not been completed, erosion control devices have not been installed in the creek bank that runs behind the mini-warehouse site, and fencing along the creek bank has not been completed, Leikvold said.

Soudan could not be reached for comment Tuesday.

The mini-warehouse site is the same location where Hein and a business associate wanted to build a similar project three years ago when Hein was a village trustee. That project was turned down in 1976 by board members who criticized Hein for seeking rezoning while he was an elected official.

Hein's partner, John Cargill, later sued board members for $500,000, charging them with political vindictiveness in denying the rezoning. However, that suit was dropped by Cargill.

The week ahead
Daily Herald
August 20, 1979

Factory plan delay mulled

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold's recommendation to delay approval of plans to build a factory near the end of Pal-Waukee Airport's longest runway will be considered today by the Wheeling Village Board.

Leikvold says it would be "foolish" to approve builder Sigmund Lefkovitz's plans to construct a 30-foot-tall building at the northwest corner of Wolf and Hintz roads that would penetrate the path pilots take when landing on the 5,000-foot runway.

He said no action should be taken until the village and Prospect Heights complete a $120,000 study of whether the private airport should be municipally owned.

That study is at least 1½ years from being completed, Leikvold says. The two towns are paying $3,000 each for the study, with the balance being paid with state and federal money.

Lefkovitz has threatened repeatedly to sue the village for delaying his building plans.

He also said said that although the Federal Aviation Administration has said his building would be a hazard to safe air navigation, the FAA has taken no action to prevent airport owner George Priester from extending the runway closer to the Wolf-Hintz intersection than federal standards allow.

The village's attempt to thwart his building plans is an effort to protect the airport, he contends.

The village board meets at 8:30 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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BIDS FOR construction of the $1.4 million Indian Trails Public Library, to be built at 300 S. Schoenbeck Rd. in Wheeling, are expected to be opened Wednesday at the library board's meeting.

The Wheeling Plan Commission has delayed a decision on the new library until Indian Trails officials submit engineering plans for a detention basin to curb possible flooding problems on the site.

The plan commission has set a Sept. 13 date for a new hearing on the library. Indian Trails officials say the delay could push the library district closer to its 60-day deadline to award contracts after the bids are opened.

The district, which serves Wheeling, Buffalo Grove and a portion of Prospect Heights, plans to finance the new building by taking $130,000 to $150,000 annually out of its operating budget for the next 10 years. As a result, the purchase of new books, magazines and other library materials will be cut about 50 percent next year.

The library board will meet at 8 p.m. at Indian Trails Public Library, 850 Jenkins Ct., Wheeling.

• • •

A $1.4 MILLION tax levy will be considered today by Wheeling trustees. If approved, the village tax rate is expected to remain the same.

The 1979 tax rate, which applies to 1980 property tax bills, should remain at 95.7 cents per $100 assessed valuation, Finance Director Gregory Peters said.

That means residents with a house assessed at $10,000 will pay about $96 in village taxes. The village tax accounts for about 10 percent of the total tax bill.

Although board members approved a $5.8 million 1979-80 budget, a 4 percent increase from last year, Peters said the tax rate probably will remain the same because he expects the village's assessed valuation to increase.

The $1.4 million levy board members are slated to approve accounts for about one-fourth of village spending. The balance of the budget is covered by water and sewer fees, vehicle sticker fees, sales taxes, building and inspection fees and business licensing fees.

Trustees will meet at 8:30 p.m. at the village hall.

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WHEELING TRUSTEES today will consider final approval to annex a 110 acres south of Lake-Cook Road. The board meets at 8:30 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Include county in airport buy: study

Daily Herald - August 31, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

The possibility of Wheeling and Prospect Heights by themselves buying Pal-Waukee Airport appears to have dimmed, as consultants studying the airport purchase say the new owner probably should be a combination of towns near the airport plus Cook County.

Larry Donoghue, president of Ralph Burke and Associates, Park Ridge, the firm making the two-year, $120,000 study of possible public purchase of Pal-Waukee for Wheeling and Prospect Heights, said Cook County would be the "most logical" government agency to take over the airport, since it is the "broadest-based" agency with taxing, policing and condemnation powers.

He acknowledged a reluctance by the county to assume control of the airport, but said the group that controls the airport should have a wide political base to avoid the possibility that small groups of elected officials, representing a vocal constituency that opposes the airport, could close the airport down.

HE CITED Newark Airport, which is owned by the New York Port Authority, as an example. "If the Newark council could have closed that airport, it would have been done years ago," he said. "You want to have a multi-geographic base, so no single voice can make a decision that would adversely affect the airport users."

He also said towns near the airport are in the best position to provide fire and police protection and other services. So a combination of towns, such as Wheeling, Prospect Heights, Glenview and Northbrook, as well as the county, might be in the best position to assume control of the airport.

However, he said his firm will recommend three options for the towns to consider when the second phase of the study is completed Sept. 12.

Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold agrees the two towns should not try to buy the airport by themselves. The airport benefits more towns than Wheeling and Prospect Heights, he says, and the cost of buying it should be shared equally.

THE LONG-OVERDUE report on how much it will cost to buy the financially-strapped Pal-Waukee Airport also should be finished by Sept. 12, Donoghue said.

However, any talk of who should buy the airport may be unnecessary until it is known how much the airport will cost, and whether tax dollars will be needed to buy and operate the airport, town officials say.

"If this report comes up and says both cities will have to come up with property taxes, I imagine both cities will drop out at that point," said Prospect Heights City Administrator Stephen Sturgell.

The financial data and the suggested form of ownership come at the end of the second phase of the airport study, originally due in May. When it is finished, Wheeling and Prospect Heights are scheduled to decide whether they want the study to be completed or abandon the idea of buying the airport. The two towns tentatively are slated to meet Sept. 27 to discuss the report.

The delay in completing the study has been blamed on the impending development around the airport, which constantly has changed the financial picture at Pal-Waukee. The cost of buying land and preserving "clear zones" that would allow the airport to retain its present character, is expected to make the cost of the airport skyrocket.

AIRPORT OWNER George Priester has said Pal-Waukee is worth about $18 million.

However, Donoghue says figuring the cost of acquiring Pal-Waukee is "a piecemeal thing — $15 to $20 million is a number that has been frequently mentioned in the press, but we don't have our numbers yet."

Land purchase plans call for the buyer to also acquire all the land within Palatine, Hintz and Wolf roads and Milwaukee Avenue as well as a lot at the southeast corner of Wolf and Palatine roads and 34 acres at the northwest corner of Hintz and Wolf roads.

Also, the cost of re-routing Wolf and Hintz roads so the airport's longest runway would comply with federal safety standards, as is required under public ownership, could vary considerably, Donoghue said. There are three options, ranging from lowering the roadway at the intersection to "a major relocation," that would swing Wolf Road to the west from Palatine Road to north of Hintz Road.

Village 'must' save water

Wheeling Life - August 30, 1979

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — Village Manager Carsten Leikvold said Monday, Aug. 27, that in two or three years, there may be no water reserves. He said the village should begin planning water conservation now for 1985, 1990, and the year 2000.

One of the questions is whether or not Wheeling can obtain Lake Michigan water, Leikvold said. He said the village should meet with the water resources committee and the water group Venture, because these groups are including Wheeling in their plans, although the village is not part of either group.

Leikvold said the village may have to consider using Des Plaines river water if the village becomes desperate during a water shortage. He said the planning must be now, but the village must plan one way if the village can obtain Lake Michigan water, and another way if it cannot.

According to water department superintendent Augie Lockeefer, the village thought it would receive an allocation of Lake Michigan water. When it did not, it expected the water level to rise because Arlington Heights and Mt. Prospect received a lake water allocation and would use less of the water in the water shelf. However, the two municipalities do not have their water lines in yet, Lockeefer said. When they do, he added, "our water supply should remain more stable."

The Illinois State Water survey showed the villages are overpumping now, Lockeefer said. If the village of Wheeling gets a lake water allocation, it will fill 25% of the total supply, Lockeefer said. He added that everything must be metered for Lake Michigan water including water usage at a fire. The people must be educated to conserve water, Lockeefer stressed.

Census gains money for WH

Wheeling Life - August 30, 1979

WHEELING—Results of a special census show Wheeling's population has increased approximately 18% since the last census was taken in August 1974.

The population of the community has increased from 18,106 to 21,491. This increase is approximately 1,000 people less than estimated by the community development department based on occupancy permits issued, according to finance director Gregory Peters.

The increase will mean $3,425 per month more for the village in motor fuel taxes for the next two years until the 1980 census results become official. According to Peters, this means the village will receive $82,000 more than it would without the special census. Revenue sharing funds, which are based partially on population, also may increase with the census results.

The cost of the special census was $11,000, Peters said, which means a net increase of $71,000 for the village.

To village board

Wheeling Life August 30, 1979

Staff explains job

WHEELING — In order to "better working relations" between the village board and village employes, Village Manager Carsten Leikvold has scheduled a series of meetings with the various department heads and supervisory personnel. First on the agenda was the department of operations and maintenance, Monday, Aug. 27.

The remaining departments: police, fire, administration, and community development, all answer directly to the board according to Leikvold.

BOB GREY, head of the department of operations and maintenance said there are three superintendents, and each one is in charge of three areas. As an example, Grey mentioned the water producing, water distribution, and water service department where meters are repaired. An ongoing and rotating training program, and fringe benefits which include sick leave and vacation are part of the program, Grey said.

"The village is getting big now," Grey said, and noted there is no way one superintendent can keep track of all the men under him.

He said the department hopes to "improve the level of services by having the comprehensive plan updated."

Some of the improvements, according to Grey, are well number seven, work beginning on well number 1A, 95% completion of the water loop program, the water tower retaining program, and the village's future water program.

Some of the problems facing the village, are Lakeside Villas sewers, and requests for tie-ins north of the village when no major storm sewer developments are being considered, Grey added.

Liberty Asphalt to answer pollution charge in court

Daily Herald - August 24, 1977.

Liberty Asphalt, an often-criticized Wheeling plant, will appear in court to answer charges of violating state environmental standards by Cook County authorities who say the plant emits a foul odor.

The asphalt plant, at 231 Wheeling Rd., for years has raised the ire of residents in the Dunhurst subdivision near the plant, who contend the plant is a nuisance.

In January, after a Palatine environmental firm tested the plant and found it to be slightly in excess of state noise standards, the village sued. That suit is still pending in Cook County Circuit Court.

Richard Atlas of the Cook County Dept. of Environmental Health said Wednesday he sent an inspector to the asphalt plant on a complaint filed by Village Clerk Alberta Klocke and a neighbor, Sue Macheca. Mrs. Klocke, who has been an outspoken critic of the plant, lives at 245 E. Wayne Pl., directly west of the plant.

THE INSPECTOR, Atlas said, found an odor violation and a citation has been issued calling for Liberty to appear in Cook County Circuit Court, in Maywood, Oct. 25.

Plant Mgr. Axel Schwanke, however, said Thursday "I didn't have any citation issued against me. I don't know what you're talking about.

"I'm not the only one who has a foul odor around here," Schwanke added. "There's a dog food factory next door. With Mrs. Klocke, just anything that goes wrong with the neighborhood, gets blamed on me."

Atlas said an odor violation is "very, very difficult, if not impossible, to prove. It's all subjective." He added that proving a violation against Liberty would be even more difficult since the smell varies from day to day, depending on the wind.

"That's not what the judges are looking for," he said. "They want a continual violation."

LIBERTY OFFICIALS, he said, could be fined up $500 with a six month prison term, although that was unlikely. "We usually try to settle the case before it goes to court. They plead guilty and pay a $50 fine or something like that," he said.

"That's a mere pittance to them (Liberty)," said Mrs. Klocke. "What's the sense in having the EPA or any government for that matter when that's all they can do?"

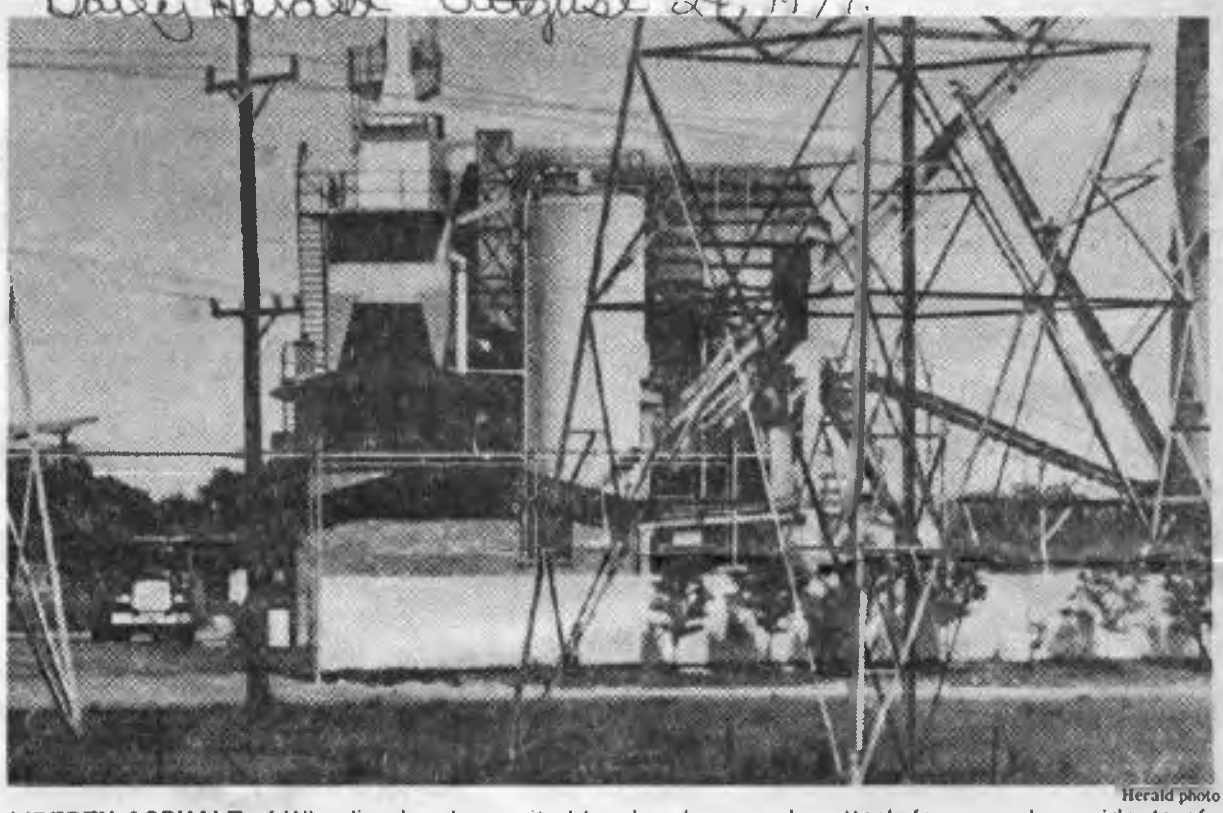
Mrs. Klocke began her fight against Liberty Asphalt two years ago when the plant was sold to its present owners. Over the objections of trustees John Cole, Charles Kerr and Hubert Sommerfeld a special zoning permit was issued to keep the plant in business. In turn, the firm agreed to make $250,000 in repairs to make the plant comply with environmental standards.

Last September, as required by the special zoning, the firm was tested and found to exceed state noise standards. The lawsuit followed 3½ months later.

A COURT DATE still has not been set, said Village Atty. David Epstein, because he is waiting for Liberty attorneys to tell him how many days the plant was operating after the alleged violation was spotted. The zoning permit calls for a $100-a-day fine each day the plant was operating in violation of environmental standards. Epstein said he requested the information "months ago," and said he would soon be asking Liberty officials for it.

He said he does not want to petition the court to order Liberty to turn over the information because up until now talks with Liberty's attorneys have been amicable. "I don't want to turn this into a knock-down, drag-out brawl everytime we ask them for something," he said.

In May, the plant was given a clean bill of health by the Palatine testing firm. Officals said a new burner installed by Liberty while the plant was shut down for the winter quieted the plant down enough to comply with state noise standards.



Herald photo

LIBERTY ASPHALT of Wheeling has been cited by county officials for violating state environmental standards. The asphalt plant at 231 Wheeling Rd. has been under attack for years by residents of a nearby subdivision.

Survey supports airport curfew

Daily Herald
August 29, 1977

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Nearly 90 percent of Pal-Waukee Airport users surveyed by an airport planning firm say an early morning curfew would have little or no effect on their operations at the airport.

However, many of those users say they would object to the midnight to 6 a.m. curfew that has been demanded by residents of Wheeling, Prospect Heights and Mount Prospect.

The survey was conducted by Ralph Burke and Associates, Park Ridge, the firm preparing a $120,000 study for Wheeling and Prospect Heights on whether the financially strapped airport should be municipally owned.

Nearly 60 percent of the 466 airport users polled responded to the questionnaire. Of those 269 respondents, 56 percent represented businesses that fly out of Pal-Waukee, and 38 percent use the airport for "personal recreation." The other 6 percent of users answering the questionnaire included operators of charter, government or instructional aircraft.

NEARLY HALF the users, 49.6 percent, said a curfew would have "no effect," and 38 percent said a curfew would have a "minor impact" on their use of the airport.

Six percent said the curfew would have "moderate impact," and 3 percent said a curfew would be "serious." About 3 percent of those polled did not respond to the curfew question.

Lisa Murphy, of the planning firm, said several airport users who said they would not be affected strongly by a curfew object to it because it could be a safety problem and would hinder the availability of the airport.

For example, she said, pilots might not wait for bad weather to break knowing they would not be able to reach the airport before it closed. She said the exact number of airport users who would object to the curfew was not computed.

Although airport owner George Priester said a curfew "could make the difference between being open and closed," Wheeling Village Pres. William Hein said a curfew could be imposed to accommodate the residents.

"THEY'RE NOT using the airport that much at night; the FAA closes the tower down at midnight anyway," he said. "I don't see any reason if the towns take over the airport we shouldn't close it down at night."

Prospect Heights Mayor Richard Wolf would be reluctant to impose a curfew on the airport until it is determined what kind of a financial impact a curfew would have on the airport.

"At first glance, it doesn't look like that many planes would be affected (by a curfew)," he said. "But somebody has to determine how much does this 10 percent or so (that would be affected by a curfew) represent."

'Limit Pal-Waukee ownership'

Although the consultants say Pal-Waukee Airport should be operated by a group with a wide geographical and political base, the leaders of Wheeling and Prospect Heights say airport ownership should be limited to their towns.

"It's my own feeling that too many cooks spoil the broth," Prospect Heights Mayor Richard Wolf said. "In my view, local responsibility is far more important than some airport authority that has the anonymity of being where it cannot be touched."

Larry Donoghue, president of the firm studying the possible airport purchase, has said the best form of public ownership for the airport would combine Cook County and local officials to assure that a small political group would not make decisions that would affect adversely the airport.

"OUR BOARD is a responsible board," Wolf said. "We try to make responsible decisions, and we're not inclined to close somebody down because of a whim."

"I don't think the county should have anything to do with it," Wheeling Village Pres. William Hein said. "It's a local airport, and there's not much of the county left around the airport. They're not even that interested in participating in the study."

And the other towns studying the airport situation — Glenview and Northbrook, along with state and federal aviation experts — should not be allowed to run the airport because Wheeling and Prospect Heights will be providing fire and police protection and other services, Hein said.

However, he added that other towns benefit from the airport and should share the cost of buying it.

Pal-Waukee seeks halt to building of condos

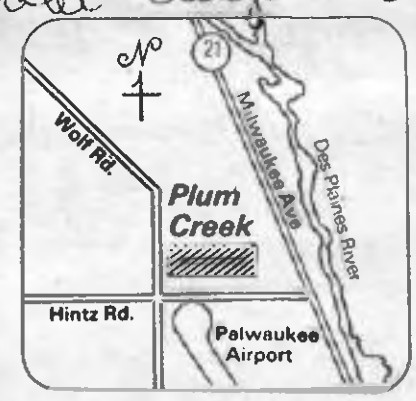
Daily Herald - August 30, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Pal-Waukee Airport owner George Priester is asking the courts to halt construction of a 228-unit condominium complex until it is determined whether the buildings will be hazardous to landings at a nearby runway.

Priester filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court, naming Roppolo-Prendergast Builders Inc., Chicago, the Federal Aviation Administration and Cook County as defendants.

The development, known as Plum Creek Condominiums, is east of Wolf Road in unincorporated Cook County. Planners studying the possible purchase of the airport by Wheeling and Prospect Heights say two of the four five-story buildings could penetrate the "clear zone" by as much as 30 feet. That clear zone determines the margin of safety for planes landing at the 5,000-foot runway, Pal-Waukee's longest, near the intersection of Wolf and Hintz roads.



THOSE TWO buildings, which officials fear could pose a threat to landing aircraft, are only partially constructed.

The FAA, the suit alleges, failed to "exercise its enforcement powers" by not requiring the developers, Roppolo-Prendergast Builders Inc., Chicago, to submit their building plans for FAA inspection after the plans were modified in 1974 to include taller buildings.

The suit contends the county, "despite repeated requests by the plaintiff," has refused to use the authority it has to halt construction of the project until the FAA determines if the buildings are a hazard to air navigation. The suit also contends the building permits issued in 1974 are no longer valid because the developer failed to start construction within the required 12-month period.

Priester is asking the court to suspend construction of the development and order the FAA to review the project and its effect on the airport. He contends the airport could suffer "permanent damage" if the project is completed. A Cook County ordinance prohibits construction if the FAA determines the proposed development to be a hazard.

The Plum Creek project, started in 1974, was stalled two years later with only one building completed, after the village denied an annexation request because the density was too high and the project did not fit in with other village building laws. Following that, the developer started the project again in 1977, drilling his own well, because the village refused to supply water for the project.

Pal-Waukee pilots to go elsewhere if necessary

Daily Herald - August 30, 1979

By ALLAN HEYDORN

Most pilots with planes based at Pal-Waukee Airport would relocate their planes to other area airports if Pal-Waukee were closed down, according to a survey of the airport's tenant pilots.

Seventy-four per cent of those responding to the survey said they would relocate their planes to airports either at Waukegan, Midway, DuPage or O'Hare. Fifteen per cent indicated they did not know what they would do.

The responses are the result of a survey conducted by Ralph Burke, Inc. the firm conducting the airport study for Wheeling.

They sent out 466 questionaires and received 269 responses, a 58 per cent rate of return.

Twenty-two per cent of the pilots indicated they may sell their aircraft and stop flying if the airport were closed; and 13 per cent said they would sell their planes and rely on scheduled commercial flights instead.

Because the question dealing with the closing of the airport was hypothetical, many pilots marked several responses which is why the percentages add up to more than 100 per cent.

According to the draft of the study results, many of the pilots were not satisfied to answer the relocation question by checking a box.

"Many answers selecting whether to relocate aircraft or to sell were punctuated with comments such as 'Hope not,' 'If I have to,' and 'Don't want to'." "In addition, many respondents used the comment section at the end of the questionaire to express their concern that Pal-Waukee stay open," the report said.

Because of increased community interest in late night and early morning flights at Pal-Waukee, the survey included two questions regarding late night operations.

As expected, a large majority (83.6 per cent) indicated that the existing noise problem is a functional solution to the problem," the report said.

The study will be used by the Ralph Burke and Associates to help determine whether Wheeling and Prospect Heights or any other combination of public entities should purchase and run the airport.

Other findings included in the study are:

--56.7 per cent of the pilots say they use their Pal-Waukee-based planes for business use while 38 per cent indicate they use their planes for personal recreation.

--While the usage levels of the planes ranges from 16 flights per year to 2,000 flights per year, the average plane is used for 147 flights per year.

--More than 92 per cent of those responding indicated they base their planes at Pal-Waukee for convenience, proximity, location or accessability.

--twenty-three per cent said Pal-Waukee benefits their company by reducing travel time.

--Seventeen per cent said the airport enhances their ability to conduct business by opening new markets, providing convenient access or allowing better customer service.

The airport study, now in its second phase, is expected to have enough information by October for Wheeling and Prospect Heights to make a decision on whether to take over the airport.

The final decision, however, will not be made until the study is completed in October 1980.

Bracke wants to cite warehouse

August 30, 1979

WHEELING—Police Chief Theodore Bracke has suggested citing the Illinois Self-Storage Center, 211 N. Elmhurst, for doing business without a license. In addition, Bracke said he thinks the company should be cited each day it is in violation of village ordinances.

Bracke said the business has been in operation for approximately three weeks without an occupancy permit and without a business license. About 60 of the 200 units have been rented already.

The village board discovered the business was operating without an occupancy permit when one of the development owners, Robert Soudon, complained at the board meeting Monday, Aug. 20. Soudon said the building department would not issue him an occupancy permit, but admitted he had rented space without either permit necessary to do business in the village.

THE WAREHOUSE has been the object of much dissension on the board, even before it was built. The property had been owned at one time by Village President William Hein, who also wanted to build mini-warehouse units on it. However, Hein's proposal was voted down by the board because of an opinion issued by the North Cook County Soil and Conversation committee (SCS), saying that the property would be subject to flooding and that filling in the property would cause flooding downstream.

The present project was approved by the village board, by a vote of 4-3, with Hein breaking the tie. Trustees Robert Ross, Roger Powers and then-trustee Dolores Dahm voted in favor of the project.

Builder plans downtown apartment site

Daily Herald - August 31, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

A Northbrook development firm wants to build 100 rent-assisted housing units for senior citizens "near downtown Wheeling."

William Draper, vice president of Dell Corp., a firm that has built 20 senior citizen complexes including a 101-unit development in Mount Prospect, said his firm is negotiating to buy two acres "near downtown Wheeling."

He would not reveal the exact location, saying it could jeopardize the negotiations.

However, he said his firm has an application pending with the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development for financing that would provide the rent subsidy.

"We're reasonably sure that, if we can acquire the land, the application will be approved," he said.

UNDER THE federal housing program, a senior citizen would pay about 25 percent of the rental cost, with the balance being paid by the federal government. That is the way the program works at Centennial Apartments on Ardyce Lane north of Rand Road in Mount Prospect, a project built by Dell, Draper said.

A senior citizen there typically pays 25 percent of his Social Security pension. "He could pay somewhat less if he had exceptionally high medical bills," Draper said.

The housing complex being proposed in Wheeling would be a six-story brick and masonry building containing 100 to 106 units. About six units could be "market rate apartments" for seniors who do not need or qualify for rent-assisted housing, Draper said.

Draper said his firm should know within a month whether HUD will approve the project. If the project is approved, building plans will be submitted to the village.

THE VILLAGE, however, has a $480,000 application pending with the Cook County Housing Authority to build a senior citizen housing project.

Village Pres. William Hein said he does not know what would happen to the village application if Dell decides to build in Wheeling. However, he said he had discussed the project with Draper and liked the proposal.

"I'm pretty sure he would be able to build it faster, and that's the main objective — to take care of the housing needs first," Hein said. "We'd also have somebody to manage the building, and that can be a headache."

Whether the village should abandon its request for money for a senior housing project, Hein said "that's a board decision. All I'm trying to do is keep all our options open."

Branch station nears October finishing date

Daily Herald - September 5, 1979

Wheeling's branch fire station at Hintz and Wheeling roads should be finished nearly on schedule at the end of October.

That will coincide perfectly with Fire Chief B.O. Koeppen's plans to have five new firefighters on the job. They will be sworn in Tuesday night and from there go to training school in Arlington Heights. "That should take about seven weeks," Koeppen said.

Wheeling building officials say the walls of the new station are nearly completed, with most of the plumbing and electrical work still remaining to be finished.

The new $372,000 building is expected to cut the department's response time in the west side of the village. The present fire station, at 312 E. Dundee Rd., is in the northeast portion of town. Village officials also have feared that a train passing through town on the Soo Line Ry. could delay a fire truck.

PRESENTLY, THE village would rely on assistance from Buffalo Grove firefighters in the event a passing freight train slows Wheeling firefighters from reaching a fire.

Koeppen said he plans for the new fire station to house five full-time firefighters. He also said all of the village's firefighting vehicles and equipment could be stored at the two locations.

However, plans for on-site training facilities, such as a drafting pit and training tower for the firefighters will have to wait until the new main fire station has been completed at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd., site of a $3.8 million municipal complex expansion.

The training equipment originally was scheduled to be included with the branch fire station. However, the first series of bids estimated the project to cost nearly more than $300,000 the village had budgeted on the project. By redesigning the building, plans to allow fire trucks to turn around without backing onto the roadway and eliminating the training equipment, the village was able to bring the project in under budget.



Herald photo

BY THE end of October, Wheeling's new branch fire station at Hintz and Wheeling roads is scheduled to be open and serving the west side of the village. Officials say only the plumbing and wiring remain to be installed in the station, which is expected to cut response time to emergencies in the western section of the village when completed. Five new firefighters who will staff the station are to be sworn in Tuesday.

Countryside - August 30, 1979

Wheeling to get more tax revenue

Wheeling should receive roughly $82,000 more in local motor fuel tax revenues in the next two years as a result of a special census taken in early May.

As of May 8 the population of the village was 21,491 as compared to the last official count of 18,106.

Village Finance Director Greg Peters said based on present motor fuel tax projections, the village will receive an additional $3,400 per month until the results of the 1980 census are in sometime in 1981.

The special census cost the village $11,000.

The motor fuel tax allotment to local communities is based on their official population.

Trustees unite to oppose hospital plans

Daily Herald - September 5, 1979

Wheeling trustees Tuesday night voted unanimously to oppose efforts by a Chicago hospital to build a full-service branch hospital on Schoenbeck Road.

Trustee Charles Kerr said the board should file a formal objection with Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals before it acts Sept. 14 on the petition of Franklin Boulevard Hospital to build a 232-bed branch facility.

The objection would force the county board to muster a 75 percent vote to approve the project, rather than a simple majority.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld criticized the 20-acre site on Schoenbeck Road as a poor location for a hospital. It would be located on a two-lane road and near an elementary school. There also is heavy residential development planned in the area.

"AND THEN to stick a hospital in there — no way," he said. "It is not commensurate with good planning," he said.

"In addition to it being a poor location, it will drive up the cost of medical care," Trustee John Cole said. "The state shows a surplus of empty beds, even more so than when they (Franklin Boulevard) first came in here."

Cole, Sommerfeld and Trustee Sheila Schultz said they plan to attend the Sept. 14 hearing to make their objections known.

It was a year ago the Chicago hospital withdrew its plans to have the land and hospital annexed to Wheeling. Its plans under attack from village officials, health planners and other suburban hospitals, Franklin Boulevard withdrew its bid after an unanimous rejection of the proposal by the Wheeling Plan Commission.

The Buffalo Grove Village Board already has voiced its opposition to the hospital. Officials at Northwest Community Hospital in Arlington Heights and Holy Family Hospital in Des Plaines, who fought the Franklin Boulevard proposal last year, say they still are opposed.

Meanwhile, representatives from both hospitals have asked state health planners and local officials for permission to build satellite clinics. Northwest Community is proposing a $2 million walk-in emergency clinic at Ill. Rte. 83 and Lake-Cook Road in Buffalo Grove. Holy Family is planning a similar $4½ million clinic near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street in Wheeling.

Youth jury is judged and found successful

Countryside Reminder-August 9, 1979

By ALLAN HEYDORN

Nine Wheeling youths and three area attorneys were honored Monday night by the Wheeling village board for participating in the first session of Wheeling's youth jury.

The jury, a concept of the Wheeling Youth Commission, was begun earlier this year as an alternative to the juvenile court system for juveniles accused of minor crimes.

For a youth to go through the youth jury, he must waive his right to a trial, in effect admitting his guilt. The youth is then brought before the seven-member youth jury which listens to the defendants side of the story and ascribes punishment. Punishment is generally in the form of a work-project for the village or several other people involved in the program.

A major advantage to the program, officials said at the time, was that it punishes offenders without leaving them with a criminal record.

Honored at Monday's meeting were: Tony Abruscato, Cathy Christ, Sheila Foran, Tracy Jackseire, Mary Kelly, Pamela Metzger, Francis Robert Rundell, Andy Wisbacher and Scott Zissman.

Attorneys who served as judges were: Jerry Abrahms, Paul Jennin and Steve Walanka.

"A lot of work and a lot of effort and time went into this particular program by the young people who worked on it and the people of the youth commission who contrived the program," Village President William Hein said before presenting the certificates. "So far the program has been very successful."

The alternative jury system has referred seven juveniles so far, according to Michele Siria, youth commission member and program organizer.

"No one who they've released from the work-project has been arrested again," she said.

Several of the students serving on the youth jury said before the presentation they thought the program was successful.

"I had a friend come through this and I think it will probably help him a little," Pam Metzger, a Wheeling High School sophomore said.

Scott Zissman, now a college freshman at Western Illinois University, said he thinks the youth jury gives juveniles a better chance than the regular court system.

"It's a lot easier if your own friends decide your punishment because they are a lot more flexible here than in a real court," he said. "Another advantage is there's sometimes things behind what they do that they wouldn't tell to a real judge. And they can tell us those things."

Eric Larson, youth officer and liaison between the Wheeling Police Department and the high school, also said the program is successful.

"So far we've had remarkable results. Most kids who are going to get caught again are caught within the first six months after their release and we've had no recidivists. It's not like a revolving door

(Continued on page 16)

Youth jury—

Countryside Rem. August 9, 1979.

(Continued from page 9)

in the regular courts," he said.

Larson said he thinks the youths going through the projects "get a positive feeling from going through the program."

"There's one boy working at the village hall and he feels he's doing what he should for what he did," Larson said. "We've also received mostly good reports from the people sponsoring the work projects."

Though the youth jury recommends the punishment for the offense, the judges can modify that punishment. And twice they tried to do that, but the jury stuck to its original sentence.

"In two of the instances, the judge was going to reduce the work project but the jury suggested it remain the same. They justified it and it stayed the same. I don't think you can say the kids ae too lenient with their peers," Larson said.

Larson said the project is working and will continue to work because everything is done at a local, community level.

"Most psychologists today and anyone involved in the juvenile justice system say that the best way to correct someone and reintegrate them back into society is to reintegrate them at the local level," Larson said. "The reason for that is the community is best tuned-in to the local problems. And that's what we're doing here."

IEPA offers Wheeling funds for sewer program

Wheeling Life - August 9, 1979

WHEELING — The Illinois Environmental Protection agency (IEPA) announced that the village of Wheeling is being offered $58,500 as part of the agency's sewage system construction grant program. The grant is a Step 1 allocation for facilities plans and studies in connection with Wheeling's wastewater treatment plant.

The total eligible cost of the study is $78,000, with local funds paying the balance, or $19,500.

"WHEELING IS being offered this grant," commented Roger Kanerva, manager of IEPA divison of water pollution control, "in our continuing effort to control water pollution and to improve the environment.

"The pollution control money will contribute to the economic opportunities of Wheeling and the completed project will insure improvement of water quality in Illinois. Cleaner rivers and streams mean that our drinking water can be more easily purified and contribute to improvement in the aquatic life of many of our waters."

To obtain the grant offer, Wheeling made application to the Illinois EPA, agreeing to meet federal and state environmental quality standards, serve the designated community and nearby areas when feasible and conforming with any regionalization requirements, population growth and essential financial conditions.

UPON ACCEPTANCE of the facilities plans by IEPA, Wheeling may apply for a Step 2 grant which covers up to 75% funding for the preparation of engineering and construction plans. A Step 3 grant funds the actual construction of the project and Wheeling will be reimbursed upon acceptance by IEPA of the operational demonstration of the facility.

Kanerva said that almost $2 billion in state and federal funds have been offered to Illinois communities since the grant program was initiated in October 1972.

Volunteers to collect for Little City drive

Wheeling Life - August 9, 1979

An amendment to House Bill 360, signed on June 21, allows some charitable organizations to stand on street corners once again to collect money. The bill amends a previous ordinance which prohibits any solitication on street corners.

Anyone wishing to volunteer for the campaign Friday and Saturday may call Bracke at 459-2832.

WHEELING—Volunteers will be on street corners and shopping centers to collect money for Little City Friday and Saturday, Aug. 10 and 11.

Little City is a training and treatment center for the mentally retarded. The campaign is one of the Mayor's committee fundraisers for the year, according to Ted Bracke, who is in charge of volunteer recruitment.

'Planes fly too low'

Wheeling Life - August 9, 1979

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Resident Janice Katz, 159 Stone place, chastised the village board Monday, Aug. 6, for its failure to speak out on "unsafe practices" at Palwaukee airport.

Katz, who previously presented a petition signed by 250 residents to restrict landings and takeoffs on Runway 16, said the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) permits planes to fly lower "over our homes and schools than any other place."

According to Katz, "Wheeling is becoming Palwaukee's junkyard." She cited statistics of takeoffs and landings and said doing both on the same runway is illegal. However, Trustee John Cole, a former Navy pilot, said this practice is not illegal as long as it is not being done at the same time.

TRUSTEE HUGH SOMMERFELD told Katz that the village board has no control over Palwaukee airport, which is privately owned. The village is involved in a study of the airport to determine whether to purchase it for a municipal facility.

Sommerfeld said there are licensed FAA operators in the control tower at Palwaukee who know the law.

Village President William Hein suggested setting up a meeting with concerned residents and FAA officials to discuss the problem.

Cole said studies have been done in which it has been proven that people on the ground cannot judge the height of aircraft within 500 feet of being correct. "The problem is that there is nothing to compare the airplane to," he explained. "No pilot sets out to kill himself," he added.

KATZ TALKED ABOUT plans to lengthen Runway 16, which is a 5,000-foot runway. However, the length of the runway is in question and should the airport become a municipal facility, subject to FAA guidelines, the threshold lights would have to be moved, which would have the effect of shortening the runway. Plans are being discussed to move the intersection of Wolf and Hintz which would make moving the lights feasible.

Cole said he has not seen any plans to extend the runway. "We're talking about moving a road to make the runway legal, not actually about making it longer."

SOMMERFELD SAID it is traditional for airports and citizens not to get along together. "You might have some inexperienced pilots," he told Katz, "but the ones who fly jets believe they are being as careful as they can. They have corporate executives in those planes and their lives are at stake."

The board asked Village Manager Carsten Leikvold to arrange a meeting between the residents and FAA officials at Palwaukee airport so the problems and questions could be solved.

Recall law gets teeth, drops 'home-rule' clause

Countryside Reminder - August 9, 1979.

By ALLAN HEYDORN

Wheeling residents now may remove elected village officials from office for any reason. The village board has strengthened the recall law it adopted last summer.

By a 4 to 1 vote the board approved the new wording of the ordinance which deletes the restriction that officials can only be removed "for abuse of home-rule powers."

Trustees John Cole, Charles Kerr, Hugh Sommerfeld, and Sheila Schultz voted in favor of the change with Trustee Roger Powers voting against the adoption. Trustee Robert Ross was absent from the meeting.

A recall ordinance is a law whereby voters can remove an elected official from office by popular vote. Last summer, Wheeling became the first municipality in the state to adopt a recall ordinance.

That ordinance was watered-down after it came out of committee to include removal from office only for abuse of home-rule powers.

But because neither the board members nor the village attorney could define "home-rule powers" the ordinance was changed.

Powers compared the ordinance to a police officer giving a driver a ticket without detailing what the ticket was for.

But Village Attorney David Epstein said that while in a criminal case a defendant has the right to know what he is accused of, that does not necessarily apply in a political environment.

"First let me say I think you are raising a serious question, and I think that question falls into the area of public policy this board is called upon to decide," Epstein said.

"While a person has a constitutional right to know his charges in a criminal situation, I don't think those rights to due process apply in a political matter.

"I think it's a policy matter on how the Village of Wheeling wishes to structure its recall procedure," he said.

Epstein said similar recall laws have been upheld in other states where the reason for the recall did not have to be named, but he said he could not guarantee the same for the Wheeling ordinance because it is unique to the state.

Epstein also spent several minutes explaining the legalities of the ordinance while cautioning the board that he was only guessing on what would happen if the ordinance were tested in court.

"You've got arguments on both sides," he told the board. "I would suspect that one day, if it gets that far, it will be the Illinois Supreme Court which will eventually decide on the constitutionality of the ordinance.

"We really have no basis to project what the courts are going to do," he said. "I can guess, and I'm making an absolute guess here, that the courts are going to be conservative in this area. And the reason they are going to be conservative is because these are provisions which exist in home-rule and non home-rule municipalities.

"So any decision then made will effect all little communities without home-rule as well as home-rule communities. I think that is why the courts would be reluctant to expand these powers."

Hospital plans doctors' office

Daily Herald August 9, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

However, the possibility of building a walk-in emergency clinic similar to those planned in Wheeling by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, and in Buffalo Grove by Northwest Community Hospital, Arlington Heights, presently is not being considered, he added.

Although they filed plans with state health planning officials for a $550,000 medical clinic in Wheeling, officials from Evanston Hospital say they just want to locate some of their staff physicians in an office building on Dundee Road.

The plans by Evanston Hospital were submitted and approved by the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board just before new guidelines went into effect that would make approval of building plans more difficult.

Any construction by hospitals totaling more than $150,000 for additions, clinics or doctors' offices now will require a "certificate of need" from regional health planners.

Dr. John McLaren, an Evanston Hospital vice president, said plans were submitted for the clinic to meet the rules change deadline for any building plans the hospital might pursue at a later date.

"WHENEVER YOU'RE going to a planning agency you have to cover all possible ways that a project might go," he said.

"Our thinking is much more modest than that," he said.

McLaren said he has contacted a Wheeling dentist who owns an office building at 47 E. Dundee Rd. about renting office space for doctors from the Evanston Hospital staff who might be interested in setting up a practice there. The hospital also is considering looking for space for doctors' offices in Northbrook.

Wheeling is a part of the hospital's planning because "it is one of the fast-growing communities in the Northwest suburbs," McLaren said. He also cited a recent study by Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge, showing a shortage of family doctors in the Wheeling-Buffalo Grove area.

McLaren said he did not see any problems with Evanston Hospital's plans to bring more doctors to Wheeling in light of proposals by the other two hospitals to build clinics in the area.

The clinics, he said, are being designed to handle emergency cases, while the new doctors who would be coming from Evanston Hospital would be looking for patients seeking a full-time physician.

LIKE EVANSTON, Northwest Community and Holy Family hospitals filed their building plans with the state agency just before the new guidelines went into effect.

Although it submitted its plans a month ahead of Northwest Community, Holy Family backed off on a proposal to build a $3.6 million walk-in emergency clinic at Ill Rte. 83 and Lake-Cook Road, in Buffalo Grove. That clinic was across the street from the $2 million clinic planned by Northwest Community.

However, Buffalo Grove officials appeared more receptive to Northwest Community's proposal because they hope to attract businesses to the land on which Holy Family had planned to build. Officials also noted village paramedics work with the Arlington Heights hospital.

Now Holy Family is proposing to build its clinic at Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue in Wheeling as part of a federally assisted plan to build senior citizen housing and a center for seniors and handicapped persons in the area. Wheeling officials have received tentative approval of a $160,000 federal grant to buy land for the clinic site.

Officials from Holy Family plan to meet Monday with the Wheeling Village Board to discuss their building plans.

Police take blame for car wash

Daily Herald August 10, 1979

by Mary Poker
Herald staff writer

Wheeling Police Chief Ted Bracke says the police department, not Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, should be blamed for failing to stop a local youth group's car wash conducted two weeks ago in violation of the village sprinkling ban.

Bracke said a police auction on the same day "attracted a high amount of people" and extra police available were assigned to watch over the equipment and crowds.

He said police on duty "were watching out for armed robbers and real police problems" and were not aware of the car wash sponsored July 28 by youths from Our Savior Evangelical Church in the Wickes Furniture store parking lot, 351 W. Dundee Rd. The police department is at 255 W. Dundee Rd.

"WE MAKE NO excuses" despite the auction, Bracke said. "If there's blame to be laid, it's on the police department and not on the village manager."

However, Trustee John Cole said Leikvold is to blame for not enforcing the latest violation of a total sprinkling ban that's been in effect since May.

"What the police do or don't do comes right from the police lieutenants and chief, but the ultimate responsibility rests on Leikvold," Cole said.

Cole and Trustees Charles Kerr and Sheila Schultz earlier this week said the village board must decide soon whether Leikvold should continue as village manager. They cited select enforcement of the sprinkling ban among factors contributing to what they criticized as his poor job performance.

The trustees learned Monday that Leikvold, who has been village manager since December 1977, has given sprinkling ban exemptions to about 10 or 15 homes and businesses with newly sodded lawns.

LEIKVOLD SAID he has a report on sprinkling ban enforcement, including a list of homes and businesses he has exempted, but refused to release the report until the trustees have received it. Earlier this week, Leikvold said the list would be available Thursday.

"When the board members read this stuff in the newspaper before they get it from the staff they get very mad," Leikvold said. He did say, however, that the church group was not granted an exemption.

Bracke said police have been enforcing the sprinkling ban and sent notices of the restrictions to all businesses in the village, including Wickes. The ban includes car washes.

Kenneth Gailis, operations manager for Wickes, said he was not aware of the ban and permitted the youth group to conduct the car wash on the store's parking lot.

"Frankly, had we been aware of it, we would not have allowed it," Gailis said. Pastor Donald Vanderaa said he did not know the sprinkling ban included car washing. "I don't think we connected the sprinkling ban with the car wash," he said. "It never occurred to us to ask that question."

Daily Herald - August 12, 1979



Herald photo

INSTALLING A kit that adds a mixture of water and alcohol to his pickup truck's fuel line is one of the projects Dennis Mikosz, right, Wheeling's superintendent of vehicles and grounds, hopes will save the village a good deal of gas money. The water and alcohol mixture makes gasoline burn more efficiently. Mechanic Bob Hanson assists Mikosz with the installation.

New fuel system a project

Daily Herald - August 12, 1979

'Car nut' keeps Wheeling going

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

The love affair began when, at the age of 10, he and a cousin tore a broken lawnmower apart.

When they put it back together, it worked. And 31 years later, Dennis Mikosz, Wheeling's vehicle and grounds superintendent since 1973, still tinkers with cars and engines.

It's a hobby he hopes will translate into savings for the village, if he can squeeze in time to experiment with a special fuel system for vehicles.

"Sure, you could call me a car nut, I've been called a lot worse," he says. "My job's never been a task. I've always enjoyed it."

AND THESE DAYS, Mikosz' job might be considered a task. His maintenance crew is in the midst of moving to new quarters. People gripe to him about the shortage of parking. And the village sprinkling ban leaves him with concerns about tidying up all the equipment being moved to the new building.

But the moving headaches have delayed a couple of Mikosz' pet projects — projects he hopes could save the village a bundle of gas money.

In high school, Mikosz was a racing nut. He spent weekends driving hot rods at Half Day, Seneca and Oswego race tracks. Back then, everyone used a "vita-meter" — a small tank to inject pure alcohol and other "exotic mixtures" into the fuel line to increase engine performance.

So when he heard recently of a Florida firm manufacturing a similar system — using a 50-50 mixture of alcohol and water — to improve fuel economy, Mikosz jumped on the idea.

THIS WEEK, he installed the kit on the village pickup truck he drives, hoping its 10 miles per gallon will increase to 12 or 14.

If the experiment succeeds, Mikosz has visions of converting the balance of the village's 65 vehicles to the water-alcohol system. The village could save as much as $1,300 a month on gas, says Finance Director Gregory Peters.

Basically, the water and alcohol mixture is injected through the air cleaner and into the combustion chamber. The water turns to steam, which cleans the engine, and the alcohol burns the carbon deposits that form on the engine walls.

The carbon deposits, according to the firm promoting the system that was invented by a 70-year-old Miami man, account for about 30 percent of the fuel that normally is not burned.

MIKOSZ SAYS he is going to drive his pickup truck about 2,000 miles with the new system and then decide if it's worth the labor and the $125 cost of the kit to use the system on other vehicles.

He noted that Hollywood, Fla., police equipped a car with the water-alcohol system and doubled their gas mileage. Police there are so happy with the increased gas mileage, Mikosz said, that they may ask for a federal grant to convert the entire fleet to the system.

Another project Mikosz is eager to start once the maintenance crews have completed their move is to convert a '76 Plymouth used by the finance department from an eight- to a four-cylinder car.

"It really only involves taking out the valves, plugging the holes," he says. "You can buy all the parts in a hardware store."

ALTHOUGH HE says he's happy with his work, Mikosz admits his ambition in early adulthood was to abandon his amateur status as a weekend racer.

"Yeah, I was going to turn professional stock-car racer at the age of 30," Mikosz says.

He was all set to hit the circuit without a sponsor, hoping he would do well and find a backer for the oft-expensive sport later.

Instead, he got married. And he knew from others who had tried that full-time racing and a comfortable family life didn't mix.

"I knew I couldn't involve myself deeply in racing and raise a family," he says. "The girl I married was a lot more important than racing. I gave it up for good."

So the man who loves to tinker with engines spends his spare time on other pursuits like boating and camping — "family-type hobbies," he says.

Officials hope to start work on new library

Daily Herald-August 13, 1979

Despite a one-month setback in having their building plans approved, Indian Trails Library District officials still hope to start the project this building season and avoid increased construction costs.

The Wheeling Plan Commission last week tabled approval of plans for the library, to be on a five-acre site at 300 S. Schoenbeck Rd., because the building could add to flooding problems of residents on Anthony Street, just north of the site.



Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said the flooding problems "could cause some public relations problems" with residents, but he said the village should do all it can to move things along for the library.

"IF THEY'RE IN a hurry, we'll do our best to move them along," he said. "They're another government agency, and we'd like to try to help them out."

If the commission approves plans for the $1.4 million library Sept. 13, they could be placed on the village board agenda four days later.

"It's bending the rules a little," he said. "We usually like to have things a week ahead of time."

The earliest the project could have final board approval, Leikvold said, is Oct. 15.

However, the contractor working on the project could begin construction in the meantime with the understanding library officials would not be able to recoup the building costs if the board rejected the project.

"IF THEY WANT to live a little dangerously," Leikvold said, "they can get started. It's provided for in the (village) ordinance."

Plan commissioners were not satisfied with the plans library architect S. Guy Fishman offered for controlling water runoff to Anthony Street.

Fishman said the site was slightly less than 5 acres, and ordinances of the Metropolitan Sanitary District do not call for detention basins to be built to control storm water on sites less than 5 acres.

However, Plan Commission Chairman Anthony Altieri called that argument "splitting hairs," and said Community Development Director Larry Oppenheimer recommended much more detailed engineering to resolve the flooding problem.

FISHMAN COULD not be reached for comment, but library attorney Earl Hoover said the district would do whatever is necessary to resolve the flooding problems to the satisfaction of residents. He said he did not know if or how much installing additional flood control devices would add to the cost of the library.

Residents from Anthony Street less than two years ago successfully fought a developer's proposal to build a 20-house subdivision on the site the library presently owns.

"And that was a beautiful development," Altieri said. "But those residents have had flooding problems for a long time."

Hoover said the library will generate considerably less septic waste than a housing project. And controlling the storm-water runoff should not be a major problem, he added.

Bids for the library are scheduled to be opened Aug. 22, with the contract for the project to be awarded within 60 days after that.

IF THERE ARE any further delays by the plan commission, library officials say they probably will have to ask for an extension. Such extensions, Hoover said, are routinely granted by developers.

The district, which serves Wheeling, Buffalo Grove and portions of Prospect Heights, plans to finance the new building by taking $130,000 to $150,000 annually out of its operating budget for the next 10 years.

As a result, money available to buy new books, films, records and other materials will be cut by 50 percent next year.

The plan to draw on the library's operating budget to pay for the new building came after voters twice rejected proposals for a tax increase to pay for the new library.

Residents lose fight for bus route

Daily Herald-August 14, 1979

by Pamela Bailey
Herald staff writer

Wheeling residents have lost the second round in their fight to save the Regional Transportation Authority bus route to the Loop, but Mount Prospect senior citizens are claiming a victory in their campaign to save their own local buses to Oak Brook.

In an effort to reduce its growing deficit, the RTA staff in April recommended three low ridership routes in the Northwest suburbs be eliminated.

They were Route 211 between Wheeling and the Loop, Route 332 from Randhurst Shopping Center to Oak Brook along Elmhurst Road and a shoppers' special running from Des Plaines to the Loop.

ALTHOUGH THE Des Plaines route carried only 48 passengers on an average day and its proposed elimination received little opposition, the Wheeling and Mount Prospect routes had a lot of local support and a group of angry riders from both villages showed up at the RTA's public hearing in June.

In response, the RTA staff has revised its original recommendations, saying the Mount Prospect-to-Oak Brook route should be maintained. But the newest recommendations, which will be voted on by the RTA's transportation policy committee Wednesday, say the Wheeling line should be shortened.

Instead of originating in Wheeling, Route 211 would begin farther south, at Glenview Road and Milwaukee Avenue, and terminate at the Western Avenue "L" station instead of the Loop.

"It's nothing short of outrageous," said William Levin, the attorney who serves as a spokesman for the Wheeling bus riders. "The (RTA) staff has made a number of attempts to remove that route and each time the riders rise up in arms to protest.

"IF THE ROUTES do not go all the way to Wheeling, the townspeople won't have any public transportation. This is just one in a series of roadblocks the staff has put up to discourage riders from going downtown."

The latest count by the RTA showed a little more than 400 passengers ride the Wheeling line every day, and Levin, as well as some suburban RTA board members, say that unlike on other RTA routes, the riders' fares pay for more than half the cost of running the bus.

"What would keeping the route the way it is cost them?" Levin asked. "There wouldn't be any savings in labor, and the extra fuel would be very small."

Meanwhile, the Mount Prospect senior citizens, who gathered 140 signatures in support of their route, are feeling good.

"WE COULDN'T be more pleased," said Myrtle Galitz of the senior center. "This is definitely a good sign. The RTA route means an awful lot to our seniors; that's all they've talked about for a while."

Senior citizens in the area say the bus route is their only way to reach the Randhurst and Oak Brook shopping centers or to visit relatives and friends in suburbs such as Elmhurst and Yorktown.

Dick Barazda, coordinator of services and planning for RTA, said the staff concluded the route was "critical for senior citizens."

The low ridership during the line's first few months of operation could be a result of poor publicity and low reliability, he said.

TO REMEDY the situation, Barazda said, the staff has recommended Route 332 be broken into two separate runs — one from Randhurst to Bensenville, and one from Bensenville to Oak Brook.

"Generally, the longer the route, the more chance for problems there are," Barazda said.

"When a driver gets off schedule, it takes him longer to get back on if the route is long. If it's short, he's still late but he has time to recover," he said.

Heart ailment keeps clerk home

Daily Herald August 16, 1979

Wheeling Village Clerk Alberta Klocke is suffering from a heart condition that will keep her from her job at least until Labor Day and even then, her return is uncertain.

Mrs. Klocke, who was elected in 1977, complained of chest pains two weeks ago. After a series of tests at Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, she was ordered to stay home and rest.

She said her ailment was a result of "having way too high a fat content" in her system and said her arteries are clogged slightly. Her physician, Dr. George Nelson of Skokie could not be reached for comment.

MRS. KLOCKE, 53, said she will have a better idea of whether she may return to work after she visits her doctor next week.

"I'd like to go back," she said. "But at this point today, I'm just not ready. I tire very easily. It all depends on if the tension and aggravation gets to me. I can't let things bother me. But a quitter I'm not."

In Mrs. Klocke's absence, her duties are being carried out by Deputy Clerk Lorraine Lark. Should she be unable to return to work, Mrs. Klocke's successor would be appointed by the village board. Her term expires in 1981.

"I DON'T EVEN want to think about that yet," she said. "He (the doctor) didn't even tell me I can't go back to work. Look at Mr. Scott (Atty. Gen. William Scott). He's having open heart surgery. I'm not at that stage yet."



Alberta Klocke

Mrs. Klocke said she's doing her best to follow her doctor's instructions to lose weight and quit smoking.

"I have cut back on my smoking," she said. "I would like to quit smoking entirely and besides that, I could save 60 cents a day. At 365 days a year, that's a lot of bucks." She added she is sticking to her diet, although "it's driving me nuts."

"SHE'LL BE OK," said Mrs. Klocke's daughter, Sharon. "She just needs her rest and to follow her doctor's orders. She gets enough stress as an elected official."

Mrs. Klocke says she is spending most of her time listening to the radio, talking to friends on the phone and knitting the presents that will be given away this Christmas at Lollipop Lane in Chamber Park. Mrs. Klocke for several years has played "Mrs. Claus" when she and "Santa" visit Chamber Park.

"Of course, if I lose all this weight I'm supposed to lose, I won't be able to play Mrs. Claus I'll be so skinny," she said.

Trustees overrule attorney

Wheeling Life - August 9, 1979

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Amend recall law

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING--The village board has amended the recall ordinance to eliminate the only cause for recall as "abuse of home rule powers." The amendment, which was passed Monday, Aug. 6, broadens the reasons for recall. It was suggested by Trustee Sheila Schultz, who served on the recall ordinance committee.

Village Attorney David Epstein had suggested that the recall ordinance must be amended by referendum since it changes the term of office of elected officials. However, the board did not agree and amended the law by a 4-1 vote. Trustee Roger Powers was the only trustee who objected. Trustee Robert Ross was absent.

IN A MEMO to the board, Epstein said the village attorneys have counseled a conservative form of action because the recall ordinance is in "unchartered waters of Illinois municipal law." He said the attorneys have tried to preserve for the village "every plausible line of constitutional defense" for this law.

By not submitting the amendment to referendum, Epstein said the village will have to rely on its home rule powers alone for defense of the law when it is tested in the courts. By going to referendum, an additional defense would be available, he said he believes.

THE RECALL ORDINANCE was first proposed by the home rule committee when it made its home rule recommendation. According to Village President William Hein, who led the fight to insert the cause "for abuse of home rule powers" in the original ordinance, "The way the recommendation came out of the home rule committee was with the 'abuse of home rule powers' phrase in it. It was changed in the recall committee."

Hein claims people are confused about who first proposed the phrase. In a document shown to The LIFE, Monday, Aug. 6, oral comments from Lorraine Lark, chairman of the home rule committee, made to the board Jan. 17, 1977, say, "Lastly, we would suggest that the board give consideration to the right of recall should an authority prove negligible or dishonest in his or her uses of home rule powers."

The specimen ballot circulated before the referendum on the recall ordinance July 1977 says, "The initiation of recall of an elected official shall be by petition of the electors for the abuse of home rule powers." This was the change made by the board in the fight led by Hein. Trustees John Cole, Charles Kerr and Hugh Sommerfeld fought against inclusion of the phrase "abuse of home rule powers" in the ordinance, but lost the battle when Hein broke a tie vote.

ACCORDING TO EPSTEIN'S memo, the amendment to the ordinance "should not undermine our ability to defend the basic recall procedure. This ordinance may well create an additional legal question as to its validity. That will be one among several issues to be litigated someday."

Powers asked Epstein if the amended ordinance "meets the criteria for a recall ordinance. Epstein said there are no criteria.

Epstein said, "It is extraordinarily difficult when we don't know what the courts will do." He added that litigation on a test case could go "either way."

In other states where there are recall procedures, Epstein said they are "without a statement of cause."

The week ahead

Daily Herald - August 13, 1979

Holy Family to discuss plans for village clinic

Plans by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, to build a $4.5 million clinic in Wheeling will be discussed today by the village board and hospital officials.

The facility, which would be built near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street, would include a walk-in clinic, a laboratory and radiology center, doctors' offices, a pharmacy, medical services for area industry and services for senior citizens.

The clinic is a key recommendation in a $20,000 consultant's study for revitalizing the downtown area. Other development planned for the Milwaukee Avenue-Strong Street area include rent-assisted housing for senior citizens and a center for seniors and handicapped persons.

OFFICIALS FROM Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge, also plan to attend the meeting which begins at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd. They have offered to assist Holy Family with its plans by expanding senior citizen programs and other medical services into the Wheeling area.

Holy Family filed a proposal with state health planning officials to build a clinic in Buffalo Grove a month before Northwest Community Hospital, Arlington Heights, filed similar plans to build directly across the street at Ill. Rte 83 and Lake-Cook Road.

However, the Des Plaines hospital backed off when Buffalo Grove officials seemed more receptive to Northwest Community's plans.

Buffalo Grove officials plan to attract businesses to the area where Holy Family planned to build. Also, Buffalo Grove's paramedic system already works with the Arlington Heights hospital.

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A SPECIAL ORDINANCE to allow residents in Whippletree Village mobile home park to build enclosed garages will be considered Tuesday by Wheeling trustees.

However, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold says his staff has "very sincere reservations about any easing of the ordinance" that presently prohibits construction of the enclosed garages. Leikvold said he is concerned the mobile homes will be a fire hazard if enclosed garages are allowed.

He said the garages should be allowed only if some type of a fire-resistant, reinforced wall is built between the garage and the mobile home. Also, there should be at least two exits from the mobile home, and neither of those exits should be through the garage.

Leikvold says an agreement by the board a few years ago to allow the residents to build three-sided carports was "a concession and a compromise — and that's as far as we should go."

However, residents from the mobile home park, on McHenry Road north of Dundee Road, say the carports are unsightly and unsafe. They offer little protection from inclement weather or protection against burglary or vandalism.

Residents also say the carports could be a haunt for stray animals or drug addicts.

Trustees will meet at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Daily Herald - August 14, 1979

Crossing work to slow cars on Dundee Road

Traffic on Dundee Road in Wheeling will be reduced to two lanes for the next two weeks while construction crews work to improve the Soo Line R.R. crossing east of Ill. Rte. 83.

Wheeling police are advising motorists to use Lake-Cook or Hintz roads to avoid the traffic jams. Signs are being posted on Ill. Rte. 83 and Wolf Road to inform motorists driving along Dundee Road of the railroad construction work.

Construction crews will be installing new rails and railroad ties at the crossing. Crews also are scheduled to re-asphalt the portion of Dundee Road that leads to the crossing.

THAT CROSSING IS one of 20 in northeastern Illinois scheduled for an overhaul — at an estimated cost of $175,000 — by July 1980, said Carl Bachmann, an engineer for the Illinois Dept. of Transportation.

As part of a federally funded highway-safety project, a rubberized compound will be placed between the rails of the crossing instead of wooden ties. The compound lasts up to four times longer than the ties, Bachmann said.

The traffic signals and crossing gates also will be moved further from the roadway as a part of that project, Bachman said.

THE DUNDEE ROAD crossing was in such bad shape that state officials agreed the construction project was necessary as a temporary measure next until year's project can be started. The cost of the present project is being footed by the Soo Line, Bachmann said.

Construction crews are slated to be working on the crossing from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., although Wheeling police plan to ask the crews to cut their hours from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in hopes of keeping all four lanes open during rush hours.

However, when the crews stop work for the day, it is possible some of the lanes of Dundee Road will have to remain closed, said Patrolman Ed Theriault of the department's traffic division. "I imagine (the decision to close any lanes) will be a day-to-day thing," he said.

Land for proposed condos may instead go for clinic

Daily Herald August 11, 1979

Debate about the size of a controversial condominium complex may be pointless, some Wheeling officials say, because the village soon will have to decide whether to condemn that land to make way for a walk-in clinic.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold says there is not enough land near Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue for both the condominium project, known as Three Lakes Village, and the $4.5 million clinic proposed by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines.

The clinic is expected to be part of a federally sponsored project that would include 100 rent-assisted housing units for senior citizens and a center for seniors and handicapped persons.

The village plan commission says it will let the village board decide whether the size of the condominium complex should be cut in half because of a new law on building density.

THE DEVELOPMENT, planned by Lambert Domas and Thomas Popke, was given preliminary approval by the plan commission despite a new density law passed by the village board that would reduce the number of units from 114 to about 60.

The new law does not allow any land covered by lakes or ponds to be included in the buildable acreage. About 5 acres of the Popke-Domas development contain lakes. The law prohibits more than 10 units per acre. Under previous ordinances, developers could build up to 17 units.

Plan Commission Chairman Anthony Altieri said because Popke and Domas presented plans for 114 units before the new law was passed, the commission had no choice but to approve them under the old ordinance.

"Whether the new law is going to apply to this development — that's up to the corporate authorities," he said.

However, several trustees say the new law should apply, since the developers were aware Wheeling was preparing to lower its density limits when the parcel was rezoned last October.

THAT REZONING was made over the objections of the plan commission and residents from Strong Street and a nearby senior citizens housing complex, who argued the project would create traffic and flooding problems.

Village Pres. William Hein joined Trustees Roger Powers and Robert Ross and former Trustee Dolores Dahm in voting for rezoning the parcel from single- to multi-family. Trustees John Cole, Charles Kerr and Hubert Sommerfeld opposed it.

Leikvold said regardless of the density of Three Lakes Village, there probably will not be room for the clinic, senior citizen housing and center for seniors and handicapped persons unless the village takes action to acquire the land.

"Quite clearly, what they've (Popke and Domas) planned comes into conflict with the concept plan the board has approved," he said. "We'll have to sit down with the staff and see what we should do. I'm not sure what their recommendations will be."

The board recently approved a $20,000 consultant's study calling for the clinic, senior housing and senior and handicapped center — all to be built near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street.

If the village decides not to condemn the land, the only option would be to look for another site for the clinic, housing and senior center. And Leikvold said there is not much undeveloped land left in the northeast portion of town where most of the village's senior citizens live.

ALSO CLOUDING the picture is the uncertain status of the federal money the village is seeking to help with the projects.

Leikvold said he is "reasonably certain" a request for $760,000 for the senior center and $160,000 for land for the clinic will be approved in September or October by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

However, a grant for more than $1 million for the senior housing being sought through the Cook County Housing Authority appears less certain.

"The funds in that area are not all that plentiful," he said.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld called for a meeting of everyone involved with the property to work out the apparent conflicts.

"I honestly don't know what the best move is," he said. "The developer might not want to even discuss it. He has a lot of rights — it's his land, after all."



Daily Herald - August 11, 1979



Herald photo

ATTEMPTING TO solve an erosion problem that has plagued residents along Valley Stream Drive in Wheeling, employees of the park district and village building department shovel concrete into place along the banks of the Wheeling Drainage Ditch.

Daily Herald - September 2, 1979

Artifacts to go to museum

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Almost one year ago to the day, the original Wheeling Village Hall, its frame resting on trusses and wheels, ambled slowly down Milwaukee Avenue to its permanent resting place at Chamber Park.

The building, which was constructed on Milwaukee Avenue near the water tower, was intended to be the permanent home for some of the village's oldest and most prized possessions.

And those possessions, now boxed and stored on shelves at Chevy Chase Golf Course, should be moving into the old building by the end of October. The park district and historical society have spent the last year building a basement and an extension to the building as a place to store and display the treasures.

There is still some carpentry, electrical and plumbing work to be completed before the building can pass its final inspection. After one last coat of paint and some landscaping the building should be ready for occupancy, said John Piazza, director of parks.

However, Park Supt. David Phillips said park and historical society officials are undecided whether to open the museum to the public this year.

"WE MIGHT wait until the place is 100 percent ready to go," he said. Moving the historical artifacts to their permanent home at the park on Wolf Road may take some time, and a grand opening may be planned for spring to coincide with the break in the weather.

Phillips said the hiring of a full-time curator is being considered to give an explanation of the memorabilia that will be on display.

One of the features will be a village pumper, the horse-drawn vehicle that was used by Wheeling firefighters in 1904. Mannequins have been donated to display the old volunteer firemen's uniforms and other costumes that were fashionable in the early 1900s.

Snapshots, including one of Walt Whitman School when it was built in 1925, will abound. There also are photos of Milwaukee Avenue when it was paved for the first time in 1917, the first Wheeling police car and Welflin's Dry Goods Store. The saloon license of the Union Hotel, circa 1894, will be displayed, as will a painting of Frances Crane Lilly, the plumbing heiress who used the houses on what is now Childerley Park as a home for widows and orphans.

THERE WILL be taped accounts of Wheeling's history, as well as written reports of the exploits of Ed Bellmore's rattlesnake hunts along the banks of the Des Plaines River in the 1950s.

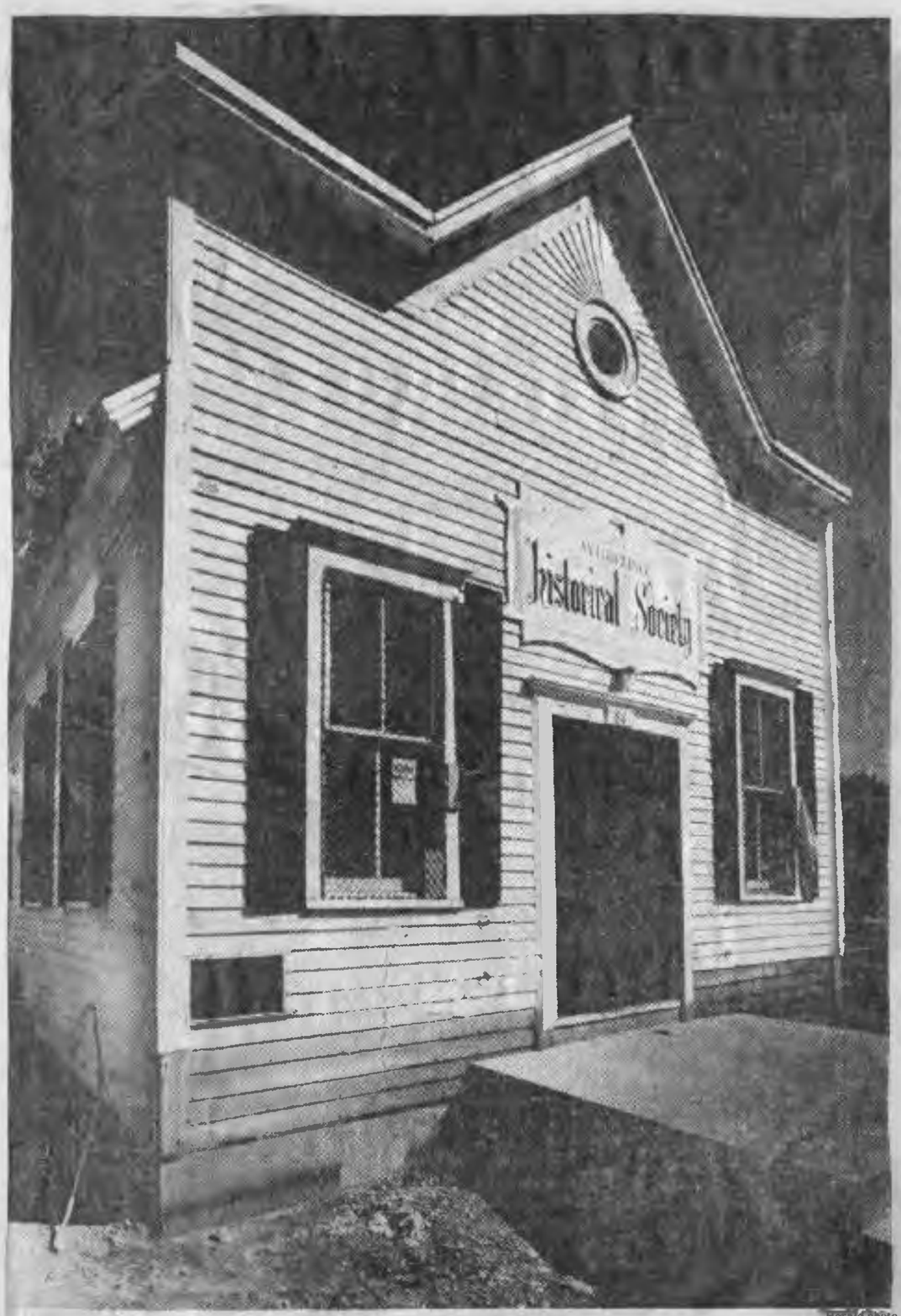
And Phillips said the hunt for treasured artifacts will continue. In fact, one of the rarer items was found when workers began tearing out walls to renovate the building. It was a check, from 1906, made out by the Village of Wheeling to someone by the name of "Burkitt."

Burkitt, apparently, never got a chance to claim his $4. "Well, I don't know if you can say that," Phillips said. "It might have been canceled."



Herald photo

FOR NOW it is cluttered with newspapers, tools and workmen's ladders, but by the end of October, the old village hall should be housing some of Wheeling's most treasured memorabilia.



Herald photo

THE FINAL coat of paint still needs to be applied, and there's some carpentry work to be finished. But within a month, the Wheeling Historical Society should begin moving some of Wheeling's oldest and most prized possessions into the old village hal building at Chamber Park.

Daily Herald - September 3, 1979



Herald photo

POINTING TO a portion of Wheeling's new operations and maintenance building, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, accompanied by village department heads, conducts the first tour of the building for trustees. The new building, directly behind the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd., is part of a $3.8 million municipal complex expansion, slated to be completed next year.

The week ahead Daily Herald- September 3, 1979.

Trustees to consider tax levy

A $1.4 million tax levy is expected to be given final approval Tuesday by the Wheeling Village Board.

Because the village's tax base is expected to increase as well, the 1979 rate of 95.7 cents per $100 assessed valuation is expected to remain the same. That means a homeowner with house assessed at $10,000 pays about $96 in village taxes. The village tax bill is about 10 percent of the total tax bill.

Trustees will meet at 8:30 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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FINAL APPROVAL for annexing a 110-acre parcel south of Lake-Cook Road will also be considered Tuesday.

Land owner William Johnson plans to develop the western 90 acres as an industrial park. The eastern 20 acres would be a shopping center. The property is bordered by Wolf Road to the east and the Soo Line RR to the west.

Some trustees have opposed the annexation, saying Johnson is being granted special privileges because the agreement grants Johnson two liquor licenses for the restaurant and motel he plans to build on the shopping center. Village laws currently do not allow any more liquor licenses to be issued.

However, trustees who support the annexation say the liquor licenses are trade-offs that are a part of any annexation agreement. Johnson has agreed to donate five acres for the proposed Wheeling-Buffalo Diversionary Channel, a project designed to control flooding in the village.

• • •

TRUSTEES WILL consider an agreement to take over the private streets in Chelsea Cove, a condominium development near Hintz and Buffalo Grove roads.

Residents will pay a one-time impact fee of $200 and the village will provide snow plowing, sweeping and minor maintenance work on the roads. Chelsea Cove will be the fourth condominium development to have the village take over its streets. The board also has approved maintenance agreements with Tahoe Village, Lakeside Villas and Harmony Village.

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THE SUBURBAN Medical Center of Hoffman Estates Thursday will open its doors for the first patients to be treated in the $20 million hospital.

Charles Iobe, administrator of the hospital on Barrington Road between Golf and Higgins roads, said about 100 of the 356 beds will be available for the opening of the long-awaited health care facility that's been under construction since 1977. The remaining beds will be filled in phases.

About 120 medical personnel have been hired for the opening and about 150 doctors have joined the medical staff.

Seniors to test support for formation of panel

Daily Herald - September 7, 1979

Wheeling Trustee Sheila Schultz is organizing a senior citizens' task force to advise village officials on solutions to the transportation and housing problems of Wheeling's elderly.

Mrs. Schultz says the task force's first job will be to determine if a senior citizens commission, one that would carry political clout, is necessary.

"I'm convinced there is a need, but maybe not everyone feels the same way," she said.

Six Wheeling residents already have volunteered to serve on the commission, but Mrs. Schultz is looking for more voluteers. She adds that the task force probably will not be restricted only to senior citizens.

MRS. SCHULTZ said the senior citizens group should help the village develop plans for an apartment complex and recreational center for the elderly and handicapped.

The village has asked the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development for $780,000 to build the senior center. And a Northbrook developer has proposed building a 100-unit, rent-assisted housing project for the elderly.

A senior citizens commission also could determine transportations needs and make those needs known to village officials, Mrs. Schultz said.

But the senior citizens commission could be most effective in dealing with some of senior citizens' "smaller problems" — "I'm thinking of person to person services," Mrs. Schultz says, suggesting services such as making sure a seniors who are unable to leave their houses are visited occasionally.

BY COORDINATING activities with other groups such as the Wheeling Youth Commission, she added, seniors who are unable to do yard work or other household chores could hire youngsters who need some spending money.

Faye Moroz, executive secretary of the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce, has volunteered to serve on the task force. She said she already has some ideas of what needs to be done for senior citizens.

"My number one priority would be providing an emergency transportation program for seniors who can't cope with the severe winter weather," she said.

Last winter, the chamber was deluged with calls from snowbound seniors who were unable to leave their houses to get food or medicine, she said. "I don't think it's fair to tell an 80-year-old man to walk down Wolf Road to get groceries."

Daily Herald- Sept. 5, 1979

WHEELING VILLAGE BOARD VOTE SUMMARY

Selected decisions from board meetings of Aug. 6 and 20.



	Cole	Kerr	Powers	Ross	Schultz	Sommerfeld
To amend village recall ordinance to allow voters to remove elected officials from office for any reason. (Passed 4-1)	YES	YES	NO	ABSENT	YES	YES
To approve concept plan for redevelopment of downtown Wheeling. (Passed 5-0)	YES	YES	YES	ABSENT	YES	YES
To delay plans of Glenview developer who plans to build factory near runway at Palwaukee Airport. (Passed 5-1)	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

'Only a few' object to branch hospital

Daily Herald - September 8, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

The would-be developer of a controversial hospital near Wheeling says it is only "a few politicians" who are objecting to his plans.

Patrick DeMoon, administrator of Chicago's Franklin Boulevard Hospital, says the area still needs the full-service branch he proposes to build on Schoenbeck Road despite plans by two other hospitals to build satellite clinics in Wheeling and Buffalo Grove.

"It's only one or two board members who are raising the objections," he said. "You've seen how those political meetings go."

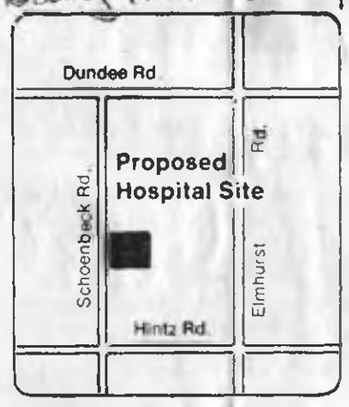
The Wheeling Village Board agreed unanimously this week to file a written objection with the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals when it examines DeMoon's proposal to build the 232-bed hospital. The board's hearing is scheduled for 3 p.m. Friday in Prospect Heights.

Franklin Boulevard Hospital's plan has been in the works since 1975, but the hospital asked the county only last week for the zoning changes it needs to begin.

A YEAR AGO, the Wheeling Plan Commission unanimously rejected the proposal, but DeMoon withdrew his plans before the village board could make a final decision.

The objectors have complained that DeMoon's branch hospital would aggravate traffic congestion on two-lane Schoenbeck Road and would contribute to what area health planners say is an oversupply of hospital beds in the Northwest suburbs.

But DeMoon disputes the figures from the health planners, saying Franklin Boulevard Hospital conducted its own study two years ago and concluded there will be a shortage of beds within a few years.



"The population is growing, and we feel there's a need for a hospital," he said.

DeMoon is confident he will be able to beat the Jan. 1 deadline to have his project under construction.

Because the hospital was planned before formation of the Suburban Cook-DuPage Health Systems Agency, Franklin Boulevard Hospital was exempt from proving that new hospital beds are needed.

HOWEVER, THAT exemption expires unless construction is started by Jan. 1, and is considered unlikely that the agency would issue a permit to DeMoon because it already has called for a moratorium on new hospital construction.

DeMoon said construction contracts have been signed and the financing has been arranged. "We're all geared up. There's no reason we shouldn't be able to make that deadline if we get a favorable response from the county," he said.

But Wheeling's objection means that a three-fourths majority of the county board must vote in favor of the hospital, and Wheeling Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld is confident the county will not grant permission to build.

"He (DeMoon) should look at all of the organizations and groups who have opposed it," Sommerfeld said. "I think he would find out this is not one group of politicians. There are many knowledgable people as well as state organizations who are against this."

Sommerfeld said the Schoenbeck Road site is "a terrible location" for a hospital. The narrow two-lane road is near an elementary school and is planned for extensive residential development.

WILLIAM THOMPSON, associate director of the health planning agency, says there already are 1,400 excess hospital beds in suburban Cook and DuPage counties, each costing $50,000 a year to maintain.

When objecting to Franklin Boulevard Hospital's proposal last year, officials from Des Plaines' Holy Family Hospital said they would lose nearly half their Wheeling patients and would be forced to increase their rates by about $11 a day to recover the lost revenue.

Hospital officials Friday said those figures have not been revised, but inflation undoubtedly has increased them.

Holy Family Hospital and Northwest Community Hospital, Arlington Heights, both plan to object to the Franklin Boulevard Hospital proposal.

Holy Family Hospital has proposed building a $4½ million emergency clinic in Wheeling near Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue. The Arlington Heights hospital has filed plans with Buffalo Grove to build a $2 million clinic at Ill. Rte. 83 and Lake-Cook Road.

Residency law may keep officials closer to home

Countryside Reminder - September 6, 1979

Some Wheeling village employees may be required to live closer to the village in the future, depending on the outcome of discussions soon to begin among village staff and trustees.

At Tuesday night's meeting of the Wheeling village board, Trustee Charles Kerr outlined his plans to hold discussions regarding possible changes in residential requirements for village employees.

He made the proposal upon the advice of Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold and Wheeling Police Chief Ted Bracke, both of whom are in favor of requiring that village officials live closer to the village.

Leikvold said after last winter's blizzard and the absenteeism resulting from it, he decided some kind of rule might be needed which would require that some village employees live relatively close to the village.

Currently there are no restrictions upon where a village employee may live. Bracke agreed with Leikvold that some restrictions may be in order, especially in regard to employees who deal with emergency situations, such as those in the police department, fire department, or public works department.

While Leikvold said he did not think the village had in mind the restricting of employees to within the village limits, he said a certain radius might be established.

He said he was not certain if residential restrictions would apply to current employees or to those starting work with the village.

Kerr plans to hold two sets of discussions regarding this issue. One will be with village staff, and one will be with village trustees.

Hospital was patient, took plan to county

Countryside Reminder - Thursday, September 6, 1979

By MARION SOURS

Everyone had thought the plan to build a branch of Franklin Boulevard Hospital near Wheeling was dead, but it appears it merely was anesthetized. The patient has suddenly revived, to the dismay of Buffalo Grove and Wheeling officials. They never liked that plan, anyway.

Officials from both villages agreed at their respective board meetings Tuesday night to attend the Sept. 14 meeting of the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals to ask that the hospital not be allowed to build in Cook County.

Both Buffalo Grove and Wheeling in the past have objected to the construction of the hospital, proposed to be built on Schoenbeck Road in unincorporated Cook County.

Officials from the hospital last year petitioned the Wheeling Plan Commission for annexation and a special use permit. The commission voted to recommend denial of the special use permit.

While Wheeling was expressing its disapproval, Buffalo Grove also was making its opposition known, through a resolution passed by trustees.

During discussions, the following were cited by both villages as points arguing against the proposed hospital: the lack of community involvement in the project, the duplication of services and the increase in medical costs which would arise from this duplication.

In particular, it was pointed out there would be an excess of hospital beds created in the area if such a hospital were built.

Following its denial of a special use permit by the Wheeling Plan Commission, Franklin Boulevard had the option of refiling petitions with Wheeling for annexation and special use, of dropping the project, or of filing petitions with Cook County instead of Wheeling.

In the wake of the vocal disapproval by both villages, the hospital did not reapproach Wheeling, and most officials assumed the plans had been dropped. Only recently did hospital officials file with Cook County.

Though both villages object to plans for a full-service hospital, they have not been opposed to the construction of other medical facilities in the area.

In recent months, both Buffalo Grove and Wheeling have been approached by hospitals which have presented plans for ambulatory care centers, or 24-hour walk-in clinics.

Buffalo Grove has been approached by Northwest Community Hospital and Wheeling by Holy Family Hospital. Both villages so far have been favorable to the plans presented.

Job fires her imagination

Daily Herald - September 6, 1979



Herald photo

GETTING HER first chance Wednesday to operate a village fire hose is Cathy Strong, 22, Wheeling's first female firefighter. Rich Bieschke, the firefighter who has supervised the village's eight new firefighters, points out a few fire fighting techniques.

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

"OK, guys..." began firefighter Rich Bieschke.

"Guys and lady," corrected one of Wheeling's eight new firefighters who started work Wednesday.

"Nah. We're all guys here," Bieschke said, continuing his discourse on the finer points of operating a fire truck pump.

But the dorm rooms of the Wheeling Fire Station will be integrated for the first time as Cathy Strong, a Chicago resident who grew up in Mount Prospect, becomes Wheeling's first female firefighter.

She's also the first municipal firefighter-paramedic to be hired in the Northwest suburbs.

There is one female firefighter-paramedic in the Elk Grove Township rural fire department, and Des Plaines currently employs two female civilians who work as paramedics only.

MISS STRONG, 22, hopes she'll be treated as one of the guys. She's not out to set the world on fire with any militant views on women's liberation or anything like that.

"I'm not here to make points or for women's lib or to get my name in the newspaper," she says. "I'm not here to find a husband or a boyfriend or anything like that. I'm here to be a firefighter."

She admits she's in a unique position and there probably will be more pressure on her to perform well than on the typical firefighter.

"I think being the first female, people will probably have doubts and worries and I'll have to prove myself. But I think I can do it," she says.

Although she's on the village payroll, Miss Strong and the other new firefighters have to endure a seven-week training course in Arlington Heights. And firefighters who have passed the written and physical agility tests, occasionally have flunked the final training tests, Wheeling Fire Chief B.O. Koeppen said.

BUT, KOEPPEN thinks Miss Strong can make the grade. "She's very determined," he said. "A lot of men flunked that physical agility test."

The test calls for scaling a 24-foot rope and hanging there by arm strength alone for 20 seconds. Other tests involve carrying a 120-pound sandbag for 75 feet, a quarter-mile run and an obstacle course that the candidates must negotiate with an air pack on their backs. These tests taxed Miss Strong, who is 5-foot-6 and weighs 135 pounds.

Although other firefighters say Miss Strong will be treated equally, they admit there will be a different flavor to sharing their living quarters with her.

"There might be some embarrassment at first," said Lt. Robert Hoos, as well as some jealousy on the part of some firefighters' wives, he added.

Some may have to change their lifestyle just a little. "Obviously, there's not going to be as many guys walking around in their underwear. There's not too much of that anyway," he said.

ONE VETERAN firefighter says he's not going to change his personal habits one iota, however. "I haven't slept in pajamas for 10 years, and I'm not going to start now," he said.

"I've heard that some of the wives might be upset," Miss Strong said. "All I can say is I'm here to fight fires and nothing else."

The week ahead Daily Herald September 10, 1979

Unit to mull clinic plans

A Chicago hospital's 6-year-old plans to build a $20 million, 232-bed branch facility near Wheeling will be considered Friday by the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals.

The public hearing, which will be at 3 p.m. at the Gary Morava Recreation Center, 110 W. Camp McDonald Rd., Prospect Heights, marks the end of nearly a year of speculation over the hospital plans.

Last September, the Wheeling Plan Commission unanimously rejected a proposal by Franklin Boulevard Hospital to annex the 20-acre hospital site on Schoenbeck Road.

Officials from area hospitals attacked the plan, saying a new hospital would create more empty beds, increasing medical costs.

Since then, two of the hospitals — Northwest Community Hospital in Arlington Heights and Holy Family Hospital in Des Plaines — have submitted plans with village officials to build walk-in emergency clinics in Buffalo Grove and Wheeling.

The clinics, hospital officials say, are a less expensive alternative to a full-service hospital, which would duplicate services. The clinics will treat patients with less serious injuries, such as broken bones and cuts.

Wheeling trustees have agreed to fight the Franklin Boulevard Hospital proposal this time, too. They plan to file a formal objection with the county, which means it will take a three-fourths vote of the Cook County Board to approve the project.

Franklin Boulevard Hospital administrator Patrick DeMoon disputes the claim of regional health planners who say there already are too many unfilled hospital beds in the area.

DeMoon says his hospital has done its own study that shows there will be a shortage of hospital beds in the next few years.

Construction of the proposed hospital, known as Wheeling-Buffalo Grove Hospital, must be under way by Jan. 1, or the hospital no longer will be exempt from review by health care planners.

Franklin Boulevard Hospital submitted its plans before the law was passed requiring hospitals to obtain a certificate of need. However, the recently amended law would require a review of the facility's plans.

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PLANS FOR THE $1.4 million Indian Trails Public Library to be built on Schoenbeck Road will be reviewed Thursday by the Wheeling Plan Commission.

The plan commission last month delayed approving the library plans because the project architect did not provide for adequate flood control.

Two years ago, village officials rejected a proposal to build a 20-house subdivision on the same five acres because of concerns it would cause flooding on Anthony Street north of the proposed library site.

Community Development Director Larry Oppenheimer said the site needs detention basins to control flood water runoff. Library attorney Earl Hoover says the district will do whatever is necessary to resolve the flooding problems to the satisfaction of residents.

Library officials hope to have the library plans approved in time to begin construction this year. Library officials plan to move into the new building by the fall of 1980. Any additional delays could increase the project's cost.

The district, which serves Wheeling, Buffalo Grove and portions of Prospect Heights, plans to finance the new building by taking $130,000 to $150,000 out of its operating budget annually for the next 10 years.

As a result, money available to buy new books, films, records and other materials will be cut about 50 percent next year.

The plan to draw on the operating budget to pay for the new building was adopted after voters twice rejected a tax increase to pay for the new library.

The plan commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Village board wrapup Daily Herald September 6, 1979

$1.4 million tax levy is approved

A $1.4 million tax levy for 1979-80 was approved by the Wheeling Village Board.

Because the village's tax base is expected to increase, the 1979 rate of 95.7 cents per $100 assessed valuation is expected to remain the same. That means residents with a house assessed at $10,000 will pay about $96 in village taxes next year. Village property taxes account for about 10 percent of a homeowner's total tax bill.

110-acre annex delayed again

For the second time, final approval of annexation of a 110-acre parcel south of Lake-Cook Road was delayed by the Wheeling Village Board.

Village officials blamed the delay on a number of technical difficulties in drafting an agreement between the village and the state to build a bridge to the property that land owner William Johnson proposes to develop as a shopping center. Johnson plans to build the shopping center on the eastern 20 acres, near Lake-Cook and Wolf roads.

Because Johnson is giving five acres to the village for the proposed Wheeling-Buffalo Grove Diversionary Channel, Wheeling and state officials have agreed to share the cost of building a bridge that would provide access across the drainage ditch from Wolf Road.

Johnson proposes to develop the western 90 acres, which is bordered on the west by the Soo Line Ry., as an industrial park.

Private street work approved

Wheeling trustees tentatively agreed to take over maintenance of private streets in Chelsea Cove, a condominium development near Hintz and Buffalo Grove roads.

Chelsea Cove would be the fourth development to have its streets plowed, cleaned and patched by village road crews, and Trustee Charles Kerr said he was unsure if the $200 per unit impact fee proposed by the condominium owners would be appropriate.

"Will it cost the same to (maintain the streets) in Chelsea as it does in the other complexes?" he said. "That $200 figure was only a guideline."

Several months ago, trustees agreed to take over streets in private developments, charging each homeowner about $200. Kerr asked for a report on whether it will cost the village more or less than $200 to provide street maintenance services.

The $200 impact fee was agreed upon when homeowners from Tahoe Village condominiums asked the village to take over their streets, saying they were paying village taxes but not receiving the same services as other residents. The board also agreed to maintain streets in Harmony Village and Lakeside Villas condominiums.

Post office eyes new parking lot

Daily Herald September 5, 1979

Postal officials are trying to acquire more parking space to solve one of Wheeling's thorniest traffic tie-ups.

They are trying to buy or lease a vacant 29,000-square-foot parcel immediately west of the Wheeling Post Office, 250 W. Dundee Rd., to provide more parking for employees and customers.

A shortage of parking spaces, combined with a narrow driveway in front of the building, often causes cars to back up onto Dundee Road, tying up traffic as far away as Wolf Road, about a quarter-mile to the east.

Wheeling police and the chamber of commerce say they get more complaints about the traffic jam near the post office than any other spot in town.

The half-mile stretch of Dundee Road that passes the post office also is the most accident-prone spot in town. Ninety-six accidents occurred there during a two-year span — the most in the village, a recent traffic report indicates.

ROBERT GAY, district engineer for the Northern Illinois Postal District in Oak Brook, said the district's real estate department "has been contacted to investigate the availability of the land and whether it is economically feasibile."

If it is, postal officials would convert the parcel to parking spaces and eliminate parking in front of the post office.

Gay said it could take postal officials as long as six months to decide whether buying or leasing the land is practical. If the land deal falls through, other alternatives "have been tossed around," he said. He declined to elaborate.



More than a year ago, Wheeling police met with postal officials and recommended a number of improvements, including suggestions that postal employees use the village hall parking lot and that the post office provide a drive-up window at the rear of the building or open a branch at one of the village shopping centers.

Funding unsure for Dundee widening

Daily Herald September 12, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling officials are trying to get $5 million in state money to widen a two-mile stretch of Dundee Road in the village.

However, a traffic consultant hired by the village says it will be at least three years before such a project could be started.

First, the village must get $400,000 in federal money through the Northwest Municipal Conference to begin the preliminary engineering necessary to make Wheeling's heaviest-traveled road a five-lane thoroughfare.

THE PROBLEM, SAID Fred Schweiger of Barton Aschman Associates Inc., an Evanston traffic consulting firm, is that road construction costs have increased dramatically in the past few years, and the NWMC has not recommended financing for any new projects for two years.

In addition, competition for available road money is keen among the Northwest suburbs.

Wheeling, he says, is further hampered by the fact the state has no long-range plans to widen Dundee Road. "We're not sure if the Northwest Municipal Conference is going to allow engineering before any commitment has been made for construction," Schweiger said.

But by getting the engineering out of the way first, "you're in a much better position to go to the next step for final improvements," he said.

However, he said "the timing is good" to ask the NWMC for the federal road money. "There is speculation that the Northwest Municipal Conference will be receiving additional federal funds from abandoned (Chicago) projects such as the Crosstown Expressway and the Franklin Avenue project."

Also, he said Wheeling never has received an allocation of federal money through the NWMC, and other towns "may have been given more than their fair share."

Village Pres. William Hein agreed. Federal funds, he said, "are being swallowed up by other communities. A lot of federal money has dried up, but whoever makes the most noise is going to get the oil. Maybe it's time we do that."

TRUSTEE CHARLES KERR suggested the village also immediately ask the state for money to widen Dundee Road. "We're not getting anywhere waiting for them to come to us," he said.

Schweiger said the village's request would be considered by the NWMC transportation committee "either in late September or early October."

Dundee Road handles more than 28,000 vehicles a day and is the site of more than 300 accidents each year. The fifth lane, which would be used as a turning lane, would prevent traffic bottlenecks and reduce the accident rate, he said.

Schweiger gave a rather gloomy outlook on road improvements for an industrial park on Hintz Road at Glenn Avenue.

It would cost the village at least $300,000 to build a railroad crossing that would provide a second exit for the 35 businesses in the industrial park, he said.

Although businessmen have complained the park could become an "industrial ghetto" because of the traffic congestion, Schweiger said the village also "might have a tough time proving need" when petitioning the Illinois Commerce Commission for a railroad crossing.

Railroads, he said, traditionally object to allowing additional crossings because it interferes with its operations. However, he added he would file a preliminary request for a crossing "to test the waters" of the commerce commission.

Traffic code debate set

Daily Herald - September 10, 1979

Debate over what traffic ordinances should be enforced or discarded will come to a head today when police and Wheeling trustees meet to discuss revision of the village's traffic code.

Some trustees have complained that traffic laws, particularly overnight parking regulations, are being ignored.

They have complained of trucks that have been parked overnight at the K mart store at Dundee and Elmhurst roads.

However, Wheeling Police Chief Ted Bracke said there are several more serious problems in Wheeling than trucks being parked overnight at gas stations and the K mart.

Trustees' complaints amount to "an inference that the police department is not doing its job, which is erroneous," he said.

"I don't want and I won't have my men enforcing any ordinances that are a surprise," he said. The problem at the K mart, Bracke said, is that signs are not posted and someone parking there overnight would be unaware of the village law.

"RATHER THAN write a warning ticket, I would prefer to talk to the man and inform him of the situation," Bracke said, adding that he does not want his men to spend most of their time writing tickets for parking violations. "We have crime in the village," he said. "There are robbers and rapists here."

"I don't buy that philosophy 100 percent," Trustee Charles Kerr said. "How often do you have a robbery or a rape? Certainly there's times when things are too busy and you can't give that kind of thing all your attention.

"But how about when the same truck sits for weeks and weeks, and you see police cars driving by?" he said. "It makes you wonder if they're not ignoring the laws."

However, Kerr agrees with Bracke's contention that unenforceable laws should be discarded.

A 3-year-old law prohibiting recreational vehicles from being parked in a resident's driveway also irritates Bracke.

"WE JUST DON'T have all houses with one-acre lots, and to ask people to store their vehicle behind their house isn't fair," he said.

Enforcement of such an ordinance nearly is impossible, Bracke said, and combing a person's yard to see if there is enough room to accommodate a trailer or camper borders on invasion of privacy.

"I disagree we should repeal the law," Kerr said. "I realize the people who have them (recreational vehicles) are outspoken, but there might be enough people in Wheeling who feel they're unsightly and shouldn't be left in the drive way."

Trustees and police will discuss possible traffic code revisions at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Wheeling-Kildeer - Sept. 13, 1979

Wheeling OKs moving into computer age

WHEELING—The village board voted last month to proceed with acquisition of a computer for Wheeling.

Purchase of the computer will be from Cogebec Information, Inc. and is not to exceed $129,700. The price includes software for the system.

In addition, the board approved a maintenance agreement with Wang laboratories for a first-year cost of $9,888.

Monies for the system purchase have been budgeted and appropriated in the 1979-80 federal revenue sharing budget.

Village finds bids are scarce on trucks

Daily Herald - September 11, 1979

At a time when new cars sales are lagging, Wheeling is finding few dealers who are interested in selling new cars and trucks to the village.

In fact, although 12 dealers were contacted by mail, only one dealer, Jim Sorensen Chevrolet in Waukegan, bothered to bid on three four-wheel-drive trucks the village recently agreed to buy.

The shortage of bidders, village officials say, results from a village requirement that the dealer post a 10 percent "bid bond" to ensure the dealer's price will remain the same between the time the bid is submitted and the village board approves the purchase.

"THEY DON'T want to put the money up front," Village Finance Director Gregory Peters said. "They like to see the money going in, not going out. It's stupid, though. They get their check back within a week if they're not the low bidder."

Peters said the village started requiring the 10 percent bond after one dealer last year raised the cost of a pickup truck by $300 between the time the bid was submitted and the village awarded the contract.

"The board didn't want to pay that," Peters said, so the bids were rejected and new bids were taken. Also, trustees had complained that other vendors were required to place a deposit with their bids and car dealerships should be treated no differently.

But some dealers say trying to sell to municipalities is not worth the headache. They already are giving a low price, many of the light trucks requested by municipalities are becoming scarce and the bid deposit ties up a dealer's cash flow, they say.

"WHY SHOULD YOU tie your money up when you're already selling something at a hell of a low price?" said George Blewitt, a salesman for Karzan GMC Trucks, Elk Grove Village. He said many of the trucks that are requested by municipalities are "tight items" — the kind that have to be ordered from the manufacturer.

"Suppose something happens to GM and you're not able to get the kind of truck that's in the specs," he said. "You can't get them the kind of truck they've ordered, and then you're out the money."

Blewitt also said municipalities are slow to pay because of the procedures involved in getting expenses approved.

However, Doug Bober, sales and lease manager for Sorensen Chevrolet, said although the bid deposit is a nuisance, his firm is anxious to do business with municipal customers.

"WE'RE NOT REALLY in it to make money," he said, adding that his dealership is interested in seeing it's name on vehicles throughout the suburbs as a high visibility public relations approach.

"We're interested in selling items. We're not concerned that on fleet purchases you don't make that much of a profit," he said.

"Some dealers just don't want to tie up the cash," he said. "There's a lot of paper work, and some dealers don't want to be bothered with it."

However, he said it is likely that more and more municipalities will be requiring bid deposits when they are buying cars.

"I think you'll see more and more municipalities going to bid bonds," he said. "I think they're right in trying to protect themselves."

Peters said it is unlikely the village will change its policy to encourage more bidders. "(The bid deposit) is one way of guaranteeing that a dealer is going to stick to the price. I think if anything, the trend will be toward taking bid bonds. Most of the other towns do it on trust."

Wheeling waits for decision of NWMC on cable TV

Wheeling Life
September 13, 1979

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Now that cable television is becoming a reality in Chicago's western suburbs, cable TV franchisers are trying to inject a note of urgency into the deliberations of the Northwest Municipal conference (NWMC) regarding selection of a franchiser for the northwestern suburbs.

A cable television task force has been at work the last few months and anticipates making a decision on a franchiser May 1, a delay of one month from the original timetable. Companies seeking franchises must have their bids in by Monday, Oct. 1.

The village of Wheeling has received a letter from Cablevision, the company building lines in Oak Park, Lyons, Justice, Bedford Park and Stone Park. According to Alan Krause, assistant director of corporate development, "We'd like to see them (NWMC) move with dispatch. We understand they would like to go through the process (of the task force)." But Krause said his firm would like to see the communities move more quickly than that to enable residents to have cable television at an earlier date. Lines in Oak Park and other communities will be ready by Jan. 1, Krause said.

NWMC task force members have visited cable television firms in New York and have been invited to Ohio to view the Werner system with all expenses paid by Werner.

CABLEVISION IS proposing building a "dual trunk" system, which would have the capability of sending and receiving programs. It would have 57 receiving and 16 sending stations.

Cablevision claims to be the only cable operator to utilize the dual trunk system immediately and says it "will be in a unique position to provide expanded programing and community services."

Krause said such things as high school athletic contests could be broadcast over cable television. He said there is no money given to the high schools for this. "They like us to do it," he noted. "It allows the parents to see their kids competing and it excites people so they go out to the games," explained.

The company has offered a "nonexclusive" contract to Wheeling for 3% of the gross revenues realized in the community. According to Krause, the Federal Communications commission (FCC) will not allow exclusive contracts and the 3% is a set cost under federal law. However, according to the NWMC, the federal government may eliminate the ceiling on the franchise fee by the time it awards a franchise. All municipalities belonging to the conference have been urged to stay within the 3 to 5% level previously mandated so a bidding war does not occur.

IN ADDITION, Bill Grams, executive director of the NWMC, has urged all members to delay franchise awards until the conference task force makes its recommendation.

Village President William Hein said Wheeling has received a number of inquiries. "I think the best thing to do is hold off until the Northwest Municipal conference makes a decision."

Once a decision is made by a community or the conference, Krause said, it normally takes about six months to complete the system. Cable television lines are hooked up to telephone lines, he explained, and franchisers must wait until the telephone company does preparatory work for hooking up the lines. "We follow the telephone company lines. Where they go underground, we go underground. Where they are above ground, we are above ground," he explained.



CATHY STRONG, 22, one of the Wheeling fire department's newest firefighters, and its first female, exhibits her intention to do whatever her male counterparts do. (Photo by Steve Donisch)

First female firefighter

Wheeling Life - September 13, 1979

WHEELING—Monday morning, Sept. 10, Cathy Strong, 22, began training for her new job. This would not be unusual, except that Strong is the first female to be hired as a firefighter for the village. She began her seven-week training course in Arlington Heights this week.

Fire Chief Bernie Koeppen said he hopes the new fire station will be completed by the time Strong and her fellow trainees have completed training and are ready to come on the job. Strong was hired as a firefighter only (not for paramedic work) and according to the chief, "will be expected to do the same things the men are expected to do."

Strong was sworn in with seven other firefighting trainees at the village board meeting Tuesday, Sept. 4. Village President William Hein said additions to the municipal complex have facilities for female personnel.

Senior housing is possibility

Life-Sept. 13, 1979

WHEELING—Village Manager Carsten Leikvold has met informally with a vice president of Dell Corp., Northbrook, regarding senior citizen housing in this community.

Leikvold said he has not seen any plan yet and that the company will have to submit a petition to the village like anyone else.

Leikvold said the village applied for funds from the Housing Authority of Cook county at the same time it submitted its application for community development funds for a senior center. "We don't know anything officially yet," Leikvold said.

Village President William Hein said Monday, Sept. 10, "I think they are looking at a couple of pieces of property. I haven't seen the plans."

Hein said he received a call from Dell Corp. "They explained they had been working with Northbrook for two years." option for funds from Dell Corp. had received a commitment from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for funds for senior housing for Northbrook. However, the company allowed its option on land in Northbrook to run out.

Hein said his understanding is that Dell Corp. is asking HUD if it can switch its financial commitment to a site in Wheeling.

"I think the important thing to keep in mind is the need for senior citizen housing," Hein said. "If these people have something, it could take Wheeling out of the management of this (senior housing) and that's very important."

Hospital battle near Wheeling isn't done yet

Daily Herald - September 13, 1979

Look who's back. Why, it's none other than Franklin Boulevard Hospital.

Franklin Boulevard is the Chicago hospital that has tried for years — thus far in vain, thankfully — to build a 232-bed hospital near Wheeling. Never mind the fact this area doesn't need another full-service hospital. Franklin Boulevard wants to build one anyway.

For years now, the people who run Franklin Boulevard have had their hearts set on a Wheeling hospital. It all began back in 1974, but one thing or another has delayed the plans. Last year, after Wheeling declined to annex the parcel alongside Schoenbeck Road between Hintz and Dundee roads, it appeared as though Franklin Boulevard had given up hope.

Not so, unfortunately. Just as plans by other hospitals to open up emergency clinics in the area acquired some currency, Franklin Boulevard has returned with its scheme. And now its officials are even audaciously insisting that "only one or two" local politicians are standing in the way.

That is baloney.

First, the Wheeling Village Board is standing unanimously against Franklin Boulevard, and anyone who knows anything about the Wheeling Village Board knows that unanimity there is not routine.

Second, professionals who work day-in and day-out with plans for new hospitals agree to a person the hospital is not needed. Indeed, the Suburban Cook-DuPage Counties Health Systems Agency, which is charged by law to review plans for new hospitals and clincs, would deny Frankin Boulevard a certificate-of-need if one were required. But Franklin Boulevard got in under the wire five years ago, before hospitals were legally required to obtain the agency's approval when planning new branches.

Finally, Franklin Boulevard officials got the silly notion of widespread community support from a survey — we use the term lightly — they conducted late last year. They sent out 19,000 pamphlets that glamorized the hospital and touted its need, and they polled the pamphlet's recipients by return mail. A paltry 450 people responded — that's fewer than one in 25 — and of them only three-fifths favored the hospital. Of course, considering the glossiness of the mailing, it's a wonder half the recipients did not respond and that all of them didn't plea for the hospital.

So much for "popular support." So much for the "need" for the hospital. And so much for "one or two" politicians standing in the hospital's way. One question: When is Franklin Boulevard going to get the message?

Hospital plans to try building again

Wheeling Herald - Sept. 13, 1979

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Franklin Boulevard hospital of Chicago has applied to the Cook county board of commissioners to build a full-service hospital in the county, at the same location (Schoenbeck and Anthony) it purchased more than a year ago, with intentions of building and annexing to Wheeling.

The apparent disapproval of the Wheeling plan commission caused the hospital to withdraw its petition from the village. No ruling was ever made by the village board, however, on granting the hospital a special use and annexing to the village.

Franklin Boulevard officials have been planning to build a full-service hospital to meet the needs of the Wheeling/Buffalo Grove area. Strong objections from area residents may have forced the hospital to back down from its annexation plans. However, if the Cook county board of commissioners grants a variation to the hospital to build, there will be nothing the villages of Wheeling or Buffalo Grove can do to prevent construction of the hospital.

The Cook county zoning board will hold a hearing on the variation request at 3 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14, at the Gary Morava center, Prospect Heights.

SINCE THE HOSPITAL began its campaign to inform the communities of its plans two years ago, several other hospitals have come up with plans to build ambulatory-care facilities in the area. Northwest Community hospital has plans before Buffalo Grove to build a walk-in facility, while Holy Family hospital is formulating plans to build in Wheeling. In addition, both Lutheran General hospital and Highland Park hospital have plans to build doctors buildings in the area.

The Buffalo Grove village board took a formal stand against construction of a full-service hospital in the area more than one year ago. However, the Wheeling board just took a vote on the issue Tuesday, Sept. 4.

Wheeling will send three official representatives to the zoning board meeting Sept. 14 in an effort to prevent the hospital from proceeding with its plans.

The Health Systems agency (HSA) has already reported a surplus of hospital beds in the northwestern suburbs. Since that report came out, additional beds have been put into service at Glenbrook hospital in Glenview and at Northwest Community hospital in Arlington Heights.

Wheeling Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld said Tuesday, Sept. 4, that the location of the planned hospital is what concerns him. The location is in a single-family residential neighborhood. The village board said it could object only on the grounds of location before the Cook county zoning board, because that board has no jurisdiction over deciding whether there are too many hospital beds in the area.

In addition, Franklin Boulevard hospital does not have to submit its plans for review to the Illinois health facilities planning board because the plans were included in the 1974 health act in a grandfather clause. The state health facilities planning board decided last winter that the hospital had a bona fide contract by Dec. 31, 1977, the date called for in the health act and Franklin Boulevard was given a green light for its plans.

Village President William Hein and Trustees Sheila Schultz and John Cole will represent the village at the Sept. 14 meeting, in addition to a staff member.

Village Attorney David Epstein said the official objection of the village of Wheeling means three-fourths of the members of the Cook county board must pass on the variation for the hospital.



THE Franklin Boulevard Community hospital is proceeding with its intent to build a hospital in the Wheeling-Buffalo Grove area. Representatives of the hospital will appear before the Cook county zoning board of appeals Friday, Sept. 14, to seek a zoning variation for construction of the hospital.

Library building plans are delayed

Daily Herald - Sept. 18, 1979

Plans by Indian Trials Library District to build a new library on Schoenbeck Road were delayed Monday night by the Wheeling Village Board.

However, trustees agreed to conduct a special meeting next Monday to help the library meet an Oct. 21 deadline to award a construction contract on the controversial building project.

Trustees refused to act on the proposal because they had not seen the full report of the plan commission, which only approved the library plans last Thursday.

"WHAT YOU WANT us to do is ask the attorney to prepare an ordinance when we have not even seen the plan," said Trustee John Cole. "The only document we have is a minority report from one of the plan commissioners, and frankly we recommended against the library."

Library officials have budgeted $1.4 million for the project, which was approved by the library board after voters twice rejected tax increases to pay for a new building.

Bids for the construction range from $1.37 million to more than $1.6 million. However, library officials say they will have to seek new bids if a contract is not awarded by Oct. 21, the deadline imposed by the construction firm that bid for the project.

Library Board Pres. Diane Nicholson said the district could afford no more than "1 or 2 percent (of an increase in construction costs) and even that would be tight."

TRUSTEE ROBERT ROSS criticized library officials for seeking bids on the project before presenting its plans to the village. And Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said the district "could have come to the board before the first referendum and asked for the special-use permit."

Library board members plan to take $130,000 to $150,000 out of the district's operating budget for the next 10 years to pay for the building, which means money to buy new books and other materials has been cut nearly in half.

S. Guy Fishman, library architect, estimates the cost of the project could increase 5 to 10 percent if the district is forced to seek new bids.

Village library project may have to be scrapped

Daily Herald – September 13, 1979

Unless Indian Trails Library District awards a construction contract by Oct. 22 for its new library in Wheeling, the project may have to be abandoned, library officials say.

Library officials have budgeted $1.4 million for the controversial project, which was approved after voters twice rejected tax increases to pay for a new building.

Bids for the construction job range from $1.37 million to more than $1.6 million. However, library officials say they will have to seek new bids if a contracted is not awarded by Oct. 22, the deadline imposed by the construction firms that submitted bids.

And if that happens, construction costs may increase enough to make the project unaffordable, library Trustee Madelyn Seckler said.

"Our budget is so tight," she said. "Every month construction costs go up 1 percent." She added library officials have not determined how much of an construction increase would force them to abandon the project.

BOARD MEMBERS plan to take $130,000 to $150,000 out of the district's operating budget for the next 10 years to pay for the building, which means money to buy new books and other materials has been cut nearly in half.

S. Guy Fishman, library architect, said he could not name a specific figure, but the cost could increase 5 to 10 percent if the district is forced to seek new bids.

"There's the cost of the rebidding process, and you have to advertise for a month, then there's another two or three weeks before you can open the bids," he said. And that would mean construction could not begin this building season as originally was planned. And labor costs will increase next year, adding to the project's cost.

Library officials have asked Wheeling to help them meet their bid deadline by speeding a rezoning request for the five-acre site on Schoenbeck Road.

The plan commission tonight will review the project, and library officials are requesting their building plans be placed on the village board agenda Monday if the plan commission approves them.

That normally isn't done, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said. But he added he would waive the usual two-week advance notice the village requires for putting an item on its agenda.

"PROVIDED THE PLAN commission votes affirmatively, my recommendation is that we don't unnecessarily hold up the library because of a procedural problem," he said. "We shouldn't be so tied down by rules and procedures that we hold them up."

That means the board could give final approval for the project a week before the library's 60-day deadline for awarding a construction contract runs out.

The plan commission last month delayed approving the library plans because of concerns the new building would aggravate flooding on Anthony Road north of the library site.

Community Development Director Larry Oppenheimer recommended the library build drainage basins to control storm runoff. Library officials say they have revamped their plans to include the ponds.

Slezak Construction Co., Chicago, submitted a low bid of $908,700 for general contracting work on the project. When combined with the lowest bids for plumbing, electrical and ventilation work, the lowest cost submitted for the project was $1,375,800.

Pal-Waukee Airport cost may exceed $21 million

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Daily Herald Sept. 15, 1979

It will cost more than $21 million to buy Pal-Waukee Airport, a consulting firm says, and the cost of buying land to preserve airspace near the airport could "significantly" add to the cost.

State and federal grants are expected to cover about 90 percent of the cost, but that would leave Wheeling and Prospect Heights responsible for about $3.8 million. The consultants say they expect the airport's profits would be enough to cover the payments on a 20-year loan.

But Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said he has doubts about the financing methods the consultants are suggesting. Because the predicted profit margin on the airport is relatively small, he said, investors are likely to be leery of lending $3.8 million on a venture backed only by airport revenues.

In order to find a lender, he said, local officials probably would have to pledge property taxes in case the airport is not self-supporting. And because there is a good deal of local opposition to the airport from residents that complain of noise and saftey concerns, Leikvold said he is convinced "the taxpayers should not pay for this in any way, shape or form."

"LIKE I'VE SAID 150 times, if this airport has to be financed with tax money, it's got to come from a wider base," Leikvold said, adding he was concerned what possible purchases of additional land will do to the financial picture at Pal-Waukee.

The consultants from Ralph Burke and Associates, the firm conducting a $120,000 study on whether Wheeling and Prospect Heights should purchase the privately owned airport, say the airport would turn a yearly profit of about $466,000, $335,000 of which would be used to repay the bond holders and the remaining $131,000 could be for widening or repaving runways or other capital improvements.

If Wheeling choses to buy the airport alone, it has the authority to back the bonds with property tax revenues without conducting a referendum. The village could borrow nearly $7 million, when it would exceed the limit it has set for itself, without holding an advisory referndum, said Finance Director Gregory Peters.

HOWEVER, THE $21 million purchase price is only for the airport itself and does not include the cost of buying surrounding land to keep buildings from intruding into the flight patterns.

Officials from the state and the Federal Aviation Administration soon will begin a study "of what (land acquisition) is necessary to make the airport viable," Leikvold said. Their findings should take about a month, he added.

Of chief concern is a 34-acre tract at the northwest corner of Hintz and Wolf roads where a factory is planned and a 228-unit apartment complex is under construction east of Wolf Road. Airport planners have said both developments would interfere with landings at the 5,000-foot runway and probably would violate Federal Aviation Administration safety standards.

The week ahead

Village board to consider library plan

Daily Herald September 17, 1979

Plans by the Indian Trails Library Dist. to build a new library on Schoenbeck Road in Wheeling will be considered today by the village board.

Approval by the village board is considered by library officials as essential since they have to meet an Oct. 22 deadline to award a construction contract for the new facility.

The district has budgeted $1.4 million for the controversial project, which was approved after voters twice rejected tax increases to pay for a new building. Bids for the construction job ranged between $1.37 million and $1.6 million, and library officials fear unless they make the bid deadline, construction costs will have risen too much to make the project affordable.

The district plans to take $130,000 to $150,000 out of its operating budget for the next 10 years to pay for the building.

The Wheeling Plan Commission last week recommended approval of the library project. Wheeling trustees will consider the proposal at 8:30 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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A PLAN TO ASK the Northwest Municipal Conference for $400,000 in federal road funds to cover engineering costs to widen a 2-mile stretch of Dundee Road will be considered tonight by Wheeling trustees.

Although Dundee Road is not in the state's long-range planning, village officials hope the state will consider the project, estimated at $5 million, once the engineering is completed.

Dundee Road, the most heavily traveled road in the village, handles more than 28,000 vehicles a day and is the site of more than 300 accidents each year. A fifth lane, which would be used as a turning lane, is considered to be the way to reduce the traffic bottlenecks that occur in the village.

Although the NWMC has not considered any new road improvement projects for the last two years, the village's traffic consultant says more federal road improvement money will be available.

Trustees will consider the proposal at 8:30 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

• • •

FINAL APPROVAL for annexing a 110-acre parcel south of Lake-Cook Road will be considered by Wheeling trustees tonight.

The proposal has twice been delayed by difficulties in drafting an agreement between the village and the state to split the cost of building a bridge to provide access to the parcel owned by William Johnson.

Johnson has proposed developing the western 90 acres as an industrial park and the eastern 20 acres as a shopping center. He has agreed to donate 5 acres of land for the proposed Wheeling-Buffalo Diversionary Channel, a project designed to control flooding in the village.

However, he has asked the village to pay for the bridge that would provide access to his shopping center. He also has asked the village to change its liquor laws to give him two liquor licenses for the motel and restaurant he plans to build.

• • •

PLANS TO update Wheeling's comprehensive plan, something that has not been done since 1963, will be started Wednesday by Wheeling planning officials and the community development committee.

The officials are trying to develop long-range plans for water supply and distribution, flood control and road improvements, and redevelopment of Wheeling's downtown area.

The committee will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Wheeling's Cathy Strong

Agility earns her chance at firefighter training

Countryside Reminder - Sept. 13, 1979

By MARION SOURS

She's good-natured about the publicity she's received since being hired by Wheeling, but says she would like her fellow new recruits also to get mention.

After all, they'll be doing the same job, she points out. The difference, of course, is that Cathy Strong is a woman. And that makes her unique among firefighters.

Strong, 22, is pretty, with short, curly brown hair and a winning smile. She stands up straight, and obviously is in good physical shape. It is this last quality, in fact, which probably is responsible for her getting a job as firefighter with the Wheeling Fire Department.

Strong said she took firefighter tests at nine municipalities and that there were women applying at eight of those. She was the only one, though, who got past the agility tests.

Wheeling Fire Chief B.O. Koeppen said he believes Strong is one of the few women firefighters in the Chicago area, and possibly the only one who also is a paramedic. He said most women fail the agility tests required for the job.

Strong said in the agility tests she was asked to perform such feats as climb a 24-foot rope and hang for 20 seconds without using her legs, carry a 120-pound weight, run one and one half miles, take a ladder off a truck, drag a hose for some distance, maneuver through a maze and climb an aerial ladder.

She said she passed the agility tests in four of the nine municipalities to which she applied. Strong said it is essential to be in good shape to pass the tests. She said she prepared somewhat for them, by running and doing exercises. She said she had to do a lot of lifting at her hospital job, which also helped her get in shape.

Strong said, though, she always has been athletic, and participated in a number of sports in high school.

Strong already had performed a number of firefighter's duties previous to taking the test. For nearly two years she worked with Des Plaines paramedics, in order to become a certified paramedic.

Strong, who is single, originally is from Mt. Prospect, but her family moved to Chicago recently. After high school, she said she enrolled in nursing school, but dropped out because she found "it wasn't for me."

Instead, she got her Emergency Medical Technician certificate and began working in the emergency room of Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, as an orthopedic technician.

In that job, she assisted in applying splints, and performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other emergency techniques. She said each day she came in contact with paramedics, and became interested in their job.

Strong soon began working with the Des Plaines paramedics in order to become a certified paramedic. Meanwhile, she also continued to work in the Holy Family emergency room. While working with the Des Plaines paramedics Strong, besides performing medical functions, helped extricate accident victims from cars, drove a fire engine, and performed many firefighting duties. Because she liked the work, she said she decided to apply for a job as a firefighter.

Strong already knew many of the Wheeling firemen and paramedics, because they often bring patients to the Holy Family emergency room. In fact, she said it was the Wheeling paramedics who told her that the department would be holding tests for new firefighters.

Strong said she has no reservations about any of the aspects of the job: the hours, being the only female on the staff or having to spend the night at the fire station.

The hours for Wheeling firefighters are 24 hours on duty, followed by 48 hours off. Firefighters currently sleep in a large room with the beds separated by rows of lockers. Screens are available to place around the beds for privacy, if desired. The new fire station, near the present village hall, should be ready soon. The living accommodations there probably will be similar in design to those at the present station.

As far as being the only female on the staff, Strong said it doesn't bother her. She said she likes the other firefighters, and takes any kidding in stride.

Strong said her family approved of her decision to become a firefighter. She said her parents support "whatever their kids want to do." Her sister, she said, is a Baptist minister. She also has a brother.

Strong, along with the other new recruits, is now undergoing seven weeks of firefighting training at an academy in Arlington Heights. She and the others must pass this training in order to remain with the Wheeling Fire Department. She was sworn in as a new employee on Sept. 4.

Strong said she thinks the other new recruits also should be mentioned. And so, here they are: Bart Burns, Tom Biermann, Jim Callahan, Ken Emerich, Frank Gambro, Jim Jacobson and Tim Johnson. Johnson is from Wheeling. Another firefighter, Michael Burns, has just finished the academy session. Callahan already is a certified firefighter,

(Continued on page 9)

Village denies group's street soliciting plea

Daily Herald - 9/19/79

Kiwanis Club members will be barred from selling peanuts to passing motorists on Wheeling streets next week because village officials say they are afraid of a lawsuit if someone is injured.

State law bans street corner solicitations, but most other villages disregard the statute. A new law will take effect Jan. 1 to legalize the practice.

"It's a violation of state law, and the village would be responsible if one of those persons is hit by a car," Trustee John Cole said of the village's decision to enforce the law, "especially since the courts have held other towns liable."

Wheeling Police Chief Ted Bracke, a Lions Club member, says he will enforce the present law, although reluctantly.

"It's unfortunate," he said. "There's a new law, but it doesn't take effect until next year. I've been on the street corners myself (soliciting donations) for years."

BRACKE SAID the state law banning street solicitations is an obscure law "that was on the books, but most people weren't aware of it" until a few Illinois communities were forced to pay damages for not enforcing state traffic laws.

Wheeling police have not enforced the law in the past, he added.

Bracke said Kiwanis, Lions and Jaycees organizations, which have fund-raising events in the fall, will be allowed to ask for donations on sidewalks and at shopping centers.

However, standing in the streets will not be allowed, he said, adding he thinks the Kiwanis and other groups will comply with village policy.

They'll comply by moving their solicitations to other towns where local officials say it will be OK to solicit donations, said Arthur Olsen, chairman of the Wheeling Township Kiwanis Club peanut drive.

"THAT'S UNFORTUNATE," he said of Wheeling's decision. "The money goes to a very good cause. In the six years I've been working with the peanut drive, we've never had any accidents."

However, solicitors always must be careful to avoid a dangerous confrontation with a car, he said.

"When the light turns green, you have to jump out of the way. There are some nuts that'll run you right down," he said.

Rather than try to ask for donations on Wheeling sidewalks and shopping centers, Olsen said the Kiwanis will bolster its manpower in towns that have given his group the OK — such as Prospect Heights, Mount Prospect and Buffalo Grove.

"It's a waste of manpower (to stay in Wheeling)," he said. "You have to reach the people in the car, and you have to stand in the street to be on the driver's side."

OLSEN SAID HE knows of no other towns that plan to enforce the street solicitation law.

Buffalo Grove Police Cmdr. Ronald Gozdecki said although the new law is not yet in effect, solicitation "is clearly being done with the state's permission."

Charitable organizations have not been ordered off the streets in the past, "and I see no reason to tell them no," he added.

After officials in Hoffman Estates ordered the local Lions Club off the street last October, other towns began to follow suit, and the charities began to lobby for a change in the state law.

That law was changed this summer to allow some statewide charities to solicit among passing motorists.

Firefighter—

Countryside - Sept. 13, 1979

(Continued from page 6)

so he will join the department immediately.

Strong said they are "a good bunch of guys." And while she is not really one of the guys, she said there's no doubt she will fit right in with the spirit of the department

New Wheeling library plan OKd

Herald 9-14-79

Over the objections of one member who criticized officials of the Indian Trials Library District for "not doing their homework," the Wheeling Plan Commission Thursday night approved construction of a new library on Schoenbeck Road.

Plan commissioners and residents from Anthony Road, immediately north of the library, said engineering adjustments made to the five-acre site had resolved their concerns that the new building would cause flooding problems.

However, Plan Comr. Allan Sobanski voted against the proposal. During the hearing he had quizzed library officials on the possibility of renovating one of several Wheeling school buildings that may be closed during the next few years.

THE POSSIBILITY of the school closings, particularly Carl Sandburg School, which is almost directly across the street from the library site, presented the district with "the perfect opportunity" to make use of a building that soon may be abandoned, Sobanski said.

He also criticized the library for being built over the objections of residents, who twice voted against tax increases to finance the new building.

But library attorney Earl Hoover said the district had investigated using school buildings and it wasn't practical. Libraries need wide, open spaces, rather than the smaller rooms that are contained in a school building, he said. Also, the building must be designed to hold extremely heavy loads from the weight of books, he said, adding that it would be more expensive to renovate a school than construct a new building.

Get in line for road funds now: consultant

Countryside Reminder - September 13, 1979

By CINDY BRODEUR

The Village of Wheeling will have to get in line before their road and traffic problems are solved.

Traffic consultant Fred Schweiger of Barton Aschman Associates advised the village board to start applying for state and federal money for road repairs.

Schweiger said during the Monday night workshop they should also apply to the Northwest Municipal Conference, even though all agencies are backlogged.

He said it will take at least two years and maybe as many as five to get any money but if they apply now they'll have a good chance. He added it might not cost Wheeling anything to repair Dundee Road, a state route.

Schweiger said on a 2-mile stretch between Elmhurst and Milwaukee roads 28,600 cars pass daily. There are more than 300 accidents there yearly.

He said the road needs left turn lanes in both directions. The cost of total reconstruction would be about $5 million.

The trustees agreed that applying for money is the village's best bet, and further action will be taken in the future.

Schweiger also advised the board to come up with an overall plan to alleviate traffic congestion.

He said he will study possilbe short-term action the village can take to correct Dundee Road and other traffic problem areas.

Coalition gets tough on cable TV

Wheeling Life — Thursday, September 20, 1979

BUSINESS PRESSURES on village governments to award cable TV franchises are fierce, according to William Grams, executive director of the Northwest Municipal conference (NWMC).

To combat that pressure, the conference has adopted a serious policy for 21 of its 22 member municipalities: Let the conference do the talking to cable TV companies and protect members from the heavy competitive forces among cable TV operations.

"The cable companies are extremely aggressive in pursuing cable TV franchises," said Grams. "I think there are some pitfalls in a rush to judgment.

"If we stick together, we will get the best analysis at the best possible price."

The NWMC proposes to do five things for its members, where cable television operations are concerned:

- retain a consultant to review and analyze proposals for each municipality taking part (now 21 of the members),
- pass information to cable companies regarding needs and desires of the villages,
- insulate communities by deflecting intense marketing efforts which might provide negative impact on members,
- educate each village with information to educate them about cable TV and give them more tools to use in reviewing the findings of the conference consultant, and
- prepare a model ordinance for granting a cable TV franchise.

THE CONFERENCE HAS set Oct. 1 as a target date for input from the membership. The consultant's report will be due Feb. 1, and the model ordinance will be ready for use by May 1, Grams hopes.

The consulting service carries a cost of $1,500 for each town taking part, but Grams noted that this cost could easily be passed on to the franchise operations once the village and the company or companies reach agreement.

The consultant is expected to name the three companies he believes are most qualified to provide service. That task may be difficult, since the conference sent inquiries to about 50 different cable companies.

NWMC PRESIDENT Robert Guss, Palatine's village president, emphasized Grams' remarks.

"Let the Northwest Municipal conference handle the action," said Guss.

Many people view cable TV, or CATV, as the next great step in communications, just as TV was viewed as an extension of radio in the late 1940s.

The communities which franchise CATV operations will benefit by taking a percentage of the gross revenues. Users of the cable systems are expected to benefit by improved television reception. The companies may benefit by advertising revenue, but even more from user fees.

Airport tax aid may merit referendum

Daily Herald — Tuesday, September 18, 1979

If property taxes have to be used to back the purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport, there should be an advisory referendum on the matter, says a Wheeling trustee.

A consultant studying the possibility of Wheeling and Prospect Heights buying the privately owned airport says it will cost at least $21 million to buy the airport, with the local share coming to $3.8 million. The consultants, Ralph Burke and Associates, Park Ridge, say they expect the profits on the airport to be enough to cover payments on a 20-year loan.

HOWEVER, BECAUSE the profit margin on the airport is relatively small, local officials probably would have to pledge property taxes in case the airport does not support itself.

And if that is the case, says Wheeling Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, the towns considering buying the airport should conduct a referendum before completing the airport buy.

"I feel as though anything that would obligate the village to a long-term debt should have the advice of the citizens," he says. Although the village has the authority to borrow up to $7 million without exceeding the limit it has set for itself, Sommerfeld said there are enough unanswered questions on whether the towns would want to buy Pal-Waukee to warrant a referendum.

IN PROSPECT HEIGHTS, the city lacks the home-rule power to borrow money to pick up its share of buying Pal-Waukee without asking approval of the voters. However, City Administrator Stephen Sturgell said there should be further study on whether airport revenues alone would be sufficient to back the bonds that would be issued to buy Pal-Waukee.

Sommerfeld said that discussion on conducting a referendum on buying Pal-Waukee is "slightly premature," because the study which will tell the two towns whether the buy is feasible is still a year from being completed. It also has not been determined who should actually buy the airport, he said. The possibilities suggested by airport consultants range from a single town or combination of towns, Cook County or formation of a regional airport authority.

Also, the cost of acquiring additional land to preserve airspace near the airport could "significantly" increase the cost of Pal-Waukee. Of primary concern is a 34-acre parcel on which a developer proposes to build a factory and a 228-unit apartment complex under construction. Both developments are near the end of Pal-Waukee's longest runway, and airport officials fear they could be a hazard to air navigation.

"I think you've got enough questions there for several meetings," Sommerfeld says, suggesting that the towns form a blue-ribbon committee of financial experts, citizens and elected officials to study the airport question further.

OFFICIALS FROM Wheeling and Prospect Heights will meet Thursday to discuss the consultant's report. The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. at Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Larry Donoghue, president of the consulting firm, said it should take "30 to 90 days" to determine how much additional land will have to be acquired to protect operations at Pal-Waukee. Whether those parcels are developed as planned will have a sizable impact on how much it will cost the towns to acquire them, he added.

The village has delayed until next month approval of Glenview developer Sigmund Lefkovitz' plans to build the 30-foot-tall factory. Airport owner George Priester has sued the developer of Plum Creek Apartments, in an attempt to stop the builder from constructing the final two five-story buildings.

However, Priester says he is considering dropping that suit because the developers, Rappolo-Prendergast Builders Inc., are indicating they may change their plans, and build four-story buildings instead that would not interfere with flight patterns.

Village board wrapup

Annexation gains approval

Daily Herald — Sept. 19, 1979

Annexation of 110 acres south of Lake-Cook Road has been approved by Wheeling trustees, marking the end of months of negotiations between the village and land owner William Johnson.

Johnson plans to develop the western 90 acres as an industrial park. The eastern 20 acres are to be developed as a shopping center, similar to Buffalo Grove's Plaza Verde at Arlington Heights and Dundee roads.

The parcel is bounded by Wolf Road to the east and the Soo Line Ry. to the west.

Trustee Sheila Schultz voted against the portion of the annexation agreement calling for village officials to change local liquor laws to grant Johnson two liquor licenses for the restaurant and motel he plans to develop. Trustee Charles Kerr, who has opposed the annexation, was absent.

Factory will install sidewalks

Wheeling trustees refused to allow the developer of an industrial building to be exempt from building sidewalks at his new building at Hintz Road and Seton Court.

An official from Kosto Food Products Co. said there is no development adjacent to the building his firm is constructing and the sidewalks would be an unnecessary expense.

However, trustees said the area eventually will be developed and waiving the sidewalk requirement could make it tougher to force the developer to build them later.

"We've pretty much decided where sidewalks need to be put in," said Trustee John Cole, chairman of the village streets and sidewalks committee. "I can't see abrogating the requirement unless there's a need for it."

Suggest use of school for library

Wheeling Life - September 20, 1979

WHEELING—The Wheeling plan commission, by a 4-1 vote, approved construction of a new building for the Indian Trails library district. The new facility will be built on Schoenbeck road, one-half mile south of Dundee.

The library's building plans had been stalled because residents from Anthony road, near the site, said the proposed building would add to flooding problems already considered severe in the area. However, residents met with the planners and engineers in the interim and have agreed to revised plans for drainage of the site.

Plan Comr. Allan Sobanski asked library officials whether they had considered using Carl Sandburg school, which is directly across the street from the library site, instead of erecting a new building. The school is expected to be closed by District 21 within a year.

Library district attorney Earl Hoover said the district had investigated the possibility of using vacant or existing school buildings, but decided the floors would not be strong enough to support the weight of all the books, and the costs of removing existing walls to renovate a school building would be as great as building a new building with the library's specifications.

Sobanski said he voted against approval of the project for several reasons, mainly "the school thing. I really don't think they did their homework relative to renovating the schools."

He said the library board had passed up "a perfect opportunity" to pick one of three or four schools in the area and remodel it. "But everybody wants something new. The magic word is 'new'," he added.

Sobanski said he also disapproved of the building because two referenda conducted by the library district for a new building have been defeated by the voters. The library plans to build the new facility with funds taken out of its annual budget by cutting down on the purchasing of new books and cutting back on other services.

A third reason Sobanski gave for his negative vote is, "I also know the area is a flooding area."

IN OTHER BUSINESS, the plan commission voted unanimously to continue to Sept. 27 a public hearing on aerial navigation hazards in the flight path at Palwaukee airport. The commissioners decided to invite officials of the Federal Aviation administration (FAA) to testify regarding their jurisdiction over safety in the case of privately-owned airports.

Wheeling meetings

Life 9/20/79

THE FOLLOWING meetings will be held in Wheeling this week:

- Thursday, Sept. 20 — Airport meeting (Wheeling and Prospect Heights trustees), 7:30 p.m. Wheeling village hall, 255 W. Dundee.
- Monday, Sept. 24 — Village board workshop, 7:30 p.m., village hall.
- Tuesday, Sept. 25 — 7:30 p.m., zoning board of appeals, council chambers, village hall; community safety committee, 7:30 p.m., committee room, village hall.
- Wednesday, Sept. 26 — 7:30 p.m., appearance commission, committee room, village hall; 7:30 p.m., Jack London junior high school, 1001 W. Dundee, Wheeling, regarding closing of school.
- Thursday, Sept. 27 — 7:30 p.m., plan commission, village hall, regarding height restrictions at Palwaukee; 8:15 p.m., School District 21, 999 W. Dundee, Wheeling.

Wheeling Life - Sept. 20, 1979

Suggestion of report is said to be impossible

WHEELING FINANCE DIRECTOR Gregory Peters said it would be legally impossible for the village to finance the purchase of Palwaukee airport through general obligation bonds, as is suggested in the draft report of Phase II of the feasibility study on acquisition of the airport.

Peters said this week that the airport is in Prospect Heights. "There is no way we could sell general obligation bonds if the airport isn't in the village. Even if a portion of the airport were to be annexed to Wheeling, there would be difficulty selling general obligation bonds," he noted.

According to Peters, the airport should be acquired through revenue bonds, and even then, some of the same problems might apply since the airport does not lie in Wheeling.

If an airport authority were to be created, Peters said he believes general obligation bonds, in the form of property taxes, could be issued up to 7½ cents per $100 of assessed valuation. However, this could only take place after a successful referendum.

Peters said he believes an airport authority could also issue revenue bonds.

Wheeling balks at study fee

Countryside Reminder - September 20, 1979

Wheeling is continuing to work through the Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC) to select a cable TV company for the area, but some trustees question a $1,500 fee which the village has been asked by NWMC to contribute.

At Monday night's meeting of the Wheeling Village Board, Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said he did not believe the municipalities working with NWMC should have to contribute large sums to finance studies regarding cable TV.

He said he believed the cable TV companies under consideration by NWMC should contribute the money. Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold had appeared before the board Monday asking approval of a payment of $1,500 as Wheeling's part of the study.

This sum would be refundable only if the village follows through and awards a franchise to one or more companies.

Because of the opposition, Wheeling Mayor William Hein named Trustees Sommerfeld, Roger Powers and John Cole to attend the next meeting of NWMC and ask officials to explain the rationale behind requiring large contributions. They will report back to the board at a future meeting.

For Indian Trails

Wheeling Life - September 20, 1979.

Board refuses to rush special use

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING-BUFFALO GROVE—The Wheeling village board refused to expedite approval of a special use permit for the Indian Trails library district's new building Monday, Sept. 17. The refusal came after Trustee John Cole said the board had received no information from the plan commission hearing held Thursday, Sept. 13.

"We've had trouble with special uses before," he said, "and I don't want to hurry this up without any information."

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold said there was no time to have the recommendations of the plan commission typed up and approved before Monday night's meeting.

Although Trustee Sheila Schultz moved to direct the village attorney to prepare the necessary ordinance for the special use, Cole said, "I think we're wasting our time here when we don't have the material to tell him what to put in the special use. We know the only way we can get some things done is to put them in the special use permit."

LEIKVOLD SAID the special use consideration should normally have come before the board in October, but the attorney for the library district had asked to expedite the matter.

Earl Hoover, attorney for the library district explained that there is a timing problem. "When we started the project, we'd hoped we could come before you in a more leisurely fashion." Hoover explained that the special use consideration has become crucial so the library district does not lose this building season or have to go out to bid again as the contractors guaranteed prices for 60 days only. Hoover said the bids will expire Oct. 21.

Trustee Robert Ross asked Hoover why the library district went out to bid "before you ever came to the village to ask for a special use. How could you have it bid if all these things weren't definite?"

Hoover said the library district started working with the village "as soon as we had the data to go before the village.

"YOU DID'T ANSWER his question," interjected Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld "You made a mistake, perhaps, in assuming you'd have no problem with the village. You've owned that property for a long time and could have come for a special use before even having plans."

Cole was adamant about not writing the ordinance granting the special use without seeing the findings of the plan commission. "It's like writing a blank check." The trustee said he has no objection to expediting things once the board has the information it seeks.

The board passed a motion to table the request until a special meeting set for Monday, Sept. 24.

Business usage is tops at Palwaukee airport

Life Sept. 20, 1979

BUSINESS ACCOUNTS for 56.7% usage of Palwaukee airport, according to a survey of based-aircraft tenants. This fact is included in the draft report of Phase II of a study on the feasibility of municipal (Wheeling and/or Prospect Heights) purchase and operation of the airport.

Personal and recreational use of the airport accounts of 38.3%, according to the survey.

Other facts taken from the draft report are:

• The average distance of flights by based aircraft is between 100 and 500 miles. The largest percentage of these (34.8) fly between 201 and 500 miles. Flights over distances of 1,000 miles constitute only 7% of the operations for Palwaukee-based aircraft.

• Respondents to the survey overwhelmingly indicated convenience, proximity or related reasons as being the reasons for using Palwaukee. Only 7.6% of the respondents named a reason other than the above for usage.

THE MOST PREVALENT REASON (22.79%) for usage of Palwaukee, according to the survey, is to save time. The second category 17.6%) is for a "business tool." Additional answers include: conveniences (13.22) proximity (13.6%); access or efficiency (7.7%).

A majority (83.6%) of aircraft operators said the extent of their late-night use of the airport is minimal or nil.

• The largest percentage of aircraft operations are due to Chicago-based business. Other businesses were based in: Northbrook (7.2%); Glenview (5.1%); and Wheeling (4.3%).

FINANCIAL DATA included in the draft report pertains to land acquisition and airport operations.

• Of the 277 acres recommended for acquisition, 255 acres are eligible for the airport development air program (ADAP) funding administered by the FAA.

• Total land costs for all 277 acres equals $17,090,900; The FAA share is $12,586,800; the state share, $1,573,400; the local share, $2,930,800.

• Only two buildings are scheuled for acquisition — a storage hangar and the air traffic control tower.

Operating revenues would come from land rentals. Fuel flowage fees, a precentage of fixed-base operators (FBO's) gross revenues and/or field use fees.

THE REPORT INDICATES two alternatives of local funding:

• General obligation bonds. According to the report, the net income of the airport operations could cover the debt service on a 6%, 20-year bond issue of $3,846,500. Therefore, a general obligation bond issue based on the figures used in the report (see related story) would not call for a tax increase.

• Revenue bonds do not require a tax increase. However, they require that the forecasts of net operating income be adequate to pay not only the principal and interest requirements, but a contingency amount which would provide a safety factor to investors. The report shows the actual revenues would fall short of the amount needed. This method would be only "marginally feasible," according to the draft report.

CRITERIA FOR PUBLIC ownership of the airport are:

• Have a broad political and geographic base, with the capability for future geographic expansion.

• Have the power to acquire, own and operate an airport.

• Have the power to protect the airport's approaches and land uses through zoning, easements and land purchase.

• Have the power of condemnation.

bHave a permanent life.

• Have an equitable method of appointing members to the airport's governing body.

• Have the ability to adequately finance the airport, including the ability to receive federal and state funds.

Potential forms of public ownership of Palwaukee include: the United States, the state of Illinois, a port district, a municipal airport authority, Cook county, cities and villages, a park district, transportation authority, townships, a publly-owned university, the NWMC.

A PRELIMINARY noise profile shows a contour of 65. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) criteria for funding new residential construction considers 65 to be on the threshold for "normally unacceptable" noise exposure.

The noise "footprint" from Palwaukee airport covers 1,580 acres, 230 of which include the airport. Included in the noise footprints are: Hawthorne school, Sheeling; St. Joseph school, Wheeling; Whitman school, Wheeling; Frost school, Prospect Heights; St. Joseph church, Wheeling; Community Presbyterian church, Wheeling; the Cook county forest preserve district; Heritage park, Wheeling; C Hamber park, Wheeling, and various other neighborhood parks.

Wheeling annexes 109 acres at Lake-Cook

Countryside - Sept. 20 1979

The Wheeling Village Board gave final approval Monday to annexation of a 109-acre parcel of land at the southwest corner of Lake-Cook Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

The property, owned by the William Johnson family, was annexed to the village at Monday night's meeting of the village board. Trustees agreed to rezone the land from residential to one-third heavy industrial and two-thirds light industrial.

Included in the annexation agreement is a clause creating one additional liquor license for a hotel-motel or restaurant which probably will be built on the land. Plans for the facility would have to be approved by the board before a liquor license would be granted, however.

Other items which will be included in the annexation agreement are:

—the Johnson family will be required to construct and install an on-site system of sanitary sewers to serve the parcel.

—the Johnsons will donate about 5 acres of land in a 70-foot-wide strip along the southern and eastern boundaries of the property for use by the Metropolitan Sanitary District (MSD).

—the village allows the property owners to make temporary improvements on the land as well as use it for parking or stockpiling of dirt and clay.

—the village (in cooperation with the state) will agree to build a bridge over the MSD ditch once it is completed. The bridge would connect Wolf Road to the parcel.

Trustees balk at $1,500 cable TV consultant bill

Daily Herald - September 20 1979

Wheeling trustees are balking at chipping in $1,500 so the Northwest Municipal Conference can hire a consultant to recommend three or four cable television firms for an areawide franchise.

Although the village is likely to recover that cost in franchise fees, trustees say the 30 or so firms trying to get a foothold in the Northwest suburban market should pick up the initial tab.

"Very truthfully," said Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, "I think they're doing it back-asswards. This is a very lucrative situation." If all towns follow the recommendations of the NWMC, only a few firms will be able to do business in the Northwest suburbs, he added. and "that's quite a plum."

SOMMERFELD SAID he and Trustees John Cole and Roger Powers would be attending the next NWMC workshop on cable television "to determine where this money we're being asked to spend is going. I'm a little skeptical of money that is being spent on a study."

William Grams, NWMC executive director, said the firms that eventually are awarded franchises in the Northwest suburbs will have to pay up to $10,000 to defray the consultant's fee, a total of $30,000 for all conference members. If only three of the 23 towns in the conference award a franchise, the other towns will recoup the cost, he said.

Only one firm, Cablevision, a New York-based company, has asked Wheeling formally for a franchise, but Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold says he has gotten brochures, phone calls and visits from "dozens" of cable firms and it would cost "a lot more than $1,500" for the village to use its own staff to determine what kind of cable service would be best for Wheeling.

And each firm would have to be given a chance to make a presentation, which would consume hours of staff and trustees' time. "And each one of these firms is more eloquent than the next," Leikvold said, in terms of the movies, sporting events and local coverage they can offer Wheeling.

OFFICIALS FROM Cablevision say if Wheeling acts now, there could be cable TV in Wheeling within six to eight months. By waiting for the recommendations of the conference, there might not be service until 1981. Daniel Sweeney, Cablevision director of development, says there is no reason the village could not award a franchise to another firm at a later date. "We're just asking for the village to determine if we're qualified to do business," he said.

Grams said he is trying to discourage municipalities from deciding on a cable television firm on its own because unless there is a coordinated effort to bring cable television to the Northwest suburbs, the result could be a fragmented system that could cause service and installation problems. He said several of the firms are asking towns to award a franchise without waiting for the recommendations of the NWMC.

Although the terms of the franchises would not prohibit a village from allowing a second cable firm later, Grams said the firms rarely compete once one company is established.

To be profitable, a cable firm needs to capture about 30 percent to 40 percent of the market in a given town, he said. "If you have two firms in one town, that means eight of 10 households would have to have cable," he said. "The company that gets a franchise is most likely to be the only company in town."

IT WILL COST between $20 million and $25 million for cable television networks to be constructed in the Northwest suburbs, Grams said, and the returns for the companies doing business "will be equally handsome."

But the technology involved in setting up a cable television network is extremely complex, Grams said, and unless the conference towns work together, the system could be fragmented, which would cause a host of problems.

"Say you want to televise a football game between Elk Grove Village and Schaumburg. If you have two different companies doing business in the two towns that don't have the ability to interface, somebody is not going to be able to see the game," he said.

"I think a coordinated regional approach is in the best interests of all the towns," Grams said.

The conference has scheduled a deadline of Oct. 1 for all cable firms to submit a request for a franchise. By May 1, the towns should decide whether they want to have cable television and choose a firm.

Palwaukee airport can pay for self: study

Wheeling Life - September 20, 1979

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

PALWAUKEE AIRPORT can pay for itself if operated as a municipal airport. This is the conclusion of the draft report of Phase II of the feasibility study undertaken by Wheeling, Prospect Heights and state and federal agencies to determine if Wheeling and/or Prospect Heights should purchase the airport.

However, participants on the technical advisory committee (TAC) working on the study questioned the basis for the conclusion at a meeting Friday, Sept. 14.

Bill Grams, executive director of the Northwest Municipal conference (NWMC), questioned the financial conclusion when information regarding Federal Aviation administration (FAA) guidelines was not included in the draft report.

Palwaukee airport does not meet some of the guidelines established by the FAA regarding publicly-operated airports. Being a privately-owned airport, Palwaukee has not had to adhere to these guidelines. However, if it should become a municipally-operated facility, this situation would change. Grams pointed out to TAC members that adherence to FAA rules could cost thousands of additional dollars which could change the whole premise of the draft report.

REPRESENTATIVES OF the Illinois department of transportation (IDOT), division of aeronautics and the FAA agreed to meet within the next two weeks to discuss which of the guidelines may be waived for the airport. It is the guideline regarding the distance of threshold lights from the end of a road which could cause the most difficulty for the airport.

Palwaukee has the only 5,000-foot runway in Metropolitan Chicago. outside O'Hare. This runway is crucial to the operation of the airport, according to the Phase I report. The threshold lights are too close to the intersection of Wolf and Hintz roads, according to FAA guidelines. However, there are indications that this rule may be waived to enable the airport to change hands.

George Priester, 73, owner of the airport, has said he must sell in order to save his heirs from being saddled with an enormous inheritance tax. He said he has been offered approximately $20 million for the airport by developers. However, Priester has said he wants Palwaukee to remain an airport and the Phase I report of the feasibility study emphasized the necessity of the airport to the business community in the area and to draw off traffic from O'Hare.

LARRY DONOGHUEof Ralph Burke Assoc., consultants for the study, said Friday, "Acquisition of the airport is financially feasible. The airport is self-sustaining." Donoghue also said there is nothing in Phase II that proposes any change in airport traffic (which would mean the FAA guidelines would have to be waived). "All we're proposing is a change of ownership."

Regarding FAA guidelines, Donoghue said, "In my mind, the fact that there is a control tower (paid for by FAA) is indication that they (FAA) have accepted the airport the way it is and it is run properly."

According to Donoghue, "The FAA has authority to waive its standards on adequate cause. Midway does not conform to current FAA standards. In a sense, we have the same thing here. We have an old airport and I think it can be adequately run with waiving some FAA rules."

WHEELING VILLAGE MANAGER Carsten Leikvold urged TAC to move promptly. "The owner is under pressure from developers." But Prospect Heights City Manager Steve Surgell cautioned, "We don't know what the costs are until we know what will be waived."

State representatives urged Leikvold and Sturgell to gain approval from their boards to purchase the airport, based on an environmental impact statement. This statement is part of Phase III. But Leikvold said, "I can't go along with definite approval based upon the environmental impact statement. We have to keep it iffy a little longer than that."

The members of TAC finally agreed to keep the Phase II report a draft until the state and FAA can work out which regulations can be waived and the costs involved.

Roger Barcus, of the Illinois department of transportation, division of aeronautics, said, "We all know the money we're talking about isn't available without going to the (Capitol) Hill. We need the (environmental impact) statement before going to Washington for the money. That's Phase III, but it has to be as precise as it can be. We don't want to back up and redo. The purpose of the study was to buy the airport and keep the 5,000-foot runway operating."

George Grote of the FAA said, "There are other costs involved to keep that airport operating, and that means clear zones."

Sturgell said Prospect Heights needs to have some ruling on clear zones. "We're dealing with developers around the airport and so is Wheeling."

ESTIMATED COST of acquiring the airport, including a storage hangar and control tower, is $21 million. Annual operating cost is estimated at $466,000.

Donoghue said his firm used $61,700 per acre as the average cost of land to determine the total cost. However, he said the land has not been appraised. Other buildings owned by Priester — an office building, motel and restaurant and Priester's home — will not be purchased, but the land on which they are located will be included in the airport purchase, according to Donoghue.

Leikvold said he would like to see village officials take a little more time on Phase II (30 to 60 days) "and then commit to it." But Donoghue said the communities are not committed to anything until they accept a grant for acquisition of the airport.

The boards of Wheeling and Prospect Heights will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 20, at the Wheeling village hall, 255 W. Dundee, , to discuss the draft report.

Village trustee opposes library board's plans

Daily Herald - September 22, 1979

A Wheeling trustee says he will oppose plans by the Indian Trails Library District to construct a new building on Schoenbeck Road because voters have twice rejected the project.

"I probably should be voting on the library only as a zoning request," said Trustee Charles Kerr, "but I'm failing to do that. I am opposed to the library mainly because the people had two opportunities to vote on it and they said 'no.'"

Kerr also said he is not convinced the library board seriously considered using Carl Sandburg School, a building directly across the street from the proposed library site. The school is tentatively scheduled to be closed in 1981. He added he also is annoyed at the library district's plan to cut its operating budget to finance construction of the $1.4 million project.

"I THINK THE argument that they're cutting down their operating budget to save enough money for the new building and save the taxpayers money is phony as hell," Kerr said. "They're depriving residents of the services they've been paying for."

But Kerr's objections are not the issue, library officials say, adding they are prepared to defend their decision to build the new library. After two referendums were defeated, the board decided to draw $130,000 to $150,000 annually out of its operating budget to pay for the new building.

Trustees delayed a decision on the library zoning request this week because they had not seen the reports from the plan and appearance commissions on the library proposal. Both groups have recommended approval.

The board will meet Monday at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd., to consider the request. Library officials have asked the board to speed the approval because they are faced with a tight deadline to award a construction contract.

"WE'RE NOT ASKING for a moral judgment on whether a new library should be built," said library Trustee Madelyn Seckler. "We're not asking them to consider whether another building should be used. We're asking for a zoning permit. I realize they have concerns about the library, but I'm not sure it's fair to shove all their concerns on us." The library request should be treated like any other zoning matter, she said.

Mrs. Seckler added the library board did not know when the project started that the elementary school might be closing and library architect S. Guy Fishman, who designed Sandburg School, said it would be "nearly impossible to make the kind of open space needed for a library."

Wheeling Trustee Robert Ross said the library's decision to build over the objections of the voters was "the ultimate bureaucracy. I really have difficulty with this one because it was turned down twice and they say they're going to go ahead and build it anyway.

Time not on library's side before village unit

Countryside - September 20, 1979

By MARION SOURS

Time is not on the side of the Indian Trails Library District. Library representatives appeared at Monday night's meeting of the Wheeling Village Board, asking that the board hurry its usual procedures. The request wasn't successful, however.

At stake is the proposed new library in Wheeling. The library district must award a construction contract by Oct. 22 or it may not be able to afford to build the facility. Therefore, it needs to be granted a special use permit by the village by Oct. 22.

But the village board deferred the library's request that the village attorney draw up an ordinance granting a special use permit. Trustee John Cole said he believed the trustees and the attorney had not been presented sufficient information to set up an ordinance at this time.

He suggested the topic be discussed at next Monday's workshop meeting. Cole agreed, however, that the village should expedite review of the project.

Library district representatives first appeared in July before the Wheeling Plan Commission, requesting that a special use permit be recommended for the proposed library. The library is planned to be built on a five-acre site at 300 Schoenbeck Road, which currently is zoned residential. They advertised that bids would be opened on Aug. 22, with the contract to be awarded 60 days after that.

Library officials expected no problems with the special use permit. But the plan commission kept deferring approval of plans until it was convinced the building would not add to the flooding problems of residents on Anthony Street, which adjoins the proposed library site.

Finally, last Thursday, the plan commission voted to recommend that the special use permit be granted. Usually, a two-week advance notice is required by the village before it puts an item on its agenda. Village Manager Carsten Leikvold, however, agreed to put the matter before the board Monday.

But trustees then decided the matter had not been sufficiently discussed for an ordinance to be written, and tabled the items until next week.

The reason the library district is anxious to be granted the special use permit before Oct. 22 is that if it is not, and lets the deadline lapse on awarding a contract, future construction costs may not be affordable to the district.

The district has barely enough to pay the lowest bidder, whose offer was $1.37 million to construct the building. As it is, $1.4 million has been allowed for the project, which will be financed from the district's operating budget for the next 10 years.

The project twice was put before the voters, but both times they rejected the tax increases proposed. Library officials, however, decided the library still could be financed, in the manner described.

Liquor law change requested

Daily Herald - September 24, 1979

The owner of a Wheeling restaurant says the village should change its liquor laws so he can have a license to sell hard liquor and compete with restaurants in neighboring towns.

William Warr, owner of Newberry Place, 1750 Hintz Rd., says his liquor license, which only allows him to sell beer and wine, causes customers to go to comparably priced restaurants in Buffalo Grove and Arlington Heights that have full liquor licenses.

The restaurant is in the southwest part of the village, near the other two towns.

But Wheeling has issued all the liquor licenses allowed by village ordinances and either would have to increase the number allowed or reclassify the categories for liquor licenses to accommodate Warr's request.

Warr contends Wheeling has grown substantially in the past 20 years but the number of liquor licenses allowed has barely increased. Newberry Place is "forced to compete with one economic hand tied behind its back," he says.

Other towns, he says, have increased the number of liquor licenses allowed to keep up with their population growth. And because of that, he is losing customers.

"I'VE HAD people tell me, they'd love to bring friends and entertain here," he said, "but because they don't have that option of having a scotch and water with dinner, they go someplace else."

Warr also notes that trustees recently agreed to change village liquor laws as part of the annexation agreement with the owner of a 110-acre parcel south of Lake-Cook Road.

Land owner William Johnson has been guaranteed two liquor licenses for the motel and restaurant he plans to develop.

Trustee John Cole opposes a change of liquor laws because allowing more licenses will attract more drinkers to the village from other towns.

"The thing that disturbs me is no matter how well a place is run, there are people who are going to abuse the privilege," Cole said. "No one has satisfactorily explained to me that a restaurant has to serve hard liquor. I go to a restaurant because I like the food."

Cole said issuing the liquor licenses to Johnson was part of the give and take of the annexation agreement to induce more tax-revenue producing land into the village.

"YOU'RE TALKING about a huge parcel of land that's coming into the village," he said.

Trustee Robert Ross said reorganizing Wheeling's categories of liquor licenses to allow about three or four more "sit-down restaurants" to have liquor licenses "might not be a bad idea. Let's face it, there's a lot of people who like to have a drink with dinner."

Warr's request to change village liquor laws will be discussed by Trustee Sheila Schultz's judiciary and legislative committee. She said Warr "has made some good points. Whether it warrants a revamping of our liquor license laws remains to be seen."

She said she would like to study how neighboring towns handle the number of liquor licenses they issue to "see if we really have falling behind our population growth."

No date has been set for discussing the matter.

Library beats clock, wins zoning approval

Countryside - September 27, 1979

By MARION SOURS

Two votes of approval are still needed, but the Indian Trails Library District appears to be over the main hurdle in its race against time.

Wheeling village trustees Monday instructed the village attorney to draft an ordinance granting the library district a special use permit for its proposed new library.

If approval of the special use permit had not been granted by Oct. 22, the proposed library on Schoenbeck Road might have had to be cancelled. The library district had said it would award a construction contract by Oct. 22. Officials said if they let the deadline lapse on awarding a contract, future construction costs might not be affordable to the district.

As it is, the district barely has enough to pay the lowest bidder, whose offer was $1.37 million to construct the building. The district has allowed $1.4 million for the project, which will be financed from the district's operating budget for the next 10 years. The proposed building site currently is zoned residential, hence the need for the special use permit.

Trustee Charles Kerr was the main opponent to the library's plans at Monday's meeting. He said he did not object to the issuing of a special use permit per se, but rather objected to the fact that the library district proposed to build the library after voters twice had rejected the project.

Library representatives told Kerr they determined in a poll that the main reason voters had rejected the project was because they did not want a tax increase, not because they were opposed to the new library itself.

posed to the new library itself.

The district plans to pay for the project from its operating budget over the next 10 years.

Kerr also said he believed it is unfair to the public to make such a cut in the budget. He questioned whether the library had thoroughly investigated putting the library into the vacant Carl Sandburg School.

Library representatives said Sandburg had been investigated as a possible site of the library, but said it was in poor condition and unsuitable for a library. They said the ceilings are too low, it is not air conditioned and, in general, the necessary renovation would cost more than the total cost of the proposed new building.

Daily Herald September 27, 1979

Correction

A story that appeared in Thursday's Daily Herald reported incorrectly that Wheeling Fire Chief B.O. Koeppen proposed an ordinance that would force policemen and firefighters to live within 10 miles of the village limits. The ordinance was suggested by Police Chief Ted Bracke.

Cut hookup fee: residents

Daily Herald - September 26, 1979

With the water table dropping and their wells drying up, several Wolf Road homeowners have asked Wheeling officials to reduce the fee charged to hook into the village water system.

The residents, who were not allowed to tap onto the water system almost three years ago when the fee was $25, say they now can't afford the $350 fee charged to hook onto the system.

Former Village Trustee William Rogers, one of the homeowners who would benefit from a reduced hookup charge, said some wells in the area have been going bad because the water table has been dropping.

"The people here have t taxes for years, and years Rogers said. "But these p had the opportunity to tap rate."

ABOUT 10 HOMEOW tween Highland Avenue a Road on Wolf Road would by the reduced rate, Rogers

When the village decide or run the water system Road about 2½ years ago. several of these homeowne

tap onto the water main.

However, Rogers said the residents were told they couldn't hook up to the system until it had been checked out and was in working order. In the meantime, the village raised its hookup fee from about $25 to about $350, which is too high for many homeowners, Rogers said.

"So what the people are saying now is can we look up to the village board to give us some kind of relief needed to tap on," Rogers said. He noted that new homeowners often don't notice the hookup cost is included in their mortgage and paid over a 20- or 30-year period.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold and Village Atty. Alan Garfield have been asked by the village board to determine how many homeowners need to hook up to the water system and if the village can lower the rate for them, said Trustee John Cole.

"THEY'RE PAYING the same taxes as other residents and they should be getting the same services," Cole said. He added that the village raised the fees about three years ago because they had been "ridiculously low."

Trustees OK plans for library

Daily Herald - September 25, 1979

Over the objections of one trustee, the Wheeling Village Board Monday night tentatively approved plans by the Indian Trails Library District to build a new library on Schoenbeck Road.

Trustee Charles Kerr said he opposed the library because voters have twice rejected a tax increase for the new building. He disagreed with contentions by library officials who said that after analyzing the results of the referendums, they had concluded that voters opposed a tax increase, not a new building.

"It appears to me that the people were completely satisfied with the services they were getting and did not ask for anything else," Kerr said.

ALTHOUGH ADMITTING the data was not "scientifically prepared," the library district's attorney, Earl Hoover, noted a survey taken by the library district that showed 58 out of 161 persons polled opposed a new library because it would mean a tax increase.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, who joined Trustees John Cole and Sheila Schultz in voting for the library project, said he was "more than satisfied that the district had looked into the possibility of renovating Carl Sandburg School for a new library. That building tentatively is scheduled to be closed in 1981.

Library architect S. Guy Fishman said renovating that building, or any other two-story school building in the area, would be more expensive than building from scratch – primarily because the schools are not designed to support the weight of stacks of books on shelves.

Sommerfeld later said he did not think the village board had the right to challenge the library board's decision to build despite the defeat of two referendums.

IT WAS A policy decision to be made by the district alone, he said, adding, "They'll have to answer to the taxpayers if they're not doing their jobs."

The library board scaled down its plans for the new building following the rejections of a tax increase for the project. The district plans to draw $130,000 to $150,000 annually from its operating budget for the next 10 years.

The district has budgeted $1.4 million for the project, which means money to buy new books and other materials has been cut nearly in half. The village board will consider final approval of the new library Oct. 1.

Wolf says

Wheeling Life September 27, 1979

Sell airport to villages

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Prospect Heights Mayor Richard Wolf said Thursday, Sept. 20, that if anyone buys Palwaukee airport, he would like to have it be Wheeling and Prospect Heights. "I would not want to see anyone else in on it, because we're the ones most affected by the airport," he explained.

Wolf made the statement at a joint meeting of the Wheeling village board and the Prospect Heights city council. The meeting was called to discuss an interim Phase II report on the feasibility study undertaken to determine whether either or both of the communities would wish to purchase the airport. Palwaukee owner George Priester said he has to sell the airport because inheritance taxes would be too much for his heirs to handle. Priester is 72 years old.

PRIESTER IS A 50-year veteran in the flying field and rated t fly jet planes.

The study began a year ago with financing by the Illinois department of transportation (IDOT), department of aeronautics, the Federal Aviation administration (FAA) and Wheeling and Prospect Heights. Since that time, other funding has been received from backers of the project.

The first phase determined that Palwaukee should remain open as an airport. Is is one of the few airports in the state with a 5,000-foot runway, able to take small jets. However, it is this runway which creates a problem in municipal takeover because it does not meet FAA guidelines for public airports. Because it is privately owned at present, it does not have to meet the guidelines for location of threshold lights or distance from a highway. It does not meet either of these criteria. There has been talk of an agreement with FAA on which guidelines it would waive should the airport become a municipal one.

PHASE II of the study is supposed to determine the financial feasibility, with Phase III to include an extensive environmental impact study.

Larry Donoghue of Ralph Burke Assoc., consultants for the study, told officials of both communities Thursday evening that it is financially feasible to run the airport as a municipal facility. However, there have been questions about which guidelines the FAA would waive and how much this will cost. This is why Phase II is incomplete and still in the draft stage, rather than being ready for a public hearing.

Donoghue said no local property tax money will be needed to purchase the airport. He said this can be done with general obligation bonds. However, Wheeling finance director Greg Peters said last week that he doubts that it would be legal for Wheeling to sell general obligation bonds when the airport does not lie within the corporate limits of the community.

Warren Sundae of Prospect Heights questioned a preliminary noise impact statement in the draft report. The statement says the noise contour of Palwaukee airport is in the 65 range. The 75 range is considered prohibitive. Sundae said the noise contour is not what is important. Donoghue explained that this is arrived at by statistical work, using the size of the planes, the number of engines, what type. Sundae said the noise impact should be studied at the site itself. "All the meter readings are higher than yours (consultant)," he said to Donoghue. Sundae told Donoghue that people in his area are "very concerned" about possible purchase of the airport. "You're going to have to do a big selling job to the people," he said.

DONOGHUE SAID there could be some "extraordinary" means of financing the purchase of the airport. He suggested there could be a "Palwaukee Boosters club" consisting of the corporations who use the airport heavily. He said his firm's reputation is one which will add to the success of an airport purchase. "When we say the project will pay, it sells bonds," he added.

Wheeling Village President William Hein suggested forming a committee of Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials to continue studying purchase. "Wheeling and Prospect Heights are affected very severely by Palwaukee in terms of economic benefit, noise and pollution."

Donoghue suggested there might have to be a third municipality included in the purchase if an airport authority is created, "to prevent a standoff in the case of voting." Hein said he thinks Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials "are grown up enough to know what they have to do."

WOLF SAID the spirit of the technical advisory committee (TAC), which has been giving input into the study, should continue. "But if you are going to manage the airport, you can't diffuse the management." Northbrook and Glenview both belong to TAC.

Wheeling resident and former village trustee William Rogers asked Donoghue if any airports like Palwaukee are making money. "I don't think they are trying to make money," Donoghue said.

The consultant mentioned O'Hare airport as the only one in the area that is not costing the taxpayers any money. However, he stressed that the draft report contains maintenance figures that are far higher than would be needed so the conclusions would be sound.

Writing ordinance

Another step to a library

Wheeling Life Sept. 27, 1979

BY DOROTHY WEINBERG
Correspondent

WHEELING — The Wheeling village board, Monday, Sept. 24, directed its staff to draw up an ordinance that, if passed, would give the go-ahead signal for a new Indian Trails library in Wheeling.

The board heard Earl Hoover, attorney for the Indian Trails public library district, and architect Guy Fishman tell why it would be in the best interest of Wheeling citizens to have a new library built.

The Indian Trails public library district was seeking a special use permit for construction and use of a public library on the property located approximately one-half mile south of Dundee on the east side of Schoenbeck.

The proposed site would be located on a five-acre site, and would contain a two-story building with parking facilities, encompassing 31,000 square feet.

Fishman said there will be room for 95 cars and landscaping will screen the parking. He said the old, inadequate site at 850 Jenkins will be torn down.

PREVIOUSLY, two referenda were defeated by the citizens of Prospect Heights, Buffalo Grove and Wheeling (who are in the district), regarding the construction of a new library.

Wheeling Trustee Charles Kerr asked Hoover, "On what basis do you seek additional space in Wheeling?" Hoover said, "The guideline for square footage shows the Indian Trails library has less than it should in comparison to others in surrounding area."

Kerr, referring to the defeated referenda said, "The people indicated that they are satisfied with services they were getting and do not ask for anything in addition."

Hoover told Kerr that he had done a survey asking people why they responded negatively to the referenda. He said that the two main objections voiced by the majority of the 161 responses were that they didn't want higher taxes, or that the location wasn't suitable.

In response to the "tax objection," Hoover said the library would be financed out of the library district's operating expenses, not from increased taxes.

Kerr countered, "When you deprive citizens of $150,000, you deprive them of needed services." Hoover replied, "We cannot stay in our present site."

HOOVER ALSO said the citizens who objected to the location were Buffalo Grove residents, who wanted the library to be located there. "That is not the geographical center of the library district," Hoover said.

Fishman said that Sandburg school, a one-story building is not in good shape, and has steel columns separating the rooms, which would not allow enough free space. He also said the ceilings of the schoolars are too low. School board officials are considering closing Sandburg, and a definite decision will be made Thursday, Oct. 11, on a plan for closing. "To renovate the school would cost more than constructing a new building," Fishman said.

The architect also said the other schools, two-story buildings are not suitable because the load-bearing capacity is insufficient.

Approval for the special use permit passed 3-1. Trustees John Cole, Hugh Sommerfeld, and Sheila Schultz (who is a library employe) voted in favor of the motion. Kerr was the only negative vote.

Airport purchase panel to be formed

Daily Herald - September 25, 1979

Wheeling Village Pres. William Hein wants to form a committee of Wheeling trustees and Prospect Heights aldermen to work on the purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport.

Hein said he and Prospect Heights Mayor Richard Wolf would be co-chairmen of the committee, which would include three representatives from the Wheeling and Prospect Heights boards.

Wolf said he favors the committee and will appoint Prospect Heights' representatives this week. Hein said he has not chosen committee members yet.

ONE OF THE issues the committee will consider, Hein said, is the possibility of conducting an advisory referendum asking residents of both towns if they want to buy the airport. Wheeling Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld already has said there should be an advisory referendum if the towns plan to use property taxes to buy the financially strapped airport.

Consultants studying the possible joint purchase of Pal-Waukee by Wheeling and Prospect Heights say it will cost at least $21 million, with the local share coming to $3.8 million.

Hein said the first committee meeting will be in mid-October.

Hospital would hike health costs

Wheeling Life - Thursday, September 20, 1979

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

THE SUBJECT OF HOSPITAL bed need was a crucial issue at the seven-hour Cook county zoning board hearing in Prospect Heights Friday, Sept. 14.

Because Franklin Boulevard community hospital is seeking a special use permit to build a 232-bed hospital under county zoning, zoning board chairman Alex Seith explained that the burden of proof was on the hospital. The project is the same one for which Franklin Boulevard sought annexation to Wheeling last year and was stymied when the Wheeling plan commission frowned on construction of the hospital on Schoenbeck and Hintz.

Cost of the project has escalated from $18 million to $20 million in the meantime. The hospital is to be built with private funds.

However, ever since the idea of a Wheeling/Buffalo Grove hospital was first mentioned, other hospitals in the area: Northwest community hospital, Holy Family hospital, Lutheran General hospital and Highland Park hospital all have objected to the project, claiming there is a surplus of hospital beds in the area now and to increase that surplus would increase health care costs to patients.

OTHER HEALTH AGENCIES such as the Cook county-DuPage county health systems agency (HSA) and the North Suburban Association for Health Resources, have claimed there is no need for additional hospital beds.

Franklin Boulevard hospital, represented by attorney John Coleman of O'Brien & Coleman, sought to prove the advantages of having the new hospital built.

According to Norman Davis, project director for the new hospital, Franklin Boulevard hospital was invited in 1973 to build a hospital in the village of Wheeling by then Village President Ted Scanlon.

From the outset of testimony by witnesses for Franklin Boulevard hospital, Robert DeLeonardi, attorney for Northwest Community hospital, Holy Family hospital, Lutheran General hospital, Highland Park hospital and the Catholic Bishop of Chicago (who owns adjacent property), all objectors to the project, insisted that Franklin Boulevard prove the need for its hospital.

"I believe if they (Franklin Boulevard hospital) would have gone through the certificate-of-need process, they would have been denied." — Marian Jennings.

DeLeonari sought to prove that figures used to show population projections for the Northwest suburban area are outdated and have no relevance to today's needs.

FRANKLIN BOULEVARD hospital did not have to have a certificate of need from the Illinois health facilities planning board because it submitted plans to the state by October 1974, the date the act became official, and was grandfathered into the act. However, under the terms of the special use provision of the Cook county zoning ordinance, it is necessary to prove need, and this was the crux of the hearing.

Other subjects such as flooding and traffic were important issues of the day, evening and night-long meeting. A continuation was granted Franklin Boulevard to submit soil test reports to determine whether the project would add to flooding problems to the north in Wheeling. In addition, a traffic survey by Paul Box Assoc. showed an additional 300 cars and 30-40 trucks per day would travel on two-lane Schoenbeck road as the result of construction of the hospital.

DeLeonardi, Wheeling Village Attorney David Epstein, and Seith agreed to allow the soil report to be submitted at a later time at a continuation of the hearing. However, DeLeonardi insisted that the rest of the witnesses be heard Friday.

Franklin Boulevard's big gun was Pierre DeVise (pronounced DeVizay as he insisted), urban planner, demographer, author, and a professor at the University of Illinois-Chicago Circle campus. DeVise also claimed to be an expert in the area of hospital planning, having been the assistant director of the hospital planning council of Metropolitan Chicago between 1963 and 1971.

DeVise was the author, or oversaw the authorship, of several studies on hospital and doctor need in the city and suburbs. However, DeLeonardi seemed to prove that DeVise's figures were those of an earlier time and that demographic projections have changed since his studies were made.

DEVISE ALSO CLAIMED that the service area of the new hospital would consist of Wheelng, Palatine, Vernon and Ela townships. DeLeonardi asked DeVise if he has done any studies since 1975. The planner said no. The attorney asked if he had done any studies on whether people from Vernon or Ela townships would travel to a hospital in the Wheeling area. Again, DeVise answered no.

DeLeonardi asked DeVise if he knew there are in excess of 400 hospital beds in the aerea which are already built but not in use. De Vise said "No."

"What does that do to your opinion that this hospital should be built with 232 beds?" asked DeLeonardi. "Did you know until I told you that there were this many excess beds? Do you know where they are?" DeVise told DeLeonardi he was "playing with words." He continued, "I didn't look for them. I'm working for this hospital."

DeLeonardi wound up DeVise's testimony with two questions: "Is the study you did for Franklin Boulevard hospital in writing?" "What study?" DeVise asked. "Did you do a study?" The attorney asked. "No," DeVise answered. At this point DeLeonardi ceased his questioning.

But the planner was not through yet. Epstein then took over and asked on what basis DeVise had used Ela and Vernon townships as service areas for the study. Epstein said it looked like DeVise had taken the location of the intended hospital and drawn a circle around it, thus determining the service area.

TO REFUTE DeVise's testimony, DeLeonardi brought in Marian Jennings of Amherst Associates. Amherst does strategical planning and financial advisory work. It does financial feasibility studies for bond issues for hospitals and does work on certificate of need for the Illinois health facilities planning board. Jennings graduated Magna Cum Laude from Harvard university in mathematics and has a masters degree from Boston university.

Jennings did an analysis of bed need in the Wheeling/Buffalo Grove area. She did a study in the service area designated A8 by the health facilities planning board. (DeVise used his own area). Jennings said she reviewed the new formula for determining bed need put out this summer by the Illinois health facilities planning board. (DeVise said the board's methodology was "kindergarten stuff").

According to Jennings, her study determined that even without a new hospital, there will be an excess of 200 hospital beds in the service area in 1981, an excess of 92 beds in 1985, and by 1988 or 1989 the number of beds currently available will "just about equal the demand at that time."

DeLeonardi picked up on Jennings' figures and asked what the 232-bed hospital would do to health costs if it is built and adds to the existing surplus of hospital beds. Jennings said it would "increase the cost of health care for patients. Interest and depreciation for a new hospital would be $2 million to $3 million per year, whether they have two or 200 patients. Operating costs, according to Jennings, would probably be about $12 million and would be added to patients' costs.

"I believe if they (Franklin Boulevard) would have gone through the certificate-of-need process, they would have been denied," she said.

The current supply of hospital beds in the area will just about equal the demand in 1990.

IF ALL THE PATIENTS who enter hospitals each day from the Wheeling/Buffalo Grove area were to go to the new hospital, Jennings said, they would have an average of 55 patients per day.

Jennings told Franklin Boulevard attorney Coleman that even if hospitals are "full" two-thirds of all patients have elective surgery which could be delayed if the bed situation wo was getting serious.

The hearing finally sped up in the late hours of Friday evening because the court reporter ran out of paper. The hearing will be continued to determine the evidence on flooding at a later date. Seith said earlier in the evening that the continuation might not take place before November. After the hearing is closed, objectors have between seven and 30 days to file written objections to the project. After that time, the zoning board will hold a decision hearing, at which time no new testimony is heard. Its recommendation goes to the Cook county board of commissioners. If Wheeling files a written objection, being the closest community to the project, the county board will need a three-fourths vote of its 16 members to pass on the project.



Trustee's vote conflicts with employment

Life - Sept. 27 1979

MOST VILLAGE OFFICIALS know they should not vote on issues which could be construed as involving a conflict of interest for them.

If a trustee does business with a firm that petitions the board, the trustee usually knows enough to remove himself from the voting process.

However, there is a case in Wheeling at present in which a trustee has not removed herself from the voting. In fact, she made a motion to expedite things for the petitioner.

The case in point involves the request of the Indian Trails library district to hurry up its petition for a special use permit to build a new building. The library district went out to bid before coming to the village officials for approval of its project. Now the district has a deadline to meet, after which time the bids are no longer guaranteed.

LAST WEEK, TRUSTEE Sheila Schultz, who admittedly works at the library, moved to have the attorney draw up the special use ordinance. Another trustee objected because the board did not have the recommendation of the plan commission yet. There had only been a weekend between the two meetings. The vote was tabled for this reason.

We believe Schultz should remove herself from any further discussion and voting on the issue. There is no question that she has a conflict of interest on this matter. While Schultz is generally a well-informed trustee who listens to the people's concerns, we feel she is making a mistake in this matter.

Although we feel Schultz is not trying to put something over on the people, it would be wiser for her to back off this issue, realizing she has as much a conflict of interest as someone who lets contracts to a petitioner.

Schultz has taken many pot shots at former trustees and the village president on conflict-of-interest charges. She should know better.

County to hear more

Franklin Hospital issue boils down to bed need

Countryside - September 20, 1979

By MARION SOURS

After nearly eight hours of testimony Friday, both pro and con, regarding the feasibility of building a branch of Franklin Boulevard Hospital in Wheeling, the issue boiled down to an old question: How many hospital beds are needed in the area?

Franklin Boulevard Hospital's stand at Friday's hearing by the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals, was that more beds are needed in the area now. Opponents of the hospital said there are 644 beds available but not being used at the present time. These assertions represented the same type of conflicting evidence which has confused the issue for years.

One thing is certain, however, and that is Wheeling and Buffalo Grove definitely are against the proposed hospital. Representatives of the two villages were present Friday, ready to offer resolutions opposing the project, and Wheeling Village Attorney David Epstein took part in questioning the witnesses presented by Franklin Boulevard Hospital.

The hearing was set up after representatives of Franklin Boulevard Hospital filed petitions recently with Cook County for a special use permit for a proposed 232-bed full-service hospital to be built on 20 acres of land on Schoenbeck Road, north of Hintz Road. The land currently is zoned residential.

The hospital last year petitioned the Wheeling Plan Commission for annexation and a special use permit, but the commission turned down its request. Wheeling and Buffalo Grove officials thought the hospital had dropped its plans, until it recently filed with Cook County.

The hearing was not concluded Friday, because it was agreed by zoning board members and the parties involved that testimony was needed by an engineer regarding drainage at the proposed hospital site.

Attorney John Coleman, representing Franklin Boulevard Hospital, had not

(Continued on page 11)

Hospital hearing—

Countryside - September 20, 1979

(Continued from page 5)

asked an engineer to be present. Alex Seith, chairman of the zoning board, said he believed such testimony was essential, and said the board will meet again, probably in November, to hear this last bit of testimony.

Also at that future meeting, some groups, such as Blue Cross and the Wheeling Park District, will be able to present letters stating their views on the project. Those groups had had representatives at Friday's meeting, but they left because the hearing dragged on for so long.

Many topics were discussed at the hearing, such as including a proposed well and reservoir, landscaping and effects of the hospital on area traffic. But the main question brought out by attorney Robert J. Di Leonardi, who represented Holy Family Hospital, Northwest Community Hospital, Highland Park Hospital and the Catholic Bishopry, was whether there is a need for the hospital.

Franklin Boulevard Hospital had its plans approved by the state in 1973, a year before the state passed a law requiring that a determination of need be established for a hospital before any plans were approved.

Di Leonardi's chief witness, Marian Jennings, a consultant for Amherst Associates of Chicago, a financial consulting firm for hospitals, said she believed Franklin Boulevard Hospital would be denied a certificate of need, if it were to apply now.

Jennings, who drew up a report at Di Leonardi's request regarding the number of beds proposed by Franklin Boulevard Hospital, said there currently are 644 hospital beds in the area licensed and available but not operating. She said Northwest Community Hospital, Arlington Heights, has two floors that could be opened at any time. She said Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge, also has a number of beds it does not use.

She said according to Illinois Hospital Association figures, the average bed occupancy rate for the hospitals in the area is 85.4 per cent.

Coleman's main witness regarding need for the hospital was Pierre DeVise, a professor at the University of Illinois, Chicago Circle, who has taught classes in the field of hospital planning. He also has been assistant director of the Hospital Planning Board of Chicago and of the Illinois Regional Medical Program.

DeVise said there presently is a need for more hospital beds in the area. He called the Wheeling area "a medical care wasteland" with a shortage of physicians similar to that of the ghetto community in Chicago.

He said government figures show that a more than 85 per cent rate of bed occupancy rate of bed occupancy is dangerous level. Jennings said the present occupancy rate or 85.4 is "a good average rate." DeVise said from 400 to 500 more beds would be needed in the area in the next five years.

The reason DeVise's and Jenning's findings did not correspond was that they were working with different forumlas. Jennings was working exclusively with state figures: from the Health Systems Agency and the Illinois Hospital Association.

DeVise addmittely had drawn up his own formula for determining need, based, he said, on his experience in the field.

As a result, the testimony of the two was completely contradictory, regarding the vital question of need for the hospital.

After the zoning board hears the final portion of the testimony, probably in November, it will advise the Cook County Board of its recommendation and the board then will make the final decision.

Area villages, including Wheeling and Buffalo Grove, or individuals whose property adjoins the proposed hospital site, have seven days after the final hearing to file a protest if they desire.

The week ahead

Daily Herald - Sept. 24, 1979

Library plans to be discussed

Indian Trails Library District's proposal to build a new library on Schoenbeck Road will be considered tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

Trustee Charles Kerr has said he will oppose the project because the voters have rejected it twice. Other trustees have voiced objections to the library plans but say they should stick to the request by library officials to zone the five-acre site on the zoning merits alone.

Kerr says he also opposes the library's plans because they did not put enough effort into using Carl Sandburg school, which is across the street from the library site, as an alternative to a new building. The school has been scheduled to be closed in 1981 because of declining enrollments.

But library officials contend they did not know the school would be available when they began to look for land.

Also, library architect S. Guy Fishman, who designed Sandburg school, says it would be impractical to remodel the school building as a library.

Voters first rejected a proposal to build a $3½ million library in October 1977. A second referendum for a $3.1 million facility was defeated by 177 votes last September.

But library board members reduced the size of the building by about 50 percent and decided to draw on the district's operating budget to pay for the new building. The district has budgeted $1.4 million for the project and plans to take $130,000 to $150,000 annually out of its operating budget, which means money for new books and other materials will be cut in half.

The village board is having a special meeting on the library request at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd. Library officials have asked the board to speed the request because they are faced with a deadline to award a construction contract.

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VILLAGE OFFICIALS Tuesday will meet to discuss whether firefighters, policemen and public works employees should be required to live closer to Wheeling.

Police Chief Ted Bracke has recommended all policemen be required to live within 10 miles of the village. The seven who live outside that 10-mile radius would not be required to move, however.

Fire chief B.O. Koeppen said he always has believed it would be better for firefighters to live in Wheeling. However, he acknowledges the idea is unpopular with firefighters and it is discriminatory to force only certain employees to live in town.

When the village began hiring full-time firefighters in 1969, residency was mandatory. But as the department began to grow, the requirements were relaxed until the village board finally agreed firefighters could live wherever they wanted.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said some public works employees might be forced to move closer to the village to be available in case of an emergency.

He said drawing the boundaries for a residency requirement could be difficult because some employees might live farther from village hall but could have access to highways enabling them to get to work quicker than someone who lives in town.

The residency requirements will be considered at a meeting that begins at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Pal-Waukee sued for mono

Daily Herald - September 21, 1979

Pal-Waukee Airport's owner has been accused in a lawsuit of trying to monopolize the airport's flying school business by charging exorbitant rates to a competing firm.

The suit, filed in U.S. District Court by the American School of Aviation, Inc., charges that Pal-Waukee owner George Priester imposed a 600 percent increase in operating fees on the flying school in "an indirect attempt to prohibit competition at Pal-Waukee airport and to maintain the monopoly enjoyed by Priester Aviation."

Priester, who also owns a flying school, said he increased the rates for airplane storage by 600 percent for all of Pal-Waukee's commercial customers last July.

Those customers — charter pilots and sightseeing operations as well as American's flight school — use the airport facilities more than private pilots, he said.

PRIESTER SAID American's five-plane flight school has "deprived us of about $25,000 a year in business at our airport."

The suit also names the Federal Aviation Administration because it staffs Pal-Waukee's control tower and maintains its instrument landing system. It argues that federal law prohibits Priester from having the "exclusive right for the use of any landing area or air navigation facility upon which federal funds have been expended."

David Stall, attorney for the flight school, said he could not comment on the case, which has been assigned to Judge Hubert Will. No court date has been set.

Hospital officials walk out of hearing

Wheeling Life - September 27, 1979

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

REPRESENTATIVES FROM Northwest Community hospital walked out of a public hearing for annexation and B-3 zoning for an ambulatory care center in Buffalo Grove, Monday night, Sept. 24.

When neither side refused to bend, president of Northwest Community hospital, Malcom MacCoun, said he could not recommend the stipulations imposed by the Buffalo Grove village board, at the public hearing on the preannexation agreement, and the hospital representatives got up and walked out. Stipulations for future use of the 7.576 acres bordering Lake-Cook road, Route 83, and Weiland road, were according to the B-3 zoning Trustee John Marienthal said, and required building plans on not less than five acres, floor space; access streets, and other zoning requirements.

Hospital officials refused to agree to a second building of not more than 30,000 square feet on the site, although a first two-story building of 30,000 square feet was designed for about one acre of the parcel at the village staff's request, according to Carl Hundreser, architect for the hospital.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT Verna Clayton and Marienthal said they were trying to have the ambulatory center designed to save trees at the south end of the property. Marienthal suggested the hospital request business and office zoning rather than B-3 zoning.

When the public hearing opened, Clayton said the board had not received all of the information necessary for the public hearing. She said a plan commission subcommittee report was not ready for the board to make recommendations on the subject. However, a poll of the board resulted in opening the public hearing.

Northwest Community hospital's attorney, Richard Houpt said that originally a one-story, 30,000-sq.-ft. ambulatory care center had been planned. Houpt argued against the second two-story building being specified in the preannexation agreement and offered the contigency of including in the agreement, a statement that the hospital would not build a building producing more than 7,715 gallons of sewage a day, which was the limit the staff had determined sewer pipes in the area could handle, according to Village Manager William Balling.

TRUSTEE ELLIOT HARTSTEIN said it is not really necessary for the preannexation agreement to contain the square footage of the future planned building if the sewage production of the building has the same maximum requirement when it was built as it has at the present time.

MacCoun said the ideal land the hospital had in mind was two acres on the Lake-Cook location, however, the owner would not sell unless the hospital purchased the entire 8.429 gross acres. He said the hospital board decided they could put a medical office building on the property. But, he insisted, they do not want to be tied to the exact square footage. He said he could not go back to his board, a non-profit organization, and tell them "We are giving away the rest of the property," when, he added they "bought seven or eight acres and only needed two acres." The building size may not work out in the future, MacCoun said.

MacCOUN ASKED for a restriction based on sewage capacity and agreed on one curb cut on Lake-Cook instead of two. However, Marienthal said he could not go along with that. Village Trustee Stephen Stone agreed with Marienthal, as did the other board members except Trustees Richard Kavitt and Hartstein.

MacCoun refused to answer whether the hospital board purchased the Lake-Cook site on contingency contract subject to the preannexation agreement approval or if it was an outright land purchase.

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY hospital cannot go to the county to seek zoning, because of an agreement between the Buffalo Grove village board and Lake and Cook counties, whereby the counties have agreed not to grant zoning in the village's sphere of influence, according to Buffalo Grove resident Bob Bogart, a former village trustee.

Stone said he was surprised the hospital people walked out on the public hearing and said he hoped it did not throw out the possibility of an ambulatory care center for Buffalo Grove.

Both Clayton and Marienthal said they were surprised the hospital people walked out, they had not been expecting such an action, and they did not like to see the group leave because of the impact on the people of Buffalo Grove.

Technically, the public hearing was not adjourned, Clayton said. The annexation agreement is important, to pin down future building on the site, save the trees on the site, and prevent something the village doesn't want, Clayton said. Both Clayton and Marienthal added they feel there is a need for the ambulatory care center.

HOUPT SAID the hospital people may sell the unused portion of land, and it was mainly for that reason they objected to the specifics.

According to Burton Chotimer, executive vice president of Northwest Community hospital, the group had not planned to build until spring. At this time, he said, he was not sure what they would do.

Bogart said previous boards voted against a hospital-run medical center for three years in a row, mainly because there was no need for another center and because costs of obtaining medical care could be as high as in the hospital.

A visitor who refused to give a name, but who admitted to being a comptroller for a Chicago hospital said that if a group of doctors have a monopoly for emergency care in a town, "The community gets soaked." In addition, the visitor said, the ambulatory center could ask for beds in the future, and if the beds are not filled, the community absorbs the costs. Bogart also stated that was one of the reasons the previous boards had voted down the ambulatory center.

IN WHEELING, an emergency health care facility and senior citizen's center has been planned for construction on Milwaukee avenue, south of Strong street in cooperation with Holy Family hospital, of Des Plaines.

Franklin Boulevard hospital of Chicago took plans for a full service hospital to Cook county. The location of Schoenbeck and Anthony for the hospital had been voted down for annexation by Wheeling plan commission. Buffalo Grove took a formal stand against building the hospital in this area more than a year ago.

Village board wrapup

Daily Herald October 3, 1979

Factory plan is again delayed

Wheeling trustees again delayed approval of building plans for a 30-foot-high factory near the end of Pal-Waukee Airport's longest runway.

In August, the board delayed a decision on the proposed building at the intersection of Hintz and Wolf roads, fearing that the building would make it impossible for jets to land on the 5,000-foot runway, which could turn the airport into a money-loser. Wheeling, with Prospect Heights, is considering buying the airport.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold recommended another delay of Glenview developer Sigmund Lefkovitz's building plans until village officials decide whether they want to buy the airport. "It seems too bad to lay out all this time and money (on the airport study) and then have it go down the drain," he said.

This time trustees said they were delaying approval of the plans because Lefkovitz had not submitted "proper documentation" showing the 34-acre site will provide retention basins to control flood water runoff.

Lefkovitz repeatedly has threatened to sue the village because the delays in approving his building plans has amounted to condemnation of his land.

Restaurant renovation approved

Plans to renovate and build an addition to Mr. B's restaurant, 600 S. Milwaukee Ave., was given tentative approval by the Wheeling Village Board.

Trustee Charles Kerr opposed the addition because the new building will rest about 2 feet from the edge of the property line, rather than the 17 feet required by village ordinances. Allowing such a variance, he said, could cause problems if the adjacent property, which now contains a nursery, is developed.

However, Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld defended the proposal, saying remodeling of the restaurant, which has been abandoned for more than a year, will spruce up its appearance. "You certainly couldn't be proud of the way it looks now," he said.

Tornado warning system pushed

Wheeling officials agreed to join other Northwest suburban officials in a campaign to persuade Congress to install a radar system designed give a 10- to 30-minute warning of an approaching tornado.

The National Weather Service has budgeted $1 million for the project but does not plan to build it until 1984 or 1985. Suburban officials are launching a campaign to get the systyem installed in time for next spring's tornado season.

$750 to be spent for study

Over the objections of two trustees, the Wheeling Village Board voted to spend $750 to hire a Chicago consulting firm that would provide comparisons of salaries and benefits of policemen, firemen and public works employees in neighboring towns.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said the village spends more than $2 million each year in salaries and benefits for those employees and knowing how the village stacks up against other towns is necessary when the employees' salaries are being negotiated.

But Trustee John Cole said, "You're paying a middleman $750 to give back the information that you gave him for free." He said the village staff could "get the same information for 20 cents" by telephoning other towns.

Trustee Charles Kerr also voted against the proposal, criticizing Leikvold for ignoring earlier studies by the same firm, PARA Inc. Kerr said Leikvold set salary ranges for policemen and firefighters that were higher than other village employees. Firefighters and policemen this year received 7 percent raises, while other village workers' raises averaged 3 percent.

Board meetings to begin at 8 p.m.

Wheeling Village Board meetings will now start at 8 p.m. instead of 8:30 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of each month. Trustees passed the resolution in an effort to end the meetings at an earlier hour.

The week ahead

Daily Herald - October 1, 1979

Library plan pondered

Approval of plans by the Indian Trails Library District to build a new library on Schoenbeck Road will be considered tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

The board tentatively approved the project despite objections from Trustee Charles Kerr, who said the library should not be built because voters twice have rejected tax increases to pay for the new building.

However, board members who approved the project said it was not their right to make a policy decision for another government agency and voted to rezone the 5-acre site at 300 S. Schoenbeck Rd.

Following two defeats at the polls, library officials decided to draw on the library's operating budget to finance the project. The district serves Wheeling, Buffalo Grove and portions of Prospect Heights. Officials have budgeted $1.4 million for the project, meaning $130,000 to $150,000 will be taken from the district's operating budget annually for the next 10 years.

Library officials have asked the village board to speed the request because they are faced with an Oct. 21 deadline to award a construction contract. Bids have ranged from $1.37 million to more than $1.6 million. Library officials fear that if the builders' deadline is not met, the district will be forced to seek new bids for the project.

The village board will consider the project at 8:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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PLANS BY a Glenview developer who wants to build a 30-foot-tall factory near the end of Pal-Waukee Airport's longest runway will be considered tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

The village last month delayed approving developer Sigmund Lefkovitz's plans to build the factory at the northwest corner of Hintz and Wolf roads because the village is uncertain of the impact the building may have on plans by the village and Prospect Heights to purchase the airport.

Consultants for the two towns say Lefkovitz's factory would make jet landings on the runway impossible, making the proposed airport purchase unlikely. The Federal Aviation Administration has said the factory would be a hazard to safe air navigation.

Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold has recommended the board again delay Lefkovitz's plans. However, he is not sure if the village has the legal right to delay Lefkovitz's building plans while the towns decide whether they are going to buy the airport.

Lefkovitz repeatedly has threatened to sue the village for holding up his building plans. He says the village has no right to invoke FAA standards to prevent construction of his building because the FAA did nothing to stop airport owner George Priester when he extended the runway closer to the Hintz-Wolf Road intersection than federal safety standards allow.

The village board will meet at 8:30 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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FRANKLIN BOULEVARD Hospital's attempts to obtain approval from the Cook County Zoning Board to build a full-service hospital on Schoenbeck Road near Wheeling will be discussed Tuesday by the Buffalo Grove Village Board.

Officials from both Buffalo Grove and Wheeling oppose plans for the proposed 232-bed hospital, saying it would aggravate traffic congestion on two-lane Schoenbeck Road and contribute to what area health planners say is an oversupply of hospital beds in the 'orthwest suburbs.

However, officials of Franklin Boulevard, Chicago, say the area needs a full-service branch hospital even though two other hospitals are planning to build satellite clinics in Wheeling and Buffalo Grove.

Franklin Boulevard's plans for a hospital in Wheeling have been in the works six years, but the hospital asked the county only last week for the zoning changes it needs to begin.

The Wheeling Plan Commission last year unanimously rejected the proposal, but the hospital withdrew plans before the village board could make a final decision.

Officials from Holy Family Hospital in Des Plaines and Northwest Community Hospital in Arlington Heights both object to the Franklin Boulevard Hospital proposal. Holy Family wants to build a $4.5 million outpatient clinic in Wheeling near Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue, and Northwest is seeking permission from Buffalo Grove to build a $2 million clinic at Ill. Rte. 83 and Lake-Cook Road.

The Buffalo Grove Village Board meets Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 50 Raupp Blvd.

Firefighters balk at residency rule

Daily Herald - Sept. 27, 1979

Firefighters are asking village officials not to impose a residency requirement making it mandatory for Wheeling policemen and firefighters to live within 10 miles of the village.

The firefighters or policemen who already live outside the 10-mile limit would not be required to abide by the proposed residency requirement.

They would however, if they chose to move on their own. New firefighters or policemen would have to live within the 10-mile limit.

But that new rule would be "punishing" firefighters who moved near the village several years ago when the village had a residency requirement, Firefighter Michael Proebstle told village officials at a community safety committee meeting this week.

WHAT THE RESIDENCY requirement is doing, he said, "is, in effect, punishing some of us who chose to stay in town with the option to move out later. But the ones who moved out already are going to get to stay out. There's going to be some very disgruntled employees."

Proebstle and other firefighters say those men who have been trying to build equity in a house or save money to buy a larger house with more land might not be able to find such a place in Wheeling or a 10-mile radius.

"You show me where I can buy an acre of land with $20,000," Proebstle said.

The firefighters also say where they live does not affect their ability to get to work in bad weather, as village officials have contended. They are on duty for 24 hours and are available to answer calls.

If the weather is bad and firefighters live far from the village they have the option of sleeping at the fire station quarters.

But Fire Chief B.O. Koeppen, who proposed the residency rule, says he needs firefighters close to the village to respond to emergency calls. "If there's an apartment fire and I can't have them within three or four minutes, they're no good to me," he said.

KOEPPEN ADDED he would prefer all firefighters live in Wheeling, but said that stringent a requirement would pose an undue hardship. However, he said the overwhelming majority of firefighters that come in on an emergency call live in town.

And because more men are taking advantage of Wheeling's absence of a residency requirement, the village is in danger of getting caught short-handed on emergency fires.

Nine of the 21 firefighters live outside the proposed 10-mile radius, Koeppen said, with four them included in the group of eight firefighters who were hired this month.

Koeppen admitted the village was being "Indian givers — we giveth and we taketh away" but said reinstating the residency requirement was "very fair."

Residency was mandatory when the village first started hiring full-time firefighters in 1961, but those standards were relaxed gradually as the department began to grow until the village board finally said firefighters could live wherever they wanted.

KOEPPEN ALSO NOTED neighboring fire departments, such as Glenview, Northbrook, Arlington Heights and Mount Prospect, all have residency requirements. And the number of firefighters available in an emergency is "getting pretty skimpy" even with a full squad of volunteer firefighters, he said.

Trustee Charles Kerr, whose community safety committee will decide whether the board should reinstate the residency requirement, said the 10-mile requirement was fair. He added that employees who live in the village become more concerned about their community.

"I work in Evanston," Kerr said, "and I couldn't give a damn about what happens in Evanston. I feel 10 miles is a fair regulation. (Firefighters) have to assume some responsibilty because you have an emergency-type job."

Village approves Indian Trails library plans

Daily Herald - October 2, 1979

Over the objections of two trustees, the Wheeling Village Board Monday night gave final approval to plans by the Indian Trails Library District to build a new library on Schoenbeck Road.

Trustees Charles Kerr and Robert Ross voted against rezoning the five-acre site at 300 S. Schoenbeck because voters twice rejected tax increases to pay for a new library.

However, Trustees John Cole, Hubert Sommerfeld and Roger Powers voted to approve the controversial project. Trustee Shiela Schultz was absent.

TRUSTEES COMPLIED with the request by library officials to speed up the project by waiving the usual practice of posting the zoning ordinance in the village hall for two weeks. Library officials said they feared that missing an Oct. 21 deadline to award a construction contract for the project might make it unaffordable.

The library board has budgeted $1.4 million for the new library. Construction estimates have ranged between $1.37 million and more than $1.6 million.

If the district had missed the deadline to award the construction contracts, officials feared it could have added as much as 5 percent to the construction costs.

THE LIBRARY BOARD DECIDED to draw on its operating budget to pay for the new building after tax increases were twice defeated at the polls. The district plans to take $130,000 to $150,000 annually out of its operating budget for the next 10 years, meaning money for new books and other materials will be cut nearly in half.

"It's been a long time in coming," said Library Board Pres. Diane Nicholson. "I'm just very happy that it looks like we'll finally be in our new building."

She said the library district probably will conduct a public hearing on the building plans Oct. 17 and would award a construction contract at that time.



Village officials are considering adopting a rule which would require that new full-time village employees live within a 10-mile radius of the village. Discussions are still underway on the controversial proposal.

Wheeling employees may have 10-mile limit

Countryside - October 4, 1979

By MARION SOURS

New Wheeling employees may be required to live within 10 miles of the village, if a proposed restriction is passed by trustees.

At Monday night's meeting of the Wheeling village board, Trustee Charles Kerr, chairman of the Community Safety Committee, reported on a recent committee meeting held with village staff regarding the proposed residential restrictions.

He said the heads of the police and fire departments indicated they were in favor of such restrictions. Village Manager Carsten Leikvold also has asked that limitations be implemented.

At the meeting, a suggested draft was compiled, which stated that within 18 months of initial employment, all full-time employees would be required to move within a 10-mile radius of the village.

Full-time employees already working for the village would not be affected by this rule, unless they decided to move.

Kerr submitted a letter which asked that the village attorney "draw up, or amend, existing ordinances to reflect the...residency restrictions, which in my opinion were the consensus of persons who attended the...meeting."

There was some dissension among trustees regarding the proposal, however. A central point brought up was that the suggested restriction would apply to employees in all departments, whereas trustees said they had thought such a rule only would apply to employees in the police, fire or public works department. Kerr said those were the only departments represented at the meeting.

Because of the disagreement, the trustees decided to delay action on the proposed restrictions until further input could be gathered from employees in all the village's departments.

Wheeling firemen already have expressed disapproval of the proposed restriction. At the recent Community Safety Committee meeting, some firemen said they were being penalized.

In the early 1960s firemen were required to live within the village, but later this requirement was dropped. Those firemen who had moved to the village because it was mandatory, said the village had given the advantage to firemen who joined the force after the residency requirement was made.

Now, those firemen who live outside the

(Continued on next page)

Residency—

Countryside - 10-4-79

(Continued from preceding page)

10-mile limit may remain there. But those firemen who stayed within the village now may not be able to leave. Firemen said the land costs within the 10-mile radius may make it impossible for them to buy larger homes or more land.

Police Chief Ted Bracke, however, speaking in defense of the restrictions, said he believed the 10-mile radius provided "a good mix" of housing.

A primary reason Leikvold, Bracke and Fire Chief Bernhardt Koeppen have wanted some restrictions is to curb absenteeism and improve village efficiency.

Leikvold said after last winter's blizzard and the absenteeism resulting from it, he decided some kind of residency restrictions might be needed. Currently there are no restrictions upon where a village employee may live.

The 10-mile radius was set as one which would provide better response time in the case of emergency.

Village President William Hein said he questioned, whether the village might not be able to hire the best-qualified people in certain positions because of the requirement. He cited the position of planner, which he said would not necessarily require that the individual be present in emergency situations.

He said someone who lived slightly outside the 10-mile radius might not wish to change his residence, and so the village would lose a good prospective employee. He suggested the village staff consider such possibilities when discussions are continued.

Wheeling Life - October 4, 1979

Urge warning system

WHEELING—The village board Monday, Oct. 2, passed a resolution urging congressmen to authorize the expenditure of funds for a new radar warning system to detect tornados in the Chicago metropolitan area.

The radar system is called the Doppler radar system and will cost approximately $1 million to build. It gives advance warning of at least 22 minutes of oncoming tornados.

Fire Chief Bernie Koeppen, Fire Capt. Ralph Perricone and Finance Director Greg Peters attended a joint meeting with metropolitan fire chiefs on Sept. 13 regarding tornados. With the oncoming tornado season, fire chiefs passed a resolution for the updated warning system.

Koeppen said the fire department will be responsible for obtaining 500 signatures needed for the resolution.

Library wins special zoning

Countryside - October 4, 1979

The Indian Trails Library District finally was granted a special use permit at Monday night's meeting of the Wheeling village board.

Wheeling officials have worked with representatives of the library district to speed approval of the permit. It was necessary that such approval be granted by Oct. 22, or the proposed library on Schoenbeck Road might have had to be cancelled.

The library district said it would award a construction contract by Oct. 22. Officials said if they let the deadline lapse on awarding a contract, future construction costs might not be affordable to the district.

The district had allowed $1.4 million for the project. The lowest bid on the construction work was $1.37. The proposed building site currently is zoned residential, hence the need for the special use permit.

The district plans to pay for the project from its operating budget over the next 10 years. The project twice had been rejected by voters. Library officials said they believed this rejection was because residents did not want more taxes, not because they were opposed to the project. Library staff said overcrowding at the present facility made a new library vital.

Police squad car repair costs hit

Wheeling Life - October 4, 1979

WHEELING—Village trustees Monday, Oct. 1, questioned costs incurred by the police department connected to repair of squad cars.

Trustee John Cole said he has seen policemen abusing squad cars right in front of village hall. "I have seen them hot dogging out here," he said.

"I get more and more aggravated at the way policemen abuse their equipment. Maybe it's time to send our policemen to safe-driving school, because if we don't they're going to be riding bicycles."

Cole questioned the expenditure of $357.45 for a new transmission for a 1979 squad car. Village President William Hein questioned why personnel in the maintenance department could not do such repair work.

However, Village Manager Carsten Leikvold explained that because construction is being completed on a new public works building, "For all practical purposes we haven't had a shop for the past two months."

LEIKVOLD SAID HE has talked to department heads to convey the board's concern about the number of traffic accidents involving policemen.

Cole asked why the village doesn't question the type of "abuse" of equipment which is going on. "Normally, when we buy a police vehicle, we get a heavy-duty transmission," noted Hein. To drop a clutch pad out of this type of transmission is very rare."

Cole said the village is spending thousands of dollars on (repairs and broken-down equipment) and should have some procedures for checking into them.

Police Chief Ted Bracke said Tuesday morning, Oct. 2, that in most cases concerning the accidents, the fault was not with the policemen. "We had three drunks who hit us in the rear," he noted.

However, concerning "abuse" of squad cars, "I would be naive to think it doesn't happen. But the first-line supervisors should handle this. We will check it out. Policemen should obey the law more than others," he added.

Meeting change

Reminder - Oct. 4, 1979

The meeting time for the Wheeling Village Board has been changed by a vote of trustees. Starting Monday, the board will meet at 8 p.m. on Mondays at the Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Previously the board met at 8:30 on Mondays. It still will meet on all but the fifth Monday of the month.



An artist's rendering of the finished Wheeling municipal complex shows the large front building, containing village offices and the court room to the right, police offices in the middle and the fire department to the left. The building to the rear right is the public works building, with the rear parking lots shown.

Village awaits new hall for Wheeling workers

Countryside Reminder (S) October 4, 1979

By MARION SOURS

From the inside of the Wheeling Village Hall, it's a little hard to visualize what the building will look like when it's finished. One has to picture what will be on the other side of a wall when it's knocked down, or what a room will look like when it's painted and the carpeting is installed.

But from the outside, the complex appears nearly finished. The exterior of the addition to the existing municipal building is almost complete. So it is that of the new public works building to the south.

The completion of the large project, with the parking lots around it, is eagerly awaited by Wheeling employees and many village residents. Portions of it will be finished in a few months, and will be open to the public. In view of that fact, here is an overview of the project, which may help people find their way around once it's open.

In 1977 the village board of Wheeling hired the firm of Associated Architects, of Arlington Heights, to design a new municipal complex.

For years, such a project had been contemplated, to add needed office space and provide a centralized village complex. Also, additional parking long had been needed at the municipal building, especially on days when court is in session.

Associated Architects has constructed numerous buildings for municipalities, including the public works building for Arlington Heights, and all of that city's fire stations.

Village officials had in mind a municipal complex which would give more room to existing offices within the municipal building, such as police and village offices. Also, room was desired for the fire department, which now is located near Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue, and the public works department.

To finance the project, which will cost about $3.9 million, bonds were sold. Wallace Bates, an architect with the contracted firm, did most of the work on the project. He spent about a year on the plan. Finally, construction began last summer.

The new construction will more than double the size of the existing municipal building, which is located on the south side of Dundee Road, across from the post office. Presently, as one enters the building, the police department is to the left. One enters a hall, which has a view of a glass-enclosed outdoor patio.

The village offices are to the right. Down the corridor, past these offices, is the courtroom to the right. To the left is the department of community development. And to the rear of the building is a large maintenance area.

The new building will be designed as follows: one still may enter through the present front entrance, if one wishes to go to the police department or to the village offices. The entrance to the police department still will be to the left as one comes in, though its area will be greatly expanded. New offices will be added, along with a lunch room, a pistol range and jail cells. A television monitoring system will be set up at the entrance of the department to improve security. This department's remodelling probably will be finished next summer, Bates said.

Straight ahead, past the police department there still will be a patio, but it no longer will be glass-enclosed, but will be open, so people may walk through. It will be landscaped with trees and shrubs. It will have a sun roof, where previously it was open.

The village offices still will be to the right, but again, they will be greatly expanded. They will be enlarged into the area which now is the courtroom. The department of community development will expand into this area, Bates said. A lunch room and a meeting room will adjoin the village offices.

The courtroom, in turn, will be moved into the area in the back, which now is a maintenance area. It is a bigger room than the current courtroom, and will have a lobby and a conference room. The courtroom will have its own entrance, toward the back of the complex, and a large parking area near the back. This separate entrance and parking area will

(Continued on page 10)

Thursday, October 4, 1979 THE DAILY HERALD

WHEELING VILLAGE BOARD VOTE SUMMARY

Selected decisions from village board meetings of Sept. 4, Sept. 17 and Sept. 24.








	Cole	Kerr	Powers	Ross	Schultz	Sommerfeld
To oppose efforts by Franklin Boulevard Hospital to build 232-bed branch hospital near Wheeling. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
To annex 110-acre parcel south of Lake-Cook Road to be developed as industrial park and shopping center. (Passed 5-0)	YES	ABSENT	YES	YES	YES	YES
To give developer of 110-acre parcel two liquor licenses as part of annexation agreement. (Passed 4-1)	YES	ABSENT	YES	YES	NO	YES
To allow local Kiwanis Club to solicit donations on village streets. (Defeated 5-0)	NO	ABSENT	NO	NO	NO	NO
Preliminary approval of plans by Indian Trails Library Dist. to construct new library on Schoenbeck Road. (Passed 3-1)	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSENT	YES	YES

New village hall—

Countryside Reminder
October 4, 1979

(Continued from page 1)

prevent court traffic from interfering with village operations, a situation which has been a problem in the past. The courtroom should be finished in January, Bates said.

The entrance to the fire station will be in the front of the municipal building, to the east of the police department and village entrance. The offices will be larger in the new fire station than in the present one. There will be a conference room, a library, a lounge, an outside patio and a kitchen, as well as dormitories which adjoin the garage where the trucks are kept, to the far east of the building.

The fire department will have its own access to Dundee Road. The drive which formerly was in the front of the building, and opened at both ends onto Dundee, now will be a cul-de-sac drive, so it will not interfere with the fire department traffic, Bates said.

There will be a police yard to the rear of the building. There will be about 20 parking spaces there for police cars and the cars of police department employees.

The Public Works Building, to the south of the municipal building, will house the public works department offices. These offices probably will open in November, though there has been some talk that the court may be held in that office area until the courtroom is finished in January.

Also in that building is a huge garage, of 15,000 square feet, for the storage of snow plows, maintenance vehicles and water and sewer vehicles and equipment.

In the rear of the building is a maintenance shop, now in operation, for the repair of police cars and other village vehicles. The village's own mechanics work there. Also, in the building is a machine shop, a lunch room and kitchen, a sign-painting shop, a carpentry shop, an explosion-proof paint storage room, a parts room and a tire shop.

Many of the 200 rooms in the new complex will have concrete walls, which will be painted with shiny epoxy paint. Carpeting will be installed in office areas. Other areas may have tile floors. Bates said the design scheme for the project involves warm colors: yellows, beiges and greens.

The complex will have its own generator, to supply emergency power to the building. The total number of parking spaces is about 300, Bates said These spaces will lie to the rear of the main municipal building.

Officials differ on residency rule

Wheeling Life
October 4, 1979

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Village trustees differed Monday, Oct. 1, on the approach to take regarding residency requirements for village employes. Village President William Hein disagreed with a proposal by Village Manager Carsten Leikvold that all village employes should eventually live within a 10-mile radius of the village, saying the village could be settling for "second best" when hiring engineers and other staff not considered emergency personnel.

The residency requirement would not affect present village personnel unless they move.

The issue of a residency requirement was brought up by Police Chief Ted Bracke who said it would correct some "supervision and management problems." In addition, Fire Chief Bernie Koeppen has said some firemen are virtually useless to the village except for their regular duty. One fireman lives 40 miles away from the village and cannot be called back for emergencies.

VILLAGE TRUSTEE Charles Kerr suggested the village attorney be directed to draw up an ordinance creating a residency requirment of 10 miles.

But Hein objected. "I caution the board about this. The village of Wheeling has a very wide range of job descriptions. I don't want to put the village in the position where we can't hire someone who isn't in an emergency-type situation."

ACCORDING TO LEIKVOLD, the requirement "doesn't put any hardship on any professional staff. This is an awfully big area. I hate to start dividing up the village forces into those who have to comply and those who don't. It's conceivable in an emergency that we would want to pull in those who are in other departments." Leikvold said non-emergency personnel are being trained to drive village trucks in case the village needs them.

"I don't want to settle for second best because of this," Hein said. "When we talk about fire and police department personnel, I think they should be in the village of Wheeling. The village provides different types of housing. I'd rather have them in the village of Wheeling entirely," he added.

Trustee Roger Powers agreed with Hein, citing the fact that a computer operator would not have to live close to the village to be effective in his work.

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld said, "We are not writing something that will live in perpetuity. If the staff went out to locate someone and couldn't get someone, I assume they'd be intelligent enough to come to the board and say so."

Sommerfeld said, "Let's see how it works (the 10-mile limit). You could argue these points until tomorrow and still not come up with a definitive answer. I assume the staff will tell us if it doesn't work."

Trustee Robert Ross asked if any village personnel other than police, fire and public works employes had been consulted on the residency requirement. Leikvold said they had not.

The board asked Leikvold to talk to village personnel to determine staff feelings on this issue.

FINANCE DIRECTOR Greg Peters, who lives in Oak Park, further than the 10-mile proposal, said Tuesday morning, Oct. 2, that at times living that far away has "affected me. I've missed three days due to snow since I started with the village in 1975," he explained. Other than that, Peters said living so far away can be difficult, "but that was my own choosing."

If Wheeling includes all village employes in its residency requirement, it would be more stringent than all other communities, Peters said. He said he feels this could backfire for the village if the rule is extended to professional personnel. "The ordinance proposed says a new employe must move into the village within 18 months," he explained. "If someone doesn't want to, he could work for the village for 17 months and then leave."

Population here is getting older

Wheeling Life - October 11, 1979

WHEELING—The population of the village has grown older since the last census was taken in 1974, according to figures released this week by the village.

While there has been an overall increase in the population of 18.6%, the age groups between birth and 19 years show a decrease of 8.9% or 551 persons. The largest decrease has been in the 10 to 14 age group. This group has decreased by 21%, while there has been a 1.58% decrease in the birth to 4 age group, an 8.28% decrease in the 5 to 9 age group and a 6.13% decrease in the 15 to 19 age group.

THE LARGEST INCREASE in population came in the 65 to 69 age group. There was an increase of 107.3% in this age group between 1974 and 1979 when the most recent special census was taken. There has been a dramatic increase in the overall population of senior citizens in the past five years — 53.4% or 555 persons past the age of 60.

The next largest increase in population has been in the 55 to 59 age bracket. This group has increased by 56.7%, while the 50 to 54 age bracket has increased by 31%.

There has also been a large increase in the 30 to 34 age group. This group increased by 49.7% in the past five years.

One figure which does not seem to hold true to the increase in age is a decrease in the 40 to 44 age bracket. However, this decrease is only 3.15%.

The change in demographics in the community points to social changes which are now taking place — discussion of school closings and construction of a senior citizen center and senior citizen housing.

Walkathon to fight birth defects

Wheeling Life - October 4, 1979

WHEELING-BUFFALO GROVE — Hundreds of area residents will walk 27 kilometers (17 miles) for the prevention of birth defects in the annual March of Dimes Wheeling/Buffalo Grove Walkathon, scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 14.

They will be sponsored by friends, relatives, neighbors and community businesses who pledge donations for every kilometer completed.

Funds raised by the event will support March of Dimes research, health education and medical service programs in the Chicago area and nationwide to prevent birth defects and improve maternal/newborn health.

WALK REGISTRATION will take place between 7 to 8 a.m. at the Buffalo Grove high school, Arlington Heights and Dundee roads in Buffalo Grove. Water and restroom facilities will be provided at each of the four checkpoints along the 27 kilometer (17 miles) Walkathon route.

First aid care will be provided at each checkpoint by local podiatrists, Dr. Raymond Wyer, Buffalo Grove; Dr. Stephen Weinberg, Buffalo Grove; Dr. Howard Sterling, Mundelein; and Red Cross volunteers.

Every walker collecting $10 or more in pledges will receive a free March of Dimes Walkathon T-shirt after the event. A Midland CB radio set will also be awarded to the walker who collects the most money, courtesy Wheeling Trust and Savings bank.

For more information and registration details, call the March of Dimes North Cook/Lake county office at 259-0710.

Grant sought for ticket step-up

Daily Herald - October 9, 1979

Wheeling police say they will apply this week for $150,000 in federal money to continue writing more tickets along Dundee Road, a measure they say has resulted in a slight drop in traffic accidents in the village this year.

Patrolman Armando Pizzi, head of the traffic division, says the grant from the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program would pay 75 percent of the salaries of the five officers in the traffic division next year.

Pizzi hopes the federal money can be used to hire a new officer for the traffic division.

With the money, officers will be able to continue their increased patrol of Dundee Road, Pizzi said, adding that the officers will be writing tickets for improper lane usage and failure to signal — "the kinds of violations that cause accidents."

IN MAY, POLICE began using a $110,000 traffic grant to increase enforcement of traffic laws, primarily on Dundee Road. About 3,000 tickets have been issued this year, a 10 percent increase from last year.

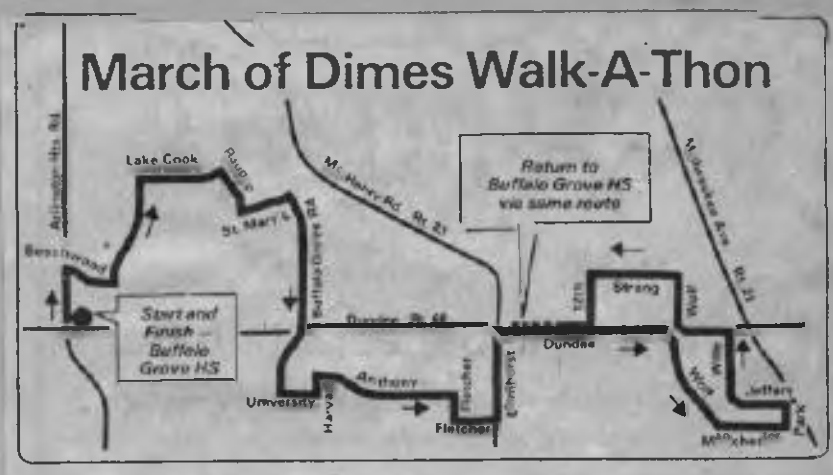
During the first three months of the program, there were 175 traffic accidents in the village, compared with 180 accidents during the same period last year, Pizzi said.

"I think the primary reason for the decrease is the number of citations we're writing," Pizzi said. Because police are increasing their patrols along Dundee Road, motorists are less likely to make a sudden lane change or try to beat a yellow light while making a left turn, he said.

Dundee Road is averages almost almost an accident a day, accounting for about half the accidents in Wheeling.

Village officials also are attempting to get $400,000 in state and federal money through the Northwest Municipal Conference to begin the preliminary engineering necessary to make Dundee Road a five-lane thoroughfare.

Traffic consultants have estimated it will cost the state $5 million to widen the two-mile stretch of Dundee Road from Milwaukee Avenue to Elmhurst Road.



Walkers set 17-mile hike for area March of Dimes

Daily Herald - October 10, 1979

Walkers will follow a 17-mile trail through Wheeling and Buffalo Grove Sunday during the March of Dimes walkathon.

Proceeds the march, which will start at 8 a.m. at Buffalo Grove High School, Dundee and Arlington Heights roads, will be used for research, health education and medical service programs in the Chicago area to help prevent birth defects.

Event registration will be at the high school from 7 to 8 a.m. Each walker who collects more than $10 in pledges will be given a March of Dimes T-shirt. A citizens band radio will be awarded to the walker who collects the most money.

Other prizes for the walkers collecting the second and third largest sums are a $25 savings bond and a large stuffed animal.

There also will be a raffle following completion of the 17-mile walk. Prizes include records, theater passes, free bowling and coupons for free hamburgers and pizza at local restaurants.

THE WALKATHON is expected to conclude between 2 and 3 p.m. Following the march, "Dancin' Machine," a Round Lake disco band, will perform at the high school.

Refreshments and restrooms will be provided to the walkers at four checkpoints along the walkathon route. First aid care also will be provided at the four checkpoints by local podiatrists and Red Cross volunteers.

March of Dimes officials hope to make the walkathon an annual event. For more information and registration details, call the March of Dimes for North Cook and Lake counties, 259-0710.

14 cable TV firms line up for screening

Daily Herald - Oct. 4, 1979

Consultant fee winning full support

by John Morrissey
Herald staff writer

Fourteen cable television companies, some coveting the entire Northwest suburban area and others as few as one town, have lined up for franchises to do business.

The firms have asked to be considered by a consultanting firm that will place a "qualified" or "unqualified" rating on each of them and recommend the top three to suburban governments besieged by requests for franchises.

The consultant's report, to be commissioned later this month by the Northwest Municipal Conference, will be due Feb. 1 so local officials in each suburb can make "an objective decision" by May 1 and cable networks can break ground next summer, said William G. Grams, executive director of the conference. The study will cost about $25,000 to $28,000, he said.

A FLURRY OF COMPETING cable proposals hit individual village boards and city councils starting last January, spurred by changes in federal regulations that suddenly made the medium attractive as a business venture.

The municipal conference, a coalition of 21 suburbs and seven townships, last spring became a clearing-house for competing cable systems, seeking to research each proposal and "act as an insulator and deflect much of the intense marketing efforts," Grams said.

"We estimated over the life of the proposal that for a $30 million capitalization cost — and that's for the 21 suburbs — the gross profit is $200 million over the 20-year-period," he said.

Most likely more than one company will get a share of that profit, but how many the consultant has to answer. Grams said there may be cost savings in service and equipment for large regional networks that will benefit subscribers, and that has to be weighed against the advantages of competition.

OTHER FACTORS weighing on the consultant's final conclusions include the financial condition and ownership arrangement of each company, evaluation of "hardware" in each proposal and provisions for servicing it, programming and innovation, and performance in other cities.

Once the study is out, local officials will have the final say in designating one company to provide exclusive service. "Two companies just can't exist side by side in the same town," Grams said. "So their decision is going to be with them for the next 20 years."

Of the 14 applicants, nine are bidding for all 21 suburbs. They are:

Northern Illinois Cable, Cablenet, Cablevision (subsidiary of Cablevision of Jericho, N.Y.), Norcom Inc. (subsidiary of Cox Cable Communications Inc. and Paddock Publications), Coaxial Communications, Six Star Communications, Warner Communications, Northwest Metrovision Inc., and United Cable Television Inc.

National Cable Vision has applied only in Buffalo Grove, and four others are vying for franchises in selected suburbs.

Matrix Inc. is concentrating on Glencoe, Northfield and Winnetka, while Telcomatrix, a related corporation, is in line everywhere but Glencoe, Northfield and Winnetka.

Centel, the telephone company for Des Plaines and Park Ridge, is registered everywhere except those two towns and Mount Prospect. Continental Cablevision has selected Arlington Heights, Des Plaines, Glenview, Niles, Park Ridge and Wheeling.

"misinformed" by conference officials.

"We thought that if we paid the $1,500 and did not contract a franchise we would lose that money," Trustee Frank Dalla Valle, who lead the opposition to paying a consultant, said.

"But now it is apparent that if only three of the 21 towns in the conference award a franchise, we will not lose our $1,500, he said."

William Grams, NWMC executive director, said the firms that eventually are awarded franchises in the Northwest suburbs will ultimately pay up to $10,000 to defray the consultant's fee.

GRAMS SAID the consultant is necessary to give municipalities the best service because "cable companies will tell you all the great things they will do for you, but unless you have a specialist, who knows what to look for in a contract you won't get it."

Planning and exhaustive research is necessary, Grams said, because "you are getting in [illegible] people for

Consultants ask for more money

Wheeling Life - October 11, 1979

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The consulting firm hired to study the feasibility of purchasing Palwaukee airport for a municipal facility has asked for extra money for the study based on several "extra" services performed. However, Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold said the firm, Ralph Burke, Inc., has been told there is no extra money forthcoming from Wheeling.

Wheeling, Prospect Heights, the state and federal government are all paying a portion of the expense of the study. Leikvold said the federal government has some extra money it could use for this type of expense, and the state does, too. "But he (Larry Donoghue of Ralph Burke, Inc.) has been told any extra work is on his own and there is no guarantee of further payment.

A LETTER FROM Donoghue was sent to Wheeling Village President William Hein and Prospect Heights Mayor Richard Wolf, and the councils of both communities dated Sept. 27, detailing the type of extra services performed. These include meetings, correspondence and extra study performed in connection with the expansion plans of Acco International, the Plum Creek development built on the northern edge of the airport, work on preliminary highway relocation studies required by the need to eliminate the intersection of Wolf and Hintz roads in the clear zone area of the longest runway at the airport and assistance to Prospect Heights and Wheeling in drafting ordinances to restrict building heights in the area surrounding Palwaukee.

Donoghue said the additional work has not only increased the effort made by his firm, but has delayed the study because of diversion of key staff members to this extra work.

Phase I of the study is completed and consultants are working on the final draft of Phase II of the study. Phase III is supposed to be ready by May 1980.

Preliminary figures in Phase II show the airport could be viable as a municipal facility. However, questions were raised as to the legitimacy of that claim since no one knows what Federal Aviation administration (FAA) rules will be waived in connection with the sale of the airport. The FAA claims no jurisdiction over the airport at present because it is a privately-owned facility.

Mixed bag: peanut sales permits

Daily Herald Sept. 28, 1979

Herald staff report

Although they're breaking the law, most Northwest suburban officials are looking the other way and allowing the Kiwanis Club to sell peanuts in the streets today for the organization's annual fundraising project.

But five communities in the area are prohibiting Kiwanis from soliciting motorists because they don't want to risk being sued if a club member gets hit by a car or causes a traffic accident.

State law forbids street solicitation, but most municipalities have ignored the statute and traditionally allowed non-profit groups such as the Kiwanis and Lions clubs to solicit funds from passing motorists. However, the state legislature has changed that law and after Jan. 1 will allow persons over 16 to solicit in the streets and on corners.

MOST MUNICIPALITIES probably were unaware of the street ban until attorney Patrick Lucansky earlier this year wrote an article for the Northwest Municipal League bulletin warning of possible problems, Wheeling Village Atty. David Epstein said. Lucansky cited a 1978 Illinois Supreme Court decision that holds a municipality liable if someone were injured because of street solicitation, he said.

Although they've allowed it in the past, Wheeling officials this year refused a permit to Kiwanis. Police Chief Ted Bracke, a Lions Club member, said he reluctantly will enforce the law which he was unaware of until the question of liability was raised.

Also refusing to allow the solicitations are Streamwood, Des Plaines, Hoffman Estates and Arlington Heights.

"It's kind of like shooting your mother," Streamwood Trustee Jack Fehlandt said. "But we've got to follow the law."

"We always said you have to keep out of the line of traffic," said Arlington Heights Village Mgr. L.A. Hanson, adding that the law change on Jan. 1 "doesn't matter."

THE TWINBROOK KIWANIS CLUB, which covers Hoffman Estates and Schaumburg, plans to be out on street corners in Schaumburg but not in Hoffman Estates. The village is standing by the precedent-setting ban it imposed two years ago as part of its home-rule authority.

"We've been told by the powers that be in Hoffman Estates not to bother even trying to contact them for a permit," said Twinbrook Kiwanian Barry Pass.

Even when the new state law takes effect Jan. 1, Twinbrook Kiwanis club members won't return to Hoffman Estates corners because they've been told the village will continue to use its home-rule power to prohibit the solicitations.

The Kiwanis won't run into any roadblocks in Bartlett, Buffalo Grove, Elk Grove Village, Hanover Park, Mount Prospect or Schaumburg, where officials say they will not be enforcing the state law.

SCHAUMBURG VILLAGE PRES. Herbert Aigner said his village doesn't plan to bear down on Kiwanis' corner-hustling. Trustees considered the liability question and "agreed to have our insurance assume the risk," he said.

"It's a traditional type of thing to raise money for a very good cause," said Edward Geick, Assistant Village Mgr. in Mount Prospect. "We've always allowed it in the past and as long as they (the Kiwanians) don't obstruct traffic and they take all the necessary precautions, we don't see any reason not to allow it again this year."

Besides, Geick added, allowing the solicitation is in "the spirit of the new state statute."

Elk Grove Village Pres. Charles Zettek agreed, saying the village isn't encouraging anyone to break the law, but that it just won't be enforced.

Elk Grove Village officials last month adopted an ordinance that permits street-corner solicitation, although it technically cannot go into effect until the state law becomes effective.

And with the village choosing not to enforce the law, Village Atty. George Kncikerbocker said, "It would be up to the state's attorney to prosecute. I've talked to him and he's not going to do it."

Don't impose new law, WH

Daily Life - October 4, 1979

THE VILLAGE OF WHEELING is considering imposing a 10-mile residency requirement on all village employes. The requirement would not apply to present personnel unless they move. However, all future hiring would be affected.

The village manager wishes to impose the 10-mile requirement on all village personnel, saying it would not be a hardship to the professional staff. However, some trustees and the village president are concerned about having to settle for "second best" because a professional person might not want to move into the 10-mile area.

A mileage limit appears to be a good idea for village personnel needed in case of emergency. Perhaps public works personnel are the primary example of this need. Whenever there is a snowstorm, or the temperature drops in the winter, public works crews are out plowing and salting to enable residents to get to work the next day, or fixing broken water mains.

In case of fire, some fire personnel are called back to the village when more employes are needed in an emergency. Because Wheeling is so close to Palwaukee airport, and a number of incidents there, this is more than just a supposition. Fire personnel should live close to the village. Perhaps even closer than 10 miles so that response time to emergency calls is better than it would be from 10 miles away.

Police personnel might also be needed in case of emergency. The Soo Line railroad tracks go right through Wheeling and both police and firemen have mentioned the possibility of a derailment as one example of an emergency in which additional personnel would be needed.

TO HAVE THESE people live near the village makes sense.

But The LIFE questions the validity of forcing other personnel to live within a certain radius of the village. As long as village employes are at work on time and on the days they should be, it does not seem a necessary requirement to enforce a mileage limitation on where they live.

People have enough rules and regulations to follow which are imposed by all types of governing bodies without adding an additional one that is unnecessary.

Developer suing village

Daily Herald - October 8, 1979

A developer is suing the village of Wheeling in an effort to get permission to build apartments on a one-acre lot on Hintz Road west of Schoenbeck Road that is currently zoned for single-family houses.

The suit, filed by Edward Ballinger, who had contracted to buy the one-acre parcel at 2330 Hintz Rd., charges the village board used a "capricious exercise of power" in denying rezoning of the land.

Fearing additional multiple family housing would worsen flooding problems in the area and worsen apartment complexes in the area.

Ballinger's lawsuit, filed in Cook County Circuit Court, contends the village is unconstitutionally denying him the right to make "the best and highest use of the land." Although the land is zoned for houses, the suit contends apartments would be the best use because the land is surrounded by multi-family developments.

Sommerfeld said at the time Ballinger's request for rezoning came before the village "we would have had to take a closer look at any particular development in that area."

Ballinger's development is just east of Lakeside Villas, a 242-unit condominium complex that has been plagued by flooding. Lakeside has the lowest elevation of three major developments in the area and receives water runoff from the other two developments, Tahoe Village Condominiums and Mallard Lake apartments.

Trustees said they were afraid any new developments in the area would add to the water runoff and worsen flooding conditions.

"WE'VE HAD FLOODING problems in that area and we're trying to work out a solution," said Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld. Although the land is not in a flood plain, Sommerfeld said officials feared the development would add to flooding problems experienced by residents in other condominium and apartment complexes in the area.

Airport rules may ease

Daily Herald - September 29, 1979

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

Federal Aviation Administration officials say they may relax the safety standards for Pal-Waukee Airport if Wheeling and Prospect Heights buy it — a concession that could reduce the airport's price.

John Buehler, an airport engineer for the FAA, said it would be "unrealistic" to apply every safety standard to Pal-Waukee because current federal regulations were established for new airports being built from scratch.

With older, established airports, he said, "you have to work with what you've got."

He cited Chicago's Midway Airport as an example of "an old airport that's been there a long time" that did not comply with every FAA standard when it was taken over by the city.

"You can't have unrealistic standards — otherwise you'd be closing down every airport in the country," he said.

HOWEVER, FAA officials say they do not know what safety standards might be waived because they have not received the detailed layout of Pal-Waukee that is being prepared by Ralph Burke and Associates, the Park Ridge consulting firm. The company is studying whether a Wheeling and Prospect Heights takeover of the airport is financially feasible.

"First of all, we have to have the layout plan," said Owen Leander of the FAA. "Without that information, we can't make a determination. There has been no finite information received on this airport."

Airport owner George Priester wants to sell his airport because of high property taxes, developments that are closing in on his airport and an estate tax problem that probably would force his heirs to sell the airport when he dies.

As a private operator, Priester is exempt from federal safety standards.

In a preliminary report from the consultants, the cost of Pal-Waukee is estimated at $21 million, with the local share amounting to $3.8 million and the balance to paid by state and federal agencies.

However, the cost of acquiring additional land for clear space for airport landings and more airplane storage space could add "significantly" to the cost of buying Pal-Waukee.

ALSO, THE consultants are unsure whether the state will pay part of the cost of buying a maintenance building and the control tower.

Terry Schadell, an engineer for the Illinois Dept. of Transportation, does not think the state would pay for such work. Buying the two buildings could add another $224,000 to the local sponsors' cost of the airport.

But Larry Donoghue, president of the consulting firm, said depending on the FAA findings on what will constitute a hazard to air navigation, the additional land that will have to be purchased might not add that much to the total cost of the airport.

"The deviations (from FAA standards) might not be as serious as we thought before," he said.

Of particular concern are a proposed 30-foot high factory that is planned at the northwest corner of Wolf and Hintz roads, near the end of Pal-Waukee's longest runway, and a 228-unit condominium complex that is under construction east of Wolf Road, north of Hintz Road.

THE HINTZ-WOLF intersection probably would have to be rerouted to the west to ensure that planes would be traveling the minimum height above the road.

Also, some hangars and airplanes stored at Pal-Waukee may have to be moved because they are too close to the runways. The Wheeling Drainage Ditch, which runs across the airport, might have to be moved. And it is possible some runways that are not quite parallel would have to be realigned.

It is expected to take the consultants and the FAA 30 to 90 days to determine what violations will have to be corrected if the airport becomes publicly owned, Donoghue said. Following that, he said, his firm will be able to determine the cost of buying the airport.

Blanket residency rule mulled

Daily Herald - October 3, 1979

Wheeling officials are considering a proposal to require all village employees, not just policemen and firefighters, to live within 10 miles of the village.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, who suggested the rule apply to all employees, said it might be discriminatory to force a residency requirement on only policemen and firefighters.

The residency rule originally was proposed by Police Chief Ted Bracke, who said he wanted his officers closer to the village in case the police department needed to mobilize manpower quickly. Fire Chief B.O. Koeppen also has said the law should apply to firefighters.

Under the proposed ordinance, all new employees would have to live within 10 miles of the village. Employees who already live outside the 10-mile limit would be allowed to remain there unless they buy a new house or lease a new apartment.

AND LEIKVOLD thinks the new law should apply to all village employees. "I'd hate to start having an ordinance that some have to follow and some don't," he said. "I don't think this would be any hardship on the professional staff — that's an awful big area. They won't have to move immediately. They can stay where they are."

But Village Pres. William Hein said he did not think requiring all employees to live closer to the village was a good idea because it could discourage qualified applicants who live outside the boundary from seeking a job in Wheeling.

He added that an employee who works what is basically a 9-to-5 job is not likely to be needed in emergencies, and if he is able to get to work each day, it shouldn't make that much difference where he lives.

"I just don't like the idea of possibly having to take second best," he said.

Trustee Roger Powers agrees. If a qualified applicant lives in Hoffman Estates, he said, "he's not going to have any problem getting here, but does that (residency rule) preclude us from getting the best man? That's what scares me."

BUT LEIKVOLD said it was "conceivable" the village might want all its employees available in the event of an extraordianary emergency. "It's conceivable we might want to pull the whole community development department in here," he said.

Leikvold said he had not discussed the proposed residency rule with village employees and suggested board members have a meeting in which employees could voice any objections to the residency rule.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said the residency rule could be changed if it proved to be too much of a hardship on village employees. "This is not something that will live in perpetuity," he said. "I would hope staff would be intelligent enough to let us know we're having problems. If it's not working, we'll change the ordinance."

No date has been set for the meeting.

Special use approved

Close vote on new library

+ Wheeling Life - Oct. 4, 1979

WHEELING—The village board waived its rules Monday, Oct. 1, and passed an ordinance creating a special use for a new library for the Indian Trails library district. Ordinances usually have two readings, but this one was passed the first time on the agenda.

Library officials had asked village officials to expedite the ordinance because a deadline is approaching . construct the new building.

The vote on the special use was 3-2 with Trustees Charles Kerr and Robert Ross voting against the ordinance. Trustee Sheila Schultz was absent.

Ross said he voted against the special use because "The constituents of the village of Wheeling said they didn't want the library. The first vote was defeated by 137 votes. The second vote, by 177. I voted against it. When the people say they don't want it and bureaucracy says you're going to get it whether you want it or not (that's wrong)."

Ross said library board members say they are taking the money out of capital funds. "They're shortchanging the people somewhere. Either the people will get less service, or the library has too much money."

KERR AGREED with Ross, saying, "I'm upset over what they (the library board) did. It'd be like (the village) having a referendum and then (the board) voting against the people's will. They're saying they're saving dollars out of the operating budget. They are either depriving the people of services or they have way too much money."

Kerr said he could not separate the issue of the defeated referenda from the special use permit. He said the two are intertwined.

The new library will be on a five-acre site on the east side of Schoenbeck road, about one-half mile south of and will be a two-story building consisting of 31,000 square feet, with parking for 95 cars. The present library at 850 Jenkins will be torn down, according to architect Guy Fishman.

letters to the editor

Wheeling Life - Oct. 4, 1979

This is a democracy?

Though I live in unincorporated Cook county with an Arlington Heights address, I consider myself to be a resident of Wheeling due to our proximity to the town. Our children go to school in Wheeling, we do most of our shopping in Wheeling, most of our friends are residents of Wheeling, and we belong to the Indian Trails library district which incorporates Wheeling and other nearby communities.

I was somewhat disturbed by the article which appeared on the front page of The Wheeling LIFE, Sept. 27, which reported about the proproposed new Indian Trails library. Whether a new library is built or not is of small concern to me compared to the manner in which Wheeling government appears to function. As you reported, two separate referenda regarding the proposed new library were defeated by the residents of the library district, yet the Wheeling village board, apparently guided by Divine Wisdom, voted 3 to 1 to approve the go-ahead of a new library with Mr. Kerr casting the singular negative vote.

I guess I am somewhat naive, but I happen to be under the assumption we live in a representative democracy. That is, the citizens elect their representatives to the government and the government rules only by the consent of the governed; failure to do so is just cause for that government to be overthrown. This is not my unique idea, it was the idea of the founding fathers and expressed as such in the Declaration of Independence. Why do your elected representatives, like Mr. John Cole, Mr. Hugh Sommerfeld and Ms. Sheila Schultz think they can totally disregard the wishes of populace, as expressed by the previously twice-defeated referenda, and vote for approval of that library? It must be they truly feel they are guided by the Divine Wisdom and are inately aware of what is good for the people whether the people like it or not. Or to use more earthly rhetoric, those arrogant S.O.B.s (Selected officers of bureaucracy) don't give a damn what the people want or don't want; they will bulldoze through whatever they feel like.

Mr. Kerr noted at the board meeting that the people had made their opinion known and that he must therefore cast his vote to reflect the wishes of his constituency. I applaud him for this and feel it shows he is worthy of his position in the village government. As for the three trustees who voted for the library, who totally disregard the wishes of the people, I feel they should be expelled from their "high and mighty" positions by a similar vote of the people. As I stated at the start, I am not now a resident of Wheeling, but annexation looms more gloomily, like a black cloud on our doorstep, to think we may someday be forced into a community whose government is allowed to be run by people who show such little regard for the citizenry of Wheeling. I will fight annexation stronger than before and I plead to the voting population to take a close look to see how their representative democracy has been mutated into a deaf, dumb and blind dictatorial hodgepodge.

Robert Booth
3027 Jackson
Arlington Heights

P.S. I am for a new library as proposed.

Well owners ask

How much for hook-up?

Wheeling Life - October 4, 1979

WHEELING — Should Wheeling residents with their own wells have to pay $463 to hook-up with the village's water main? Or should they be allowed to pay the old fee of $25 for connection and $100 for meter cost?

This bone of contention between long-time residents and the village came up at a board meeting Monday, Sept. 24.

William Rogers, an 11-year Wheeling resident and former trustee, who has a well on his property said that citizens in his situation are in a "Catch 22" circumstance.

Rogers said when the homeowners with wells wanted to hook in the Wheeling system unde the old rate, they were told they could not "tap-on" because there was no connection.

THREE YEARS AGO, the village began a "loop system" of water mains. At that time, according to Rogers, applications were made by several residents to tap-on because their water level was low and the water was becoming contaminated. That was when the rates were still low.

These residents were told they could not connect because the lateral water main hook-up was not yet available.

On Aug. 22, 1977, the village decided to raise the connection fee to $350 and $113 additional fee for a ¾-inch meter, according to a building department official.

Now these residents, who say they have contaminated, low-level water, are protesting that they should be allowed to connect under the old, lower fee, which was in effect from 1968 to August 1977.

Rogers estimated that the construction cost that homeowners will have to pay, in addition to the $463, will be close to $1,600 in order to bring that line into their house. "That's prohibitive," he stated.

VILLAGE MANAGER, Carsten Leikvold, said that once the $463 is paid to the village, the mains are put in front of the homeowner's property at no cost. Then the property owner has the responsibility to bring the main to his own house. Leikvold said he had no idea what that would cost.

Village President William Hein said the village staff will see how many people in the village own their own wells, and that a public hearing will be held to examine the idea of waiving the higher fees for these residents.

HUD approves funds for center, clinic

Daily Herald - October 6, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling's request for $380,000 in federal money to acquire land for a senior citizens center and an emergency clinic has been approved by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

It now will go to the Cook County Board for consideration.

"That's great news," Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said.

The allocation would provide $160,000 to buy land for the clinic, $160,000 for land for the senior center and $60,000 to develop a site plan and design the senior center.

The village has requested an additional $860,000 in 1980 and 1981 to implement the development plans.

Leikvold said he may ask HUD's permission to juggle some of the money around. The money for the clinic, he said, might not be needed because Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, has an option to buy a two-acre site at the southwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street for a clinic.

"WE DIDN'T KNOW when we filed the application that Holy Family was going to come in here," he said, noting that some of the money to buy land for the clinic could be applied toward the center for seniors and handicapped persons, also to be built near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street.

The village also has an application pending with the Cook County Housing Authority to build a 100-unit rent-assisted senior housing center, also is planned for the same location.

"The thing is, you see, is we want all of these projects to be inter-related," Leikvold said. "We may want to use the $160,000 (for land for the clinic) to buy a corridor of land between the clinic and the senior center."

Leikvold said the next step would be to prepare a site plan for the Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street area.

Plans for the area are further complicated by developers Lambert Domas and Thomas Popke, who want to build a 114-unit condominium project known as Three Lakes on 11 acres near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street.

LEIKVOLD SAID there is not enough land for the clinic, senior center, senior housing and the condominium project. Popke and Domas may have to scale down their building plans, he added.

The developers may be forced to build fewer units to comply with a village law passed several months ago limiting the project to about 60 units. Several trustees have said the new zoning law should apply to the Three Lakes project.

The federal money for Wheeling is part of a $16 million package submitted to HUD by Cook County. The county board is expected to approve the contract with HUD on Oct. 15.

The next step for Wheeling, said Terry Hansen, county director of community development, probably will be to prepare an "environmental assessment" that will determine the impact of the proposed developments on residents and how they will affect traffic or village services.

THE MONEY THE village requested for 1980 and 1981 must be approved by HUD during the year in which the projects are scheduled, Hansen said.

The village is asking for:

- $560,000 in 1980 to finance construction of the senior center that would be built in 1981.
- $100,000 in both 1980 and 1981 to provide low-interest loans for moderate- and low-income families who want to renovate their houses.
- $100,000 in 1980 for street lighting or sidewalk improvements.

Hansen said Wheeling is the only Northwest suburb that will receive federal aid. The money is intended primarily to benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

Village objects to new hospital branch office

Daily Herald 10-8-79

Hearings on a proposal by Franklin Boulevard Hospital to build a 232-bed branch hospital will continue Oct. 24, and Wheeling officials say it is "highly unlikely" the would-be developers will be able to meet a Jan. 1 deadline to begin construction.

Because the Chicago hospital filed its plans with the state before federal legislation was passed that requires all new hospital plans to be approved by regional health planners, it is exempt from review.

However, that exemption will end for any hospital that has not started construction by Jan. 1.

Regional health planners say the Northwest suburbs have an abundance of unfilled hospital beds and have called for a moratorium on new hospital construction.

Wheeling plans to file a formal objection to Franklin Boulevard Hospital's plans with the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals. That will be done about 30 days after the hearing, Village Atty. David Epstein said.

"AND THEN THE ZBA will set a meeting date in early December to make their recommendation," he said.

The county board then must approve the project and Franklin Boulevard Hospital still would have to have its plans reviewed by building officials before permits could be issued.

"I would guess it's going to be pretty tough (for the hospital to meet its deadline)," Epstein said.

Franklin Boulevard Hospital attorney John Coleman disagreed. "The main thing is to get it approved, isn't it?" he said. "I can't concern myself with more than the board hearing. We've got to take it one step at a time."

Wheeling objects to the hospital plans because of what it calls a poor building site.

Schoenbeck Road is a narrow, two-lane road on which school children frequently walk to school. The additional traffic generated by a hospital would be a hazard, village officials believe.

Area hospitals and health planners also have attacked the project, saying the additional hospital beds will increase health care costs.

A YEAR AGO in September, the Wheeling Plan Commission unanimously rejected plans to annex the 20-acre site for the hospital. Following that rejection, the hospital withdrew its petition.

Last month, Cook County was presented plans for construction of a hospital without annexing the land to a municipality.

Because of Wheeling's objection, the county board must muster a three-fourths majority to approve the project.

At last month's hearing, Franklin Boulevard Hospital requested a delay because they had failed to bring an engineer to testify on whether the project would cause flooding problems.

The week ahead

Daily Herald

Water problems to be studied

October 8, 1979

For the first time in 14 years, Wheeling trustees and members of the village community development department are updating the village's comprehensive plan.

Improving the village's water distribution and flood control systems will be among the top priorities, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said.

Village residents have complained for years about the supply and quality of water. For the past several summers, the village has imposed a ban on lawn sprinklings, car washing and other "non-essential uses" because of inadequate emergency reserves.

The shallow wells that comprise much of the village's water system have been blamed for water that often is foul-tasting and discolored. Although two wells are under construction, Leikvold says the village should look for other sources, such as Lake Michigan water or possibly the Des Plaines River.

The village also should plan to revamp its sewer system, Leikvold said, to begin to relieve the flooding problems that have plagued residents along the banks of the Wheeling drainage ditch and homeowners in condominium complexes on the west side of town, particularly Lakeside Villas at Hintz and Buffalo Grove roads.

The comprehensive plan also would include recommendations of a consultant's report for redeveloping downtown Wheeling, as well as land use and transportation goals.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. today at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

• • •

PLANS BY WHEELING and Prospect Heights to purchase Pal-Waukee Airport will be discussed Thursday by town officials, state and federal aviation officials and the consulting firm preparing the $120,000 study of whether public purchase of the airport is feasible financially.

The consulting firm, Ralph Burke and Associates, Park Ridge, has said it will cost more than $21 million to buy Pal-Waukee, with the local share amounting to about $3.8 million. The state and federal governments would finance the balance.

However, the consultants have said the cost of buying additional land outside the airport as clear space for aircraft operations could "significantly" add to the purchase price.

But Federal Aviation Administration officials have said they may waive some regulations if the towns purchase the airport because Pal-Waukee is an established airport that should not be forced to comply with every safety standard.

What standards will be waived has not been determined. FAA officials say it will take 30 to 60 days of studying the airport layout to see what changes would have to be made if the airport were publicly owned.

It is feared a 30-foot-tall factory planned near the end of Pal-Waukee's longest runway and a five-story condominium complex under construction in that area could interfere with airport operations.

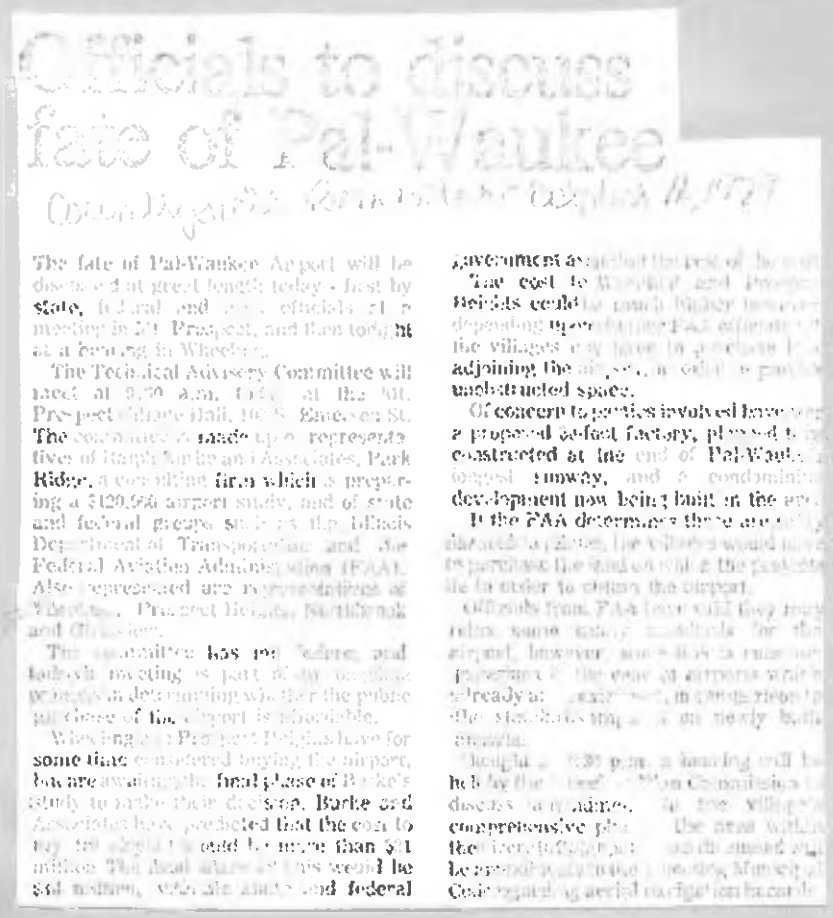
The consultants also say some hangars and airplanes stored near the runways may have to be moved.

The group, known as the Technical Advisory Committee, will meet at 9:30 a.m. at Mount Prospect Village Hall, 100 S. Emerson St.

• • •

AN ORDINANCE that would control development near Pal-Waukee Airport will be reviewed Thursday by the Wheeling Plan Commission.

The plan commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.



Officials to discuss fate of Pal-Waukee

The fate of Pal-Waukee Airport will be discussed at great length today - first by state, federal and [illegible] officials at a meeting in Mt. Prospect, and then tonight at a hearing in Wheeling.

The Technical Advisory Committee will meet at 9:30 a.m. today at the Mt. Prospect Village Hall, 100 S. Emerson St. The committee is made up of representatives of Ralph Burke and Associates, Park Ridge, a consulting firm which is preparing a $120,000 airport study, and of state and federal groups such as the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Also represented are representatives of Wheeling, Prospect Heights, Northbrook and Glenview.

The committee has met before, and today's meeting is part of the [illegible] process in determining whether the public purchase of the airport is advisable.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights have for some time considered buying the airport, but are awaiting the final phase of Burke's study to make their decision. Burke and Associates have predicted that the cost to buy the airport could be more than $21 million. The local share of this would be $3.8 million, while state and federal [illegible]

[illegible] government as [illegible]

The cost to Wheeling and Prospect Heights could be much higher or lower depending upon [illegible] FAA estimates of the villages' [illegible] to purchase [illegible] adjoining the airport, in order to gain unobstructed space.

Of concern to parties involved here is a proposed added factory, planned to be constructed at the end of Pal-Waukee's longest runway, and a condominium development now being built in the area.

If the FAA determines there are [illegible] hazards, the villages would have to purchase the land on which the factory and the condominiums are built in order to obtain the airport.

Officials from FAA have said they may [illegible] some safety standards for the airport, however, since there is a runway [illegible] the size of airports which already are [illegible], in compliance with the standards imposed on newly built airports.

Tonight at 7:30 p.m. a hearing will be held by the Plan Commission to discuss [illegible] the village's comprehensive plan. The area within the [illegible] and the airport will be annexed [illegible] Municipal Code regarding aerial navigation hazards.

To WH officials

Explain CATV

Wheeling Life - October 11, 1979

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — Bill Grams, executive director of the Northwest Municipal conference (NWMC) met with Wheeling village officials at a special committee meeting Tuesday, Oct. 2, to explain a NWMC request for $1,500 from the village for a study of Cable TV (CATV).

During the last September village board meeting, the Wheeling board requested additional information before appropriating $1,500 for the NWMC study.

The object of the NWMC study is to prevent brainwashing of village trustees and city councilmen of the 21 communities who have banded together for the study, according to Grams. He explained to the committee that most of the CATV companies educational programs are really sophisticated marketing techniques.

GRAMS SAID that every CATV company wants to do educational programs for the boards, because he noted, there is approximately $200 million involved in CATV in the suburbs, for an initial $30 million capital investment, over a period of 20 years.

The NWMC study will evaluate each proposal received by villages and will turn them over to the individual boards for action, Grams said.

A consultant will be selected based on the recommendation of cities and areas that have adequate working CATV programing in their communities, Grams said. The request for permission to franchise (RFP) will be included in the study, and all elements will be investigated, noting each company's deviation, deletion, or qualification of any item, according to Grams.

NEXT, SYSTEM ownership will be investigated, with the consultant analyzing direct and indirect ownership, Grams said. Another area the consultant will investigate is system management. The study will include a history and capabilities of the principal management figures.

AFTER A LOCAL impact study, the consultant will prepare a report for each municipality Grams said. The study should rate a CATV company either qualified or unqualified, he added. The top three companies will be selected by the consultant on the basis of the study and the ability of the company to perform, Grams added.

According to the director, the NWMC hopes by hiring a consultant and working with the task force and steering committee, problems that have occurred in other metropolitan areas can be avoided. Grams mentioned that in some cases where costs for cable installation was higher than anticipated (or other operating costs) services diminished such as the closed circuit TV for schools. Some areas do not have pay TV included, while others do not give the full 36 channels, Grams said. He noted that two companies offered 60 and 54 channels each.

He said other companies do not offer the full range of channels on the broadcast range from one or two cities.

According to Grams, the head end is a building where the cable input is received. It can take signals from microwave or satellite and put them on cable or take locally-originated programs from the sub-head end which may be a TV camera and tape "in a broom closet" since some CATV companies agree to spend $20,000 on local or sub-head end equipment, Grams said.

IN WHEELING, the company selected would be required to negotiate with Tell Telephone and lease either poles or conduit space, Grams said. Major trunk lines run into the various areas, and a booster system amplifies the signal, Grams continued. "When the system is close to opening, where cables can bring in signals, the company markets the program to the community." He noted that the cable comes into the individual home where an encoder is connected to the existing broadcast TV receiver. Grams compared CATV to the telephone because each addition in service is an additional cost.

In some systems, Grams noted "you do not pay for additional channels, in some you do."

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld, said that "conceivably there could be a decision-making problem" for the board because of different programing and different services offered.

Gram replied that packaged programing is available to CATV companies; packaged children's programing; showtime, a Vegas oriented program; and exclusive sports events on some channels.

IN THE NWMC'S RFP, all "R" rated programs and films must be on one channel with a lock out key, so parents can lock out the channel if they do not wish to view the programing, Grams stated.

Sommerfeld asked what protection the board has against underhanded methods by companies seeking a village franchise. He noted that "a lot of money is flying around" and compared the CATV companies seeking franchises to "iions." A consultant selected by the steering committee, Sommerfeld agreed, is the safest route for the village board to follow.

Grams said the consultant's report will be ready by Feb. 1, 1980. "One company wanted to fly all of you gentlemen, over 200, to view their system," Grams said, and compared the consultant's services to "an insulation factor for the board."

Most of the rush for franchises, Grams said, is because the Federal Communications commission (FCC) has relaxed its regulation on CATV.

RICHARD DIENHART, affiliated with the Telematrix Group who said he is a Buffalo Grove resident, asked to what extent the NWMC is going to inform and educate the boards and the community. He asked why the CATV companies should be prevented from going to the trustees.

Grams replied that the NWMC was not precluding the companies from going to the individual boards. The NWMC is also going to hold conferences with libraries, hospitals and schools, he noted. Marketing the system is not the conference's shot, Gram said, and compared the NWMC part to analyzing a difficult situation "hopefully we can tell you what makes a good cola," he said, comparing the CATV companies to the different soft drinks on the market.

The NWMC plans to retain and assist a professional consultant, disseminate requests for proposals, act as an insulator between boards and CATV companies, assist with the educational sessions, (to avoid educational marketing) and set up standards for CATV companies to follow, Grams said.

While rural systems require 100% participation, urban systems require 30 to 40% participation to make the system profitable, Grams said. Banks loan venture money on the basis of franchising, he noted, and there has been a run on franchising in the suburbs. He added that villages cannot grant an exclusive franchise.

Trustee says police abuse cars

Daily Herald October 11, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Police abuse of squad cars may be the reason why Wheeling spends too much money to repair the vehicles, says Village Trustee John Cole.

"I've seen them (policemen) hot dog those things around village hall," said Cole, angered by a $357 bill for transmission repairs to one of the nine new squad cars the village purchased last winter. "They'll back up, slam it in gear and floor it. They're not their vehicles, and I don't think they are that concerned about taking care of them. I think that's borne out by the high number of repair bills we're seeing."

The transmission on the new car needed to be fixed because of wear caused from dropping the car into another gear while the car was rolling.

Cole also said police cars have been involved in too many minor accidents and blamed the problem on a lack of supervision. He suggested policemen be sent to driving school if their driving records do not improve.

POLICE CHIEF Ted Bracke defended the driving record of his patrolmen, saying, "Their safety record is as good or better than the other departments around here."

In the last six months, the village spent $2,188 on body work for seven vehicles involved in accidents. Six of these were police cars, with repair bills totaling $1,779.

Bracke said only "one or maybe two" of the accidents could be considered the patrolmen's fault, and one would be considered "questionnable." He noted that insurance covered the cost of the repairs. In two instances, he said, the police cars were struck from behind by drivers who were charged with driving under the influence of alcohol.

Bracke said he is investigating Cole's complaint that the squad car's transmission was ruined by "hot dogging," although he said he was not aware of any policemen driving the cars recklessly through the village hall parking lot.

"I'm not so naive to think they'd do it in front of me though," he said. Bracke said there is "a lot of construction going on in the village and it's possible the man could have gotten stuck in the mud and had to rock the car out. I'm just theorizing — it's going to take some more investigating."

BRACKE SAID the cars wear out fast because they are often are driven by three patrolmen on any eight-hour shift.

Dennis Mikosz, superintendent of vehicles, said he does not keep track of how much is spent on parts and labor on police cars compared with other village vehicles, but he said his mechanics spend most of their time working on police cars. He attributed the rising repair costs to the increasing cost of parts and the fact that police cars are driven nearly 4,000 miles a month.

But Cole said if more care were given to the squad cars, the parts might not wear out so often. He said he notices after village hall meetings that if three squad cars are parked in front of village hall, "you can almost count on one of them having the radio on."

He added that "the supervisors should start cracking down on these people. Sometime they've got to learn that it takes taxpayers' money to repair these things and they're not toys."

Although he disagreed that squad cars are being abused, Bracke said the officers' driving habits "can always be improved." He said he would be attending a police convention in Springfield next week and plans to see if there is any state or federal money available to get patrolmen involved in a regional safe driving program.

Gas mileage experiment a pickup for fuel savings

(Daily Herald October 11, 1979)

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling officials say an experiment to increase fuel economy of village vehicles is a success and has increased the gas mileage of a village-owned pickup truck by 40 percent.

The truck was equipped with a special device that injects a mixture of water and alcohol into the fuel system, a method originally used to make race cars perform better. After 1,000 miles of driving, says maintenance superintendent Dennis Mikosz, the truck's mileage has increased from 7½ to 10½ miles per gallon.

The water-alcohol mixture is injected through the air cleaner and into the combustion chamber. The water turns to steam, which cleans the engine, and the alcohol burns the carbon deposits that form on the engine walls. In addition to saving gas, the alcohol improves performance by increasing fuel octane, and the cleaner engine produces less pollution.

"WE'VE REALLY noticed a difference," Mikosz says. "The engine seems to be peppier."

Mikosz is now planning another experiment -- drilling smaller jets in the truck's carburetor. Because the engine in effect has been steam cleaned, less gas is needed to make the truck run, he said, and even greater gas savings should be possible.

He also plans to convert three more trucks to the water-alcohol system before winter sets in. The trucks all get poor gas mileage because they are equipped with four-wheel-drive and are used as snow plows.

Next year, Mikosz says, he may install the kits on some of the village police cars, which get notoriously poor mileage because they stand idling much of the time.

The device, invented by a 70-year-old Miami man, has been on the market in another form for 30 years. It originally was used to add exotic fuel mixtures to increase the performance of race cars, but with the rapidly escalating cost of gasoline, the same principle was applied to save gas mileage.

MIKOSZ SAYS HE has received "about a half-dozen phone calls" about the experiment, most from gas-conscience drivers who want to find out where to get the alcohol-water system.

The kits are marketed by a Florida firm under the name "Waag Injection System" and cost $125. They are available at many auto parts stores, and Mikosz says a "good do-it-yourselfer" can install the kit in one or two hours.

The water-alcohol system also has been tested for the last six months in Hollywood, Fla., and increased the mileage of a police car from 4½ to 8½ miles per gallon. But officials there "are taking a wait and see attitude" on converting the entire fleet, said public works administrator John Flint.



Herald photo

AFTER DRIVING his village pickup truck for 1,000 miles with a special tank that injects a mixture of water and alcohol into the fuel system, Dennis Mikosz, Wheeling's superintendent of vehicles, says the truck's mileage has increased 40 percent. The system originally was used to make race cars perform better. Mechanic Bob Hanson, left, assists Mikosz.

Daily Herald - October 11, 1979

Trustees mull village manager

Daily Herald October 15, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

The Wheeling Village Board will meet behind closed doors tonight, perhaps to discuss the future of Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, who has been openly criticized by a majority of the trustees.

Trustees would not discuss the reason for the executive session except to say that it for the purpose of discussing "personnel," one of the purposes for private meetings allowed by Illinois law.

But three of the trustees -- John Cole, Charles Kerr and Sheila Schultz -- often criticized Leikvold during last April's village board campaign and at one point called for his firing if his performance did not improve.

TRUSTEE HUBERT SOMMERFELD, who often sides with those three, also said he has had "problems" with Leikvold's performance since Leikvold was hired as village manager in December 1977.

Sommerfeld said the board "absolutely" should soon discuss Leikvold's future with the village, but will not say whether he believes Leikvold should be fired.

"I would say there definitely is a need for discussion on the matter in view of the objections that have been made about Mr. Leikvold," Sommerfeld said.



Carsten Leikvold

Cole, Schultz and Kerr, who were elected as a slate last April, have charged that Leikvold has bowed to political pressure and has been a poor administrator.

"I DON'T THINK anybody's opinion has changed," Cole said. "I feel that he has failed to provide the leadership that is needed. Basically, he does not function as an administrative head. I think the job tends to run him rather than he run the job."

Cole, too, would not discuss whether Leikvold would be discussed tonight. "I can't really make any comment on that."

Sommerfeld, who supported Cole, Kerr and Schultz during the election said he shared many of the criticisms of Leikvold made by the three trustees. Leikvold, he said, frequently has passed matters that should be handled by the village staff to the board to make a decision.

"What that does is waste time," Sommerfeld said. "It leaves a gap where the staff could be working on it."

HOWEVER, SOMMERFELD said Leikvold "has done a lot to get the staff involved with the community on a number of projects. But my major problem is his concern with pleasing elected officials rather than leading the village."

Sommerfeld's position on Leikvold's future with the village probably will be crucial because Village Pres. William Hein and trustees Roger Powers and Robert Ross have supported Leikvold.

Leikvold would not comment on the situation, saying he did not know what will be discussed at tonight's executive session.

Cable fee up for approval

Herald - October 15, 1979

A proposal that Wheeling spend $1,500 to help the Northwest Municipal Conference hire a consultant to recommend three cable television firms for an areawide franchise will be considered tonight by the village board.

Trustees originally balked at paying the consultant's fee, saying the 14 cable firms trying to get franchises in the Northwest suburbs should pick up the tab because the companies figure to make a good deal of money.

However, trustees informally agreed last week to go along with the study because the village staff does not have the time or expertise to review all the applications from the cable firms. The consultant's fee is expected to range between $25,000 and $28,000 to be split up by the area communities.

The consultant's report is expected to be completed by Feb. 1 so local officials can decide by May 1 whether they want to award a franchise. Each of the 14 firms will receive a "qualified" or "unqualified" rating.

The village board will consider the proposal at 8 p.m. at the village hall 255 W. Dundee Road.

BUILDING PLANS by a Glenview developer who wants to build a 30-foot-tall factory near the end of Pal-Waukee Airport's longest runway will be considered tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

The village twice has delayed plans by developer Sigmund Lefkovitz to build the factory at the northwest corner of Hintz and Wolf roads. The Federal Aviation Administration has said if the building is constructed, it will be a hazard to safe air navigation.

Lefkovitz repeatedly has threatened to sue the village for holding up his building plans, saying the village's refusal to act amounts to condemnation of his land.

Planners, studying whether Wheeling and Prospect Heights should buy the privately owned airport, said construction of the building will make jet landings on the 5,000-foot runway impossible. This would could turn Pal-Waukee into a money loser, the planner said.

The board will consider Lefkovitz' plans at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

A COMMITTEE of the Northwest Municipal Conference is expected to decide Tuesday whether to consider channeling additional federal road funds for new suburban projects -- a decision that will affect Wheeling's request for funds to widen a two-mile stretch of Dundee Road.

The village is asking the NWMC for $400,000 for the preliminary engineering necessary to widen Dundee Road from Milwaukee Avenue to Elmhurst Road. Although not on the state's priority list, village officials are hoping that completion of the engineering plans will make the state consider the project.

Although the conference plans to receive an additional $2.5 million in federal road money this year, NWMC officials say they may decide to continue the freeze on new road projects because rising construction costs are pushing projects far over what they originally were expected to cost.

Aid for road project doubtful

Daily Herald - October 13, 1979

Even though the states's allocation for road work in the Northwest suburbs is expected to double, officials from the Northwest Municipal Conference doubt they will be able to channel federal funds to Wheeling for widening a two-mile stretch of Dundee Road.

The village has requested $400,000 in federal funds through the NWMC for the preliminary engineering needed to widen Dundee Road to five lanes. Although not on the state's priority list, village officials hope the $5 million project will be considered after the engineering is completed.

However, Wheeling's request comes while the conference is one year into an indefinite freeze on considering any new road projects, said Robert Fialkowski, NWMC transportation engineer. That policy may change though, he said, because the conference is expected to receive an additional $2.5 million this year in federal road money because of abandonment of Chicago projects like the Crosstown Expressway.

THE CONFERENCE'S transportation committee will meet Tuesday to decide whether any new projects will be considered, Fialkowski said.

Wheeling's application and a request from Hanover Park for $421,000 to improve the intersection at Barrington Road and Walnut Avenue are the only projects currently on file. Fialkowski said that probably is because of the freeze on new road projects. If the committee decides to allow new projects, he expects up to $20 million in project applications from towns throughout the Northwest suburbs and each one will have to be considered.

It also is possible the conference will decide to continue the freeze on new projects, since rising construction costs are pushing projects far over what they were originally expected to cost. As an example, Fialkowski cited a Park Ridge road project that was estimated at $1.1 million in March 1977. When the contract recently was awarded on the project, it cost $3 million.

"I would say at this time (the possiblity of considering more road projects) is not real good," he said.

WHEELING'S REQUEST for money to widen Dundee Road is hindered in two ways, Fialkowski said. "The state apparently feels (Dundee Road) is a low priority item, and the committee might not want to consider something to which the state has not committed any money."

Also, the federal aid money traditionally has been funneled to roads included on the Federal Aid to Urban Systems plan. Dundee Road is considered a "primary road" and mainly a responsibility of the state, he said.

"Wheeling may get shot out of the water because of this alone," he said. However, he added he thought the strategy of getting the engineering approved and then petitioning the state for construction money was "a good idea," since the state's priority list often is not followed.

Perhaps the best way to make the state consider a road project, Fialkowski said, is to get "legislative relief" from a state representative to petition the state to re-organize its road priorities. "That's one of the few things that works," Fialkowski said. "We've talked to them (the state) till we're blue in the face."

Wheeling Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said the village applied for federal funding for the road widening project to get in line for other funds that may become available.

"We will continue to proceed with other avenues of assistance to relieve the bottleneck on Dundee Road," Sommerfeld said.

Airlines may help Pal-Waukee

Daily Herald Oct. 13, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Commercial airlines at O'Hare International Airport may be asked to pick up a portion of the tab if Wheeling and Prospect Heights decide to buy Pal-Waukee Airport.

The consultant studying the financial feasibility of the two towns purchasing the privately owned airport said O'Hare will become the "logical place" for the corporate jets that use Pal-Waukee to travel if the airport closes and the property is sold to developers.

Because O'Hare already is crowded, the airlines might be persuaded to help the two towns come up with the $21 million estimated price for Pal-Waukee, said Larry Donoghue, president of Ralph Burke and Associates, as a way of "keeping (other) aircraft off the main airport."

DONOGHUE SAID the possiblity of getting money from O'Hare's users "has not been explored at all," but he plans to discuss the possibility at an airport conference next week.

Airline officials say it is too early to consider such a proposal. "We have not been approached on this," said Robert Raynesford, director of public relations for American Airlines in Chicago, "Until we have a specific proposal on this, we really don't have a position."

However, he added most commercial airlines are aware of Pal-Waukee's plight. "I think it's widely recognized in Chicago that reliever airports are needed," he said.

Donoghue's firm has estimated it will cost at least $21 million to buy the airport, with the local share coming to $3.8 million. The balance would be covered by state and federal funds.

However, that price could increase "significantly" if additional land must be purchased to preserve clear space near Pal-Waukee for aircraft operations. Also, runways may have to be realigned and obstructions, such as hangars, dirt piles and airplanes stored on the field may have to be moved to comply with Federal Aviation Administration standards.

IN ITS PRELIMINARY findings, the consultants say the airport could be purchased with a 20-year bond that would be retired with airport revenues. However, the bonds would be backed with property taxes in the event the airport begins to lose money., Officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights have said they would not favor using tax money to support buy the airport.

So Donoghue is looking at other methods that would reduce the local share. Aside from asking for contributions from commercial users at O'Hare, his suggestions include:

- Revenue bonds that would be paid off solely from profits on the airport. Revenue bonds generally carry a higher interest rate than bonds backed with tax money and often are more difficult to sell to investors. But the large corporations that use Pal-Waukee have a strong interest in keeping the airport open, Donoghue said, and may be persuaded to purchase sizable amounts of the revenue bonds.
- Seeking more money from the state and the FAA. The FAA now can pay for no more than 80 percent and the state 10 percent. Although it would take special Congressional action to change the FAA contribution, Donoghue said, the federal trust fund established to aid municipal airports has a $1 billion surplus that may be available.
- Asking neighboring towns in the Northwest suburbs to help. Since Pal-Waukee attracts industry to other towns besides Wheeling and Prospect Heights, Donoghue said, they should also share the cost of keeping Pal-Waukee open.
- Charging higher fees for planes that carry more passengers or make more noise could be charged "much higher rates" than smaller, less noisy aircraft, Donoghue said.

Three towns adopt self-insurance plan

Daily Herald - October 12, 1979

Officials of three Northwest suburbs say they will save thousands of taxpayers' dollars this year by insuring themselves against the medical claims of their employees.

Rolling Meadows, Hoffman Estates and Wheeling finance directors say they will save almost $50,000 together this year, a figure that should increase dramatically as they invest and earn interest on the money they used to pay in group health insurance premiums.

The self-insurance plan, sponsored by the Northwest Municipal Conference, is simply a bank account where the towns make deposits to cover employees' claims. Until it's needed, though, it earns interest for the municipalities, said Rolling Meadows finance director James Turi, "rather than going in the pocket of some bureaucratic insurance company."

TURI, WHO CHAIRS the program's board of the directors, said his city will save $20,000 this year and $300,000 to $500,000 during 10 years. Wheeling finance director Greg Peters said his town will save about $8,000 this year, and Hoffman Estates finance director Keith Wendland estimated his village's savings at $15,000 to $25,000.

"I'm very pleased with the program," Wendland said.

Rolling Meadows officials also say they are pleased because they had so many difficulties with their previous carrier, Blue Cross-Blue Shield. "A lot of things didn't get paid" by Blue Cross, Turi said, such as emergency room fees if the visit did not actually turn out to be an emergency. And it took an average of two months for claims to be processed.

Now, outpatient care at the hospital, such as X rays and laboratory tests is being covered and "employees are seeing much more money coming back to them," he said. The Rolling Meadows insurance firm of Arthur J. Gallagher and Co. administers the claims and has promised to process them within two weeks.

ROBERT THOMSSEN, Blue Cross representative for Rolling Meadows, has said the delays in processing claims was due to "some misunderstanding" by employees in knowing how to fill out claims.

Turi said the city is "still having a big problem" with Blue Corss-Blue Shield. Ten employees have "sizeable claims," averaging $1,000 each, with Blue Cross and he said "they are not paying... claims that I think are legitimate" but that Blue Cross says are not.

Herald - Oct. 17, 1979

Developer's factory plans delayed

Plans by a Glenview developer to build a 30-foot high factory near the end of Pal-Waukee Airport's longest runway were again delayed by the Wheeling Village Board.

Trustees did not approve plans by developer Sigmund Lefkovitz to construct the factory at the northwest corner of Hintz and Wolf roads because Lefkovitz did not attend the board meeting.

Consultants studying the possibility of Wheeling and Prospect Heights buying the privately-owned airport have said if the factory is built, it would make jet landings on the 5,000-foot runway impossible.

Catch basin cleaner purchase OKd

Trustees voted to spend $48,071 on a catch basin cleaner that would be used to clean village storm sewers. Previously, village street crews had to clean the storm sewers by hand.

Described by Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold as a "giant vacuum cleaner," the machine will be purchased from Bruce Municipal Equipment Inc., Glenview.

Service agencies given support

Wheeling trustees voted to support the efforts of the United Way of Wheeling and Buffalo Grove Crusade of Mercy campaign. The group has set a campaign goal this year of $28,250 in the two towns. The funds are channeled to a variety of local agencies.

Funding OKd for senior center

Daily Herald - October 16, 1979

Wheeling's request for $380,000 in federal funds to acquire land for a senior citizens center and an emergency clinic was approved Monday by the Cook County Board.

However, village officials now say they want to use all of the money to buy land for the senior center, since officials from Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, announced plans to build an emergency clinic in Wheeling after the village prepared its application for federal funds.

The allocation would provide $160,000 to buy land for the clinic, $160,000 for land for the senior center and $60,000 to develop a site plan and design the senior center. The village has requested an additional $860,000 from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development in 1980 and 1981 to implement the development plans.

"I think we should take the money for the ambulatory care center and ask if it can be transferred to the senior citizens center," said Village Pres. William Hein. "I don't think $160,000 is going to be enough to buy land for the senior center."

THERE IS NO problem with the village transferring funds from one project to another, said Woody Kee, director of community planning for HUD's Chicago office. "This program was intended to be flexible," he said. "If there's a change such as the one you're describing or an increase in costs, generally, there's no problem in shifting money between line items within the program."

Officials from Holy Family said they planned to build the clinic regardless of the outcome of the village's request for money to buy land for the clinic. The hospital already has purchased the two-acre site at the southwest corner of Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue, said James McQuaid, director of public relations

The senior citizens center, which also will be for handicapped persons, is tentatively slated to be built near Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue as part of a downtown redevelopment project that would include the clinic, the senior center and rent-assisted housing for senior citizens.

However, there is not enough land for the three projects and a 114-unit condominium project that developers Lambert Domas and Thomas Popke plan to build in the same area. The project, known as Three Lakes Village, would be built on 11 acres near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street. Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold has suggested the village may ask the developers to change their building plans.

HOWEVER, HEIN said the senior center or housing "does not necessarily have to be in that vicinity." He said there are a number of large lots on Milwaukee Avenue that contain older homes which could serve as a site for the senior center. "We might be in a better negotiating position for a site like that than something that is going to be developed," he said.

Hein cast the tie-breaking vote last year on the rezoning that cleared the way for the condominium project, which was opposed by residents from Strong Street and a nearby senior citizens housing complex. Trustees John Cole, Charles Kerr and Hubert Sommerfeld opposed the rezoning.

Popke and Domas have not presented their building plans to the village board.

Youth courts are illegal: judge

Daily Herald - October 18, 1979

by Susan Duerksen

Herald staff writer

A youth court system proposed for Palatine — and modeled after a court operating in Wheeling — is illegal, according to Cook County's chief juvenile judge.

Judge William White said Palatine cannot set up a jury of high school students to hear minor offenses, as the village is considering, because only the state constitution can establish a court.

"Can a city create a court? You get in a whole snare and tangle of legal things," White said. "Our state constitution says what shall be the courts."

WHITE SAID he did not know of the youth court Wheeling set up in April. Wheeling officials defended the constitutionality of the court, saying that it is voluntary and falls under a municipality's law enforcement authority.

White said Wednesday he plans to write to Palatine explaining his "misgivings" about the court that was proposed by a youth council this summer. He said the village may be able to come up with "some more acceptable idea" to deal with minor juvenile offenses, but he has no suggestions.

The youth council proposed a jury of six high school students to hear first offense cases such as vandalism and shoplifting, and "sentence" the juveniles to community tasks such as raking leaves, shoveling snow or cleaning creeks.

Proponents of the plan say the penalties would be more effective than a fine paid by the parents, and the youth court would keep minor offenses off a youngster's record.

IN WHEELING, youth officer Eric Larson said the system has been at least 75 percent successful in preventing repeat offenses.

Wheeling village attorney David Epstein said he raised the question of constitutionality when the youth jury was created and decided the system is legal under the same power that allows police the option of referring juveniles to their parents in "station adjustments."

"It's really an informal court at the police level," Epstein said. "It only applies to people who will concede they're guilty. You don't haul people in. There is no attempt to substitute for or act like a real court."

But White disagreed, saying that anything that "imposes sanctions on people" is a court and cannot be created by a village.

ALTHOUGH HE NEVER contacted White, Epstein said the youth jury was discussed with officials of the state's attorney's office and "as long as it was on a voluntary basis, nobody saw anything wrong with it."

Wheeling police decide when to used the youth jury and the offenders agree to abide by the work assignment given. If they fail to do the job, the case must be referred to the juvenile court.

Palatine Police Chief Jerry Bratcher had sought White's opinion on the proposed court, but he said he has several "concerns" about it himself.

Bratcher said he is worried that the village might be liable if a juvenile is injured while completing a "sentence." He also told the village board the plan would take more police time than is now spent on juvenile cases and would require the hiring of additional youth officers.

Although Village Pres. Robert Guss called the youth court idea "palatable," the village board had agreed to postpone action on the proposal until it heard from White. Guss could not be reached Wednesday for comment on the judge's opinion.

Well users' tap-on fees may drop

Daily Herald - October 18, 1979

The fees for developers or residents who want to hook into Wheeling's water system should remain the same for now, and possibly could be doubled in the next few years because of stricter federal water standards, village officials said.

However, village Trustee John Cole said the village should consider permitting a lower fee for residents with wells who were unable to tap on to the village water system when the fees were substantially lower.

The village raised the fee about three years ago, from $25 to $350, and a few residents on Wolf Road between Highland Avenue and Dundee Road say they should be charged a lower rate because village water mains had not been installed when the fees were lower.

FORMER TRUSTEE William Rogers, one of the Wolf Road homeowners who would benefit from the lower rate, said residents need to tie into the village system because wells in some areas are going bad because of a drop in the water table.

Cole said since the village has grown considerably in recent years, it is possible the number of residents who were forced to use their own wells rather than village water "could be fairly extensive."

Before considering any blanket reductions in the connection fee however, the village should first determine how many homeowners are affected, and then conduct public hearings "because there is a good possibility there will be objectors," Cole said. He added that the homeowners should be given a specific time to decide whether they want to hook into the village water system.

COLE SAID he agreed with Robert Gray, director of operations and maintenance, who said the village should not lower the sewer and water tap on fees for everyone.

Those fees, Gray said, may have to be doubled, depending on what improvements the village will have to make to comply with federal water standards that are just recently being enforced. Environmental officials say many towns in northern Illinois have water with excessive amounts of contaminants.

Lowering the fees throughout the village, Gray says, would jeopardize funds the village needs for major improvements that are being planned to the village water distribution system. It also could affect revenue bonds that are being issued to finance improvement programs such as construction of two new village wells.

Gray also said each new connection causes a drain on the rest of the system, and the cost should be borne by the new users rather than existing homeowners and businesses.

Village has closed meeting

Daily Herald - October 17, 1979

Despite a 1½ hour closed door session Monday night between Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold and the village board, no decision has been made on Leikvold's future with the village.

Trustees have refused to discuss the purpose of the meeting, except to say it was to discuss "personnel."

Leikvold has been openly criticized by trustees John Cole, Charles Kerr and Sheila Schultz, who ran as slate many of those objections and said the time "absolutely" has come to discuss the situation with Leikvold.

HOWEVER, SOMMERFELD has refused to take a stand publicly on whether Leikvold should be fired. He would not say Tuesday what was discussed in the closed door session.

"What was discussed was discussed in executive session," he said. "I can't express a position at this point."

Village Pres. William Hein, who has supported Leikvold, also would not discuss the meeting. "I don't know what the board's going to do, and to tell you the truth, I don't want to discuss it."

Leikvold would not comment on the situation. "It was an executive session and that's the way it has to stay," he said.

Leikvold, who has been village manager since December 1977, has been attacked by the three for being a poor administrator and bowing to political pressure. Last week a fourth trustee, Hubert Sommerfeld, said he shared

$1,500 for cable TV inquiry

Oct. 18, 1979

WHEELING — The Wheeling village board, Monday, Oct. 15, agreed to spend $1,500 for an investigation into cable television (CATV), but refused to pay additional fees to Ralph Burke Assoc. for the study on Palwaukee airport.

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld reported to the board about the workshop session with Bill Grams, executive director of the Northwest Municipal conference (NWMC), at which Grams and board members explored reasons for the NWMC's study of CATV companies that would best fit criteria for the village of Wheeling.

Trustee John Cole said he was of dissenting opinion because he was somewhat leery of this kind of an approach. But Cole added, "I have been doing research on what the companies pull, and I go along with the lesser of two evils."

THE NWMC is conducting a study of CATV companies as a means of insulation for village trustees from the marketing techniques used by the companies. The board agreed to pay the $1,500 requested by the NWMC. If the village grants a franchise for CATV, it will receive a rebate of the $1,500 or if three other of the 21 communities in the study franchise CATV, the village will receive its money back. If none of the villages franchise, the money will not be returned.

The companies receiving franchises must pay the NWMC $10,000, Sommerfeld said.

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold said he has informed Ralph Burke Assoc., consultants on the Palwaukee airport feasibility study, they will not receive additional money from the village of Wheeling. Leikvold suggested Burke contact the Federal Aeronautic administration (FAA) and try to get them to pay the additional costs of the study.

To aid business

Wheeling Life - October 18, 1979

WH board waives rules

WHEELING — Although all of the village board members had misgivings about waiving the posting of an ordinance, the Wheeling board did waive posting so that a small business could complete remodeling and reopen.

The action took place at the Oct. 15 village board meeting when the board waived posting a special use ordinance and an ordinance containing variations to enable Mr. B's restaurant, 600 S. Milwaukee, to begin immediate construction rather than wait two weeks, because of possible adverse weather conditions, and because John Zimmerman, attorney for Mr. B's, pleaded financial hardship for his clients.

Zimmerman said the owners have tried to improve the existing structure and would like to complete the remodeling since the present site is an eyesore in its present condition. Both the plan commission and appearance commission held public hearings on the property, he said.

Zimmerman said problems holding up village approval of the plans submitted by Mr. B's are internal and not the village's.

Both Trustee's John Cole and Charles Kerr objected to waiving the ordinance because, "it appears we are trying to get ordinances passed without giving people a chance to see them."

TRUSTEE ROGER POWERS said the proper hearings had been held and the action was not a complete surprise. He asked if all of the conditions had been met. Village Manager Carsten Leikvold replied they cannot be met until work can be resumed.

The restaurant has been closed one year, and has posed an economic hardship, especially with the prime interest rate up to 14% since the owners of Mr. B's have a floating interest rate, Zimmerman noted.

When Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld asked what took a year, Zimmerman said it was due to internal problems that had nothing to do with the village. He said he is a new attorney on the case and not familiar withe the past history.

Village President William Hein said that posting an ordinance is very important to give the public a chance to review it. But since the Mr. B's owners want to get an unsightly building into good working order, there is nothing wrong with that, he added.

After the ordinances were passed, Sommerfeld said "the board is now in a position of breaking its format."

Village Attorney Gary Weintraub said it is not a statutory requirement to post the ordinance. However, Sommerfeld told Leikvold to work on setting "some guidelines for ordinances that have less than a broad effect," noting that "the board struggled over waiving the posting of these ordinances."

The variance permits the non-conforming building to be enlarged and remodeled. Trustee Sheila Schultz said that the Wheeling Nursery property to the south of Mr. B's, could change hands, and future owners might object to the non-conforming use on the property next door. Hein noted that since the existing side yard is already only four feet away from Wheeling nursery, the variance amounts to about two feet.

Owners of Mr. B's said they hope to have the restaurant remodeled and open by Christmas.

Board's help asked

Wheeling Life - October 18, 1979

Car wash irks residents

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — Residents who live across from the Wheeling Car Wash have complained that the business is giving them the business and creating an "unbearable" situation for them.

At the Monday, Oct. 15, board meeting, Robert and Marion Randolph presented their case and produced pictures as they requested the board's help to intercede with the new owners of the car wash.

For the first six years of the business's existence, the Randolphs, who are nine-year residents, said they were content, despite having the car wash across the street, because a 10- to 12-foot natural buffer blocked their view of the car wash.

However, when the car wash changed hands, the situation became unbearable and problems developed, according to the Randolphs.

ALTHOUGH THE PUBLIC works department tries to keep on top of the situation, Mayer avenue is a dust storm and First street is developing holes and cracks where huge trucks and cars from the car wash come out on a narrow driveway, Marion Randolph said. "My husband had to mow the grass growing in the street cracks."

She added that they were appearing before the board as a "last resort" because they had telephoned the village on several occasions, but felt their problem had not been acknowledged.

Physical changes since the new owners took over three years ago were, according to Marion Randolph: all the shrubs and trees torn down, the area asphalted, and the one lane driveway increased in size to a double driveway. "We have had no privacy for three years," she said. The children can't play in the yard, she noted, "because our two girls ages 9 and 12 have been insulted." She said she is upset by the comments the children have received from individuals in cars leaving the car wash.

THE RANDOLPHS said they have lost at least two to four feet of their front yard, and people exit and enter from their lawn. She noted that cars drive down their sidewalk on the side of the house. Since there are diesel trucks are going up and down First and Mayer. She called it three years of aggravation and mental anguish.

According to Marion Randolph, they tried to sell their home but could not. Realtors told them it was because of a lack of privacy, she said.

The Randolphs asked that the board close Mayer and First to all truck traffic, erect signs with a speed limit or "slow children" signs, require an adequate buffer such as an eight- to 10-foot high stockade fence, close off existing car wash property on Mayer and relocate the driveway. They also requested that someone check the legal distance for gasoline pumps from a residence, and set up a regular maintenance schedule for Mayer.

Trustee Sheila Schultz said she had been to the Randolph's home and saw the happenings the Randolphs described.

Village President William Hein agreed there is a problem. He suggested that the Randolphs, the village staff, police department and car wash owners get together. Randolph said he doesn't think he can sit down with the owners because they have put him through too much. "The car wash was open every day for the past three years except Christmas day, and "it has been pure hell."

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold was told to take personal charge of the situation and get the staff and legal department to see what can be done to alleviate the situation. Hein said that he wanted a report from Leikvold by Friday, Oct. 19.

Trustees approve cable study fee

October 17, 1979

Wheeling trustees voted to spend $1,500 toward the Northwest Municipal Conference study to hire a consultant to recommend three cable television firms for a franchise in the Northwest suburbs.

Trustees originally had balked at spending money for the study, saying the 14 firms trying to do business in the area should pay for the consultant, which is expected to cost about $25,000. However, board members agreed the village would be under heavy pressure from the cable firms if Wheeling decided to judge alone who should receive a franchise.

The consultant's report will be due Feb. 1. Each of the cable firms will be given a "qualified" or "unqualified" rating. The towns must decide by May 1 whether they want to award a franchise.

Restaurant's remodeling OKd

Despite objections by two trustees, zoning that would allow the owners of a Milwaukee Avenue restaurant to renovate and build an addition to the building has been approved by the Wheeling Village Board.

Trustees John Cole and Charles Kerr objected to waiving the usual village board practice of posting the zoning ordinance before it is given final approval. They also objected to a variation from zoning laws that would permit the building to be placed closer to the edge of the lot.

However, trustees who voted in favor of the zoning said the restaurant, which has been closed for a year, presently is an "eyesore," and by speeding the request of Mr. B's Restaurant, 600 S. Milwaukee Ave., the remodeling would begin sooner.

Herald - October 17, 1979

Tentative OK for insurance pool

Wheeling will save about $50,000 a year in insurance costs under a proposal tentatively approved by the village board to pool employee insurance costs with 14 other Northwest suburbs.

Village Finance Director Gregory Peters said other towns that have pooled their insurance have noticed "substantial" savings. By participating in the Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency, he said, Wheeling also would receive additional coverage and technical assistance from insurance agencies, he said.

Less costly insurance looked at

Wheeling Life - October 18, 1979

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — The Wheeling village board, Monday, Oct. 15, called a special meeting on Oct. 22 to review and vote on Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency (IRMA) insurance.

During the Oct. 15 meeting, Wheeling Finance Director Greg Peters explained IRMA to the board, but the board declined to vote upon the ordinance without posting it (having two readings).

Peters said IRMA would save the village at least $50,000 in insurance premiums. The IRMA plan, a combination of 14 villages, will provide workman's compensation savings as well as other insurance premium savings for villages with 50 or more employes by insuring themselves in a pool, Peters said. Peters said the savings would be the largest in the area of insurance all villages have to carry.

For the last several years the village has not had an umbrella policy, and is covered for $1 million at this time, Peters said. In the pool of communities, they are going for $4 million per occurrence in an umbrella policy, he said.

SINCE JAN. 1, when IRMA first began, it has had a good record and most municipalities have seen a savings, Peters said. One of the reasons Wheeling has been accepted is because it has an active safety committee trying for accident prevention, Peters added.

Items such as personally-owned automobiles, pollution, and nuclear damage are not covered, Peters continued. The village must make a four-year commitment to IRMA, and interest on premium funds that is earned goes into the pool, Peters noted.

In answer to a question by Trustee Roger Powers, it was learned the village cannot pull out of IRMA if the premiums are prohibitive next year.

Trustee John Cole said he hopes the village has discontinued the policy of allowing employes to use their own cars on village business. Peters said it has.

Loss prevention services from Gallagher/Bassit Insurance agency will be available and will provide technical assistance in the areas of workmen's compensation injuries and automobile accidents. All claims including workmen's compensation will have a $1,000 deductible for each occurrence, Peters added.

According to Peters, the city of Prospect Heights is ineligible to join in its own right, and has requested to be included in Wheeling's IRMA policy as a "listed entity." Prospect Heights has five full-time employes who will be covered under the Wheeling IRMA insurance. Village President William Hein said the board approved listing Prospect Heights, at no cost to Wheeling, as a "good neighbor."

The ordinance to join IRMA and list Prospect Heights as a "listed entity" was approved on first reading. A special meeting was called Monday, Oct. 22, to act upon the ordinances.

Leikvold quits manager post

Daily Herald Oct. 20, 1977

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Under fire from village trustees, Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold resigned Friday for "personal and confidential reasons."

Leikvold, who has been criticized by a majority of the village board, made the announcement in a letter that was distributed to village board members and the press.

In it, he said he would remain as village manager until next April or until the board finds a replacement. Leikvold refused to discuss his decision.

"I really have nothing more to say," he said. "If you'll read the second sentence of that letter, you'll see it says 'personal and confidential.'" However, Leikvold, 58, said his future is "sort of uncertain" and there are no job oportunities "that I can jump right into."

LEIKVOLD IS THE third village manager to leave Wheeling in the last four years.

He was hired in December 1977 to replace Terry Zerkle, who was fired after he refused to appoint a political ally of Village Pres. William Hein as police chief. The two trustees who defended Zerkle, Charles Kerr and John Cole, were critical of Leikvold almost from the start.

But Hein and his running mates from the 1977 village election controled a clear majority of the village board, even after former Hein ally Hubert Summerfeld began siding with Kerr and Cole after Zerkle's firing.

Sommerfeld had been out of the country when the board moved against Zerkle, and said he was "disappointed" with his running mates for their action.

Then, in April, the political structure changed again when Kerr and Cole were re-elected and their running mate, Sheila Schultz, ousted Hein ally Delores Dahm. Throughout the campaign, they had criticized Leikvold for bowing to political pressure and, at one point, threatened to fire him.

UNTIL LAST WEEK, though, Sommerfeld refused to publicly criticize Leikvold, although he said the time had come for village officials to discuss Leikvold's future. A few days later, trustees held a closed door session with Leikvold to discuss "personnel." Sommerfeld would not discuss that meeting Friday, but said he did not threaten to join Cole, Kerr and Schultz in a move to fire Leikvold.



CARSTEN LEIKVOLD

"Whatever my position is on the matter is really not valid considering the letter from the manager," he said. "So a public statement at this point is superfluous." He complimented Leikvold for "taking leave of the village in a very professional manner."

Hein, who had supported Leikvold, would not say if there had been a battle between him and the four trustees over Leikvold. "That I can't answer," he said. "I feel Carsten has been doing a good job. I've said that before and I'll say it again."

HEIN SAID THE board probably would have to conduct a special meeting to accept Leikvold's resignation and begin looking for a new manager.

Full-time mayor is bad solution

Life Oct. 25, 1979

WHEELING VILLAGE PRESIDENT William Hein has suggested that his community may not be able to sustain a council/manager form of government. The fifth village manager in 11 years is leaving the village, after less than two years on the job.

Hein said he has been thinking for some time that Wheeling might function better with a full-timee mayor — even before problems came to the fore with the present manager. He noted all big cities are run by full-time mayors, not city managers. Hein suggested that a full-time mayor could be helped by an administrative aide.

While Wheeling is a political community which may have difficulty in attracting a professional after its recent record, The LIFE does not agree that a full-time mayor would be the answer.

Wheeling is political enough, without having the mayor run the community entirely. Hein is presently the head of a village board which has a majority of trustees who disagree with him most of the time. How could anything get done in such a situation if he were a full-time mayor?

ANOTHER QUESTION brought up by his suggestion is, just how well are all the big cities running with their full-time mayors? Most of them are in some sort of financial trouble, have blighted areas marring the landscape, have segreation of some sort, have unemployment problems — the list can go on for pages.

Instead of turning to a system that would make the community even more political, perhaps Wheeling should try to give its village manager a chance to run the town, instead of interfering with his job so much. There are definite responsibilities given to a village manager.

If the village board will bury its politics and try to hire someone who can work with both elected and hired officials, perhaps the system can work. Changing to another form of government is not the answer.

The week ahead

Daily Herald October 22, 1979

County considers hospital plan

A request by a Chicago hospital to build a 232-bed branch hospital near Wheeling will be heard Wednesday by the Cook County Zoning Board of appeals.

Most of the testimony on the hospital, which would be built on Schoenbeck Road, was presented to the zoning board last month. However, officials from Franklin Boulevard Hospital asked for a delay in the hearing because they failed to bring an engineer to testify on whether the new building would cause flooding problems.

The Wheeling Village Board has voted to oppose the hospital plans. That objection must be filed within 30 days after the hearing. Wheeling officials have criticized the Schoenbeck Road site as an extremely poor location. The narrow, two-lane road has no sidewalks and children frequently walk near the road on their way to school, they say.

Franklin Boulevard's plans also have been attacked by other area hospitals and regional health planners, who say there already are too many unfilled hospital beds in the area and construction of another hospital will drive up medical costs.

Although the health planners have called for a moratorium on new hospital construction in the Northwest suburbs, Franklin Boulevard submitted its plans before federal legislation made review of its building plans mandatory. However, that exemption ends Jan. 1 unless the hospital is under construction.

The Chicago hospital's plans to build in Wheeling date back to 1974. Stalled by problems with acquiring land and financing, hospital officials last year asked the village plan commission to annex the 20-acre Schoenbeck Road site. The plan commission unanimously rejected the proposal.

The county zoning board hearing on Franklin Boulevard's request begins at 3 p.m.at the Gary Morava Center, 110 W. Camp McDonald Rd. Prospect Heights.

• • •

THE WHEELING Village Board will meet today to consider tightening up rules and procedures for the village appearance commission.

Although the commission was created by village ordinance, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said it has never been precisely explained what standards the commission can impose on developers.

"It can't be a totally subjective opinion," he said. "We're trying to establish what standards we can use for appearance in the village."

The board will meet at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Hawthorne may become senior center

Daily Herald - October 23, 1977

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld says Wheeling should consider using Hawthorne School, one of three schools scheduled to be closed next year, as a federally financed center for senior citizens and handicapped persons.

Wheeling's application for $380,000 in federal money was approved last week by the Cook County Board.

Although $160,000 of the money is earmarked to buy land for an emergency clinic, village officials want to use all of it for the senior center because Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, announced plans to build a clinic in Wheeling after the village applied for the money from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

HUD officials have said Wheeling would be allowed to transfer the money from one project to another. The request for federal money is part of the village's plan to redevelop the downtown area. Included in those plans are the senior center, clinic and a rent-assisted housing project for seniors.



SOMMERFELD SAID the savings could be "substantial" if the village renovates Hawthorne School, 200 Glendale Ave. The building is relatively close to the proposed clinic site at Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue.

It also is "easily within walking distance," he said, for many of Wheeling's senior citizens, most of whom live near Dundee and Wolf roads.

Sommerfeld said he talked to school officials when the school closings were being discussed. "I do not believe we could get a building and land of this type for the kind of numbers they are talking about," he said.

He would not say how much the school district might ask for the building because the discussions were "only preliminary, and it would be unfair to tie them to a specific figure."

Wheeling Township Dist. 21 Supt. Kenneth Gill said it would be "premature" to discuss what the district plans to do with Hawthorne or the other buildings to be closed because a formal decision will not be made until January or February.

He said he has received several "preliminary" inquiries from church groups, special education districts, park districts and other agencies interested in the school buildings.

"These are just overtures, and I would be jumping the gun to say what we plan to do with the buildings," he said.

HOWEVER, GILL SAID once serious discussions begin on the school buildings, "The main purpose would be to try to give priority to other government groups that have a community service use for the building in mind."

He added it is possible the district would not choose to sell all its buildings because the trend toward declining enrollments could reverse.

Sommerfeld plans to ask the village staff to "begin actively working with the school district on the possibility of utilizing the site."

Village Planner Richard Greenwood said he is "all for reusing existing buildings." Although he has not investigated the possibility of using the school, he said there might be some problems.

The school is outside the "defined neighborhood study area," which means HUD might not approve of the village spending federal money to buy and renovate the school building, he said

Elderly population up

Wheeling's senior citizen population has increased by 53 percent in the past five years, while the number of school-age children has decreased, says a special census recently conducted for the village.

Since 1974, when the last census was taken, Wheeling's population has increased nearly 20 percent, from 18,106 to 21,491. The increase comes mainly from a rise in the number of persons older than 20 because the number of children younger than 19 years old has decreased by 551, or 9 percent.

The number of persons more than 60 years old has increased by 555, from 1,039 to 1,594, with the most dramatic jump being in the 60 to 64 age bracket. The number of persons in that age group increased 107 percent.

The average age of a Wheeling resident has increased from 25.6 to 27.9. The largest increase in a middle age group is in the 30 to 34 age bracket, with an increase of almost 50 percent, from 1,571 to 2,352.

Wheeling's minority population has more than doubled since 1974. The village's black population has increased from 39 to 133. Other nationalities, such as Mexican and Latin American, have increased from 63 to 143.

Musical managers

Courier-Bulletin - October 25, 1977

Wheeling's game of musical managers continues.

With not quite two years service behind him, Village Manager Carsten Leikvold last week bowed to the inevitable and resigned for "personal and confidential reasons."

We reported in August that a political bloc had formed that was critical of Leikvold's performance. Trustees Charles Kerr, John Cole and Sheila Schultz voiced their dissatisfaction with the manager. On the other side were trustees Robert Ross, Roger Powers and Village President William Hein. Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld, who held the swing vote, has declined to comment throughout the episode.

A manager serves at the pleasure of his village board. The board is a political animal, thus rendering the manager's job vulnerable to the political winds.

In Wheeling in recent years, those political winds have been gale force.

Leikvold is Wheeling's third manager in four years. His former job was criticized by some trustees here.

Given Wheeling's manager attrition rate, it will not be easy to find a quality replacement for Leikvold. But when he or she is identified, the board must give its assurance that the new manager will be shielded from the political tomfoolery that has characterized Wheeling in recent years.

Not only will the new manager benefit from that kind of assurance, **but the residents** will receive higher **quality service.**

Wheeling's challenge

Daily Herald - October 23, 1977

Ever since Wheeling voters began cleaning up village hall last April, the days of Carsten Leikvold plainly have been numbered. The new majority of trustees never has been fond of the village manager, who was a holdover from the days when Village Pres. William Hein controlled the board. So it comes as no surprise that Leikvold has submitted his resignation.

Leikvold has served as village manager for only 22 months, and his departure thus gives another shove to the office's revolving door. The village will have gone through three managers in four years. But the dizzying speed with which the doors revolves is about the only regrettable aspect of the resignation.

Leikvold's tenure here has been noteworthy for little but its resumption, after a hiatus in which former Village Mgr. Terry L. Zerkle withstood political pressure, of improper interference by Hein and his allies in the administrative affairs of the village. At the same time, Leikvold has been non-responsive to constructive policy direction offered by the newly installed majority of Trustees John Cole, Charles Kerr, Sheila Schultz and Hugh Sommerfeld. Moreover, Leikvold has failed to pursue aggressively any long-range planning or to obviate problems before they develop into crises, and he has offered only weak administration of the village staff.

So much for the past. The challenge now is to attract a professional village manager who will bring to Wheeling those attributes that Leikvold did not. This task will not be easy. Wheeling's history of political abuses, along with lingering questions about the promise of the village's future, will discourage some highly qualified candidates from seeking the position. One factor will work in the village's favor, however; Leikvold has offered to remain on the job until a successor is appointed, so the village can at least conduct a careful search.

This, of course, does not mean the board should dawdle. The village should begin immediately to solicit applications from experienced public administrators. Trustees will have to be forthright with each applicant, to be sure, but they needn't be timid about presenting Wheeling as a village with numerous assets and a tremendous potential.

Time is on the village's side, and it's a good thing, for the selection of a new manager will be the most significant decision the Wheeling Village Board makes for a long time to come

Low-income housing set by fall

Daily Herald - October 24, 1979

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

By next fall, Cook County housing officials say they expect to start building 20 townhouse-style apartments in Wheeling for low-income families, but it will be at least six months before they know if federal funds will be available to build rent-assisted housing for senior citizens.

The Cook County housing authority is planning to spend $800,000 to $900,000 to build the family housing in two-, three- and four-apartment buildings on five to 10 sites scattered throughout the village, said executive director Victor Walchirk.

THE APARTMENTS will be rented to families with incomes of $12,000 per year or less, he said, and Wheeling residents will get the first opportunity to apply for leases. Rents will be based on the family's income, with a maximum of $120 per month for a three-bedroom apartment.

"I don't believe there should be any problem with filling the units," Walchirk said. "There are always countless more applications than persons to occupy."

The U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development has approved a grant to finance construction and also will subsidize the rents.

Wheeling also has asked the county to build 100 low-cost apartments for senior citizens. Although that request has a "top priority," Walchirck said no funds are available for public housing for senior citizens.

The problem, Walchirk said, is that HUD officials say Cook County has built too much housing for the elderly and not enough for low-income families. As a result, no new federally assisted senior housing projects have been approved in the Chicago area for the last two years, he said.

"We're kind of playing catch-up," Walchirk said. Eventually, the balance between family and senior housing will even out, he said, but it should be at least six months before any federal funds are earmarked for the county housing authority. "We're told by the Chicago area office of HUD, they'll (Wheeling) have first shot at it. In the meantime we can proceed with plans for the family housing," he said.

WHEELING OFFICIALS asked for the senior citizen housing as part of plans to redevelop the downtown area. The village last week received approval of $380,000 in federal money to buy land and develop a plan for a center for seniors and handicapped persons.

Also figuring in the redevelopment plans is a proposal by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, to build a $4.5 million emergency clinic. Most of the building plans are slated for the area near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street.

The senior housing is needed, village officials say, because Wheeling's senior citizen population has increased 53 percent in the past five years. The village's total population has increased only 20 percent in the same period, and the number of persons younger than 20 actually decreased by 9 percent.



Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold

Cites 'personal ' reasons

Countryside - October 25, 1979

Leikvold resigns manager post

By MARION SOURS

After months of strain between Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold and several trustees, Leikvold resigned Friday.

He sent a letter to the Wheeling village president and board of trustees, offering his resignation for "personal and confidential" reasons. He would not elaborate on these. Leikvold, 58, said he will stay in office until not later than March 31, 1980.

Leikvold had been criticized for some time by a group of trustees made up of Sheila Schultz, John Cole and Charles Kerr, all of whom were elected on a Wheeling United Party slate. They claimed he was not a good administrator and was overly-influenced by the board.

Trustees Charles Ross, Roger Powers and Village President William Hein, all elected on the Citizens for Wheeling party slate have supported Leikvold. Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, also elected on the Citizens for Wheeling slate, often used to side with Hein, but in recent months has tended to vote with Schultz, Cole and Kerr, thus strengthening rumors that trustees might urge Leikvold to resign.

Leikvold is Wheeling's third village manager in four years. He was hired in 1977 to replace Terry Zerkle, who was fired in a confrontation with Hein.

At that time, Hein was in a majority with his fellow Citizens for Wheeling party members: Trustees Ross, Powers, Sommerfeld and Dolores Dahm. A dispute arose between Zerkle and these trustees, whom Zerkle said were using pressure to influence his choice of a new police chief.

At a meeting when Sommerfeld was absent, Hein and a majority of the trustees voted to fire Zerkle. Trustees Kerr and Cole opposed the firing.

Ironically, it was Zerkle's refusal to bow to the board which was the cause of his firing. And it was Leikvold's reported inclination to bow to the board which was the reason trustees wanted him to resign.

Among the developments which have come about since Leikvold took office is the Palwaukee Airport study, the annexation of the Johnson property, the construction of the new municipal complex and the cable television study.

Politics. . .as usual

Village manager follows others out revolving door

Wheeling Life - October 25, 1979



In the midst

BY JOANNE KANTER

AND ANOTHER VILLAGE MANAGER bites the dust. . . Perhaps that could best describe Wheeling in the past few years as the head of the administrative department of the village seesaws with each new election.

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold has resigned for "personal and confidential" reasons. However, anyone who has attended village board meetings since November 1977, when he took over the reins, could not help but notice the criticism leveled at Leikvold time after time from certain members of the village board.

Leikvold was hired by one faction of the village board. That faction lost its clout when Dolores Dahm lost her seat in the April election. That faction also fired former Village Manager Terry Zerkle when he would not bow to their wishes on certain appointments. Zerkle held on to his belief that he was entitled, under the council/manager form of government, to appoint the police chief. For that belief, he was fired.

WHILE ZERKLE would not bow to the village board, Leikvold has, perhaps, bowed too much. How many times has he apologized for some oversight, or taken the blame for things left undone? Perhaps he is too indecisive for Wheeling. But Leikvold did get many projects off the ground. He got the water improvements program under way. He got the study on Palwaukee airport going and has kept it moving along. He has tried to consolidate and remove friction between the board and the village staff.

Leikvold is a very open individual. He has never ducked away from this reporter and answers the telephone himself, when available. He has always provided information when it was needed.

THE QUESTION NOW is what kind of village manager does Wheeling need?

A reform slate of trustees was elected in April 1977 and by that summer had fired then-Village Manager George Passolt. Passolt, who was the third village manager in five years, had had not been trained in government administration and the village was floundering under his leadership.

The board hired Terry Zerkle that summer and was encouraged by his young ideas and his assertiveness.

However, another election changed that. In April 1977, Village President William Hein and his runningmates were elected. That left only Trustees Charles Kerr and John Cole as holdovers from the 1975 election.

Hein and his majority (without Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld, who was on vacation) fired Zerkle that summer after he refused to bow to their selection of a new police chief. Leikvold was hired and began in November 1977 and as a result Sommerfeld defected from Hein's side of the fence.

After feeling his way around for a while, Leikvold appointed Ted Bracke as police chief. This was the choice Hein had wanted Zerkle to make.

Leikvold moved public works director Larry Oppenheimer to the position of community development director. He made Gregory Peters, then assistant village manager, the finance director. He made his secretary Beuhla Peterson his administrative assistant. And all the while, he was trying to avoid the politics so prevalent in this community.

BUT PERHAPS THAT is a dream. No one is immune to Wheeling's politics. Whether the "good guys" or "bad guys" are in office doesn't matter. Perhaps Wheeling is destined to change boards and village managers like Chicago's weather.

One thing is clear — this community must decide which way it wants to go. Does it want to continue this seesaw every two years, something that is good for the news but not for the citizens, or does it want to stabilize and maintain its council/manager form of government? Given the pattern of the last four years it will be very difficult to get anyone to come to Wheeling as village manager.

It is time for Wheeling's village board to hire someone who can work with everyone (something Leikvold thought he could do, as did his predecessor). Then it is time for the village board to stop its politicking and try to help the village manager, instead of making points against the opposition.

The future of this community depends on the mature, reasonable manner in which a new manager is hired.

Wheeling Life - October 25, 1979

OK low-income units here

WHEELING—Planning for and completion of 20 units of subsidized family housing by the Housing Authority of Cook county will probably take about two years, according to Victor Walchirk, executive director of the housing authority. The housing authority approved the 20 units for Wheeling last week.

New units will be built throughout the village, the director said, adding that there probably will be no more than four units in any location.

"We're talking about low-rise, townhouse-type of buildings," he noted, adding that the village is now working on a vacant site analysis.

IN ORDER TO qualify for the housing, a family must fit into the income guidelines established by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). For example, a family with seven or eight people with a net income of $16,000 would qualify.

Walchirk said people obtaining family housing must pay 25% of their net income or a maximum rent established based on the size of the unit.

Talking about site acquisition, planning and design and final funding, means a time span of perhaps two years before the units would be ready for occupancy, Walchirk said.

THE VILLAGE MUST wait to hear on another type of housing — for senior citizens — according according to Village Manager Carsten Leikvold. The manager said the village should hear in three to six months whether its application for funding for senior housing has been approved.

In the meantime, the Cook county board has approved funding to a senior center and the village is working on site selection for this project. Wheeling's request for $380,000 in federal funds for the senior center and a medical clinic has been approved. However, Holy Family hospital is planning an emergency clinic in Wheeling and the village is attempting to transfer approved funds to the senior center project.

A downtown redevelopment plan has identified a site near Strong and Milwaukee for the entire senior citizen complex and medical facility, but the village has already approved a condominium project for that site. This project was the subject of a close board vote in which the tie was broken by Village President William Hein. Lambert Domas and Thomas Popke are the developers for the project, known as Three Lakes Village.

The project also exceeds new density requirements passed by the board subsequent to the approval of the development.

Life - October 25, 1979

Some water fees could increase

WHEELING—Fees for water connection could double in the future in order to meet federal Environmental Protection agency (EPA) rules, according to Robert Gray Jr., director of operations and maintenance.

In a memo to Village Manager Carsten Leikvold sent earlier this month, Gray said tap-on fees should not be reduced, but kept the same or increased to provide future improvements to the water system.

Tap-on fees, along with water rates, were increased two years ago in anticipation of water main improvements, which have been undertaken since that time. Looping and extension of mains has provided better-quality water and better flow for fire protection. However, new EPA guidelines for water quality may induce the village to raise these fees again.

The new guidelines would call for more extensive treatment and would mean the village would have to build water treatment plants on its deep well sites. The village has asked for a delay in adherence to these guidelines.

WHEN THE NEW tap-on fees were implemented and improvements made, property owners who had their own wells were required to tap on to the village system within one year after the mains were installed.

According to Gray, each time a new connection is made to water mains and storm and sanitary sewers, the capacity of these systems is decreased for use by existing homeowners, business and industry. "The continuing decrease in capacity eventually results in a requirement to construct additional facilities and oversize mains. This requirement should be paid for by the new users and not existing homeowners, businesses and industries," Gray said.

Tap-on fees now range from $300 to $1,000, depending on the size of the water meter, according to the community development department.

Gray also suggested investigation of the necessity for storm sewer tap-on fees to fund future storm water programs.

Youth Court helps juvenile offenders see the light—

Countryside - October 25, 1979

(Continued from page 8)

sending the youth to some youth service, such as Omni-House, for counseling or other services.

Larson said some children did not want to talk to a social worker or counselor, however, and so the idea of the youth jury was designed as an alternative diversion program.

As mentioned, youths must have admitted their guilt before they are sent before the youth jury. The jury is made up of six students, one from each of the area junior high and high schools, who submitted applications. They are chosen by members of the Wheeling Youth Commission and the Police Department.

The jury meets about once a month, and a new jury is selected every six months. One is in the process of selection now. There also are three adult 'judges', all attorneys, one of whom presides at each session.

Larson said the jury does not "hear" the case, since the youth already has admitted his guilt. The jury also does not issue punishments, he said. The jury members listen to a statement of the offense and decide on an appropriate work program which the individual should perform as a means of helping him adjust.

Youths might be assigned to such tasks as working at the park district, doing maintenance work or helping younger children with athletic programs; doing maintenance work at the village hall, working in the police department, or helping at Omni-House.

Larson said youths often gain a greater sense of responsibility by doing such community projects. In fact, he called the program a great success. Of about 10 youths brought before the jury, only 1 was apprehended on a crime later, he said.

Larson said often youths keep in touch with him after they complete their programs. Recently, he said, one of the youths in the program came to him and told him of a motorcycle he had found abandoned, which turned out to be stolen.

Plans disappoint officials

Daily Herald - October 25, 1979

Wheeling officials say they are disappointed with plans by Cook County to build 20 townhouse-style apartments for low-income families because there is no assurance federal money will be available to build housing for senior citizens.

"My personal reaction is that (the low-income housing) was part of a total package," said Trustee Roger Powers. "I was under the impression that we would be receiving both. Now that this has happened great care must be taken to ensure these units are properly planned, placed and constructed."

WHEELING HAD applied for the low-income housing with the hope that it would enhance the village's chances of getting the senior housing. However, officials of the Cook County housing authority said they plan to spend $800,000 to $900,000 to build the family housing in two- three- and four-apartment buildings on five to 10 scattered sites throughout the village. Federal money for a 100-unit senior housing project will not be available for at least six months, they say.

Village Pres. William Hein said the senior housing "was what we were really looking for." However, he said he wanted some assurances that the low-income housing would attract persons who already live in Wheeling. County officials say they want to start building next fall.

"I think we should put out some type of a tentative application, just to to see what it would draw," Hein said. However, he added that Wheeling probably has enough low-income residents who would qualify to occupy the rental units.

Powers agreed Wheeling residents should get first shot at the housing. "I'm not worried about an influx of minorities. That doesn't scare me," he said. "I just think someone who has put their tax dollars into this town should be able to live here first. They know the town. They spend their money here. Let them live here first."

THE APARTMENTS will be rented to families with incomes of $12,000 per year or less. Rents will be based on a families' income, with a maximum of $120 a month for a three-bedroom apartment. Wheeling residents, said Victor Walchirk, housing authority executive director, will be given first crack at the housing, although two of the rental units must go to persons outside the village.

"Sure I'm disappointed we didn't get the senior housing," said Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld. "That was the intention of applying." He added, however, he had "no doubts" there are enough low-income families in Wheeling to fill the apartments.

Walchirk said the housing authority would begin taking applications for the apartments "about six to nine months before the building is ready for occupancy. It's been our experience that these units generally are filled immediately."

Walchirk acknowledged the senior housing was to be a part of the housing package, but said there currently are no federal funds available for the elderly because officials from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development says there has been too much construction of senior citizen housing in the Chicago area.

New Wheeling hospital before zoning board

Daily Herald - October 25, 1979

A Chicago hospital concluded its testimony Wednesday before the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals, ending the latest session of a six-year attempt to build a 232-bed branch hospital near Wheeling.

The fate of the project, proposed by Franklin Boulevard Hospital, now rests with the zoning board, which will be reviewing the 415-page transcript of testimony taken on the hospital in two hearings. George Karafotias, zoning board member, said board members could not comment on the testimony until they meet to make their recommendations to the county board.

Wheeling officials, who have unanimously voted to oppose efforts by Franklin Boulevard, now have 30 days to file a formal objection. Their objection means it will require a three-fourths majority of the county board to approve the project.

THE EARLIEST the zoning board could make its recommendation would be Dec. 5, said Nicholas Phillips, zoning board secretary. Franklin Boulevard is faced with a Jan. 1 deadline to begin construction.

Wednesday's testimony centered on whether the hospital, which would be built on a 20-acre site on Schoenbeck Road, will cause flooding problems.

An engineer testifying for the hospital said the project will decrease water runoff in the area. But Wheeling Park Director David Phillips said the park district, which owns the property north of the hospital site, is objecting to Franklin Boulevard's plans because of uncertainty on how the new building will affect the park site, which already has flooding problems.

Franklin Boulevard's plans have been attacked by other area hospitals, regional health planners and local officials.

HEALTH PLANNERS say the Northwest suburbs already have more than enough hospital beds, and a new hospital will create more, driving up medical costs. Wheeling officials have criticized the Schoenbeck Road location as being an extremely poor site for a hospital.

They say the narrow two-lane road cannot handle the additional traffic the hospital would cause and the traffic would be a hazard to children who frequently walk along the road to school.

The Chicago hospital submitted its plans before federal law made it mandatory for hospitals to have their plans approved by regional health planning agencies. But because of a change in that law, Franklin Boulevard would lose that exemption unless they start construction by the end of the year.

Regional health planners have called for a moratorium on new hospital construction in the Northwest suburbs. But Franklin Boulevard officials have pointed to their own hospital needs study which shows the area's population is rapidly growing and the hospital is needed.

Hein backs 'full-time' mayor post

Daily Herald
Oct. 26, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Saying "we just can't seem to hang onto a manager," Wheeling Village Pres. William Hein says the village should consider having a full-time elected mayor rather than an appointed manager to oversee the day-to-day operations of the government.

In the wake of Carsten Leikvold's resignation last week, Wheeling officials are searching for their fourth village manager in as many years.

Hein, who has been village president since 1977 and a trustee since 1971, said he would "love to be mayor," but added that he probably would not have the time.

WHEELING'S TOP administrator has been an appointed manager ever since voters approved the council-manager form of government 10 years ago.

But one manager was fired by the village board in 1975, his successor was fired two years later, and Leikvold resigned amid criticism from a newly elected village board majority.

"I sometimes wonder if the manager form of government is working. We just can't seem to hang on to a manager," said Hein, who supported Leikvold.

Hein said a mayor, who would have broader powers over the day-to-day operation of the village, would be in office for at least four years. "That might bring a little stability to the village. If he isn't doing his job, you let the people take him out."

A mayor, he said, would be from the village and aware of the town's problems. "He'd know the area and then there wouldn't be this process of bringing in somebody from the outside," he said.

A REFERENDUM would be necessary to give the manager's powers to a full-time mayor, and Hein said he has no specific plans to ask the village board to schedule such a vote. "It's just some food for thought from the president," Hein said, acknowledging the idea might not be too popular with his political rivals on the village board.



William Hein

"He's certainly right about that," said Trustee Sheila Schultz, an outspoken critic of both Hein and Leikvold. "I wouldn't like to see a change. I can't see having one person in control who isn't a professional."

She added that she doubted Hein would make the suggestion of having a full time mayor unless he wanted to fill the post.

"I would think the fact that he would even suggest it says something," she said. "If he thinks it's a good idea, I would think he wants to do it."

Trustee Charles Kerr agreed. "He wants what he had the first two years under Leikvold. Everybody'd dance to the tune of the mayor. He'd just love running the show."

Despite the high turnover rate of managers in Wheeling, Mrs. Schultz defended the council manager form of government. "I don't think you can fault the system," she said. "It's a matter of finding the right man for the job."

HEIN'S SUGGESTION, she said, "seems to me to be a step backwards." Trustees, who hold the power to hire and fire the manager, can be "completely responsive to the people. And as far as having someone from town — I don't think that's a huge asset. You probably want someone who's not too tied to the village."

Although Hein would not rule himself out as a future mayor, he said, "With the businesses I have going, the job would take too much time."

Hein manages a Milwaukee Avenue auto parts store for his parents and is developing a shopping center, known as Riverside Plaza, on five acres at Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road. The Hein family also owns two liquor businesses.

Youth court facility OKd

Daily Herald - October 27, 1979

Although he thinks they are illegal, Cook County's chief juvenile court judge now says a youth court system proposed in Palatine and one that has been operating for six months in Wheeling can operate if the village attorneys approve.

Creating a jury of high school students to hear minor offenses could cause "a snare and tangle" of legal problems, said Judge William White, because only the state constitution can establish a court.

However, he said he would urge village officials to present the legal pitfalls "to the corporate council and abide by his advice." He said he would make no move to stop Wheeling's youth jury, which was established in April. "I have no jurisdiction to do that," he said.

WITH WHITE qualifying his objections, Palatine officials said they probably will proceed with plans to establish the court as recommended by their youth council.

"If our village attorney says it's all right to proceed, I think we should proceed cautiously," said Village Pres. Robert Guss. "I would really like to do it. I can't see how we could miss with using this concept."

By giving the last word to the village attorneys, White is "leaving himself off the hook," Guss said. He said he will continue to try to persuade the judge to sanction the youth court as a precaution against possible future legal challenges against the village.

Palatine Village Atty. Bradley Glass could not be reached Friday for comment, but one trustee said his opinion may not be needed if White says he won't interfere.

"Let's go ahead and do it, if everybody's going to run for cover," said Trustee Philip Stern. "As long as he doesn't say 'no' — no matter what he says other than 'no' — I'd say let's go ahead and do it."

Wheeling Village Atty. David Epstein said he thinks Wheeling's youth jury is legal, and White "might be assuming the youth jury is something besides what it really is." Because the youth jury is voluntary, he said, the village is not "imposing sanctions" on the offenders.

"IF IT WERE," Epstein said, "it would not be legal. I would agree with him (White)." It is up to the police department's youth officer to decide "with the parents' permission, an equitable means of getting rid of the case without prosecuting."

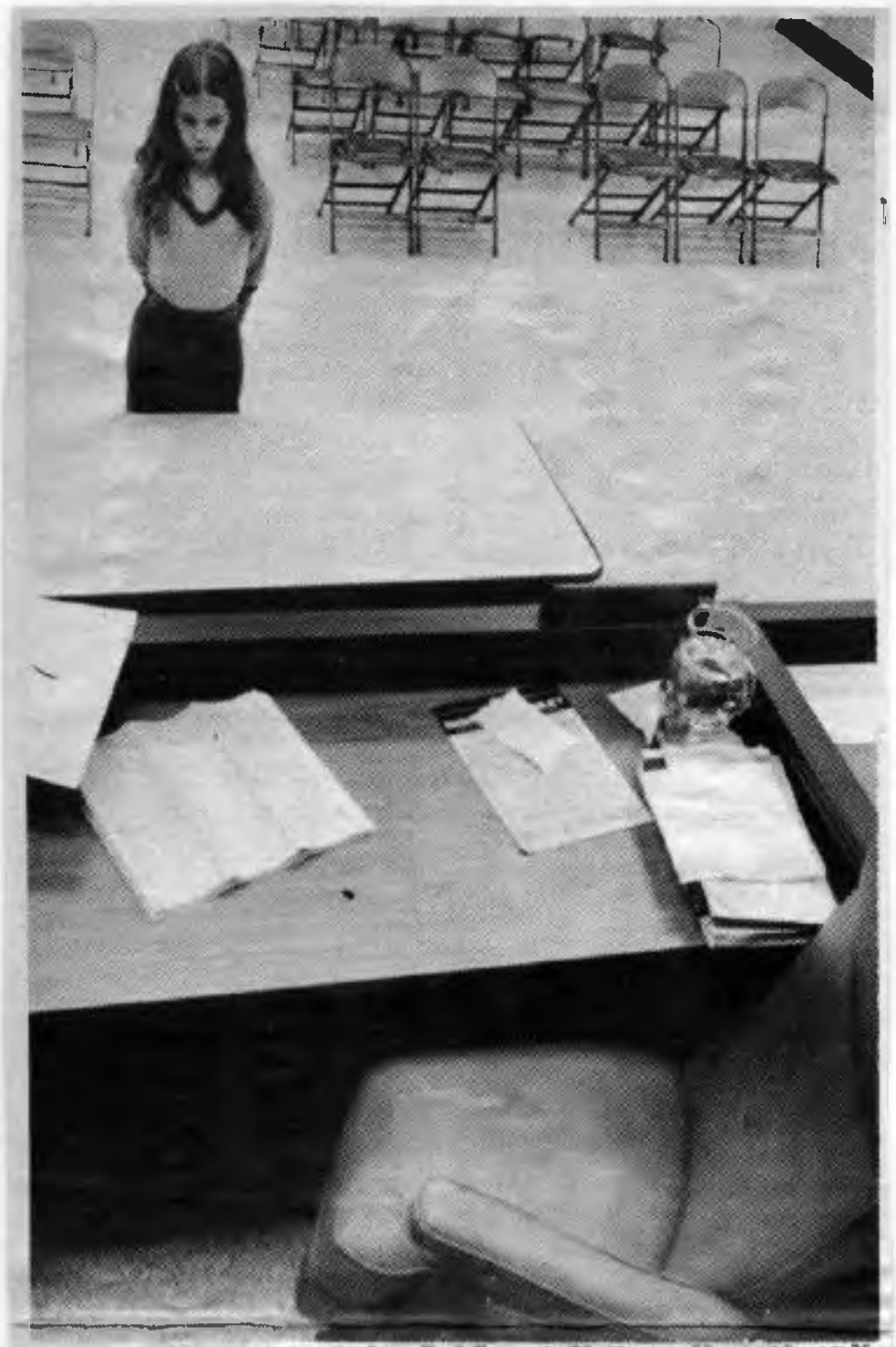
But White said he is concerned with the village's authority to impose the "sentence," which consists of community tasks such as raking leaves or shoveling snow.

"What if the kid says, 'The devil with you, I'm not going to do it,'" White said. "I'm concerned that we're going to be stuck with enforcing the youth court's mandate."

However, members of the village youth commission, which formed the youth jury, say that has not been a problem. Of the nine cases the youth court has tried, only one offender has failed to carry out his punishment "satisfactorily," said Michele Siria, youth commission member.

"We wouldn't pursue that to the juvenile court," she said. "That would be double jeopardy." However, she added a youth who has failed to carry out his task that appears before the juvenile officer on a repeat offense is more likely to be referred to juvenile court, rather than the youth jury again.

"We've never had a kid who has out and out refused," she said. "The main purpose of the youth jury is to have him complete the sentence correctly and then have no mark on his record."



Although she's not a juvenile delinquent, this 13-year-old youngster could have a choice of a youth court or circuit court should she run afoul of the law. (Staff photo by Joe Cyganowski)

Countryside-Oct. 25, 1979

Palatine court illegal

Wheeling youth court gives justice by peers

By MARION SOURS

A youth court system proposed for Palatine has been called illegal by a Cook County juvenile judge, but Wheeling officials said they believe a similar youth jury in Wheeling is legal.

Wheeling Juvenile Officer Eric Larson and Wheeling Village Attorney David Epstein said they believe the informal opinion offered by Judge William White does not apply to the Wheeling program. White offered the opinion upon the request of Palatine officials who are considering implementing a youth court system.

White had said Palatine could not establish a jury of high school students to hear cases involving minors. He said only the state can establish a court.

Larson said he believes some misunderstanding exists regarding the Wheeling program. The youth jury in Wheeling does not "hear" cases, and it is not a "youth court," he said. Larson said the program is merely another type of diversion program, similar to those Wheeling has had for years and which are legal.

Epstein said he believes White might have been mistaken about what a youth jury involves. He said it is not an actual court, and said the Wheeling program probably will continue unless someone raises a challenge.

Last spring Wheeling first began the youth jury program. It had been suggested to the Wheeling Youth Commission by Wheeling Police Chief Ted Bracke, who had heard of similar systems in other communities.

Larson said the youth jury was started as an attempt to broaden the village's diversion program.

When a minor is apprehended by police for allegedly committing a crime, a juvenile officer has several options. He may release the child to the custody of his parents, he may enroll him in a diversion program, such as Omni-House, or recently the youth jury, or he may send the child to juvenile court.

The former two options, Larson said, are the most commonly used. He said unless the crime is major, or youths have been apprehended many times, police hesistate to send them to juvenile court, where they may be taken out of the custody of their parents.

Youths may be released to their parents or to a diversion program only if they admit their guilt, however. If they do not, they must be sent to juvenile court.

Until the establishment of the youth jury, the diversion program consisted of

(Continued on page 13)

Let a mayor take charge?

Wheeling Sun-Oct. 25, 1979

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Village President William Hein has suggested that this community may not function best with a council/manager form of government. Hein told The LIFE Monday, Oct. 22, that he has been thinking for some time that the village might do better with a full-time mayor and administrative aide.

"I think the village of Wheeling has had very strongminded people involved in village government in the last 10 years. I think that leads to an extreme difference in style. A difference of opinion is good for the community, but I think it comes down to the style of the people in government." Hein was commenting on the resignation of Village Manager Carsten Leikvold, the third village manager this community has had in the past five years.

"Most of the large cities are run by full-time mayors. I think in Wheeling it might work — where we are so politically motivated. Basically everyone wants to achieve the same thing. It comes down to the style of doing it."

HEIN SAID HE thinks a full-time mayor and aide might bring "stability" to Wheeling. "Let the man who is elected be responsible and I think we'd get some good qualified people to run."

The village held a referendum in the late '60s to form a council/manager type of government. That referendum failed but the the village went ahead and hired, by ordinance, Curtis Olson to become village manager. Olson was hired in 1968 and left less than a year later.

The next village manager, also hired by ordinance, was Matthew Golden, who began with the village in September 1969. While Golden was in charge, the village held another referendum to form a council/manager type of government. This time the referendum was successful. However, Golden left in February 1970.

After Golden left, George Passolt, who had been village treasurer, was made acting village manager. Some time later, Passolt was officially made village manager.

Passolt lasted until 1975 when the village board cleaned house and fired both Passolt and the village attorney Paul Hamer, who had been in that position for 11 years.

Passolt's successor was Terry Zerkle, who was village manager for two years and was fired in August 1977 when he refused to allow board members to interfere with his selection of a new police chief.

Carsten Leikvold began in the job in November 1977.

Thus the village has had five village managers in a span of 11 years.

TRUSTEE ROGER POWERS said he has not studied the question of changing the form of government in Wheeling, but "We are at a crossroads where we need more talent. I don't mean anything against the present people, but a town of 500 people can get along with part-time people. Perhaps a town of 21,000 cannot."

When asked why other communities in this area are able to function with a council/manager form of government and Wheeling does not seem to be able to, Powers said, "I don't know why we seem to have all the problems. You don't seem to find the problems in other communities. Perhaps because Wheeling is a political hotbed, or because it grew so fast."

No matter what type of village government Wheeling has, Powers says "The influence of the board versus the manager and staff should be better defined. The communication gap is the crux of what's going on and a better definition of responsibility is eventually going to have to be done."

TRUSTEE HUGH SOMMERFELD said he does not agree that the form of government needs changing in this community. "I firmly believe, in today's society, the council/manager form of government is the most economical form of government to operate a town such as this. If it's allowed to operate freely and fully with a full hand —with politics taken out of the village hall —it will operate properly. Unfortunately, in our community, we haven't been able to do this."

Here two years

Wheeling Life - October 25, 1979

Leikvold resigns

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Village Manager Carsten Leikvold submitted his resignation Friday, Oct. 19. Leikvold's letter of resignation said he is leaving for "personal and confidential" reasons. He said he will stay no longer than March 31 to "fulfill my duties as village manager and help in the transition to a new village manager."

Leikvold told The LIFE, which learned of his resignation the day it was sent to the village board, that he is pleased with the improvements he has made in personnel administration. "We have put together a nicely organized staff that is working well. That's a lasting thing and will go on without me," he added.

The manager also cited planning in the areas of water system improvements, sewer system improvements and the Palwaukee airport study as accomplishments of which he is most proud during his time in Wheeling.

LEIKVOLD WAS HIRED in 1977 and began with the village that November. He succeeded Terry Zerkle, who had been fired by the village board for refusing to appoint a suggested candidate for police chief.

Leikvold had left his previous job in Minnesota amidst controversy. He has experience with the World Bank and World Health Organization besides his local government jobs.

The manager said it is "very difficult" to work in Wheeling because of the politics here. "There isn't any question about it. Some communities get into a syndrome of hiring and firing. They get a reputation for that and it's hard to shake."

But Leikvold said he knew of Wheeling's history and thought he "could weather it out. From the very beginning things have been difficult. But it hasn't really hindered the ongoing administration of the village. The board has generally supported the programs I've suggested," he added.

See editorial, column —page 4

WHAT KIND OF a town would Leikvold like to work in? "Actually, I like to work in a place like Wheeling, where there's a lot of things to do. From the administrative standpoint, I really like that and I think I function quite well in that situation," he noted. Although Leikvold said he has nothing definite lined up, The LIFE has learned he is being considered for a job in another state.

One of the things Leikvold said he regrets is that he did not get the planning program started as early as he would have liked. "When I came here I wanted to do something in personnel administration and wanted to do something about planning. We did some piecemeal, such as the water improvements, sewer improvements and the airport." Leikvold said he believes the village will now embark on a study of its comprehensive plan.

The manager said he thinks the village board "doesn't do badly with the council/manager form of government. (See related story.) Some of the criticism has been that I'm not strong enough. They've strengthened the personnel part of the council/manager form of government. We are working on Title II (personnel) and are ready to go before the board (to pass a new ordinance)."

LEIKVOLD SAID "It's possible I had a personality conflict," but declined to give the actual reasons for his leaving. The board held an executive session regarding personnel Monday, Oct. 15, and there was speculation that it was about firing Leikvold.

Neither Trustee John Cole nor Trustee Charles Kerr would comment on Leikvold's resignation. Both trustees have been very vocal about the manager's failure to do certain things as directed.

Trustee Sheila Schultz said, "I'm sorry that there has to be a change, but I think he's leaving under rather pleasant circumstances. There's nothing specific (wrong). His style is different than what we need."

Schultz said Leikvold has done some good things while working for the village. "I don't think you can put your finger on anything specific. He is such a nice person. Perhaps his nice qualities are part of the reason things haven't moved — because people know he's easygoing."

The trustee said she is sure Leikvold will find something "he will be happier with. I feel good that the constructive criticisms we've made have been open ones. His satisfaction with some people on the staff is just a difference of opinion," she continued.

Schultz indicated that Leikvold's resignation came as no surprise, saying, "If you can ever come to a mutual agreement on this type of thing, I can say we came to a mutual agreement with a minimum of acrimony."

The trustee praised Leikvold, adding, "I think it's indicative of the type of person he is that he's willing to stay around to help in the transition."

TRUSTEE ROBERT ROSS had no comment on Leikvold's resignation, but Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld said, "There are many positive things he's done while here. I hope he will find satisfaction with his next job wherever it is."

Sommerfeld continued, "The manner in which he is leaving the village is highly professional so the village won't suffer while finding someone new."

Village President William Hein said, "I think in the time he's been here he's accomplished quite a few major capital improvements. He came into a community that was very unsettled; very political, and for the type of climate that exists in our community he functioned very well."



CARSTEN LEIKVOLD

Hein said he thinks Leikvold understood that he was coming into "quite a volatile community. There have been some major improvements in this community in 3½ years (Leikvold has been here since November 1977)."

TRUSTEE ROGER POWERS said Leikvold "apparently has some personal reasons for leaving. The one thing that bothers me is it seems in the two years he's been here he's gotten an awful lot done."

Powers added, "I think Wheeling's the loser for it. In my judgment, the bigger projects should be finished. It would be far more productive for the village to recognize that these multimillion dollar projects should be finished (before changing managers)."

Powers said, "He (Leikvold) may have another offer. I don't know.

"The criticisms I've seen leveled are either vague or on petty points," Powers continued. "In my opinion, the man has done a good job."

The board has not taken any action yet on Leikvold's resignation. Unless a special meeting is called Monday, Oct. 29, for this purpose, the board is expected to act Monday, Nov. 5.

Leikvold in running for Alaskan job

WHEELING—Village Manager Carsten Leikvold, who resigned Friday, Oct. 19, is being considered for the post of city manager of Wrangell, AK.

The LIFE learned of Leikvold's application the day he resigned as Wheeling's manager.

Wrangell is a town of 3,200 people which has been without a city manager since March. It is 800 miles north of Seattle, WA and is situated on an island.

Leikvold is at a convention of city managers in Phoenix, AZ this week and could not be reached for comment.



ROBERT AVENUE was the subject of a bitter controversy last year between the Prospect Heights residents who live there and motorists from a nearby Wheeling condominium complex who use the narrow road as a short cut. Things have settled down since then, but neither side is especially happy with the compromise that restricted the hours motorists from Sandpebble Walk Condominiums, pictured in the background, can use the road.

Robert Avenue truce becomes rocky

Daily Herald - October 28, 1977

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

It was getting bitter.

Each side was accusing the other of harassment. There were countless meetings. Signs were posted. But the Wheeling and Prospect Heights residents fighting over the rights to use Robert Avenue, a short stretch of road between Sandpebble Walk Condominiums and Ill. Rte. 83, believed the matter had to be settled in courts.

To a point it was. Attorneys for the two towns reached a compromise in the chambers of a Cook County Circuit Court judge. Robert Avenue, the narrow Prospect Heights road, would be closed to residents from the Wheeling condominium complex except for eastbound traffic during the evening rush hours, six days a week.

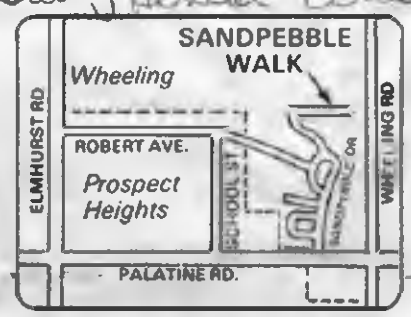
That was one year ago. Today, residents on both sides say the alleged rock throwing and name-calling incidents have subsided. But neither side is especially comfortable with the uneasy truce worked out in the judge's chambers, and the problems of a year ago threaten to flare up again.

THE ROBERT AVENUE residents had charged that as many as 1,000 Sandpebble residents each day were using the street as a short cut to Rte. 83. Motorists often ignored stop signs and traveled at high speeds, endangering children playing in the area, the Prospect Heights residents said.

But Sandpebble residents said those same children threw rocks at the cars and deliberately stood in front of the cars. Not being able to use Robert Avenue imposed a hardship on residents entering the condominium complex from the north because they were forced to drive south on Rte. 83, turn left on Palatine Road, drive past the complex and double back on a frontage road.

Carol Dowd, one of the residents who led the fight to have Robert Avenue closed to Sandpebble residents, said the publicity and signs which marked the new road hours cut the congestion considerably — at first.

The number of Sandpebble motorists who ignored the signs was minimal, she said.



"But once everything calmed down, it began to revert to the way it was before. Every day it seems like two or three more people will ignore the signs, knowing they're not going to get a ticket," Mrs. Dowd said. "By winter we'll probably be back to where we started."

Because the signs have not been a deterrent, a barricade appears to be the only solution, she said.

AND THAT'S WHAT Prospect Heights officials are investigating. Several designs, including a key-operated gate, have been considered and rejected, said City Administrator Stephen Sturgell. The latest proposal involves using a group of angled spikes that retract when cars drive over them in one direction, but puncture motorists' tires if they try to drive over the obstacle from the other direction, he said.

But a barricade, said L.G. Kuntz, president of the condominium association, "would be bad news. I don't want to get into name-calling, but we have some kind of an agreement and I would hope everyone would live up to it."

Kuntz denied charges that more and more Sandpebble residents are using Robert Avenue during more than the designated hours.

"Obviously I have no documentation of that," he said. "I can't speak for everyone, but as far as I'm concerned, we as an association have tried our damnest to live up to the agreement."

However, the Sandpebble residents still are unhappy about having only one exit from their complex. Some of that dissatisfaction surfaced when a group of residents briefly considered running their own slate of candidates in last April's village elections.

"We're still looking for Wheeling to provide some kind of relief," Kuntz said. "We still think there should be some kind of secondary road out of Sandpebble. That's the only logical thing."

He added about the only option for Sandpebble residents is to "sit tight" until the property east of the development, which leads to Wheeling Road, is developed.

He said relations between the two groups are less strained, although he acknowledged neither side is especially happy with the situation.

"The whole thing just kind of continues to simmer," he said.

Lincolnshire center



Kenney purchased the property after Chicagoland Airport owner Jack Schelter was unable to keep the airport open because of steadily increasing property taxes. Schelter also was plagued by increasing operating costs and Lincolnshire officials' refusal to let him expand his operation.

Kenney, whose firm is involved primarily in heavy construction, also is building a 97-acre industrial park in Wheeling. The Northgate Industrial Park is near the Soo Line Ry., north of Dundee Road.

eight lakes at the center.

"This development will have a very relaxed, pleasant atmosphere," he said, "almost like a college campus."

Kenney, under the agreement reached with Lincolnshire officials, has agreed to construct a 500,000-gallon water reservoir, which is expected to improve water pressure on the west side of town.

HE ALSO HAS agreed to build a major north-south road that will connect Aptakisic Road with Ill. Rte. 22.

Developer plans Lincolnshire center

Daily Herald - Oct. 31, 1979

by M. Eileen Brown
Herald staff writer

A Wheeling developer says he will break ground this winter on a 157-acre office and industrial complex on the former site of Lincolnshire's Chicagoland Airport.

The Lincolnshire Corporate Center, on Milwaukee Avenue north of Aptakisic Road, is being developed by Gerry Kenney of Kenney Construction Co., and will be the largest development in Lincolnshire after it is completed in 1984.

Plans for the $108 million project, which has received preliminary approval from Lincolnshire trustees, include 41 office and industrial buildings ranging from one to eight stories, said Robert Lamphere, spokesman for the developer.

ABOUT 4,000 workers will be employed at the center, which is expected to bring about $2.3 million in revenue to the various local taxing districts, including $1.8 million to Lincolnshire-Prairie View Dist. 103 and $800,000 yearly to Stevenson High School Dist. 125, Lamphere said.

Plans include about 870,000 square feet of office space and 1.5 million square feet of light industrial space.

Previously, Buffalo Grove officials expressed some concern over the development, saying it might bring too much industry to Vernon Township, but Trustee John Marienthal said the village board has not yet seen any of the plans for the center and has not officially responded to it.

Although the majority of the center will be industrial, Lamphere said much time was spent working out the landscaping details and there will be

The week ahead Herald-Oct. 27, 1979

Trustees to study traffic patrols

Wheeling village trustees will meet tonight to discuss the police department's plans to crack down on traffic offenders on Dundee Road and to use an attack-trained dog to patrol high crime areas of the village.

The department has received a $35,000 state grant to step up traffic patrols on the busy highway, and Police Chief Ted Bracke has proposed buying an attack dog to patrol industrial areas and apartment complexes.

The meeting is at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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OFFICIALS STUDYING the possibility of Wheeling and Prospect Heights buying Pal-Waukee Airport will meet Tuesday to discuss who should own and operate the airport.

The group, known as the Technical Advisory Committee, has recommended the managing group consist of elected officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights, plus a citizens advisory committee and a representative from the companies and pilots that use the airport.

The consulting firm conducting the study of a public takeover of Pal-Waukee says it will cost more than $21 million to buy the airport, with the local share coming to about $3.8 million. The balance would come from state and federal funds.

That cost could increase "substantially" if the towns must purchase additional land near the airport to protect aircraft operation, the consultants say. A number of improvements may also need to be made to the airport — such as re-aligning runways, rerouting roads and removing obstructions — to comply with federal safety standards.

However, it is possible Wheeling and Prospect Heights will not be able to buy the airport without using property taxes to back its loan. Both towns have said they would oppose using property taxes to buy the airport.

If the cost of Pal-Waukee exceeds what Wheeling and Prospect Heights want to pay, support for buying the airport should come from a broader base, said Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold. The committee Tuesday will consider alternative forms of ownership.

The group will meet at 9:30 a.m. at Mount Prospect Village Hall, 100 S. Emerson St

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THE PROSPECT Heights Dist. 23 Board of Education will hold a special meeting at 6:30 p.m. today to interview candidates for the vacancy created by the resignation of member Deanna Wells.

The interviews are open to the public and will be conducted in the administration office, 700 N. Schoenbeck Rd., Prospect Heights.

Board Pres. Mel Lace said the board plans to select Mrs. Wells' successor in a closed session following the interviews.

Mrs. Wells, a Prospect Heights resident, is moving out of the district.

Full-time mayor an awful idea

Daily Herald - October 30, 1979

Wheeling certainly hasn't benefited from a high turnover in village managers. Having a succession of three top administrators in a span of four years can only detract from the smooth functioning of government. Now, in the wake of Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold's recent resignation, the village board again is faced with the task of finding another administrator. Because of this instability at the top, Village Pres. William Hein has suggested that the community might be better off if a full-time mayor were the one who tended to the village's day-to-day business. "We just can't seem to hang on to a manager," Hein says. A mayor, at least, would be around for four or more years, he says.

We can't imagine a worse cure for what ails Wheeling municipal government.

The trouble with Hein's plan is that it fails to recognize the underlying reason for the high turnover in village managers — improper interference by politicians in administrative affairs. Leikvold's predecessor, Terry Zerkle, was fired after he refused to appoint a political friend of Hein as police chief. The role of elected officials is to determine policy; the job of appointed officials is to implement such policy. Because of Hein's unwillingness to recognize this, the quality of Wheeling's municipal government has suffered in recent years. Leikvold's tenure was noteworthy for little but its resumption of meddling by Hein and his allies.

If Hein's plan were to succeed, Wheeling would become a rarity among communities its size. Only two other municipalities in Cook County have full-time mayors: Chicago and Des Plaines. Clearly, the trend is toward professional administration. And so it ought to be.

If Wheeling were to elect a full-time mayor, it would risk confusing policy making and administrative functions, more bickering and factionalism and the bureaucratic inefficiency that often characterizes that form of local government.

Fortunately, the village president's plan has little, if any, chance of becoming a reality. For starters, the newly installed majority of the village board is dead set against the idea. When three of the majority's members sought election last spring, one of their avowed goals was to return professionalism to village government. Electing a full-time mayor is the antithesis of that. Furthermore, Wheeling voters would no doubt reject such a proposal if it ever were put to a referendum. Last spring's good-government slate of John Cole, Charles Kerr and Sheila Schultz swept all but one of the village's precincts.

Acknowledging the opposition to his idea, Hein says he has offered his plan as "just some food for thought from the president." Well, Mr. Mayor, we've taken a look at it. And now, if you don't mind, we'd like to send it back to the kitchen. It's raw politics.

3 towns may be sought to help buy Pal-Waukee

Daily Herald - October 31, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

A committee of Northwest Municipal Conference officials and Wheeling and Prospect Heights administrators has recommended that ownership and management of Pal-Waukee Airport could be expanded to other communities.

If Wheeling and Prospect Heights cannot afford to buy the airport, ownership and management of it should be expanded to include Mount Prospect, Glenview and Northbrook, the committee has determined.

The recommendation came Tuesday from the committee which is studying a municipal takeover of the privately owned airport.

Officials from those three towns were reluctant to discuss the possibility of taking part in the purchase of the airport because a final figure on the local share of the purchase has not been determined.

Wheeling Village Pres. William Hein said he did not think asking other towns to participate in the airport purchase "is a very good idea."

HEIN SAID he was "convinced the Village of Wheeling and (City of) Prospect Heights will be able to meet obligations to buy the airport without a tax increase."

"We'd be more than willing to explore it (sharing in the purchase)," said Mount Prospect Village Mgr. Terrance Burghard. However, he said his village "would have to take a very hard look" at spending any money on the airport.

Glenview Village Mgr. Robert Van Deusen and Northbrook Village Mgr. Robert Weidaw both declined to comment.

The consultants studying the feasibility of buying the airport, located at Palatine Road and Milwaukee Avenue, say it will cost at least $21 million, with the local share estimated at $3.8 million. The balance would come through state and federal aid.

HOWEVER, THE cost could increase substantially depending on what improvements must be made to the airport to bring it up to federal safety standards. The Federal Aviation Administration is expected to announce in December or January the improvements that are needed at Pal-Waukee.

Despite the uncertainty about the final cost of the airport, Hein said there are "an awful large number of corporations that have a heavy stake in what happens to that airport. I would think they would be very interested in buying users bonds."

One financing scheme suggested by the consulting firm of Ralph Burke and Associates, Park Ridge, would be to sell bonds backed by airport revenues to the corporations that base their airplanes at Pal-Waukee. Commercial airlines at O'Hare Airport also have been suggested as possible buyers.

Hein said the state and federal share of buying the airport is going to remain the same "no matter who puts up the local share, and it's Wheeling and Prospect Heights that are most directly affected by the airport. The airport can be best served by having those two towns run it."

Police out to spook tricksters

Daily Herald - Oct. 31, 1979

Northwest suburban police are adding more manpower tonight to protect trick-or-treaters as well as cars, homes, and schools from anyone who has more than candy on his mind.

In Wheeling, trick-or-treaters in trouble should look for black angels. Black angels are posters diplayed by residents participating in a police department safety program, according to Sgt. Jack Kimzi.

"The black angels signify this is a house of safety for little children in trouble," said Kimzi. If the child is lost, the resident will help him find his way home.

Fire sirens will be sounded at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. in Wheeling during the officially sanctioned trick-or-treat hours.

Hein: I have 'mixed' feelings about RTA tax

Herald - 11-1-79

WHEELING—Village President William Hein said he has **"mixed emotions" about joining a lawsuit against the state of Illinois department of revenue and the Regional Transportation authority (RTA), to prevent different taxes from being levied in Cook and the rest of the collar counties in RTA.**

A letter dated Oct. 16 from James Ryan, mayor of Arlington Heights, seeks Wheeling's help in such a lawsuit. Ryan said, "The adoption of a 1% sales tax in Cook county by the RTA, as distinct from a ¼% levy in the counties of DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will, is a matter of great concern. . ."

Hein said he does not feel "it's fair for one county to pay more. It was the intent to make all the counties equal when the RTA was started." Hein added that he thinks "they're going back on what the RTA was supposed to be about. Granted, Cook county has more transportation, but it has more people."

The village president questioned whether this would set a precedent for other "unequal" taxes to be levied. He said the village board will discuss the matter at its meeting Monday, Nov. 5.

Trick-or-treat time 4 to 8 p.m.

Daily Herald - October 31, 1979

Wheeling youngsters may make their annual trick-or-treating rounds in the village between 4 and 8 p.m. today.

Parents are encouraged to brief their children on safety rules and proper conduct and, whenever possible, to go along with them.

The fire station alarm will be sounded to signal the start and end of the trick-or-treat period. Members of the Pipeline citizens's band radio group will assist police in guiding and protecting the youngsters throughout the village.

Still no answers from Liberty

Life - 11-1-79

WHEELING—A year after Liberty Asphalt company was shut down for noise pollution, Village Attorney David Epstein still has not received information from the company's attorneys on **how many days the company was in** violation of noise standards in the village.

Epstein said Monday, Oct. 29, that he is sending formal interrogatories (a legal document) to the attorney because he is tired of waiting. Once Epstein sends the interrogatories, the **attorneys will have a certain period to answer.**

In the meantime, it is likely that before the case ever gets to court, Liberty Asphalt will shut down normal operations for the winter, while the village awaits an answer. The company was allowed to open in the spring because the village expected an amicable settlement.

Residents living in the Dunhurst subdivision have complained for years about noise, dirt and odors emanating from the plant. When Liberty Asphalt purchased the plant from Rock Road Construction Co. two years ago, there was a battle before the village board to try to prevent the company from obtaining a special use permit to operate.

The board decided to grant the special use permit with several conditions, one of which is that the company must pay for periodic testing for pollution. In the fall of 1978, the company failed to pass noise pollution tests and was cited for the failure. The citation carries a $100 per day fine until corrected. However, the village has still not been able to determine how many days the company was in violation of noise standards.

New police dog to be ruff on crime

Countryside Reminder - November 1, 1979

The Wheeling police department plans to add a canine member to the department.

This Saturday Chief Ted Bracke and other police personnel will look at several specially-trained German shepherds and decide if they want to purchase one.

Bracke said the department for some time has considered adding a dog, to be used in a number of capacities, especially the searching of premises where alarms have gone off.

The dogs the police will look at are from Germany, where they were trained in police tactics. They now are being kept in Northbrook.

The cost of such a dog is about $3,000. Bracke said the advantage of purchasing such an animal is that besides the fact that he already will be trained, his health has been monitored since birth. Some German shepherds are subject to hip displacements, but these dogs will have been screened for such a problem.

The dogs have been trained to search premises, to defend and to attack. Two officers from the field division will be trained to work with the dog. They will alternate, so that someone will be available to use the dog most of the time.

Bracke said the dog will be especially useful in examining sites where alarms have gone off, such as industrial sites. He said about 40 to 50 burglary alarms are set off each month, and in each case it takes two men about an hour to search the premises. Most of the alarms turn out to be false, set off by wind or other factors.

With the dog, these premise exams may be accomplished much faster. The dog also may be used to track criminals or to find lost children, Bracke said.

Many projects

Wheeling Life - November 1, 1979

Police work on changes

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—A presentation made by the police department to the village board Monday, Oct. 29, showed police have been aggressive in getting ordinances enacted that will prevent crime. In addition, the department has obtained a state grant to control traffic accidents which have been prevalent on Dundee road.

Police Chief Ted Bracke explained that there have been eight projects since he took office in January 1978. The projects and their status are:

• Traffic ordinance — has been updated and passed in part by the village board.

• Criminal ordinance — is in the process of updating.

• Parental responsibility — ordinance has been passed that puts responsibility for youthful vandalism in parents' hands.

• Cannibis ordinance — has been passed. This ordinance, one of the first of its kind passed in the area, according to Bracke, makes possession of a small amount of cannibis (marijuana) a local crime and handles it in the local court.

• Underage alcohol ordinance — although a law raising the drinking age has now been adopted by the state, Wheeling was one of the first towns in the area to prohibit 19- and 20-year olds from purchasing beer and wine at package stores.

• Residency ordinance — this ordinance restricting the distance from which police, fire and public works personnel can live from the village is now in a board committee. The village is currently surveying all village employes to see how they feel about such an ordinance.

• Standard operating procedure book — the police department has developed such a book. Bracke said without the procedure book it is difficult to operate on a certain standard.

• Emergency disaster plan — this plan is still in the works. Bracke said it is about 95% complete.

EXISTING PROGRAMS in which the police department takes part are:

• Selective traffic enforcement — the police department obtained a grant to form a traffic division and the results have been positive, according to the chief.

• Cadet program — one of the programs the police department had been trying to get off the ground for years has finally come to fruition. A cadet program was begun this year with the assistance of Sgt. Jack Kimsey.

• Pipe-line — a group of volunteers who patrol the village in their own vehicles, at their own expense and report anything out of order over CB radios.

• Snowmobile — Six policemen will patrol the village on snowmobiles in bad weather at policemen's own expense.

• Intern — in cooperation with Western Illinois university, the police department has had an intern who is majoring in criminology. When the intern goes back to school, the department will get another one.

• Neighborhood program — According to Bracke, the department went out into eight to 10 neighborhoods, mostly planned unit developments, last year to talk about crime prevention. He said there were very good turnouts at the meetings.

• Youth jury — Bracke said this was his idea. "I know it's working here. Only about 2% of those we've dealt with have returned."

• Overweight vehicle enforcement — although Bracke said the department has not done much about this, patrolman Armando Pizzi said later in the evening that the village has collected $79,312 in fines for overweight vehicles.

PIZZI, WHO IS in charge of the traffic division, said the village has collected $150,000 in fines due to traffic enforcement and village ordinance enforcement.

"We're very proud of our traffic division," Pizzi said. "We went to Springfield last week to report and the state is so pleased, it will fund the traffic division in 1980." However, Pizzi said he is not certain how much funding will be given.

Lt. Tom Conte, head of the investigations unit, said his staff is very overloaded. He said the patrolmen average 50 cases per man, "which is way too much."

County says low-income housing is priority

By MARION SOURS

Countryside - November 1, 1979

Wheeling had hoped that by applying for federal funds for low-income housing along with its application for senior citizens housing, the latter would have a better chance of approval.

But recently village officials were told that federal funds given to Cook County will be used to build low-income housing only in the area. Funds for senior citizens housing will not be available for six months or longer, government officials said.

Wheeling originally had asked for funds for low-rent senior citizen housing to be included in a Community Development Block Grant for which it had applied. The village had asked for a $2.7 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

In June, however, the Cook County Community Development Advisory Council recommended that the grant be cut to $1.24 million, and that no funds be allocated for senior citizen housing.

The $1.24 million will be spread over a three-year period and will be used to buy land for the village's downtown plan, to include a center for senior citizens and the handicapped and an emergency clinic.

Because funds for senior-citizens housing were cut from the block grant, the Wheeling village board passed a resolution authorizing the Cook County Housing Authority to submit an application already would have been received and so when funds for housing for the elderly became available, Wheeling's application would have priority. Trustees accordingly voted to apply for both types of housing.

Cook County now plans to build 20 low-income townhouses through the village. The townhouses probably would contain two and more bedrooms. They would be limited to families, and the occupants would pay no more than 25 per cent of their income as rent.

The maximum income for a family of four would be $12,800, Walchirck said. He said the Wheeling village board could establish a priority for Wheeling residents in the housing.

Victor Walchirk, executive director of the Cook County Housing Authority, appeared before the Wheeling village board and told trustees that HUD funds to build assisted elderly housing had not been available to Cook County for two years, because HUD considered there was too much senior citizens housing in Cook County and not enough low-income housing.

Walchirck advised the village to submit an application for low-income housing along with its application for senior citizen housing. That way, he said, the application for assisted housing for the elderly.

Seniors say there is need

Countryside - November 1, 1979

Wheeling senior citizens are "very disappointed" that federal funds for senior citizens subsidized housing have been withheld.

Geraldine Swan, Wheeling's coordinator for senior and handicapped citizens, said she has talked to a number of seniors who were disheartened by the news.

Swan said she believes there is a need for such housing, to aid people who are living in apartments or houses which are too expensive for them, or who are living with their children, but want to be more independent. There currently is no subsidized housing for the elderly in Wheeling.

She said housing also is needed which is close to shopping facilities, since public transportation is a problem in the area, and since many senior citizens do not have cars.

Josephine Backus, president of the Wheeling Senior Citizens Club, which meets at Chamber Park, said she has been aware of seniors who need subsidized housing.

She mentioned a woman who lived with her son in an area apartment. When her son died she did not have enough income to afford the rent and had to move out, though she had nowhere to go.

Another woman was living with her son in his home, but was unhappy in the situation. However, she only received about $200 to $300 a month in income, and couldn't find an apartment she could afford.

Most apartment rents start at about $250, which is a strain for many seniors, especially if they are alone. Women, especially, who have not worked enough to build up sizable Social Security payments, are in a bad situation.

Swan said some couples moved into homes or apartments that were affordable when they were both contributing income, but if one dies or becomes ill, the other person cannot meet the rent.

"What this area needs is fewer apartment developments with clubhouses and tennis courts," Swan said. She said what most senior citizens need are just simple, lower-priced housing.

A survey commissioned by the Illinois Department on Aging recently listed Wheeling Township as one in the state which has a large number of senior citizens.

Crime prevention cop to be named

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Daily Herald Nov. 1, 1979

Hoping to inform Wheeling's growing Latino population of village police services and of "our laws and customs," Police Chief Ted Bracke plans to appoint a Spanish-speaking "crime prevention officer."

Bracke said the officer will be assigned in December. He will be responsible for giving talks on crime prevention and drug abuse and also may be assigned to review developers' building plans for flaws that might make a building susceptible to burglaries or vandalism, Bracke said.

The number of Spanish-speaking residents probably will continue to grow, Bracke said, and many of them are unaware of village or state laws. Some of the minority groups "tend to resolve their disputes among themselves, rather than coming to us about it," he said.

ACCORDING TO a recent census conducted for the village, Wheeling's minority population has more than doubled in the last five years.

Saying the problem is a "very touchy subject," Bracke plans to have the crime prevention officer "hold neighborhood meetings and educate these people to our laws and customs. Obviously, their customs are very different than ours. Some of them like to congregate in the parking lots of their apartment complex and sing all night."

Bracke cited a recent shooting in a Dundee Road apartment complex, which started as an altercation between a group of whites and a group of Mexicans. Four white men were charged in the incident in which a Prospect Heights man, Jesus Ruiz, was slightly wounded after being shot in the chest.

"People should call the police before things get out of hand," Bracke said. "There are other ways to handle a dispute."

In addition, the crime prevention officer could give lectures and check multi-family complexes for poor security, such as broken locks or poor lighting. The officer also could alert residents if they are encouraging a burglary by leaving a garage door open at night or a factory that "leaves a ladder leaning up against the building, he said.

Full-Time Mayor, Manager? The Journal November 1, 1979

Wheeling Wrestles With Problem Like Des Plaines

The Village of Wheeling, just north of Des Plaines, has started to wrestle with a problem similiar to one Des Plaines has grappled with for the last 2 decades.

Wheeling Mayor William Hein suggested last week that the village transform its form of government from a full-time professional manager system to a full-time mayor.

Hein's suggestion, which he admits was more or less an attempt to start public debate on the subject, has similiarities to Des Plaines, in that during the last 20 years several attempts have been made to switch from a full-time mayor concept to a full-time manager. Des Plaines is the only Cook County municipality, outside Chicago, to employ the full-time mayor system.

Hein's proposal came last week after Village Manager Carsten Leikvold submitted his resignation, effective next March. Leikvold is the 3d village manager to resign in Wheeling within the last 4 years, and Hein said he thought it was time to rethink the village's policy

"I just thought maybe we ought to look at another form of government because the present one doesn't seem to be working so well," Hein told a Journal reporter this week. "The last manager lasted only 2 years and who knows how long the next one will last?".

Hein added that he thinks a full-time mayor might give the village the stability it needs in leadership.

Thruout the United States, the trend during the last 2 decades is to switch from a full-time mayor to a full-time manager. Altho it occurs, instances when the switch is the opposite are infrequent.

Proponents of a manager system contend that it brings professionalism into running a government. They claim that government today is much more complex than it was a century ago, and thus smarter minds are needed to operate the day to day activities. Also, they say, it keeps politics out of government.

Opponents of the manager program say it's bad because the close contact between the people and government suffers. And, it's difficult to discharge a manager once he's in office. With a mayor, the voters have the choice of getting rid of him every 4 years.

Several attempts to change to a manager system in Des Plaines have fallen to defeat over the last several years. The latest try was this past April when a public referendum was held. Voters rejected the idea by a 4-3 margin.

Clear-cut case

Don't need hospital



In the midst

BY JOANNE KANTER

Wheeling Life November 1, 1979

NOW THAT ALL the shouting and screaming is over about the plans of Franklin Boulevard hospital to build a satellite hospital in the Wheeling/Buffalo Grove area, the waiting begins. The Cook county zoning board ended its hearing last week and communities adjacent to the property have 30 days (until Nov. 23) to protest granting a special use permit to the hospital to build.

After that 30-day period, the zoning board must meet to make its recommendation to the county board and the county board must meet to make its determination.

The village of Wheeling's board of trustees never was given the opportunity to officially vote on annexation of the property on which the hospital would stand. Instead, after the Wheeling plan commission expressed its disapproval of the plan, the hospital withdrew its petition from the village.

It seemed a foregone conclusion that the hospital would go to the county for zoning, despite the protestations of hospital administrator Patrick DeMoon that the hospital board had made no such decision yet. Too much money had already been spent to drop the project.

THE ZONING BOARD hearing, which began Sept. 14, was a volatile one which lasted for eight hours. But fatigue did not dim the zealousness of attorney Robert DiLeonardi in proving his case for his clients (Northwest Community hospital, Holy Family hospital, Highland Park hospital and the Catholic Bishop of Chicago) that no new full-scale hospital is needed in the northwest suburbs.

And although the hearing was continued on a tedious note last week, for the sole purpose of deciding whether the hospital would provide proper detention of storm water, DiLeonardi livened things up as much as he could.

Franklin Boulevard hospital attorney John Coleman tried to slip a statement into the record that the Illinois health facilities planning board had determined that there is a need for a satellite hospital in the Wheeling/Buffalo Grove area. But, although most of the small audience, including this reporter, was almost asleep from the monotonous repetition of facts, DiLeonardi was not, and woke everyone up with a thunderous denial of Coleman's statement.

The attorney pointed out (factually) that plans for the hospital had been included in the 1974 Illinois health act and were allowed under a grandfather clause. That grandfather clause eliminated the need for Franklin Boulevard hospital to go before the Illinois health facilities planning board for a determinant of need for a new hospital.

THUS FAR, the only voice crying about need for the hospital is Franklin Boulevard hospital's. Wheeling officials were cautious about the issue but seemed convinced that there is no need. The Buffalo Grove village board said a year ago that there is no need for the hospital and passed a resolution protesting its construction. The Cook and DuPage county health systems agency (HSA) two years ago produced a paper protesting against construction of the hospital for lack of need.

It seems that the case is clear cut and all the zoning board has to do is read the mammoth transcript of the hearing to determine that the special use should be denied. It seems also that the Cook county board should be able to determine that there should be no new hospital in this area.

Any other vote by either of these boards should be suspect and if the hospital gains its special use, people should start looking under the table for more than the testimony already given.

THE ONE GOOD idea that seems to **have sprung from this** whole issue is **the proposal by both Northwest Community hospital** (for Buffalo Grove) **and** Holy Family hospital (for Wheeling) to build emergency walk-in clinics. Both hospitals have acted to build ambulatory-care facilities as a result of a study, in which they participated, to determine health care needs of the area. It was found that walk-in emergency care is what is lacking and the proposals to build the clinics were made. For once, the people are the beneficiary of a controversial issue.

It is hoped the people will prevail and the two boards involved will determine that the area has no need for a full-service hospital by denying the special use.

To do otherwise would cause the indignation of a great many people who might look to sweeping house the next time an election rolls around.

30 days to protest

Hospital hearing ends

Wheeling Sun - November 1, 1979

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The Cook county zoning board hearing on a special use permit for Franklin Boulevard Community hospital of Chicago to build a 232-bed general-care hospital on Schoenbeck road, south of Hintz, was completed Wednesday, Oct. 24. However, instead of the crowd-packed eight-hour-long meeting of Sept. 14 — the date the hearing began — this hearing lasted 2½ hours and there was only one witness — Tom Disnuke, an engineer for Hospital Design, Inc., who was slated to testify on water detention plans to prevent flooding in the area of the hospital.

The tedious testimony was repeated several times, as Franklin Boulevard hospital attorney John Coleman sought to ensure that there would be no slip-ups on the facts of this issue.

Attorney Robert DiLeonardi, representing Holy Family hospital, Northwest Community hospital, Highland Park hospital and the Catholic Bishop of Chicago (owner of adjacent property to the south of the proposed hospital), attempted to keep Coleman on the topic of the day — water detention — and protested when subjects were brought up not previously agreed upon for testimony at the continued hearing.

ACCORDING TO DISNUKE, the property will have two detention basins — one to the northeast and one to the northwest. Storm water is to be released from the property at the current rate, or less than it is released now. If there is a 100-year storm (a heavy storm occurring once in 100 years), the grassy area surrounding the detention basins would probably be used to detain water also, Disnuke said.

The engineer said the property must meet the design criteria of the Metropolitan Sanitary district (MSC). In the case of a 100-year storm, the magnitude of the release rate would be lessened because it would be controlled, he added.

Coleman asked the price of the planned project, but DiLeonardi objected once more on the grounds that this information was not to be used in the continued hearing.

Disnuke testified that a berm would be built to prevent silt-laden water from crossing the property line. The detention ponds would be used as sediment basins during construction.

Topsoil would be removed and stockpiled to prevent erosion, according to the engineer, while some would be used to build the berm along the northern boundary of the property.

DISNUKE ADMITTED that plans are for the detention basins to be unfenced and that they would be unprotected from the property to the north owned by the Wheeling park district. The basins would hold two feet and 2 feet 7 inches when filled to the top, he noted.

Coleman tried to inject a statement that the need of the hospital had been determined by the Illinois health facilities planning board. But DiLeonardi, angered by the attempt, said, "It has never been determined that there is a need. You're talking about the grandfather clause." DiLeonardi was referring to the fact that the plans for the satellite hospital were grandfathered into the Illinois health act of 1974 which formed the planning board to determine hospital need. However, the hospital must receive approval of its special use permit before Dec. 31, or it will have to go before the health planning board for a need hearing.

The communities of Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Arlington Heights and Prospect Heights, along with the Wheeling park district, were given 30 days from the end of the hearing to file formal protests against issuance of the special use. The matter must then be decided on for recommendation by the zoning board and then go to the Cook county board of commissioners for a final determination. Decisions would have to be made very quickly if the hospital is to meet the Dec. 31 deadline.

Question building deadline

WHEELING—Although there has been talk that Franklin Boulevard Community hospital must have its satellite facility under way by Dec. 31, Village Attorney David Epstein said Monday, Oct. 29, that in skimming the 1974 law he could find no time limit for the plans grandfathered (not subject to the restrictions of) the act.

Franklin Boulevard had its plans for the Wheeling/Buffalo Grove hospital grandfathered into the act, which allows it to circumvent a determination of need by the Illinois health facilities planning board.

Epstein said he glanced over the law last week, but could find no restriction on time for construction of the project.

If there were a limit, the time could come down to the wire and bad weather could prevent the construction from getting under way.

According to Nicholas Phillips, secretary of the Cook county zoning board of appeals, protestors have 30 days from the date of the last hearing to file objections. This date is Nov. 23. The next date the zoning board meets would be Dec. 5 and the next time the Cook county board meets would be Dec. 17. However, Phillips said the findings of the zoning board might not be available by the Dec. 17 meeting, in which case the decision would be held over into January.

Village cites problems

Daily Herald - November 2, 1979

in street pacts

Although three Wheeling condominium associations are asking the village to maintain its private streets before the winter snows set in, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold says there are a number of problems to be resolved before the village can start plowing snow and patching potholes.

The village board agreed last January to take over the streets, now maintained by the homeowners associations, for a one-time fee of about $200 per unit. Since then only one condominium group, Tahoe Village, has reached a formal agreement with the village.

However, three other associations — Lakeside Villas, Harmony Village and Chelsea Cove — are asking the village to sweep, plow snow and do minor road repairs to their streets.

"They want us to start taking over the streets before winter," Leikvold said. "And I don't blame them." However, he said the street takeover in Tahoe was handled "too fast," and he has established a new procedure for making sure the transition goes smoothly in other developments that want the village to take over their streets.

LEIKVOLD WOULD not speculate on whether the problems of taking over the private streets can be resolved before the first snowfall. "It's up to the (village) board," he said. "They can go ahead and do as they please. All we're trying to do is point out some of the problems."

Each village department is to review the characteristics of each development, which results in a "rather extensive shopping list" of problems that have to be worked out between the village and the associations. The problems range from the technical difficulties of recording the subdivision plats and surveys, which give the village the legal right to maintain private streets, to deciding when and where cars can be parked within a development, Leikvold said.

"That's one of the main things," he said, "to get those plats recorded. And the county is very particular about those things. They have to be drawn on a certain type and size piece of paper and so on."

And if the land agreements aren't drawn properly, he said, "the village could be in big trouble. Five years from now the police might give some guy a ticket and he's going to take it court and say, 'What are they doing in there? It isn't even a village street.'"

BUT WHEN the village takes over the private streets, the police will be responsible for deciding what traffic laws will be enforced, where traffic signs will be posted and when cars will have to be towed be clear the streets for snow plowing, Leikvold said, adding, "That's why we have to make sure the village and these associations understand who is responsible for what."

In private developments, some streets do not have curbs, which means the roads are more likely to crumble when they are plowed. It is possible the village will ask the associations to install curbs before the village will take over those streets, he said.

The $200 fee is expected to help defray the village's costs ofmaintaining the private streets. The agreement between the board and the village was reached after condominium owners had complained they were paying village taxes, yet not receiving the same services as other residents

Leikvold is top choice' for Alaska job

Daily Herald November 3, 1979

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer



Leikvold receives in Wheeling. "Mr. Leikvold has a lot of the qualities we're looking for, and he's also an engineer," Bell said. "I think Mr. Leikvold is our number one choice. Let's put it that way."

Bell said he hopes Leikvold could be interviewed for the job sometime this month. "We definitely want to fill the position by the first of the year," he said.

LEIKVOLD, WHO resigned after he had been criticized by a majority of the village board, has volunteered to remain in Wheeling until April or until the board finds a replacement. He could not be reached for comment Friday, but earlier in the week had denied

Carsten Leikvold

Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, who resigned under pressure two weeks ago, is the "number one choice" to manage a small city in southeast Alaska, according to officials there.

Forty-three candidates, including Leikvold, have applied for the city manager's post in Wrangell, a town of about 3,200 people, said Ken Bell, a city councilman. The manager's job has been vacant since April, he said.

Bell said Leikvold appears to have the inside track for the job, which pays about $35,000 a year, the same salary Hein ally Dolores Dahm on the board. During that campaign the three often criticized Leikvold for bowing to political pressure from Hein.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, who ran with Hein in 1977, but bolted after Zerkle was fired, said he shared many of the criticisms of Leikvold made by Cole, Kerr and Mrs. Schultz. Leikvold's resignation came a short time later.

The village board will be looking for its fourth manager in as many years. Leikvold has requested an official from the Illinois Council Managers Assn. to attend a workshop meeting with trustees in two weeks to discuss the process of selecting a new manager.

he was interested in the Wrangell job.

"When I make a decision, I'll let you know," he said. "All I'm doing right now is trying to run this village." However, he said he was exploring other job possibilities.

Leikvold, 58, has been village manager since December 1977. He was hired to replace Terry Zerkle, who was fired for refusing to appoint a political ally of Village Pres. William Hein as police chief. Zerkle's firing was opposed by Hein's political rivals, trustees Charles Kerr and John Cole, who then were a minority on the board.

However, Trustee Sheila Schultz, who was elected in April on a slate that included Cole and Kerr, replaced

The week ahead

Daily Herald November 5, 1979

Village mulls new factory near airport

Plans by a Glenview developer to build a 30-foot-high factory near the end of Pal-Waukee Airport's longest runway will be considered tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

The board also will consider preliminary approval of an ordinance that would make the factory planned by developer Sigmund Lefkovitz illegal. The law, similar to one in Cook County, would prohibit construction of buildings the Federal Aviation Administration has determined will be hazardous to air navigation.

Lefkovitz, who has owned the 34 acres at the northwest corner of Hintz and Wolf roads for several years, has accused village officials of deliberately delaying his building plans.

The FAA has said the building would jeopardize landings on the 5,000-foot runway. Planners studying the possible purchase of the privately owned airport by Wheeling and Prospect Heights have said if Lefkovitz's factory is built as planned, it would force the airport to shorten the runway by more than 500 feet, making jet landings impossible.

But Lefkovitz said it is unfair to impose federal standards on his building because nothing was done to stop airport owner George Priester from extending the runway close to the Hintz-Wolf road intersection several years ago. The airport planners said Hintz and Wolf roads probably will have to be rerouted away from that runway to make the airport comply with federal safety standards.

The village board meets at 8 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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THE WHEELING Village Board tonight is expected to direct Village Atty. David Epstein to prepare a formal objection to plans by a Chicago hospital to build a 232-bed branch hospital near the village.

The objections will follow two lengthy hearings before the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals on the proposal by Franklin Boulevard Hospital to build a branch on Schoenbeck Road in unincorporated Wheeling Township. Wheeling's objections mean it will take a vote of three-fourths of the Cook County Board to approve the project.

The zoning board is expected to make its recommendations to the county board in December. Franklin Boulevard is faced with a Jan. 1 deadline to have the project under construction.

The Wheeling Plan Commission a year ago unanimously rejected the request by Franklin Boulevard to annex the 20-acre hospital site. Village officials have attacked the Schoenbeck Road site as a poor location.

Franklin Boulevard's plans also have been criticized by other area hospitals and regional health planners, who say the Northwest suburbs already have too many unfilled beds.

Franklin Boulevard officials, however, say the area's population is rapidly increasing and there will be a need for the hospital by the time it is constructed.

The village board meets at 8 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

• • •

FORMAL ACCEPTANCE of a $400,000 federal grant to aid Wheeling's plans for redevelopment of its downtown area will be considered tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

The funds, which come through the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, are slated to be used to buy land for an emergency clinic and a center for senior citizens and handicapped persons. However, village officials say they plan to ask the federal government for permission to use some of the funds differently because Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, plans to build a $4.5 million walk-in clinic at Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street with its own money.

HUD has alloted $160,000 for the clinic, $160,000 for the senior center, $60,000 for architectural services and site planning, and $20,000 for a neighborhood analysis.

The board will meet at 8 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

• • •

NORTHWEST SUBURBAN officials will get a look at the City of Chicago's plans for expanding O'Hare Airport at a workshop Tuesday on a consultant's long-range outline for the airport's future.

The city's aviation department will conduct the session at 7:30 p.m. at Park Ridge City Hall, 505 Park Pl.

The meeting is one of three Chicago is conducting for suburban officials this week, with other gatherings scheduled Wednesday in Schiller Park and Thursday near Midway Airport.

Elk Grove Village aviation committee members plan to attend and may try to present a village-backed proposal to reroute jet traffic away from residential neighborhoods.

Daily Herald - November 5, 1979

Village plans to borrow $2.5 million for 2 wells

Wheeling officials are preparing to borrow $2.5 million to finance construction of two new wells.

Finance Director Gregory Peters said revenues from residents' water bills will repay investors who will buy the village's revenue bonds. Village water rates, set at 90 cents per 1,000 gallons, will remain the same, he said.

Village officials say completion of the two new wells should help end the lawn sprinkling bans that have been ordered during the past several summers because of inadequate reserves for emergencies, such as a major fire.

Village officials three years ago raised water rates 80 percent in anticipation of a $5 million water improvement program, that included the new wells and other improvements, such as new water mains and upgrading the water distribution system.

THE WATER RATE increase has brought about $280,000 into the village coffers each year to pay the initial engineering and construction costs of the two new wells. In addition, extensive industrial growth in the past few years has brought new water customers into the village.

One of the wells, at Hintz and Longtree roads, will have a 1-million gallon reservoir. The other well, on Milwaukee Avenue south of Dundee Road, will have a 300,000-gallon tank. Both new wells will be able to pump 1,000 gallons of water per minute.

However, village officials fear tougher federal guidelines that went into effect this summer could force the village to construct treatment plants at the two well sites. The treatment plants, costing about $800,000, would be needed to soften the water, that state and federal environmental officials say contains unacceptable levels of contaminants.

State environmental officials earlier this year temporarily imposed a building moratorium on the village because of an unacceptable level of contaminants in one of the village's existing wells. However, the water was retested and found to comply with federal water standards.

THE PROBLEM, officials say, is found in many northern Illinois towns that use deep wells as their primary water source. The deep wells contain small amounts of radiation and barium. Although not all environmental officials agree on the long-term effects on drinking water from deep wells, officials say persons living those towns have a higher death rate from diseases like cancer.

Construction has just started on the Milwaukee Avenue well, but the Hintz Road well is nearly completed. Village officials recently sent a sample of the new well's water to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. State officials are expected to tell village officials the results of those tests in the next two weeks.

If the wells do not meet federal water standards, Wheeling officials, like those in other suburbs with water problems, plan to ask for a 1981 extention to comply with the water standards, said Robert Gray, director of operations and maintenance.

To pay for the new treatment plants, Gray says, the fees for developers to tie into the village water system may have to be doubled.

Herald Nov. 1979

Village opposes hospital

The Buffalo Grove Village Board Monday night unanimously approved a statement reaffirming the village's opposition to a full service hospital that Franklin Bouvelard Hospital wants to build near Wheeling.

Wheeling trustees were expected to approve the filing of a formal objection with the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals opposing plans by Franklin Boulevard Hospital to building a 232-bed branch hospital on Schoenbeck Road in unincorporated Wheeling Township. But no action had been taken by 11 p.m. If Wheeling files its objections it will take a vote of three-fourths of the Cook County board to approve the project.

The Buffalo Grove statement was approved by a vote of 5 to 0. Trustee Charles Gerschefske was absent.

Franklin Boulevard is faced with a Jan. 1 deadline to have the project under construction.

THE STATEMENT will be sent to the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals, which is scheduled to decide in December whether to give Franklin Boulevard zoning for the hospital it wants to build on 20 acres on Schoenbeck Road near Wheeling. The zoning board is expected to make its recommendation to the county board in December.

The statement repeats village officials' beliefs that the hospital would increase the cost of medical service by providing a surplus of hospital beds in the area.

Wheeling officials say the hospital is not needed, especially in light of the proposal by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, to build a $4.5 million emergency clinic in the village. Village officials also have said the 20-acre site is a poor location for a hospital, because children often walk to school along the narrow two-lane road, which does not have any sidewalks.

Franklin Boulevard's plans also have been criticized by other area hospitals and regional health planners who say the Northwest suburbs already have too many unfilled beds and a new hospital would create more, driving up medical costs.

Herald - November 6, 1979

Inspections mulled

Wheeling residents and professionals who install water softeners or water heaters will have to pay the village $10 under a proposal requiring mandatory inspections of such work by the building department.

Inspection of the new installations is common in other suburbs, said Thomas Fennell, building and zoning administrator. He said inspections are important because he has seen some "absolutely horrendous" installations — not necessarily by do-it-yourselfers.

A poor installation can release combustible gas into the home, and a faulty hookup could result in a contaminated water supply, Fennell said.

He acknowledged enforcing the mandatory inspection would be difficult, particularly among homeowners doing their own work. However, building officials plan to announce the new inspection rule in the village newsletter and inform area installers of water softeners and water heaters of the inspection fee.

Mandatory inspection of water heater and water softener installations will be considered for approval next month by the village board.

Herald 11-7-1979

A pause in rising home values

Average selling prices in the Northwest suburbs

	1979	1978	Change
Arlington Heights	$89,256	$86,602	+3.1%
Palatine-Inverness	85,835	87,135	-1.5%
Buffalo Grove	83,939	83,399	+0.6%
Mount Prospect	83,246	83,153	+0.1%
Rolling Meadows	76,477	80,307	-4.8%
Elk Grove Village	71,990	72,630	-0.9%
Hoffman Estates	70,882	67,350	+5.2%
Bartlett	69,071	59,895	+15.3%
Schaumburg	67,961	67,653	+0.5%
Hanover Park	61,415	60,422	+1.6%
Streamwood	59,284	57,290	+3.5%
Wheeling	58,746	57,169	+2.8%

Source: Northwest Suburban MAP Multiple Listing Service. Figures for home

Appreciation of homes drops

Daily Herald - November 7, 1979

by John Lampinen

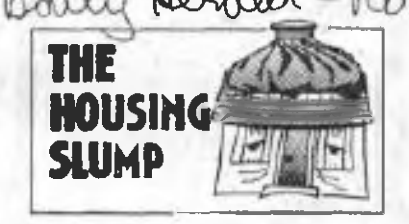
Assistant metropolitan editor

Fourth in a series

Home values in the Northwest suburbs have come to a virtual standstill after years of appreciation that had reached as high as 15 percent annually.

From the summer of 1978, when the housing slump began, through the summer of 1979, the average selling price for a home in the Chicago area rose only 0.8 percent to $73,530 from $72,982, figures compiled by the Northwest Suburban MAP Multiple Listing Service show.

And independent real estate appraisers in the Northwest suburbs place the last year's appreciation in home values at no higher than 2 percent — far short of the 7 percent appreciation several real estate experts were predicting last spring and even farther below the



double-digit inflation that has racked the nation's economy.

IN FACT, SOME depreciation in home values has been detected in certain price ranges during the last five months as sellers reduce prices as a means of attracting hesitant buyers, said one appraiser, Norman S. Falkanger of Palatine. "It looks like we've been very stagnant since the summer of '78," said another appraiser, Albert L. Gundelach of Arlington Heights. "If a person bought a house last summer, they may even be losing money."

However, several real estate experts say that only homeowners who are forced to sell now should suffer from the slowdown in appreciation. They expect home values to skyrocket again when the tight mortgage situation eases, possibly as early as next spring.

Meanwhile, Arlington Heights continues to lead the Northwest suburbs in home values, with an average selling price this summer of $89,256, an increase of $2,654 over the previous summer.

However, of the six communities with the most expensive housing in the Northwest suburbs, it was the only one to experience an increase in appreciation of 1 percent or more.

The average selling price of homes in Rolling Meadows actually dropped $3,830, a 4.8 percent decline to $76,477, the MAP figures show.

Declines were also shown in the Palatine-Inverness area, a $1,300 drop to $85,835; and Elk Grove Village, a $640 drop to $71,990.

Buffalo Grove showed an increase of $540 to $83,939, and in Mount Prospect, the average selling price rose $93 to $83,246.

Most of the larger gains came in the less expensive areas of the Northwest suburbs, further indication that higher-price homes have been hit hardest by the housing slump.

THE MOST SPECTACULAR gain occurred in Bartlett, where the average selling price jumped $9,176, or 15.3 percent, to $69,071. It was the only community to come anywhere near the $10,000 gains in average selling price that had been shown in virtually every Northwest suburb the previous year.

The increase enabled Bartlett

(Continued on Page 11)

Herald - November 7, 1979

Road takeover delays charged

Village officials are "changing the rules" of an agreement to maintain their private streets, say homeowners from two Wheeling condominium complexes, and the delays are jeopardizing the likelihood of the streets being taken over by the village before the first snowfall.

Attorneys and residents from Lakeside Villas, near Hintz and Buffalo Grove roads, and Harmony Village, near Wolf and Hintz roads, told village board members Monday night they began preparing the required surveys and legal documents shortly after the village agreed last January to maintain the private streets in exchange for a one-time "impact fee" of about $200 each.

However, they say their plans to have the roads serviced by village snowplows this winter are being thwarted by disagreements over what parking regulations should be enforced and where traffic signs should be posted in the developments.

The homeowners also say they are being asked to pay for curb and gutter repairs before the village will take over the streets.

"WE REALLY don't know what's going on anymore," said Bernard Talbert, president of Lakeside Villas Condominium Assn.

Although Lakeside homeowners asked the village several months ago to maintain the private streets, Talbert said he was told by Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold a few weeks ago that residents would have to repair about 300 feet of curbs and gutters before the village would take over the streets.

"Some of the rules have been changed," said Samuel La Susa, attorney for the homeowners. Repairing the curbs and gutter, he said, would be an "astronomical expense."

However, Trustee Roger Powers said the "astronomical expense" would amount to about $31 per homeowner.

Rickey Ament, president of Harmony Village Condominium Assn. and a village plan commission member, complained that his association levied a special $10,000 assessment against homeowners to repair Harmony's roads so the village would accept them.

BUT ONLY RECENTLY did the homeowners learn from Wheeling police that as many as 50 traffic signs will have to be posted throughout the development at homeowners' expense, Ament said.

"No one ever said a word about this before," he said. "The rules have somehow changed in the middle of the procedure."

If the village is not going to take over Harmony's streets this winter, Ament said, the improvements "could have waited until next winter." But the association will be unable to afford to hire a private contractor to plow the streets and pay the impact fee as well.

"I'm not arguing with the terms," he said. "I'm arguing with the time factor, and there's nothing I can do about it."

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said he was "very annoyed at the mess this thing appears to be in" and called for a meeting next week to settle the differences between the village and the homeowners.

He and Trustee John Cole criticized Leikvold for not anticipating the problems the street takeover was going to cause when the board agreed to maintain private streets almost one year ago.

But Leikvold said there are "no guidelines, no rules, no procedures" for the village to follow in taking over the private streets.

"It's something we've never done before," he said, adding that some of the problems did not surface until the village formalized its agreement with Tahoe Village, the first and only development to have its streets taken over by the village.

Leikvold said the Tahoe takeover was handled "too fast" and since then he has established a review procedure, in which each village department head prepares a list of conditions that must be met before the village will assume maintenance of private streets.

Herald - Nov. 7, 1979

Home appreciation drops during year

(Continued from Page 3)

to jump from 10th place to eighth place in the list of most expensive homes in the Northwest suburbs.

In addition to the increase in Bartlett, gains also were recorded in average selling prices for Hoffman Estates, up $3,532 to $70,882; Streamwood, up $1,994 to $59,284; Wheeling, up $1,577 to $58,746; Hanover Park, up $993 to $61,415; and Schaumburg, up $308 to $67,961

Newsletter in error

Life - Nov. 8, 1979

WHEELING—The age of senior citizens who are eligible for a reduced rate on their vehicle stickers was erroneously listed as 64 years in the village newsletter.

Village officials say the correct age is 65 or more for the senior citizen rate.

Development grant

Wheeling Life - November 8, 1979

Wheeling to get $1 million

By DOROTHY WEINBERG
Correspondent

WHEELING — Wheeling will receive $1.2 million, from 1979 through 1981, in the form of a community development block grant. The federal monies will be administered through Cook county.

The county expends $15 million to suburban municipalities. Out of that $15 million, Wheeling will receive $400,000 in 1979, $100,000 in 1980, and $740,000 in 1981.

Over the three-year period, $160,000 will be received for land acquisition, $60,000 for architectural and site plans, $540,000 for the construction of a senior citizen center, $160,000 for land acquisition for medical and emergency facilities, $200,000 for residential rehabilitation, $20,000 for neighborhood analysis, and $100,000 for street lighting.

The county recommended approval of these funds, but first an assessment must be approved, according to Larry Oppenheimer, director of community development.

"PART OF THE community development plan includes Holy Family hospital medical facilities, to be located on Strong and Milwaukee, a senior citizen center, north of Dundee near, possibly, two types of senior citizens housing. Funds for senior citizens' housing have been applied for through the county, but not yet approved, although low-income family housing monies, have been approved. All this is part of the downtown commercial improvement program.

Two possible sites for senior citizen housing are being considered. Section 8 housing, which is privately-built but partially rent-subsidized by the federal government, would be along Milwaukee avenue. Also being considered is county-built senior citizen housing in the general vicinity of Strong and Milwaukee.

Thus far, one private developer has suggested a combination housing and commercial development.

Oppenheimer and Greenwood suggested taking part of the $400,000 that Wheeling would be getting this year in the block grant and using part of it to acquire greater land areas for senior citizen housing. Secondly, they suggested possibly using the same architectural firm to develop a senior center that is now being used by Holy Family hospital. A final suggestion was to do a neighborhood analysis of the area, specifically commercial and residential property along Dundee.

THE TWO STAFF members also had other suggestions for planning a downtown improvement program. First, they said, appraisals in the downtown area should be made, and the access to Strong street should be made. In addition, storm sewers should be upgraded, and Well No. 1 should be dug deeper. Finally, special zoning districts should be set up.

Life - Nov. 8, 1979

State grant to village

WHEELING—The Illinois department of transportation (IDOT) has announced approval of a highway safety grant for the village of Wheeling.

The grant will be used to fund specialized training for police Lt. William Ralston, who will attend a nine-month course at the Northwestern university traffic institute, according to Police Chief Ted Bracke.

The village will pay 25% of the $7,000 cost of the training, and 75% will be reimbursed from federal funds made available to the state under the Highway Safety act of 1966. These funds are administered by the division of traffic safety of IDOT.

Upon completion of his training, Ralstron will develop plans to meet the growing traffic problems in Wheeling.

Herald - Nov. 8, 1979

WHEELING VILLAGE BOARD VOTE SUMMARY

Selected decisions from village board meetings of Oct. 1 and 15.








	Cole	Kerr	Powers	Ross	Schultz	Sommerfeld
To approve zoning for the Indian Trails Library District to construct a new library on Schoenbeck Road. (Passed 3-2)	YES	NO	YES	NO	ABSENT	YES
Zoning variations that would allow a developer to remodel and expand Mr. B's Restaurant on Milwaukee Avenue. (Passed 4-2)	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
To participate in the Northwest Municipal Conference cable television study. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Plead for street aid

Wheeling Life - November 8, 1979

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — Two private townhouse developments appealed to the Wheeling village board, Monday, Nov. 5, to do something to expedite village takeover of private streets before the snow begins.

Representatives from Harmony Village and Lakeside Villas appeared before the board because of "changes in midstream" in their agreements with the village. According to the attorneys for the two homeowners associations procedural changes caused a problem and added expense to the townhouse owners. However, Village Manager Carsten Leikvold told the board that the village had never done anything like this before. (Providing maintenance for private streets.)

Changes are required in the plat to show the streets have become village streets, Leikvold said. Also covered in the agreement, any previous parking agreements the townhouse owners had must be rescinded, he said. "When you have a subdivision you don't take over the streets until the plats are signed," Leikvold added.

ACCORDING TO Alan Garfield, attorney for Harmony Village, the development had never had a parking agreement. Furthermore, Garfield said the homeowners association had met several times with the staff, and finally spent $10,000 on repairs because last week they were told they needed 50 signs.

Garfield said the people are asking for aid from the board and want the village to plow the streets.

Garfield said that with the impact fee and repairs, there is little money left to negotiate a contract for snow removal this winter. He said they are not arguing with the terms of a letter received from the village in regard to village care for the streets.

SOMEWHERE ALONG the line there is a tremendous problem with procedures among staff and the people, Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld said. Leikvold said the plat was not recorded. Preliminary agreements put the people to work, he added and noted that he was trying to get the staff involved in the project by requiring a written statement from each department head.

Village Attorney David Epstein said the original subdivision plat of Tahoe Village was sent to the village for approval eight to 10 days ago. Tahoe's plat is mylar instead of linen, Epstein said, and Cook county will not record a mylar plat. He noted that just because the plat is not recorded, it does not make the agreement less valid.

Sommerfeld said he is very annoyed with the mess "this appears to be in."

Trustee John Cole suggested a workshop session. According to Tahoe's attorney, Samuel LaSusa, some of the rules and procedures have been changed. Additional curb and gutter is required in the subdivision, he added. "If we have to go into a snow removal program," he said, it could present a hardship on the people.

ACCORDING TO Bernard Talbot, president of Lakeside Villas homeowners association, "We are at a loss." Last March, a $48,000 impact fee was levied on the townhouses, now there is an additional $7,000 charge, and about $3,000 required for snow removal.

The village must repair streets and gutters in the rest of the village on dedicated streets, Cole told Talbot. He said there is no comparison between the privately-owned streets and village streets.

Kerr suggested putting the townhouse street takeover by the village into workshop. Leikvold said he had not recommended a workshop. However, the board scheduled the street situation for the next workshop.

Eight are presented

Outline village goals

Wheeling Life - Nov. 8, 1979

By DOROTHY WEINBERG
Correspondent

WHEELING — Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold presented eight goals for the village of Wheeling at the Oct. 30 board workshop.

These proposed goals, if adopted, will form the foundation for planning in Wheeling, upon which the village staff, with the advice of boards commissions, and participation of interested citizens and civic groups, will prepare detailed plans. If these goals are adopted by the board, it will pave the way for a comprehensive plan for Wheeling, according to Leikvold.

The first goal states that Wheeling will provide a diversity of land uses designed to provide a strong economic base in an environment that meets the full needs of its citizens.

In implementing this goal, the staff and plan commission would review and revise the land use plan. Programs to monitor and regulate land uses would also be developed. Also an annexation plan would be prepared by June 1980.

THE SECOND GOAL would be for Wheeling to provide an aesthetically pleasing environment. To do this, the village would implement public education and enforcement of ordinances to curb visual pollution, as well as noise pollution. Other measures suggested for attaining this goal were plantings, retention of open spaces and zoning and subdivision control.

Providing a safe, reliable, efficient transportation system is another goal for Wheeling that was proposed. Attention would be given to different modes of transportation in a land use plan, and non-essential traffic would be minimized. Sidewalks and bicycle routes would be provided throughout the village. A mass transportation system would be pursued, and major corridors would be improved. The village would also encourage the use of the Soo Line railroad for commuter transit. Finally, Wheeling would participate in keeping Palwaukee airport safe, modern and efficient, provided no Wheeling tax dollars are needed.

KEEPING WATER and sewer service at a high level is another proposed goal. By 1981, a master water plan would be adopted, as well as a sanitary sewage plan for sewer rehabilitation. The water and sewer systems would be self-supporting and working at a high-efficiency level.

Another goal is storm water management, involving flood control, and maintenance of storm sewers and detention basins.

Other goals are:

- The provision of a safe modern housing in a variety of ways, including housing programs for elderly and low-income citizens and the promotion of the "neighborhood concept.
- Having schools, recreational facilities, libraries, senior centers, health facilities, and municipal services.
- Providing social services for all citizens, including senior citizens, the handicapped and community youths.
- An administrative plan including a maintenance plan code, and a capital improvement program would be instituted.

A comprehensive village plan was last updated 10 years ago, according to village planner Richard Greenwood. It was suggested by Leikvold that the board, in conjunction with staff, and commissions get involved in pushing the development of an updated plan.

Village President William Hein called this a "workable plan" and said it will come up again before the board Nov. 21, and later presented at a public hearing.

Village board wrapup

Trustees object to hospital plans

Herald - November 8, 1979

Wheeling trustees have directed Village Atty. David Epstein to prepare a formal objection to plans by a Chicago hospital to build a 232-bed branch hospital in unincorporated Wheeling Township.

Epstein said he will ask the board to approve the objection at its Nov. 19 meeting and forward it to the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals. The zoning board in December probably will make its recommendations on the proposal by Franklin Boulevard Hospital.

The village's objection means it will take a three-fourths majority of the county board to approve the project, which has been attacked by area hospitals and regional health planners. The hospital will create additional unfilled beds, driving up medical costs, they say.

Wheeling officials also have criticized the location of the proposed hospital. They say it will create traffic hazards on Schoenbeck Road, a narrow two-lane road. Village officials also say the hospital is not needed, especially in light of plans by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, to build a $4.5 million emergency clinic at Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street.

Bonds to be sold for new wells

Plans to borrow $2.5 million to finance the two new wells under construction in the village were approved by the Wheeling Village Board.

Revenues from residents' water bills will repay the investors who buy the village's revenue bonds. Village water rates set at 90 cents per 1,000 gallons, are likely to remain the same.

However, village officials are concerned that tougher federal water standards may force the village to constrict treatment plants at the two well sites to eliminate contaminants from the water. The treatment plants cost about $800,000 each. Village officials are waiting for the test results of water samples from the new well at Hintz and Longtree roads that were sent to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for analysis.

Factory plans get tentative OK

Wheeling officials gave preliminary approval to building plans of a Glenview developer who wants to build a 30-foot-high factory near the end of Pal-Waukee Airport's longest runway.

However, trustees delayed approving an ordinace that would make the building planned by developer Sigmund Lefkovitz illegal. Board members said they have not reviewed the ordinance, which would prohibit construction of buildings that have been declared a hazard by the Federal Aviation Administration.

The FAA has said the building proposed by Lefkovitz would be a hazard to airport operations on the 5,000-foot runway at Wolf and Hintz roads. The airport planners studying the financial feasibility of Wheeling and Propspect Heights buying to privately-owned airport recommended the ordinance to control development near the airport.

Planners have said the towns probably will have to buy Lefkovitz's parcel, at the northwest corner of the intersection, it they decide to purchase the airport.

Senior center funds accepted

Wheeling trustees voted to accept $240,000 in federal funds to buy land and develop architectural and design plans for a center for senior citizens and handicapped persons. However, the board delayed approving $160,000 in federal aid to buy land for an emergency clinic.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold recommended holding off on accepting the money for the clinic because Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, plans to use its own funds to build a $4.5 million clinic at Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street. Village officials plan to ask Cook County officials if some of the money earmarked for the clinic can be used for the senior center.

Flood control study authorized

The trustees voted to spend $8,780 on a study that would recommend improvements needed to control flooding near several multifamily developments on the west side of the village.

Lakeside Villas, a 242-unit condominium complex near Hintz and Buffalo Grove roads, has the most serious flooding problems, village officials say.

Trustee John Cole voted against the proposal, saying it was only a piecemeal solution to village flooding problems. There are as many as 18 areas plagued by flooding in the village, he said, and conducting a small study in an isolated portion of the village possibly could just shift the flooding problems elsewhere, he said. He also said the village could not afford to conduct a study in each portion of town that has flooding problems.

$2.5 million

Sell water bonds

Wheeling Life - November 8, 1979

BY JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING—The village board Monday, Nov. 5, authorized issuance of $2.5 million in revenue bonds for waterworks improvements, exercising its home rule right to issue bonds without a referendum.

Waterworks improvement bonds are for construction and engineering on well number seven, and well number one, and telemetric equipment for the system.

A series of three ordinances, the first specifying improvements, the second granting authority, and the third raising the money, were approved over the objections of Trustees John Cole and Charles Kerr.

Since the board was urged by Village Manager Carsten Leikvold, Finance Director Greg Peters and Finance Consultant Morton Lang, of Benjamin and Lang, Inc., to pass the ordinance without posting (first reading), residents objecting to any part of the ordinances have five days after publication to voice their objections (in the village clerk's office).

Wheeling residents Lorraine Lark and Alice Wargo asked if the revenue bond issue would mean a hike in water rates. Lang said that there are no provisions in the ordinance for a water rate hike "at this time." However, he said he could not guarantee what may happen a couple of years from now.

THE INTEREST RATE on the bonds is not to exceed 8%, and Lang said it is necessary to pass the ordinances as soon as possible in hopes of obtaining that rate, because rates may go up higher.

Cole and Kerr objected to passing the ordinances without prior posting. Kerr asked why the ordinances were delayed in coming before the board.

According to Lang, the consultants did not receive the village audit report until two weeks ago. "The bonding agencies must insure the village's financial stability, for the bonds to be merchandisable," Lang said.

Over the past month, the staff has recommended several ordinances be passed without posting, Cole said, and objected to the idea of "ramming something through." Trustee Sheila Schultz asked Leikvold if the board is not allowing enough time from the inception of the ordinance to the final presentation to the board.

Leikvold replied that "it takes time to put the ordinances together because the process is complicated." However, Lang commended the staff and legal department for their work on the ordinances. He said, "We must see the figures for the fiscal year, and must rely upon the audit report to make the bonds merchandisable." He added that the bonds are on a 15-year maturity schedule.

TRUSTEE ROGER POWERS asked the procedure in case any resident objects to the bonds. According to Village Attorney David Epstein, objections may be filed with Village Clerk Alberta Klocke and then the board must act upon the objections within five days after publication of the ordinances.

The bonds are to cover total construction, engineering and contingency costs of $2,427,237. The remaining $122,763 is for cost of issuing the bonds.

The bonds will be retired at the rate of $100,000 the first three years; $125,000 in 1983 and '84; $150,000 in 1985 and '86; $175,000 the next three years, $200,000 in 1990; $225,000 in 1991 and '92; $250,000 in 1993; and $275,000 in 1994, based upon a May 1, 1980 due date.

There are $75,000 worth of bonds from the 1967 bond issue still outstanding.

Appeared in paper Life - Nov 8, 1979

Says story errs

WHEELING—Finance Director Gregory Peters said a story that appeared in a Chicago daily newspaper last week, including Wheeling among home rule communities whose tax rates have soared because of home rule, is erroneous.

Peters said the only bond issue the village has sold thus far since it obtained home rule is the $3.9 million bond issue for the new fire station, new branch fire station, new public works building and remodeling of village hall. Under home rule powers, a community does not have to go to referendum to float such a bond issue.

The village used $200,000 of its revenue sharing funds to reduce the cost to the taxpayer, Peters said, adding that the tax rate has only increased by 10 cents per $100 of assessed valuation, and that is not all attributable to the bond issue.

"**THE BIGGEST INCREASE** in costs since I have been here (since 1975 before the village had home rule) has been for personnel. When I started, the village had about 90 employes. Today it has about 125."

However, Peters said the tax rate could have gone up substantially more if the assessed valuation of the village had not increased from $139 million in 1978 to $160 million in 1979.

Other things done by Wheeling since obtaining home rule include passage of an industrial revenue bond ordinance, which enables industries meeting certain criteria to locate in Wheeling at lower interest rates than elsewhere. In addition, Wheeling passed a recall ordinance, which Peters said he doubts the village attorney would have recommended without home rule.

Wheeling also passed a liquor control ordinance which raised the age at which people could buy beer and wine to take out. Since that time, the state has raised the drinking age for all drinking to 21.

WITHOUT THE BOND issue costs, the budget would have increased by only $50,000 from 1977-78 to 1978-79, Peters said. In addition, he said if the township had levied a tax in its road and bridge fund, the $50,000 increase would also have been erased.

Without growth, the village would have had to increase taxes, but Peters said the village is providing better service to its residents even while growing.

Wheeling Life 11/15/79



Wheeling Dispatch 11/15/79

Village collects $16,000 more in permit fees

WHEELING—The village collected approximately $16,000 more in permit fees in October 1979 than it did in October 1978, according to Larry Oppenheimer, community development director.

There were no occupancy permits issued for single-family homes in October this year, while there were six issued in the same month last year. However, there were six occupancy permits issued for townhouses/duplexes in October 1979, while there were three such permits issued in October 1978. In addition, occupancy permits have been issued for 28 units in four multi-family dwellings in October this year. Occupancy permits were issued for three multi-family dwellings in the same month last year.

Whether there is more luxury building going on in Wheeling, or the increase in valuations are due to inflated prices in the construction industry, the two industrial buildings granted permits in October this year were valued at $2.3 million, while three industrial permits issued in October last year were valued at $2.2 million.

Two commercial buildings, valued at $1.6 million, were issued permits in October 1979, while one commercial building, valued at $175,000, was issued a permit in the same month last year.

REMODELING AND ADDITIONS to both residential and industrial buildings has increased this year over last year, according to a report by Oppenheimer. In October 1979, 29 residential permits for remodeling or additions were issued. The value of the remodeling or additions is $80,000. In the same month last year, 17 such permits, on remodeling or additions valued at $43,000, were issued.

Twice as many permits for remodeling and additions in industry were issued in October this year as last. Fourteen permits on remodeling and additions valued at $92,000, were issued in October 1979, while seven such permits on values of $81,000, were issued last year in October.

Total value of buildings for which permits were issued in October 1979 was $6,271,269. Valuation of permits issued for building in October 1978 was $3,555,520.

Oppenheimer estimates that the population of Wheeling, based on the number of occupancies issued, is now 21,798.

Wheeling Dispatch 11/15/79

Highlights of the '70s

1970—Municipal building opens.

1973—State's Attorney Jim Thompson wins indictments against Wheeling officials for bribery and extortion.

1975—Reform slate of candidates win election to village board and fire village manager and village attorney.

1977—Park district purchases Chevy Chase country club. Village gains home rule through referendum. Village manager fired.

1978—Recall ordinance — first of its kind in the state — passed by village board after advisory referendum.

1979—Construction program begun for additions to municipal complex, including new main fire station, new public works building, additions to police department and remodeling for community development department. Branch fire station built west of Soo Line railroad tracks.

Herald 11/16/79

Flood plain may block Hawthorne center plans

Wheeling officials may not be able to use Hawthorne School as a federally financed center for senior citizens and handicapped persons because the building is in an area prone to flooding.

A federal law, enacted last year, prohibits construction in low-lying areas. Hawthorne School, 200 Glendale Ave., was built just north of the Wheeling Drainage Ditch, an area federal officials now say should have no new construction. The school is one of three scheduled to close in the area next year because of declining enrollment.

Although a private developer probably would be able to renovate a building in a low-lying area and install proper flood control devices, village officials might have a hard time getting permission from federal officials to use the school because federal money is being spent on the project, said Romulus Dorsey, a hazard and mitigation specialist for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

THE FLOOD control law is aimed at diverting "any kind of activity away from the floodway. The federal government has taken the lead in not developing in the floodway and we can't expect others to follow the order unless we abide by it," he said.

He said the school site might be used if there is no land or other buildings for the senior center available in the area. "That's just an off-the-cuff evaluation," he said, adding he is not familiar with the details of Wheeling's proposal.

Terry Hansen, Cook County community development director, said use of federal funds for a project in a flood area "is frowned upon, but not necessarily prohibited. That's the impression we've been given from the (U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development) field reps."

The county recently approved Wheeling's request for $160,000 through HUD to buy land for the senior center. The center is part of the village's plan to redevelop the downtown area.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, who suggested using the school for the senior citizens center, said the federal flood regulations are "certainly a roadblock," although not the end of the idea of using Hawthorne for the senior center. He said the proposed Wheeling-Buffalo Diversionary Channel will divert much of the water from the drainage ditch, thereby eliminating the flood problems at Hawthorne.

HOWEVER, HE acknowledged the village has not yet secured all land rights for the diversionary channel and because the project is being done with federal funds, it could take years to complete.

Larry Oppenheimer, village community development director, said he is not sure if the federal regulations will eliminate Hawthorne as a potential site. "They're (the federal government), the kingpin," he said. "They'll be able to dictate to us whether we can purchase the school." He said he had heard "unofficially" that the village might be able to use federal dollars to buy the building, but not to remodel it.

Oppenheimer said the village is considering other sites for the senior center, but he would not comment on them. "There's some negotiations going on," he said. "Until there's some kind of firm commitment, I don't think that should be discussed in the papers."

Herald 11/21/79

Trustees still seek new manager

One month after Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold announced his resignation, the village board is tight-lipped about the search for his replacement.

The board met in closed session for 30 minutes Monday night before voting unanimously to accept Leikvold's resignation. Village Pres. William Hein said only that the selection process for a new manager was proceeding in "a timely and workable process."

HE DECLINED to elaborate but said his proposal to abandon the council-manager form of government in favor of a full-time mayor was not discussed.

Hein said despite the inital hostility to the idea by other board members, he still believes a full-time mayor is a "hell of an idea." He said he did not know when the board might discuss the proposal.

However, his political rivals on the board say they don't even want to talk about it.

"I don't think it's worth discussing, either," Trustee John Cole said. "Let's face it. He has ambitions to be the No. 1 person in the village. He can see he's losing control of the board, and the board controls the village manager. He wants to be the full-time mayor."

THE POLITICAL structure of the board changed in favor of Hein's foes last April when Cole and Trustees Charles Kerr and Sheila Schultz were elected on a slate.

Mrs. Schultz, a new trustee, ousted Hein ally Dolores Dahm. A fourth trustee, Hubert Sommerfeld, supported the three trustees' election bid. Although he ran with Hein in 1977, Sommerfeld has opposed him on many controversial issues.

Hein, however, says he has no ambition now to be mayor and his local business interests would not permit him time to devote to the mayor's position.

Hein cited the village's inability to keep a manager in suggesting the mayor's position be created. Leikvold, who was criticized by Cole, Kerr, Mrs. Schultz and Sommerfeld for bowing to political pressure from Hein, is the third village manager to leave Wheeling in the past four years.

LEIKVOLD'S PREDECESSOR, Terry Zerkle, was fired after he refused to appoint a political ally of Hein's as police chief. Zerkle replaced George Passolt, who was fired in 1975 shortly after a slate that included Cole and Kerr took office.

Mrs. Schultz would not comment on the specifics of Monday night's closed session but said some trustees are leaning toward hiring a consulting firm to recruit and interview prospective candidates. "I would say that's not only a possibility, but a probability," she said.

Cole said two persons have "expressed an interest" in the manager's post but declined to name them because the board has not contacted them and he was unsure whether their present employers know they may be looking for jobs elsewhere.

Although hiring a search firm may be "one of several ways we want to go," Cole said finding a qualified candidate may save the village some money.

"If somebody has all the characteristics we're looking for, it would be foolish to go out and discuss somebody else," he said.

Leikvold is recuperating from surgery he underwent last week. He probably will resume his duties in a few weeks. Leikvold, who has been village manager since December 1977, has volunteered to remain in Wheeling until April or until the board selects a new manager.

Herald 11/21/79

Village board wrapup

Pal-Waukee land restrictions OKd

Despite objections by Trustee Sheila Schultz, the Wheeling Village Board gave preliminary approval to ordinances restricting development near Pal-Waukee Airport.

The laws would prohibit construction of buildings the Federal Aviation Administration determines hazardous to air navigation. The ordinances are intended to thwart plans by a Glenview developer to build a 30-foot-tall factory near the end of Pal-Waukee's longest runway at Hintz and Wolf roads.

Mrs. Schultz voted against the ordinances, saying the responsibility for preserving air space near the airport rests solely with the village and no action is being taken to make the airport comply with federal safety standards.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights are in the middle of a two-year study to determine the feasibility of buying the airport.

Airport consultants have said the Hintz-Wolf road intersection probably will have to be rerouted to make the airport comply with federal safety standards if the towns take over the privately owned airport.

Mrs. Schultz said she was unhappy that no one has suggested the airport shorten the runway to make the airport comply with federal safety standards. She said village officials "do not have all the answers" from the consulting firm on how much the airport will cost or what additional land must be purchased to preserve air space.

"I would like to have it clear to me where we're going before I vote on ordinances that set height regulations" near the airport, she said.

Hospital plans opposed by trustees

A resolution objecting to plans by a Chicago hospital to build a 232-bed branch hospital on Schoenbeck Road in unincorporated Wheeling Township received final passage from the Wheeling Village Board.

Wheeling officials have criticized the location of a clinic planned by Franklin Boulevard Hospital on a narrow, two-lane road. They say the additional truck and emergency vehicle traffic will be a hazard to children walking to school along Schoenbeck Road.

Village officials also say Franklin Boulevard Hospital has not gotten land rights to tie into county sewer lines. Hospital officials have refused to provide water and sewer service for the hospital.

The resolution also cites testimony by regional health planners during two Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals hearings at which the health experts said a new hospital would create additional unfilled beds, increasing medical costs.

Because of Wheeling's objections, the county board will need a three-fourths vote to approve the project. The zoning board probably will make its recommendations to the county board next month.

Contracts awarded for building

Contracts totalling $122,000 for the new municipal building complex were awarded to two Chicago firms by Wheeling trustees.

The board agreed to spend $91,000 for desks and other office furnishings that will be purchased from Contract Interiors for Business. A carpeting contract of $31,000 was awarded to Office Equipment of Chicago.

The new furnishings are a part of the $3.8 million expansion of the municipal complex. Workmen are finishing the new operations and maintenance building, which will house all public works operations. Completion of the new fire and police station, immediately west of the present village hall at 255 W. Dundee Rd., is slated for next summer.

Tahoe seeks to open hot dog stand

Wheeling Village Atty. David Epstein has been asked to prepare an ordinance that would allow the owners of Tahoe Shopping Center to establish a carry-out hamburger and hot dog stand in one of the stores of the shopping center.

The restaurant would be in one of the vacant buildings at the shopping center at Buffalo Grove and Hintz roads.

Herald 11/22/79

Bike safety grant to be sought

Wheeling officials plan to ask for a state grant to begin a bicycle safety program in the schools next spring.

Wheeling police say the village can apply for up to $36,000 for the safety program through the Illinois Dept. of Transportation. The application probably will be submitted as soon as the village approves an updated traffic code, which will include rules and regulations for bikers, said Trustee John Cole, chairman of a special bicycle committee.

The revised traffic laws are expected to require every bicycle in the village to be licensed, and bike routes will be designated throughout the village.

THE EDUCATION program, which will be conducted primarily by the police, will consist of lectures and movies on bicycle safety from the Northwestern University Traffic Institute. Cole has suggested that the village use its videotape machine to prepare a film that would show the designated bike routes.

"We could go to the kids and say, 'Here's the route. Now here are some of the things you have to look out for,'" he said.

Cole said the education program will be aimed primarily at grade school children, to alert them at an early age how to ride safely and where it is safe to ride a bike in Wheeling. At the high school level, the program is more likely to be for students who drive cars to stress the importance of watching for children on bikes, he said.

The signs for the bike routes can be manufactured in the machine shop in the new operations and maintenance building at village hall. They probably will be installed next spring, Cole said.

DESPITE THE bike education program, some of the other ideas for bicyclists are being temporarily shelved.

Village officials last fall had hoped to obtain a federal grant to hire students, mostly from college, to serve as uniformed "bicycle wardens," who would patrol the village on bicycles. They would look for violators of safety regulations and bikes that are not licensed.

However, Patrolman Armondo Pizzi, head of the traffic division, said he learned during a recent trip to Springfield that funds for such programs no longer are available.

Building bike trails, something park officials have wanted to do for years, appears increasingly unlikely, said Faye Moroz, a member of the bike committee. Construction costs for bike paths are now up to $40,000 a mile

THE MAIN thing for now, she said, is to post the signs and educate the bike riders and drivers why they are there.

"Forget about the paths or bike lanes, they're too expensive and we'll never get them anyway," she said. "What we need is something that will alert a motorist coming into the village from out of town that there are bike riders nearby."

Wheeling Life 11/22/79

Wheeling is all ready for winter

WHEELING—Wheeling is ready for winter. According to Bob Gray, director of operations and maintenance, the move to a heated garage for the village's equipment will make things much easier this winter.

Before the move, village equipment was stored both inside and outside. However, the inside facility on north Milwaukee avenue, was unheated and not much warmer inside than the weather outside.

Gray said the village should have no problem with having enough salt this year either. He said the village ordered a supply in June through the Northwest Municipal conference. Coupled with salt left from last year, Gray said he expects to have a large enough supply.

ACCORDING TO GRAY, the village is prepared to service streets recently taken into the village through agreements with planned unit developments. "Actually, we were prepared last year." However, Gray said that the village has added many streets and that last year the department was short of manpower. New employes have been hired since then, he said.

Wheeling Life 11/22/79

Village a step closer to building controls

By STAN ZOLLER
Correspondent

WHEELING — Controls to the height and location of buildings around Palwaukee airport came a step closer Monday night, Nov. 19, as the Wheeling village board approved first readings on three ordinances dealing with control of zoning near the airport. The ordinances will be posted and could be acted on at the board's next regularly scheduled meeting Monday, Dec. 3. (A special meeting will be held Monday, Nov. 26, but only for limited topics.)

Much of the discussion surrounding the airport ordinances at Monday night's meeting focused on the timing of their posting.

Village Trustee Sheila Schultz was the lone dissenting vote in all three votes taken by the board. Schultz said that she opposed the timing of the action, and not the principle.

"I have no objections to the ordinances," she said, "it's that I don't think we have enough information to see what stipulations the airport will follow."

UNLIKE PAST meetings where the airport zoning has been discussed, there was little interest by area residents. Only a half dozen attended, some for other reasons besides the airport. Outside comments regarding the board came from two objectors who indicated airport traffic poses not only a threat to some area residents, but a lack of equality.

Former Trustee William Rogers told the board that restricting village heights wasn't fair because the airport "operates without regard to some Federal Aviation administration (FAA) regulations."

His remarks, are directed at Palwaukee's 5,000-foot runway, which violates FAA guidelines on location of a runway in relation to public roads.

Trustee John Cole told Rogers that "if it (airport) becomes a public airport, the existing runways will have to be shortened, or the roads will have to be changed." He added that while public airports are closely watched by the FAA, there seems to be considerably less constraint when it comes to private airports.

"All they say," Cole noted, "is that if you want to build, you have to get the FAA's clearance before the village will let you build."

THE THREE ordinance package covers three areas. They include designating airport hazard areas and regulating subdivisions therein; identifying airport hazard areas and regulating all construction "therein" and the last permitting amendment of the village's official map.

Schultz said that not only was the timing bad, but the ordinances place all of the burden for enforcement on the village, something that might be premature at this time without additional consideration.

Cole added that "The timing is important because if an individual wants to build, once that building goes up, planes will have to make a steeper climb or sharper descent and once you do that, you endanger people."

IN OTHER business, the board:

• Adopted a resolution calling for the Cook county zoning board of appeals and the county commissioners to deny the special use permit requested by Franklin Boulevard hospital. Wheeling joins several other adjoining communities in their protest. The last date for filing objections is Friday, Nov. 23. Wheeling's resolution cites five specific problems with the building of the hospital: traffic, incompatibility with surrounding residential uses, lack of planning for sanitary sewers, the lack of need for a hospital in the area (opponents claim that Holy Family, Lutheran General, Northwest Community, Glenbrook and Highland Park hospitals are more than adequate for the Wheeling area), and the potential for serious drainage problems in the area resulting from a major building like a hospital.

• Heard complaints from representatives of the Tahoe Village Homeowners Assn. calling for repairs on the streets in that complex. The board was told that some repairs had been made, but with an agreement pending for village maintenance of the streets, the question was, is it up to the village, or the Hoffman group (developers of the complex) to make the repairs so the roads conform with village standards before the village agreement begins.

Building guidelines set around Pal-Waukee

Courier-Topside Communities 11/29/79

By MARION SOURS

Ordinances were passed Monday by the Wheeling village board which will require developers who wish to build near Pal-Waukee Airport to comply with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations before the village will issue a building permit.

The ordinances were drafted in part to deal with the problem presented by developer Sigmund Lefkovitz, of S and L Engineering. Lefkovitz had proposed to build a 30-foot-high factory near the end of Pal-Waukee's longest runway.

Trustees had been concerned about this building, which many sources had said would constitute an airport hazard, since it might hinder landings. However, the trustees on Nov. 5 approved the preliminary plat presented by Lefkiovitz.

They did not approve any building plans at that time, but merely were allowing him to begin his plan to divide his parcel of land into two parts, to be developed under two owners.

It only is a matter of time, though, before Lefkovitz will return to the board with specific building plans and ask for the board's approval. In order to have definite guidelines through which, if necessary, to reject the proposed building, the board adopted the ordinances Monday.

Three ordinances wre passed. One designates what the "airport hazard" areas will be in the Village of Wheeling. The ordinance defines them as follows: "With respect to runways designated as precision instrument runways, the area 500 feet either side of the centerline of the runway in width and extending 200 feet from the end of the runway in both directions in length; plus that area lying directly under the apoproach surface...from 200 feet from the end of the runway to 1,700 feet out from the end of the runway."

Also: "With respect to runways designated as visual runways, the area 250 feet either side of the centerline of the runway in width and extending 200 feet from the end of the runway in length; plus that area lying directly under the approach surface..from 200 feet outward from the end of the runway and 1,220 feet from the end of the runway."

A second ordinance defines allowable construction in these airport hazard areas. The ordinance states that within these areas no building may be constructed or additions built until it is determined by the FAA that it does not constitute a hazard to aerial navigation.

The village will not issue any building permits until the building has been studied by the FAA and an opinion issued as to whether it is a hazard to aircraft.

The third ordinance calls for the inclusion of the airport hazard areas on the village's zoning map.

While mose trustees had no reservations about passing the ordinances, trustee Sheila Schultz expressed a concern that through the ordinances, the village would be restricting its builders, while the village has no say regarding concerns over airport maintenance.

Schultz said any time concerns are expressed, the village is told to wait until the airport study is finished. The study, being compiled by Ralph Burke and Associates, Park Ridge, is reporting on the feasibility of Wheeling and Prospect Heights purchasing the private airport. The study may take at least a year to finish.

Former trustee Bill Rogers, in the audience, concurred with Schultz' opinion. However, trustee John Cole said he believed that the airport hazard ordinances were separate from the study issue and needed to be passed immediately, so the village would be able to deal with the Lefkovitz situation. Other trustees agreed with Cole, and the ordinances passed.

In the past, the FAA officials said they believed Lefkovitz' proposed building could be hazardous to the airport's operations. However, since the airport is a private one, the FAA only could offer advice, and could take no action regarding the proposed structure.

Airport owner and operator George Priester also had objected to Lefkovitz' proposed building. In July Lefkovitz admitted he had received more than 300 letters from major companies which fly in and out of Pal-Waukee, complaining of the potentially hazardous situation.

Herald 11/27/79

Milaeger well bid is lowest

It will cost Wheeling almost $190,000 to build a new well on Milwaukee Avenue if the village accepts the lowest of four bids submitted on the project.

Milaeger Well and Pump, Brookfield, Wis., submitted a low bid of $189,907 to drill a new well south of Dundee Road, one of two planned in the village. Other bids were J. P. Miller Artesian Well Co., Brookfield, Ill., $210,555; Wehling Well Works, Beecher, Ill., $202,975; and Layne Western Co., Aurora, Ill., $234,170.

Village Finance Director Gregory Peters said the Milwaukee Avenue well was expected to cost about $200,000.

The village board is scheduled to award a contract for the new well Dec. 10. The board also is scheduled then to give final approval to a $2.5 million bond issue to pay for the two wells and other water improvements.

The Milwaukee Avenue well is expected to be completed next fall. It will use an existing 300,000-gallon tank at the well site for storage. The other new well, at Hintz and Longtree roads, is scheduled to be completed next spring. It will have a 1 million gallon storage reservoir.

COMPLETION of the new wells is expected to end the ban on lawn sprinkling and car washings that has been imposed on residents for the past several summers, Peters said, "assuming all seven wells are up. There's always the possibility of a breakdown."

The village, he said, was "unfortunate" last summer when one well had to be repaired after it was struck by lightning. Two other wells also were temporarily out of service, which created the need for a sprinkling ban that lasted most of the summer.

Peters said revenues from residents' water bills will pay the investors who buy the village's water-revenue bonds. The village water rate, set at 90 cents per 1,000 gallons, is expected to remain the same.

Village officials three years ago raised water rates 80 percent in anticipation of a $5 million water improvement program that included the new wells and other improvements, such as new mains and upgrading the water distribution system.

THE HIGHER water rate, combined with increases in fees to tie into the village water and sewer systems and increased industrial and residential volume, netted the village about $500,000 last year in excess revenues. Peters also said the village has kept its personnel and materials costs low, which has kept water revenues high.

That cash surplus, Peters said, "makes a very good picture when the bonds are presented to the investors."

However, village officials are concerned that stringent federal guidelines may force the village to build treatment plants at the well sites. The plants, which cost about $800,000, would be needed to soften the water, which state and federal environmental officials say contains unacceptable levels of contaminants in some towns.

Village officials expect in the next few weeks to see the results of water samples from the Hintz Road well sent to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for testing. If the well does not meet environmental standards, village officials plan to ask for a 1981 extension to comply with the water standards.

Herald 11/26/79

Street maintenance to be OKd

A final agreement for the village to take over maintenance of private streets in two condominium developments is to be approved tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

The agreement would call for homeowners in Lakeside Villas, near Buffalo Grove and Hintz roads, and Harmony Village, near Wolf and Hintz roads, to pay $200 each for the village to plow snow, patch potholes and sweep the streets.

Although the village board agreed last January to take over the private streets, village officials formally have agreed to maintain the streets only in Tahoe Village.

However, residents from Harmony Village and Lakeside Villas have complained that they asked the village several months ago to take over their streets. They say they have spent considerable amounts of money to get their streets in acceptable condition for the village to take them over and can not afford to hire a private contractor to plow if they have to pay the $200 "impact fee" as well.

However, village staff members have said the agreement with Tahoe Village was handled too quickly. They have said the village and the homeowners must be sure who is responsible for removing parked cars during snowstorms as well making sure the legal documents for the street takeover are properly drawn.

Trustees will meet at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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THE PRELIMINARY draft of an agreement that would allow Wheeling officials to sell $2.5 million in water revenue bonds will be considered for approval tonight by the village board.

If the draft is approved, the village administration will draw up a formal agreement and send it back to the board for final approval.

The loan will be used to finance construction of two new wells. The well at Hintz and Longtree roads, with a 1-million gallon storage reservoir, is nearly completed. Engineering recently has been completed on the second well, on Milwaukee Avenue south of Dundee Road. Construction is scheduled to be completed next year.

Revenues from residents' water bills will repay the investors who will buy the village's bonds. Village water rates, set at 90 cents per 1,000 gallons, are expected to remain the same.

Village officials three years ago raised water rates 80 percent in anticipation of a $5 million water improvement program that included the new wells and other improvements, such as new mains and upgrading the water distribution system.

Completion of the new wells is expected to bring an end to the lawn sprinkling and car washing bans that have been imposed on village residents during the past several summers because of inadequate reserves.

The village board meets at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Herald 11/29/79

Village plans to build new wells

Plans to borrow $2½ million to finance construction of two new wells have been given preliminary approval by the Wheeling Village Board.

Trustees tentatively approved the official document that will be distributed to potential investors who will buy the bonds that will finance the new wells. Final approval is scheduled for Dec. 10.

Revenue from residents' water bills plus excess money generated by a water rate hike three years ago will be used to pay the investors. Village water rates, set at 90 cents per 1,000 gallons, are expected to remain the same.

One well, at Hintz and Longtree roads, is slated to be completed next spring. That well will have a 1 million-gallon storage reservoir. At the second well, on Milwaukee Avenue, south of Dundee Road, an existing 300,000-gallon storage tank will be used for the new well.

THE HINTZ ROAD well is expected to cost almost $1½ million. The total cost of the Milwaukee Avenue well is expected to be $730,060. The board next month expects to award a construction contract to drill the hole for the well. Of four firms bidding on the project, a Wisconsin firm submitted the low bid of $190,000.

Completion of the two new wells is seen as a means of ending the bans on lawn sprinkling and car washings that the village has imposed on residents for the past several summers.

Village officials had said the bans were necessary because there were inadequate emergency reserves for a disaster, such as a major fire.

Village officials three years ago increased water rates 80 percent in anticipation of a $5 million water improvement program that included the two new wells. Other improvements included installation of new water mains and "looping" the water to improve water quality.

Herald 11/29/79

Street takeover pact set

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling has agreed to maintain the private streets in two condominium complexes, ending the debate over whether the village would assume control of the streets.

Residents in Harmony Village and Lakeside Villas each will pay a one-time $200 fee during the next four years. In turn, the village will sweep the streets, plow snow and patch potholes.

Although the agreement between the village and the homeowners does not take effect until the legal documents are signed and recorded, village officials say they will plow the streets in the meantime if necessary.

Residents from the two condominium groups had complained they would be unable to pay a private contractor to plow the streets and pay the impact fee as well and had charged the village was changing the terms of the agreement at the last minute.

ALTHOUGH THEY approached the village several months ago about the private street takeover, they were informed only in recent weeks about the posting of traffic signs, repairs needed in the development and recording the necessary legal documents for the street takeover, they said.

However, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said at the time the village had moved "too fast" in taking over maintenance of the private streets in Tahoe Village, previously the only development to reach a formal agreement with the village.

Leikvold contended roads needing repair in private developments should be fixed before the village would agree to take them over, and failure to reach parking agreements or have the legal paperwork in order before the takeover could result in a host of problems later.

However, the village will allow residents in Lakeside Villas to repair about 300 feet of curbs and gutters next year because it would be impossible to find a contractor to make the repairs now.

Other homeowners in private developments who want the village to assume maintenance of their private streets have until March 1981 to contact the village, according to the terms of the resolution approved earlier this year by the village board.

THE VILLAGE spent more than three years debating the street takeover issue after condominium owners had complained they were paying village taxes but not receiving the same services as other Wheeling taxpayers.

Although village officials agreed it was almost impossible to gauge what kind of a fee would offset the cost of maintaining the private streets without unfairly shifting the burden to other homeowners, village officials said they were obligated to maintain the private streets.

Herald 11/29/79

Roads are village responsibility

WHEELING—The village has learned it is responsible for maintenance of some roads which previously were thought to be the township's responsibility.

According to Village Attorney David Epstein, research has uncovered the fact that annexations of property should legally have included all of the adjacent roads — not just the portion up to the mid-point. Epstein said the state legislature has amended the annexation portion of the Municipal Code three times in order to clarify this policy. He said the law is clear that the village is responsible for maintenance of roads which were previously thought to be the responsibility of the township.

Another feature of the law, according to Epstein, is that having to annex the roads to their furthest points may make other property contiguous to the village, making it ripe for future annexation.

Epstein said he has reviewed all annexations prior to Oct. 1, 1975, but has not been able to do those subsequent to that date. However, he said the annexations of any property adjacent to a road before that date makes the road automatically a part of the village.

ACCORDING TO Bob Gray, director of public works, the new streets streets will be a problem to maintain. Gray said the streets include North and South streets, which are essentially rights-of-way, a portion of Edwards street, and a majority of the area off Wolf road, south of Hintz, such as Kerry and Dean.

"The roads, especially off Hintz, are just blacktop," Gray said. "There is poor drainage. They may possibly be rutted. We will have to sealcoat or asphalt them."

Gray said North and South streets present particular problems. "South street is landlocked," he noted. The street, which is adjacent to Wheeling high school, cannot be maintained unless the village goes across private property, he added.

On North street, there are trees and bushes 15 feet tall, he said. "We would have to get in there with a chain saw and clear it out. We get a lot of complaints about debris in there," he added, noting that people in the area dump their grass clippings there.

Gray said there will definitely be a problem in maintaining the streets. He said the public works department will have to check the streets involved before the first snowfall.

Wheeling Herald 11/29/79

Impact fee to be paid

Village will maintain some private streets

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — The Wheeling Village Board approved final agreements for taking over street maintenance for Lakeside Villas and Harmony Village during a special meeting Monday, Nov. 26.

A resolution of Jan. 22, established the policy for village takeover of streets, curbs, and storm sewers in the private developments within the village. Homeowners, at that time, had appeared before the board requesting the village's help because the costs of private maintenance had soared and because the residents were taxed on an equal basis with homeowners who had village-maintained streets.

The village solved the problem by requesting an impact fee and establishing easements for the village which permitted the maintenance.

LAKESIDE VILLAS impact fee is $48,400 based upon the 242 units located at Hintz and Buffalo Grove roads. The impact fee is payable in installments with $4,400 due within 30 days of signing the contract; $11,000 less the amount spent on repairs after one year; and $11,000 payable each year after until the entire fee has been paid.

If the homeowners in Lakeside Villas default in payment, they could find themselves stuck with their own street maintenance again. However, the homeowners can redeem village maintenance by paying the installment plus 10% within 30 days.

The impact fee for Harmony Village located between Milwaukee avenue and Wolf road, south of Manchester, is $45,000 based upon 225 units at $200 per unit. Harmony's impact fee is payable in five installments with the first installment of $5,000 due March 15, 1980. Remaining payments of $10,000 are due the same date until the final payment in 1984.

The default clause in the Harmony Village agreement is the same as for Lakeside Villas, with 30 days and 10% to redeem the agreement.

CUL-DE-SACS in Harmony Village presented a problem until the staff worked out a plan whereby the streets and cul-de-sacs will be staked out with red or orange two by fours at cul-de-sac entranceways.

Village Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld asked Village Attorney David Epstein if he is satisfied with the agreements, and Epstein said that he is. According to Sommerfeld the street repair work at Harmony Village has been completed. However, Epstein noted that if the delegated repair work at Lakeside Villas is not completed within a year, it could constitute a default by the Lakeside Villas homeowners association.

Both developments will come under the jurisdiction of Wheeling traffic regulations. Trustee Charles Kerr asked what would happen if a vehicle is illegally parked in an area, and Alan Garfield, attorney for Harmony Village, replied that the village would have the authority to ticket or tow away the vehicle.

"It is up to the officer to decide," Garfield said.

Streets in Lakeside Villas slated for village maintenance are: Ivy court, Barberry lane, Ash lane, Cedarwood court, Cedarwood lane, Clearwater drive, Clearwater court, Clearwater lane, Bridgeview court, Westwood court, Candlewood court, Bayside drive, Bayside court and Bayside lane.

In Harmony Village the streets listed are: Harmony drive, Hickory cul-de-sac, Maple cul-de-sac, Alder cul-de-sac, Buckeye cul-de-sac, Polar cul-de-sac, Rustic cul-de-sac, Beech cul-de-sac, Ferne drive, Vita cul-de-sac, Honey Locust cul-de-sac and Elm cul-de-sac.

It was also brought out at the meeting that if "it snows" before the agreement is signed, the homeowners will be responsible for clearing the snow, however, according to Sommerfeld, the agreements should be signed sometime next week.

Herald 11/29/79

Village okays bond issue of $1 million

WHEELING — Despite objections about not posting the ordinance, the Wheeling village board authorized the issuance of $1 million in industrial revenue bonds for the Abbott/Interfast Corp., at the Nov. 26 meeting.

In 1978, the village had approved $2 million in industrial revenue bonds for the company known also as Abbott Screw and Manufacturing Co., for land acquisition, construction, and installation of certain industrial facilities.

Martin Bender, representative of Abbott Screw and Manufacturing Co. said a delay in issuing the bonds could result in the company losing its financial commitment for the funding required to complete the original project.

Both Trustees John Cole and Charles Kerr objected to passing the ordinance without posting it which gives two chances for residents to object rather than one. Kerr was the only one who voted against passage.

DELAYS IN BRINGING the documents before the Wheeling board occurred because of a last-minute request by one of the two banks involved in the bond issue, Bender said. The banks involved in the bond purchases are the American National bank as issuer and the Bank of Ravenswood as purchaser.

Kerr insisted the board follow its normal procedures by posting the ordinance and held firm to his statement. Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld said that he would have backed him 100%, but the village's issuance of industrial revenue bonds really had no bearing on village spending and is an assistance to someone in the community who already has nearly completed the project. Inflation has been the cause of the additional funding request, Bender told the board.

SOMMERFELD NOTED that when the new factory opens it will provide additional jobs in the Wheeling area.

Village Attorney David Epstein asked if any of the trustees had "any interest in the company," and said that their (the board's) silence on that matter could be taken that "no one (of the board members) has a financial interest."

Documents for the bond issue were ready to be presented to the board on Nov. 1. However, when the lender made a request tagging some of the documents, the process was delayed, Bender interjected.

"If the ordinary citizen sitting in the audience sees these things going on," Cole said, "he is probably asking, 'What are they doing?'" Cole suggested the board change its procedures for processing industrial revenue bonds.

Village President William Hein called a workshop session at 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10, to discuss changing the ordinance requiring ordinance posting.

During the regular board meeting on Dec. 10, at 9 p.m., the board will review purchase of industrial revenue bonds. Hein said the question of waiving posting will undoubtedly come up again and requested that Acting Village Manager Gregory Peters set up a structure containing what ordinances may be waived and what ordinances may not be waived to be discussed during the workshop session.

Industrial development revenue bonds may be issued as a supplemental issue to complete work already begun on an industrial development project according to Illinois state law. Payment of the bonds is to be made from rents and company revenues. Industrial development revenue bonds are issued to promote the economic situation of the community and help alleviate unemployment.

Countryside Reminder 11/29/79

Police promotion suit delayed by judge

By MARION SOURS

A lawsuit filed in March by 11 Wheeling policemen, which charges that Wheeling Village President William Hein and several police and fire commissioners conspired to base police promotions on political affiliations, has been continued by a federal judge.

Last week U.S. District Court Judge Nicholas Bua denied a motion by the policemen to make a judgment on the case. Their attorneys had argued that enough evidence already had been shown, but Bua ruled that more evidence was needed.

By delaying the trial, Bua denied the Village of Wheeling's motion to dismiss the case. Wheeling Village Attorney David Epstein had said there was no basis for the lawsuit because the complaint did not allege a violation of due process, the First Amendment's free speech clause, or the Fourteenth Amendment's equal protection clause.

Bua agreed that the policemen's complaint "fails to state a claim based on the due process clause." In other words, as Epstein had said, no officers have the "right" to be promoted.

However, Bua gave the policemen and their attorneys until Dec. 14 to amend the complaint in that respect. He denied the village's motion to dismiss the case, stating: "The complaint pleads a cause of action based on political discrimination in promotion practices that violates the First and Fourteenth Amendments."

The suit, "Hermes versus Hein" charges that the results of examinations taken by sergeants and lieutenants were falsified. It charges that Hein and police and fire commissioners Jack Metzger, Jerome Vesecky and Ronald Bruhn (a former commissioner), changed the results to favor those policemen they favored for promotion.

The suit claims that the defendants committed one or more of the following:

—informed one or more officers taking the lieutenant or sergeant exam of the questions and subject matter of the exam;

—falsified the exam and oral interview scores of one or more persons;

—failed or refused to disclose to all officers their exam or interview scores;

—falsified merit ratings;

—falsified all numerical rankings;

—determined, before the promotion eligibility list was compiled, who would be promoted;

—discriminated against officers because of their political affiliations;

—conspired to falsify examination results "to procure the promotion of the persons whom defendants desired to promote"

—caused the fire and police commission to be composed of more than two members of the same political party, a violation of the Illinois Municipal Code.

The suit charges that Sergeant William Ralston was unfairly promoted to lieutenant, a spot which Sergeant Michael Hermes should have received. It claims that Ralston was given an extra point for seniority to which he was not entitled. Without that point, Hermes would have had a higher score.

Scores on the promotion list are based on points compiled from written and oral exams and seniority and merit considerations.

Village Attorney David Epstein has said that whether an officer was one point higher than another would not determine his promotion, since under state law officials may choose from the top three individuals on the list.

However, Michael Wall, attorney for the policemen, has said that in practice Wheeling police commissioners have always, except in one isolated incident, chosen the man with the top score. And accordingly they conspired to place their own choices at the top of the list, the suit charges.

Since the case has been continued, individuals will continue to give depositions. Metzger is scheduled to give a deposition tomorrow and Hein is scheduled for Monday.

The four-count complaint seeks damages of $50,000 for each of the 11 officers involved in the suit.

The village's liability insurance is covering the village's share of the lawsuit cost. The 11 police officers are paying for their costs themselves.

Herald 11/30/79

Crossing ties up industrial park

The fate of a major industrial park planned in Wheeling could hinge on a ruling by the Illinois Commerce Commission in January on whether the developer may build a grade crossing where Old Willow Road ends at the Soo Line Ry. tracks.

The road is needed to provide an entrance from the east to the 121-acre industrial area, to be known as the Wilfred Sommer Industrial Park, officials say. The park is bounded by the Soo Line Ry. to the east and Palatine Road to the north.

Plans call for Willow Road to be extended across the tracks, then branch into two roads that would veer north and empty onto a Palatine frontage road.



SOME VILLAGE officials say the ICC traditionally is reluctant to grant new crossings, and if the Old Willow Road crossing is not approved, plans for the industrial park could be in jeopardy.

Plan Commission Chairman Anthony Altieri said he would be reluctant to approve the industrial park if the only entrance is from the Palatine frontage road, a one-way road.

Entering the park from only the frontage road "could get to be a real hassle," he said. If the petition for the railroad crossing is denied, he said, "We would probably have to take a good, hard look at (the development)."

There probably would need to be another form of entrance and exit, he said. "Just a U-shaped road that empties onto the frontage road would probably be unacceptable," he said.

However, Robert DiLeonardi, attorney for the developer, McLennan Construction Co. of Park Ridge, said he sees no reason the ICC should deny the petition.

"THE EXTENSION of Old Willow Road is a natural move," he said. "It isn't as if we're asking for a crossing in an area that's already inundated with crossings."

He added that Old Willow is "a major east-west road," and in addition to serving the industrial area, it also could accommodate other traffic.

He acknowledged, however, that if the ICC does not allow the crossing, "it would change the character of the development significantly." If an entrance from the east is not possible, some alternate plan would have to be developed, he said.

One possibility, DiLeonardi added, would be for the developer to build a road that would enter the industrial park from the west, at Wheeling Road, although the feasibility of building such a road has not been explored.

The developers plan to submit their final building plans for plan commission approval after the ICC rules Jan. 14 on the petition for the railroad crossing, he said.

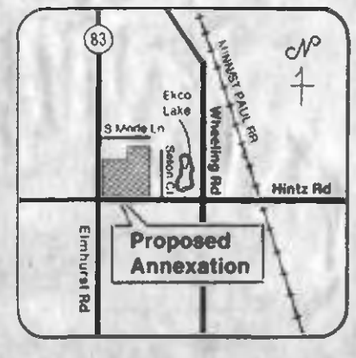
Herald 12/1/79

Village set to forcibly annex 32 acres

Wheeling officials are planning to forcibly annex 32 acres at the northeast corner of Hintz and Elmhurst roads — a move that some say will prevent the land from someday being covered with apartment or condominium complexes.

The land, in unincorporated Wheeling Township, is on the western boundary of the village, near Prospect Heights. But because it is touched on three sides by Wheeling and is less than 60 acres, village officials have the right to annex it by force.

Since village water and sewer lines are readily accessible, the chances are good potential developers of the property would ask that it be annexed to Wheeling anyway, village officials say.



But by annexing the property now, while most of it is undeveloped, the village may limit the size of the development because its zoning and building codes are stricter than those of Cook County.

Five houses and a gas station along Elmhurst Road are the only buildings on the parcel. The remaining 25 acres are vacant.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, chairman of the village community development committee, said the village should act now on the annexation because it has been "rumored" that developers plan to build multi-family dwellings on the land. He noted that when a parcel is annexed, it automatically is zoned for single family houses.

SINCE THERE already are houses on the parcel and a 20-house subdivision is under construction at the southeast corner of Hintz and Elmhurst roads, the 32 acres "would be an excellent single-family area," Sommerfeld said.

Village Pres. William Hein said he has "heard a number of different things (about the development plans). I think there was a guy who wanted to build condominiums, but the deal fell through." Hein said he thinks the land should be developed as "maybe a mix of single and multi-family."

It is possible the owners of the 32 acres will object to the forced annexation, said Larry Oppenheimer, director of community development, because "they'll have to start paying village taxes, for one thing. Legally, though, there's not too much they can do about it." He added that he was unsure if all the property owners had been notified of the proposed annexation, which is scheduled for preliminary action by the village board Monday night.

THE VILLAGE PORTION of a property tax bill comprises about 10 percent of the total tax bill.

Village officials say the involuntary annexation would help avoid a situation similar to that involving Spreading Oaks, a 468-unit apartment complex under construction near Wolf and Hintz roads in an unincorporated portion of Wheeling Township.

Developers of that project last year approached the village about annexing the land, but "they asked for the world and everything with it," said Trustee Charles Kerr. Trustees balked at the density of the project and rejected a proposal to waive all sewer and water connection fees as well as any land or cash donations to schools and parks.

In return for the waivers, the developers pledged to give $100,000 to the village — a proposal that village officials said would cause Wheeling to lose up to $200,000.

Instead, the developers received zoning approval from the county and "were able to do what they wanted, and we'll have to put up with the additional traffic," Kerr said. He added the village also will be expected to provide fire and police services to the area.

Herald 12/3/79

12% increase in garbage rates sought

Wheeling's private garbage disposal firm is asking village officials for a 12 percent increase in the rate it charges residential customers, but village trustees say they will need further justification for the rate hike before granting the request.

Under the rate hike proposed by Wheeling Disposal Co., the monthly cost of twice-a-week curb pickup service would jump from $6.25 to $7. Russ Erffmeyer, president of the firm, says the rate hike is needed mainly because of increases in the cost of gas. If the village board approves the request, the new rates would take effect Jan. 1.

However, Trustee Charles Kerr said if the board approves the latest request for a rate hike, it would mark more than a 50 percent increase in garbage collection rates since 1977, when the rate was increased from $4.50 to $5.50 a month.

"I WOULD be inclined to think they're getting just a little greedy," he said. "I'm at a point now to say maybe we ought to open it up to bids."

Village Finance Director Gregory Peters said the village would have to revamp "the entire licensing structure" if it accepts bids for refuse service rather than contracting with a private firm. The village would be responsible for complaints about pickup service and also could be responsible for billing and collection. He said he was not sure if the process would save residents money.

Kerr also noted that when the board agreed to allow a rate increase last year, from $5.50 to $6.25, Erffmeyer said he thought the increase would be sufficient for two years.

However, Erffmeyer said his firm expected a decline in the rate of inflation — which did not occur — and an increase is needed again this year. The gas crunch is further hurting his business because there has been a decrease in the number of available landfills and his trucks have to travel farther to reach them, he said.

"I'M GOING to have to see a little more than just a statement that the price of gas is going up and there aren't that many landfills available," said Trustee John Cole, the only board member to vote against the last rate hike. "The problem with (dealing with a private firm) is we never get into their figures to see how much money they're really making."

Board members and the disposal firm are scheduled to discuss the proposed rate hike tonight at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Despite his proposal to consider looking for other refuse firms, Kerr said the service provided by Wheeling Disposal has been "excellent. I've never had a complaint from anybody."

Daily Herald 12/3/79

OK of airport laws expected

Wheeling trustees will consider final approval tonight of ordinances that would limit development near Pal-Waukee Airport.

The laws would prohibit construction of buildings that the Federal Aviation Administration determines to be hazardous to safe air navigation. If approved, the ordinances would permit the village to withhold building permits from a Glenview developer who wants to build a 30-foot high factory at the end of Pal-Waukee's longest runway.

Consultants studying the feasibility of Wheeling and Prospect Heights buying the privately owned airport say that if the factory proposed by builder Sigmund Lefkovitz is built, jets would be unable to use the runway, thus making the airport a money-losing operation.

However, Lefkovitz says airport owner George Priester built the runway, which ends near the corner of Hintz and Wolf roads, closer to the roadway than FAA standards allow. If the runway conformed to the safety standards, his building would not interfere with flight patterns. He repeatedly has threatened to sue the village, saying the village's action amounts to condemnation of his land.

But village officials have supported the height regulation laws, saying permitting construction of more buildings near the runways will make the airport less safe. However, Trustee Sheila Schultz has opposed the new laws, saying it is unfair to impose restrictions on builders while doing nothing to make the airport comply with federal safety standards.

The board will consider the ordinances at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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FORCIBLE ANNEXATION of a 32-acre parcel at the northeast corner of Hintz and Elmhurst roads will be considered tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

The parcel, which is in unincorporated Wheeling Township, is mostly undeveloped. Five houses and a gas station cover about eight acres along Elmhurst Road.

Village officials say by annexing the parcel now, they can control development there. Because the land is surrounded by the village and is less than 60 acres, the village has the power of "involuntary annexation."

Property that is annexed to the village is zoned automatically for houses, village officials say. The board will consider the annexation at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

• • •

WHEELING TRUSTEES tonight will decide whether to spend $189,907 to build a new well on Milwaukee Avenue, south of Dundee Road.

That well is to be finished next fall. A second new well, at Hintz and Longtree roads, is under construction and scheduled to be completed next spring. The board will consider Dec. 10 whether to give final approval to a $2.5 million water revenue bond issue covering the cost of the two new wells and other water system improvements.

Revenues from residents' water bills will pay the investors who buy the village's water revenue bonds. Village water rates, set at 90 cents per 1,00[illegible] gallons, are expected to remain same.

The village three years ago raised water rates 80 precent to provide more money for the village coffers to pay the start-up costs of the new wells and other improvements, such as new water mains and "looping" the water to improve its quality.

Board members will consider awarding a contract to the Mileager Well and Pump Co., of Brookfield, Wis., the firm that submitted the lowest of four bids for the project. They will meet at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Day care center expansion OKd

Herald 12/7/79

Plans to double the size of a Wheeling day care center have been approved by the village plan commission.

The owners of Sunnie Kiddies, Robert and Eilene Lombardo and Beverly Schwartz, plan to lease and remodel an abandoned ice cream parlor, which is the front half of the building they have occupied for the past two years at 404 S. Elmhurst Rd.

The front portion of the building housed the Lick A Dee Split ice cream parlor that went out of business last December. Mrs. Lombardo said Sunnie Kiddies has signed a 10-year lease with building owner John Vlahos of Oak Park for the front portion of the building, contigent on getting zoning approval. The village board is expected to act on the proposal next month.

By remodeling the former ice cream parlor, the day care center will be able to accommodate 126 children from infants to kindergarteners, she said. The facility now handles 67 children.

In approving the zoning, Plan Commission Chairman Anthony Altieri said the day care operation is "probably one of the least intense uses for that area." Although in a predominantly residential area, the land is zoned for business.

"It's a classic case of spot zoning," he said. The day care center "is probably one of the best uses for that area," he added.

Herald 12/9/79

Zoning decision on hospital due

The Cook County Zoning Board is expected to make its recommendations Wednesday on plans by a Chicago hospital to build a 232-bed branch hospital near Wheeling.

The 6-year-old proposal by Franklin Boulevard Hospital to build a branch facility on Schoenbeck Road has been attacked by local officials, area hospitals and regional health planners, who say the new hospital will create an overabundance of empty beds, driving up medical costs.

Wheeling officials have filed a formal objection to the hospital plans, which means it will take a three-fourths vote of the county board to approve the project. Backers of the Franklin Boulevard proposal withdrew their plans to have the 20-acre site annexed to Wheeling following unanimous rejection of the plans last year by the village plan commission. Buffalo Grove and Prospect Heights also oppose the hospital's plans to seek county zoning for the project.

BECAUSE FRANKLIN Boulevard presented its plans before federal legislation was passed making it mandatory for hospitals to have construction plans approved by regional health agencies, the Chicago hospital is exempt from review. However, because of amendments to that law, Franklin Boulevard is faced with a Jan. 1 deadline to have the hospital under construction.

The Suburban Cook-DuPage Health Systems Agency, the group that normally screens all new hospital construction plans, says the Northwest suburbs already have too many unfilled hospital beds. They have called for a moratorium on new hospital construction.

However, Franklin Boulevard officials say they have conducted their own survey of the area, and because of rapid growth in the area to the north of the region included in the health care officials' studies, the new hospital will be needed.

The county zoning board meets at 2:30 p.m. at the Daley Civic Center, Chicago.

Herald 12/5/79

Building restrictions near Pal-Waukee OKd

By a 3-2 margin, the Wheeling Village Board Monday night gave final approval to ordinances that would restrict new construction near Pal-Waukee Airport.

The laws will forbid construction of any new buildings that the Federal Aviation Administration determines hazardous to air navigation. The ordinances are designed to prevent a Glenview developer from building a 30-foot-tall factory near the end of Pal-Waukee's longest runway at Hintz and Wolf roads.

Former trustee William Rogers, a long-time critic of the airport, said in a letter to the board that the village would be giving the FAA "unilateral and arbitrary powers."

ROGERS CHARGED that the FAA has operated the airport control tower for 13 years, yet had done nothing to force the airport to comply with federal safety regulations.

He called for a "tri-lateral agreement" that would have the village, airport owner George Priester and the FAA to take steps jointly to bring the airport into compliance with federal safety standards. He said Priester has violated the terms of the county zoning permit he received in 1963 to extend the 5,000-foot runway to its present length by building the runway closer to the Hintz-Wolf Road intersection than federal safety standards allow.

Trustees Charles Kerr and Sheila Schultz voted against the proposal, with Kerr arguing the village was inviting a lawsuit by restricting developers. He said it was unfair that the burden of making the airport safe was not being shared by Priester and the airport users.

"There's nobody behind the eight ball but Wheeling," he said.

MRS. SCHULTZ said the ordinances would not only allow the airport to keep operating without complying with federal safety standards, but could pave the way for future airport expansion.

However, Trustee John Cole, who joined Trustees Hubert Sommerfeld and Roger Powers in approving the height regulations, said that failing to act immediately would jeopardize the future of the airport as well as the people who live near it.

"Anyone who studied the history of small airports will find that they are being shut down because they've been encroached upon (by developers). If you delay (passing the ordinances) it's gone," he said. "When you fly into a building, you jeopardize a lot of people's lives."

Herald 12/5/79

Hein accused by trustees of ridiculing them at party

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld has accused Village Pres. William Hein of "ridiculing" him and four other trustees when Hein "took roll" at a weekend Christmas party for village employees that the trustees did not attend.

Sommerfeld's remarks came at the village board meeting Monday night and sparked a heated debate between Hein and trustees.

Trustees contended the annual banquet has become an extravaganza that allows Hein to further his political career. Hein, in turn, accused the trustees of offending village employees by not attending the party.

Sommerfeld said Hein did not ask him his reasons for not attending the banquet and then conducted a roll call in front of village employees Saturday night to mock the trustees who had not attended the party.

"You took the opportunity to demean the board on the basis that we were not interested in what the village employees were doing," he told Hein. "You would have no way of knowing why I did not attend."

HEIN'S COMMENTS, Sommerfeld said, were holding the board members who did not attend "up to ridicule. I find that very distasteful. I'm very hurt by this."

"An awful lot of village employees were hurt, too," Hein retorted, adding that it is "absolutely essential" the trustees be there to "honor the employees. We should be there as a board."

Trustees John Cole and Charles Kerr then entered the debate. The party for village employees has become "more of a political party for Hein and (former Village Pres. Ted) Scanlon," Kerr said, "and that's the reason I stopped going."

Although village employees are supposed to run the party, Cole accused Hein of organizing the banquet, an evening that has become quite costly to the village, he said.

"THE NEXT time you call the roll, you call the names of the people who are beholden to you," Cole said, "because I don't belong to you, and thank God I never will."

Hein said he had nothing to do with choosing where the party would be held and that a committee of village employees made the decision.

Employees who attended the party viewed the failure of Sommerfeld, Cole, Kerr and trustees Sheila Schultz and Robert Ross to show up "as a slap in the face," Hein said Tuesday. "Some (employees) said, 'Why should I spend $30 when the elected officials don't bother to show up?' Did any of the trustees call that committee to let them know they weren't attending?"

Sommerfeld said Tuesday he did. "I notified the committee about three or four days in advance that I would be unable to attend," he said. "I expressed my regrets to the committee."

HE SAID he attended the Christmas party the first two years he was on the board.

Mrs. Schultz and Powers, a Hein ally and the only trustee to attend the banquet, was not involved in Monday's debate.

Ross, another Hein ally, did not attend the board meeting. He said Tuesday he decided to spend the weekend skiing and the whole argument "doesn't offend me too much one way or the other.

"On Bill's (Hein's) side, it was kind of silly to call the role," Ross said. "On Hubert's (Sommerfeld's) side, it was kind of silly to get upset about it."

However, a village employee who attended the dinner said Hein's taking of the roll did not impress him and seemed unnecessary.

Village board wrapup

Daily Herald 12/5/79

$2 million loan to finance plant

The Wheeling Village Board has approved a $2 million loan to help a steel company build a plant in the Northgate Industrial Park.

The village will issue industrial revenue bonds to help Taubansee Steel Co. build the plant.

Because investors do not pay federal income tax on the earnings received from the municipal bonds, they willing purchase the bonds of the company, even though they offer a lower interest rate than other corporate bonds. The lower rate benefits the developer seeking to borrow construction money. The company is responsible for repaying the loan.

The village has issued industrial revenue bonds to four other firms building in the village to encourage industrial development and strengthen Wheeling's tax base.

Resolution supports Carter actions

In a resolution to be forwarded to President Carter, the Wheeling Village Board gave its "total support" to government action that will secure the freeing of 50 American hostages being held at the American Embassy in Iran.

Trustees voted "to add our voices to the national protest against the Iranian outrage."

Flags will be flown at all village buildings until the hostages are released, and board members encouraged local businesses and residents to do the same. Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, who proposed the resolution, said he was inspired by "a flash of patriotism" and hoped other local officials would take the same action. "We're the grassroots representation of the American people, and I hoped we could in some way show people in foreign countries that we care," he said.

Annexation plans are tabled

Plans for the forcible annexation of 32 acres at Hintz and Elmhurst roads were tabled by the Wheeling Village Board after a few property owners contended they were not notified of the move.

Village officials had sought to annex the parcel, 25 acres of which are undeveloped, to force would-be developers to adhere to stricter village building and zoning ordinances and prevent the parcel from becoming saturated with multi-family housing. Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said the village is not bound to notify each property owner individually because the land is bordered on three sides by the village and is less than 60 acres. The village has the right of "involuntary annexation," he said.

However, Village Pres. William Hein said he saw no harm in giving land owners "a little extra time" to prepare objections they might have to the annexation. There are five houses, a gas station and an auto repair shop on the 32 acres.

Contract awarded for new well

A $189,907 contract was awarded by the village board to Milaeger Well and Pump Co. of Brookfield, Wis., to build a new well on Milwaukee Avenue, south of Dundee Road in Wheeling.

The new well will be started immediately and probably will be finished next fall. A second new well, to be located at Hintz and Longtree roads, is under construction and scheduled to be completed next spring.

Talk set for manager candidate

Herald 12/6/79

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

The Wheeling Village Board will meet behind closed doors Saturday morning to interview a possible replacement for Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, who resigned under pressure in October.

Trustees are refusing to say who will be interviewed, but Village Pres. William Hein said he is "not in total agreement with the selection process. I would prefer to advertise for a manager." Hein, however, is expected to participate in the interview.

Hein said he wants to "go through the normal selection process" and hire a professional search firm or have the village staff seek potential candidates. He added it is a "waste of time" to conduct interviews now and maybe seek additional candidates later.

HEIN'S POLITICAL rivals on the board, who have been openly critical of Leikvold during his two-year tenure, said they are conducting interviews because two potential candidates have formally applied for the post. The possibility of hiring a search firm "has not been eliminated," Trustee Charles Kerr said.

However, Kerr added there is "a very good possibility that if we select a manager we have confidence in, we could eliminate the expense of $5,000 to $7,000 to the village (the cost of hiring a search firm)."

Kerr said having the village staff screen potential candidates was "about the rottenest way to get someone for the job. You'd have people who are eventually going to be the manager's subordinates screening the applicants."

Leikvold, the third village manager to leave Wheeling in the last four years, has volunteered to remain in Wheeling until next April or until the board finds a replacement. Although officials in Wrangell, a small city in southeast Alaska, have said Leikvold is their first choice for the manager's post there, Leikvold said Wednesday he would not likely be taking the job.

"I'd hate to be that far away from my family," he said. "Right now my main concern is keeping the ship afloat here." He added he would be making no decision on his future for at least another month.

LEIKVOLD, WHOSE annual salary is $35,000, was hired in December 1977 following the departure of Terry Zerkle, who was fired for refusing to appoint a political ally of Hein as police chief.

Herald 12/6/79

WHEELING VILLAGE BOARD VOTE SUMMARY

Selected decisions from board meetings of Nov. 5, 19 and 26.








	Cole	Kerr	Powers	Ross	Schultz	Sommerfeld
To maintain the private streets in Harmony Village and Lakeside Villas condominiums. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Preliminary approval of ordinances to limit development near Pal-Waukee Airport. (Passed 3-1)	YES	ABSENT	YES	ABSENT	NO	YES
*To file a formal objection to plans by Franklin Boulevard Hospital to build a 232-bed branch hospital near Wheeling. (Passed 5-0)** * Village Pres. William Hein also voted to oppose Franklin Boulevard's plans	YES	ABSENT	YES	ABSENT	YES	YES
To accept $240,000 in federal funds to buy land and develop plans for center for senior citizens and handicapped persons. (Passed 5-0)	YES	YES	YES	ABSENT	YES	YES

New law boosts powers of manager

Countryside Reminder 12/6/79

A document which would allow the village manager to hire and fire the police chief and the village attorney is expected to be approved soon by the Wheeling village board.

A revised version of Title 2 of the Wheeling Municipal Code, which deals with administration and personnel, is nearly in final form. Wheeling trustees Monday voted to have the village attorney prepare the final edition, after reporting any suggestions he might have regarding the document.

The provisions regarding the police chief and village attorney are part of changes made in the current Title 2 ordinance. In a letter presented to the village board Monday, Village Manager Carsten D. Leikvold said, "The passage of this personnel ordinance will do much to simplify and strengthen Wheeling's government."

Leikvold further supported the proposed changes by saying it is improtant in a council manager form of government for the chief administrator to "develop his staff as a unit"

Wheeling Finance Director Greg Peters also submitted a letter to the board, in which he explained proposed changes in the ordinance. He said that in the proposed document "many discrepancies with current laws and practices have been eliminated."

The proposed changes include:

—The police chief would be hired and fired by the village manager. Currently, the police chief is hired by the manager, but fired by the police and fire commissioners.

—The village attorney would be hired and fired by the village manager. Currently, these procedures are handled by the village board.

—The number of village workers will be subject to approval by the board, as it is currently, but a separate procedure by the board for authorizing salaries will be eliminated. Instead, the board will review the salaries included in the village budget, at the same time as they are voting on the budget.

—The existence of the village's Personnel Policy Manual, completed last March, will be recognized in the new document.

—The village's finance director formally would be designated as the budget officer. Formerly, these duties were listed as being handled in part by the village manager.

Work on the proposed document was done by village staff and also members of the Judicial and Legislative Committee, of which Trustee Sheila Schultz is chairman and Trustee Charles Kerr is vice chairman

Landowners protest involuntary annextion

Countryside Reminder 12/6/79

Residents who own property on 32 acres at the northeast corner of Elmhurst and Hintz roads protested Monday against the involuntary annexation of their land into Wheeling. Their comments came in a hearing before the Wheeling village board.

The board is considering forcibly annexing the land, as opposed to a situation where residents petition the board for annexation. Village officials have been in favor of annexing the land since it is bounded on three sides by Wheeling, and by annexing it the village will have control over developments there.

The parcel currently contains five single-family homes and a service station. Eugene DeBartolo, owner of Gene's Standard Service, 995 S. Elmhurst Road, appeared at the meeting Monday and indicated he had no objections to the proposed annexation.

One resident of the property, however, K. Bard, who operates Bard's Body and Fender Shop, 747 S. Elmhurst Road out of his home, appeared with his attorney, and asked that his property not be annexed.

Bard's attorney explained that two years ago Bard went before the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals to get a conforming use permit for his property. If the property is annexed by Wheeling, the attorney said, Bard would be back where he started — with a non-conforming structure.

Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold told Bard it probably would not be suitable to leave a small portion of land unincorporated, surrounded by Wheeling land. He said, however, that every effort would be made to see that he received fair treatment

Another resident of the property, Delores Pusieko, who lives on Hintz Road, also appeared Monday to object to the annexation plans. She said she was irritated that none of the area residents had been made aware of the hearing, and said she only had heard about it second hand.

She also was concerned because she had heard that the village board proposed to veto any developments of multi-family residences on the property. She said she might wish to sell some of her land in the future, and would like to feel that she could sell it profitably — to a multi-family developer if necessary.

Village officials had said the parcel might be best used for single-family developments, since it is adjacent to a housing development to the south.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld told her that he did not think the board was adamantly opposed to multi-family developments, and would consider any such developments which might be presented.

Any land when it is annexed comes into the village as single-famly residential zoning, but a developer may petition the village board for a change in zoning.

The hearing was continued to the next regular board meeting. The board may make a decision then as to the annexation, or may decide that more information is needed.

To Dec. 10 Wheeling Life 12/6/79

Table fee request

WHEELING—A request for a rate change by Wheeling Disposal has been tabled to Monday, Dec. 10.

The garbage company has asked for an increase from $6.25 to $7 per month for twice-a-week curb pickup.

Russ Erffmeyer, president of Wheeling Disposal Co., said the "continuation of the excessive inflation continues to plague our economy and affects everyone. These economic conditions have resulted in substantial increases in our labor and other operating costs, particularly in the continued rise in fuel costs."

In addition, reduction in landfill availability has caused the trucks to make longer trips to locations farther from Wheeling, Erffmeyer said.

In a comparison study of garbage rates for nearby communities:

- Buffalo Grove pays $7.65 per month for twice-a-week curb service.
- Prospect Heights pays $5.75 per month for once-a-week curb service.
- Arlington Heights pays $6.74 per month for twice-a-week curb service, but only plastic bags are allowed at the curb. No cans are allowed.
- Northfield pays $7.80 per month for twice-a-week curb pickup.
- Northbrook pays $9.55 for twice-a-week back door pickup.
- Glenview pays $14 per months for twice-a-week back door pickup.

In addition, according to Finance Director Greg Peters, service varies as to what is taken on a regular weekly pickup. In some villages, no bulky items or brush is taken.

Wheeling Life 12/6/79

Interview for manager

WHEELING—The village board will interview an applicant for the position of village manager at 8 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 8, in closed session.

According to Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld, the board received the application unsolicited. There have been no advertisements placed, nor any consulting firm hired to seek a replacement for Village Manager Carsten Leikvold, whose resignation takes effect March 31, 1980 at the latest. Leikvold resigned this fall after a tumultuous two years of service during which he was severely criticized several times by board members for not carrying out the board's directives

Village trustees blast President Bill Hein

Wheeling Pale 12/6/79

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Village Trustees Monday, Dec. 3, blasted Village President William Hein for demeaning them before village employes at an awards party Saturday, Dec. 1.

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld said he understood Hein "called the roll" of trustees at the party, showing that only Trustee Roger Powers was in attendance. Sommerfeld asked Hein what he had in mind by doing this before the village employes.

"I was very concerned about the lack of participation in community functions by the trustees," Hein answered.

Sommerfeld said Hein had never inquired of him why he was not attending the party. "I take great exception to this. You never asked why I wasn't attending. By indicating my absence was an indication of lack of interest, I take great exception," Sommerfeld said.

TRUSTEE CHARLES KERR added fuel to the fire. "When I first became a trustee I attended three Christmas parties, if you could call them Christmas parties. To me, they were political parties for Hein and Scanlon (former Village President Ted Scanlon) and for that reason I haven't been back."

"Ability to attend is not due to interest," Sommerfeld noted, "but whether we have time to attend this function."

Hein, who said he was responding to Kerr's remarks, noted the awards parties were set up by the village board a long time ago. "I think it is absolutely essential for the employes that we should be there as a board to show we are very proud of them. I heard from the beginning, when this party was being planned, that the trustees weren't coming," Hein added.

"The reason for holding the party is not an issue. I want to know why you felt it incumbent to hold the board up to ridicule," Sommerfeld insisted.

"I will give you your answer in writing," Hein retorted.

TRUSTEE JOHN COLE asked who decided where the party would be held. "The committee," answered Hein.

"That's not what I heard," Cole said. "I heard you decided like you did last year. The next time you call the roll, you may call the roll of those people beholden to you. Don't call my name," Cole said. "Thank God I'm not beholden to you. I never have been and never will."

Trustee Sheila Schultz stayed out of the fracas, as did Powers.

Hein did not say when he would give Sommerfeld his answer in writing.

Carter gets WH support on Iran

Wheeling Pale 12/6/79

WHEELING—The village board passed a resolution Monday, Dec. 3, in support of President Carter's actions on the Iranian situation.

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld proposed the resolution, saying, "We represent the smallest and youngest form of political entities in our country and it seemed that in order to let the rest of the world know we support our government, we should pass this resolution."

Sommerfeld said the resolution, to be forwarded to the President, will "indicate to the world that government is not separate from the people of this country — that, in fact, we are one and the same."

Village President William Hein asked to include in the resolution a proposal to fly all the flags in Wheeling "until the hostages are safely home. If people do not have a flag they should go out and buy one," Hein said.

Sommerfeld asked that the resolution be drawn up and passed Monday night because of the urgency of the situation. He also is seeking support for the resolution from all the communities belonging to the Northwest Municipal conference.

Create airport hazard zone

Wheeling Pale 12/6/79

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—In an unusual alliance of trustees, the village board passed a set of three ordinances Monday, Dec. 3, restricting building in an "airport hazard" zone around Palwaukee air-port. The ordinances passed by a vote of 3-2. Trustee Robert Ross was absent.

A letter from former Trustee William Rogers sought to delay passage of the ordinances, saying they will give the Federal Aviation administration (FAA) the last word about regulations at Palwaukee. Rogers asked that the village sign a tri-lateral agreement between the village, the airport owner and the FAA, which would be legally binding. He also asked that the agreement specify that all parties abide by safety requirements and that the agreement remain in force even if the village should buy the airport.

Trustee Charles Kerr, who voted against the ordinances, said he is concerned because "it appears that Wheeling is going it alone. When you constrict construction, you usually wind up with lawsuits. Lawsuits winds up in judgements. The owner of the airport and the FAA will not be seen. We're being asked to do this on our own and it's not right," he said.

Kerr agreed with Rogers that a binding agreement should include the airport owner, who benefits from operation of the airport.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY David Epstein said he does not understand what Rogers wishes included in such an agreement. He said Rogers confuses terminology and "that reflects some confusion on his part with respect to what is going on with safety with these ordinances and what the glide slopes are in the first place."

Epstein agreed that there is the possibility of a lawsuit. "Any time a government entity places restrictions on construction, there is that possibility." Epstein also admitted that any liability would be borne entirely by the village in such a case.

However, he said he is confident that the village's ability to regulate zoning around the airport is "clearly constitutional and valid." But he said one ordinance "is more doubtful, not as to constitutionality, but whether any village has the power, through the state's subdivison statute to exercise any kind of control over land outside the village."

"I see these three pieces of legislation as saving the airport as a jet airport," Kerr said. "Have we heard one word from the people who benefit? No. They've been very willing to let Wheeling carry the ball and pay any judgment too."

TRUSTEE ROGER POWERS, who voted for the ordinances, reminded the board that the intent of the three ordinances is that they be in force for a limited time. Epstein said there is a repeal date of July 1981, at which time the board would have to reconsider them.

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld, who voted for the ordinances, said they would act as a deterrent to "crowding in of airspace."

"This is not only a save the airport move, it is a save-the-airport-so-that-the-airport-can-expand," said Trustee Sherila Schultz, who voted against the ordinances. "Any kind of material that has come to me has been so heavily weighted in favor of the airport, that I find it hard to be objective. It's either close it down, as a threat, or make it public."

TRUSTEE JOHN COLE, said the village happens to have the undeveloped land near the airport. "If we delay passing these ordinances, and industry encroaches on this space, the airport will close down. I am not willing to jeopardize the safety of the people of Wheeling and the people flying the airplanes by delaying these ordinances. When you fly into a building you jeopardize a lot of people's lives. Once you put the buildings there, you've already made the decision," Cole said and voted for the three ordinances.

Village to interview Markus

Wheeling Herald 12/7/79

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Thomas Markus, assistant village manager in Wheeling from 1974-77, will be interviewed by trustees Saturday as a candidate for village manager, village hall sources say.

Markus, 28, would not comment Thursday on his closed meeting with trustees scheduled for 8 a.m. Saturday.

"I can't even discuss it," he said from his home in Savage, Minn., where he now is city administrator. "I'm coming to Illinois, I'll tell you that much."

MARKUS IS ONE of two applicants being considered for the manager's post being vacated by Carsten Leikvold, who resigned seven weeks ago under pressure from the village board.

Leikvold, the third village manager to leave Wheeling in the last four years, had been criticized by a majority of the village board for bowing to political pressure from Village Pres. William Hein. Leikvold replaced former Mgr. Terry Zerkle, who was fired in August 1977 for refusing to appoint a political ally of Hein as police chief.



Thomas Markus

Markus had worked closely with Zerkle and resigned only a few weeks before Zerkle's firing, reportedly because of political pressure applied by Hein, who then controlled a majority of the village board.

THE POLITICAL STRUCTURE of the board changed last April when Hein ally Dolores Dahm was ousted by Trustee Sheila Schultz who ran on a slate with Trustees John Cole and Charles Kerr. They have been joined by Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, who was on a slate with Hein in 1977 but began siding with the three trustees following Zerkle's firing.

Sommerfeld had been out of the country at the time and has said he should have been consulted before Zerkle was fired.

Hein and the four trustees have been at odds on the selection process. Although they have refused to discuss possible candidates, Hein has criticized trustees for conducting interviews before advertising for candidates or hiring a professional search firm. The trustees have said they could save the village money if they find a suitable candidate without advertising.

Markus joined the village in 1974 as an administrative assistant and treasurer. He was named assistant village manager later that year. In October 1975, Markus was appointed acting village manager for five months, following the firing of Zerkle's predecessor, George Passolt.

Markus was primarily responsible for land use and financial planning during his tenure with the village.

Village will lose business with sign law: merchants

Herald 12/8/79

Some Wheeling businessmen are predicting that merchants will move out of town rather than replace signs that violate a new village ordinance.

The sign law, adopted last May, gives merchants five years to replace any signs that do not comply. Some village officials estimate that as many as 90 percent of the signs in Wheeling eventually must be replaced.

The ordinance, meant to remedy clutters of neon signs, particularly along Dundee Road, reduces the size allowed for signs and requires that they be moved back from roadways.

BUT BUSINESSMEN who met with the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce say the new ordinance has gone too far.

"I don't think it is really taking into account and respecting the purpose of a sign," said James Kaplan, manager of Lynn Plaza shopping center on Dundee Road. "Granted it's going to improve the appearance of the town by reducing the size (of signs), but it's going to hurt the merchants."

He added that a new businessman or one renewing his lease "might think twice" about doing so if he is forced to buy a smaller sign."

The merchants rely on their signs to attract customers, Kaplan said, noting that many shoppers are "impulse" buyers who see a sign and pull in to shop. "If that impulse is gone, it will affect the merchants. How much it will affect them is hard to determine."

Nicholas Fanella, chamber president, said he agreed that some merchants will pull out of town if the sign ordinance is not amended. "I've got a hunch this is the kind of thing that could force some major businesses to move," he said.

HOWEVER, Fanella acknowledged attendance at the chamber meeting to discuss the sign ordinance was "disappointing"— only seven merchants attended.

He said he plans to recuit more merchants to attend a village board meeting in January to support Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld's proposal to allow existing signs to remain unless they are altered or a new tenant moves in.

Sommerfeld says the village board should not have passed the stipulation that will force most businesses in the village to replace their signs. He predicts the law could cost the merchants millions of dollars.

Other trustees admit some confusion over the stipulation, but say they want a strong ordinance.

Trustee Charles Kerr, who was chairman of the committee that prepared the sign ordinance, said village officials wanted to eliminate the "jungle" of signs in the village, especially along Dundee Road. "As far as I'm concerned," he said, "they can repeal the whole damn ordinance and let Wheeling look like a jungle of signs.

"I'VE EXPRESSED my opinion on the ordinance and if somebody wants to change it, I'll let them know how I feel when it comes my turn to vote," he said.

Trustee Sheila Schultz said she, too, supports the five-year requirement. "I would be open to what people have to say," she said, but added, "I realize it's going to be an expense, but some people are going to have to be inconvenienced."

Thomas Fennell, village building and zoning administrator, said his staff is checking which signs are illegal. The survey, he said, should take several months. He would not speculate on how many signs might be illegal under the new sign code, but said, "I don't see how most of them could not be affected."

Daily Herald 12/10/79

Scattered sites designed to end subsidized image

by Susan Duerksen

Herald staff writer

Subsidized housing can leave shameful side effects — residents unwilling to give out their addresses and thinking twice about getting off the bus at their homes.

But a Cook County agency believes it has found an alternative that will eliminate the stigma. Public housing officials are scanning the suburbs for places to put inconspicuous houses or small groups of townhouses that will not advertise the fact that their occupants receive rent subsidies.

The "scattered site" housing is designed to end the segregation by income that some say is destructive to both the community and the disadvantaged families.

"It provides the opportunity for the lower-income people to be part of the fabric of the total community," said Victor Walchirk, executive director of the Housing Authority of Cook County. "There is no negative identification."

THE FIRST SCATTERED site housing in the Chicago area was built about a year ago in Evanston, and the second is being planned for Wheeling.

The housing authority also is conducting a $100,000 study to find other possible sites in suburban Cook County, and expects a preliminary report by next April.

The Evanston housing consists of 26 residential units — some single-family homes and some townhouses — at 10 different locations throughout the city. There are no more than four units at any one location and "they are as nice as any kind," Walchirk said.

Although suburban officials usually will do anything to avoid construction of public housing in their domains, the scattered sites in Evanston have worked so well that the city is applying for federal money to build 24 more units, said City Mgr. Edward Martin.

He said the city has benefitted by having a diverse population and by avoiding the "low-income pockets" created by large housing projects.

"It's the only way public housing makes sense," Martin said. "It's a more normal lifestyle for the people who live there -- they're no different than the people next door or down the block. You're not just trying to find a place to slap people into."

ONE DIVORCED mother of five and former resident of the federally-subsidized Rand Grove Village Apartments in Palatine Township agreed that all public housing should be on scattered sites. She said the notoriety of her complex may have cost her several jobs.

"I'd go in to apply for a job and everything was fine, and then they'd say 'Oh, you live in Rand Grove,'" she said. "I thought I was imagining this until I talked it over with the other tenants. We had the finger pointed at us just because we lived there."

The woman, who asked that she not be identified, said children from the Palatine Township complex also "were frowned on like they were trash or something" at school, and "I would never say I was from Rand Grove when I went out socially."

While managers of Rand Grove and other low-income housing complexes are struggling to improve their image, they never will be able to completely overcome their reputations, Walchirk said. "When you put large numbers of disadvantaged or low-income people in one area, the problems are magnified," he said.

But Dan Saul, manager of Rand Grove, said that although the idea of scattering subsidized families throughout the community is interesting, there also are advantages to housing them together.

ONE ADVANTAGE is that the families would be able to talk to someone with similar problems. "They stick together pretty well," he said. "They always help each other out."

Wheeling officials say they are more likely to approve scattered site housing, but still are not convinced they need any subsidized housing at all.

The Wheeling trustees agreed to apply for 20 scattered townhouses for low-income families because they were told it would increase their chances of getting federal money to build housing for the elderly.

Now, with plans proceeding for the townhouses but no money guaranteed for the elderly housing, some trustees say they feel tricked. But Walchirk said funding for the senior citizens housing is "looking better and better." He said the scattered sites in Wheeling have not yet been selected and he doesn't know when either type of housing will be built.

Local government approval is required for any public housing, and will be sought if the housing authority's study finds any acceptable suburban sites, Walchirk said. He said he could not comment now on whether increased federal grants for other projects would be offered along with the public housing.

BUT HE SAID many suburbs should welcome the scattered site housing as a benefit to their own residents. With the cost of suburban living constantly rising, the idea that public housing attracts Chicago's riff-raff is an outdated stereotype.

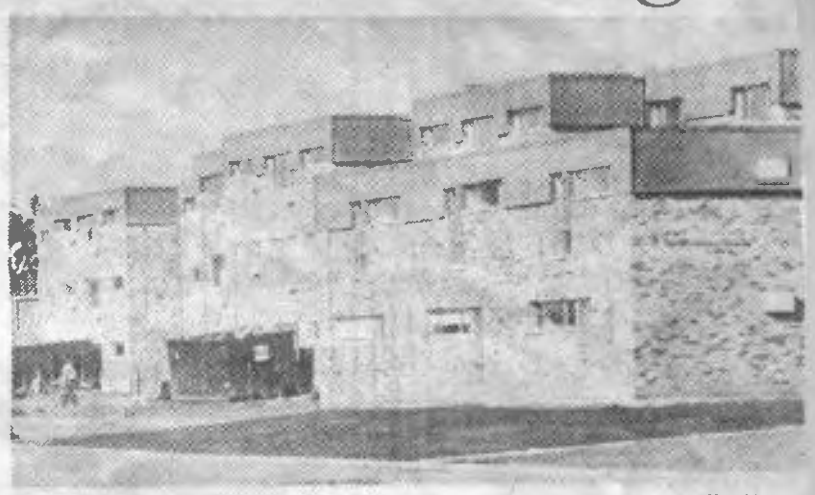
In Evanston, for instance, most of the scattered site townhouses are occupied by Evanston residents, who are given first preference under an agreement with the housing authority. Martin acknowledged that rule may sound like it is designed to "keep blacks out," but he said it is simply an attempt to meet the city's own needs.

The maximum income levels for the scattered site housing range from $10,000 for a couple to $16,000 for a family of eight, with certain expenses such as medical bills exempted.

The tenants pay up to 25 percent of their income for rent, but no more than $100 for a two-bedroom apartment or $120 for three bedrooms. The housing authority receives federal subsidies to pay the rest of the expense of maintaining the townhouses.

Walchirk said both the rental rates and the eligible income limits are rising.

"Many people we house are employed," he said. "Look around at what the private housing costs are today. Believe me, there is a tremendous need, and it continues to grow."



Herald photo

HOWEVER, SOME feel there are advantages to housing low-income families in one central location, like the federally-subsidized Rand Grove Village Apartments in Palatine Township. "They stick together pretty well," said the apartment complex manager. "They always help each other out."

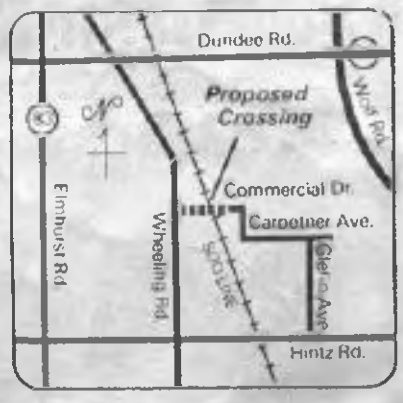
Herald 12/10/79

Officials mull railroad crossing

Wheeling officials are considering spending $200,000 to $300,000 to build a railroad crossing they hope would alleviate traffic congestion in an industrial park near Hintz Road and Glenn Avenue.

Businessmen from the industrial park, which contains about 60 businesses and 1,400 employees, have complained that the area is in danger of becoming an "industrial ghetto" because of traffic problems there. There is only one exit from the park, which empties onto Hintz Road at Glenn Avenue.

The village recently widened about 250 feet of Glenn Avenue near the intersection to create an additional turning lane. However, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold says the village erred in approving the layout of the industrial park. He says it needs a second exit.



LEIKVOLD SAID the village should petition the Illinois Commerce Commission to build a railroad crossing where Commercial Avenue, at the north end of the park, dead ends at the Soo Line R.R. tracks. If the crossing is granted, Commercial Avenue could be extended to the west, meeting Wheeling Road. He said the village already has the necessary land rights to build the road.

Village officials will petition the ICC in January for another crossing for a proposed 121-acre industrial park to the south.

The developers of that industrial park, named in honor of the late Wilfred Sommer, a member of the village's planning commission, are asking for the crossing to extend Old Willow Road to the west, through the industrial park and hooking up with the Palatine frontage road. The developer, McLennan Construction Co. of Park Ridge, is paying for the crossing and the cost of building the road.

However, the village would be responsible for the cost of the crossing for the Hintz-Glenn industrial park. Leikvold said the village could issue revenue bonds that would be retired by state gasoline tax revenues. The bond issue, he said, could be as large as $1 million to cover other major projects beside the railroad crossing.

"WE GENERALLY just use that MFT (motor fuel tax) money to do little odds and ends around the village each year; it never amounts to a significant showing," he said. However, by issuing the revenue bonds, he said, the village could tackle some larger projects in addition to the railroad crossing.

Leikvold said other projects have not been discussed, although he said new road construction to provide better traffic flow through several of Wheeling's industrial parks is one possibility.

Railroads traditionally object to additional crossings. Leikvold said, but he has talked "informally" to the ICC and is confident both requests would be granted.

Herald 11/10/79

Court, village meetings to move

For the next two or three months, Wheeling traffic court and and all meetings of the village board and commissions will be conducted in the new operations and maintenance building behind the village hall.

Monday is a legal holiday and all village offices will be closed. Tuesday's traffic court and a village board workshop will be in the new building.

Although only a temporary home, the new building contains more space than the present court and board room, 255 W. Dundee Rd., said Finance Director Gergory Peters. That room is being remodeled to house the community development department.

SIGNS WILL BE posted informing residents of where to park. Most of the parking is behind the village hall, east of the new operations and maintenance building, Peters said.

Workers will require about two to three months to remodel the former maintenance garage that will serve as the permanent location of the court and village board. The maintenance garage is located on the southwest corner of the present village hall.

The shuffling of the court and village board facilities is part of the village's $3.7 million expansion program approved by the village board last year. The new operations and maintenance building will house all public works operations that previously have been scattered throughout the village.

THE VILLAGE maintenance department will have a larger service area that will include a paint shop, machine shop and larger service bays that will permit more in-house repair and maintenance of village vehicles.

Also under construction is a new building for the police and fire departments.. That building is located immediately east of village hall and is slated to be completed by next summer.

The police department will be moving next door and the fire department is scheduled to move from the old fire station at 312 E. Dundee Rd.

Fire officials are slated to move a portion of their crew to the new branch fire station, at Hintz and Wheeling roads, when the new building is completed later this month.

Herald 11/12/79

Condo owners to meet on takeover of streets

Homeowners from two condominium complexes will meet with Wheeling officials Tuesday to attempt to work out an agreement for the village to maintain the private streets in their developments.

Although the village board last January agreed to take over the private streets, homeowners say village officials are "changing the rules." The delays, they say, are jeopardizing the chances of having an agreement reached before the first heavy snowfall.

Under the street takeover agreement, the village is responsible for patching potholes, sweeping and plowing snow on the private streets. In turn, the residents will pay $200 per unit.

But residents from Lakeside Villas, near Hintz and Buffalo Grove roads, and Harmony Village, near Wolf and Hintz roads, say they only recently learned that they would have to pay for street repairs before the village will assume responsibility.

The residents also complain they are being thwarted by disagreements over what traffic regulations should be enforced and where traffic signs should be posted.

Village officials will meet with the homeowners at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

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PERSONS ATTENDING Wheeling traffic court or village board and commission meetings will go to the new operations and maintainance building behind village hall starting Tuesday.

The move will be only temporary. It will take workers two or three months to remodel the former maintenance garage, which will be the permanent court and board facilities. The maintenance garage is at the southwest corner of village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Signs will be posted for persons attending court or board meetings. Most of the parking for the operations and maintenance building is east of the new building, behind village hall.

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INCREASING PARTICIPATION in a lawsuit to halt a tax increase for the Regional Transportation Authority will be the subject of two meetings this week.

Arlington Heights Village Pres. James Ryan Wednesday will ask Northwest Municipal Conference members to join his village and five others in the suit, which was filed on Nov. 2.

The Palatine Township board also will discuss financial participation in the suit. Township Supervisor Howard Olsen said he will recommend tonight that the board join the fight against a tax increase for the RTA.

The suit seeks to stop the RTA from collecting a sales tax increase from 5 to 6 percent, which went into effect in Cook County on Nov. 1. The tax rose only to 5¼ percent in five other counties of the RTA region, and the plaintiffs claim the difference will drive shoppers away from local businesses.

Olsen said action by his board, which would be the first township to join the suit, may be deferred until after the meeting of the municipal conference, a coalition of 23 North and Northwest suburbs and seven townships.

Palatine, Prospect Heights, Hanover Park, Northfield and Evanston each has agreed to allocate as much as $1,000 for legal expenses.

The municipal conference meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in Wheeling Township Hall, 1616 N. Arlington Heights Rd. The Palatine Township meeting is at 8 p.m. today in township hall, 37 N. Plum Grove Rd.

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A PUBLIC HEARING on a 14-lot subdivision to be built in the path of the northern leg of the extension of Ill. Rte. 53 in Long Grove will be conducted Tuesday night at Long Grove Village Hall on Old McHenry Road.

Developer Anthony DiMucci is asking Long Grove officials for permission to develop 38 acres just west of Ill. Rte. 53 between Lake-Cook and Checker roads. The proposed subdivision would be directly north of where the expressway now ends at Dundee Road.

Buffalo Grove and Palatine officials have asked Long Grove to reject plans for the subdivision, saying it would jeopardize the future extension of the expressway.

Current plans call for the expressway to be extended to Lake-Cook Road within four years and, eventually, to Grayslake. But both Lake County and Long Grove oppose that extension.

Long Grove also may require DiMucci to close off Old Hicks Road just north of Lake-Cook Road, a plan that has been criticized by residents of a heavily populated area of northern Palatine Township because Old Hicks is one of only three roads leading to the area.

However, Long Grove officials say they will not decide whether to close Old Hicks until spring. If officials decide to leave the road open, DiMucci will be responsible for paving it from Checker Road to Lake-Cook Road.

The public hearing will be at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Long Grove Village Hall on Old McHenry Road north of Long Grove Road next to Kildeer Countryside School.

Herald 11/13/79

Carry-out restaurant to expand

The owner of a carry-out restaurant in Wheeling plans to construct a new building that would seat up to 120 patrons.

John Gregornik, owner of the Brown's Fried Chicken restaurant, at Dundee and Wheeling roads, said he plans to build a new building immediately southeast of the present carry-out facility. The new building would have an area of 45,000 square feet, about three times times as large as the building the business presently occupies, he said.

Gregornik said he is not sure when he would start building the addition because his loan interest rates for financing the project have increased dramatically since he first planned the new building. He added he hoped the new building could be completed in less than two years.

THE OLD building will continue to serve customers while the new one is under construction. Once the new building is finished the old one will be torn down, Gregornik said.

The proposal will be considered by the Wheeling Plan Commission Nov. 29. Commission chairman Anthony Altieri said he does not foresee any major problems in granting the zoning request.

However, the plan commission may request one of the driveways leading to the restaurant be angled to prevent those traveling westbound on Dundee Road from making a left turn into the restaurant parking lot, Altieri said.

Street plowing agreement near

Wheeling trustees Tuesday night agreed to conduct a special meeting Nov. 26 to formalize an agreement with two condominium associations who want the village to maintain their private streets.

The board agreed last January to plow snow, clean and patch potholes in private developments for a one time fee of $200 per unit.

However, homeowners from Harmony Village and Lakeside Villas have complained that although they asked the village to maintain the streets several months ago, village officials are imposing new terms on the agreement.

DESPITE THE PLANS to call for a special meeting, trustees said the homeowners and the village staff will have to resolve a number of differences before the street takeover agreement can be formalized.

Most of the problems involve when the village will begin to plow the streets this winter.

Trustees said village crews should not begin plowing the streets until the homeowners post the signs that determine when and where parking will be allowed. However, homeowners from the two associations complained that it might take "forever and a day" to order the signs and have them installed throughout the development.

Rickey Ament, president of Harmony Village Homeowners Assoc., said his association is plagued by "extremely serious" cash flow problems and would be hardpressed to pay for a private contractor to plow the streets this winter.

ALAN GARFIELD, an attorney representing Harmony Village, said there should be "a certain amount of reasonableness" between the village and the homeowners on whether the streets will be plowed if the snow falls and the signs are not yet posted. Garfield suggested village crews use their judgment to determine if the streets are plowable.

He said the association would try to stress to its residents the importance of keeping the streets cleared during heavy snowfalls.

However, Police Chief Ted Bracke said he was concerned that the village would be responsible for clearing those streets to enable emergency vehicles to get into the development.

Herald 11/15/79

Expansion planned by day-care center

The owners of a Wheeling day-care center plan to lease and remodel an abandoned ice cream parlor to double the size of their operation.

Robert and Eilene Lombardo and Beverly Schwartz have operated the Sunnie Kiddies day-care center and preschool for about two years at 404 S. Elmhurst Rd. Their day-care center is in the rear portion of a building that also housed the Lick A Dee Split ice cream shop that went out of business last December.

The Elmhurst road location "wasn't a great spot for a business, but it's perfect for me," Mrs. Lombardo said.



SHE SAID the day-care center has signed a 10-year lease with owner John Vlahos of Oak Park for the ice cream parlor, which is contingent on getting zoning approval.

By remodeling the building, Sunnie Kiddies will be able to accommodate 126 children, from infants to kindergarteners. The day-care center now handles about 67 children.

Mrs. Lombardo said the center needs to expand because the "demand has been unreal." Now, 33 parents are on the day-care center's waiting list, and that list continues to grow, she said.

"The economy is such that both parents have to work these days," she said. "We're not able to handle all the requests."

REMODELING OF the ice cream parlor should take no more than two weeks and will cost about $5,000. It will involve mainly installing wall partitions and laying carpeting. "We have the equipment. We're ready to go," she said.

However, because Wheeling requires special zoning to operate a day-care center, the remodeling plans will have to wait until the proposal is given a public hearing and approved by the village board.

The special zoning is required because many of the day-care centers "tend to be operated out of a residence," Village Planner Richard Greenwood said. "Sometimes you run into problems with parking, or the operation might get on the nerves of some of the neighbors. This isn't the case here, though."

THERE ALREADY is ample parking and the traffic generated by the facility will come from Elmhurst Road and not the residential areas, he said.

The village plan commission will consider the request from Sunnie Kiddies on Nov. 29.

In August, the village board approved plans by Community Presbyterian Church to use a new 4,200-square-foot addition as a day-care center for 50 children.

The church, at 196 Highland Ave., plans to rent the building to Rainbow Path Early Learning Centers, Arlington Heights. Church officials planned to start the day-care center in September but ran into some building delays and received an occupancy permit from the village only last week.

Church officials say the day care center should open within a month.

Wheeling Sun 11/15/79

WHEELING, TOO, is in the process of obtaining federal grants for a senior center and possibly senior housing.

The cry for a new meeting place for senior activities has come from senior citizens, who criticize the old church facility at Chamber park as inadequate in size and unsafe, despite the fact that it has passed safety inspections. The park district runs an active program of senior activities, which are not always filled to capacity.

The community has been working with Holy Family hospital on construction of an ambulatory-care facility to be built in conjunction with a senior citizen complex at Milwaukee and Strong, if land acquisition works out.

Buffalo Grove, being a new community with few elderly citizens, has a limited senior program run by the park district on Wednesdays, with bowling, card-playing and trips.

Wheeling Sun 11/15/79

IN WHEELING, there is no youth jury, which metes out work penalty commission set up a youth center, but the youth ties to young law violators. Omni-House's youth service bureau is active in dealing with youth problems, both individually and through family counseling.

Courier-Topics Newspapers 11/15/79

Village, residents stuck on condo snow removal

Homeowners in several Wheeling condominium complexes have developed a fear of snow. And it's getting worse as the season advances.

These residents haven't always had this anxiety. In fact, the Village of Wheeling is at the root of it, according to representatives of the developments.

The problem, according to representatives of Harmony Village, near Hintz and Wolf roads and Lakeside Villas, near Hintz and Buffalo Grove Roads, is that they said the village assured them it would provide maintenance this winter for their streets, including snowplowing.

Now, with snow season nearly here, they say the village is changing it's story, and telling them they must meet further requirements in order for the village to service their streets.

Wheeling Plan Commission member Rickey Ament, president of Harmony Village Condominium Association and Samuel La Susa, attorney for the Lakeside Homeowners Villas Condominium Association, appeared at a village board meeting on Nov. 5 to express their concerns.

At the village's request, they appeared again at Tuesday night's village board meeting to further discuss the problems. Village officials have recognized that the problem must be solved as soon as possible, before it snows. For that reason, the topic will come up again at a special meeting on Nov. 26, and officials hope a final agreement will come out of that meeting.

Lakeside Villa representatives said that they, like Harmony Village homeowners, thought they had completed all the requirements involved in the process of granting easements to the village for maintenance purposes on the streets.

They said just lately they were told they had to repair several hundred feet of curbs and gutters before the village would service their streets.

Representatives of Harmony Village said they spent $10,000 to repair streets so the village would accept them. After that, however, they said they were told by the village they needed dozens of traffic and street signs to be erected before any service could begin.

Homeowners said they would have reserved some of that $10,000 sum for snowplowing if they had known they were going to run into the current problems.

Also, in Tuesday's discussion, the topic of parking surfaced as a major problem. The heads of the village's snow-removal program were present and told homeowners that the city's large snowplows could not maneuver around parked cars on the narrow private street.

Wheeling Sun 11/15/79

70s

THE DECADE OF the 1970s will soon come to a close. It has been said the '70s were a quiet time, following the turmoil of the '60s. But for the northern suburbs it was a time of great change.

For some communities these 10 years represent a period of growth; for others a time of maturation. Inflation wrought havoc with budgets, both personal and governmental. Tax increases were asked and sometimes given.

The complexion of the population began to change, with fewer young families and fewer children. Classrooms emptied and schools were closed. At the other end of the spectrum, the growing number of senior citizens finally got attention.

Sports and recreation were important in the '70s, as adults turned to physical fitness, girls became "liberated" and good coaching and capable athletes brought home many state trophies.

The '70s were special years in the life of these suburbs.

We have attempted this week to highlight some of those special events, trends and changes.

Daily Herald 12/10/79

Trash rate hike to be considered

A request by Wheeling Disposal Co. for a 12 percent increase in trash collection rates will be considered tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

The firm wants the rates for twice-a-week refuse pickup service increased from $6.25 to $7. However, trustees have balked at granting the rate increase, saying the request would increase rates more than 50 percent over what they were three years ago.

Trustees also complain that the disposal company said last year's rate increase, from $5.50 to its present rate, would last for two years. However, Russ Erffmeyer, president of the firm, says the substantial increase in the cost of gas and the shortage of available landfills in the area have substantially increased his costs.

Although Trustee Charles Kerr says he thinks the firm has done a good job in the village, he is suggesting the village seek bids from a number of firms.

Board members and officials from the disposal firm will meet at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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A PROPOSAL that would require most village employees to live within 10 miles of Wheeling will be discussed tonight by the village board. The proposal would apply to all new employees and any current employees who move from their present addresses.

Trustee Charles Kerr, who heads the committee that is considering the residency requirement, said he believes the residency rule should apply to policemen, firefighters and all public works employees — those who might be needed in emergencies.

The residency rule was proposed by Police Chief Ted Bracke, who said he wanted his men closer to the village in emergencies.

Several firefighters have complained that the ordinance is unfair and that it favors employees who moved away from the village a few years ago when the village board relaxed its old residency rules.

The village board meets at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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WHEELING TRUSTEES are expected tonight to give final approval to a $2.5 million loan that would finance construction of two new wells and other water system improvements.

The village will issue water revenue bonds, which will be backed by revenues from residents' water bills. Water rates, set at 90 cents per 1,000 gallons, are expected to remain the same. The village three years ago raised water rates 80 percent in anticipation of a $5 million water improvement program that included the new wells. .

The board meets at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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THE PRESIDENT of the consulting firm studying cable television for the Northwest suburbs will speak to local mayors Wednesday about their role in introducing cable to the area.

Martin Malarkey, president of Malarkey, Taylor and Associates, Washington, D.C., will speak at a meeting of the Northwest Municipal Conference.

His firm was hired by 21 of the conference's 23 member towns to review proposals from 14 cable companies that want to operate in the North and Northwest suburbs.

The conference also is planning seminars in January to train municipal staff and elected officials in interpreting the Malarkey report, which is due in February, and to discuss the effect cable TV will have on the suburbs.

The municipal conference meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Wheeling Township Hall, 1616 N. Arlington Heights Rd., Arlington Heights.

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TWO MORE Northwest suburbs are expected Tuesday to vote to support Arlington Heights' challenge to a new Cook County sales tax.

Streamwood trustees are expected to give their formal approval to donating $500 toward the legal expenses of challenging the sales tax. Rolling Meadows aldermen already have ruled against a financial contribution but have agreed to pass a resolution lending their "moral support" to the lawsuit.

The new tax, aimed at pumping more money into the Regional Transportation Authority, took effect Nov. 1. The total sales tax rose from 5 to 6 percent in Cook County but to only 5.25 percent in the five other counties in the RTA region.

Arlington Heights filed suit last month, charging that the varying tax rates are unfair to Cook County residents.

The suit also charges that different tax-rate structures would encourage Cook County residents to shop in other counties, decreasing local sales tax revenue.

Daily Herald 12/13/79

Village OKs loan for wells

Final approval of a $2.5 million loan to finance construction of two new wells has been given by the Wheeling Village Board.

Village officials authorized the sale of water revenue bonds that will be retired at 6.67 percent interest by revenues from village water customers. Wheeling water rates, set at 90 cents per 1,000 gallons, will remain the same.

Water rates were raised 80 percent three years ago in anticipation of a $5 million water improvement program, which included the new wells. The increased revenues have covered the start-up costs for the wells, which are being constructed at Hintz and Longtree roads and on Milwaukee Avenue, south of Dundee Road.

The well at Hintz and Longtree roads is to be completed next spring, the other well by next fall. Barring breakdowns in the village's existing wells, the new wells are expected to bring an end to the lawn-sprinkling bans that have been imposed on residents for the past several summers.

Daily Herald 12/9/79

Wheeling trustees plan to continue search for manager

Wheeling trustees say they will interview at least one more candidate and possibly hire a professional search firm before they decide whether Thomas Markus, the assistant village manager from 1974 to 1977, will be the next village manager.

The village board met in closed session with Markus, now the city administrator in Savage, Minn., for three hours Saturday. He is one of two candidates being considered for the post vacated by Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, who resigned under fire seven weeks ago.

ALTHOUGH CALLING Markus, 28, a qualified applicant, and praising his work during the three years he was with the village, board members said they want to interview other candidates.

"I think Mr. Markus is a very intelligent young man, a good administrator and very knowledgeable of the council-manager form of government," said Village Pres. William Hein, but adding he would still like to hire a consulting firm or advertise for other candidates, a process other board members say may be unnecessary.

Trustees said they would set a date Monday night to interview the second candidate, whom they refused to identify. "It is our intention to interview other candidates. No decision has been made on a consulting firm," Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said. "At this point if the board is able, through interviews with interested candidates, to come up with a candidate who can perform to the needs of this community, we would be able to do that without hiring a consulting firm." But he added that hiring a search firm that would recruit potential candidates has not been ruled out.

MARKUS SAID he is ready to return to Wheeling "with proper assurances that political interference would not occur. There are certain conditions outside the scope of a contract they'd (the board) have to consider." He would not elaborate.

Markus had worked closely with Leikvold's predecessor, Terry Zerkle, who was fired by the board in 1977 for refusing to hire a political ally of Hein as police chief. Markus left Wheeling a few weeks before Zerkle's firing, reportedly because of political interference by Hein in administrative affairs.

However, Hein and the other trustees downplayed that aspect of Markus' leaving, calling his departure friendly. "I think Tom left the village at that time under good conditions," Hein said. "I think it is quite a compliment to the village and Tom Markus that he is considering returning."

Sommerfeld agreed. When Markus left "there was the highest expression of staff interest I've ever seen," Sommerfeld said. Markus, he said, is the first top administrator who has left the village and wanted to return. "I think that's a plus for the community. I think that's very important."

ACKNOWLEDGING WHEELING'S rapid turnover of managers — Leikvold will be the third manager to leave Wheeling in the last four years — Sommerfeld said board members are "looking to hire a manager who will be around a long time."

Asked what assurances the board could give the next manager, Trustee John Cole said, "No board can sit here and give guarantees. It's the community that allows that to happen because the community puts the board in office. And any board that wants to get rid of a manager will do it — whether it's an excellent manager, an incompetent manager or a mediocre manager."

Leikvold, who had been criticized by Cole, Sommerfeld and trustees Sheila Schultz and Charles Kerr, has volunteered to remain in Wheeling until April 1 or until the board selects a new manager. Cole, Kerr and Schultz made Leikvold one of the main issues in their re-election bid last April, at one point calling for his firing.

Mrs. Schultz, a newcomer to the board, replaced Hein ally Dolores Dahm. Sommerfeld, who ran with Hein in 1977 but bolted ranks after Zerkle was fired, supported their campaign.

Zerkle was fired over the objections of Cole and Kerr. Sommerfeld, who had been out of the country at the time, supported Zerkle and was angry with his running mates for not consulting him before moving against Zerkle.

New suburb bus routes proposed

Daily Herald 12/12/79

by Susan Duerksen
Herald staff writer

In an attempt to serve people who both live and work in the Northwest suburbs, the Regional Transportation Authority is proposing to start new bus routes to industrial centers in Elk Grove Village, Wheeling and Palatine.

The RTA's plan for next year also is designed to increase east-west service, with a new route planned through Palatine, Rolling Meadows and Arlington Heights to the Mount Prospect train station, and one down Rand Road from Dundee Road to Randhurst Shopping Center. Both connect with other routes continuing further east.

The plan for increased service in Wheeling, Palatine, Barrington and Elk Grove townships is expected to be approved by the RTA board in January. Costing an estimated $650,000 a year, the additional routes will be put into service beginning next spring.

"WE'LL RETAIN the service we've had to the train stations, but we realize that most people in the suburbs do not work in the Chicago Loop," said Clayton Weaver, RTA manager of bus planning and programming. "We're really starting to go after the suburban work market."

In several cases, new routes have been drawn between a train station and a "big employer" to attract riders both ways, Weaver said.

One new route will begin at the Des Plaines station and travel through residential Mount Prospect to carry workers to the Wheeling industrial area near Wolf and Hintz roads, and then carry commuters back to the station.

Bus service to the Centex industrial park in Elk Grove Village also is being increased at the request of some of the 30,000 workers employed there, Weaver said. Instead of one route circling the complex, there now will be three looping through it, one of them a completely new route connected to the Arlington Heights train station.

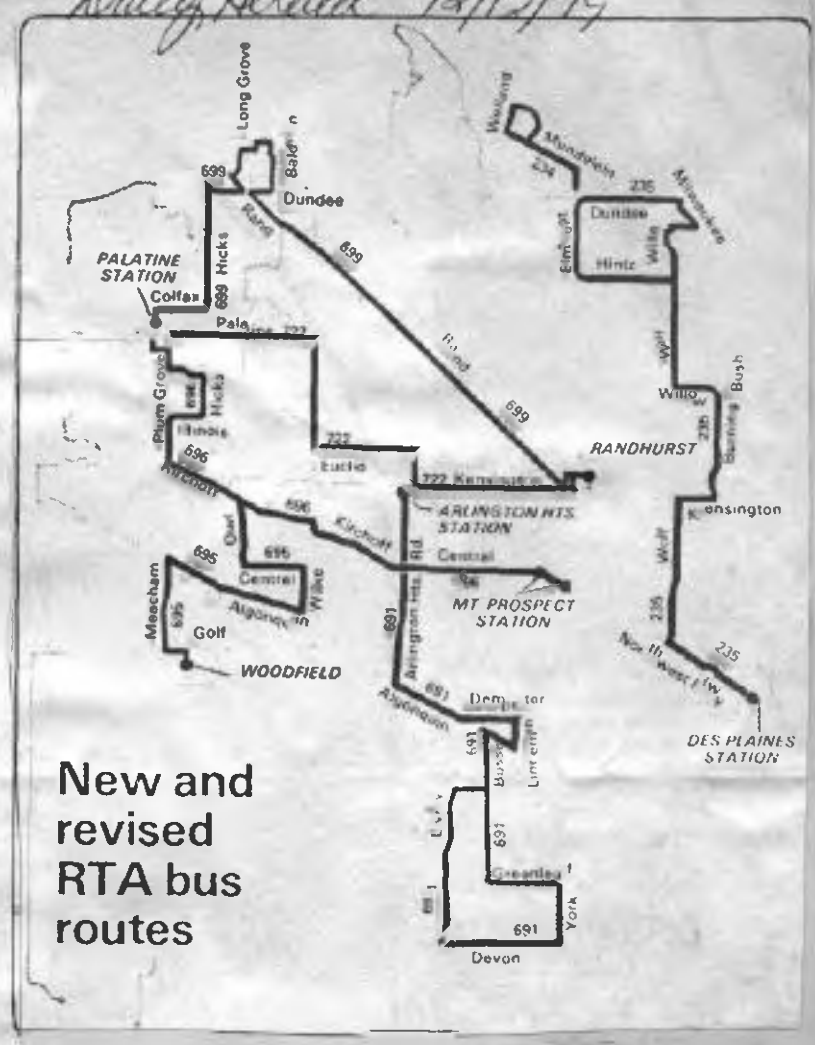
The only area that will no longer have bus service is Long Grove. Weaver said the northern leg of a line from Palatine to Long Grove's antique shopping area is being eliminated because it has had only about four riders a day.

BUS FARES are expected to bring in only about 15 percent of the $650,000 first year cost of the additional routes, with the income increasing to possibly 30 percent in later years, Weaver said. The rest of the expense is supported by property and sales taxes.

Although the route numbers may be changed later, the RTA's recommendations include:

- A new route, 699, from the Palatine train station north on Hicks Road and then down Rand Road to Randhurst in Mount Prospect, where it connects with other routes heading east, north and south.
- A new route, 235, from the Des Plaines train station north to loop around the Wheeling industrial area bounded by Wolf, Dundee, Elmhurst and Hintz roads.
- Route 722 will be relocated to travel south and east from the Palatine station to Randhurst, using Palatine, Wilke, Euclid and Kensington roads.
- Route 696 will no longer go to Woodfield Shopping Mall, but will head south from the Palatine station past an industrial area on Hicks Road and travel down Kirchoff and Central roads to the Mount Prospect station.
- Route 693 from the Arlington Heights station will no longer end at Harper College, but will loop around Woodfield and continue north and west to the Palatine station.
- Route 691, instead of ending on Algonquin Road, will go south on Busse Road and circle through the Centex industrial park, during rush hours only.
- Route 332, previously a straight line from Oakbrook up Elmhurst road to Randhurst, will make a jog through the Centex industrial park on its way.
- Route 234 from the Des Plaines station to Wheeling will have an additional leg north of Dundee on Mundelein and Weiland roads.
- Route 690 in Buffalo Grove and Route 223 from Centex to the Tri-State Tollway will have increased rush hour service, and Route 209, along Golf Road from Des Plaines to Woodfield, will have evening service.

Most of the new routes will have buses every half-hour during rush hours, and hourly during the day and Saturdays.



New and revised RTA bus routes

Ross says still interested

Wheeling Herald 12/13/79

Trustee truant too often

In the midst

BY JOANNE KANTER



WHEN PEOPLE go to the polls to elect village trustees they expect the individual to remain active on the village board for the duration of his/her term. But that hasn't happened in one instance in the village of Wheeling.

Trustee Robert Ross was elected to his seat on the village board in April 1977. It must have been a lot of fun for him then. He was at the center of action in the village and was part of a majority on the village board. Week after week his compatriots downed the any minority efforts on important zoning decisions.

But things changed in April 1979. The majority turned and although Ross found himself part of the usual 4-3 split, this time he was on the short end.

So what did he do? For a great deal of the time, he has picked up his marbles and stayed home. Between August 1978 and Oct. 22, 1979, Ross missed only four official board meetings. But he has missed a great many more workshop meetings — the time when much more discussion of issues takes place. Workshop meetings are where the nitty-gritty gets accomplished. Sometimes these meetings are a big bore, but that is what government is about mostly. It is not the grandstand plays and pronouncements to the press. It is the everyday boring detail that must be worked out to have things run smoothly.

SINCE DECEMBER 1978, Ross has missed 15 meetings, including both official and workshop meetings, five of these since Nov. 5. Maybe that doesn't sound like a lot, but in the same period of time, Trustee Roger Powers has missed only four meetings. There is a definite difference in how well prepared a trustee is and how much interest he shows when a trustee attends virtually all meetings of the board compared to the attendance record of Ross.

We understand that Ross has been beset by personal problems. But if his problems are getting in the way of his service to the village, he should resign.

The people of Wheeling are entitled to have six trustees sitting on the board. If a person loses interest, or cannot do his job for unforeseen reasons, he should admit the problem.

Although the people of Wheeling were the first ones in the state to approve a recall ordinance, there is no provision in the laws governing the village that calls for removal of a trustee who simply loses interest.

There is no question of the people losing money on Ross. He is not paid for the meetings he misses. But there is a bigger question — one of commitment.

WHEN ROSS took his oath of office in 1977, he committed himself to service to the people. There can be no service without regular attendance at board meetings.

Ross says he is committed and his absence is a combination of unforeseen events. He says he was out of town on town on business for two meetings, was ill for one meeting and was handling the results of being burglarized for another. If that is the case, we hope his attendance will improve in the future.

Just as the appearance of a conflict of interest is the reason for the ethics ordinance, the appearance of a loss of interest is enough to make people angry.

We hope 1980 will be a better year for Ross and that his commitment will be more apparent.

WH-BG Wheeling Life 12/13/79

Swan studies, acts on behalf of seniors

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

SINCE BEING HIRED as the senior citizen coordinator for the village of Wheeling, Gerry Swan has spent a lot of time learning. She has attended seminars and workshops and is now in the process of seeking senior citizens who may need help, but who are too shy to ask.

Swan is a widow. She has been working in Wheeling since July 2, and has spent a lot of time "familiarizing myself with the services available now." She also drew up a rough draft for a handicap-parking ordinance for the village.

"The people in Wheeling desperately need transportation and housing," according to Swan. But she said she understands that it takes time to obtain them.

In order to obtain funds for these things, county guidelines dictate that a community must have a lot of programs either going on or in the works, she said.

SWAN SAID she believes there is a real need for subsidized housing in Wheeling. She said people living in rental apartments are having a hard time paying the rent on a fixed income. In addition, she said she has talked to people who own condominiums bought when two spouses were alive. When one dies, and the social security check is no longer available for that person, the survivor can have serious problems, Swan noted.

A lot of senior citizens who are not active in the senior citizens club cannot get to the activities, she said. She said she is trying to set up some kind of transportation service for emergency cases, so people can get to the doctor if they need to. In addition, Swan said she sent a letter to Wheeling high school asking officials there to set up a chore corps of students willing to help senior citizens.

ACCORDING TO SWAN, there is a "Rent-a-kid program" already in action at Cedar Run and Whippletree Village.

"We trying to convince them (senior citizens) that it's not just a social club," Swan said, adding that she has asked the park district to set up craft classes with the senior citizens as teachers instead of students. "They know all these crafts and some we have lost," Swan pointed out.

Swan said she believes many senior citizens originally moved to Wheeling because it was cheaper than communities farther east. Now they move to Wheeling to be near their children, she noted.

While the job is sometimes a frustrating one, Swan said, "Just one phone call from a senior citizen is encouraging."

Swan said she is a believer in starting programs and then asking for money (in the form of federal or state grants). "If there's enough interest in a program to make it work, you have a solid foundation to build on." Swan said she has seen a lot of grant money run out just as hiring and training people to run a program is completed. "I think grants are very useful if you can hurry up and use them," she added. "But you have to show a need today. There's too many other things for the money to go to."

SWAN SAID she has "the feeling that the people of Wheeling care, but are still looking for the right angle to go at. It's hard to know what service to give if the people don't tell you," she added.

Swan has lived on the outskirts of Wheeling since 1950 and is familiar with the area. "The town had 900 people when we moved here."

Another program Swan envisions is one for adults to aid in dealing with aging parents. She said such a program exists at Wheeling township, but she would like to see them run right in town.

"I would love to see us eventually have a special celebration of holidays for senior citizens," she said, noting that holidays are the most difficult time to be alone. "Maybe someone would be willing to phone and have a senior citizen over to share the holiday. That's a terrible time to be alone."

Anyone interested in talking to Swan may call her at 459-2600.

Herald 12/13/79

Trustees informally OK 8% garbage rate increase

An 8 percent increase in residential garbage collection rates has been approved informally by Wheeling trustees.

Officials from Wheeling Disposal Co. had asked the village board for an increase from the present rate of $6.25 to $7, a 12 percent increase. However, the disposal firm backed down on its original request after trustees threatened to seek bids from other firms.

Board members also charged that residents who live in houses are paying more than their share of the cost compared with the rate the disposal firm charges condominium owners.

IF APPROVED Monday by the village board, the new rate of $6.25 for twice weekly curb service will take effect Jan. 1.

Although trustees criticized the firm for asking for rate hikes, the latest of which amounts to a 50 percent increase over the last three years, they agreed with company president Russ Erffmeyer that Wheeling residents pay less than neighboring towns for refuse service. They also said the firm's service has been "excellent."

Erffmeyer said fuel costs have increased 160 percent during the last six years, a problem compounded by the closing of several area refuse landfills.

"When you compare what other communities are paying for most services, Wheeling is lower than most," he said, adding that without the rate hike, the firm would operate at a $10,000 deficit next year.

However, Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said it was "almost impossible" for trustees to determine how much profit the disposal firm makes. "I don't have anything to bargain with other than what you say," he told company officials, suggesting the village "see if somebody else wants to take the job for less."

VILLAGE MGR. Carsten Leikvold also discouraged board members from seeking other firms to pick up garbage. "Village managers and boards have risen and fallen on garbage pickup," he said. Wheeling, he said, "has a good thing going" with the quality of service and lower rates.

Trustees also questioned Erffmeyer on why the rate for condominiums is lower than charges to single-family residences. Condominium owners currently pay $4 for garbage pickup service. Erffmeyer said the lower rate is possible because of lower administrative costs -- a single bill is paid by the condominium association.

Also, he said, those routes are "more productive" because condos are closer together and there is less garbage generated by the multi-family dwellers than single family homeowners. However, Trustee John Cole said it appeared "single family homes are pulling too much of the rate."

Although Erffmeyer said he is increasing the rates for condominium complexes by 50 cents Jan. 1, Trustee Roger Powers said those increases in recent years have not kept pace with the increases in single family homes.

VILLAGE PRES. William Hein suggested that the village, not the disposal firm, bill residents for garbage collection -- a measure he said may be possible because of a new computerized record-keeping system the village soon will install. Erffmeyer said if the village handles billing, rates could be reduced by about 25 cents.

However, Leikvold said such a proposal could not be implemented this year, although it might be considered when the garbage rates are negotiated for 1981.

BUFFALO GROVE — The Buffalo Grove village board passed tax abatement ordinances for a tax reduction of $170,940 at the board meeting Monday, Dec. 3.

According to Finance Director William Brimm, the abatements total about 15.7% of the 1979 tax levy. Cook county rates should drop from .9478 to .7904, and Lake county rates from .8454 to .6880.

The village originally levied the full amount of taxes last August to comply with the tax levy ordinance because the village must file its tax levies in September.

However, the village has until Dec. 31, to file the tax abatement ordinances when money shows up from another source, he added. The abatement covers the public service center fund in total, and partial amounts of the golf course debt service and the municipal building, Brimm noted.

THE LARGEST reduction was $89,765 from the golf course debt service, leaving a balance of $30,000 on the tax rolls. The golf course will pay the remaining debt service fund payements from revenues generated by use of the facilities, Brimm said.

Federal revenue sharing funds will go for payment of the $71,175 public service center debt this year, Brimm continued.

And the $10,000 dropped from the tax rolls for the 1979 payments on the municipal building bonds will come from interest earnings and surplus, leaving a balance of $12,130 on the tax rolls.

Wheeling Sptl 12/13/79

To extend street

Wheeling will petition ICC

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The village board Monday, Dec. 10, decided to move ahead with a petition to the Illinois commerce commission (ICC) to extend Commercial drive over the Soo Line railroad tracks. It is hoped this would relieve traffic problems at Hintz and Glenn generated by an industrial park located there.

Fred Schweiger, of Barton-Aschman Assoc., Inc., consultants hired to work on the matter, said exploratory conversations with ICC representatives show the ICC would probably look favorably on such a petition.

"The major issue is money," he told the board. "The cost of a crossing would be $300,000. You could request that one-half of the protective device cost ($45,000) be funded from the state railroad-crossing fund. But the rest of the $300,000 would be locally funded. Maintenance costs would be paid 100% by the village."

It would take 600 feet to extend Commercial avenue over the railroad tracks. The street would then exit at Wheeling road. Schweiger said if the village decides it would be a worthwhile expenditure, it should petition the ICC. There is already a request for a crossing at Willow road for another industrial park. A hearing will be held on that petition before the commission on Jan. 14, at 160 N. LaSalle, Chicago.

The consultant said the village would have to submit working drawings to the commission for a hearing.

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold said the situation has been discussed "at length by the staff. It is the feeling of staff that the situation is getting worse." Leikvold suggested the village could finance the extension through motor fuel tax funds received each year. If this were done, the village would not have to pay the cost of the extension through a tax increase, he added.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY David Epstein suggested the village could make some money by selling a bond issue for $1 million investing the extra $700,000 in a high-interest bearing security. "Even with the of arbitrage, the village could earn 14% interest on the money," he said. Arbitrage is the purchase of securities on one market and selling them on another to take advantage of a price discrepancy.

Financial consultant Morton Lang, of Benjamin & Lang, suggested the village move quickly on the matter because a bill which has already passed the state house would limit the amount of bonds the village could sell.

Resident Lorraine Lark asked what the village's bonded indebtedness is at the moment. Finance Director Greg Peters said it is $4,980,000 or 3½% of the assessed valuation of the village. Peters noted the advisory referendum approving home rule said the board would go to referendum for anything over 7½% of the village's assessed valuation. This is the amount allowed non-home rule communities.

LEIKVOLD URGED the board to get plans started for the improvement. "This has been in the works a long time. The cost of going to the ICC won't be that great and we can at least get a hearing and a ruling on it. In the meantime, the staff is working on broader programs."

Village President William Hein said the village "has to get plans in the hopper to keep them going" and get state or federal money for them.

Epstein urged the village to develop a three- to five-year plan for road improvements, which Leikvold said the staff is working on now.

Wheeling Sptl 12/13/79



THERE WAS A flag at the end of the stick when they were first put out by the public works department in Wheeling. After last year's record snowfall, Wheeling was prepared in October for the heavy snows which, so far, have not materialized. But just in case, the sticks — or flags — will identify fire hydrants in the village in case of need. (Photo by Steve Donisch)

Countryside Reminder 12/13/79

Former assistant manager interviewed for Wheeling post

Wheeling trustees recently interviewed former assistant village manager Thomas Markus for the position of Wheeling village manager.

The trustees plan to interview other candidates, and still have not ruled out the possibility of hiring an agency to assist the search for a successor to Carsten Leikvold.

Leikvold resigned in October, following months of strain between him and some trustees.

Markus, 28, began serving as assistant village manager in 1974. He worked for the village until 1977, and then took a job as city manager in Savage, Minn.

In Wheeling, he had served under village manager Terry Zerkle, who was fired by trustees. The dispute involving Zerkle arose when he accused trustees of using pressure to influence his choice of a new police chief.

Markus, contacted in Minnesota, said he stopped working for Wheeling because of some of the same reasons Zerkle gave as reasons for his dismissal, including pressure from some trustees.

However, he said he would seriously consider taking the Wheeling manager post if it is offered, "if certain conditions are met." He would not elaborate on the latter statement.

Leikvold, who has volunteered to stay in office until March 31, 1980, is Wheeling's third village manager in four years.

In a recent move, the village board expressed favor for a document which would give the village manager some new powers. It has been hoped this document may give the manager new strength in the village.

Wheeling Herald 12/13/79 +

Garbage rates increasing 50 cents a month on Jan. 1

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The village board has agreed to raise garbage rates for single-family-home dwellers from $6.25 to $6.75 per month as of Jan. 1. An official vote will be taken Monday, Dec. 17.

Wheeling Disposal Co. had requested an increase of 75 cents, to $7.

Trustee Charles Kerr pointed out to the owners of Wheeling Disposal that the rate has increased from $4.50 in January 1977 to $5.50 that month, to $6.25 last year. "If the board approves the $7 increase that would be a 55.5% hike or 18.5% per year since 1977," he concluded, asking if costs have risen that much.

But Russ Erffmeyer, owner of Wheeling Disposal, said the $4.50 rate had been in effect since Jan. 1, 1974, making the 56% increase over a period of six years. In the same time, he said, labor costs have gone up 85%, dumping costs are up 115% and fuel is up 160%.

KERR SUGGESTED the board grant the $7 with a two-year guarantee to hold that rate. But Erffmeyer said the guarantee would be too difficult with the way costs have gone up the last few years.

"We have other rates such as water and licenses," Kerr said, "and I think our citizens would run us out of the village if we increased rates to the same extent."

Trustee Roger Powers asked if the company is increasing rates comparably in areas outside the village. "If the rate increase is granted each time asked, where is the incentive for you to hold down costs so you don't have to increase the rates as much?" he asked Erffmeyer.

The refuse company owner said there is no guarantee that trustees will agree to raise rates. "We went to diesel for fuel economy. We price insurance and tires. When our expenses go up, we have no assurance you'll raise the rates," he explained.

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld suggested the village go out to bid on the refuse rate. "The only way we can deal is if someone wants to take the job for less money. That would be a better guideline for me," he said.

According to Erffmeyer, the trustees have a basis for comparison by consulting a rate table given them with prices other communities pay for garbage hauling. He said both Arlington Heights and Des Plaines went out to bid a year ago and took the lowest price. "They sacrificed a lot in the way of service," he noted.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT William Hein noted that labor costs are increasing another 10%. "Is there no consideration for federal guidelines?" he asked.

Erffmeyer explained that in May his drivers saw the Teamsters union settle a three-year contract for a combined 30% increase and want to keep up with them.

Trustee Sheila Schultz suggested the board had enough information to make a comparison with other communities. She also said the refuse service receives the fewest complaints of any service in town. Apparently anxious to get the matter settled, Village Manager Carsten Leikvold agreed with Schultz. "I know from experience, boards and managers have risen and fallen on garbage contracts," he cautioned.

However, when Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld asked whether townhouse owners pay the same price as single-family homeowners, it was discovered that townhouse and condominium owners only pay $4 per month, with an increase to $4.50 coming in January.

Erffmeyer said this cheaper rate is charged because it is easier to pick up from townhouse and condominium complexes, there is no grass to be picked up because they have landscapers and there is no billing or collection problem because the associations in these complexes pay one bill.

"We can almost pick up from two townhouses to one single-family home," Erffmeyer said. "Basically, we don't have one thing subsidizing the other. The townhouse complexes are charged what we feel we have to get."

Erffmeyer said without the increase to $7, Wheeling Disposal will lose $10,000 next year.

"WHAT DISTURBS ME," said Trustee John Cole, "is that by Presidential guidelines the consumer has been asked to lower his standard of living. But industry has chosen not to follow that, which lowers the standard of living even further for the consumer. If we allow industry to pass on all increases in costs to the consumer, inflation will rise even further."

Erffmeyer said he anticipates having to replace the two trucks which currently service Wheeling. The trucks are used four days a week and the fifth day in Prospect Heights. To operate the two trucks on a four-fifths basis costs the company $211,000 per year, according to a financial statement submitted by Wheeling Disposal Co.

Powers pointed out that the increase in the PUDs is only 5½ to 6% per year for the last 2½ years. "That's not what we're being asked to do with single-family homes."

Cole agreed, adding that "single-family homes have borne too much of the weight."

Hein suggested the company decrease its rates and let the village do its billing. However, the computer the village is purchasing will not be operative for some months and Finance Director Greg Peters said he does not know what it would cost for the village to do the billing.

Kerr asked Erffmeyer if he would take the $7 price for two years or settle for $6.75 for one year. Erffmeyer attempted to obtain an agreement for an additional 50-cent increase in 1981, but the board would not agree.

Voting in an apparently unhappy frame of mind, the trustees unanimously agreed to give the garbage company the $6.75 rate for one year. Trustee Robert Ross was absent.

Countryside Reminder 12/13/79 X

Wheeling bonds get 'A' rating

For the second time in recent years, the Village of Wheeling has been granted an "A" rating by Moody's Investment Service, a bond rating service based in New York, whose ratings include municipalities of all sizes. The recent rating made it easy for the village to get a loan of $2.55 million to construct two new wells.

The village issued water and sewer revenue bonds, which were bought by John Nuveen and Company, Inc. That firm was the lowest bidder, offering an interest rate of 6.67 per cent.

The water rates for Wheeling residents are expected to stay the same. The wells will be at Hintz and Longtree roads and on South Milwaukee Avenue.

The village has had an A financial rating since 1978. Village Finance Director Greg Peters and other village officials had travelled to New York to discuss the village's rating, at a time it sought to issue other bonds. Moody granted the village an A rating. Previously, it had had a BAA rating.

Each time bonds are issued, Moody's reevaluates financial ratings, as was done in the present instance.

Countryside Reminder 12/13/79 +

Trash rate gets scrutiny

At a workshop meeting Monday night, Wheeling trustees indicated they are willing to approve a rate increase for trash pickup by Wheeling Disposal Company. But they did not favor as much of an increase as the company had asked for.

The company, which services all the homes in Wheeling, recently asked to raise its monthly charge for trash pickup for a single family home from $6.25 to $7, beginning Jan. 1. The trustees said they would favor an increase to $6.75, but no more than that.

Trustee Charles Kerr said he was concerned that the company has asked for three rate increases since 1977. The monthly rate in 1977 was $4.50.

The company's president, Russ Erffmeyer, said his company needed to raise rates to $7 a month, or face projected losses of $10,000 for 1980.

Trustees agreed that the company has been doing a good job, and it was suggested that to relieve the company's financial problems possibly the village could send out trash bills in the future. This suggestion would not be feasible, however, until the village gets a computer system, which will not be for at least a year.

Erffmeyer cited inflation and a decrease in available landfill sites as reasons the company needs to increase rates.

Countryside Reminder 12/13/79

New residency law could close borders

By MARION SOURS

A suggestion that some new Wheeling employees should be required to live within 10 miles of the village may be tightened. These employees instead may be required to live within the village limits of Wheeling.

At a workshop meeting of the Wheeling village board on Tuesday night, those trustees present — Charles Kerr, Sheila Schultz, John Cole and Hubert Sommerfeld — agreed that if any residency restrictions are imposed, the village might as well require that the employees live within Wheeling itself.

Formerly, in October, trustees had informally discussed the possibility that people employed in emergency-type functions, such as the police, fire and operations and maintenance departments, should be required to live within a 10-mile radius of the Wheeling Village Hall.

Trustees Tuesday said they favored a residency requirement to apply only to new employees and those employees who change their address. New employees would be required to move to the village within their probationary period, which is 12 months. If by that time they had not moved to Wheeling, they would not be retained by the village.

Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold, who was present at the meeting, said he thought the trustees' suggestion that employees be required to live within Wheeling was "drastic."

The trustees said they did not feel it was drastic, because it would only apply to new employees, and would not affect presently-employed workers.

The trustees said they believed such a suggestion was equitable because Wheeling has a wide variety of housing, in various price ranges, so almost everyone could find a residence he or she could afford. They also said they believed workers would be more loyal to the village if they lived within its boundaries.

The residency issue was brought up earlier in the year by Leikvold, Police Chief Ted Bracke and Fire Chief Bernhardt Koeppen. They said they believed that residency restrictions would curb absenteeism and improve village efficiency.

Leikvold said that after last winter's blizzard and the absenteeism resulting from it, he decided some kind of residency restrictions might be needed. Currently, there are no restrictions upon where a village employee may live.

Wheeling firemen already have expressed disapproval of residency requirements. Regarding the earlier-proposed 10-mile restriction, they said land costs within that area might make it impossible for them to buy larger homes or more land.

The 10-mile radius had been set as one which would provide better response time in the case of an emergency. However, Trustee Cole said Tuesday that such a radius was meaningless, since travel time depends mainly on traffic and other factors, rather than actual distance.

The issue will come up again at a village board meeting before any action is taken.

Countryside Reminder 12/13/79

Zoners reject hospital plan

The Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals last week recommended to deny a request by Franklin Boulevard Hospital to build a branch near Wheeling.

The recommendation means that the controversial plan would need to be passed next month by three-fourths of the Cook County Board. A zoning board official said such a vote is unlikely.

The zoning board voted to deny Franklin Boulevard's proposal to build a 232-bed full-service hospital on 20 acres of land on Schoenbeck Road, north of Hintz Road. The zoning board denied the request for the following reasons:

—The three neighboring towns (Buffalo Grove, Wheeling and Prospect Heights) had objected to the plan.

—The Catholic Bishopry of Chicago, which owns property which has more than 20 per cent frontage adjoining the proposed hospital site, objected to the plan.

—The board said hospital officials did not submit enough evidence to show they could adequately handle sewer and water needs generated from the proposed facility.

—The board said too much traffic would result on Schoenbeck and nearby roads.

—The board said hospital officials failed to prove there was a need for the number of beds proposed.

If the Cook County Board votes to accept the zoning board's recommendation, and denies Franklin Boulevard's request, the hospital has two courses of action available. It may wait one year and refile with the zoning board, or it may start a lawsuit.

The hospital last year petitioned the Wheeling Plan Commission for annexation and a special use permit, but the commission turned down its request. Wheeling and Buffalo Grove officials thought for a time that the hospital had dropped its plans, but then it filed with Cook County.

Board considers a residency rule for cops, firemen

Daily Herald Dec 14, 1979

Newly hired Wheeling police officers, firefighters and some public works employees would be required to live in the village under a proposal being considered by trustees.

Although Wheeling officials have considered requiring all new and current employees move into town, Trustee Charles Kerr said, "It seems to be the consensus of the board that we only require new emergency employees to live in the village.

"This seems to be the most fair way of doing this," Kerr said. "It will give us the best possible effectiveness with the least amount of inconvenience."

Kerr said besides policemen and firefighters, only public works employees who might be needed for snowplowing would be under the residency rule.

Under the proposed ordinance, current employees living outside the village would be allowed to remain there unless they buy a new house or lease a new apartment, he said.

"I'm sure there will be people complaining just because it is a restriction and it will place a limitation on hiring practices," he said. "But any new employee would be informed before they were hired."

The residency rule originally was proposed by Police Chief Ted Bracke who said he wanted his officers nearby in case of an emergency.

Although it probably would be best if all police lived in the village, Bracke said, it would be a hardship for those who already own a house outside of Wheeling. Currently, there are only seven police officers living outside a 10-mile radius of the village.

Kerr said it will be about six weeks before the ordinance will be considered by the village board.

Daily Herald
Dec 14, 1979

NORTHWEST WHEELING

Village studies land buy for senior citizen center

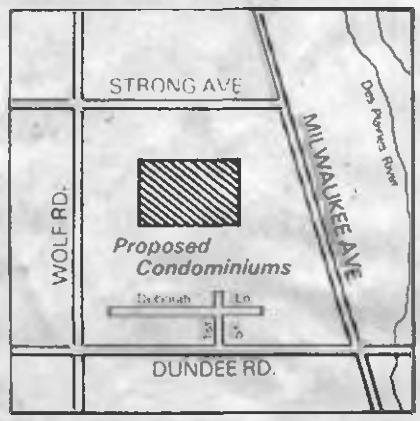
by Susan Duerksen
Herald staff writer

Plans for a condominium development near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street may be delayed while Wheeling officials consider buying all or part of the land for a senior citizens complex.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold is asking the village board to table the condominium plans for two months to give him time to negotiate with the developers. Preliminary plans for the 114-condominium Three Lakes Village are scheduled for a vote by the village board on Monday.

Holy Family Hospital in Des Plaines is planning a $4½ million medical clinic just east of the 11-acre Three Lakes property, and the village wants to build federally financed senior citizens housing and a recreation center for senior citizens and handicapped persons nearby.

The village has not selected a site for the senior citizens complex, but Leikvold said that to be part of a rehabilitation plan for the Strong Street neighborhood, the development must be in the same area as the Three Lakes property.



ALTHOUGH HE SAID he doesn't know how many acres will be needed, Leikvold "doubts very much" whether there is enough space for the Three Lakes development as well as the senior citizens complex and medical center.

"Perhaps we can buy all or some of their land," he said. In any case, Leikvold said he will recommend a road be built from Milwaukee Avenue to Wolf Road and also extending south in a 'T' shape to Dundee Road. He said some of the Three Lakes property probably would be needed to build the road.

Leikvold said he is not ruling out trying to fit in at least some Three Lakes condominiums along with the other projects. He said he wants time to talk to developers Lambert Domas and Thomas Popke about "developing this whole area together."

Wheeling trustees said they probably would not object to delaying a vote on the condominiums. Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, who was opposed to the rezoning for the development when it was granted about a year ago, said a study committee should be established to consider an overall plan for the area.

BUT SEVERAL TRUSTEES said they don't know yet whether they would favor buying some of Domas' and Popke's land, at least until they know the cost. The fact that the rezoning to multi-family housing probably has increased the land's market value "puts the board in a difficult position, to say the least," Sommerfeld said.

Leikvold also is requesting board approval to hire an architect to determine a size and location for the senior citizens complex. The village has received a $1½ million federal grant for the recreation center but still is awaiting a decision on its application for a U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development grant to build 100 apartments for the elderly. Leikvold said he expects a decision within two months.

Domas said Thursday no one from the village had contacted him about buying the property. He refused to comment on the possible delay or Leikvold's request for negotiations. Popke could not be reached for comment.

Regardless of what happens with the senior citizens complex, the number of condominiums proposed probably would have to be reduced from 114 to 60 under a new village law allowing no more than 10 units to an acre and excluding unbuildable, underwater acres from the formula.

The village plan commission has approved the plans for 114 units anyway because Popke and Domas presented their plans before the new law was passed. But Village Atty. David Epstein said the development must conform to the new standard unless the village board grants a variance.

Daily Herald, Dec 17, 1979

Trustees consider condo plans

Wheeling trustees tonight will consider the preliminary building plans of a controversial 114-unit condominium complex planned near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold has recommended the board delay action for two months on the proposed Three Lakes development because the condominium project may conflict with the village's plans to build a federally funded senior citizen housing project and center for seniors and handicapped persons in that area.

The housing and senior center would match plans by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, to build a $4.5 million emergency clinic at the southwest corner of Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue. Leikvold said the village may want to negotiate with the developers, Lambert Domas and Thomas Popke, for the land.

Also unresolved is how many units the developers should be allowed to build. A new density law that was passed last summer would limit the number of units on the property to about 60.

The property was rezoned from single to multi-family housing about a year ago in a 4-3 vote of the board with Village Pres. William Klein breaking the tie in favor of the developers. Their action opposed the recommendations of the village plan commission and residents from Strong Street and a nearby senior housing project.

The board will consider the project at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

• • •

A PROPOSAL to forcibly annex a 32-acre parcel at Hintz and Elmhurst roads will be considered tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

Trustees say the annexation is needed to control the future use of the parcel, of which 25 acres is undeveloped. The parcel is located in unincorporated Wheeling Township and, if annexed, would have to adhere to the stricter building and zoning codes of the village.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, chairman of the village community development committee, contends the land would be best suited for houses.

The board two weeks ago delayed a decision on the annexation because property owners had not been given a chance to object to the annexation. Five homes and a gas station are located on the remaining seven acres.

If approved, the board would direct Village Atty. David Epstein to prepare the annexation. The agreement could become final in January. The board will consider the annexation at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

• • •

AN 8 PERCENT garbage pick-up rate increase is expected to be approved by the Wheeling Village Board, hiking the rate for twice a week curb service to $6.75.

Officials from Wheeling Disposal Co. originally had asked for a 12 percent increase, from $6.25 to $7, but agreed to the smaller increase. If approved, the new rate for single family homeowners would take effect Jan. 1.

The board will consider the rate increase at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

• • •

TAXPAYERS IN High School Dist. 214 may get a tax reduction next year if the board of education approves a tax rebate of $1 million during its special meeting Tuesday.

District officials are considering a tax rebate because of an unexpected windfall of $658,000 from the corporate personal property tax replacement. No figure had been projected in initial budget planning because of legal challenges statewide to the tax.

Tax money would be rebated through a cut in the education fund tax rate. Board members said they may reduce the rate 7 cents — From $1.49 to $1.42 — to adjust the taxes by a total of $1 million.

While Dist. 214 expects to get more tax money than intially expected this year, it also will spend $1.8 million more than projected because of payroll adjustments and construction of the Forest View fieldhouse.

The expenditures, in addition to investment income and tax revenue increases, will require the 1979-80 budget be amended, officials said.

The changes would amend revenue from $68,272,902 to $70,913,957. Expenditures would be revised from $75,299,657 to $77,196,418.

The meeting will take place at 8:30 p.m. in the administration center, 799 W. Kensington Rd., Mount Prospect.

Village plans low-interest loans

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Although they may never get to use the money, Wheeling trustees have agreed to borrow as much as $40 million to add to a fund that provides low-interest home loans for residents.

The village last December was the first and only Northwest suburb to use its low-cost borrowing powers to make the low interest loans available. Revenue bonds totaling $15 million were issued by the village, and turned over to a local bank for home loans.

By last June, nearly 300 buyers had borrowed an average of $50,000 each at an interest rate of 8.95 percent. But then Congress said no more municipally-backed mortgage bonds could be issued after April 25.

ABOUT $3.3 BILLION in tax-exempt bonds was issued nationwide last year. Federal officials said use of the bonds for low-cost home mortgages was threatening to swamp the municipal bond market and could cost the U.S. Treasury $11 billion in lost revenue by 1984.

A bill is now being considered that would allow the low-interest loan program to continue, but would place a number of restrictions on the program that would render it useless in towns like Wheeling.

However, Mort Lang, an official of the Chicago bond counseling firm employed by the village, said there are "rumors from sources that I am not at liberty to disclose" that the April 25 cutoff date may be relaxed to allow towns to issue the bonds for low interest loans if they have made a committment to do so by Dec. 31.

Because of the "beautiful reception" given to the Wheeling loan program, he urged village officials to "go on record" as intending to issue more home loan bonds. "If the guidelines are relaxed," he said, "we're heros."

THE BOARD AGREED to pass a resolution authorizing $15 million to $40 million in new bonds. As with the first set of bonds, the bank that writes the mortages loans is responsible for retiring the bonds. But its interest payments would be lower than conventional rates because the bond buyers would not pay federal income tax on their interest earnings.

Lang said if the village is able to issue a second set of bonds, it is unlikely the village would be able to get local buyers the 8.95 percent interest on a home loan. The interest rate most likely would be about 1¼ points below the conventional rate, now at about 13 percent. The lower interest rate translates into a monthly savings of about $40 a month for the average homebuyer.

Bruce Davie, chief tax economist for the House Ways and Means Committee, said rumors of an extended deadline for towns wishing to issue the tax-free mortgage bonds were "exactly that — rumors. As far as I know there's no substance to that."

However, he noted there was "lots of lobbying to liberalize the bill because it was very popular at the local level." He said when the bill goes to the Senate next year, "somebody might say, 'Dec. 31. That has a nice ring to it. Let's cut it off at that point.' That's why you might see bond counsels having city councils all over the country going into extraordinary sessions and passing resolutions."

IF THE DEADLINE is not extended, Davie said, the bill would severely restrict smaller towns from issuing the tax free bonds. One provision limits the size of the bond issue to 5 percent of the total mortgage money issued in a town during one year.

That restriction alone, said Wheeling Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, "would make it impossible to put out a bond issue in Wheeling."

The federal restrictions also put lower ceilings on the amount that can be borrowed and the income of a resident who can qualify for the program.

Sommerfeld called it "another piece of worthless legislation."

"Why would they ever pass a bill like that?" he said. "You'd be better off abolishing the whole program than spending the taxpayers' money to write a bill that's going to eliminate everybody except the large cities."

However, he added that Wheeling "did the right thing" by passing the resolution. "Maybe something will change when that bill gets to the Senate."

December 20, 1979
Countryside Reminder News

Senior center, bus gets trustee scrutiny

By MARION SOURS

The village isn't ready to seek an architect for the proposed senior citizens center, Wheeling trustees decided Monday. Staff had made the request, but trustees said a definite site for the center should be established first, and possibly an existing building might be utilized.

Two other items of interest to senior citizens also were discussed at Monday's Wheeling village board meeting.

Trustees were presented with a preliminary plat for Three Lakes Subdivision, proposed to be built near Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue. This is an area under consideration as a site for the senior center or senior housing.

Trustees also heard a request by the Wheeling Park District that the village contribute $12,000 in federal revenue sharing funds toward the purchase of a bus, the total cost of which would be about $20,000. This bus would be used to transport senior citizens and other area residents for park district programs.

In regard to the first suggestion, that proposals be received from architects, trustees decided it is too early for such a step, and it was decided the issue will be discussed further at a future workshop.

"I don't feel we're at a stage where we need an architect," said Trustee John Cole. "We don't even know the site yet."

The village has been given about $1.24 million in a Community Development Block Grant, to be used for the village's downtown plan, to include a senior citizens center and an emergency clinic. However, since Holy Family Hospital has planned to use its own funds to finance an ambulatory care center in the area, the $160,000 set aside for land acquisition for the clinic will not need to be used for that purpose. The grant will be spread over a three-year period.

About $65,000 of the grant may be used to pay architects for work on the proposed project. However, a site for the senior center has not yet been chosen. Trustees said they believed a definite site should be established before an architect is chosen.

Trustees said they also still were interested in examining existing buildings as sites for the senior center. Hawthorne School, which is to close next year, been suggested as one possible site.

At the meeting Monday, Carsten Leivold revealed that funds for senior citizens low-rent housing, which originally had been cut from the block grant, may be forthcoming within 30 to 60 days.

In regard to the issue involving Three Lakes Subdivision, Leikvold submitted a letter in which he suggested that the preliminary plat for this development be tabled for two months, despite the fact that the village boards and commissions which had reviewed it had recommended approval.

Leikvold said the land in question, on which the developers have proposed to build condominiums, is a "possible location of (the) senior center, medical facilities or senior housing."

Trustees decided to table the issue until a Jan. 7 meeting.

In regard to the issue involving the bus, Wheeling Park District Superintendent David Phillips appeared to request that the village spend $12,000 in federal revenue sharing funds toward the purchase of a $20,000 bus, which would be used to transport senior citizens and other residents in park district programs.

It was pointed out in the discussion which ensued that if the village contributed this sum, it could eliminate the money it now budgets each year for senior citizens' transportation.

The bus the park district proposes to buy would seat 44 people. It would be driven by a park district employee.

Trustee Cole said that since the Wheeling Park District covers areas besides Wheeling, he believed the other areas involved also should contribute toward the purchase of the bus.

Phillips said he hoped that would be the case. He said that though Wheeling Township had said it had no federal revenue sharing funds available for the purchase, the park district planned to approach the Village of Prospect Heights. Also, Phillips has said, the Wheeling Rotary Club may contribute to the purchase.

The trustees decided to table this issue also, in order to gather more information.

Village board wrapup

Herald 12/19/79

Refuse collection rates to increase

Garbage collection rates for residential customers in Wheeling will increase 8 percent on Jan. 1.

The new rate of $6.75 for twice weekly curb service was approved by trustees, who said they probably will poll residents to see if there is any support for once a week service at a lower monthly rate. The present rate is $6.25.

Village Finance Director Gregory Peters said the survey could be conducted in two or three months when the village's new computer system is operating. The survey probably would take the form of a questionnaire that residents would return with their water bill payments, Peters said.

The village conducted a similar survey through the village newsletter three years ago. A majority of residents said they preferred paying a higher rate for twice weekly refuse service.

Day-care to get zoning change

Trustees asked Village Atty. David Epstein to prepare the zoning ordinance that would allow the operators of a Wheeling day-care center to double the size of its present operation.

The zoning change would allow the operators of Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center, 404 S. Elmhurst Rd., to lease and remodel the front portion of its present building. That portion of the building housed an ice cream parlor that went out of business last year.

The owners of the day-care center, Robert and Eilene Lombardo, say the remodeling would permit them to accommodate up to 126 children. The day-care center presently allows no more than 67 children.

Trustees agree to petition ICC

Wheeling trustees agreed to petition the Illinois Commerce Commission for permission to build a railroad crossing at Commercial Drive to provide a second entrance to an industrial park.

Businessmen from the industrial park, located at Hintz Road and Glenn Avenue, have complained the area could turn into an "industrial ghetto" because of traffic congestion.

If approved by the ICC, the village would build the crossing where Commercial Drive meets the Soo Line R.R., and extend the road west to meet Wheeling Road. The crossing would cost about $300,000.

Trustees have not decided whether they will pay for the improvement by issuing bonds backed by state gasoline tax revenues or by levying a special assessment against property owners in the industrial park.

Tax rate higher, valuation much higher

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The tax rate in Wheeling has risen by 25% in the last decade, while the assessed valuation has soared 175%.

Just before the beginning of the decade — in 1969 — the tax rate was .764 per $100 of assessed valuation. It then on decreased to .708 and increased again in 1971 to .722. In 1972, the tax rate went down to .570 from which point it has steadily increased throughout the remainder of the decade.

Assessed valuation of the village was $58,172,459 10 years ago. Today it is listed as $160,056,296. And the budget has increased from $1,760,442 at the beginning of the decade, to $5,870,546 this fiscal year.

INCREASES IN THE budget have been due to growth, but the largest increase in costs has been due to personnel — "definitely" — according to Gregory Peters, finance director. "When I started with the village, in 1975, the highest-paid village employe was the village manager, who received $28,000." That manager was George Passolt; who was fired in 1975. The next village manager, Terry Zerkle, received $24,500. Zerkle was fired in 1977.

Current Village Manager Carsten Leikvold, who has resigned, received $31,500 when he was hired in November 1977. His salary now is $35,000.

Peters said the average salary for village managers for this region, according to Cook county figures, is $37,380, as of January 1979.

PERHAPS ONE OF the reasons taxes have not increased more than they have is because Wheeling has been the recipient of more than $1.5 million in federal revenue sharing funds. The first revenue sharing entitlement was in the 1970-71 fiscal year. That amount was $141,776. The amount fluctuates from year to year. One of the bases for revenue sharing is the per capita income of the residents of the community. Other factors go into the formula and Wheeling has received as much as $200,707, for fiscal 1978-79, and as little as $62,957 for fiscal 1972-73.

The monies have gone for equipment mostly, according to Peters. Public works equipment, police cars, radios have been added; this year $130,000 is earmarked for a computer system for the village. In addition, for the past two years, the village has designated a portion of the funds for senior citizens and donated a part of the money it cost to move the Wheeling historical society museum from its old location on Milwaukee avenue to its present location at Chamber park on Wolf road.

The year the village received $200,000, it used that money to reduce the amount village complex additions and remodeling would cost.

ONLY ONCE DURING the decade was the village in serious financial waters, according to Peters. That was in 1976 when then-finance director George Passolt, who was later made village manager, overestimated the village's assessed valuation and income to be received from sales tax. The village had to issue tax anticipation warrants in that year, Peters said, but added that the following year the village became solvent again and has remained in a good fiscal position ever since. In fact, last year, the village got its bond rating raised, which means it is considered a better credit risk and that any bond issue it sells can go for a lower interest rate.



Legality of bus funds questioned

Wheeling trustees are willing to give the park district $12,000 for a new bus for senior citizen outings, but they question whether it is possible legally.

Park Director David Phillips says the bus donated to the Wheeling Park District four years ago by the Rotary Club has "blown an engine" that cannot be replaced because it is no longer manufactured. He said the park district does not have the money to buy a new bus.

He is asking the village to donate $12,000 in federal revenue sharing funds, which would be combined with a donation of $4,000 to $6,000 from the Wheeling Rotary Club to buy a new bus.

VILLAGE MGR. Carsten Leikvold said the village has surplus federal funds because the cost of new equipment purchased by the operations and maintenance department was less than anticipated. Leikvold said he would "just as soon throw (the excess funds) in a pot and divide it up among the departments. Ideally, the best use would be to save the money and cut taxes next year. That's what everybody seems to be interested in these days."

However, Leikvold added it is "up to the board to decide. If they want to spend money for this, that's fine."

Board members say the idea is a good one, but they are unsure whether they are permitted legally to transfer federal funds to another government agency with different boundaries.

Village Atty. David Epstein said he would research the matter further but added it would "probably be all right" for the village to donate the money to the park district. "That money comes from the federal government and there are specifications on how it can be used," he said. "My understanding is that as long as it is used for general recreation and benefits the community, it's probably OK."

TRUSTEE SHEILA Schultz, chairwoman of the committee studying senior citizens' needs, said helping the park district buy the bus "would be one way of coordinating some of the senior citizens' activities." She said most of the $3,000 the village budgets each year for a local senior citizens club is spent on transportation to plays, sporting events and other outings.

By donating the $12,000 for the park district bus, the village could let the park district organize the trips and eliminate the need to budget money for trips by the senior citizens club.

Board and park officials will discuss the proposal when the village board meets Jan. 7.

Wheeling Tyle, Dec 20, 1979

Interview BG official for job as Wheeling manager

WHEELING-BUFFALO GROVE—The village board of Wheeling interviewed Bill Sommer, assistant village manager of Buffalo Grove, for the position of village manager Saturday, Dec. 15.

Sommer was the second interview conducted by the board. Tom Markus, former Wheeling assistant village manager, was nterviewed Saturday, Dec. 8.

According to one board member, the village has been receiving unsolicited applications for the position, which became available upon the resignation of Carsten Leikvold. "We will leave applications open until Jan. 10," the trustee said.

The board will interview the applicants who are sending in forms now, the board member said.

"We are fortunate in receiving very good applicants who have the kind of credentials we believe the village is looking for," according to the trustee.

THE VILLAGE of Wheeling will not advertise or hire a management consulting firm, two avenues of finding a village manager, because of the number of good applications received unsolicited.

Markus left the village in 1977 for the job of city administrator of Savage, MN.

Sommer, whose father Wilfred served on the Wheeling plan commission for many years before his death this year, has been working for Buffalo Grove for three years.

Sommer would not comment on his interview.

Buffalo Grove Village President Verna Clayton said she did not know Sommer was looking for another position, but is "not surprised. He's ambitious, as he should be," she said, adding that if he gets the position, the village will be very sorry to lose him.

Leikvold resigned in October, saying he would stay in the village until, at the latest, March 31, to aid in the transition with a new manager. He said he could not take the politics in the village any longer and felt it was time to move on. He has worked for the village for two years, making him the third village manager to leave in a five-year period.

Buffalo Grove Village Manager William Balling said he was aware Sommer had applied for the Wheeling position and had no comment. "That's a professional decision to be made by him," he said.



BILL SOMMER

Local girl dies in crash

AN ACCIDENT ON North Milwaukee avenue at about 3 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, took the life of a 22-year-old Rolling Meadows girl.

Diane Huffman was killed instantly when the car in which she was riding hit another car head-on after crossing the median strip.

The driver of the car in which Huffman was a passenger, Julie Krogul, 21, of Palatine, told police she did not know what happened. Krogul said she, Huffman and Peggy Butler, 22, of Palatine, all left the Country Music Inn shortly before the accident. The driver said she was southbound on Milwaukee avenue when the accident occurred, but police say she could not remember anything else that happened.

Krogul and Butler were taken to Holy Family hospital where they were admitted. Krogul has facial cuts and Butler has a fractured wrist and extensive facial lacerations.

The driver of the second car, Agnes Radakovitz, 40, of Mundelein, and passenger Erich Radakovitz, 38, were taken to Condell hospital in Libertyville, where they were treated and released.

Police say Krogul said she had had 1½ beers before leaving the Country Music Inn. According to police, Krogul will be ticketed for improper lane usage and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

Hold contest for first baby

IS THERE A baby due soon at your house — or someone you know who is pregnant — with arrival date around the first of the new year? Here's a chance to be famous, get the family's picture in the paper — and beat the inflation a little with a packet of gifts from local merchants.

In the annual "FIRST BABY OF THE YEAR" contest, The Lerner-LIFE Newspapers is again sponsoring the event to name the new little king or queen of 1980 in the Wheeling-Buffalo Grove area.

The rules dictate that the earliest arrival, after the clock strikes 12 midnight, whose parents notify the paper, and whose birthdate is verified by the doctor or hospital in the case, will be declared the winner.

First deadline for notification is Jan. 4. In the event no baby has been born (and whose birth has been registered with this newspaper) by that deadline date, the date will be extended until the winner is named.

Countryside Reminder 12/20/79

Federal thaw may unfreeze home bonds

By MARION SOURS

Low-interest loans for Wheeling families may be available next year. If, as has been rumored, the federal government removes a freeze on mortgage revenue bonds this month, Wheeling plans to issue from $15 million to $40 million in these bonds, which were successfully issued for the first time last January. The removal of the freeze still is in doubt, however.

At Monday night's meeting of the Wheeling village board, trustees passed a resolution calling for the issuance of from $15 million to $40 million in single family mortgage revenue bonds.

Though the federal government in April issued a freeze on the issuance of these bonds, there have been rumors that the freeze date will be extended until Dec. 31. If that is the case, since Wheeling passed the ordinance regarding the bonds before Dec. 31, it would be able to issue the bonds.

The principle behind the single family mortgage revenue bonds is similar to that of industrial revenue bonds, which the village periodically issues "to encourage the economic development of the village..."

In both instances, the village lends its name to the bonds, which then are sold to investors. Because the bonds have Wheeling's name on them, the interest takes exempt status, and so interest rates are lower than those the homeowner, or company, normally could take advantage of.

In the case of the mortgage revenue bonds, once the bonds are bought by investors, Wheeling takes the proceeds, and allows area banks to loan the money to area residents. People who take advantage of the loans must make $40,000 or less a year.

One of the reasons the federal government put a freeze on the mortgage revenue bonds was they were meant to benefit low-income families, but it was felt they actually were being used to benefit wealthier families. In Wheeling, for example, families may make as much as $40,000 per year and still take advantage of the loans.

Village officials, however, said the loan program initiated last January, in which $15 million in bonds were sold, was regarded as a success.

The ordinance passed Monday gives the following reason for the issuing the bonds: "...commercial mortgage interest rates for single family dwellings have in fact increased in the past several months, to a level where many people cannot afford to purchase a residence, with the collateral effect of depressing development, reducing the sale of existing dwellings, and causing severe economic hardship on families with income of low and moderate levels."

Last January was the first time Wheeling had issued the mortgage revenue bonds. None of the municipalities adjacent to Wheeling have issued such bonds, but they have been sold by Morton Grove, Evanston, Highland Park and some other communities.

Going up to $6.75

Wheeling Life, 12/20/79

Garbage rate increase approved

By DOROTHY WEINBERG
Correspondent

WHEELING — The Wheeling village board has approved a 50-cent rate hike for twice-a-week, curbside garbage pick-up. The $6.25 rate will be raised to $6.75, beginning Jan. 1, 1980, the board decided at its meeting Monday, Dec. 17.

Although the rate increase was approved, Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld asked the representatives from Wheeling Disposal Co., if they would consider at some future date changing the service to once-a-week pick-up, if that is what the community wants.

They agreed to consider the idea. The staff was then directed to prepare some kind of survey to present to the residents asking their views on once-a-week pick-up service.

TRUSTEE ROGER POWERS asked the scavenger representatives what cost-cutting methods they are exploring. They told him they are experimenting with more-efficient equipment, and possibly a change in service, where big items would not be hauled away. They are also looking at the dumping situation because landfills are reaching capacity.

The board also passed an ordinance that will allow emergency health care facilities as a special use in all zoning districts. These facilities would be used for ambulatory and emergency patients, but generally not for individuals suffering severe trauma or requiring overnight or long-term inpatient care.

Individuals might arrive in private ambulances or on their own, a spokesman said, but public ambulances would usually take individuals to a hospital. The approval was given with the stipulation that at least one licensed medical practitioner, in addition to "trained personnel would be present at any given time in the health care facility.

Approval was also given to a resolution authorizing the village of Wheeling to petition the Interstate Commerce commission (ICC) for a crossing over the Soo Line railroad at Commercial drive, in order to alleviate traffic congestion. The board appropriated $10,000 for this purpose.

OTHER MATTERS approved included:

• A resolution authorizing the issuance of up to $40 million in Single-Family Mortgage Revenue Bonds, 1980 Series A. The bonds would be issued for at least $15 million and not more than $40 million. This is the second low-interest revenue bond issue authorized by the village. The first one, for $15 million, was completed last year.

• A resolution requesting the board to approve authorization for granting transfer of out-of-state credits for village manager, Carsten Leikvold, to the Illinois Municipal Retirement fund.

• An ordinance granting special use to a hamburger/hot dog carry out facility at 1776 Hintz.

THE BOARD approved a resolution removing the land within the village of Wheeling from the North Cook County Soil and Water Conservation district. Village Attorney David Epstein told the board that certain kinds of funding for flood control can only come through the district.

A number of issues were postponed or tabled by the board. One such item was the request by Leikvold to interview architects and get preliminary concept plans from them for a senior center or senior housing. The trustees disagreed with each other as to what this would cost and if it is necessary at this point. Leikvod said he feels it is necessary to get preliminary plans and land appraisal, but Trustee John Cole said, "We don't know where we're going to put a building. We don't need an architect to give a concept plan."

The board directed Leikvold to work with the staff to review possible sites and analyze existing buildings. Then he would come back to the board with those preliminary plans, and the board would decide what part of the community development block grant would be spent on outside consultants.

AMONG THE matters that were postponed by the board were:

• Continuance of a public hearing for annexation of approximately 32 acres at the northeast corner of Elmhurst and Hintz roads, which will be held on Jan. 7, 1980.

• Delay until Jan. 7, of a petition by Sunnie Kiddies Day Care center for expansion of the facilities at 404 S. Elmhurst.

• Postponement of hearing about the preliminary plat of the Three Lakes Subdivision near Strong and Milwaukee avenues, a possible site for senior center, medical facilities or senior housing, all of which is part of the community development block grant program.

• Postponement of Wheeling park district's request for money for purchase of a bus, with $12,000 coming from Wheeling. Cole wanted the park district to ask other communities, served by the park district for money. The matter was tabled until Jan. 7.

Rent-assisted apartment locations will be selected

Wheeling Herald 12/22/79

Possible sites for 120 rent-assisted apartments in Wheeling should be selected by Feb. 1, county housing authorities say.

Federal officials say Wheeling's request will be approved formally as soon as the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development allocation for the suburban area arrives from Washington, D.C., probably by the end of January.

Victor Walchirk, executive director of the Cook County Housing Authority, said development of the two projects — 100 subsidized apartments for senior citizens and 20 for low- and moderate-income families — will "go hand in hand" and will take "about two to two and a half years."

"WE WILL BE making offers to property owners based on appraisals and fair market values," he said. "We hope to be in a position by Feb. 1 to make some recommendations. The site acquisition process should take about a year, depending on whether we have to go into condemnation (proceedings)."

Construction of the housing should take another year, he added.

Walchirk said he could not discuss any of the potential sites, but the village board this week delayed approving the building plans of a 114-unit condominium complex known as Three Lakes, located near Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue. Village officials say they may want to use some or all of developers Lambert Domas' and Tom Popke's 11 acres for the senior housing and other development plans.

Those plans include a walk-in emergency clinic at the southwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street planned by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines. Federal officials have approved a $1.5 million federal grant to be used during the next three years to build a center for seniors and handicapped persons.

The housing complex for seniors, Walchirk said, would cost about $300,000. It would be built on about two acres. The complex would consist of one-bedroom apartments housed in "at least a four- or five-story building," he said.

RENT IS BASED on a percentage of the seniors' income, with the maximum rent set at $90 a month. Wheeling residents will be considered first for the housing, Walchirk said.

Low-income Wheeling residents will get the first shot at 18 of the 20 low-income family units. The housing authority plans to spend $800,000 to $900,000 to build townhouse-style buildings on five to 10 sites scattered throughout the village.

Those apartments are rented to families with annual incomes of about $12,000 or less. Rents are based on income, with a maximum of $120 per month for a three-bedroom apartment.

along with Wheeling Township Democratic boss James Stavros, were convicted of taking bribes in zoning cases.

Terry Zerkle then ran the village for a year, but was fired when he refused to appoint a police chief candidate backed by Village Pres. William Hein. Zerkle was replaced by Carsten Leikvold, who appointed Hein ally Ted Bracke as police chief. Leikvold resigned two months ago under fire from a new majority of the village trustees.

As the '80s begin, the search for Leikvold's replacement — a new manager for Wheeling — continues.

SOME ISSUES, however, do change.

It was in March 1970 that Hanover Park trustees put their village on the map, even the globe, with an official resolution outlawing the below-the-knee midi skirt. The major wire services picked up on the story, and newspapers from Germany and Great Britain sent reporters to Hanover Park to interview the local politicians — the man from the London Times "balanced" his account by interviewing officials in neighboring Schaumburg, where the midi skirt was still legal.

Village Pres. Louis Barone, who was village clerk at the time, said the trustees passed the tongue-in-cheek law because that was the only thing they could agree on that year. "There was so much dissension on the board that year," said Trustee James Strawn, "that you could get a 'no vote' for motherhood."

"WHEELING SEARCHES for new manager" is a fifth. Wheeling Herald

That village entered the 1970s with a referendum that said Wheeling's top administrator would be a professional manager, not a political mayor. As the '70s end, the village is preparing to hire its sixth manager. 12/25/79

The first one, Curtis Olsen, held the job for less than one year, leaving amid charges he was allowing fast food restaurants in areas zoned for sit-down restaurants.

His successor, Matthew Golden, got into hot water for making "pro-Arab" comments at a Jaycees prayer breakfast. He resigned, withdrew the resignation and then left for good in the middle of a dispute over hiring a new building inspector.

Next came George Passolt, who lasted the longest of any village manager. He was fired, however, in 1975 after a member of his staff and two trustees,

Woman seeks $25,000 from village for injury

Herald 12/27/79

A Mount Prospect woman is suing the village of Wheeling for $25,000, charging a Wheeling employee caused a traffic accident two years ago in which she was injured.

The suit, filed in Cook County Circuit Court by Teresa Hughes, alleges she was "severely and permanently injured" after the car she was driving collided with a village snow plow driven by Stephen Spencer, an employee of the operations and maintenance department.

The accident occurred Dec. 20, 1977, near the intersection of Gilman and Willis avenues, east of Wheeling Road. Ms. Hughes was headed east on Gilman Avenue, when the southbound vehicle driven by Spencer on Willis Avenue collided with her car.

The lawsuit alleges that Spencer was speeding and failed to yield the right of way.

However, Wheeling police records state that Ms. Hughes was charged with driving in the wrong lane. No citations were issued to Spencer. Ms. Hughes' attorney, Richard Zaborsky, refused to comment on the lawsuit.

Village Atty. David Epstein could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

A hearing date has not been scheduled.

WHEELING VILLAGE BOARD VOTE SUMMARY

Selected decisions from board meetings of Dec. 3 and 17.

	Cole	Kerr	Powers	Ross	Schultz	Sommerfield
To approve ordinances that would limit development near Pal Waukee Airport. (Passed 3-2)	YES	NO	YES	ABSENT	NO	YES
To issue $15 to $40 million in revenue bonds for low-interest home loans (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
To raise rates for garbage pickup service 8 percent, to $6.75. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Center Avenue will be closed for well work

Herald 12/26/79

A block-long stretch of Center Avenue in Wheeling will be closed to through traffic until construction of a new well on Milwaukee Avenue is completed next summer.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said because of the shortage of land at the well site, construction equipment used to drill the new well will be blocking Center Avenue, where it meets Milwaukee Avenue, south of Dundee Road.

The block-long stretch of Center Avenue, between Wille and Milwaukee avenues, will remain open to residents, Leikvold said.

The village board recently approved a $2.5 million revenue bond issue that will pay for the Milwaukee Avenue well and a second well being constructed at Hintz and Longtree roads. That well is scheduled to be completed next spring.

Completion of the two new wells probably will bring an end to the lawn sprinkling and car washing bans that have been imposed on residents for the past several summers.

Village water rates, set at 90 cents per 1,000 gallons, are likely to remain the same. The village three years ago raised water rates 80 percent in anticipation of a $5 million water improvement program that included the new wells and other improvements, such as new mains and upgrading the water distribution system.

Catching-up year in WH

Wheeling Life 12/27/79

(Continued from page 1)

Agency (EPA) caused some consternation this year when it was found that there was more radiation in the water than is allowable under the new guidelines. Village officials hastened to assure everyone that there was no more radiation than usual, but the EPA is just setting stricter guidelines. The village has obtained an extension of time by which the guidelines will have to be met.

Hospital

FRANKLIN BOULEVARD Community hospital tried to build its 232-bed general hospital in the county rather than annexing to Wheeling. However, a recent decision by the Cook county zoning board recommended denial of a special use permit to build the hospital on a 20-acre site at Schoenbeck, just north of Hintz. The Cook county board still has to make the final decision on the special use permit.

In the meantime, Holy Family hospital of Des Plaines has taken steps to build an ambulatory-care facility on Milwaukee avenue near Strong street. It is expected the facility will be built in conjunction with senior citizen housing and a senior center which may be paid for with federal funds.

The village recently passed an ordinance allowing the walk-in facility to be built, clearing the obstacles to construction.

Election

VILLAGE ELECTIONS in April a swing of power on the village board when Dolores Dahm lost her bid for reelection. Sheila Schultz, who is philosophically aligned most of the time with Trustees John Cole and Charles Kerr, was elected to Dahm's seat. The three trustees, together with Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld usually form a majority vote on zoning issues, somewhat diminishing the stranglehold Village President William Hein had on the board for two years.

Both Cole and Kerr were reelected to second four-year terms this year.

Library

THE INDIAN TRAILS library district has broken ground for its new building in Wheeling after the village board approved a special use permit. The board vote was a close one because some trustees were angered with the library district for going ahead with the building after the defeat of two bond referenda to finance construction. The library board discovered a law which allows building with funds from the operating budget. Claiming the library would have to cut back purchase of materials if no new building were built because of lack of space, the board voted to go ahead with the building.

This move has also angered Buffalo Grove residents who want a building in their community and a committee is studying the feasibility of building a Buffalo Grove library.

Village Manager Form of Government

ONCE MORE THE village has lost a village manager as Carsten Leikvold resigned after two years of turmoil. Leikvold could not take the politics in the village any more and his resignation will take effect at the latest MARCH /%. In order to strengthen the village manager form of government, the legislative committee of the board has reworked the personnel section of the municipal code to give the village manager more power.

The village manager would have the power to hire the police chief and the village attorney if the draft ordinance passes as it is currently written. Cole, Kerr, Schultz and Sommerfeld appear anxious to have this pass in order to take some of the politics out of the village manager's office and in order to keep a manager longer than has been possible in the past four years.

THE VILLAGE HALL complex is in the process of expansion and a branch fire station is almost ready for operation west of the Soo Line railroad tracks.

The village staff will be able to deliver better services with the new complex in operation, according to Leikvold, who, because of his resignation, will not be around to see the project through to fruition.

OTHER ISSUES on which action was taken were:

- Liquor — the village raised the drinking age as of March 1 to prohibit 19- and 20-year olds from buying wine and beer to to take out. The state law, which goes into effect Jan. 1, however, will supercede the Wheeling ordinance.
- Liquor licenses — the board voted to substantially increase license fees, allowing licenseholders to pay in two installments this year. Complaints by licenseholders did no good and the increases were approved.
- The board annexed the Johnson property on the southwest corner of Wolf and Lake-Cook road. The land consists of 105 acres and the board promised to give a liquor license for a sit-down restaurant for the property.
- Private streets — the village signed agreements with several planned unit development complexes accepting maintenance of their streets in return for easements and an impact fee.

The village also hired Gerry Swan as senior citizen coordinator grant funds.

Wheeling

Wheeling Life 12/27/79

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—1979 was a year of catching up in Wheeling. Projects envisioned some years ago began in earnest.

One of the biggest stories of the year was SNOW. How to dig out, how to get mail, how to find the fire hydrants — all were problems attendant to the record snowfall of last winter.

But as the spring thaw began, Wheeling got moving and things began to happen.

Palwaukee

ONE OF THE PROJECTS which will continue into 1980 is the feasibility study being conducted about Palwaukee airport. Phase II is supposedly completed, but there are still some big questions about whether the airport should go public. One of those big questions is which of the Federal Aviation agency (FAA) guidelines should be waived in order to allow the airport to operate as a public facility.

The 5,000-foot runway is essential to the successful operation of the airport, according to the study being conducted by Ralph Burke & Assoc. However, if the FAA guidelines are in force, the runway is in jeopardy because the threshhold lights will be too close to the highway adjacent to the airport.

The answers to these questions should be forthcoming in 1980.

Water

ONE OF THE most serious problems in Wheeling in the past few years has been having enough water to service the continuing development.

Two new wells are being built and will come on line soon and wells which have been out of operation due to breakdowns are back in service.

For the third year in a row, Wheeling residents had to adjust to a total sprinkling ban. While lawns grew brown and cars went unwashed, people grew angry and demanded a moratorium on building but one was not administered.

In order to finance water system improvements, Wheeling has sold $2.5 million in water revenue bonds. Payment of the bonds will be taken from revenue generated by the sale of water.

A change in the guidelines of the federal Environmental Protection

(Continued on page 2)

Countryside Reminder 12/27/79

Remember the '70s:
Contained 100-year rain, 100-year snow and more

The histories of Buffalo Grove and Wheeling during the 1970's are stories of dynamic and rapidly expanding communities. The two villages faced many of the same problems, and they affected each other in many ways during the past decade. The following chronicles some of the events int the two communities.

1970

IN 1970, Buffalo Grove and Wheeling experienced something which was not new to either of them, and which would continue to plague them throughout the decade - floods. 1970 was an especially bad year in that regard, as a "100-year rain" swamped countless areas and made Dundee Road in Wheeling impassible.

Flood control in both villages has been a main concern of area officials in the '70s, and vast improvements have been made in that regard, though flooding still is a problem in some areas.

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IN BUFFALO GROVE in 1970, homeowners in Strathmore Grove teamed with School District 96 in a lawsuit against the builder of Strathmore Grove: Levitt and Sons Inc. The groups had failed to agree on the purchase price of a school site for a second school for District 96 (Twin Groves School). Because of the rapid expansion of the Strathmore area, District 96 schools at that time were severely overcrowded.

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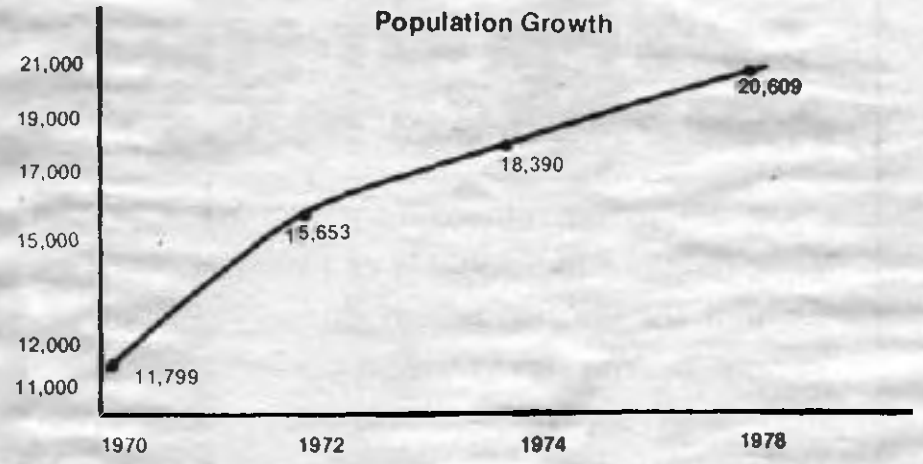
BOTH WHEELING and Buffalo Grove had problems involving their village governments in 1970. In Buffalo Grove, the trustees fired Richard Decker, who had been hired as village manager the year before. Dissatisfaction from citizens regarding his handling of the school site problem and other issues were major reasons he was fired.

In Wheeling, Matthew Golden, a new village manager, resigned, partly because he said trustees were pressuring him to hire a patronage employee. This type of conflict, in which managers said trustees were trying to tell them what to do, has plagued Wheeling government until the present, and has been responsible for Wheeling's high turnover of village managers.

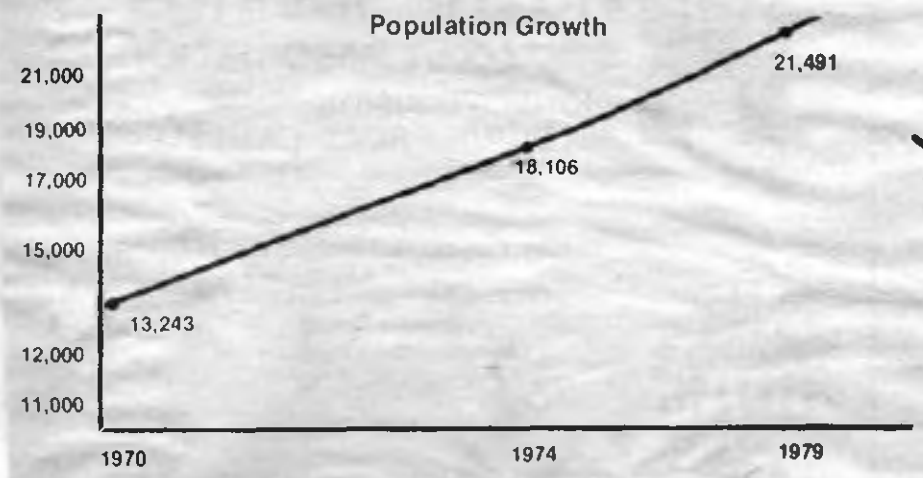
Wheeling police struck in 1970. After staying off work for 12 days, an agreement finally was reached with the village, and police got higher wages and other benefits.

Buffalo Grove's new municipal village building was completed that year. Buffalo Grove Mall also opened.

(Continued on page 16)



Growth in Buffalo Grove's population 1970-78



Growth in Wheeling's population 1970-78

Countryside Reminder 12/27/79

Decades wrapup—

(Continued from page 5)

IN WHEELING, residents and officials sought approval of a crossing gate at the Soo Line and Dundee Road, the site of several fatal accidents. The state approved the project the same year.

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IN THE EARLY '70s the newspapers were filled with distinctive items. news releases, and sometimes death notices from the Armed Forces, about area men serving in Vietnam. Fashion news was about the trend replacing the mini-skirt - the "maxi"; food news was about "organically grown," natural food products.

1971

IN 1971, Buffalo Grove and Wheeling held elections. In Buffalo Grove, the "Buffalo Grove Alliance" party was victorious. Gary Armstrong was elected village president In Wheeling, the "Active Citizens Ticket" won.

At this time, Wheeling was experiencing an unprecedented building boom, with most of the new buildings multi-family residences.

In 1972 construction on Buffalo Grove High School began. It was the same year that St. Mary's Church celebrated its 125th anniversary

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WHEELING RESIDENTS that year passed a $700,000 park improvement referendum. And the Wheeling High School Marching Band won two big contests: the international competition at Winnipeg, Canada and the state championship at Champaign-Urbana.

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HARRY WALSH was hired as the new Buffalo Grove Police Chief. The Buffalo Grove fire department in 1972 began using paramedics.

1972

IN 1972 the Buffalo Grove Chamber of Commerce was established, as was the village's appearance commission. The village also began requiring donations of land or money from developers, to be given to the schools and parks. There has been some discussion lately of expanding this requirement to include the library district.

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IN WHEELING, there were some problems between District 21 teachers and administrative officials. Contract talks went on for seven months before a resolution was reached. District 21 began construction on Washington Irving School and Robert Louis Stevenson School.

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IN 1972 OMNI-HOUSE, the counseling agency, was started in the area. Stanley Crosland was hired as the director of the Buffalo Grove Park District.

1973

IN 1973, BUFFALO GROVE officials first came up with the idea of a town center, a place for commercial and recreational developments, which would be a gathering place for village residents. The town center is still in the planning stage.

1974

1974 IN WHEELING was a year of political scandal. James Stavros, a former Wheeling Township Democratic committeeman and influence on Wheeling politics, was indicted by a federal grand jury, along with three former Wheeling officials and two county officials.

Stavros was indicted for extortion, and filing a false income tax return. Stavros and the other officials were charged with extorting more than $300,000 from Wickes Inc. and several developers in exchange for village building permits, zoning approval and other benefits between 1968 and 1973.

(Continued on page 24)

Decades wrapup–

(Continued from page 16)

Reportedly, Stavros had been receiving payoffs since 1958 and had collected some $3.4 million. The Wheeling officials indicted were: former Wheeling building director William Bieber; former trustee William Hart and former trustee Michael Valenza.

1975

IN 1975 TWO YOUTHS firebombed the Wheeling High School library. The two 18-year-olds threw Molotov cocktails through the library windows, and almost completely destroyed the library. About 22,000 books were destroyed, and $350,000 in damage was done. The youths were sentenced to three years in a work-release program.

1976

IN 1976, TERRY ZERKLE became the village manager of Wheeling. Plans were made to fill the newly created post of finance director.

Wheeling Village President Ted C. Scanlon said he would not run for re-election. He had served the village for 21 years. Village Clerk Evelyn Diens also announced plans to retire, after 20 years of village work.

AN RTA BUS ROUTE was established in Buffalo Grove in 1976. Also, the village decided to purchase the golf course which lies near the village hall.

1977

IN 1977 William Hein was elected as the new Wheeling Village President. Former Wheeling Trustee Gilbert Monoson was indicted on bribery charges, after he allegedly promised a Wheeling businessman a zoning change for property in exchange for a $10,000 no-collateral loan.

William Balling, former Buffalo Grove Assistant Village Manager was chosen as the new village manager. Plans were discussed for a ramp at Dundee Road and Highway 53.

—o—

FRANKLIN BOULEVARD HOSPITAL presented plans for a branch hospital in Wheeling, an idea opposed by both Wheeling and Buffalo Grove officials. Wheeling and Buffalo Grove were involved in a prolonged disagreement involving the area around Chevy Chase golf course, which Wheeling wanted to buy. Both villages claimed the right to some of the land in the area, but the dispute finally was resolved, and Wheeling purchased Chevy Chase in 1978.

—o—

BUFFALO GROVE VILLAGE ENGINEER Carl Rapp Jr. was arrested on extortion charges, after he allegedly attempted to extort $100,000 from the developer of Devonshire subdivision.

Wheeling trustees voted to fire Terry Zerkle in 1977. Strain between trustees and Zerkle had arisen because Zerkle said trustees were trying to pressure him in his choice of a new police chief.

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AREA VOTERS turned down a $3.5 million referendum for the proposed new Indian Trails Library.

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LARRY WEAVER, assistant superintendent of School District 21, was shot to death in 1977. His wife, Nola Jean, a teacher at Elk Grove High School, was tried and convicted the next year for his murder.

1978

WHEELING BECAME a home rule community and officials in 1978 approved the expenditure of $3.81 million for an addition to the village hall. Officials also began studying the possibility of Wheeling and Prospect Heights purchasing Pal-Waukee Airport.

The open space issue, in which it was proposed that Buffalo Grove purchase undeveloped land at Arlington Heights Road and Checker, was submitted to

(Continued on page 33)

Decades —

(Continued from page 24)

voters, and was defeated.

The controversy began regarding the parking of recreational vehicles in Buffalo Grove. A compromise ordinance finally was reached on the issue.

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TED BRACKE was chosen as the new Wheeling Police Chief. Indian Trails Library officials began to discuss the possibility of financing a new library through library funds, spread over 10 years. In 1979 a site was chosen at 300 S. Schoenbeck Road.

1979

IN 1979, the Wheeling United Party was victorious in the Wheeling election, with members Charles Kerr, John Cole and Sheila Schultz being chosen as trustees. Pressure soon began on Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold, who resigned later in the year.

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SOME POLICE OFFICERS started a suit against the Village of Wheeling, charging that promotions had been made on the basis of political affiliations.

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DISTRICT 96 TEACHERS began demanding recognition by the school board of their new union, the DEA. The board continued to refuse recognition, but a strike was averted by some concessions by the board.

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DISTRICT 21 announced that a number of schools would be closed because of declining enrollments. Projected to close in fall, 1980 are London, Sandburg and Hawthorne schools.

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VERNA CLAYTON was elected as the new president of the Buffalo Grove Village Board. She formerly was village clerk.

—o—

IN DISTRICT 96 Andrea Dolgin unseated Linaya Back by one vote for the Board of Education seat, after a recount had been called. Dolgin then sided with several other board members and pressured Superintendent William Hitzeman to resign. Hitzeman died this year of heart problems.

—o—

BUFFALO GROVE OFFICIALS were presented with plans a company's plans to develop homes on 425 acres of land on the former Fiore property. The development could increase the size of the village by about 25 per cent.

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WHAT IS IN THE FUTURE for the two villages? Some indications are present already: Buffalo Grove may become a home rule community, if voters pass a referendum next year. Wheeling may build low-income senior citizens' housing. Both villages will get emergency-care centers. Buffalo Grove may see its first industry. Wheeling may get a new look by imposing sign restrictions.

Herald 12/31/79

X

Village begins to deal with its bad reputation

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling, like many other Northwest suburbs, has experienced its share of growing pains during the past decade.

What was once a tiny farming community built along the Soo Line Railroad began to develop full-tilt in the 1960s and 1970s. In the past 10 years, the population has jumped almost 50 percent to its present 21,493.

But with the rapid growth came the opportunity for corruption. Following a 1975 zoning scandal in which two trustees, a building director and a local political boss were convicted of bribery and extortion, the village emerged as a town with a "reputation."

Developers then had to "buy" their way into town. The "village with feeling" became mockingly known as the "village of dealing."

AND ALTHOUGH the officials convicted of shaking down developers have served their prison terms and faded away, the village still bears some of the scars of the corruption and inattention it received in the decade gone by.

So village officials have spent recent years trying in a variety of ways to erase some of those scars.

But the changes are coming slowly.

The downtown area, centering around Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue, has been described as a "billboard jungle." The town is saturated with multi-family housing.

Although discussed for several years, plans to give the downtown area a facelift still are only in the formative stages. It took more than two years to adopt a sign ordinance that would require smaller, less garish signs.

And that ordinance, passed seven months ago, may have to be modified because businessmen are complaining it will cost them millions of dollars to conform to the new ordinance.

THIS YEAR, the village approved a tougher zoning and subdivision code, one that would encourage more house construction and limit the number of apartments or condominiums that can be built on a given parcel. The problem, however, is that there isn't much land left to develop.

When there was, however, it cost developers plenty to come into town. Although the federal indictments against



former Wheeling Township Democratic Committeeman James Stavros, former Building Director William Bieber, former Trustees Michael Valenza and William Hart and county zoning officials Nicholas Phillips and Ira Colitz were resolved by 1975, the corruption was alleged to have started in the 1950s.

As word of the federal indictments, corruption, zoning irregularities and special favors spread, citizen action groups began to pop up all over town. Persons outside the small circle of politicians that ran Wheeling began to get involved.

In 1975, a slate vowing to clean up Wheeling swept the municipal elections. But the political problems persisted. One member of that slate, former Trustee Gilbert Monoson, was accused in 1976 of offering to obtain a zoning variation for a local businessman in exchange for a $10,000 interest-free loan.

MONOSON'S CASE has yet to go to trial. Cook County prosecutors still have not decided whether to appeal a lower court ruling that prosecutors improperly prepared eavesdropping orders that would have allowed a tape recording of the alleged bribe to be admitted as evidence.

Political feuds continue to flourish, many of them involving the village manager, three of whom have been fired or pressured to leave the village in the past four years.

And talk of political conspiracies still exist, the latest example being a civil rights suit filed earier this year by 11 policemen against Village Pres. William Hein and members of the village fire and police commission.

In that suit, Hein and the commissioners are accused of rigging test results to promote officers based on political ties.

But political fueding aside, Wheeling has made a number of strides forward in recent years. Despite what many officials consider an abundance of apartments and condominiums, the village has encouraged industrial development, which has solidified Wheeling's tax base.

LESS THAN four years ago, village officials were borrowing money to pay the monthly bills. This year, the village was one of the few Northwest suburbs to reduce its property tax levy.

Wheeling also has jumped on federal tax loopholes to encourage house buying and industrial development. The village was one of the first towns in the area to issue tax-free revenue bonds allowing developera to borrow construction money at lower-than-normal interest rates.

Last December, the village board approved a $15 million loan that was turned over to a local bank for house loans. By June, nearly 300 persons had bought houses in Wheeling at 8.95 percent interest, nearly two points less than the then-conventional lending rate.

Village officials were so happy with the small housing boom it created that they plan to try it again if federal guidelines that have halted the mortgage subsidies are relaxed.

The village also has applied for more than $2 million in federal money to begin redeveloping the downtown area. Plans call for 100 rent-assisted apartments for senior citizens, 20 units of "scattered site housing" for low-income families and a center for seniors and handicapped persons. These projects are to be completed within three years.

THE 1980s ALSO should bring completion of a long-awaited walk-in clinic to deal with less serious ailments and eliminate the 20-minute drive to an area hospital for emergency care.

Sometime in the 1980s, Wheeling may become part-owner of Pal-Waukee Airport whose owner, George Priester, has been trying to sell it for years. But the road to completing the purchase may be frought with problems.

It will be expensive. If Wheeling shares the cost with Prospect Heights, the co-sponsor of a two-year financial feasibility study, it will cost the towns at least $3.8 million, possibly much more, depending on how much land outside the airport they have to buy to preserve air space.

It will be controversial. Residents near the airport long have complained of the noise and fear the low-flying planes that land and take off near their houses and schools.

Although airport consultants warn of a mass exodus of the corporations that rely on Pal-Waukee, some would just as soon see the airport close and let O'Hare Airport worry about the excess traffic.

WHILE WHEELING may undergo a number of surface changes in the next decade, its population is likely to remain the same. Most of the land left for development is slated for industrial and some business building.

But in recent years, the village population has grown older, which explains the plans for senior center and housing and the decision by school officials this year to close as many as six Wheeling schools by 1983.

In the past five years, Wheeling's senior citizen population has increased 53 percent. But the number of children younger than 19 years old has decreased by 9 percent.

Herald 12/28/79

Builder wants to reduce complex size

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

The developer of a proposed Wheeling apartment complex is reducing the size of the project in an attempt to obtain village approval before a court trial starts on his building plans.

Village Atty. John Burke, who is handling the case for the village, said the developer who now is in control of the project has proposed building 408 apartment units on the site instead of having the court decide on the original project.

The original developer, Ralph Stoetzel of Barrington, in 1973 had asked the board to allow him to build 624 apartment units on 40 acres near the southeast corner of Palatine and Wheeling roads.

The plans were rejected unanimously by the village board in 1975, even after Stoetzel offered to reduce the number of apartments to 540.

TRUSTEES HAD argued that flood control ponds needed on the site would limit the 540 units to only 16 acres of property. Eight acres of the site were set aside as a possible school site for Prospect Heights Dist. 23.

Stoetzel sued the village after the board denied permission to build the development, known as Swan Lake. The suit asks the court to order the village to issue building permits.

A trial date still has not been set, said former Village Atty. John Burke, who is handling the case. A pre-trial hearing is set for next month.

Burke said he did not know the identity of the new developer. Neither Jerome Schain, attorney for the new developer, nor Stoetzel could be reached for comment Thursday.

WHEELING COMMUNITY Development Director Larry Oppenheimer said he believed the developers should prepare a new site plan and bring the matter before the village plan commission. Because the village density law has been revised twice since the apartment complex originally was proposed, he was not sure which version would apply.

However, the latest revision, passed last summer, limits a project to 10 units per acre. It probably would not apply to Swan Lake because of a provision that exempts any project from the new law if it received zoning approval prior to June 15.

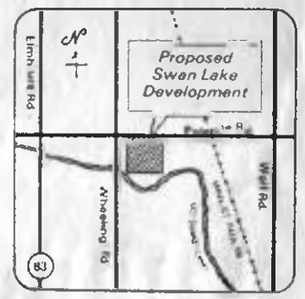
The new denisty law would restrict further what can be built on the Swan Lake property because land that is not "buildable" is not included in the total acreage. Oppenheimer said "approximately 25 percent" of the land is in a floodway.

But when the new ordinance was passed, some trustees said any project that did not have building permits would have to adhere to the new building law.

THE NEW LAW also would reduce by one-half the size of a 114-unit condominium project planned by developers Lambert Domas and Thomas Popke because lakes cover five of the 11 acres near Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue.

The question of how many units Popke and Domas will be permitted to build has not been determined.

The village board recently delayed approving the developers' preliminary building plans because Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said the village may want to use the land for a federally subsidized housing project for senior citizens and a center for seniors and handicapped persons.



Countryside Reminder 1/3/80

Assistant gets interview for Wheeling post

Wheeling trustees recently interviewed Buffalo Grove Assistant Village Manager William Sommer for the position of Wheeling Village Manager.

The trustees plan to take applications for the post and until Jan. 10 and to conclude interviews shortly after that. The board recently decided against hiring an agency to search for a replacement for manager Carsten Leikvold, a step trustees originally had considered.

Leikvold resigned in October, following months of strain between him and some trustees.

Sommer has worked for Buffalo Grove for the past three years. He had no comment on his interview with Wheeling trustees.

Prior to the interview with Sommer, trustees had interviewed former Wheeling Assistant Village Manager Thomas Markus. Markus worked for Wheeling from 1974 to 1977, serving under Village Manager Terry Zerkle.

Leikvold, who has volunteered to stay in office until March 31, 1980, is Wheeling's third village manager in four years.

Herald 1/2/80

Village extends sticker deadline

Wheeling residents have an additional 15 days to buy and display municipal vehicle stickers before paying a penalty.

The village has extended its Jan. 1 deadline for purchasing stickers to Jan. 15. Stickers cost $10 for cars, $6 for motorcycles and mopeds and $5 for recreational vehicles. Senior citizens pay $3.

Each sticker will cost an additional $5 if bought after Jan. 15.

Stickers can be bought at village hall, 225 W. Dundee Rd., from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. The hall will be open 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. this Saturday and Jan. 12.

A new village manager

Wheeling Life 1/3/80

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—1980 promises to be an active year in this community.

One prediction sure to come true is that the village will have a new manager. Village Manager Carsten Leikvold resigned, effective March 31 at the latest, and the board has said it will close receipt of applications Jan. 10. It is expected a decision should be made on a new manager by the end of January.

The building program for the village hall complex will be completed in 1980. A new main fire station, additional police facilities and a new public works building will all be in use by June. In addition, remodeling at the old building will provide space for the expanded community development department. A branch fire station is also being completed and should be in operation within the first few months of the new year.

These facilities should last the village well into the 1990s and should enable village staff to provide better service to residents, according to Leikvold.

THE VILLAGE has also gotten a head start on a community development block grant which should pave the way for construction of a senior center and senior housing. Leikvold said construction of both these facilities, together with an ambulatory-care facility, should be physically under way in 1980.

Holy Family hospital is building the walk-in clinic on a parcel of land located near Milwaukee and Strong street.

The village board is now considering purchase of property owned by Lambert Domas and Tom Popke which was rezoned last year for multi-family housing. The rezoning action, which was objected to by Trustees John Cole, Hugh Sommerfeld and Charles Kerr (Trustee Sheila Schultz was not on the board yet), may cost the village more money to buy the property if it decides to do so, according to Leikvold.

Should the price of the Popke-Domas property go too high, Leikvold said the village can always fall back on its power of condemnation.

Leikvold said the Cook county housing authority has informed the village that the Department of Housing and Urban Development should approve the village's application for senior housing within 60 to 90 days.

THE PALWAUKEE airport study should be completed in 1980, Leikvold said, and the village will be in the throes of public discussion on whether Wheeling and/or Prospect Heights and /or any other public entity should purchase the airport to make it a public facility.

Whether the airport can be run as a public facility will be determined by the Federal Aviation agency (FAA) and the state of Illinois, department of aeronautics. The two agencies must decide which guidelines set down by the FAA regarding public airports can be

(Continued on page 3)

new village manager

(Continued from page 1)

waived.

Representatives of the two agencies have been meeting and Leikvold said he is prodding them to make a decision.

SOME GOOD NEWS for Wheeling residents lies in Leikvold's prediction that the community "will have plenty of water" in the summer of 1980. For the last three years, a total sprinkling ban was declared prohibiting car washing and lawn sprinkling. Two new wells should help the situation and Leikvold foresees a good future on the water front.

Leikvold said the village will begin to do "some serious planning" about Dundee road for which money is becoming available. He said the village is also pursuing a crossing over the Soo line railroad tracks on Commercial drive.

"I don't see any major increases in personnel," Leikvold said, adding that the village staff "is at about optimum size."

Negotiations will begin early this year. The village staff is already gearing itself for "difficult" wage talks, according to the village manager.

In addition, Leikvold said, 1980 will see sewers become more of an issue as a study in the works is completed.

THE PARK DISTRICT will be working on maintaining its facilities in 1980, according to David Phillips, park district superintendent.

Phillips said the park department is developing a month-by-month calendar of needs for maintenance of the parks. 1980 will be a settling-in year in the recreation department which has four out of five new employes. "We need to be able to take advantage of the enthusiasm and talent of the new people mixed with the service we already provide," Phillips said.

The golf course will experience a "lay-back year," Phillips said as the park districts works to generate revenue for further capital improvements. Phillips said the park district is working on the premise of obtaining the revenue before the improvements are made, rather than after.

Phillips said there will be exciting news at the clubhouse as the park district moves into major renovation of the kitchen with subsequent food service. The clubhouse will no longer be involved with outside caterers and in this way, Phillips said he hopes to be able to cut prices since the park district will no longer have to act as a middle man.

Improvements at Heritage park will be completed this year after years of delay, Phillips said. He added that the park district hopes to let bids in January with early spring construction on the retention basin improvements.

The park district is not looking at land acquisition or any type of major improvements in 1980, according to Phillips. "It will be a year of solidification and minor improvements," he said.

Holy Family clinic may open by early 1981

Herald 1/9/80

Holy Family Hospital of Des Plaines hopes to begin construction of a $4½ million outpatient clinic in Wheeling this spring, with completion expected early in 1981.

The hospital may be able to break ground as early as April for the clinic southwest of Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue, said James McQuaid, Holy Family public relations director.

The building should take about 12 months to complete, said Roy Solfisburg, a partner in the Holabird and Root architectural firm in Chicago. However, Solfisburg called the April groundbreaking date envisioned by McQuaid "optimistic," and said construction may begin later in the spring.

Meanwhile, the Wheeling Village Board, which has approved the project, this week removed one of the project's final obstacles. The board voted unanimously to change its ordinances and allow emergency outpatient health care facilities in all zoning districts of the village.

THE ACTION was needed before Holy Family Hospital could build on the land, McQuaid said.

The clinic will be open 24 hours a day and will treat persons with ailments such as broken limbs and deep cuts, but not persons with injuries serious enough to require overnight care provided in conventional hospitals.



McQuaid said Holy Family Hospital has not decided whether to build a one- or two-story building. He said the building would not be any larger than two stories.

Holy Family Hospital will seek village approval of site plans and submit applications for building permits in February, Solfisburg said.

"Holy Family wants this in operation as soon as possible," he said.

Herald 1/9/80

Village board wrapup

Expansion OKd at day-care center

The Wheeling Village Board has allowed a day-care center to double its size, an expansion intended to accommodate an additional 30 students.

Trustees gave the owners of Sunnie Kiddies permission to lease and remodel an abandoned ice cream parlor, which is the front half of the building they have occupied for the past two years at 404 S. Elmhurst Rd.

Trustees initially considered postponing a final decision on the expansion but changed their minds after day-care center owners Robert and Eilene Lombardo and Beverly Schwartz said they wanted to start building as soon as possible.

Sunnie Kiddies cares for 67 children.

Tentative residency requirement set

Despite the objections of Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, Wheeling trustees tentatively approved regulations requiring new village firefighters, policemen and other emergency employees to live within municipal boundaries.

Roger Powers, the only trustee to oppose the residency requirement, said the restrictions could prevent qualified persons from seeking jobs with the village because they can't afford to live there.

But Trustee Charles Kerr called the requirement "lenient" and said it wouldn't discourage prospective employees from taking jobs with Wheeling. Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld agreed, saying the village has housing that village employees can afford.

Leikvold had recommended requiring new emergency employees to live within a specific distance of village hall, such as 10 miles, and said police officers and firefighters don't want a village residency requirement.

Village cuts development percentage

The Wheeling Village Board will permit developers to build on only 50, instead of 60 percent, of their land.

The move is expected to free more area for parking lots and relieve the shortage of parking spaces in some of the industrial sections of the village.

Some industrial employees in Wheeling have been forced to park on the streets outside their firms because of a lack of parking lot spaces.

Herald 1/8/80

Action on senior-citizen bus postponed

Saying it might be a waste of village money, Wheeling trustees Monday night delayed action on a request from the local park district for $12,000 to buy a bus for senior citizen outings.

The Wheeling Park District says it doesn't have the money to buy the bus.

Village Pres. William Hein joined trustees Charles Kerr, John Cole and Sheila Schultz in delaying a final decision on the funding two weeks to determine if Park Director David Phillips can find money elsewhere.

Phillips says the park district needs the new 44-seat bus because the one it now has has broken down and cannot be repaired. Phillips originally estimated that the bus would cost about $18,000 and asked the village to contribute $12,000. Monday he told trustees that the total price of the bus could reach $23,000.

KERR SAID HE feared that the village would end up eventually paying $15,000 to $18,000 to the park district to help it buy the bus and said the vehicle would be used mostly for park district programs and not just for senior citizens.

But Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said the $23,000 price tag is cheap and urged the board to approve paying $12,000 of it. Sommerfeld also said that the park district already had contacted other local governments to no avail and that postponing the final decision in the hope of finding alternative sources of funds was useless.

But the majority of the board directed Phillips to try to find additional funding and report back to the village board Jan. 21.

Herald 1/9/80

Park asks city help to buy bus

Complaining they received little cooperation from the Wheeling Park District in the past, some Prospect Heights city officials are balking at a request to help the park district buy a new bus for park outings.

Although the council agreed Monday night to send the $7,000 request to committee, an informal vote indicated a majority of aldermen oppose the contribution, or at least doubt the bus purchase would benefit Prospect Heights.

An eastern portion of the city falls within the boundaries of the Wheeling Park District.

"I say no," Ald. Terence Mongoven, 4th, said. "They provide so little service to Prospect Heights, and the one time in the past that they had the chance to do something for us, they turned us down flat. And now they ask us for money."

HE WAS REFERRING to plans by the city and the River Trails Park District to buy a four-acre park site south of Palatine Road, a heavily populated area that has few parks.

Because the park site borders the Wheeling Park District, it was asked to help with the purchase, estimated at $160,000. But Wheeling park officials said the cost was too great.

Now Wheeling park officials are asking Prospect Heights to help pay for a new bus. The old bus, primarily used for senior citizen programs, broke down in October, and the district says it can't afford the estimated $23,000 price of a new one.

Park Director David Phillips says the district didn't mean "to slight" the city or River Trails, adding "it was simply a matter of not having the money. The problems that we had then, we still have now."

THE PARK DISTRICT already has been refused by Wheeling Township and the Cook County Area Agency on Aging. Park officials still hope to get some money from Wheeling and the local Rotary Club.

But Park Director David Phillips says prospects of a Rotary Club contribution are "shaky," and, on Monday night, the Wheeling Village Board delayed making a decision until it heard whether the district could find the money elsewhere.

The district is asking the Rotary Club for $4,000 to $6,000 and Wheeling for $12,000 in federal revenue sharing money and $3,000 to $5,000 in general operating money.

"We've already tried five sources, and while I'm open to suggestions, I don't know where else to go," Phillips said.

If Prospect Heights does agree to help out, says Mayor Richard Wolf, it must include a promise of getting something in return. For example, Wolf said, the district would have to promise to use the bus to pick residents up in Prospect Heights — something that is not done now. And, the district would have to publicize its activities better to its residents in Prospect Heights.

Phillips estimates 200 of the 6,000 Prospect Heights residents in the Wheeling Park District are senior citizens who could use the bus. "But unless it's more accessible, what good is it to them?" Wolf said.

Meeting with resistance

Wheeling Tyfe 1/16/80

Still no park bus

WHEELING—The Wheeling park district does not seem to be getting very far in its quest for a new bus. It is seeking donations from various other taxing bodies, including the village of Wheeling, and is meeting with resistance. Monday, Jan. 7, the village did table the matter until the park district could determine if anyone else will donate to the purchase price of a new bus. The bus the park district has been using is beyond repair, according to David Phillips, director of the park district.

The park district originally requested $12,000 from the village of Wheeling. However, the price of the bus has risen and the village is now being asked to give $15,000 to $18,000.

PHILLIPS SAID the bus will be used about 40% to 50% of the time for adult programs in which senior citizen take part. The village has paid money each year to fund bus trips for its senior citizens. Phillips said he does not envision any conflicts in scheduling the bus trips so that senior citizens would be able to use it when needed.

However, Phillips said about 90% of the 40% to 50% would be time used exclusively by senior citizens. Trustee John Cole pointed out that the village would be paying 75% of the bus cost for use about 36% of the time.

Cole said, "What we are doing is giving away our money to another taxing body and some of that body (the park district) is not within the corporate limits of the village." Cole said the amount of the donation "doesn't make sense economically" if the bus lasts for a period of five years. Phillips said it would last 10 to 15 years.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT William Hein reminded Phillips that the park district is supposed to provide services to everyone in its district, "whether senior citizens or toddlers."

"If the village foresees the need for a bus for senior citizens," said Trustee Sheila Schultz, "then it makes sense. If we aren't going to need it, that's different."

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold said the village is trying to get out of the business of busing senior citizens. He said the village senior citizen program is concentrating on people who need help rather than recreation.

The board voted to table a decision on the expenditure until the Jan. 21 meeting of the board. Trustees Robert Ross, Hugh Sommerfeld and Roger Powers voted against tabling the decision.

Extend sticker date

Wheeling Tyfe 1/16/80

WHEELING — The deadline for 1980 vehicle stickers has been extended to Jan. 15.

Stickers for passenger cars cost $10, mopeds and motorcycles $6 and RVs $5. Senior citizens 65 or older, with proof of age, pay only $3.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday. The village hall will also be open from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. the next two Saturdays to accomodate residents purchasing vehicle stickers.

Meet on liquor request

Wheeling Tyfe 1/16/80

WHEELING—A workshop meeting on the request of Newberry Place for a liquor license will be held at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15.

Village President William Hein said he will invite all liquor-license holders to attend the meeting.

The board will hold a community development committee meeting at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 16, to discuss which of the goals for the downtown business district can be accomplished in 1980.

Palwaukee report soon

Wheeling Tyfe - 1/10/80

WHEELING—The Technical Advisory committee (TAC) for the Palwaukee airport study should have the "bottom line" on costs for acquisition of the airport at a meeting Thursday, Jan. 17.

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold said the Federal Aviation agency (FAA) and the state of Illinois department of aeronautics are still working on deciding which federal guidelines for the airport could be waived if it becomes a public facility.

Palwaukee is not under the jurisdiction of the FAA as a privately-owned airport. However, should Wheeling and /or Prospect Heights purchase the airport, it would have to meet the federal agency's guidelines in order to operate. The most crucial guideline in question is the one affecting the 5,000-foot runway. This stipulates that the threshold lights should not be placed as close to a public highway as they are at Palwaukee.

WHEELING RESIDENT and former trustee William Rogers has fought the FAA and Palwaukee owner George Priester on this point for several years. However, the FAA bowed out of the argument, saying it has no jurisdiction over general aviation (privately-owned, publicly-operated) airports.

If the airport has to comply with this guideline, the threshold lights would have to be moved back from the road, thus shortening the runway and, according to Phase I of the Palwaukee study, surrendering the most important aspect of the airport. Palwaukee is the only airport in the area besides O'Hare which has a 5,000-foot runway needed for small jets. The economic viability of the airport would be in question without the runway.

AT A MEETING of TAC at the end of last year, the draft Phase II report was questioned because the guideline question had not been addressed. Changes in the airport which may have to be made because of the guidelines could cost thousands of dollars, it was pointed out, and the draft was delayed until the FAA and the state wrestled with the question.

Both Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials must vote to continue the study into Phase III, which will include the environmental impact statement. Larry Donoghue, of Ralph Burke Assoc., the consultants for the study, has urged the communities to proceed with the study, saying there is nothing to preclude either one from doing so.

Countryside Reminder 1/10/80

Wheeling eyes tight employee residency rule

By MARION SOURS

"Sorry we suggested it!" That's what Wheeling Police Chief Ted Bracke and Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold must be thinking. Village trustees took their suggestion regarding residency requirements for village employees and imposed limits far stricter than the two men had proposed.

Trustees voted 6-1 at Monday night's village board meeting to post an ordinance which would require that some new Wheeling employees live within the Village of Wheeling. Only Trustee Roger Powers voted against posting the ordinance.

After the posting period, during which the ordinance will be on view at the village hall, the document will be voted upon at a village board meeting. Those persons who object to the ordinance may appear at that meeting to express their views.

The trustees agreed to post the ordinance even though Leikvold had given each of them a letter which stated that he, Bracke and Wheeling Fire Chief Bernhardt Koeppen recommended that the ordinance not be passed.

It was mainly on the urging of those three that trustees last year began to study a residency requirement for people employed in emergency-type functions, such as the police, fire and operations and maintenance departments. Originally, however, the men had suggested requiring residency within a 10-mile radius of the village.

Trustees accused Leikvold of raising his objections at the last minute. They also questioned whether Bracke and Koeppen shared his objection to the ordinance. The two were not present.

Contacted after the meeting, Bracke confirmed that his original suggestion had been that new employees be required to live within a 10-mile radius of the village. He also said he had suggested that employees be given 18 months to move, rather than the 12-month limit proposed in the ordinance.

Koeppen would not comment regarding his views on the proposed ordinance.

The ordinance would affect employees who start working for the village in emergency-type jobs after the ordinance is passed. Full-time employees already working for the village would not be affected by this rule, unless they decided to move.

A primary reason Leikvold, Bracke and Koeppen originally wanted some restrictions on residency was to curb absenteeism and improve village efficiency. Last winter's blizzard especially brought an absentee problem. Currently there are no restrictions on where a village employee may live.

The 10-mile radius was established informally by village officials in October as one which would provide better response time in the case of emergency.

However, since that time, trustees have discussed the radius, and some trustees declared it was meaningless, since travel time depends mainly on traffic and other

(Continued on page 12

Includes police, firemen

Wheeling Life 1/10/80 7

Residency law debated

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The village is one step away from requiring some new employes to live within the village. Employes presently working for the village will not be affected unless they move or change jobs within the village staff.

Included in the ordinance are: all sworn personnel of the fire department, including the fire chief; all sworn personnel of the police department, including the police chief; and such full-time or part-time personnel of the operations and maintenance department, or any other designated department, whose duties are likely to require their immediate availability for emergencies, or at irregular hours or days.

Employes who fall under the ordinance, who presently reside outside the village must move into the village within one year if they move. If they do not move, they do not fall under the ordinance. New employes who are in these categories have one year to move into the village.

THE ORDINANCE is the result of suggestions to have residency requirements made by Police Chief Ted Bracke, Village Manager Carsten Leikvold recommended that the board not pass the ordinance in its current form, but should allow a 10-mile radius radius from the village hall for residency.

Trustee Charles Kerr said the board has had several requests for residency requirements for emergency employes. He said the ordinance is the result of a direction to the village attorney by the village board.

Kerr said he believes the ordinance is "fairly lenient toward present employes. Since this ordinance was directed to be written, pressure has been put on the administrators and they haven't got the guts to stand behind it," he said.

Trustee Roger Powers, who was the only trustee to vote against passage of the ordinance, said he believes the village needs a residency requirement for the employes in question, "but I don't think it should be confined to Wheeling itself."

Powers said employes would have to pay at least $70,000 for a home in Wheeling or pay $300 or $400 per month rent for an apartment. "It will hurt us. It will make it difficult for us to get people," he said.

HOWEVER, TRUSTEE Hugh Sommerfeld said Wheeling has the "widest variance of housing types at different prices for a village our size." Sommerfeld said the board had met with the village staff and there was "substantial agreement on points of the ordinance. I would like to know what transpired between then and now."

Leikvold said he would return the ordinance to the committee for further study if he could. "When most of the staff was at the meetings, the talk was of a 10-mile radius. When the staff heard the ordinance, they expressed concern. The two chiefs are quite concerned. I think it would have some ramifications we can't see."

Trustee Sheila Schultz said two issues were discussed at committee meetings held on the ordinance: the availability of the staff in emergencies; and the morale of the staff living and working in different communities. "Neither of those would be satisfied, in my opinion, with a 10-mile radius. I see nothing to be gained by sending it back to committee. I think everything has been said."

BRACKE SAID he recommended a residency requirement with a 10-mile radius and an 18-month limit on moving into that area.

"If there is a proper mixture of housing at all economic levels, I see nothing wrong with making the boundaries the village limits," Bracke said. However, he added that he has checked into the rental market in Wheeling and it is not that good.

"If we have a probationary officer who has passed his period of probation and he can't find housing, we will have problems," the chief noted. He said the 10-mile radius would be sufficient for the purpose of getting police personnel to the village when they are needed.

BOB GRAY, director of operations and maintenance, said his employes do not object to the ordinance. "For the most part, we don't have that many employes who live outside the village," he said, adding that those who do live close enough to get to the village quickly when needed.

One village official said there may be some problem in the definition of a job change. Whether promotions will be included is questionable. And while a change from one department to another, i.e. police to fire, is clearly a job change, questions have arisen whether firefighters who become paramedics will be included in those employes who need to move into the village.

Village Attorney David Epstein is studying the ordinance further to give his opinion to the board before final passage of the ordinance.

Countryside Reminder 1/10/80

Residents—

(Continued from page 6)

factors, rather than on actual distance.

The trustees in favor of having employees live within the Wheeling limits said they believed Wheeling has a wide variety of housing in various price ranges, so almost everyone could find a residence he or she could afford. They aslo said they believed workers would be more loyal to the village if they lived within its boundaries.

Leikvold, however, has called the proposed Wheeling limit "drastic." He said it would restrict the potential applicants for village jobs. Powers agreed, stating Monday, "The burden will fall not only on employees but will hurt us (Wheeling)."

Wheeling firemen already have expressed disapproval of residency requirements. Regarding the earlier, proposed 10-mile restriction, they said land costs within that area might make it impossible for them to buy larger homes or more land.

Sticker deadline

Countryside Reminder 1/13/80

The 1980 Wheeling vehicle sticker deadline had been extended from Dec. 31 to Tuesday, Jan. 15.

After Jan. 15, residents not displaying a sticker will be issued citations and must pay a $5 penalty, village officials said.

The charge for the sticker is $10 for a passenger car, $6 for motorcycles and mopeds and $5 for recreational vehicles.

Senior citizens (those age 65 by Dec. 31, 1979) may buy a sticker for $3. Proof of age must be presented, and there is a maximum of two such purchases per family.

Stickers may be purchased at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. today, tomorrow, Monday and Tuesday. Also, the office will be open special hours on Saturday: from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Wheeling Herald 1/11/80

Youth program seeks more funds

by Mary Poker
Herald staff writer

Because of state and federal financing cuts, a local youth counseling agency is asking Wheeling and Vernon townships and six area towns to increase their annual contributions by about 15 percent.

Buffalo Grove and Wheeling are each being asked to increase their contributions to the Omni-House: Youth Services Bureau by about 15 percent this year. Prospect Heights is being asked to contribute an additional 16 percent, while Arlington Heights is requested to increase its donation by 10 percent.

Wheeling and Vernon townships and the villages of Lincolnshire and Vernon Hills also will be asked to contribute 10 to 15 percent more to the social service agency, but the exact amount has not been determined, said Harry **Wells**, executive director of Omni-House.

Omni-House is a non-profit private agency that provides counseling and recreation programs for youngsters in the six towns and in unincorporated areas of Wheeling and Vernon townships.

ALTHOUGH HALF of Mount Prospect is in Wheeling Township, the village does not contribute to Omni-House and residents there are served by referral only.

Wells said the agency would not expand its services. He estimated Omni-House's upcoming budget would be about $532,000, the same it was in 1979.

"Our efforts right now are just to maintain services," Wells said. Omni-House is losing about $40,000 in federal and state money given to the agency last year, he said.

Omni-House's requests are:

- Arlington Heights, from $35,000 to $38,500.
- Buffalo Grove, from $28,500 to $32,775.
- Wheeling, from $28,900 to $33,250.
- Prospect Heights, from $12,000 to $14,000.

Vernon Hills, which last year contributed $16,000, and Lincolnshire, which had contributed $12,000, will be asked to contribute 12 to 15 percent more.

Vernon Township, which last year gave $18,000 and Wheeling Township, which last year gave $72,000, also will be asked to contribute as much as 15 percent more.

OMNI-HOUSE'S REQUEST has come under fire from some Arlington Heights officials who want the agency to open its files to the village to prove village money is being spent for Arlington Heights youngsters.

Arlington Youth Council member Pat Pontrelli said he will ask the council later this month to reconsider its vote to give Omni-House the additional money.

And Arlington Heights Trustee Pauline Buss said she questions whether village residents aren't paying twice for the agency because both township and village taxes support the agency.

"The basic function of township governments in Illinois has been social services," Mrs. Buss said. "The townships are not doing enough, so the villages are supporting them.

Trustee William Reid said the township could not afford to to give Omni-House all the money it needs to operate youth programs.

"We don't have unlimited funds," Reid said. "The village has a responsibility for human as well as mechanical services."

Herald 1/11/80

Chief, 2 more added to suit by 11 police

Eleven Wheeling policemen have added the names of their police chief and two fellow officers to the list of defendants in a lawsuit charging the village with playing politics with promotions.

Chief Theodore Bracke, Lt. William Ralston, Sgt. Jack Koenig and two other police commissioners are among the village officials charged with fostering unfair promotion policies.

The additional officials increase to nine the number of defendants named in the suit.

Already named are Village Pres. William Hein and one former and two present members of the police commission.

The policemen filed suit last March accusing Hein and police commissioners of deciding in advance who should be promoted and rigging the test scores accordingly. As a result of those tests, Ralston and Koenig were promoted to lieutenant and sergeant, respectively.

RALSTON AND KOENIG were included in the suit last month after U.S. District Court Judge Nicholas Bua ruled that they have a stake in the case because it could decide whether their promotions are valid.

The eleven officers filing the suit have asked for $50,000 to $200,000 in damages for each officer and an injunction to have the test results voided and the test readministered.

Besides the names of Bracke, Ralston and Koenig, the eleven officers have added the names of Police Comrs. Alan Carlson and Robert Olson to the previous list of defendants, which included Hein, former Police Comr. Ronald Bruhn and Comrs. Jack Metzger and Jerome Vasecky.

No trial date has been set.

In November, Bua rejected the village's contention that the suit was without basis and should be dismissed. But he denied a motion by attorneys for the policemen to promote Sgt. Michael Hermes, one of the plaintiffs, to lieutenant with back pay and seniority.

Herald 1/12/80

Village to seek permission for track crossing

Wheeling officials will seek permission Monday from a state agency to build a railroad crossing they say is crucial to the development of a large industrial park.

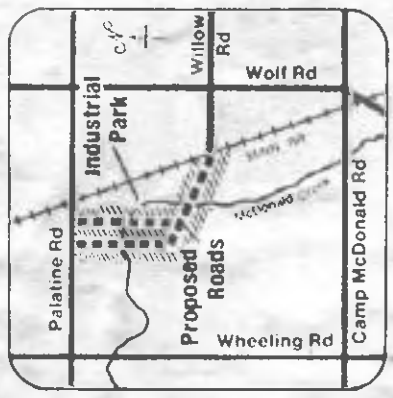
The village will ask the Illinois Commerce Commission to allow a crossing where Old Willow Road ends at the Soo Line Ry. tracks. The crossing is needed, village officials say, for the development of a 121-acre industrial park southwest of Palatine and Wolf roads.

"We felt it was a workable project and would probably be an asset to the village," said Anthony Altieri, chairman of the village plan commission, which approved the project last year.

McLennan Construction Co. of Park Ridge, the developer of the industrial park, would extend Old Willow Road and build the crossing at the tracks. Across the tracks, the street would branch into two roads veering north and emptying into a frontage road of Palatine Road.

THE PROPOSED industrial area would be bounded by the railroad tracks to the east and Palatine Road to the north.

Gary Weintraub, an attorney representing Wheeling, and the developer will argue in favor of the crossing when the ICC meets at 10:30 a.m. Monday.



The developer says the crossing is needed because, without it, traffic would be forced to use the frontage road to reach the site. "If it's not involved, I don't know who might want to develop it," Altieri said.

"If the development is to work they have to have that access," he said.

"It will considerably lighten the traffic load," said Leonard Lirtzman, a spokesman for the developer.

One possible alternative to using Old Willow Road for access to the industrial area would be building a new road from the west, at Wheeling Road, the developer said.

3 administrators vie for manager's post

Herald 1/23/80

Wheeling trustees say the village's next manager will be chosen from a field of three candidates that includes two former village administrators and Buffalo Grove's assistant manager.

The board stopped accepting applications for the post two weeks ago, and trustees say the new manager will be one of the only three candidates they have interviewed — former Assistant Village Mgr. Thomas Markus, former Finance Director William Lewis and Buffalo Grove Assistant Village Mgr. William Sommer.

Lewis, 32, was the village finance director from April to December, 1977, when he left to take his present job as city administrator in Newport, Ark.

Markus, 28, Wheeling's assistant village manager from 1974 to 1977, left for his present job as city administrator in Savage, Minn.

Sommer, 27, has been Buffalo Grove's assistant village manager for three years.

TRUSTEES SAY the selection of a successor to Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, who resigned under fire last October, should occur within the next few weeks. Leikvold, the third manager to leave Wheeling in the past four years, volunteered to stay until April.

Board members have described all three candidates as "well qualified" and say they see no need to conduct any more interviews. They are not saying, however, whether they favor one of the three.

"All three are well qualified," Trustee Sheila Schultz said. "I've got to be very honest and say I really haven't made up my mind."

"Of the people we have talked to, I can honestly say I could live with any one of them," Trustee Roger Powers said.

Village board wrapup

Herald 1/23/80

Trustees reject bus money request

The Wheeling Village Board rejected a request to donate $12,000 to help the Wheeling Park District buy a new bus for park outings.

Trustees say they may reconsider the park district's request if the district is able to find money from other sources to help pay the estimated $23,000 cost.

The district's old bus, which had been used for senior citizen trips and other park programs, broke down in October, and park officials say they cannot afford a new one.

Their requests for money have been rejected by Wheeling Township and the Cook County Area Agency on Aging. Prospect Heights has been asked to donate $7,000, but city officials have balked at the request, although no formal vote has been taken.

A $4,000 to $6,000 donation from the Wheeling Rotary Club has been described by Park Director David Phillips as "shaky."

Industrial bond issue approved

An industrial bond issue valued at $1½ million was approved by the village board to help a local company finance construction of pollution control equipment next to a factory it is building in a Wheeling industrial park.

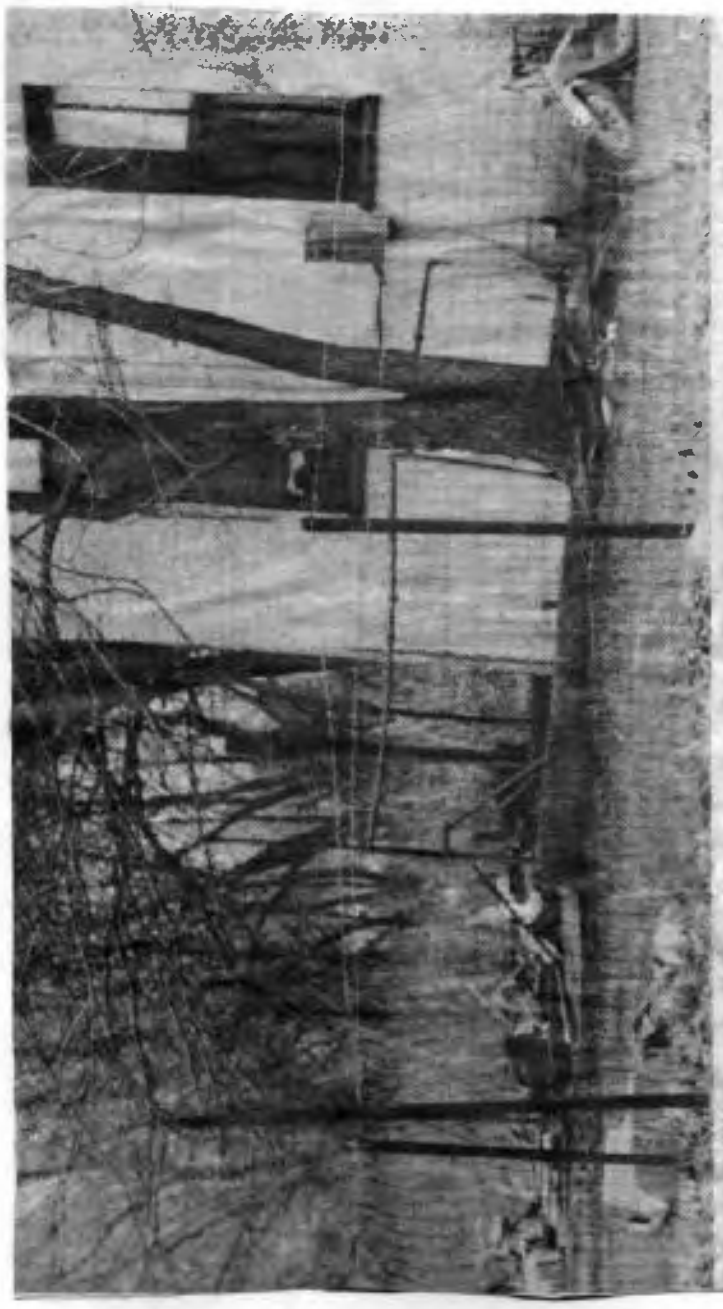
The board voted to issue tax-free industrial revenue bonds to provide low-cost financing for the developer, Taubensee Steel and Wire Co. Although the village will sponsor the bond issue, Taubensee is responsible for repaying the 20-year loan. Tax-free bonds carry a lower interest rate than conventional financing.

Trustee Charles Kerr voted to issue the bonds but voted against waiving the usual two-week delay before the bond sale could be given final approval. Company officials had asked the board to speed the request because a two-week delay could cost Taubensee $120,000 because of a deadline imposed by bond investors for sale of the bonds.

Senior panel ordinance planned

Wheeling trustees agreed to consider an ordinance that would create a senior citizens' commission to advise village administrators on senior citizen programs, help elderly persons obtain financial aid and supervise development of a center for senior citizens.

Trustee Sheila Schultz, who proposed the commission, said she will meet with senior citizens and other residents to prepare the ordinance and organize the structure of the commission.



THE VILLAGE SANITARIAN HAS warned the residents at 178 S. Milwaukee that they must clean up the debris in front and back of their home. At the time this photo was taken last week, a sofa which had been sitting in front of the house had already been removed. In addition, a pipe which was sticking out of the second story window, draining water from a stopped up sink had also been removed. (Photo by Peggy Pollard)

Wheeling Herald 1-24-80

Table land dedication ordinance

Herald 1/24/80

WHEELING — Wheeling park district requests did not fare well at the Jan. 21 meeting of the Wheeling village board.

A land dedication ordinance which the park district and school district have been trying to get for years was tabled and the park district's request for funding a bus was denied.

Village Attorney David Epstein told the board that there are technicalities with the proposed land donation ordinance that must be worked out. These center on including donations from industrial developer. For legal purposes and for the park district's request, industrial includes all commercial property. However the village may wish to exempt certain smaller properties, Epstein said.

"You don't want to impose a land donation on a single-family dwelling," he added. If the ordinance does not set limits someone who may wish to develop a small shopping center or small business is subject to making a donation, Epstein noted.

He suggested the board give the developer the option of dedicating land or donating money. Also he suggested the role of the park district and school board be advisory with all decisions made by the village board.

Epstein said the village board should get the money, hold it in trust, and approve the uses of the money. The ordinance, based on the Naperville land donation ordinance, was tabled by the board for further discussion.

As for the park district's request that the village fund a bus for their use, Trustee Charles Kerr suggested the request be denied.

Trustee Sheila Schultz said that the village use for a bus has not been determined at this time. But should the park district wish to purchase one they can go ahead, Schultz said.

Trustee Roger Powers said he is not opposed to the bus, but the way the park district made its request and the lack of information concerning the project.

IN OTHER ACTION, the board approved issuing $1.5 million in industrial bonds for Taunbee Steel & Wire Co. so the company could complete construction. Meanwhile, the board tabled a proposed water study for the village because of lack of information submitted by the bidder.

After several months, the board approved the appearance commission's rules of procedure and policies. Technicalities in language had held up the action until Monday, Jan. 21.

Wheeling Sylt - January 24, 1980

Employe residency law put in limbo

-By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — A residency ordinance requiring employes to live in the village was tabled "indefinitely" at the Jan. 21 Wheeling village board meeting.

The fact that more than 30 village employes showed up to protest the ordinance; a memo from the village attorney pointed out an error in the ordinance; the village staff recommended defeat of the ordinance, and an employe-signed petition was presented to the village helped determine the board's decision.

LARRY PARKS, a Wheeling policeman and president of the Wheeling Chapter of the Combined Counties Police Assoc. (CCPA) said he was not happy with having the ordinance "tabled indefinitely." He called it "a constant harrassment now hanging over our heads. It is a power struggle by part-time politicians to further harrass and attempt to control the employes of the village of Wheeling," Parks said. The employes wanted the ordinance voted down, he said.

However, "tabling indefinitely" is "killing it," according to Village Attorney David Epstein. Epstein said that the form the board took to defeat the ordinance was to preserve the procedural merits which the trustees had put into it.

In effect it was the positive approach to the negative motion, because it is off the agenda and off the board business unless someone does something to bring it up again, Epstein said.

THE ORDINANCE, posted after the last board meeting Jan. 7, required current village employes accepting a lateral or higher-rank promotion, or changing jobs within departments of the village to move to the village within one year, according to a memo from the attorney.

Before talk about a residency requirement, the police and fire commission had imposed a 10-mile radius limit for employes, said Police Lt. Ron Nelson. At that time, he was told there would be no problem if he purchased a home within that limit and almost 10 years ago, he did, Nelson said. He said that he enjoys his home and does not want to sell it.

Policeman Steve Weber said that the times the village has needed emergency recall of employes, they could not have amassed enough personnel to handle the situation, as when help is called for from Cook county sheriff's police, Northbrook, Mt. Prospect, Buffalo Grove or the state police.

"Our operators could not call emergency personnel that fast," Weber said. Weber told the board that the police were not told about the meetings for the ordinance.

"We had no idea about these meetings — nothing was ever posted on our bulletin board," Weber said.

EPSTEIN SENT a memo to the board in which he pointed out that he had interpreted the last two-hour board discussion to mean the "grandfather" clause was not to be included in the ordinance. He said originally he believed the board to have requested a paragraph excluding current employes ("grandfathering") from the residency requirements of the ordinance.

"The ordinance, as now written, will reduce the number of policemen and firemen willing to accept promotions," according to a letter from Village Manager Carsten Leikvold. Also, the ordinance would reduce the number of eligible applicants for village jobs," Leikvold's letter noted. In addition, it could affect labor relations, he stated. Twenty-six fire department employes signed a petition objecting to the ordinance. Fire Chief Bernie Koeppen sent the petition to the board with a letter stating that the proposed ordinance would "limit the availability of qualified candidates for the fire department, and would "impose an unnecessary infringement into the present employe's personal lives."

With the documentation and petition, and since the people do not like the ordinance, any lesser ordinance would not "meet with my requirements" said Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld. "I would vote it down," he said.

TRUSTEE JOHN COLE was in favor of passing the ordinance with the "grandfather" clause. Cole said the main reason for having the ordinance in the first place was to have people available on call.

With so many employes against the ordinance, there could be more important aspects, said Trustee Roger Powers. "We are asked to set requirements tonight that could affect future budgets and wage negotiations," Powers said. "If we force people to live in Wheeling, we must pay the wages to enable them to, or lower the cost of housing." He also agreed that the village would not be able to hire "the best" if the ordinance were imposed upon employes.

The idea of the residency ordinance was to have emergency personnel available quickly when needed, said Trustee Sheila Schultz. Sommerfeld added that the people who initiated the thought behind the residency ordinance were not in favor of it anymore and that was the problem.

Wheeling Sylt 1/24/80

Interview Lewis for manager job

WHEELING—The village board has interviewed its third and final candidate for the position of village manager. Former finance director William Lewis was interviewed by the village board Saturday morning, Jan. 19. Lewis is currently administrator of a small town in Arkansas.

The board has also interviewed former assistant village manager Tom Markus, who is now city manager of Savage, MN, and William Sommer, assistant village manager of Buffalo Grove.

Village President William Hein said Monday, Jan. 21, that the board hopes to have its decision by Jan. 31.

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold resigned his position in October, but offered to stay until a new manager is selected or March 31, whichever date comes first. Leikvold said the political atmosphere in Wheeling became too much for him. He was under almost constant criticism by some members of the board for failure to act upon directives by the board.

Leikvold said he cannot make public his future job yet.

Countryside Reminder 1/24/80

Police feted for arrest

Two Wheeling police officers recently received departmental commendations for their work in capturing a man who reportedly shot two people.

Officers Frank Murphy and Bill Sharpe were praised for their efforts in apprehending Raymond Preston, 34, of 1770 Palm Drive, Mt. Prospect, on Dec. 13 of last year. Police said on that day Preston reportedly became involved in an argument with other customers at the bar Memphis By Night, 968 S. Milwaukee Ave., and shot two men who were innocent bystanders. One of the men was shot in the chest and subsequently underwent surgery because of the injury.

Police said Preston fled from the scene after the incident, but was apprehended by Murphy and Sharpe. Preston has been charged with two counts of aggravated battery and armed violence. He is awaiting trial.

Senior housing, center unveiled at hearing

Countryside Reminder 1/17/80

By MARION SOURS

Dozens of Wheeling senior citizens appeared Monday night at the village's public hearing to hear plans for the community development block grant program in the village. Discussed at the meeting were the proposed construction of a senior center, low-income senior housing, an emergency-care clinic and new commercial developments.

Not all the projects discussed during the meeting will be funded by the $1.24 million block grant, available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and approved by Cook County. The grant will be spread over a three-year period.

Actually, the block grant only will fund the senior center and the commercial redevelopment program. Funding for the low-income housing and for land acquisition for the medical clinic were requested in the original block grant application, but low-income housing later was funded by a separate HUD fund, and the hospital decided to pay all the costs for acquisition of its land.

Still, since the projects were planned as part of a total Wheeling downtown rehabilitation project, the village considered the projects as a whole Monday.

For the first time, at the meeting, seniors heard the plans for the low-income senior housing, which they have sought for so many years. Approval of funding for the project only recently was given by Cook County. HUD funds to build elderly housing had not been available in the county for two years. Wheeling seniors were dismayed in October when they learned it might be six months or more before funding was forthcoming for the housing. But this month, the Cook County Housing Authority announced plans to build 100 subsidized apartments for seniors and the handicapped in Wheeling.

At the meeting Monday, Victor Walchirk, director of the housing authority, announced the proposed housing will be built on 2 to 3 acres and will be between 6 and 10 stories high.

The building will contain 99 one-bedroom apartments and one two-bedroom custodian's apartment. People who will be eligible to live in the apartments must have a net annual income not to exceed $9,000 for one person or $10,200 for two people. Occupants may not have assets exceeding $15,000.

The rent charged to occupants may equal 25 per cent of their net income, not to exceed $99 a month. About 6 to 7 months before the building is completed (projected for spring, 1982), the county will begin taking applications for the housing. Announcements will be made throughout Wheeling informing seniors when the application period will begin.

Walchirk said if the Village of Wheeling requests it, priority will be given to Wheeling residents. Among Wheeling residents who apply, then, priority in turn would be given to those who show the greatest financial need.

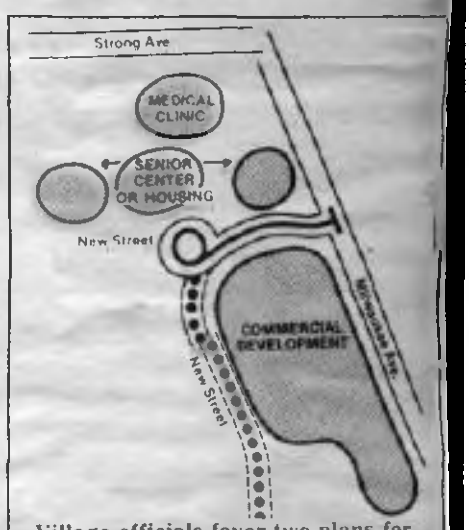
Those who may live in the building must be age 62 or older. Handicapped individuals, younger than age 62, also may live in the building.

Walchirk said some apartments will be equipped for the handicapped, or will have features which will accommodate the elderly. He said the building will contain social and recreational areas, lounges, community kitchens and laundry rooms. He said the building will have a maintenance man and a manager.

Sister Patricia Ann, president of Holy Family Hospital, discussed the proposed clinic, to be built on about three acres at the southwest corner of Strong and Milwaukee avenues. The clinic site is the only building site definitely established. The proposed sites for the other developments were outlined later in the meeting by Wheeling Village Planner Richard Greenwood.

The emergency-care clinic will be hous-

(Continued on page 14)



Village officials favor two plans for downtown rehabilitation. Option C calls for the construction of a medical clinic with a senior center directly south of the clinic and senior housing to the east. Option D calls for the medical center in the same location, with housing to be directly south and a small commercial development to the east. The senior center is proposed to be west of the housing.

Countryside Reminder 1/17/80

Senior center plan unveiled—

(Continued from page 5)

ed in a 20,000-square-foot building. It will treat patients who do not need to be hospitalized overnight, much as an emergency room would do. The clinic will offer some medical testing, screening and inoculations. Free services will be offered to needy children. Also public information classes, on such topics as CPR, will be offered.

Plans are to break ground for the clinic this spring, with a projected completion date of spring, 1981.

The proposed senior center was not discussed in length at the hearing. At past village meetings, however, the center has been proposed as a recreational meeting place for senior citizens. Wheeling senior citizens currently meet in Chamber Park Church, a site which has become severely overcrowded as more seniors wish to attend Senior Citizen Club functions there.

Village planner Greenwood presented a number of proposed plans for situating the developments. He divided the plans into "Options A through D", pointing out that village officials were inclined to view options C and D as the most viable. In a poll of seniors at the meeting, option D was selected as the favorite.

In viewing the map above, option C placed the medical center at the north, placed the senior center directly south of the clinic, and placed the housing to the east of the center, fronting on Milwaukee Avenue. It also included the large area for commercial development to the south, in which new businesses will be constructed.

Option D calls for the medical clinic in the same location, but calls for the senior housing to be located directly south of the clinic and a small portion of commercial development to the east of the housing, near Milwaukee Avenue (where housing was proposed in option C). Option D proposes that the senior center be located to the west of the housing, with the large commercial development area remaining to the south.

The senior center is proposed to be completed in the spring of 1982. The commercial development would be completed gradually, from 1985 to 1990.

The seniors at the meeting Monday appeared enthusiastic at the plans, but some still were wary, and often asked, "When will the projects start?"

One woman said she was strongly in favor of the housing. She said she only receives $248 a month, and has been on waiting lists for low-income housing for 6 years.

Some residents were concerned about the height of the senior housing. They questioned whether a 10-story building would interfere with Pal-Waukee air traffic. One man asked if the Wheeling fire department is equipped to handle a 10-story building. Village President William Hein admitted he didn't know. Officials said, however, that the building's proposed height would not interfere with air traffic.

Herald 1/19/80

Trustees interview candidate

Wheeling trustees today will interview a third candidate — a city manager from Arkansas — for the village manager's job.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said Friday that today's interview may be the final one conducted by the village board in its effort to find a replacement for Carsten Leikvold, who says he will resign in April.

Sommerfeld declined to identify the applicant but said he is in his 30s and works for an Arkansas city "probably smaller than Wheeling."

So far, the board has interviewed Thomas Markus, a former assistant village manager of Wheeling, and William Sommer, assistant village manager of Buffalo Grove.

TODAY'S INTERVIEW will begin at 8 a.m. and could last several hours, Sommerfeld said. Trustees probably will schedule a special meeting to discuss the qualifications of the candidates and decide whether to conduct any more interviews, he said.

"We'll probably look at the three candidates to see if we have found someone who fits the needs of the community," Sommerfeld said. Interviewing more candidates could be "a waste of time," he said.

Sommerfeld said the Arkansas man found out about the opening because "he is acquainted with some people in the village."

He said he wouldn't reveal the name of the applicant because he didn't "know what his position is as far as his current job goes."

Two or three other persons have applied for the job but weren't interviewed because they lack experience for the post, Sommerfeld said.

He doubts a decision will be made at Monday night's board meeting.

The week ahead Herald 1/21/80

Village may sell bonds to company

Wheeling village trustees tonight will consider selling $1.5 million in industrial revenue bonds to help a local company finance installation of pollution control equipment.

The village board will review plans for selling the bonds to Taubensee Steel and Wire Co., which intends to build the pollution facility as part of an addition to its plant at 600 Diens Dr.

The 20-year bonds will be tax-free and paid off by revenue from Taubensee.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said Wheeling won't be liable for the bonds, but is lending its tax-exempt status to Taubensee as part of a general policy to encourage business growth in the community.

The board will meet at 8 p.m. in village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

• • •

IN AN EFFORT to better serve a large population of elderly residents, Wheeling officials today may establish a special advisory group for senior citizens.

The advisory panel would help village administrators plan senior citizen programs, help elderly obtain financial aid and supervise development of a senior center.

Trustee Sheila Schultz, who favors establishing the commission, said at least 1,600 village residents are 60 years or older.

The board will meet at 8 p.m. in village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd., to consider the proposal.

Herald 1/31/80

Village may venture for lake water

Hoping eventually to join other suburbs in building a pipeline to Lake Michigan, Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold is proposing that the village spend $26,000 to begin preparing its arguments.

Wheeling is one of the few Northwest suburbs that are not part of at least one consortium seeking lake water. Although the village has been plagued with water shortages in recent years, the the state has rejected previous attempts by Wheeling to draw water from Lake Michigan.

Leikvold hopes to give Wheeling a non-voting, advisory role with the Northwest Suburban Water System Venture, a group of eight suburbs considering building a pipeline to Chicago lines at O'Hare Airport for Lake Michigan water.

TO BEGIN, he is asking village trustees to spend $26,000 on an engineering firm that would, among other things, prepare plans Wheeling can later use to persuade state officials that the community needs Lake Michigan water.

The village board will act on Leikvold's recommendation at today's meeting.

He said the village needs involvement to keep up on the latest plans for lake water and guarantee that any future pipeline is designed with the possibility of eventually serving Wheeling.

Leikvold said the village may renew its request for lake water this year, and wants to be prepared to join the North Suburban Water Venture if it wins the right to the water. The Illinois Dept. of Transportation must grant a community a portion of Lake Michigan water before it can become a full, voting member of the group.

THE COALITION WILL consider Wheeling's bid for an advisory role this morning.

Leikvold recommended that the village hire Consoer and Townsend and Associates of Chicago to investigate obtaining water from the lake, or by digging more deep wells, establishing shallow wells and a filtration system, or even drawing water from the Des Plaines River.

Consoer submitted the lowest of four bids. The others ranged from $62,000 to $68,800.

Herald 1/22/80

Trustees table residency law for village employees

Faced with an audience packed with irate village employees, the Wheeling Village Board Monday night tabled indefinitely a law which would require certain employees to live in the village.

However, several trustees were upset with the employees for not voicing their objections during the previous months when the ordinance, which would require all new policemen, firefighters and some public works employees to live in Wheeling, was discussed.

"We spent months putting this thing together. We had all kinds of meetings and nobody shows up," said Trustee Robert Ross. "Now we get all kinds of petitions."

PETITIONS SIGNED by 46 policemen and 26 firefighters opposing the residency law were presented to the village board last week.

One year ago, Police Chief Ted Bracke asked the board to require new policemen to live within 10 miles of the village in order to be available more readily for emergencies. The proposed law later was expanded to include the firefighters and public works employees. However, trustees decided informally a few months ago that the 10-mile limit would do little to improve the situation.

Although the new law was Bracke's idea originally, patrolman Steve Weber said policemen were not asked for their opinions on the residency law. "None of us were told about the committee meetings," he said.

"These weren't secret meetings," said Trustee Sheila Schultz, adding that is was "incredible" that village employees were unaware that the residency law was being considered.

"They would have (been aware of the proposal) if they were residents," said Trustee John Cole, who voted against tabling the law. Cole said he favored the law because he wanted the village to have employees who were "members of the community," rather than employees who would work in town "and then go home and forget about it."

Trustee Roger Powers joined Cole in voting against tabling the residency ordinance, but Powers said he wanted to vote down the law. The residency requirement, he said, would "cause the available labor pool to dry up. We would be hiring only those who can afford to live in Wheeling."

Herald 1/23/80

Trustees nix water study

Saying the village has had enough studies, Wheeling trustees are refusing to spend $26,000 to hire a consultant to determine whether the village should attempt to join eight other suburbs that plan to bring Lake Michigan water to their communities.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said a new study is needed to present the village's case to the Illinois Dept. of Transportation, which will decide later this year whether any new towns will receive lake water. Three years ago, IDOT rejected the village's request for an allocation.

Leikvold recommended the village join the Northwest Suburban Water System Venture, a group of eight towns that are considering contruction of a pipeline to Chicago lines at O'Hare Airport for Lake Michigan water. Wheeling is one of the few suburbs not a part of of at least one consortium seeking lake water.

The village is building two new wells now, but Leikvold said that may be only a temporary answer to Wheeling's water woes, which have forced village officials to impose bans on lawn sprinkling and car washing for the past several summers.

"WE SHOULD BE pulling together for the future," he told trustees Monday night. "The water table is drying up."

But trustees say the village hired a firm to do a comprehensive study of the village water system before the unsuccessful attempt to get a lake water allocation.

"It seems like all this board is ever asked to do is approve money for consultants," Trustee John Cole said. "I want to know what this water study is going to do that past water studies have not done."

Board members and village staff members will meet in the next few weeks to determine whether the village has enough information to present its case to IDOT.

IN THE MEANTIME, there is no problem with Wheeling participating as a non-voting member of the eight-suburb coalition, said Charles Willis, Venture chairman.

However, he said Wheeling must decide by fall "whether they're in or out" because the village will have to pay its share of the preliminary engineering costs of designing the lake pipeline to the suburbs.

Willis said that decision might have to be made before IDOT decides whether Wheeling will receive a lake water allocation. "That's the risk we all take," Willis said.

IDOT's hearings will be conducted in October or November.

Countryside Reminder 1/24/80

Wheeling tables plan to limit residency rule

By MARION SOURS

Wheeling may be a great place to live, but village employees shouldn't be forced to live there. That was the consensus of opinion among numerous village employees who showed up at Monday night's Wheeling village board meeting to protest proposed residency requirements.

"Members of the police department are allied with other village employees in opposing the ordinance," said Lawrence Parks, a Wheeling resident and representative of the Wheeling Police Department Employee Association. Village trustees were presented with petitions protesting the ordinance, signed by 26 fire department employees and 46 police department employees.

Because of the protests, village trustees voted to table the proposed ordinance indefinitely, in effect, killing it. But the trustees said they were very irritated that after months of work on the ordinance, opposition only had surfaced at the last minute.

"I would ask that in the future no one cry wolf over an issue, and then turn around and say 'There's no problem'," Trustee Sheila Schultz said. She was referring to the fact that the proposal to establish a residency requirement for some village employees had been suggested by Wheeling Police Chief Ted Bracke, Village Manager Carsten Leikvold and Fire Chief Bernhardt Koeppen. All three men recently issued statements opposing the proposed ordinance.

Part of the problem has involved a lack of agreement regarding residency limits. Leikvold, Bracke and Koeppen originally had wanted some restrictions on residency for village employees serving in emergency-type functions, such as the police, fire and operations and maintenance departments. They sought these restrictions in order to curb absenteeism and improve village efficiency.

However, the residency limit Bracke had said he supported involved a 10-mile radius from the village. He also suggested that the requirements be applied to new village employees, who would be required to move to the village within 18 months of their hiring.

A majority of the village trustees, however, in discussing the ordinance, decided the 10-mile limit was meaningless. They said travel time depends mainly on traffic and other factors, rather than on actual distance.

They supported an ordinance which would require new employees in emergency-type jobs to live within the boundaries of Wheeling. They said they believed Wheeling has a wide variety of housing in various price ranges, so almost everyone could find a residence he or she could afford.

Also, the trustees said they believed workers would be more loyal to the village if they lived within its boundaries. They said they favored having new workers move within the village within 12 months following employment.

It was intended that the proposed ordinance would not have affected present employees, unless they decided to move. However, it was disclosed at Monday's meeting that the wording of the ordinance also would have required any employee who was promoted to a new position to move within the village.

At the last board meeting at which the ordinance was discussed, on Dec. 16, Leikvold told trustees that he, Bracke and Koeppen recommended that the ordinance not be passed. However, trustees questioned whether Bracke and Koeppen actually shared Leikvold's opinion, since neither of the men were present, and since trustees said they were not aware the chiefs had any objections.

The only trustee who did not favor the proposed ordinance at the Dec. 16 meeting was Trustee Roger Powers, who said he believed the ordinance would prevent the village from obtaining the most qualified

(Continued on page 7)

Residency—

(Continued from page 5)

employees possible.

Powers reiterated his opposition at Monday's meeting. "We will be limited to hiring only those who can afford to live in Wheeling," he said.

"There are places within a 10-mile radius where you can pay 30 per cent less for housing (than in Wheeling)," Powers said.

Trustee John Cole protested Powers' statements. "You are presuming that salaries here are low and housing high," he said. "Our employees are some of the highest paid in the state."

"Ten years ago, you mean," a village employee in the audience retorted.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said he was in favor of a residency requirement, but said if the Wheeling-limit were not imposed such a requirement would be meaningless. "We are faced with a situation where the people behind the original request are against it. So why continue? What's the point?" he said.

Steve Weber, a member of the Wheeling police department, addressed the board and pointed to what he said was a fallacy in reasoning in connection with the proposed ordinance. He said it had been claimed that if police employees lived closer to their jobs, they more readily would be available for emergency (off-duty) calls.

However, in actuality, Weber said, in cases of emergency, the police can get help much more quickly by alerting on-duty police from Buffalo Grove, Arlington Heights, Northbrook or the Cook County Sheriff's Police, through the ISPERN emergency network than they could by trying to track down off-duty Wheeling policemen.

Herald 1/24/80

2 village patrolmen commended for arrest

Two Wheeling patrolmen received commendations from the village for their role last month in arresting a suspect in a shooting at a bar in Wheeling Township that left two persons injured.

Patrolman Frank Murphy, 29, and William Sharpe, 42, were praised by Police Chief Ted Bracke for "showing good, aggressive patrol work. They apprehended a suspect within five minutes after the shooting."

Murphy and Sharpe were on routine patrol Dec. 13 when a call came on the radio that two persons had been shot at the Memphis By Night tavern, 968 S. Milwaukee Ave., and a suspect was fleeing the scene in a white van. The officers spotted the van and stopped it on Palatine Road, just west of Milwaukee Avenue.

They arrested Raymond Preston, 34, of Garden Grove, Calif. He was charged with two counts of aggravated battery and one count of armed violence. Preston allegedly opened fire with a revolver, shooting at a man in the bar with whom he apparently was angry.

James Hansen, 31, of Wonder Lake, was shot in the chest. Ronald Hendricks, 47, of Lake in the Hills, was wounded in the arm.

Preston is free on bond. No trial date has been set.

Herald 1/24/80

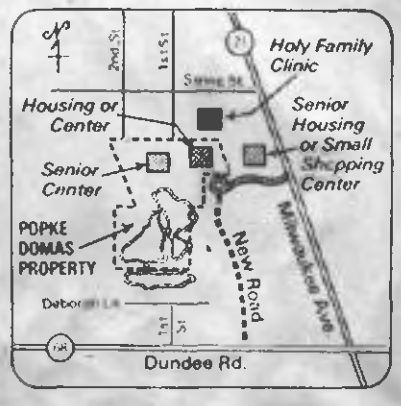
Village seeks senior center land

Wheeling officials are beginning to negotiate for three to six acres of land for a senior citizens center, a 100-apartment housing project for the elderly and an emergency clinic.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said Wednesday he will hire two real estate agents this week to give informal appraisals of land owned by developers Lambert Domas and Thomas Popke. The land is near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street.

The developers plan to use their 11 acres for a 114-unit condominium project known as Three Lakes.

LEIKVOLD SAYS the village should buy at least three acr$s of the Three Lakes site or as much as six acres, depending on which of two plans is accepted by the village board.



The two options for the area are:

• The village would buy at least six of the 11 acres from Popke and Domas. The senior center and housing project would be built on the northern half of the Three Lakes property. The southern portion, which contains the three lakes, would be preserved as open space. Immediately east of the housing, along Milwaukee Avenue, a small shopping center would be developed.

• The village would buy about three acres of the northeast portion of the property for the senior center. Instead of the shopping center, the senior housing project would be built along Milwaukee Avenue. This option would permit the developers to build a scaled-down version of their condominium project, Leikvold said.

Popke and Domas have showed a willingness to sell some of their land, Leikvold said. But village officials acknowledge they will have to pay a higher price for the land because of a controversial rezoning more than a year ago. Over the objections of three trustees and nearby residents, the land was rezoned from single-family housing to multi-family housing.

SINCE THE REZONING, the village board has delayed approving the developers' building plans because of a consultant's report issued last year, which said the best location for the senior center, housing and clinic would be in the area of Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue.

The $4.5 million clinic, planned by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, will be located at the southwest corner of Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue, north of the senior center and housing.

Herald 1/25/80

State senator to promote Dundee Road widening

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Although the village has asked the Northwest Municipal Conference for $400,000 to finance the project's engineering work, Wheeling "should go right to the source," said Village Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, who asked Keats to convince the state to consider the project.

KEATS SAID he plans to schedule a meeting with IDOT officials and other area legislators to discuss the possibility of adding the Dundee Road work to a list of planned state road improvement projects.

He said he was "only kind of aware" of the high accident rate on Dundee Road before meeting with the chamber.

"Nobody from Wheeling has ever approached me before," he said.

Buffalo Grove and Northbrook, which border Wheeling, had substantially fewer accidents last year. Patrolman Armando Pizzi, head of Wheeling's traffic division, blamed Wheeling's higher accident rate on insufficient turning lanes on Dundee Road.

There were 434 accidents last year on Dundee Road in Wheeling, including one fatality. Buffalo Grove and Northbrook reported 299 and 371 accidents respectively on Dundee Road, with no fatalities.

"I think that shows Wheeling is the most dangerous place to drive," Pizzi said. "And one of the main reasons is because we don't have any turning lanes."

THE VILLAGE last October requested federal money through the Northwest Municipal Conference for the road work because the conference is expected to receive an additional $40 million for suburban road improvements during the next four years.

However, Wheeling is competing with other Northwest suburbs that have asked the conference to consider more than 40 new road projects. And conference officials say they may not be able to finance any other projects because of cost overruns.

That federal aid money traditionally is used for road improvements included on the Federal Aid to Urban Systems plan. Dundee Road is considered a "primary road" and mainly a responsibility of the state.

Also, Keats said Wheeling "might not be terribly influential with the Northwest Municipal Conference. They're one of the smaller towns. But I think we might be able to make a pretty good case with IDOT."

Calling the accident rate on Dundee Road in Wheeling "horrendous," a state senator says he'll try to convince the Illinois Dept. of Transportation to widen two miles of the highway.

"If you look at those accident statistics, you'll find they're horrendous," State Sen. Roger Keats, R-Wilmette, said after meeting recently with the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce.

"And if you look at Dundee Road, everything to the east of Wheeling is fixed, and everything to the west of Wheeling is fixed. I think the state just overlooked this," he said.

Keats said he was unaware of the high accident rate before meeting with the Wheeling officials

Countryside Reporter 1/24/80

Palwaukee price tag + $85 million: study

Pal-waukee Airport may require about $85 million in financing over a 20-year period, members of an consulting firm reported last Thursday.

A representative of Ralph Burke and Associates, the consulting firm which is preparing a $120,000 study regarding possible airport financing, released the figure for the first time at the Jan. 17 meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

The committee is made up of state, federal and area officials.

The airport study has been based on the premise that the airport will be purchased by Wheeling and Prospect Heights. The villages still are not certain they can afford the purchase, however, and are awaiting the final outcome of the study.

The previously released figure regarding airport costs was $21 million for purchase of the existing airport. However, the gap between $21 million and the newly released figure of $85 million is not as alarming as it might appear.

"The figure didn't come as a surprise to me," said Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold. "I knew there would be many costs besides the purchase price."

Actually, the $85 is based on a worst-possible situation, in which the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) would refuse to relax any safety standards for the airport. But FAA officials have said it is common procedure to relax some safety standards in the case of airports already in existence, in comparison to the standards imposed on newly built airports.

In fact, officials estimated Thursday, it is likely the real cost of the airport will be about half the estimated $85 million figure. The FAA report is due by March.

The $85 million is broken down into several parts: the $21 million for the initial purchase of the airport; $11 million for purchasing land in the area of Wolf and Hintz roads, and the relocation of those roads during the next five years; and $53 million, which would be spent over the remaining 15 years for land purchases and airport improvements.

The proposed expenditures, then, apart from the initial $21 million acquisition cost, would total $64 million (again, based on a worst-possible situation). Spread over 20 years, this would come out to about $3.5 million per year. Of the total cost of the airport, whatever it turns out to be, the federal government is expected to pay 80 per cent of the cost, the state 10 per cent and the local governments 10 per cent.

Following the recent TAC meeting, Leikvold emphasized that "no part of this (local government's share) will come from Wheeling in taxes." Instead, he said, funds might come from such sources as airline contributions or aircraft user fees.

These options have been discussed in the past. Representatives of Burke and Associates have suggested that since it is in the interest of O'Hare-based airlines to keep Pal-Waukee open, to avoid overcrowding at O'Hare, they might be persuaded to contribute funds. Differential user fees also have been discussed, a system through which aircraft which use the greatest amount of facilities would pay the highest fees, and businesses outside Wheeling or Prospect Heights which use the airport might be charged greater rates than resident companies.

Having some other area municipalities contribute to the airport purchase is another option that TAC has considered.

Wheeling Sun 1/24/80

elect senior housing site

Board okays grant

WHEELING — Wheeling village trustees Monday, Jan. 21, gave the go ahead to the staff to proceed with plans for the community development block grant program, and arranged for a meeting with developers of the Three Lakes subdivision.

Village President William Hein called an open meeting for Tuesday, Jan. 29, where the board will meet as a committee to discuss whether or not the Three Lakes subdivision will encompass the site for the block grant program.

During the special meeting, the board will select a site for senior citizens' housing. Wheeling has been awarded a grant for senior citizens' housing for a 100-unit building with at least six stories.

Option under consideration would use land currently available for the site, while options C or D would require purchase of a portion of the proposed Three Lakes subdivision owned by Lambert Domas and Thomas Popke.

According to Village Manager Carsten Leikvold, the village must obtain independent MIA real estate appraisals, because they do not know what the costs of the land will be.

LEIKVOLD SUBMITTED a resolution to the board authorizing the manager to obtain the appraisals, preliminary engineering, site plans, and select an architect.

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld agreed with the fact-gathering and planning but questioned the hiring of an architect at this point. He also agreed that these items have to be done, but questioned Leikvold's plan to do them without telling the board exactly what he was planning to do and how.

"We could use a good staff meeting with our people and show what you want done," Leikvold said.

TRUSTEE CHARLES KERR said he agreed with the appraisal and preliminary engineering, but asked Leikvold to come back with some plans. "Can the property be purchased or does it have to be condemned?" Kerr asked Leikvold.

The architect's sketches would show how the senior housing would relate to plans for an ambulatory-care clinic to be built by Holy Family hospital at Milwaukee and Strong, and the proposed senior center, Leikvold told the board. He said he will give the village cost figures. "These are the basic things we need."

Trustee Sheila Schultz reminded the board that the cost of the land could affect the board's decision on the site. The Cook county housing authority (CCHA) favors land bordering Milwaukee avenue, "very firmly," according to Trustee John Cole.

Village Attorney David Epstein reminded the board that "What an unwilling seller is willing to accept (for the land) may not be the fair market value."

When the Three Lakes subdivision preliminary plat came up at the meeting, Leikvold told the board it was not "fair to hold these people up." He said he would like to have sat down with them to discuss the project.

Hein said that the item should be put into committee with the board as a whole to meet with the staff and Domas and Popke. Trustee Robert Ross asked what purpose it would serve, and Sommerfeld replied that with full board involvement, "we should be able to determine what we want to do with the land and get it done much more quickly."



Wheeling Herald 1/5/80

READY TO RESPOND to emergencies, Wheeling's new branch fire station has opened at Hintz and Wheeling roads. The station will enable the fire department to provide better protection to residents on the west side of the village, cut off from Wheeling's main station by railroad tracks. Those residents had depended on Buffalo Grove firefighters to help if a passing freight train slowed Wheeling firefighters.

Herald photo



THE ADDITIONS TO the Wheeling municipal complex will be completed in 1980, including a new main fire station, shown under construction here. (Photo by Steve Donisch)

Wheeling Herald 1/3/80

Herald - January 4, 1980

Village seeks new water sources

by Pat Doyle

Herald staff writer

Plagued with well breakdowns and sprinkling bans in past years, Wheeling officials have intensified efforts to obtain water from new sources, ranging from Lake Michigan to the Des Plaines River.

Wheeling administrators have asked four consulting firms to prepare plans the village can use should it renew its effort for the right to draw water from Lake Michigan.

Officials also have asked the firms for alternatives to increase the village's water supply, including expanding the existing well water system and tapping the Des Plaines River.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold Thursday said four firms have submitted bids for the planning, and he hopes the village board will choose one before the end of January.

THE PRICE OF the study would range from $26,600 to $68,800, depending on which firm the village board chooses.

Wheeling has been hit with water shortages during the past several summers, forcing the village to ban lawn sprinkling to ensure adequate reserves for drinking, sanitation and emergencies, like a major fire.

Although the village will complete a million-gallon reservoir in time for next summer, Leikvold said it won't be adequate in future years.

"I'd say next summer we will be in good shape," he said. "But what we'll be in five years, I can't say. Probably if we keep getting the growth we have had we'll be in bad shape."

ALTHOUGH TAPPING THE Des Plaines River is one alternative the village asked consultants to consider when bidding for the study, Leikvold and Michael Klitzke, senior village engineer, say the river is a less likely source of new water than either wells or Lake Michigan.

Pumping water from the river would require an expensive treatment facility to remove waste and other pollutants from the water, Leikvold said.

A more likely approach, they say, is obtaining water from the lake. But permission from the state is necessary before Wheeling can do that, and the state in 1977 rejected a Wheeling bid for lake water, saying the village has ample ground water to serve its population through the year 2010.

A consultant would be asked to devise arguments that Wheeling needs Lake Michigan water to support its growing population and industry through the turn of the century. The firm would be asked to devise a plan in about six months so the village could renew a request for Lake Michigan water this year.

LEIKVOLD SAID IF Wheeling wins the right to some lake water, it will join eight other Northwest suburbs that belong to a group investigating the possibility of building a pipeline to Chicago water lines at O'Hare Airport for lake water. He rejected the possibility of building a pipeline to Evanston as too expensive.

The four firms whose bids will be considered by the village board are: Clark Dietz Associates, Chicago, $68,800; Murphy Engineering, Chicago, $64,000; Metcalf and Eddy Inc., Des Plaines, $62,000; Consoer and Townsend and Associates, Chicago, $26,600.

Prospect Heights is asked to help buy bus for seniors

Herald 1/5/80

Wheeling Park District is turning to Prospect Heights for help in purchasing a new bus for senior citizen outings.

Park district officials had hoped Wheeling and the local Rotary Club would contribute the approximately $19,000 needed to buy the new bus, but Park Director David Phillips said Friday the prospect of a Rotary Club contribution has "become pretty shaky" and Wheeling village trustees have not made a decision.

The Wheeling Park District encompasses a small part of eastern Prospect Heights bounded by Milwaukee Avenue and Palatine, Wolf and Old Willow roads. Although it may be a small area geographically, Phillips said it includes about 6,000 residents — about 200 of them elderly — and he is asking Prospect Heights for $7,000.

CITY OFFICIALS are not commenting on the request until Phillips makes a formal presentation at the city council's meeting Monday night. But City Administrator Stephen Sturgell called it "an unusual request" because it "comes from a governmental body in which we don't know what involvement we have. I certainly can't make any recommendation in favor of it until we determine just what impact it would really have on Prospect Heights."

Until October, the district used a 15-year-old bus donated to it by the Rotary Club in 1975. But the aging vehicle had 130,000 miles on it, and, in the fall, "the engine blew," Phillips said. Park officials say they can't afford to pay $19,000 to $24,000 for a new bus.

The bus is heavily used by the park district's 25,000 residents for field trips to museums, plays and restaurants. In the four years since the district began operating the bus, the vehicle has carried more than 55,000 passengers — most of them seniors, Phillips said. And unless enough contributions are made to buy a new one, the trips will have to be eliminated from the park district's activities.

In the months since the old bus went on the blink, the district has rented transportation — with each trip costing "a couple of hundred bucks," Phillips said. Passengers were only charged $1 for transportation in the district-owned bus, but the charge has increased to $5 or more for the rented buses, a price Phillips said is too expensive for many seniors with fixed incomes.

"We'd be pricing people right out if we continued doing that," he said.

Phillips is asking the Rotary Club for $4,000 to $6,000, Prospect Heights for $7,000 and Wheeling for between $15,000 and $17,000. Wheeling Township and the Cook County Area Agency on Aging already have refused to help.

for seniors urged

"Each retailer makes up his own mind what he wants to do, if anything," Mrs. Swan said. "We'll just publish it."

VARIETY STORES, beauty shops, pharmacies and restaurants are among the 25 businesses that will offer discounts, Mrs. Swan said. Some already have begun discounts on their own initiative, she said.

The discounts range from 15 percent off on a certain service to lower prices during off-peak hours, times when seniors often prefer to shop anyway, she said. The discounts for senior citizens help retailers as well as elderly because "it tends to help keep people shopping in your area," she said.

The brochure will be arranged like the Yellow Pages, with businesses offering discounts listed under subjects or services.

Under the tutoring system, for example, elderly with a knowledge of French or Spanish could teach those languages to someone in exchange for lessons in a craft like woodwork. She asks elderly persons interested in such an arrangement to contact her at the Wheeling Village Hall.

Shopping discounts

Herald 1/5/80

Wheeling has launched a drive encouraging village businesses to offer senior citizens discounts on merchandise and services or to provide them with part-time jobs.

About 150 retailers have received letters asking them to consider offering cheaper prices and jobs for seniors and urging them to inform the village of special deals.

So far, about 25 retailers say they will offer senior citizens discounts and a couple say they may have jobs available for the elderly.

THE VILLAGE will list the firms with discounts in a brochure it will publish sometime this spring, said Geraldine Swan, senior citizen coordinator.

Besides appealing to businesses, Mrs. Swan intends to set up a system in which the elderly with particular skills would tutor others for a fee or in exchange for tutoring in other fields.

Wheeling has not suggested specific discounts to businesses but reminds them in a letter that senior citizens are coping with inflation on fixed incomes and asks businesses to do what they can to help.

"Our aim: To love God, tell the truth and make money." Est. 1865 Daily Herald 2/8/79

Hospital fight is almost won

The fight isn't quite over, but prospects for the hospital proposed for just outside Wheeling appear dimmer than ever — thankfully.

The latest setback for Franklin Boulevard Community Hospital of Chicago, which wants to build a 232-bed hospital here despite overwhelming evidence it isn't needed, came this week when the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals voted unanimously against the project. In doing so, the zoning commissioners heeded intense local opposition, including that by three nearby suburbs — Wheeling, Buffalo Grove and Prospect Heights — which have filed statutory objections with the Cook County Board.

The county board has the final say on the proposal, of course. But because of the objections by the suburbs, the board needs an extraordinary majority to approve the hospital. Getting that many votes is unlikely — especially in the face of a negative recommendation by the zoning board. Moreover, the county board probably will not consider the plans for another month, and that will be too late.



Under recent Illinois legislation, construction on the hospital must begin by Jan. 1, or it must receive approval by a state agency that will determine whether the hospital is truly needed. Illinois already requires such a determination be made for hospitals proposed now. Initially put forward in 1974, Franklin Boulvard's branch is exempt from the requirement by virtue of a grandfather clause — but only for three more weeks.

It's doubtful Franklin Boulevard could survive the assessment. The Suburban Cook-DuPage Counties Health Systems Agency, which is charged with reviewing proposed hospitals and clinics, has informally concluded the hospital is not needed. As HSA points out, the suburban area surrounding the proposed hospital already has more hospital beds than it needs.

This surfeit of beds costs everyone money. Premiums on health insurance and taxes for Medicaid are high partly because they help pay for unnecessary hospital equipment and for needlessly long and too numerous hospitalizations. Construction of more hospitals in locales where they aren't needed only aggravates the problem.

Officials at both the municpal and county levels seem to realize what Franklin Boulevard's executives do not.

Herald 1/14/80

Separate taxing district for Pal-Waukee proposed

by Pat Doyle

Herald staff writer

Several Northwest suburban communities are considering forming a special district with taxing power to buy and operate Pal-Waukee Airport.

Consultants hired by the Northwest Municipal Conference have urged municipalities to consider establishing a separate government as an alternative to joint operation by Wheeling and Prospect Heights.

The district could have the power to tax, although suburban officials say it is unlikely that the municipalities would levy taxes.

WILLIAM GRAMS, executive director of the Municipal Conference, said communties are waiting to find out how much it will cost to buy the airport and make improvements necessary to qualify for federal funds before deciding how to finance their share of the costs.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials have primarily considered a joint effort at running the airport, but they say creating a special district or authority involving three or more other communities may relieve them of some of the burden.

The airport would cost at least $21 million to buy, and local communties would be responsible for about 10 percent of that, or $3.8 million. Although Wheeling and Prospect Heights have said they would finance their share by selling bonds and paying them off with airport revenue, the bonds could be backed with local property taxes in the event Pal-Waukee loses money.

A SPECIAL DISTRICT would spread the burden of local financing among other towns. "Obviously, the more towns behind the bonds the better the interest rate will be," said Stephen Sturgell, city administrator of Prospect Heights.

Whether Prospect Heights or Wheeling decide to go it alone or try to form an airport district "depends on the cost," Sturgell said. "It's a matter of whether or not Prospect Heights and Wheeling can swing the local amount."

Mount Prospect, Glenview and Northbrook might be included in the set up of the district, which could be a separate governmental unit with taxing power, or an agency with representives from several communities, Sturgell said.

BOTH STURGELL and Grams said even if a taxing district is established, it would only be used as a vehicle for selling bonds, not raising taxes. Grams said it was possible that such a district could raise taxes to operate the airport if revenues were inadequate to retire the bonds, but said that was unlikely.

"Any bonds issued would have to be paid off with revenue," said Sturgell.

Pal-Waukee, the country's biggest privately-run airport, relieves O'Hare, the world's busiest airport, of some private plane and jet traffic. But owner George Priester has threatened to sell the property to developers.

The week ahead

Herald 1/14/80

Hearing set on federal fund use

Proposed projects such as the purchase of land and studies of low income housing will be discussed at a meeting at 7:30 p.m. tonight as the village has public hearings into the use of federal community development money.

Village officials will review plans for spending at least $240,000 in federal money on several projects.

Wheeling plans to spend $160,000 of the federal money to purchase land for a senior citizen center. It will use another $60,000 to pay an architect to design the building. The village expects to spend $20,000 to conduct a study village neighborhoods to determine the need for low-income housing for elderly or families.

The money is provided by the U.S. Housing and Community Development Act.

The hearing will be at the maintenance building, located directly behind village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Wheeling Finance Dir. Gregory Peters said the decision of Holy Family Hospital to buy land for an emergency walk-in clinic eliminates the need for an additional $160,000 in federal funds to purchase property for a clinic site. Peters said the money probably will be reassigned elsewhere in Cook County.

• • •

WHEELING OFFICIALS will meet Tuesday at the village hall to discuss the status of municipal liquor licenses.

At least one license holder, Newberry Place, Wheeling and Hintz roads, has applied for permission to sell more liquor. That restaurant now is limited to selling beer and wine, but wants to be able to serve hard liquor.

The meeting of the village judicial and legislative committee begins at 8 p.m.

• • •

INDOOR LESSONS on how to improve your golf game begin Monday at the Chevy Chase Golf Course Club House, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave., in Wheeling.

The lessons, conducted by the Wheeling Park District, will continue for six weeks and cost $18. They will be every Monday and Tuesday at 7:30 and 8:30 p.m.

Persons interested in taking lessons can register at the Chevy Chase pro shop.

Herald 1/11/80

5 seek manager's position

WHEELING—The village received a total of five applications for the job of village manager, according to Village President William Hein.

The deadline for applications to be submitted was Thursday, Jan. 10.

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold resigned in October. However he offered to stay until a new village manager is hired or March 31, whichever date comes first. Leikvold had been criticized by various members of the board for not following through on certain directives. He is the third village manager to leave in five years.

The village board has already interviewed two of the applicants: Tom Markus, former assistant village manager, who left for the job of administrator of Savage, MN, in the summer of 1977; and William Sommer, assistant village manager of Buffalo Grove. The board is planning to hold interviews of the other applicants Saturday morning, Jan. 19.

Hein said none of the applications came from present village employes.

According to the village president, the board will make its decision on the manager's job by the end of the month.

Still debate dropping guidelines at airport

Wheeling Sch. 1/17/80

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The Federal Aviation agency (FAA) and state of Illinois division of aeronautics have still reached no compromise on the FAA guidelines which may be waived at Palwaukee airport if it should become a municipal facility.

According to Roger Barkus of the division of aeronautics, "We've had no official response from the FAA yet. We have gone to the FAA with what we feel we can tolerate over a specific time frame."

Barkus said discussions include what should be done with the intersection at Wolf and Hintz roads. "Our objective is to buy the airport and keep the 5,000-foot runway operating," he noted, adding that Hintz road is too close to the end of the runway for small jets. This is the crucial FAA guideline which is being questioned.

THE STUDY OF OPERATING Palwaukee airport as a municipal facility is being funded in cooperation with the federal government (FAA), the state government (division of aeronautics), Wheeling and Prospect Heights. Airport owner George Priester has said he must sell the airport so his heirs will not be saddled with enormous inheritance taxes. Priester is 72.

The 5,000-foot runway must be in operation in order to make the airport economically feasible, according to Phase I of the study. The runway is the only one of its length in northern Illinois besides O'Hare airport. Small jets owned by many companies with headquarters in the area operate out of Palwaukee.

A study of industries located in the Wheeling-Prospect Heights area showed that location of the airport was one of the primary reasons for locating company headquarters in the area.

Phase II, which includes the economic feasibility study, was due in October, and a draft copy of the report was prepared, However there was some question about the factuality of the figures when considering which FAA guidelines may have to be waived. Bill Grams, executive director of the Northwest Municipal conference, suggested that until it is known which guidelines will have to be kept and which may be waived, there can be no bottom line on the amount of money needed to purchase and operate the airport.

THE FAA and the division of aeronautics agreed to meet and said it would be 60 to 90 days before any decisions were made. Barkus said last week that he anticipates another 30 days before the matter of guidelines is settled.

"We don't know whether a lot of people will consider the displaced threshold adequate. I don't think they will," Barkus said. He was referring to the threshold lights on the 5,000-foot runway which are too close to Hintz road if the FAA guideline on such distances is kept.

Asked what will be done about the Acco International property at the northwest corner of Hintz and Wolf, Barkus said, "We have tried to stay away from Acco and work between it and the roadway. We need about 600 feet from the end of the runway to clear the road. I think we can probably get that without going to Acco."

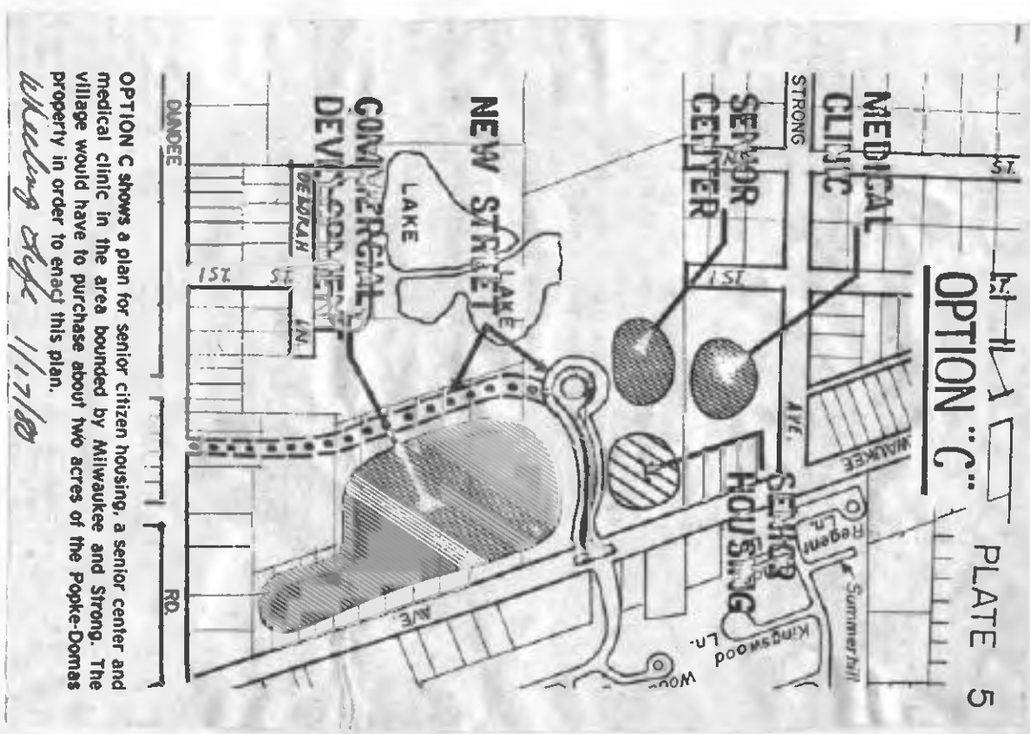
Barkus said, "We are trying to keep the cost at a minimum. It won't be easy. We would have to have cooperation between the county and other governing bodies."

ACCORDING TO BARKUS, some of the new buildings recently constructed at Palwaukee offer no problem to the FAA guidelines. However, he said some of the old buildings will be a problem "and we have to figure out what to do."

Barkus added, "We don't know anything certain, but we know there are a minimum of things we have to do. The T-hangars will have to be relocated."

Once the Phase II report is in final form, the city officials of both Wheeling and Prospect Heights will have to vote on whether to proceed with Phase III of the study. Airport consultant Larry Donoghue, of Ralph Burke Assoc. said recently that there is no reason not to go ahead. However, this was before the question of the guidelines was raised.

Phase III will contain the environmental impact statement and Donoghue appears anxious to get started with this.



OPTION C shows a plan for senior citizen housing, a senior center and medical clinic in the area bounded by Milwaukee and Strong. The village would have to purchase about two acres of the Popke-Domas property in order to enact this plan.

Wheeling Herald 1/17/80

Building fees take nosedive

Wheeling Herald 1/17/80

WHEELING—The village collected $20,918.16 in building permit fees for the month of November 1979. However, during the same month last year, permit fees collected totaled $98,753.

Perhaps indicative of the downturn in the building industry is the increase in remodeling and additions. In November 1979, 17 permits were issued for residential remodeling, while there were 10 permits issued last year in the same category totaling $14,913.

The largest number of permits was issued for remodeling or additions to industrial buildings.

Some issues may be resolved in '80

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Throughout the year, The LIFE has printed various ongoing stories regarding this community. In going over back issues, several issues were noted which are in various stages of progress.

• The developer donation ordinance. First proposed in 1975, this ordinance is now in limbo, awaiting some resolution of a proposal to include donations from industrial developers.

The Wheeling park district suggested this type of donation, claiming it provides leagues and playing fields for industries in town. However, the chamber of commerce complained loudly and the matter was put on the back burner once again. Village Attorney David Epstein said he does not know what will happen to the ordinance. However, donations for libraries have also been suggested as an addition to the ordinance.

• The ethics ordinance. Passed in 1977 after two years of discussion on the matter, the ordinance was placed in committee for further talk after much wrangling over proposed amendments.

Trustee Robert Ross proposed changes in the disclosure law which would limit disclosure of finances to the village official and his immediate family. The ordinance which is in effect, contains the direction for disclosure of all family holdings in the community, including aunts, uncles, parents and brothers and sisters. The amendments were stymied with the election in 1979 when the majority on the board changed.

• Police suit. Eleven policemen sued the village, Village President William Hein and members of the police and fire commission, claiming scores of promotional tests were misinterpreted. A portion of the lawsuit was dismissed and a status hearing should be held next month. Police Chief Ted Bracke has also been listed as a defendent in the suit.

• Palwaukee study. The study is winding up Phase II, which will include financial projections for the feasibility of running the airport as a municipal facility. Wheeling officials will have to vote on whether to proceed with Phase III of the study, which will include an environmental impact statement.

• Senior center. The village is seeking additional funds for construction of a senior center after having land-acquisition funding approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Village officials are trying to pull together a package of a senior center, senior housing and an ambulatory-care facility. The walk-in clinic will be built privately by Holy Family hospital at Milwaukee and Strong.

• Village manager. With the resignation of Carsten Leikvold the board has been receiving applications for the position. No ads have been placed in professional magazines, nor was advertising done in any local publications. However, the village received applications from two former village staff members and one member of the Buffalo Grove village staff, who are interested in the job. Applications will closed Jan. 10, and the board will make its decision by the end of the month.



JUXTAPOSED WITH THE NEW, the barn of the Koeppen family still stands beside the village hall complex on Dundee road. However, there has been a for-sale sign on the property for the last season. (Photo by Peggy Pollard)

Plan 100-unit building

Get funds for seniors

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Wheeling has been awarded the only community development block grant for senior-citizen housing in the six-county Metropolitan Chicago area for this fiscal year, according to Victor Walchirk, director of the Cook county housing authority, the body that disburses the federal funds.

A 100-unit building is being planned with a minimum of six stories. At a public hearing Monday evening, Jan. 14, on senior citizen facilities, Walchirk said the building could go up as high as 10 stories. He said the village can set the priorities concerning who should live there. Residency in Wheeling can be a criteria if the village desires, he said, and added that the village could even make provisions for people who have had to move out of Wheeling because of the escalating cost of housing here.

Although they are separate programs, the village has been planning a senior citizen center, senior citizen housing and an ambulatory care facility to be located in the same general vicinity — on north Milwaukee avenue and Strong street, east of Wolf road.

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold said he thinks the reason Wheeling has been allocated funds for both the senior center and the senior housing is because the village has been planning the facilities at the same time. Holy Family hospital of Des Plaines will build the walk-in clinic at Milwaukee and Strong street, and Sister Patricia Ann, director of the hospital, said if the building is begun this spring it will be completed in one year.

THE VILLAGE BEGAN studying the senior facilities in 1977 with a housing study. In 1978, Wheeling received $42,000 for a feasibility study for a senior/handicapped citizen center and a design for the improvement of the central business district (Milwaukee and Dundee). Construction of the facilities for senior and handicapped citizens will be the first step toward rehabilitation of the whole Milwaukee avenue corridor, according to village trustees.

In April 1979, the village submitted a three-year community development block grant application totaling $2.7 million. On Oct. 31, Cook county and the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approved funds for Wheeling totaling $400,000. The money is for land acquisition for the senior citizens/handicapped center. Funds included for land acquisition for the medical center will be transferred to another part of the project since Holy Family hospital is building the medical facility.

LEIKVOLD SAID Monday that Wheeling "can't separate the community development grant program from the rehabilitation of Old Wheeling. Each one of these programs is independent, but when we put them all together they will fit the needs better."

Sr. Patricia Ann said the medical facility will handle "episodic and urgent needs. It is not for the person who needs to be hospitalized." She said home accidents, including industrial accidents, can be handled by the clinic. Laboratory tests, industrial physicals, early-disease detection and health-maintenance programs will all be available at the clinic.

One service provided by the clinic, according to Sr. Patricia Ann, will be to bring tests to senior citizens if they can't get out.

Holabird & Root is doing the architectural plans for the facility. A schematic drawing shows the building set on an angle on the property at Milwaukee and Strong street. There is landscaping planned all around the building which will screen the parking, and the walk-in clinic and laboratory will be separated by a corridor that will have a skylight and trees inside.

WALCHIRK EXPLAINED the Cook county housing authority (CCHA) to the senior citizens at the hearing. The CCHA, he said, has developed and manages 1,200 separate units of senior citizen housing in 10 different municipalities in the county. They have all been built with the cooperation and at the request of the local municipalities, he noted.

"I think it's a very healthy thing that all this planning is taking place together," he added.

Walchirk said the CCHA provides modern, comfortable, affordable housing. Criteria for the units is that there must be one senior citizen at least 62 years of age with a net annual income of not more than $9,000. A couple may have a net annual income of $10,200 to be eligible. There is a limit of $15,000 on assets the applicant may have. However, Walchirk said he believes the income and asset limits are being raised soon.

Rent in the senior citizen housing units is based on 25% of income but may not exceed a maximum of $90 a month for a one-bedroom apartment. Walchirk said the low rentals mean that every time a building is opened there are five to 10 applications for each unit. However, he said the neediest would be given top priority if among Wheeling residents (if the board decides that residency in the community must be a criteria for living there). There are special amenities for senior citizens, he said, and certain apartments are designed for the handicapped.

VILLAGE PLANNER Richard Greenwood presented various options for site selection of the senior center. Option A, which showed Nathaniel Hawthorne school as the site for the senior center, was eliminated because of its location. Greenwood said it would be too far from the housing and walk-in clinic and shopping for senior citizens to be able to walk there comfortably. He also pointed out that the building was built in the flood plain. Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld said the building is actually in the floodway and that federal funds would not be granted for such a site.

Sommerfeld, who proposed using the school for the center, said when he learned of the disadvantages of the site, he changed his mind.

Walchirk said the CCHA would favor either option B or C, which would place the senior housing site on Milwaukee avenue. He said this would be an advantage for senior citizens because it would be closer to walk to shopping. Option D placed the senior citizen housing in the interior of the area bounded by Milwaukee and Strong.

Option B would use land which is currently available, while the village would have to purchase a portion of the Popke-Domas property for either Option C or D.

Thomas Popke and Lambert Domas have received zoning for a multiple-family housing development in the area in question. They own 11 acres, only six of which are buildable. The rest of the land consists of three lakes.

In a straw poll taken at the hearing, senior citizens favored Options C and D, with D being preferred. However, with Walchirk's comment on site selection, it may not be feasible to proceed with Option D.

According to Greenwood, the senior center will contain 12,000 to 15,000 square feet on one floor and will be located on a site consisting of 80,000 square feet. Walchirk said the senior housing building would be on a two-acre site with the building taking up less than 50% of the site. The clinic will be built in a one-story building consisting of 20,000 square feet to be built on 2.7 acres.

In answer to several questions by the senior citizens, Walchirk and Greenwood reassured them that the senior citizen housing would not be built in the Palwaukee airport flight path restricted by the federal aviation administration (FAA).

Herald 1/15/80

Pal-Waukee cost may hit $85 million

The cost of buying and revamping Pal-Waukee Airport could skyrocket to as much as $85 million, four times the previous estimate, a consultant said Thursday.

The higher cost probably will spark opposition to a proposal that Wheeling, Prospect Heights and perhaps other towns buy the airport, said one regional planning official. He said the towns should consider alternatives to buying Pal-Waukee, including building a new airport elsewhere.

Despite estimates of dramatically higher costs, the consultant and local officials said buying Pal-Waukee still is the most practical solution to providing an airport for corporate jets and small private planes flown by pilots who don't want to use busy O'Hare Airport.

Although a special taxing district has been considered as one way to finance the local portion of the costs, area officials vowed Thursday not to use any municipal tax money for buying or operating Pal-Waukee.

CONSULTANTS HIRED last year by four towns surrounding the airport established a cost of $21 million for assuming control of Pal-Waukee, with federal and state governments paying most of the cost and local governments paying about $3.8 million.

Now, a consultant estimates as much as $85 million might have to be spent during the next 20 years to assume control of the airport. The higher estimate resulted from more information on the costs of meeting federal requirements for funding, said Larry Donoghue, president of Ralph Burke Associates, a consulting agency.

If so, municipalities responsible for 7 to 15 percent of the cost would have to pay from $6 million to $12.7 million, he said.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights have considered a joint effort in running the airport, but may seek a broader coalition of other villages located near Pal-Waukee, including Mount Prospect, Glenview and Northbrook.

Whatever the arrangement, local officials said Thursday they don't plan on taxing their residents for the airport. "The local share will be raised through sources other than through taxes on Wheeling and Prospect Heights," said Carsten Leikvold, Wheeling village manager. "There is just no way that Wheeling or Prospect Heights is going to spend a nickle on this," he said.

INSTEAD, HE said all of the money for buying and running Pal-Waukee must come from revenue bonds issued by municipalities or a special airport authority or district. Those bonds will be retired only with revenue received from owners of aircraft using the facility, he said.

But Thomas J. Baggot, an official with the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission, said the higher total cost still will affect taxpayers because the state and federal government will assume about 90 percent of the cost.

"We're dealing with people's tax dollars," he said. "If it's going to cost us $75 million or $85 million, it's going to convince a lot of people against spending that money," Baggot said.

"For $85 million, couldn't we build a better airport someplace else?" he asked.

Donoghue said building new airports virtually is impossible because of opposition from residents, and added that no other airport would serve the industrial and business area around O'Hare as well as Pal-Waukee.

He said the $85 million figure is a "worst case" estimate, and is based on the assumption that the federal government will not waive any of its requirements. Donoghue said he expects the final figure to be lower — perhaps around $42 million.

OFFICIALS ARE waiting for the Federal Aviation Administration to tell them what changes will not be required of the airport before they predict a final cost estimate.

Of the $85 million estimate, $21 million would be spent on buying the existing airport. Another $11 million would be earmarked for acquiring land now used by Wolf and Hintz roads and relocating those roads farther from the airport.

The remaining $53 million would be spent during 20 years to buy nearby buildings, acquire about 187 acres of additional land for hangers and other spaces to park planes, build more taxiways and provide better lighting.

Local officials want to take over Pal-Waukee because its owner, George Priester, has threatened to sell the nation's busiest privately run airport to developers. That would increase traffic at O'Hare and possibly discourage many businesses from locating in the Northwest suburbs, officials say.

Countryside Reminder 1/17/80



Members of the Wheeling Senior Citizens Club meet on Tuesday afternoon to work on craft projects at the Chamber Park Church. At Monday night's village board meeting, village officials outlined plans for the development of a senior citizens center, which will replace the current, overcrowded facility. The club members, from left are: Alma Foster, Marge Schmidt, Martha Kozacek, Josephine Backus (club president), Mae Looze and Elsie Hiller.

Herald 1/26/80

Cab rates exceed set limit

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

For at least two years, several taxicab companies doing business in Wheeling have been charging rates well in excess of what is allowed by village ordinance, and village officials apparently have been unaware of the practice.

Of four cab companies contacted by The Daily Herald, only two are licensed to do business in the village even though all said they would pick up and drop off customers within the village limits.

The companies, American Taxi Co., Glenview; Wheeling Village Cab Co., Wheeling-Prospect Cab Co., both based in Arlington Heights; and Village Yellow Cab Co., south of Wheeling, said they would charge a minimum of 70 cents for taxi service. The rates for the first mile ranged from 80 cents to $1.60 and from 80 to 90 cents each mile thereafter.

ACCORDING TO A village law passed in 1974, the most a cab company can charge for a trip less than a half-mile is 55 cents, with the first mile limited to a maximum of 90 cents and each subsequent mile limited to 70 cents.

Owners of two of the cab companies licensed by the village contended they are not bound by village ordinances if they pick customers up in Wheeling and transport them to another town.

However, Village Finance Director Gregory Peters said Wheeling's ordinance would apply to any cab companies that pick up village residents. "If he picks up someone in Wheeling, he has to adhere to Wheeling's rates. That's the point of having ordinances — you're supposed to be protecting Wheeling citizens."

Peters also said firms not licensed by the village should not even be entering the village to pick up customers. "But something like that would be awfully difficult to enforce," he said.

"THEIR JURISDICTION ENDS at the village limits," said John Coyne, owner of American Taxi Co. He added he was unaware of Wheeling's rates, which are lower than adjacent towns, and does little business within the village.

Robert Birks, owner of Wheeling Village Cab Co., who was denied a rate increase by the village board in 1977, said he charges Wheeling customers the same rate as those he is allowed in Mount Propsect and Elk Grove Village, where he operates the bulk of his business.

Birks was asked for more detailed financial information before the 1977 rate increase would be granted. "They wanted a certified audit that would have cost me $4,000," he said. He never supplied the requested information.

Birks contended he does not have to charge Wheeling rates for out-of-town trips, although he admitted "occasionally sneaking in a couple (trips within village limits) — no more than two or three a week. There might be some older people who call and need to get to the doctor. We're not going to turn somebody like that down."

VILLAGE ATTY. David Epstein said he was unaware Wheeling has an ordinance regulating taxicabs. However, he said he agreed with Peters' contention that anyone picking up customers in Wheeling would have to comply with village ordinances. "It's an off-the-cuff guess, but I would think he's probably right. That's how most ordinances work."

Patrolman Armando Pizzi, head of the traffic and ordinance enforcement division of the Wheeling Police Dept., said police haven't checked the rates taxicabs are charging in Wheeling.

"We've never had a complaint on it," he said. "Now that you've mentioned it, if village ordinances are being violated, we'll take some action on it."

However, Coyne said the problem is that "obviously no one has bothered to goof around with the ordinances" and no taxicab companies would be able to turn a profit on rates set more than five years ago.

"What's going to happen is Wheeling is going to have no cab service if they enforce that law," he said.

Leikvold seeks water consultant

Herald 1/29/80

Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold Monday night tried to persuade village board members to spend $26,000 to hire a consulting firm to study the village's water system and the need for Lake Michigan water.

Officials from Consoer, Townsend and Associates, the firm proposing to do the study, said towns like Wheeling operating on well systems are plagued by several problems, including excessive contaminants like radiation and barium in the water supply.

Also, the water table in northern Illinois is drying up, said John Callen, an engineer for the firm. The cost of pumping deeper for water is becoming "cost prohibitive," he said.

However, some trustees said the village is spending too much on consultants. They said the village staff could be doing the work.

"We are constantly being told the staff is being upgraded," said Trustee John Cole, "but we keep being told that we have to hire these consultants."

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Director Larry Oppenheimer said his staff could study the village water system, but "we won't keep up with our other work. If that's what the board wants us to do, we will do it."

Oppenheimer said the study should outline the village's water needs until the year 2000, but there is no guarantee the village won't need to hire consultants to study the water system in the meantime.

Oppenheimer said the village has followed most of the recommendations of a five-year water study made just before the village applied for lake water and was rejected. But since that study, he said, the village has grown and the water system has to be evaluated again.

Leikvold said the village should make a decision soon on whether to join a consortium of eight Northwest suburbs that are trying to obtain Lake Michigan water.

The week ahead Herald 1/28/80

Condo developers, village will meet

Wheeling officials Tuesday will meet with the developers of a proposed 114-unit condominium complex to discuss how the village's plans to build a center and low-income housing project for the elderly will affect the plans for the condominium project.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold has recommended the village buy at least three acres of the condominium project, known as Three Lakes, from developers Lambert Domas and Thomas Popke to make room for the senior center and the 100-unit senior housing project.

The developers plan to build on 11 acres southwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street. Leikvold has asked two real estate agents to give informal anpraisals of Popke's and Domas' land and other parcels the village might need for its development plans. The appraisals should be completed when the officials meet at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd., he said.

Popke and Domas are willing to sell their land, although village officials acknowledge they will have to pay a higher price for it because of a controversial rezoning more than a year ago. Despite objections of three trustees and nearby residents, the land was rezoned from single-family to multifamily housing.

The village plans to spend a $1.2 million federal grant for the senior center and other improvements such as sidewalks and street lighting. The Cook County Housing Authority plans to spend $4 million to build the senior housing, a six- to 10-story building.

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VILLAGE MGR. Carsten Leikvold will try tonight to persuade trustees to spend $26,000 for a consultant to prepare Wheeling's case for receiving a Lake Michigan water allocation.

Trustees have balked at the proposal, saying the village has spent enough money on water studies, but Leikvold says the village must soon decide if it wants or needs lake water because the Illinois Dept. of Transportation hearings on the matter will begin this fall.

Although the village is building two new wells after IDOT turned down a request for lake water three years ago, Leikvold says the new wells may be only a temporary solution because the area's water table is drying up.

The village board will meet at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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A REQUEST by a Wheeling restaurant to increase the number of liquor licenses available in the village will be considered tonight by the village board.

The owners of Newberry Place at Hintz and Buffalo Grove roads have asked for the license, contending their present license, which allows the sale of wine and beer only, keeps them from competing with restaurants in nearby Arlington Heights and Buffalo Grove.

Some trustees have said they would consider restructuring present liquor ordinances to allow more restaurants to have full liquor licenses. The village officials have issued all the liquor licenses allowed by local law.

Trustees will meet at 7:30 pm. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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A LAND DEDICATION ordinance, which requires developers to donate land or cash to park and school districts, will be discussed tonight by the village board.

After more than four years of considering the ordinance, village officials have not decided whether industrial developers should be required to donate land or cash to the Wheeling Park District.

The village board meets at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Villages considering senior 'alert' plan

Herald 1/29/80

If they can find someone to handle the calls from Buffalo Grove, Wheeling police and postal officials plan to start a "carrier alert" plan to help senior citizens or handicapped persons who may have become too ill to leave their homes.

Participants would simply mark their mailboxes with a red tag, and the mail carriers would be instructed to call a village official — probably Wheeling's senior citizen coordinator — if the mail goes uncollected for two days.

The village then tries to contact a relative or close friend and if that is unsuccessful, sends the police. They will enter the senior's home to see if the person is injured or ill, said Police Chief Ted Bracke.

Bracke said he will meet with senior citizen groups in the next few days to see if they are receptive to the idea. "There may be some resistance to the idea," he said. "The seniors who are going to participate have to realize that we're going to make some mistakes — that we might enter a person's apartment unnecessarily."

WHEELING POSTMASTER Pat Whiers said the program, which is being used in Arlington Heights and Skokie, can be started only if Buffalo Grove agrees to participate because the two towns share the same zip code.

"Even though this is a voluntary program," she said, "we have to make sure all senior citizens (within the towns' postal region) are given the same service."

Buffalo Grove Police Sgt. William Urry said the alert program "is a good idea, but the problem is going to be implementing it" because the village does not have an administrator for seniors like Wheeling's Geraldine Swan. He said he approached the Buffalo Grove Park District with the idea, but the postal borders and park boundaries are not contiguous and, again, there is the problem with some residents getting a service, while others are excluded, he said.

Also, the park district "is more recreation-oriented," said Judy Mansueto, recreation supervisor. "This is a very good service, but I'm not sure whose hands it should be in."

However, Bracke said Mrs. Swan might be able to administer the program for both towns, with Buffalo Grove sharing the costs. The costs, which involve only paperwork and mailings to inform the seniors of the program, would be minimal anyway, he said.

WHEELING VILLAGE BOARD VOTE SUMMARY

Selected decisions from village board meetings of Jan. 7 and 21.



	Cole	Kerr	Powers	Ross	Schultz	Sommerfeld
To "table indefinitely" a requirement that all new firefighters, policemen and some public works employees live in the village. (Passed 4-2)	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES
To establish a senior citizens commission. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
To give $12,000 to the Wheeling Park District for a new bus. (Failed 6-0)	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
To approve an ordinance that would enable Holy Family Hospital to build a $4.5 million emergency clinic at Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Herald 1/29/80

Hein plans to step down as liquor commissioner

Herald 1/30/80

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Faced with a new attempt to strip him of the power to issue or revoke liquor licenses, Wheeling Village Pres. William Hein has agreed to step down as the village's liquor commissioner.

But Hein and his political allies on the village board say they will fight any attempt to cut Hein's salary by $3,000 once the whole board takes over the duties of regulating liquor license holders.

Hein receives $3,000 a year as village president and $3,000 a year as liquor commissioner.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld has revived a proposal that the entire village board take over the duties of the liquor commissioner, a system that already has been adopted in Palatine. The idea "has nothing to do with Bill or the job he's doing," Sommerfeld said, but "seven heads are better than one."

WHEN HE FIRST proposed the change a year ago, however, Sommerfeld said the move would remove "political overtones" to decisions Hein might make. Hein's parents own two Wheeling taverns, and his rivals in the 1977 election charged that his position as liquor commissioner was a conflict of interest.

Sommerfeld's plan was supported by only two other trustees — Charles Kerr and John Cole — last year and never came to a vote. But this time around, he has the backing of a fourth trustee, Sheila Schulz, who defeated Hein ally Delores Dahm in last April's election.

Hein said he now has "no problem"



William Hein

with Sommerfeld's suggestion but denied that the change in the board's political structure has nothing to do with his change of heart.

"IF I THINK a policy is right, I'll fight for it anyway," he said. "I don't care what the political structure of the board is."

He said he has changed his mind on the issue because he doesn't have much to do as liquor commissioner. There have been no serious complaints against liquor license holders, he said, and he has yet to conduct his first hearing.

"The job really isn't like it sounds," he said. "I might get a message from the police department that some establishment blew its curfew by five or 10 minutes. I usually go over there and talk to them myself."

Trustees agreed to continue discussion on the liquor commission at a committee meeting next month before taking any official action, but they remained split concerning whether Hein's pay should be cut.

Sommerfeld said he "would certainly object to any change in pay" because of the amount of time that Hein devotes to his job as village president.

BUT KERR said it would be "dumb" to take away Hein's control over liquor licenses without taking away the liquor commissioner's salary.

"How does that make any sense at all?" Kerr said. "You take away most of his responsibilities and work and then continue to pay him?"

Hein said he will oppose any attempts to cut his pay.

"There was some discussion on this a few years ago," he said. "Rather than increase the salary of the village president, it was decided that he would get an extra $3,000 as liquor commissioner. I think I'm worth more than $6,000."

The village president's salary was increased during the term of Hein's predecessor, Ted Scanlon, who now works for Hein in a family-owned auto parts store on Milwaukee Avenue. Scanlon now is the only member of a three-member liquor license advisory panel, which Hein formed, to avoid any conflicts of interest he might have as liquor commissioner.

Restaurants to get licenses

Wheeling trustees have agreed informally to give full liquor licenses to three restaurants that presently are permitted to sell only beer and wine.

William Warr, owner of the Newberry Place restaurant at Hintz and Buffalo Grove roads, had contended that being limited to selling only beer and wine was drawing customers to restaurants in nearby Arlington Heights and Buffalo Grove.

Trustees called the beer and wine liquor categories a mistake. They agreed to reclassify them under restaurants which are permitted to serve hard liquor.

Warr and owners of the other two restaurants which are permitted to sell only beer and wine said they gladly would pay the extra $500 a year for a full liquor license. The other two restaurants are Two Doves, 20 S. Milwaukee Ave., and Four Stars, 43 W. Dundee Rd.

The reclassification will permit one more restaurant to obtain a full liquor license, because village ordinances allow for a total of four beer and wine licenses.

Trustees however, refused to consider licensing more package liquor stores, taverns or allowing grocery stores to sell alcohol.

Village Pres. William Hein suggested board members consider creating a category of temporary liquor licenses which could be issued to church and civic groups for special affairs. Board members agreed, saying the details on how many and for how long a permit should be issued will be discussed at a committee meeting next month.

Seniors housing site may get OK

Herald 1/31/80

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling trustees say they probably will go along with plans by the Cook County Housing Authority to build a 100-unit housing complex for the elderly on Milwaukee Avenue, but several trustees are complaining that they're losing control of what is being built in their town.

Some trustees and area residents have supported a plan that would have the rent-assisted housing project and a federally subsidized senior center built on land on which a 114-unit condominium complex is planned. However, housing authorities say they cannot wait for the village to acquire the land and build a road needed to provide access to the property.

Instead, the county is planning to build a six- to 10-story building on two acres fronting on Milwaukee Avenue.

VICTOR WALCHIRK, executive director of the housing authority, acknowledged that the land on Milwaukee Avenue would be more expensive — the price has been estimated at $100,000 to $150,000, double the estimated cost of the village's proposed site. But delaying the project while the village builds streets and sidewalks might jeopardize the federal grants, he said.

Walchirk said the authority must submit a preliminary site plan to the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, which is funding the $4 million project, by Feb. 15.

"HUD is very concerned about our



ability to move ahead with the project," he said. "This is the only (senior housing) program being funded in the six-county region. The requirements are that we come up with an acceptable site without any contingencies on things that may happen in the future."

To wait for the village to acquire the land and build could "hold the project in abeyance for years. There are many other communities interested in the program," Walchirk said.

"I guess it's being confirmed when we get government involvment — especially the federal government — it takes some of the flexibility away from local officials," Trustee Charles Kerr said. "But I think we can probably make good use of the senior housing. The end result is probably more valuable than quibbling over location."

OTHER OFFICIALS echoed Kerr's sentiments. "I don't think we should lose sight of what we're trying to accomplish. I don't see any problem with the building being on Milwaukee Avenue," Village Pres. William Hein said.

However, Trustee John Cole said it is "totally ridiculous" to build the apartments on Milwaukee Avenue. "Pretty soon we'll be building all kinds of high-density stuff like we did along Dundee Road," he said. "To deliberately build up that area and try to figure out 10 years later what we're going to do with all the traffic is stupid."

Cole also said he is not convinced the village needs the rent-assisted housing project. "I don't hear a lot of seniors begging to live in a 10-story building," he said.

Beer and wine license is dropped by Wheeling

Wheeling Life 1/31/80

WHEELING—The village will double the number of categories available for liquor licenses and will eliminate the license for beer and wine.

There are presently four categories of licenses:

- A — for places seating more than 200.
- B — restaurants.
- C — clubs.
- D — beer and wine only.

The new categories will include:

- A — Over 200 seating capacity.
- B — Restaurant predominant, over-the-counter package.
- C — Over-the-counter predominant, restaurant/ package.
- D — Over-the-counter/package only.
- E — Package only.
- F — Clubs.
- G — Temporary licenses, such as for church affairs.
- H — Hotels/Motels.

THE THREE license holders who are in the beer-and-wine-only category presently will be given Class B licenses. These include Newberry Place, Two Doves and Four Stars.

Trustee John Cole suggested dropping the beer and wine category. "Now that the drinking age is 21, why do we have this category?"

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld agreed that "it is outdated and useless."

The board will not increase the number of liquor licenses permitted under the new ordinance. One license now exists in Class A (Kisses) and that will be the number allowed. In Class B, the number currently allowed under the beer-and-wine-only category (four) will be added to the number currently permitted for restaurants (10) and there will be 14 licenses allowed. There are currently 13 given out. In Class C, there will continue to be two licenses (Hein's Pub and Kilcoyne's Redwood Inn).

Class D will continue to have five licenses allowed. Currently Bell Liquors, Village Tap, Jeffrey Lanes, Old Munich Inn and Hill Top have licenses under these categories.

Class E will continue the current license for Wheeling Drug Co. No additional licenses will be allowed in this category. Class F will be for clubs and Amvets has one of the two licenses which will be allowed under this category. No limit was set for the number of temporary licenses, nor has any license limit been assigned to the category for hotels or motels.

Under the new ordinance, 25 licenses will be granted. There are currently 23 licenseholders.

THE BOARD also decided to prohibit the sale of liquor in grocery stores. Cole said there is no place in the village where there isn't liquor available for sale within one block of a grocery store.

The board is expected to take official action on the reclassification of liquor licenses at its meeting Monday, Feb. 4.

High-speed car chase ends in driveway

WHEELING-BUFFALO GROVE—Police arrested James Ferrell, 30, of 1073 Valley Stream drive, on six charges, after he allegedly led both Wheeling and Buffalo Grove police on a high-speed chase which ended in his driveway in Wheeling. The incident occurred at about 1:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23.

According to police, a Buffalo Grove policeman was monitoring traffic for eastbound and westbound Dundee road when he saw an eastbound motorist hit the curb several times while traveling at a higher rate of speed than the speed limit.

Police say the officer followed the car up to speeds in excess of 90 mph. Three police cars were in the chase after the original squad radioed for help when the car turned left on St. Armand after allegedly going through a red light at Schoenbeck and Dundee. The car then allegedly made a left turn onto Berkshire at more than 60 mph in a 20mph zone and the driver went into his driveway at 1073 Valley stream.

ACCORDING TO POLICE, the driver stayed in the car and refused to cooperate with the police. Ferrell was driven to the Wheeling police station where he was dragged into the building after refusing to walk. Police say Ferrell hit his head on the door jam and wall then stood up and walked back to the processing room.

Police say Ferrell was making derogatory remarks. When police removed his handcuffs, Ferrell allegedly took a swing at one of the policemen.

Paramedics were called to treat Ferrell for face wounds allegedly received when he banged his head into the wall.

Ferrell was charged with: battery, resisting arrest, driving while intoxicated, having an open container of liquor in the car, speeding, and fleeding and eluding a police officer.

He is out on a $1,000 bond. His drivers license was taken until his court date March 10 in Wheeling.

Balks at approving another water study

Wheeling Life 1/31/79

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The village board balked a second time Monday, Jan. 28, at approving a water study aimed at taking Wheeling into the year 2000. It had also refused to approve the study Monday, Jan. 21.

Trustees questioned the value of continued studies and the expenses attendant to hiring consultants.

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold warned the board, "You're going to have to look at Lake Michigan water. If the deep wells give out you could be in dire trouble." (Wheeling receives no water from Lake Michigan nor has it been given an allocation.)

Trustee Charles Kerr questioned the studies which have been undertaken since the 1976 one completed by Lindley Engineering. Leikvold said there have been none, but was reminded of studies completed concerning looping the water mains, water quality, and wells number one and seven. But Leikvold insisted, "No one has looked at the overall system to determine where we will be in the year 2000."

TRUSTEE JOHN COLE asked why the village does not look into "reclaiming" (recycling) water. David Westfall, executive vice president of Keifer Engineering, said this method "is a costly proposition." However, Cole said water reclamation is done successfully at Disney World. "It's time we look to reclaiming water rather than looking for new sources all the time," Cole said.

According to the trustee, "I think we're kidding ourselves about Lake Michigan water."

Cole pointed out that due to inflation the cost of reclaiming water may not be as proportionally high as it has been in the past. However, Mike Cullen of Consoer Townsend Engineering, said the costs for reclamation have also risen with inflation.

Trustee Sheila Schultz echoed the concern about undertaking another study. Cole asked how much of the proposed study could be done by the village staff.

Leikvold said the village does not "have the capacity to do this. We don't have the manpower. We don't have the expertise to plug into the computer."

Cole angrily said, "We are constantly upgrading our staff and constantly being told we need consultants because the staff 'can't do this'. Either we should hire people who can or we should cut the staff and stick to consultants."

Leikvold answered that there is no space for additional staff.

"What are we sitting in?" Cole retorted. (The meeting was being held in the new operations and maintenance building at the village hall complex.)

"We've just increased our space many times over and you're telling me we don't have space?" Cole asked again.

TRUSTEE HUGH SOMMERFELD tried to calm things down by asking if anyone on the staff is capable of doing the type of study in question.

"Yes," said Larry Oppenhelmer, community development director. "If that's what the board wants us to do, we'll do it, but we can't keep up with our other work."

Leikvold insisted, "As manager of the village, I'm telling you we don't have the capability . . ."

SOMMERFELD ASKED if the most cost-effective way of doing the study would be to go outside the village staff for help.

Cole reiterated, "I can't see why we can't do some of these things ourselves, such as checking the systems. Why do we continually go out and hire people to do things we can do for ourselves?"

Kerr questioned Cullen why his firm's proposal was less than half of anyone else's. He said the bid makes him "suspicious about quality."

However, Cullen said, "There is no fat in the bid."

The discussion was cut off when the trustees said they wished to think about whether to approve another study for the village.

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..ork to get action on Dundee road

Wheeling Life 1/31/80

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The Wheeling Chamber of Commerce has met with State Sen. Roger Keats (R-1st) in an effort to help the village get some action on improvements on Dundee road.

The meeting took place Friday, Jan. 18, and included village officials, Keats, and chamber of commerce members.

Wheeling has the highest accident rate of the four communities lying along the 10-mile stretch of Dundee from Glencoe on the east to Buffalo Grove on the west, according to policeman Armando Pizzi, head of the traffic division of the Wheeling police department.

According to Pizzi, in 1979 Wheeling had 379 property-damage accidents; 54 accidents with injuries and one with a fatality on Dundee road. In comparison, Glencoe (where Dundee is only two lanes) had 29 property-damage accidents, eight with injuries and no accidents with fatalities; Northbrook had 284 property-damage accidents, 87 with injuries and none with fatalities; and Buffalo Grove had 253 property-damage accidents, 46 with injuries and none with fatalities.

There was a total of 1,141 accidents along the piece of road in question, with Wheeling having more than one-third of them.

Pizzi said since the police department became involved in the selective traffic enforcement program (STEP) in 1978, the number of injury-related accidents was reduced by about 40% between 1978 and 1979.

The policeman said the reason for the lopsided figures is that Wheeling "has the most businesses and only a few left-turn bays.

DUNDEE ROAD in Wheeling was expanded to four lanes in the mid-1960s, according to Larry Oppenheimer, community development director. Oppenheimer used to be director of public works for the village.

He said the road had only two lanes prior to 1965 and no curbs and gutters. Modifications were made involving intersection rechannelization at Milwaukee and Dundee in about 1969, according to Oppenheimer. In addition, when the road was widened to four lanes in Buffalo Grove, in about 1974, it was also widened on the western edge of Wheeling, he said. However, in the last decade, there was no resurfacing of the road — only patching.

But Wheeling has done some of the patching itself recently, because the state has not filled in some of the holes between Milwaukee and Dundee. Bob Gray, diector of operations and maintenance, said village crews have been doing some of the repair work themselves.

VILLAGE MANAGER Carsten Leikvold said he has had meetings with the transportation commission of the Northwest Municipal conference (NWMC) in an effort to obtain federal funds for engineering and planning for Dundee. The NWMC is the agency which distributes Federal Aid to Urban Systems (FAUS) funds for road improvements in the northwest suburbs.

"We are hopeful" we can get some assistance with engineering and planning for the road, Leikvold said. The village began working on obtaining the FAUS funds when a traffic study report was completed last year.

Leikvold said without the major engineering and planning, the village does not know what improvements to Dundee would cost.

There are some major problems with widening the road, Leikvold said. These include: what to do about the Wheeling cemetery between Milwaukee and Wolf road; what to do about the Soo Line railroad crossing; and what to do about the parking for many businesses on Dundee which would be curtailed if the road is widened.

"When we get the engineering done, I am sure some people will be opposed to doing anything," the manager said. However, he said he made an appeal to the NWMC transportation commission to consider the grant.

ACCORDING TO Fay Moroz, executive director of the chamber of commerce, "All the downtown redevelopment we do isn't going to mean anything unless they do something with Dundee road."

Moroz said once Keats has all the information on traffic accidents and the consultant's report, he agreed to set up a meeting with the Illinois department of transportation to find out why nothing has been done on Dundee road and when the village can expect improvements.

Construction of condos set for spring

Herald 2/1/80

Construction of 102 condominiums is expected to begin this spring on five acres near Arlington Country Club in Buffalo Grove.

The Buffalo Grove Plan Commission has approved final plans of a Skokie development firm for construction of two four-story buildings, each containing 51 "luxury" condominiums, on the Dundee Road site.

Bernard Katz and Co. acquired the land last year after Arlington Country Club owner Daniel Taggart sold the property to compensate for increasing taxes on his 18-hole golf course. The land on the southwest corner of the club was not included in the golf course's playing area, but Taggart said he is willing to sell the remaining property.

ALTHOUGH HE refused to speculate how much the one- and two-bedroom condos will cost, Katz vice president Frank Morelli described them as "upper-end products" similar to condominiums his firm has built in Skokie, Hinsdale and Lincolnwood. The condominiums should be ready for occupancy by late spring of 1981, Morelli said.

The Buffalo Grove Village Board is expected to approve the plans later this month.

Meanwhile, there is a disagreement in neighboring Wheeling between plan commissioners and Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold over a sidewalk Katz will build along Dundee Road leading from the condominiums to Field School.

The Wheeling Plan Commission has recommended approval of a variance that would allow Katz to build the sidewalk closer to Dundee Road, away from the 200 trees that border property lines in a Wheeling subdivision.

However, Leikvold recommends the variance be defeated, saying pedestrians would be "subject to thrown gravel, water splashing on them or reckless drivers."

He also said the additional space along the road allows more room for signs, landscaping and dump areas for during winter storms. If the sidewalk is not moved closer to Dundee road, the trees may be cut down.

Trustee Charles Kerr, who lives at 20 Berkshire Ln. and has one of the trees in question on his property, says the area is one of the few green patches on Dundee Road in Wheeling.

"THIS IS JUST another thing that's going to contribute to Wheeling looking like hell," he said. "Everybody knows Dundee Road is nothing but a concrete desert."

A sidewalk probably wouldn't be used much because the developer expects very few children to live in the condominium development, Kerr said.

The Wheeling Village Board will vote on the variation Monday night. But Kerr, who will be out of town for two weeks, plans to ask that it be tabled until he returns.

Morelli did not know the status of plans for the sidewalk but said the trees were "magnificent" and should not be cut down because of a little used used sidewalk.



Countryside Reminder 1/31/80

Senator pledges aid for Dundee Road work

State Sen. Roger Keats, R-Wilmette, has pledged to help Wheeling in its efforts to get state funds for the widening of Dundee Road.

Keats was in Wheeling recently to speak at a Chamber of Commerce meeting, and during the meeting Wheeling Village President William Hein and Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld discussed with him problems the village has encountered regarding Dundee Road.

Keats suggested that village officials meet with him to discuss the problem further. The next day Village Manager Carsten Leikvold; Officer Armando Pizzi, head of the police traffic division, Faye Moroz, of the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce, and other village officials, met with Keats to discuss the problem.

Pizzi supplied accident data compiled by Wheeling police, which compared the number of accidents on Dundee Road in the communities of Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Northbrook and Glencoe, during 1979. The data showed that Wheeling had by far the most accidents: 434, as compared to 371 for Northbrook, 299 for Buffalo Grove and 37 for Glencoe. Wheeling also had the only fatal accident during that year.

Keats, who said he had not been aware of the problem, said he was shocked, and told officials he would talk to other area legislators, and to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) about the problem.

Wheeling officials say they believe the traffic problem on Dundee Road could be alleviated if the road were widened to include left-turn-only lanes. Currently, there are no such lanes, and drivers attempting to make left turns slow the flow of traffic.

Since Dundee is a state road, any monies for road improvements must come from IDOT. The last major road improvement project on Dundee, funded by IDOT, was in the early 1970's, when the road was widened from two to four lanes.

Dundee also was widened through Northbrook at that time, but Northbrook officials said they have not had excessive traffic problems since then. They said this could be because Northbrook has fewer driveways opening onto Dundee, in comparison to Wheeling. The numerous businesses which have been constructed on Dundee Road in Wheeling since the road was widened to four lanes have added many driveways, and have congested traffic.

Dundee Road through Buffalo Grove was not widened to four lanes until about five years after it was done in Wheeling. Buffalo Grove officials said the village presented detailed plans to IDOT, regarding desired medians and other improvements, so that traffic has not been an overwhelming problem there either.

In recent years, as Wheeling has seen the problems which have resulted on Dundee within the community, village officials have talked with IDOT about the possibility of getting funds for improvements on the road.

But IDOT has not been receptive, since state officials said Wheeling needed to present more detailed engineering studies and plans before any further state funds would be granted.

Herald 2/3/80

"WHEELING searches for new manager" is fifth.

That village entered the 1970s with a referendum that said Wheeling's top administrator would be a professional manager, not a political mayor. As the '70s end, the village is preparing to hire its sixth manager.

The first one, Curtis Olsen, held the job for less than one year, leaving amid charges he was allowing fast food restaurants in areas zoned for sit-down restaurants.

His successor, Matthew Golden, got into hot water for making "pro-Arab" comments at a Jaycees prayer breakfast. He resigned, withdrew the resignation and then left for good in the middle of a dispute over hiring a new building inspector.

Next came George Passolt, who lasted the longest of any village manager. He was fired, however, in 1975 after a member of his staff and two trustees, along with Wheeling Township Democratic boss James Stavros, were convicted of taking bribes in zoning cases.

Terry Zerkle then ran the village for a year, but was fired when he refused to appoint a police chief candidate backed by Village Pres. William Hein. Zerkle was replaced by Carsten Leikvold, who appointed Hein ally Ted Bracke as police chief. Leikvold resigned two months ago under fire from a new majority of the village trustees.

As the '80s begin, the search for Leikvold's replacement — a new manager for Wheeling — continues.

Herald 2/2/80

Data firm asks revenue bonds for new plant

A fifth firm is asking Wheeling officials to arrange low-cost financing so it can buy land and build a new plant.

Gandalf Data, 1111 Willis Ave., is asking the village to issue $2.8 million in industrial revenue bonds to finance the project. As it already has done for four companies, the village would issue the bonds, which would be repaid by the firm.

The firm plans to buy eight acres south of its present location and an existing 10,000-square-foot office building and construct a 50,000-square-foot factory, said George Koloff, vice president of finance. Gandalf Data manufactures electronics equipment.

"We've only been here for two years, but we've rapidly outgrown our present location," he said, adding the firm plans to hire 250 to 350 new employees for its new facilities. The firm also plans to install about $400,000 of new equipment.

BECAUSE THE BONDS bear the village's name, the company will be given a low interest rate because investors who buy them do not have to pay federal income tax on their earnings. That saves the firms about 2 percent in interest over conventional financing.

If the Gandolf loan is approved, the village will have issued more than $11 million in low-cost bonds since April 1978. That practice "undoubtedly has helped employment in the area and has expanded the village's tax base," Finance Director Gregory Peters said.

He said the new construction should mean at least an additional $50,000 each year in property tax revenues to the village once the projects are finished.

Warwicke Furnance Co., 1125 Wheeling Rd., used the low-cost financing plan to build a $2 million addition. Abbott Screw and Manufacturing Co. received a $3 million loan to build a plant near Palatine and Wheeling roads. J.W. Allen Co. was given a $3½ million loan to build a food processing plant in an industrial park on Northgate Pkwy. The Abbott and J.W. Allen projects are nearly complete.

Taubensee Steel Co. recently start[ed] building a steel-fabricating plant in Northgate industrial park. That has been approved for $3½ mil[lion] low-cost financing.

Herald 2/3/80

Wheeling begins to deal with its bad reputation

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

Wheeling, like many other Northwest suburbs, has experienced its share of growing pains during the past decade.

What was once a tiny farming community built along the Soo Line Railroad began to develop full-tilt in the 1960s and 1970s. In the past 10 years, the population has jumped almost 50 percent to its present 21,493.

But with the rapid growth came the opportunity for corruption. Following a 1975 zoning scandal in which two trustees, a building director and a local political boss were convicted of bribery and extortion, the village emerged as a town with a "reputation."

Developers then had to "buy" their way into town. The "village with feeling" became mockingly known as the "village of dealing."

AND ALTHOUGH the officials convicted of shaking down developers have served their prison terms and faded away, the village still bears some of the scars of the corruption and inattention it received in the decade gone by.

So village officials have spent recent years trying in a variety of ways to erase some of those scars.

But the changes are coming slowly.

The downtown area, centering around Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue, has been described as a "billboard jungle." The town is saturated with multi-family housing.

Although discussed for several years, plans to give the downtown area a facelift still are only in the formative stages. It took more than two years to adopt a sign ordinance that would require smaller, less garish signs.

And that ordinance, passed seven months ago, may have to be modified because businessmen are complaining it will cost them millions of dollars to conform to the new ordinance.

THIS YEAR, the village approved a tougher zoning and subdivision code, one that would encourage more house construction and limit the number of apartments or condominiums that can be built on a given parcel. The problem, however, is that there isn't much land left to develop.

When there was, however, it cost developers plenty to come into town. Although the federal indictments against former Wheeling Township Democratic Committeeman James Stavros, former Building Director William Bieber, former Trustees Michael Valenza and William Hart and county zoning officials Nicholas Phillips and Ira Colitz were resolved by 1975, the corruption was alleged to have started in the 1950s.

As word of the federal indictments, corruption, zoning irregularities and special favors spread, citizen action groups began to pop up all over town. Persons outside the small circle of politicians that ran Wheeling began to get involved.

In 1975, a slate vowing to clean up Wheeling swept the municipal elections. But the political problems persisted. One member of that slate, former Trustee Gilber Monoson, was accused in 1976 of offering to obtain a zoning variation for a local businessman in exchange for a $10,000 interest-free loan.

MONOSON'S CASE has yet to go to trial. Cook County prosecutors still have not decided

(continued on page 28)

Herald 2/3/80

Village deals with reputation

(continued from page 25)

whether to appeal a lower court ruling that prosecutors improperly prepared eavesdropping orders that would have allowed a tape recording of the alleged bribe to be admitted as evidence.

Political feuds continue to flourish, many of them involving the village manager, three of whom have been fired or pressured to leave the village in the past four years.

And talk of political conspiracies still exist, the latest example being a civil rights suit filed earlier this year by 11 policemen against Village Pres. William Hein and members of the village fire and police commission.

In that suit, Hein and the commissioners are accused of rigging test results to promote officers based on political ties.

But political feuding aside, Wheeling has made a number of strides forward in recent years. Despite what many officials consider an abundnce of apartments and condominiums, the village has encouraged industrial development, which has solidified Wheeling's tax base.

LESS THAN four years ago, village officials were borrowing money to pay the monthly bills. This year, the village was one of the few Northwest suburbs to reduce its property tax levy.

Wheeling also has jumped on federal tax loopholes to encourage house buying and industrial development. The village was one of the first towns in the area to issue tax-free revenue bonds allowing developers to borrow construction money at lower-than-normal interest rates.

Last December, the village board approved a $15 million loan that was turned over to a local bank for house loans. By June, nearly 300 persons had bought houses in Wheeling at 8.95 percent interest, nearly two points less than the then-conventional lending rate.

Village officials were so happy with the small housing boom it created that they plan to try it again if federal guidelines that have halted the mortgage subsidies are relaxed.

The village also has applied for more than $2 million in federal money to begin redeveloping the downtown area. Plans call for 100 rent-assisted apartments for senior citizens, 20 units of "scattered site housing" for low-income families and a center for seniors and handicapped persons. These projects are to be completed within three years.

THE 1980s ALSO should bring completion of a long-awaited walk-in clinic to deal with less serious ailments and eliminate the 20-minute drive to an area hospital for emergency care.

Sometimes in the 1980s, Wheeling may become part-owner of Pal-Waukee Airport whose owner, George Priester, has been trying to sell it for years. But the road to completing the purchase may be fraught with problems.

It will be expensive. If Wheeling shares the cost with Prospect Heights, the co-sponsor of a two-year financial feasibility study, it will cost the towns at least $3.8 million, possibly much more, depending on how much land outside the airport they have to buy to preserve air space.

It will be controversial. Residents near the airport long have complained of the noise and fear the low-flying planes that land and take off near their houses and schools.

Although airport consultants warn of a mass exodus of the corporations that rely on Pal-Waukee, some would just as soon see the airport close and let O'Hare Airport worry about the excess traffic.

WHILE WHEELING may undergo a number of surface changes in the next decade, its population is likely to remain the same. Most of the land left for development is slated for industrial and some business building.

Herald 2/4/80

Water study to be considered

Wheeling trustees tonight again will consider spending $26,000 to hire a consultant to study the village's water system and the need for Lake Michigan water.

Board members two weeks ago delayed a decision on hiring the Chicago firm of Consoer, Townsend and Associates, complaining that the village already is spending too much money for consultants.

However, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said Wheeling will need the study to present its case for a lake water allocation when new hearings begin in a few months.

Three years ago, the village was denied a Lake Michigan water allocation. Since then, Wheeling has started construction of two new deep wells, but Leikvold says their construction is only a temporary solution. The water table is dropping, and water from deep wells contain contaminants such as radiation and barium, which do not comply with federal drinking water standards, he said.

The board will consider the proposal when it meets at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

A REQUEST BY a local company for a $2.8 million loan to finance construction of a new plant will be considered tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

Gandalf Data Inc., 1111 Wills Ave., is asking the village to issue industrial revenue bonds. The village already has issued similar bonds for four other companies. The village would issue the bonds, but the firm would be responsible for repaying them.

The firm plans to buy eight acres of land south of its present location, buy an existing 10,000-square-foot office building and build a 50,000 square-foot factory.

Gandalf Data plans to spend about $400,000 for new equipment. The new plant will provide jobs for 250 to 350 new workers, company officials said.

Board members will consider preparing the ordinances for the $2.8 million bond issue when they meet at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Herald 2/5/81

River discounted as water source

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

The possibility of using the Des Plaines River as a source of drinking water for Wheeling residents is "highly unlikely," two water experts say.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold had said the river, which flows through the village east of Milwaukee Avenue, might be an untapped water source as the village continues to explore ways to relieve the water shortages that have plagued the village each summer.

But David Westfall, executive v ce president of Keifer Engineering, a water consulting firm that has been used by the village, said a visual inspection alone has convinced most experts that using the Des Plaines River for drinking water is impractical.

There's not that much water in it, and what little there is is too polluted, he said.

"It's not that big a river," he said. "And I imagine the treatment costs alone would be prohibitive."

A FEW YEARS ago, officials from the Illinois Dept. of Transportation's water resources division said the river might be a possible, but expensive, water source and would require the cooperation of several communities because of the cost.

However, that idea has been discarded, said Kenneth Brewster, program manager of the Lake Michigan water diversion program.

Studies of the river showed it carries less than 650,000 gallons of water each day — one of the guidelines in determining whether a river is a potential water source, he said.

In addition, tougher federal drinking water standards would make the treatment costs much higher than local officials originally anticipated, Brewster said.

Leikvold said the slim possibility of using water from the Des Plaines River means the village should even more strongly consider joining a consortium of eight Northwest suburbs seeking to build a pipeline for Lake Michigan water.

WHEN IDOT begins its hearings this summer on what towns will receive lake water, Brewster said, it is likely more communities will be considered.

Towns like Wheeling that rely on deep wells are faced with high treatment costs to make the drinking water comply with the new federal environmental standards, and lake water might be a cheaper way to combat the problem.

"Most (of the standards) are in the aesthetic parameter," he said. "And not many are detrimental to one's health. But they are being enforced anyway."

Wheeling Herald 2-6-80

Annexation of lots stalled by zoning

Wheeling officials are considering a series of small annexations to bring several isolated lots into the village, but are bickering over the way the procedure should be handled.

The village has the legal right to annex any parcel of less than 60 acres that is bordered on three sides by the village. But several property owners have complained the automatic single-family zoning that comes with a forced annexation is not appropriate for their land.

The lots, mostly undeveloped, include:

- A 32-acre tract at the northeast corner of Hintz and Elmhurst roads.
- More than 16 acres southwest of the intersection of Lake-Cook and Wolf roads.
- Eight acres along Cornell Avenue, south of Hintz Road.
- More than nine acres at the southwest corner of Hintz and Wolf roads.
- Less than one acre near Schoenbeck and Hintz roads.

Although Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold conceded the single-family zoning would not be suited to many of the parcels, one of the purposes of the annexations is to ensure the land won't be glutted with multi-family housing that could be permitted under more liberal county zoning laws.

ALSO, THE VILLAGE already plows snow and provides police and fire protection for those areas, since they are surrounded by the village. "I don't know how we could plow 200 feet along Cornell, drop the plow and then start up again. It would be a waste of energy. (The property owners) ought to be part of the village and pay what little taxes we require," he said.

However, Leikvold is proposing that the property owners seek zoning changes later — a move that some board members and property owners called unnecessary.

Donald Mills, who owns five of the eight acres on Cornell Avenue, said multi-family zoning should be part of the annexation agreement since his land is worthless for anything else. His property has become "isolated" because of the apartment buildings built around it, he said. "We were there a long time before all those apartments came along, and nobody asked our permission to build them."

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld suggests that a pre-annexation agreement, one that would cover zoning, be worked out with the property owners in advance. "If this property is surrounded by apartments, it seems unlikely that we would want to retain the (single-family) zoning," he said.

VILLAGE ATTY. David Epstein said if "the board, the staff and the property owners are all in agreement on what the zoning designation ought to be, you've got no problem. You draw up a two-page pre-annexation agreement."

But Leikvold said Tuesday such a procedure might be contrary to village procedure and he was "going to have to dig into this a little further" before making a recommendation.

The board is scheduled to consider all five annexations March 4. He said he will try to meet with the property owners before then.

Village board wrapup

Wheeling Herald 2-6-80

Industrial revenue bonds receive OK

A $2.8 million industrial revenue bond that would enable a local firm to build a new plant has been given preliminary approval by the Wheeling Village Board.

The village plans to issue the bonds to allow Gandolf Data Inc., 1019 Noel Ave., to buy eight acres just south of its present location and build a new plant at 1111 Willis Ave. The village already has issued bonds for four other companies.

Although the village issues the bonds, they are repaid by the firms.

Because earnings on the bonds are tax-free, the company will pay back the money at an interest rate about 2 percent lower than with conventional financing.

Gandolf Data plans to construct a 50,000-square-foot factory and hire 250 to 350 new employees for its expanded operation.

Senior citizen commission proposed

A commission that would determine the housing, employment, education and health needs for Wheeling's senior citizens will be created under an ordinance now being drafted by Village Atty. Davis Epstein.

Wheeling trustees said one of the duties of the senior citizen commission will be to seek state or federal grants to aid Wheeling seniors. The commission also would seek advice on the programs to be developed for the senior citizen center the village plans to build with a $1.2 million federal grant.

At least four of the seven members must be at least 60 years old, said Trustee Sheila Schultz, who proposed the commission. There also will be a provision for non-voting members and persons who do not live in Wheeling to serve on the commission, she said.

Trustees delay sidewalk decision

Trustees have delayed a decision to allow a developer to build a sidewalk leading from his Buffalo Grove condominium development to Field School in a nearby Wheeling subdivision.

The matter was delayed at the request of Trustee Charles Kerr, who disagrees with Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold on where the sidewalk should be placed. Kerr was out of town when the proposal was considered Monday night. The village plan commission has recommended approval of a variance that would allow developer Bernard Katz to build the sidewalk closer to Dundee Road, away from the 200 trees that border property lines in a Wheeling subdivision.

But Leikvold says the trees should be torn down and the sidewalk constructed as far away from the road as possible to protect pedestrians from water, thrown gravel and reckless motorists. However, Kerr, who lives at 20 Berkshire Ln., and has some of the trees in his backyard, says cutting down the trees will ruin one of the few green patches on Dundee Road in Wheeling.

Reminder 2-7-80

BG eyes 67-acre tract

Annexation, rezoning opposed by owners

By MARION SOURS

If agreements can be reached with the owners of the land, 67-½ acres of land soon may be annexed to the Village of Wheeling,. That may be difficult, however, since the land is divided into bits and pieces along various borders of the village, and a number of owners have indicated they object to the zoning the village routinely would impose on their land.

Public hearings on the parcels of land were held at Monday night's meeting of the Wheeling village board. For some time the village has pursued a policy of involuntary annexation in an effort to "square off" its boundaries. The recent protests have been the first indication that there may be problems with this policy.

The village has the authority to annex land on its borders forcibly, without the owners' consent. The land automatically enters the village as R1, or single-family, zoning. If the owner wishes to have the land zoned in different way, he later must petition the Plan Commission for a zoning change, and he is not guaranteed he will receive the zoning he requests.

Lately, this situation has not been acceptable to a number of landowners. The alternative to this procedure is for the village to enter into a pre-annexation agreement with the party involved. Village staff would work with the landowner or his attorney in drafting an agreement acceptable to them both. It might include considerations regarding zoning, sewer and water service and land access.

The agreement then would be subject to approval by the village board. This course of action is one the village seldom has taken, but which officials Monday said may have to be utilized more.

Already, for example, a public hearing has been set for Feb. 19 regarding a pre-annexation agreement between the village and K. Bard, who owns property in a 32-acre parcel at Elmhurst and Hintz roads. This parcel is part of the 67-½ acres proposed for forcible annexation.

Bard operates Bard's Body and Fender Shop, 747 S. Elmhurst Road, out of his home. Bard has said he did not want his land to enter the village zoned single family, since then his business would be designated as a non-conforming structure.

His attorney explained that Bard went before the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals two years ago to get a conforming use permit for his property. Forcible annexation, and the resulting R1 zoning, would put Bard back where he started before petitioning the county.

Because of this, village officials agreed to pursue a pre-annexation agreement with Bard. At Monday night's board meeting, the trustees also indicated they probably would be in favor of establishing a pre-annexation agreement with Eugene DeBartolo, owner of Gene's Standard Service, 995 S. Elmhurst Road, which also is part of the 32-acre parcel.

DeBartolo's attorney said his client has no objection to being annexed by the village, but does not want his business designated as a non-conforming structure.

Several other landowners appeared at Monday night's meeting to protest entering the village under R1 zoning. One of

(Continued on page 15)

Reminder 2-7-80

Annexation—

(Continued from page 6)

these was Donald Mills, who owns 5 acres of land west of Cornell Avenue and south of Hintz Road. His property is bounded on two sides by the VIP and Lake of the Winds multi-family developments.

Mills and his attorney said it seemed inappropriate for his land, surrounded by multi-family developments, to be zoned single-family. Mills also cited many problems he has encountered from these developments over the years — such as garbage dumping and harrassment — to the point that his family finally was forced to move.

Mills, has owned the land for 26 years. "We were there a long time before the apartments came and surrounded us. We're asking for the same consideration you gave them," he said.

Trustees instructed village staff to meet with Mills and other landowners and to try to work out problems. The public hearing regarding their land will be continued until the next regular board meeting (Tuesday, Feb. 19; the regular Monday meeting is postponed because of a holiday).

At Monday night's meeting, officials indicated that pre-annexation agreements, pursued on a regular basis, might take up an excessive amount of staff time. However, DeBartolo's attorney said that more time, and legal fees would be incurred in applying for rezoning once the land was forcibly annexed as R1.

Countryside 2-7-80

Serious water shortage faces Wheeling: manager

By MARION SOURS

"Within a year's time you are going to be faced with some serious water shortages," Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold warned trustees at Monday night's Wheeling village board meeting. His earnest arguments swayed some trustees, who initially indicated they did not want the village to enter into a contract regarding a proposed water study for the village.

"I don't know if you realize how serious this situation is going to be in a few years," Leikvold said. He made the comment after Trustee Robert Ross had made a motion to drop a resolution authorizing Leikvold to enter the village into a contract with Consoer, Townsend and Associates Ltd., Consultants, to undertake a water study. Trustee John Cole seconded the motion, but it never came to a vote.

At the last workshop meeting of the village board, trustees discussed bids which had been submitted by several consulting firms regarding a possible water study for the village. Consoer's bid had been the lowest — $26,600.

Village officials had sought a water study, in order to be prepared for hearings in June regarding Lake Michigan water. At the last hearings regarding lake water, Wheeling submitted a request, but it was turned down, primarily because the village had submitted only data indicating need, and no plan for a distribution system for the water.

Leikvold said the proposed study would provide the information which had been lacking before, and which would greatly improve the village's chances of obtaining lake water.

"Your water table is going down every day," Leikvold told trustees after Ross and Cole had indicated they did not favor the study.

Leikvold had submitted a letter to the trustees explaining village officials' views.

"One of the engineers (at the recent workshop) stated that our water table has been dropping at the rate of a foot every month," he said. "Some observations by our staff show a drop of 18 to 20 feet a year. We are, as one engineer stated, mining available water -- that is, we are pumping it out of the ground faster (than) it is being replenished. In a few years Wheeling could be in serious trouble."

In a letter to the trustees, dated Jan. 25, Leikvold wrote: "The aquifer which supplies our deep wells is receding, water from our shallow wells is barely potable, and the flow in the Des Plaines River inadequate for our needs."

(Continued on page 9)

Wheeling Herald 2-8-80

State to be asked to widen Dundee

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

Angered by a Northwest Municipal Conference committee's refusal to hand out federal funds to widen a two-mile stretch of Dundee Road, Wheeling officials say they will go to the state for the money.

Informed of the NWMC transportation committee's recommendation to spend the $20 million remaining in a six-year federal road work program on projects other than Dundee Road, Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said, "I cannot believe that they would be so uninformed to look at the road with one of the worst accident rates of all those streets and ignore it."

About $60 million in federal funds was made available to the Northwest suburbs because of the elimination of plans for Chicago's Crosstown Expressway and other projects. Widening Dundee road would cost an estimated $5 million.

The conference is expected to approve Wednesday the committee's recommendations. Robert Fialkowski, NWMC transportation director, said accident rates were not figured in determining the latest batch of projects, which will be financed in 1985 and 1986.

"THERE YOU GET into arguments like, 'Are fatalities worse than property damage?'" he said. "We really didn't have the time or staff to do that."

The main concerns, he said, were traffic volumes and the condition of the roads. Most of the new projects added to the NWMC list are two-lane roads that will be widened to four lanes.

Dundee Road already has four lanes, but local officials contend the road needs a fifth turning lane, similar to those along Dundee where it runs through Buffalo Grove and Northbrook. Traffic from adjoining towns always bottlenecks in Wheeling, they say, and Wheeling has a much higher accident rate than those towns.

Fialkowski said the new projects must be under construction by 1986, and he is not sure if the engineering and land rights for a Dundee Road widening could be accomplished in that time. There would be numerous negotiations and possibly condemnation suits against the many Dundee Road property owners, Fialkowski said.

WHEELING VILLAGE MGR. Carsten Leikvold said he was disappointed with the decision on Dundee Road but added he could understand the arguments. "I don't know if I'm in the position to comment on the workings of the Northwest Municipal Conference transportation committee," he said.

However, he added the best idea now is to proceed with a plan to go directly to the Illinois Dept. of Transportation for the Dundee Road money. The Wheeling Chamber of Commerce has scheduled a Feb. 21 meeting with officials from IDOT and State Sen. Roger Keats, R-Wilmette.

Reminder 2-7-80

Water—

(Continued from page 5)

The village's two newest wells, now under construction, are on Milwaukee Avenue, south of Dundee Road and at Hintz and Longtree roads. The village arranged to sell $2.5 million in revenue bonds to finance the wells.

Wheeling has been plagued by water shortages for the past several summers. These shortages have resulted in bans on lawn sprinkling and other outdoor water use.

Ross and Cole had said they were concerned with the high cost of the study, particularly since they said the village had paid for numerous water studies in the past. They questioned whether significant new data would be gathered.

Leikvold told trustees that the last major water study was only meant to be valuable for a five-year period, and that period has elapsed.

Trustee Sheila Schultz said she was in favor of a study, but questioned the disparity in the bids submitted by the firms. Consoer's bid was $26,600, but the next highest bid was $62,000.

Schultz and other trustees said they wondered how thorough the Consoer study would be, considering the fact that another firm had estimated such a study would cost almost three times the price Consoer had estimated.

Leikvold said he could only say that all the firms which had submitted bids were reputable companies.

Trustees also wanted a definite assurance that the Consoer firm would provide a plan for the distribution of lake water. They said if this were not done, the study would not help the village obtain lake water.

Leikvold said the contract provided for a distribution plan to be created. As the discussion of the topic drew to a close, trustees indicated they probably would agree to approve the contract, but wanted to examine a copy to make sure such a stipulation is included.

Leikvold will bring a copy to the next meeting, and a vote likely will be taken at that time.

Reminder 2-7-80

Liquor licenses open tap to revised law

Three Wheeling restaurants, which currently are allowed to serve only wine and beer, probably will be able to serve hard liquor also in the near future.

At a recent workshop meeting of the Wheeling village board, trustees said they would favor a liquor license reclassification, proposed by Finance Director Gregory Peters. Under the new system, permits to serve all types of liquor would be granted to Newberry Place, Hintz and Buffalo Grove roads; Four Stars, 43 W. Dundee Road and Two Doves, 20 S. Milwaukee Ave.

The owners of these establishments had told village officials in the past they were being penalized by only being allowed to serve beer and wine, since they were losing customers to restaurants which could serve hard liquor.

At the request of the board, Peters had proposed a new liquor license system. Trustees approved of the concept, though they said they would favor a few changes. The system still is being discussed by the board.

Currently, the village allows 25 liquor licenses to be granted. These are divided into the following classifications:

— A: An establishment with a seating capacity of more than 200; it must serve food and liquor and may stay open until 4 a.m. There is one such license allowed. It is held by Kisses, 124 S. Milwaukee Ave.

— B: A restaurant, which may serve all types of liquor, including packaged. It may stay open until 2 a.m. There are 18 such licenses allowed. They are held by such divergent establishments as LeFrancais, 269 S. Milwaukee Ave. and Bell Liquors, 767 W. Dundee.

— C: A service club, which may serve liquor. There are two such licenses allowed, and only one used— by Amvets Post No. 66, 700 Old McHenry Road.

— D: A restaurant which may serve only beer and wine. There are four such licenses allowed and three used - by Newberry Place, Two Doves and Four Stars.

Under the proposed reclassification, there will be at least six categories. They are:

— A. An establishment with at least 200 seats, same as current.

— B. An establishment in which the serving of food is predominent, but which also serves liquor, including packaged. Among the restaurants falling under this category might be LeFrancais, Lums, 102 S. Milwaukee Ave.; and Restaurant Mexico, 521 S. Milwaukee Ave. Newberry Place, Two Doves and Four Stars also would fit into this category.

— C: An establishment in which over-the-counter (bar) and package sales of liquor would be predominent, with some serving of food. Fitting into this category would be Hein's Pub, 141 S. Milwaukee Ave. and Kilcoyne's Redwood Inn, 342 N. Milwaukee Ave.

— D. An establishment selling over-the-counter and package liquor only. These licenses might be issued to such businesses as Bell Liquors and Village Tap, 83 S. Milwaukee Ave.

— E: Package sales only. Fitting this category would be the Wheeling Drug Company, 303 E. Dundee Road.

— F: Service clubs. This category would be the same as before and would apply to the Amvets Post.

There still would be the same number of licenses issued— 25. The number issued for each classification has not been set.

Ask money for 'unforseen' costs

WHEELING—The engineering firm working on well number seven is seeking an additional $33,000 from the village for costs which the firm claims were "unforseen."

The request was met with skepticism by the village board and there was no approval given at the workshop meeting Monday, Jan. 28.

The basis for discussion at the workshop was a letter dated Jan. 4, by David Westfall, executive vice president of Keifer Engineering, Inc. Westfall said the firm incurred additional costs for additional engineering work and expenses in services to protect the village "from time-consuming and expensive delays produced by prospective bidders and their legal representative conspiring in and raising contractual and legal complications to approved bidding documents."

A report by Robert Gray, director of operations and maintenance for the village, said he does not agree with some of the items contained in the request from Keifer Engineering. Gray said some of the costs incurred should be paid for by the developer of the Longtree subdivision, while other costs should be paid for by the contractor and the well driller.

WESTFALL TOLD the board that there will have to be a cutback of services if the additional fees are not paid. "We can't afford that kind of overrun," he said.

Trustee Charles Kerr pointed out that the village manager should have come to the board for permission to exceed the contract price before approval.

The board made no decision on the cost overrun. No official action can be taken at workshop meetings.

Agree on zoning in advance

Wheeling 2-7-80

Simplify annexations

By ELAINE LAMPERT
Correspondent

WHEELING — In order to save time and money, both for the village and for property owners, the village board decided Feb. 4 to circumvent cumbersome zoning procedures when forcibly annexing parcels of property into the village.

The village board recently began squaring off some of the village's irregular boundaries by forcibly annexing areas bordered on at least three sides by property already within village limits.

USUALLY, land annexed into Wheeling comes in zoned as R-1, zoned for single-family residential use. If the owner does not agree his land should be in that zoning class, he must petition for the zoning category he wants. The petition is then discussed and ruled on at a public hearing conducted by the village plan commission.

In considering the pieces, many of which have several owners, Village President William Hein recommended pre-annexation agreements be drawn up specifying how the land will be zoned. "I believe it is the desire of this board to take in these parcels of property, but the board desires to cooperate with the people who are being annexed," he said. He added that the board wants to have "a happy marriage" between the village and its potential residents and taxpayers.

TRUSTEE SHEILA Schultz and Village Manager Carsten Leikvold voiced reservations about establishing new precedents. "You're by-passing the plan commission (by having pre-annexation agreements)," Schultz said.

Leikvold added that, in such cases, the village would not have hearings on the zoning of property. He suggested the board review the annexation ordinance and possibly change it.

David Epstein, village attorney, said pre-annexation agreements would only be possible in one circumstance — where the property is to be forcibly annexed and the owner, village staff and village board are in agreement as to the zoning category.

OWNERS OF LOTS ranging in size from .79 acres to 16.2 acres attended the Monday night public hearing. Five different areas were considered, including:

• .88 acres located one-quarter mile east of Schoenbeck road on the north side of Hintz road (west of Wheeling high school);

• 7.7 acres west of Cornell avenue and south of Hintz road;

• 16.2 acres west of Wolf road and south of Lake-Cook road (south of the Johnson property);

• .79 acres west of Wolf road on the south side of Hintz, and 8.56 acres at the southwest corner of Hintz and Wolf road (where a filling station is located); and,

• 32 acres at the northeast corner of Elmhurst and Hintz roads.

DONALD MILLS, who owns more than five of the 7.7 acres west of Cornell, asked that his property be zoned as suitable for multi-family residences before it is brought into the village. He said it is surrounded by apartment buildings.

Mills told the board he has owned the land since 1954, when the entire area was open. Now, he added, "They have completely isolated my property." He said his family used to live there, but "had to move" when the apartments were built because his land was being used as a dumping area and his wife was receiving threatening calls, after they called police to get trespassers off the property.

Mills said he had been told by the assessor and other officials that Cornell, which was built by he and his father, is a private road, "but everybody uses it."

He also said he had never been notified the surrounding properties would be annexed to Wheeling or have apartments built on them. He added that he only found out once construction began.

This time he received a letter dated Jan. 14 regarding the annexation of his property from Larry Oppenheimer, community development director, but Mills said he had not been able to see or talk to him since he received it.

Hein said he was disturbed that Mills had so much difficulty communicating with the village staff. He advised the staff to meet with all of the concerned property owners before the next board meeting.

The public hearing on the first four parcels of property was continued to Tuesday, Feb. 19. The hearing on the 12-acre piece was continued to Monday, March 3.

Wheeling Life 2-7-80

Land may go to Wheeling

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING-BUFFALO GROVE—While the village of Buffalo Grove has occupied itself with the problem of whether to annex the 835-acre Fiore /Hilltown property and referenda on home rule and a municipal fire department, the village of Wheeling has begun annexation talks with William Johnson, spokesman for the Johnson family, which owns a large parcel of property north of Lake-Cook road between Milwaukee avenue and the Soo Line railroad.

Wheeling has already annexed 109 acres of Johnson property lying south of Lake-Cook road.

The property has been the subject of some friction between the two communities which tried to meet some years ago to work out borders amicably. However, the meeting ended when Buffalo Grove waved its sewer agreement with the Lake county public works department in Wheeling's face. The sewer agreement covers the Johnson property in Lake county and Buffalo Grove officials have said they feel it is legally binding. The agreement gives Buffalo Grove the right to provide sewer service to that piece of property

WHEELING VILLAGE attorney David Epstein said Monday, Feb. 4, "I'm not sure the sewer agreement has any force or is binding. The agreement wouldn't bind the Johnsons or the village of Wheeling. It could influence which way it would be developed."

The problem of who would provide sewer service may be solved if the Metropolitan Sanitary district (MSD) makes a policy decision to go outside Cook county for service of communities which lie both in Cook and another county.

Epstein said the problem is before MSD and that a decision won't be made before March. "In preliminary discussion with MSD they said, 'We don't reject it'," Epstein said. He said MSD does this in Elgin and in some other places with a surcharge on out-of-county service.

If MSD makes a policy decision not to go outside Cook county, Epstein said he does not know if the village staff would favor annexation of the property. However, he added that should MSD agree to service the property, "it would just be step one. The staff would still be a long way from approval of annexation," he noted.

BUFFALO GROVE Village Manager William Balling said if Wheeling annexes the Johnson property, "They'd be in conflict with area-wide planning, 208 (water quality) planning and with the EPA (Environmental Protection agency) grant that funded the Lake county treatment plant." Balling also mentioned "encroachment" by MSD.

However, the village manager said MSD has gone out of the county in one instance in Buffalo Grove. MSD services St. Mary's school because, according to Balling, it is split by Lake and Cook counties. "It's a special case and a very small one," he said.

In the meantime, the Johnsons have petitioned Buffalo Grove to extend (at county expense) the gravity line from the southern terminus to pick up the Chevy Chase utility area. Buffalo Grove is in the process of evaluating that petition, Balling said.

Should the Johnsons annex their Lake county property to Wheeling, it would open the way for the Wheeling park district to annex Chevy Chase to the village of Wheeling. It cannot do so now because the property is not contiguous to Wheeling.

Buffalo Grove has expressed interest in the Johnson property for use for industrial sites, while Wheeling would like it to build up its single-family home stock.

Against manager's warning

Wheeling Life 2-7-80

Water study stalled

WHEELING — A resolution authorizing a study of Wheeling's water sources and possible distribution systems got bogged down at the Feb. 4 meeting of the village board.

Board members voted to table further discussion until they could examine and discuss the proposed contract with the consulting firm, Consoer Townsend and associates Ltd.

Lame-duck Village Manager Carsten Leikvold has been pushing for a new study. He said recommendations made in the last study, completed by Lindley Engineering in 1976, have been done.

Leikvold strongly urged the trustees to look into the future. "Water in the next few years is going to be a major problem in this area and I urge you to start looking ahead now," he said.

LEIKVOLD NOTED that one engineer has said Wheeling's water table is dropping at the rate of one foot every month. "Some observations by our staff show a drop of 18 to 20 feet a year," he said.

He said the village is presently "mining available water," (pumping it from the ground) faster than it can be replenished. "A deep aquifer (the rock strata from which the water is mined) can yield up to 46 million gallons a day. We're presently pumping at the rate of 153 million gallons a day."

SEVERAL BOARD members expressed doubts that another study is necessary. Trustees Robert Ross and John Cole said they would not vote for a study that would "only tell us we need more water." Ross said, "I think it would be a waste of money."

But Leikvold warned, "Within your time — I'll be long gone — you'll have to depend on Lake Michigan water." He pointed out that hearings on the allocation of lake water will begin in June. "We should be gearing up for it (lake water) right now."

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld raised another consideration. "Are we prepared to take the water in:" he asked. "We need a plan for receiving the water."

Sommerfeld said the study should provide an update of the village's potential need for water. "It will put us in a posture to receive the allocation and help us make application for it."

"WE KNOW WE'LL need Lake Michigan water, if we can get it," Sommerfeld continued. He said the study could provide a guide for the location of the transmission lines. "We have to have a concept for the distribution of Lake Michigan water and also an alternative system if we don't get Lake Michigan water."

Although Consoer Townsend plans to include a computer model of the water system, Ross said, "The existing system will be analyzed, not alternatives."

According to Village President William Hein, "They may say you need a system update, but they will not tell us how to do it."

After Cole noted, "We don't have the actual contract. I don't see how we can vote on it," the board voted unanimously to table discussion of the study until the contract is brought before it.

Wheeling Life 2-7-80

Meeting on airport

WHEELING—The village boards of Wheeling and Prospect Heights will meet together at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 11 to discuss Phase II of the feasibility study on the purchase of Palwaukee airport.

Cost estimates now come to nearly $85 million, which would include some land purchase for clear zones and moving the intersection of Wolf and Hintz roads.

Purchase of land for clear zones could include a portion of the Plum Creek condominium development on the southeast corner of Wolf and Hintz, according to Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold.

The objectives of the study are to see that Palwaukee is publicly acquired and to enhance and continue operation of the present facilities, including the 5,000-foot runway. In order to preserve the runway, either the Federal Aviation administration (FAA) will have to waive one of its guidelines or the intersection of Wolf and Hintz will have to be moved.

Actual acquisition of the airport is estimated at $20.5 million and, according to the report, it is expected to be accomplished in fiscal 1981. During the next four years, according to the report, the $14 million improvement to the intersection would be accomplished. Costs to satisfy the aviation demand through the year 2001 are estimated at $53.7 million. However, according to the report, all costs are estimates and are not substantiated by appraisals or exact quantities.

Utility service may decide annex issue

Herald 2-9-80

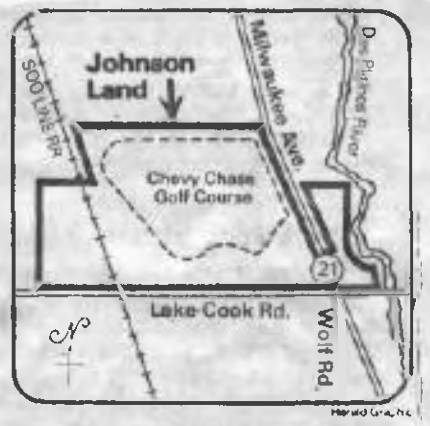
Herald staff writer

The owner of 278 acres surrounding the Chevy Chase Golf Course has been talking to Wheeling officials about annexing his property, but Buffalo Grove officials vow to fight for the land.

William Johnson's property has been the object of a border dispute between the two towns for more than four years, but the debate could be settled by the town that would provide sewer and water service for the condominiums, stores and industrial park he apparently plans to build.

Johnson could not be reached for comment, and his attorney, Mark Mehlman, would not discuss his client's plans.

But according to a land use plan prepared for Johnson by a Northbrook



firm, office buildings and factories would comprise most of the development.

Condominiums are planned for the 275-foot-wide strip that borders the northern edge of the golf course, and some commercial development is planned where Johnson's property borders Milwaukee Avenue. East of Milwaukee Avenue, a housing development is planned.

JOHNSON OWNS the Chevy Chase Sewer and Water Co., a private utility that serves about 70 homeowners, a few businesses and the golf course, which was purchased by the Wheeling Park District three years ago.

That sewer system has been described as "ancient," and last year the Illinois attorney general's office filed suit against Johnson, charging the plant has dumped five times more treated sewage into the Des Plaines River than is allowed by federal pollution standards.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's pollution control board is expected next week to rule on a plan to give Johnson a deadline to close the plant and find another source for water and sewer service, said William Blakney, an assistant attorney general.

The most cost-efficient plan, Buffalo Grove Assistant Village Mgr. William Sommer said, would be for Johnson to tie in with Lake County sewers. The village has a "sphere of influence" agreement with the county, giving Buffalo Grove final say about sewer connections.

AND BUFFALO Grove "has always planned for it to be annexed," Village Pres. Verna Clayton said, adding that she was "sure we will be mapping out a strategy" to combat any plans by Johnson to annex to Wheeling.

But she said she had had only a "cursory" discussion with Johnson last summer about his annexation plans.

However, Village Atty. David Epstein said Johnson "has expressed that his principle interest is coming into Wheeling."

Epstein said Wheeling could circumvent Buffalo Grove's hold on sewer connections by convincing the Metropolitan Sanitary District, which basically serves only Cook County, to extend it borders to cover Johnson's property, which is just north of the Lake-Cook County line.

"As I understand it, the agreement is between the Village of Buffalo Grove and Lake County's public works department," he said "It would be legal and binding only if that property is annexed to Buffalo Grove."

If the MSD were willing to extend its borders, Wheeling could annex Johnson's land without Buffalo Grove's permission, he added.

MSD COMR. Richard Troy confirmed Johnson had approached the district about extending its borders. But, except for "extraordinary circumstances," the district does not serve areas outside Cook County, Troy said.

Johnson will ask Buffalo Grove Monday night for permission to connect to Lake County sewer lines. Such an agreement, Sommer said, would not commit Johnson to Lake County sewers and has nothing to do with servicing the undeveloped portion of his property.

Four months ago, Wheeling annexed 110 acres of Johnson-owned land south of Lake-Cook Road for a shopping center and an industrial park.

Wheeling Herald 2-11-80

The week ahead

Airport report to be studied

Officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights tonight will discuss the latest consultants report that says Pal-Waukee Airport could cost as much as $85 million.

The two-year study by Ralph Burke and Associates, Park Ridge, will determine whether it's economical for the two towns to buy the privately-owned airport. Officials from both towns have balked at using tax money to support the airport and have considered including other towns like Glenview, Northbrook and Mount Prospect in the airport buy.

Consultants say the $85 million may have to be spent over the next 20 years to acquire the airport. That amount includes the cost of buying additional land for parking, airplane hangars and clear space for aircraft and rerouting the Hintz-Wolf road intersection near the airport's longest runway to comply with federal safety standards.

However, the airport planners are waiting for the Federal Aviation Administration to decide what standards might be relaxed when the airport comes under municipal control. Depending on what guidelines are waived, the cost could be reduced to perhaps $42 million, consultants say.

The $85 million figure is a "worst case" estimate, consultants say. State and federal funding will pay most of the cost, with the local share coming to between $6 million and $12.7 million.

Airport owner George Priester says he can no longer afford to run Pal-Waukee, the nation's busiest privately-run airport, because he, unlike public facilities, is ineligible for federal improvement funds. Also, he says he is powerless to stop development that is closing in on Pal-Waukee.

Officials will discuss the airport at 7:30 p.m. at Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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THE OWNER of 278 acres that surround the Chevy Chase Golf Course, north of Wheeling, plans to ask the Buffalo Grove Village Board tonight for permission to hook up to Lake County sewer lines.

William Johnson, whose Chevy Chase Sewer and Water Co., serves about 70 homeowners in the area, was sued by the Illinois Attorney General's office for dumping five times the amount of treated sewage into the Des Plaines River than is allowed by federal pollution standards.

Some officials see Johnson's request for Lake County sewer lines as an attempt to alleviate his legal difficulties, but others speculate his action might be a nod toward future annexation by Buffalo Grove. Both Wheeling and Buffalo Grove are interested in annexing the property.

The village board meets at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 50 Raupp Blvd.

• • •

THE NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE Wednesday night will vote on plans to spend about $28 million in federal money on an Arlington Heights Road underpass, widening Barrington Road and 11 other road projects.

The transportation committee of the municipal confernce has approved the plans, allocating $8.5 million to widen Barrington Road to four lanes from the Northwest Tollway to Lake Street through Hoffman Estates, Streamwood and Hanover Park.

The committee recommended spending another $7.3 million to route Arlington Heights Road under the Chicago and North Western Ry. tracks in Arlington Heights. Other major jobs recommended to receive the federal funding are widening Wolf Road to four lanes through Mount Prospect and Des Plaines, and making Ill. Rte. 83 four lanes in Wheeling north of Dundee Road.

The committee's recommendation leaves several major projects requested by local officials without funding, including a $10 million extension of Rohlwing Road in Elk Grove Village, widening Dundee Road in Wheeling and straightening a curve in Northwest Highway in Des Plaines.

The conference, a board of mayors and managers from 23 suburbs and seven townships, will meet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Wheeling Township Hall, 1616 N. Arlington Heights Rd.

Wheeling Life 2-14-80 +

NWMC denies funds for Dundee

WHEELING—The transportation committee of the Northwest Municipal conference (NWMC) has turned down a request from Wheeling for funds to pay for engineering plans for Dundee road. The village is trying to formulate plans for renovation of the roadway which is in very poor condition.

Village President William Hein received a letter from Martin Butler, chairman of the committee, on Feb. 6. The letter indicates that the NWMC will not allocate planning funds unless construction funds are forthcoming from some source. He said there is no clear picture where construction funds for Dundee road would come from.

Butler acknowledged that Wheeling has a valid concern about the road, but said the problem is that the state "has successfully wiggled out from responsibility for their policy of dribbling out inadequate amounts of money. They (the state) are able to enjoy the luxury of stepping back and watching undercurrents develop between communities whenever painful decisions are made on how that small amount of money is to be allocated."

Hein said he hasn't given up on the project. "I can understand their (NWMC) position. It is the way it was set up by the federal government. But I think both the NWMC and the federal agencies have to take a broader view of existing road conditions. They have not allocated enough funds in the state over the last five to 10 years," he said.

The village president noted, "Wheeling didn't grow overnight. There should have been money allocated. Everybody waits for an area to be urbanized — that's very poor planning. If that's the system, we'll work with it, but I won't put it on the back burner."

Wheeling Life 2-14-80 +

2 weeks to decision on manager

WHEELING—Village President William Hein said the board hopes to make its decision on a new village manager in the next two weeks. The board has interviewed three candidates for the job and Hein said there is no one else being interviewed.

Tom Markus, former assistant village manager; William Sommer, assistant village manager of Buffalo Grove; and William Lewis, former finance director are the three applicants being considered for the position.

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold will leave Wheeling by March 31, according to the terms of his resignation in October. Leikvold said he would stay until there is a new village manager or March 31, whichever comes first. Leikvold said plans for his new position are firmed up but cannot be released yet.

Firms cool toward airport plan

Herald 2-13-80 +

The businessmen who use Pal-Waukee Airport and the commercial airlines at O'Hare Airport won't say much publicly about a plan that would have them paying as much as $12 million toward Pal-Waukee's purchase price.

But privately they say it is unfair for Wheeling and Prospect Heights to ask them to pay the bill.

If the two suburbs were to buy the airport, federal and state money would pay about 85 percent of its cost, which could be almost $85 million, consultants say. That would leave a balance of more than $12 million for the communities to pay.

Because local officials don't want to use tax dollars for the purchase, the consultants say Pal-Waukee Airport's corporate users and the airlines at O'Hare Airport, which would receive the additional air traffic if Pal-Waukee were to close, should pay the remaining cost.

"THEY ESSENTIALLY are saying they want an airport for nothing," said one official whose firm bases its aircraft at Pal-Waukee Airport. And asking the airlines to contribute, he said, is "like being held up. It's like saying if you don't pay us, we'll move in with you."

However, Larry Williford, vice president of corporate relations for Allstate Insurance Co. in Northbrook, said the idea of contributing toward the purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport "is something we'd want to take a good, hard look at from a positive standpoint."

He said his firm has not been contacted about the possibility of helping to pay for Pal-Waukee, but it is possible Allstate might start an investment program to help finance the airport.

Officials have considered a plan to issue bonds that would be purchased by the businesses and commercial airlines at O'Hare Airport. However, the consultants discouraged that suggestion because of the airport's modest profit margin.

THE CONSULTANTS' recommendation was based on knowledge that the villages don't want to use property taxes to back the bonds if Pal-Waukee Airport were to begin to lose money.

Because specifics of the plan were not presented to it, American Airlines "simply can't take a position on it," said Robert Raynesford, public relations director. However, most of the airlines are aware of Pal-Waukee Airport's importance in helping to relieve congestion at O'Hare Airport, he said.

But another airline official, who asked not to be identified, said local officials are "kidding themselves if they think they can get the airlines and corporate users to pay for a private airport. We have enough trouble paying for things at O'Hare and Midway.

"I'm not so sure all that corporate traffic could come into O'Hare even if they wanted to," the official said, adding that corporate jets are "a luxury."

HE PREDICTED that if Pal-Waukee Airport were to close, businesses would use commercial airlines to transport their executives. "There was a lot of that during the 1973-1974 recession. The use of corporate jets went way down," he said.

The Federal Aviation Administration is expected next month to announce the improvements that must be made at Pal-Waukee Airport for it to comply with federal safety standards.

The airport must meet those standards to qualify for municipal ownership. At that point, the consultants will be able to assess more accurately the airport's value.

2-12-80 - Herald +

Users, airlines must aid airport purchase: study

Wheeling and Prospect Heights should forget about purchasing Pal-Waukee Airport unless its users and commercial airlines that use O'Hare Airport can provide as much as $12 million towards the purchase price, a consultant said Monday night.

Federal and state funds will provide about 85 percent of the cost of Pal-Waukee, and the total price could approach $85 million. That leaves the local share at more than $12 million, said Larry Donoghue, president of the firm hired to study the airport purchase concept.

However, Donaghue said he has gotten the message "loud and clear" that tax dollars should not be used for the local share. "If they (commercial airlines and Pal-Waukee users) are not willing to come up with a financing plan, then we are saying you should not do it," he told officials from the two towns.

COMMERCIAL airlines — which would suffer the added traffic if Pal-Waukee closes — and the corporate users of the airport should be willing to invest in bonds that would be retired through airport revenues, Donoghue said.

However, some officials from the two towns said they were not sure if such a financing plan would succeed.

Prospect Heights Mayor Richard Wolf noted that the profit margin on Pal-Waukee was "a toss-up" for repaying bonds when the local share first was estimated at more than $3 million.

"Now you're talking five (or) six times that amount," he said. "Are you talking about perpetual bonds that never pay themselves off?" Wolf said.

Donoghue said that user's fees at Pal-Waukee could be increased to compensate for a larger bond issue. Even if the businesses were to take a loss on their bond investments, it would amount to only about $100 a day for each corporate user to operate its jets. "That is nothing," he said.

PROVIDING THE money for Pal-Waukee is not that big an investment, "when your're talking about a $2 billion corporation, and you're asking them to pay $1 million in advance rent," Donoghue said.

Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold cautioned against putting either towns' names on such a bond issue, even if airport users and commercial airlines were willing to risk a poor return on an investment in order to preserve Pal-Waukee.

"You don't likely let them (the bonds) default," he said, adding that governments might not be legally obligated to pay off the investors but would have a "moral obligation. You want to make damn sure those things are solid," he said.

With revenue bonds

Wheeling Life 2-14-80

Village helps a business

WHEELING — The village board voted Feb. 4 to authorize $2.8 million in industrial revenue bonds for construction of a new building by Gandalf Data Inc., a manufacturer of small electrical equipment.

"In this type of financing, the village lends its name to the financing vehicle in order to accomplish a lesser interest cost through the use of tax-exempt securities," according to financial consultant Morton Lang.

Gandalf Data, which presently occupies part of a building at 1019 S. Noel, is interested in expanding its facilities. The proposed new facility will be built on approximately six acres at 1111 S. Willis, about a block from the company's present site.

George Koloff, comptroller and vice president of the firm, told the board the company's executives had considered looking for a site in another suburb, but decided not to when they found that "70% of our employes are from Wheeling or Buffalo Grove."

KOLOFF SAID his company is in the most rapidly-growing segment of the data processing industry" and its own growth "has been rather explosive." To illustrate, he said the firm began in 1967 with two employes and about 2,000 square feet of space. It went up to 5,000 square feet the next year and was at 17,000 square feet by 1978. Last November 15,000 square feet of area was acquired and the new building is expected to add between 40,000 and 50,000 additional square feet of manufacturing area.

As far as personnel, Koloff said the company now has about 170 employes, 40 of whom were hired last month, and expects to have another 300 when the new building is completed.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, chairman of the community development committee, expressed "our gratitude for your (Gandalf's) interest in our community."

Village President William Hein added that the village is "proud to have companies like you. You provide a good job market for the people in the area."

IN OTHER action, the board:

• Agreed to defer discussion of a proposed sidewalk along the north side of Dundee road, west of St. Armand lane to the western border of the village. Buffalo Grove has asked the builder of the proposed Grove Terrace subdivision, on five acres formerly part of the Arlington country club, to construct the sidewalk.

The village of Wheeling must approve or deny plans for the walk, which would be built mainly so students could walk to Field school safely.

However, Trustee Charles Kerr, who is a resident at 20 Berkshire drive, near the proposed subdivision, had requested the item be tabled since he was not able to attend the meeting. Kerr and other board members have received many phone calls from citizens concerned that trees in the area might be cut down.

• Deferred action on a request for monetary support of the Wheeling high school band and orchestra trip to Washington, D.C. in March until they could determine the amount the musical group will require.

Otto Cacchione, president of the Wheeling Instrumental league made the request. He pointed out that William Warfield will appear in concert with the high school's Wind Symphony on Thursday, Feb. 21, to help raise funds.

To prevent problems

Wheeling Life 2-14-80

Staff recommends condo regulation

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The community development department staff has recommended the village pass an ordinance regulating condominium conversion.

According to Larry Oppenheimer, community development director, he is not aware of any massive movement to convert rental units in Wheeling to condominiums. Rental units comprise about 20% of the population in Wheeling.

The Rancheros, a group of older apartments on Route 83 north of Dundee, have been converted to condominiums and the Wildwood apartment complex at Dundee and Wheeling avenue is presently undergoing conversion, according to Oppenheimer. However, he said he does not know of any others presently converting.

Condominium conversion is not subject to any regulation by the village at present. Although the potential for condominium-conversion related problems is there, the village has not received any complaints, according to Oppenheimer.

THERE ARE NEARLY 2,600 rental units in Wheeling. The report says that conversion could place a financial hardship that could force many elderly, students, young marrieds and young singles out of the village. "The loss of rentals as a housing alternative may displace many people and raise the rent of any remaining rentals," according to the report.

Conversions could be a way of avoiding repairs or maintenance by apartment building owners, according to the report. Without a conversion ordinance, "The village misses an opportunity to protect residents, to enforce its development codes and to require upgrading of older housing and property," says the report.

Whereas new condominium complexes are required to submit a homeowners agreement to the village that provides for maintenance and liability for common areas, converted complexes are not bound in the same way. "Without village-approved provisions for maintenance and services, converted condominiums may succumb to deterioration and higher village service costs," the report says.

CONVERSION ORDINANCES around the country contain many requirements. Some of them are:

• Structural and systems conditions report paid for by the converter.

• Conformance report — a list of housing code violations. Occupancy permits are not given until all requirements are fulfilled.

• Maintenance cost estimates compiled by the owner and given to all prospective buyers.

• Major repair fund.

• Tenants rights pamphlet

A village conversion ordinance would increase the cost of conversion, according to the report, which could either be passed along to the purchaser or eliminate the margin of profit for the converter.

The report has been sent to the village manager and the plan commission for comment.

Wheeling Herald 2-14-80

ICC delays decision on railroad crossing

A decision allowing the developer of a 121-acre industrial park in Wheeling to build a railroad crossing where Old Willow Road ends at the Soo Line railroad tracks has been delayed until March 6.

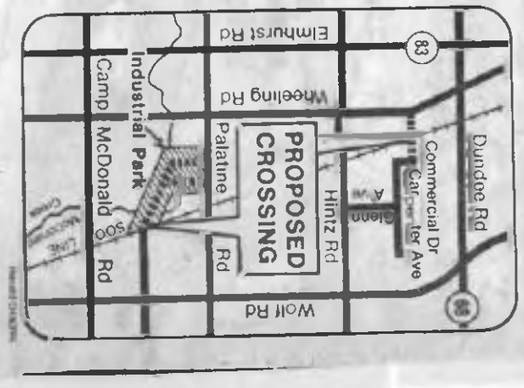
Officials of the Illinois Commerce Commission say they will resume the hearing then to complete the testimony by witnesses from the railroad, which is protesting the proposal.

Soo Line officials are protesting the crossing on Old Willow Road, west of Wolf Road, saying additional crossings are a hazard. However, the developer, Robert McLennan, and village officials contend the crossing is crucial to developing the industrial park, planned for a site southwest of Wolf and Palatine roads.

WITHOUT THE CROSSING, local officials say they doubt the $45 million park will be built because the park's only access would be from an already-congested frontage road. If the crossing is allowed, Old Willow Road would be extended west into the center of the industrial park.

Village Manager Carsten Leikvold said Wheeling is awaiting the outcome of McLennan's proposal before proceeding with a plan to petition the ICC for a second crossing along the Soo Line tracks.

THAT CROSSING WOULD SERVE an existing industrial area northwest of Hintz Road and Glenn Avenue with about 60 businesses and 1,400 employees. The village last fall widened about 250 feet of Glenn Avenue to create an additional turning lane at the only exit from the industrial park.



However, Leikvold says that is only a temporary solution and a railroad crossing on Carpenter Drive, at the north end of the industrial park, would provide a second exit. By extending the road to the west, it could hook up with Wheeling Road. Such a move could cost the village $200,000 to $300,000, unless village officials decide to levy a special tax on the businessmen in the park.

Businessmen there say they would oppose such a move because the village erred in not forcing the developer to build a second exit when the industrial area was built more than 10 years ago. Village officials have not decided how they will pay for the crossing if it is approved by the ICC.

So, must control growth

Wheeling Like X
2-14-80

Area 'needs' water



In the midst

BY JOANNE KANTER

WATER IS THE lifeline of growth — without it, the future is bleak; with it, cities and industries flourish.

But unlike communities which grew up along the shore of Lake Michigan and assumed a plentiful supply of water, communities to the west cannot make that assumption.

Too often in the past few summers we have heard of "water bans" — times when water pressure drops and fire department officials begin to worry. Thus, we have times when people cannot water their lawns, wash their cars or fill their pools. Communities are trying to become more conservation-minded, but when people buy a home in the suburbs, it is not to look out on a browned-out lawn. They want greenery, and it takes water to accomplish this.

Three years ago the Illinois department of transportation (IDOT) bureau of water resources made allocations of Lake Michigan water. These allocations were made within the limit of a 1967 United States Supreme court ruling that Lake Michigan water use may not exceed 3,200 cubic feet per second.

By 1978, 53.5%of the Lake Michigan water use was for municipal water supplies. This spring IDOT will open further hearings for future allocations. Wheeling will make another attempt to obtain an allocation. It was unsuccessful in doing so in the 1977 allocation order. Buffalo Grove may attempt to obtain more water than it was allocated in the 1977 order. Such an attempt for a larger allocation depends upon whether this community annexes the proposed 835-acre Fiore/Hilltown property.

IN WHEELING, trustees are deciding whether to fund another water study to take the village to the year 2000 and beyond. The problem there is that many of the trustees apparently feel that all another study will do is tell them Wheeling needs water instead of how to get it. Trustee John Cole is interested in reclaiming water rather than a Lake Michigan allocation. But engineers insist this is still too expensive to be feasible.

Wheeling is building two new wells but must petition for a variation from Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines on the amount of barium and radionuclides allowed in the water. It's not that Wheeling has any more of these things in its water today than it had two years ago. But the guidelines have become stricter, which means an expenditure of thousands of dollars for water treatment to bring the quality up to standards.

One resident became so angry last year during the water ban that she insisted the village buy Lake Michigan water. She didn't realize that the state had mandated that Wheeling could not have lake water and that there was nothing the village could do about it until the next allocation period.

BUT THAT DOES bring up the question of how much growth should continue to take place in these suburbs. Buffalo Grove is growing every day. If it agrees to annex the Fiore/Hilltown property, it will increase its size by half as much as it is now. Where will the water come from to service the projected additional 8,000 people who would live on the developed acreage? If it is from Lake Michigan, should current residents have to pay for the pipelines to service people who do not even live in the community yet? If it is from wells, won't this just add to the fact that the six-county Metropolitan area takes three times as much water from the deep acquifer as is replenished? Buffalo Grove has also built additional wells, but the fact is that there is not an endless supply of water. And Wheeling continues to add industrial users. When are these communities going to take a deep breath and stop development before the development strangles those who are already here?

PEOPLE IN WHEELING and Buffalo Grove would be justified in saying that people in the eastern communities are luckier because they have always had lake water. They would be justified in saying the next western tier of communities, like Glenview, Northbrook and Deerfield, were allowed to develop without any restrictions on water because they buy their water from the shore communities. But the fact is that now we know there is not enough water to go around.

Once we have this information, isn't it irresponsible to continue rapid development without providing for the well-being of those who are here and paying taxes already?

We will have the water problem for many years to come. Until the communities given an allocation in 1977 build their pipelines, which could be another five years, engineers say they will not know the affect on the deep acquifer which is presently being mined. Illinois has asked for an additional allocation from Lake Michigan, which would be helpful to those communities that didn't get in on the last lake water allocation. But if this does not occur, what then?

What happens to those green lawns? What happens if a major fire occurs? Even communities which presently use lake water will have to begin conserving, according to Ed Klasinski, Deerfield public works director. Klasinski says people have to stop unrestricted lawn watering if we are to have enough water.

SO IT IS NOT just the northwestern communities which must conserve. Everyone must conserve and the time to begin is now.

Communities which presently pump water from the lake must be more careful about the use of that water. And communities which plan to pump water in the future must show that they are conservation-minded. In line with this, Wheeling is passing a new plumbing code which calls for new types of plumbing fixtures designed to conserve water.

Restaurants are asking people before putting water on the table. This is a beginning. The next step is to control growth. The line must be drawn somewhere — perhaps it should be where the communities are now.

The concern of the Wheeling village manager that this community have enough water in the next century should be everyone's concern. Otherwise water pressure will diminish, it will slow to a trickle and lawns will turn brown. There could alsso be a catastrophe if pressure isn't enough for firefighting.

The choice is still ours. Let's make it while we can.

For senior housing

2-14-80 WHEELING LIFE

Agencies choose site

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The Cook county housing authority (CCHA) has chosen a two-acre parcel of land on the west side of Milwaukee avenue between Strong and Dundee as the site for 100 units of senior citizen housing, while sites for 20 units of family housing are due to be submitted to the federal government this week.

A letter to the village, dated Jan. 31, confirmed this selection.

The letter, written by Victor Walchirk, executive director of the CCHA to Village President William Hein, says the site is subject to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approval procedures. However, Walchirk said this site "would presently meet the HUD planning criteria and would permit immediate development to meet the elderly housing needs of Wheeling."

The letter continued that "It is absolutely essential that the site be within walking distance of shopping facilities, in order to be approved for development."

According to Walchirk, an alternate site, one that is more favored by the village staff, trustees and many senior citizens, which would be located within the site selected for a senior center and an ambulatory care facility, is not acceptable. The site would be off Milwaukee avenue and has no improvements on it, the drawback that made the selection of this site an impossibility, according to Walchirk.

The director recommended that Wheeling proceed with the next step toward construction of the housing — submittal of the Milwaukee avenue site and the family housing sites for HUD review prior to Feb. 15.

WALCHIRK SAID he does not think HUD would continue to reserve the money allocated for Wheeling if the community chooses to proceed with the alternate site.

In a report to the village board dated Feb. 7, Village Manager Carsten Leikvold recommended that the board proceed with the Milwaukee avenue site, saying the noise from Milwaukee avenue will have "minimum impact on senior citizen housing. A high-rise building on this location will be the furthest removed and have the least effect on the single-family homes in the Strong Street area," he added.

Leikvold said, "It is fitting and proper that we plan on a large scale, but when it comes to implementation we must begin to be realistic."

The manager suggested the village strive to attract doctors' offices to supplement the medical clinic, housing for non-senior citizens, small shops to cater to the residents and public facilities to serve these uses on Milwaukee avenue.

Leikvold cautioned the board that the purpose of the community development program in Wheeling is "not to build monuments, but to provide housing for elderly citizens on low income, provide a center for elderly citizens and handicapped who may need assistance, provide medical assistance for all citizens and rehabilitate and improve a neighborhood."

LARRY OPPENHEIMER, community development director, said Monday, Feb. 11, that about 30 locations have already been submitted for the 20 family units. He said depending on the arithmetic (how many units at each site), there could be perhaps 10 scattered locations for the family housing.

Oppenheimer said his staff and CCHA looked at single-family, duplex and quadrominium housing sites. "I understand someone from the CCHA has already been out to see the sites," he said.

It is up to HUD to select the sites, he noted and said that department will notify Wheeling which units to proceed with.

The CCHA will have to obtain village approval for the sites in the form of rezoning, zoning variations, subdivision or annexation, according to Oppenheimer. Building permits will also be needed.

Oppenheimer said the units identified by the CCHA must conform to the codes and procedures of the village, just as any private development.

2-16-80 - Herald

Trustees to finalize manager selection

Wheeling trustees will have a special meeting Sunday morning, apparently to finalize their decision on the next village manager.

Trustee John Cole said board members will meet at 8 a.m. to interview one of three candidates seeking to replace Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, who resigned under fire last October. Cole would not reveal who would be interviewed, although he added he hoped the board could reach a decision after the interview.

"That depends on the candidate," he said. "There still are things that have to be resolved."

"I am optimistic, but I am not certain at all," Trustee Sheila Schultz said. "I would think we'll have at least a definitive answer on this candidate."

The three candidates are:

• William Lewis, 32, the village finance director from April to December 1977. He left Wheeling for his present job as city administrator in Newport, Ark.

• Thomas Markus, 28, Wheeling's assistant village manager from 1974 to 1977. He is now city administrator in Savage, Minn.

• William Sommer, 27, Buffalo Grove's assistant village manager for the last three years.

The board stopped accepting applications for the manager's post more than a month ago, saying there was no need to interview anyone else for the job. All three candidates have been described as "well qualified."

Leikvold, the third village manager to leave Wheeling in the last four years, has volunteered to remain in Wheeling until April. He said he's "reasonably certain" of where he will go when he leaves Wheeling. He would not comment further.

2-15-80 - Herald

203-acre annex 'trade' urged

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

A Buffalo Grove trustee says the owners of 203 acres surrounding the Chevy Chase Golf Course, north of Wheeling, should show a "good faith effort" to annex the property to Buffalo Grove before his village gives them permission to tie into the Lake County sewer system.

However, attorneys for the land's owners, the William Johnson family, say that forcing Johnson to annex to Buffalo Grove would be a "misuse" of the authority they have over sewer connections.

The land has been the object of a border dispute between Wheeling and Buffalo Grove for several years, with both towns laying claims to whatever eventually is built there. Johnson has begun talking to Wheeling about annexation, but also is asking Buffalo Grove for permission to tie into Lake County sewers to comply with an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency order that a family-owned sewer plant be shut down.



BUFFALO GROVE has a "sphere of influence" agreement with Lake County, giving the village final say about any sewer connections made in that area.

"By hooking into Lake County, we're saving him $600,000," said Trustee John Marienthal. "We should, in turn, be looked upon more favorably about his bringing his property into the village."

Johnson's attorneys estimate it would cost $745,000 to upgrade the privately owned sewer system. The cost of obtaining Lake County sewer service, however, is estimated at $179,000.

The Illinois Attorney General's office last year sued the sewer and water plant, charging it with dumping five times more treated sewage into the Des Plaines River than is allowed by federal standards. That plant serves about 75 homeowners, a few businesses and the golf course, which was purchased by the Wheeling Park District three years ago.

Johnson could not be reached for comment Thursday, but his attorney, Gerald Sherman, said Johnson's request to use Lake County sewers is "completely unrelated" to the annexation issue.

"THIS IS a matter of providing sewer service for the benefit of the users already in that area," he said. "We would have to deal with service for the new people separately." Sherman would not comment on his client's annexation plans, but said any attempt by Buffalo Grove to force Johnson to annex would be "a misuse of the sphere of influence agreement."

Wheeling officials, meanwhile, say the agreement would be meaningless if the Metropolitan Sanitary District, which normally serves only Cook County, decides to extend its boundaries into Lake County. They also question whether Buffalo Grove can stop Johnson from annexing to Wheeling even if he is on Lake County sewers.

"All I can say is there certainly is a fair amount of legal doubt over whether (sphere of influence agreements) are valid," said Village Atty. David Epstein.

Wheeling last year annexed 110 acres south of Lake-Cook Road that Johnson intends to develop as an industrial park and shopping center. A land use plan prepared for Johnson by a Northbrook firm calls for the remaining area to be mainly a mix of office buildings, factories and condominiums.

THE DAILY HERALD
2-18-80 - Herald

Village may consider condo law

Wheeling building officials are asking the village board to consider an ordinance regulating condominium conversions, even though they say conversions haven't become a problem yet.

About 20 percent of Wheeling's population lives in rental units. Building officials say the trend toward condominium conversions could impose a financial hardship on young married couples or elderly persons on fixed incomes who cannot afford to buy their apartments.

Wheeling does not now have a law governing condominium conversions. Thomas Fennell, building and zoning administrator, said a great deal of research would be needed to determine which Wheeling apartment buildings have been converted in the past few years.

Village Planner Richard Greenwood said the idea for a conversion ordinance came when building department officials were discussing who is responsible for making repairs to roads, sewers and hot water heaters when a building is being converted.

"There are a number of problems when ownership changes hands," he said, adding that he knew of no imminent condominium conversions or any residents who had complained of being displaced.

"IT'S JUST something that could be a problem over the next few years, and we wanted to bring it to the board's attention," he said.

Other towns, he said, require for a village inspection to be made before a complex is sold. The conversion ordinance might also require the seller to provide information on a building's maintenance costs.

The ordinance also could require the owner to extend the state-mandated 120-day conversion notice to tenants.

The village also could limit the number of units that could be converted within a year, Fennell said.

No date has been set for trustees to discuss the proposal, but Trustee Sheila Schultz said a conversion ordinance might be a good idea. "I would like to keep some kind of an owner-rentalship balance," she said. "Some kind of an ordinance that would preserve some rental units might be useful."

Trustee John Cole said he "wasn't aware that Wheeling needed such an ordinance" and questioned whether the village legally could limit the number of condominium conversions.

One drawback to a conversion ordinance, building officials say, is that the cost of the inspections and other requirements fall on the seller and in turn could be passed along to the condominium buyer through a higher purchase price.

2-19-80 - Herald

Markus likely to be new manager

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling trustees are expected tonight to announce that Thomas Markus, Wheeling's assistant village manager from 1974 to 1977, will be the next village manager.

Village board members met Sunday behind closed doors with Markus, 28, one of three candidates being considered for the post vacated by Carsten Leikvold, who resigned under fire last October.

Village Pres. William Hein Monday would not confirm that Markus will be the next manager. However, he said the board will meet briefly before its regular meeting today at 8 p.m. "and then make some kind of an announcement."



Thomas Markus

Hein said there was "pretty good unity" among board members in finding a replacement for Leikvold, the third village manager to leave Wheeling in the last four years.

MARKUS, CONTACTED Monday at his home in Savage, Minn., where he is city administrator, would say only that his meeting with trustees went "fine" and that he did not think there were any disagreements between him and board members on the terms of his employment.

He would not comment on how soon he would be able to leave his present job for the Wheeling post. However, Trustee Sheila Schultz said "all the candidates indicated they would need about two months" to give notice to their present employers.

Leikvold, village manager since 1977, has volunteered to remain in Wheeling until April. He has not revealed his future employment plans.

Markus worked closely with Leikvold's predecessor, Terry Zerkle, who was fired in August 1977 following a dispute with Hein and some of his supporters concerning the appointment of a Hein ally as police chief. Markus resigned to take the Minnesota job a few weeks before Zerkle's firing.

MARKUS HAD joined the village in 1974 as an administrative assistant and treasurer. He was named assistant village manager later that year.

In October 1975, he was appointed acting village manager for five months, following the firing of George Passolt, Zerkle's predecessor.

Markus was primarily responsible for land use and financial planning during his tenure with the village.

2-21-80 Wheeling Life

Who owns that stolen property

WHEELING-BUFFALO GROVE — "The biggest problem of police departments in recovering stolen property is not knowing who it belongs to," according to Burt Kaminsky of the Wheeling police department.

Kaminsky said that just recently the department had two instances where if the owner could have identified his property, they would have caught the burglar. In another case, $20,000 worth of musical instruments had been stolen, and "because of the nature of the instruments, they were all guitars, positive owner identification was impossible," Kaminsky said.

By marking the property chances are the homeowner, if burglarized, will discourage the burglar from taking something he knows can tie him to the burglary, Kaminsky noted.

In another case, a homeowner marked his stereo equipment but not a portable television or cameras, Kaminsky continued. So the burglars left the stereo equipment, but took everything else, Kaminsky said.

HE URGES residents to take advantage of "Operation Identification." The Indian Trails public library has two engravers to loan to residents who wish to protect their property," according to Outreach Librarian Chris Gibson.

They are catalogued on the computer and may be checked out at the circulation desk the same as a book, Gibson said.

Kaminsky suggested that residents engrave a driver's license number and state (abbreviated) on the property, because the police department can send to the state and receive the owner's name and address immediately. Another program with a central clearing house is in the developmental stages, Kaminsky said.

The new program through the clearing house will require an individual to fill out a card, he continued. Then the clearing house will assign a computer number to be engraved on all personal property. If the property is stolen and police recover it, in 30 seconds the police can get information about the owner, Kaminsky added. However, until the new program is initiated, he suggested residents place some type of identifying mark they can recognize on smaller items such as rings and jewelry.

Clerk objects to band donation

2-21-80 Herald

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling Village Clerk Alberta Klocke says the village board is wasting taxpayers' money by giving $3,200 to the Wheeling High School band for a trip to Washington, D.C., where the band will appear on national television.

Mrs. Klocke, who raised funds for the band for 12 years, suggested that if the band can't raise the money on its own, school officials should discontinue the trips.

"I don't begrudge the band taking any trips, but I don't feel the band should go at the taxpayers' expense," she said Wednesday. "I was in charge of raising funds, and we never approached the village for one dime." Mrs. Klocke was a vice president in charge of band projects from 1964 to 1976.

"TIMES ARE just getting too hard. It costs $1.75 for a pound of butter. It's almost $1 for a loaf of bread. How much food would $3,200 buy for a kid that doesn't have anything to eat?" she said. "If they want to go that bad, each child should have been assessed for the amount of money that couldn't be raised."

Band booster Otto Cacchione told the village board the $3,200 was well worth "the public relations value" the village would receive in having its band represented at the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade March 25.

He argued that previous television appearances by the band have put Wheeling on the national map. "People used to think there was only one Wheeling — in West Virginia," he said. "Now they know there's two Wheelings."

Cacchione, president of the Wheeling Instrumental League, argued that persons with school-age children who move to the area settle in Wheeling because of the band's national reputation. He said the band tried several ways to raise the money, but the latest effort — a concert today to feature bass soloist William Warfield — probably will lose money.

VILLAGE PRES. William Hein said he "could understand both sides," but added that organizations like the high school band act as a "catalyst" to enhance the village's reputation. The request for the $3,200 was approved unanimously by the village board.

Mrs. Klocke said her complaint has nothing to do with the band, but she objects to the village giving money to any organizations. "Nobody's been a bigger band booster than me, and I'm not tooting my own horn," she said. "But the money's just not available for these kinds of things."

She said she also objects to the village giving $5,000 each year for the Wheeling Jaycees' Fourth of July carnival. "I can't see giving the Jaycees $5,000 to burn — the cost of living's just too damn high."

Village board wrapup

2-21-80 Herald

Trustees grant sidewalk variance

Against the recommendation of Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, Wheeling trustees are allowing the developer of 102 condominiums to construct a sidewalk nearer to Dundee Road so about 200 trees can be saved.

Because the board is permitting the developer of the Grove Terrace condominiums to build the sidewalk closer to the roadway than village ordinances allow, the trees in a nearby subdivision will not have to be cut down.

Leikvold had argued that the sidewalk's location would subject pedestrians to dirt, thrown gravel and reckless drivers. The sidewalk will provide access from the condominiums to Field School in Wheeling.

However, Trustee Charless Kerr, who lives in the subdivision and has some of the trees in his back yard, argued that the village plan commission had recommended granting the variance. He also said saving the trees would preserve one of the few green patches along Dundee Road in Wheeling.

Water system study delayed

Wheeling trustees delayed for the third time a decision on whether the village should spend $26,000 to hire a consultant to study the village's water system and the need for Lake Michigan water.

Some trustees have argued the study will not tell the village how to build the distribution system if the Illinois Dept. of Transportation approves a lake water allocation later this year.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said the contract had arrived from the Chicago firm of Consoer Townsend Inc. only last Friday, and his staff had not had a chance to review it.

Although the village is building two new wells, Leikvold has said he favors spending the money for the study, saying the wells are only a short-term solution to the water shortages that have plagued Wheeling in the last few years.

Annex decision delayed

Wheeling officials have delayed a decision on annexing five parcels totaling about 66 acres but told about 30 property owners the village is required by law to annex the property first and conduct hearings on the zoning later.

Many of the property owners had objected to the automatic single-family zoning that comes with annexation of the property and had asked for other zoning to be considered.

Village Atty. David Epstein told the property owners they would have to present their case to the village plan commission before the village could consider any rezoning. Board members told the property owners the chances were good the village ultimately would approve their rezoning requests.

They also agreed to waive the $250 filing fee for a rezoning request if a property owner is asking for zoning that is equal to or less than that which is designated by Cook County. Cook County zoning currently affects the property owners, because they are not a part of the village.

Much of the land is located near multi-family development. The parcels include 32 acres at the northeast corner of Hintz and Elmhurst roads, one acre near Schoenbeck and Hintz roads, eight acres near Cornell Avenue and Hintz Road, 16 acres southwest of Lake-Cook and Wolf roads, and nine acres near Wolf and Hintz roads.

Trustees may decide on manager tonight

2-21-80 Herald

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling trustees will try again tonight to decide who the next village manager will be.

Despite a four-hour meeting last Sunday with Thomas Markus, 28, Wheeling's assistant village manager from 1974 to 1977, and two separate closed door sessions late Tuesday night, board members emerged saying no decision had been reached and refused to discuss the matter further.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Although the Tuesday night meeting was conducted behind closed doors, trustees easily could be seen through a window by reporters and the crowd of a about 50 persons who waited for more than 1½ hours for the board to resume its regularly scheduled business.

DURING THAT meeting, Village Pres. William Hein, who has criticized the decision not to advertise or hire a consulting firm to recruit more than the three candidates who applied for the post, could be seen apparently arguing with other trustees, mainly Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld.

Both denied Wednesday they were arguing.

"Even if there was a disagreement, I can't comment on what was discussed in executive session — it could hurt the whole selection process," Sommerfeld said.

"We weren't arguing," Hein said. "It's just that we both talk with our hands. He's Jewish and I'm Italian. I can't talk with my hands in my pocket." Hein said he hoped the board could decide this week on a replacement for former manager Carsten Leikvold, who resigned under fire last October.

BOARD MEMBERS also have interviewed two other candidates, William Sommer and William Lewis. Both of these candidates have ties to the village. Sommer, 27, assistant village manager in Buffalo Grove, formerly lived in Wheeling. His father, the late Wilfred Sommer, was a long-time member of the Wheeling Plan Commission.

Lewis, 32, now city administrator in Newport, Ark., was the village finance director from April to December 1977.

Markus seeks long tenure as manager

2-23-80 - Herald

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Thomas Markus knows the job of Wheeling village manager comes with "no guarantees," but he says he's confident that he'll still be around well after the 1981 village board elections.

If he's right, he'll break a pattern that has claimed the jobs of three managers in the last five years. Since 1975, the political make-up of the village board has changed every two years and, after each election, the village manager has been fired or pressured into resigning.



Thomas Markus

Markus, 28, has been in an excellent position to observe how Wheeling's volatile political climate has affected its administration, serving as an assistant to two different village managers from 1974 to 1977.

BUT ON FRIDAY, the day after he was hired, he said he is "looking forward to the challenges of a larger community" and is not especially worried about joining the list of managers who have departed Wheeling.

"Obviously, there's no guarantee it couldn't happen again," he said from his office in Savage, Minn., where he is city administrator. "All I have is the word of the president and board of trustees that I'll be given a free hand in the administration of the village to ensure we'll have a strong manager form of government."

In 1975, the victim of Wheeling's political turmoil was George Passolt, nearing completion of his fourth year as village manager. He was fired shortly after the election of a reform slate that vowed to clean up village hall in the wake of a zoning scandal that produced six indictments and four convictions of village and county officials. Although never implicated directly, Passolt was criticized for presiding over administrators who extorted money from developers.

MARKUS WAS the acting village manager for five months following Passolt's firing.

He left for Minnesota in 1977, shortly before manager Terry Zerkle was fired after he refused to appoint an ally of Village Pres. William Hein as police chief. Hein and his slate of trustees had been elected a few months earlier.

That firing vigorously was opposed by trustees John Cole, Charles Kerr and Hubert Sommerfeld. Last year, they regained control of the board when Trustee Sheila Schultz unseated Hein ally Dolores Dahm. Six months later, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold resigned under criticism from the new majority.

Of the village's stormy past, particularly Zerkle's firing, Markus says, "I think we all feel bad about what happened to Terry, and I feel there are still a lot of good people in that community who want to see that things get done right."

MARKUS' MAIN GOAL, he says, is to "make sure we have a responsible organization — that all the department heads reporting to me carry out the responsibilities assigned to me by the village board. On specific issues, I guess I haven't formulated any opinions on what are the most important ones."

And board members won't talk much about the rapid turnover of managers. Instead they point to Markus' experience with the village and how he has matured during his tenure as Savage's top administrator. They also say it is a plus for the village that the other two candidates for the job had strong ties to the village.

And despite their past political differences, trustees say they are solidly behind Markus. They downplayed a Tuesday night closed door session, in which they could be seen by about 50 spectators, having some apparent disagreements while discussing the manager selection.

"At least they know we don't punch each other out," Cole said after the decision to hire Markus was announced.

Hein called Tuesday's argument a "minor" snag in the negotiations that was resolved by a quick telephone call to Markus.

HERALD 7-21-80

Sprinkling ban may be lifted

Wheeling officials say the total ban on outdoor water use may be lifted by the end of the month, which would allow residents to return to a "odd-even" system.

Village Mgr. Thomas Markus last month ordered the ban — which prohibits residents from watering lawns, filling swimming pools or washing cars — because two of the village's six wells were not working.

Since then, the well at Milwaukee and Center avenues has been repaired. The other, at Manchester and Sunset avenues, should be repaired by July 28. With the two wells back in service and completion of construction of a seventh well, located at Hintz and Longtree roads, the sprinkling ban may be eased, Markus said.

The new well, which contains a 1 million gallon storage reservoir, is expected to be finished by the end of the month.

Under the odd-even watering system, residents with odd-numbered addresses will be allowed to sprinkle at certain hours on odd-numbered days. Residents with even numbered addresses can sprinkle on even-numbered days.

2-21-80. Wheeling Ltr.

Delay ruling on track crossing

WHEELING—The Illinois commerce commission (ICC) has delayed, until March 6, a decision on whether to allow the developer of a proposed industrial park on the southwest corner of Wolf and Palatine to build a railroad crossing over the Soo Line tracks. The developer has proposed the crossing where Old Willow road ends.

Testimony from railroad officials will be completed on March 6. The railroad is opposed to the additional crossing on safety grounds. But the developer says the crossing is necessary to make the industrial park park a successful project. Village officials have petitioned the ICC for the additional crossing.

Without the crossing, local officials fear the park will not be built because the only access road is too congested already.

The village also has plans to petition the ICC for another crossing over the Soo Line tracks to service the industrial area at Hintz and Glenn. There is only one exit from the industrial area now, onto Hintz road. Village work crews have already widened the road at Glenn to create an additional turning lane to ease traffic backup at the end of the work day. No decision has been made on how to pay for the estimated $200,000 to $300,000 it would cost to build the crossing and hook up Hintz with Wheeling road.

2-25-80 - Herald

Liquor board changes mulled

A proposal that all trustees, not just Village Pres. William Hein, serve as Wheeling's liquor commission will be discussed tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

Although trustees have reached no formal decision on changing the liquor ordinance — a law similar to one used in Palatine — a majority of the board has supported the proposal by Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld. Hein, whose parents own two liquor licenses, says he has "no problem" in going along with Sommerfeld's suggestion.

However, it has not been resolved whether Hein will take a $3,000 pay cut if he is removed as liquor commissioner. Hein is paid $3,000 a year for his duties as village president, plus $3,000 for serving as liquor commissioner

Hein contends the time he spends as village president is worth $6,000, and that the $3,000 liquor commissioner's salary that was approved several years ago was simply a way of raising the village president's salary Sommerfeld said Hein should keep his full salary, but Trustee Charles Kerr calls that idea "dumb."

The board meets at 7:30 p.m at village hall, 255 W Dundee Rd

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WHEELING VILLAGE and park officials will meet Tuesday night to review construction plans for enlarging the Heritage Park drainage lake.

If the plans are approved by the village and park boards, construction should begin in 60 days. The project calls for the basin to be dredged and enlarged to 22 acres for a recreational area for fishing and row boats, and it should be completed within a year, Park Director David Phillips said.

Park and village officials will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Wayside Room at Chevy Chase Clubhouse, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave.

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PLANS FOR a special ordinance to allow residents in the Whippletree Mobile Home Park to build enclosed garages attached to their mobile homes will be discussed Wednesday by the Wheeling Village Board's judiciary committee.

Residents of the McHenry Road trailer park long have complained the three-sided carports — the only car storage areas allowed for mobile homes under present village laws — provide little protection against inclement weather or burglars and vandals

Trustee Sheila Schultz, chairman of the committee, said the preliminary ordinance will allow the garages, but will set strict standards on design and construction materials used in building them.

The committee meets at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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THE WHEELING Plan Commission Thursday will review the zoning request by the developers of a restaurant that is planned in the shopping center being developed by Village Pres. William Hein.

The restaurant, known as Ms. O'Leary's, needs a "special use" permit to be built. It will be the first time the plan commission has reviewed any of the plans involving Hein's shopping center, Riverside Plaza, on the southwest corner of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

The plan commission meets at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W Dundee Rd.

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A PUBLIC HEARING Wednesday will give residents of Wheeling, Elk Grove, Palatine and Barrington townships a chance to comment on a proposed schedule of new bus routes in the area.

The meeting, conducted by the Regional Transportation Authority, will be the only public hearing on the bus plan for the four townships.

The new schedule, expected by the RTA to begin operation within a year, provides several new routes for suburban workers and shoppers. The new routes include two from Palatine through Arlington Heights and Rolling Meadows to Randhurst Shopping Center, a route from Des Plaines to a Wheeling industrial area and increased service to the Centex industrial park in Elk Grove Village.

The public hearing begins at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Palatine Community Center, 200 E. Wood St.

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THE POSSIBILITY of public ownership of cable television systems by Northwest suburban cities and villages will be discussed Friday by a committee of the Northwest Municipal Conference.

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A WORKSHOP on landlord-tenant rights, with special emphasis on lower-income housing, is planned for 10 a.m. Tuesday in the Arlington Heights Memorial Library, 500 N. Dunton Ave.

The workshop, organized by the north office of the Cook County Legal Assistance Assn., is open to all tenants in the Northwest suburbs, but Rubella Howard, a spokesman for the group, said the discussion specifically will address the problems and rights of tenants living in federally subsidized housing.

Speakers will be attorneys Jean Meier and Hank Rhodes from the legal assistance association, housing counselor Helen White from the Northwest Opportunity Center and Dora Bernal from the Minority Information Referral Center.

2-26-80 - Herald

Couple find own flood solution

A committee overseeing a flood control project for the Des Plaines River says a plan to cover a portion of the Wheeling Drainage Ditch is too expensive.

Some of the 40 Wheeling residents along Valley Stream Drive who have watched the creek erode their back yards for the last two years were expecting that answer. So one couple spent thousands of dollars to build a 10-foot concrete retaining wall across the 70-foot length of their back yard.

Last October, the village board asked the committee to include the portion of the drainage ditch west of the Soo Line Ry. — behind Valley Stream Drive — in the federally-funded plan to control flooding along the tributaries of the Des Plaines River. However, the committee concluded it would be too expensive to dredge the creek and build a concrete wall to stem the flow of the creek, which erodes the back yards during spring thaws.

The village and park officials last summer installed "rip rap" — chunks of concrete — along the creek banks as a temporary solution. However, George and Hannelore Piontek, two of the Valley Stream homeowners, say they knew that the permanent solution would be too expensive.

"YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT too much money," Mrs. Piontek said Monday. "The government will not do that." So using a little "Polish ingenuity," the Pionteks began building their own retaining wall last August.

A few neighbors pitched in to help, but the project lasted several months. "I personally mixed over five tons of concrete," she said. In fact, the project still is not completely finished. Mrs. Piontek said she would like to fill in the space between the wall and her back yard and gain back some of the 14 feet the yard has lost because of erosion.

The Pionteks say their wall probably will help some of their neighbors' problems too, since it is the spots where the creek bends that the water rushes into the banks.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said since the drainage ditch won't be a part of the federal flood control project, installing the rip rap probably will be an annual village project, since the rip rap must be continually shored up in other problem areas.

"Our aim. To fear God, tell the truth and make money"
H.C. PADDOCK 1852 1935

2-27-80-Herald X

Wheeling gets a village manager

The revolving door of the Wheeling village manager's office has swung again — this time to accommodate a new, incoming manager. The selection of Thomas Markus seems overall to be good. Yet the political strife that plagued Markus's predecessors may beset his administration as well, and, in any case, the past instability will certainly limit the new manager's initial credibility. Only with determination and tolerance can Wheeling seek to prevent the door from revolving too soon.

Markus, a youthful city administrator in Minnesota, has first-hand experience in Wheeling's tumultuous style of local government. He served for three years, from 1974 to 1977, as assistant village manager — and for five months as acting manager — in Wheeling.

Importantly, Markus carried out his apprenticeship here under two starkly different managers. He came to Wheeling under the administration of George Passolt, a former manager who was fired after the conviction for graft of a subordinate. Then Markus served under Terry Zerkle, a former manager who was fired when the reform-minded majority became a reform-minded minority. Shortly before Zerkle's termination, Markus left for Minnesota.

So Markus has seen a lot in Wheeling. The education should serve him well. The village's cast of characters is ususual; an ability to tell the players without a program is a decided asset to any new public administrator anywhere, and all the more so in Wheeling.

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Beyond the selection of a new manager, Wheeling officials need to do much to enhance the responsiveness and professionalism of village management. Unfortunately the village has been victim of criminal malfeasance and misfeasance in the past. Political bickering, in which the manager's office has been embroiled, has **not helped,** and the revolving door has made things all the worse.

Officials should see to it the new manager is free of the abuses that badgered his predecessors. They can do so by strengthening the office. The following steps are essential:

• The village board must have — and publicly display — confidence in the manager. Without seeing periodic and public expressions of confidence, employees may acquire the notion, rightly or wrongly, that their boss is out of favor. If left unchecked, such a perception will **breed** disorganization **and** unaccountableness, both of which quickly erode the effectiveness of local government.

• Conversely, the village board should refrain from routinely holding the manager up to public criticism. The manager's performance is a matter of public concern, of course, but each criticism by the board weakens his effectiveness.

• The village board must solicit and sincerely consider the advice of the manager. After a period of initiation, the manager should know the day-to-day affairs of the village better than anyone — including individual trustees. To the extent trustees exclude the manager from their confidence, and to the extent they overlook his potential contributions to policy making, they shortchange their own deliberations.

• Most importantly, the village board must let the manager do the managing. Implicit in this policy is a structure of command. The manager should be directly accountable to the elected leaders and hence to the public; all other employees of the village should answer to their administrative superiors and ultimately to the manager. Trustees must avoid dealing directly with the manager's subordinates; to do so is to circumvent his authority.

Unless Wheeling provides its new manager with an atmosphere conducive to good management, he will be destined to fail from the **start.**

Objects to village funding trip

2-28-80 Sylvester, Wheeling X

WHEELING—Village Clerk Alberta Klocke, a former president of the Wheeling high school instrumental league, objected Tuesday, Feb. 22, to the village's donation to the league to help fund a trip to Washington, D.C. this spring. However, the board voted to donate the requested money.

Both the band and orchestra will take the trip.

Otto Cacchione, president of the league, said the village donated $2,000 to the league to help with the trip to the Macy's parade in November 1978. He said, "The Macy's parade was good for the village. We can trace directly students who now attend Wheeling high school for the band program as a result of the parade appearance."

Cacchione said the students have raised almost all of the needed funds for the trip, but that the concert with William Warfield Thursday, Feb. 21, was going to cause a deficit rather than raise money as was expected. Cacchione expressed disappointment at the lack of support from the people of Wheeling concerning the concert.

"I hoped the village could show appreciation for the fact that students are spending their time with music rather than killing someone," Cacchione said.

Klocke asked if Cacchione had asked for money from Prospect Heights and Arlington Heights, both of which send some students to Wheeling high school. Cacchione said the name of the school bears the name of Wheeling and that it is this village which benefits from the public relations of the band.

"I DON'T MEAN to belittle you or the band," Klocke said, "but I went with the band to Washington and they didn't care about anything. (Klocke said the students did not appear to care about meeting Sen. Adlai Stevenson (D-IL) or about seeing Sen. Charles Percy (R-IL) speak on the floor of the Senate.) My concern, in this day and age, is for the cost of living. Maybe the band shouldn't take trips every year."

Cacchione said the band is going to Washington for a nationally-televised appearance and that it did not take a trip in 1979.

Finance Director Gregory Peters said the village has donated money to two community events in this fiscal year. He said $5,000 was donated to the Wheeling Jaycees for fireworks for the Fourth of July, and $50 was donated to the Beer & Brat Fest for a picture for the village hall. According to Peters, $5,000 was budgeted for community events in the '79-80 fiscal year.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT William Hein said, "Even though we are saying we are donating to the Wheeling Jaycees or the Instrumental League, they are a catalyst for the village. We are using other organizations to carry out functions for us."

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld asked how the village could donate funds to the league when it has already spent funds allocated in the budget. Peters said the village is not bound by a line-by-line item accounting.

The board unanimously (Trustees Roger Powers and Sheila Schultz were absent) to donate up to $3,250 to the Instrumental league for the Washington, D.C. trip.

Former assistant Markus picked for manager post

2-28-80 Countryside X

Wheeling trustees have agreed to hire former assistant village manager Thomas Markus as the new Wheeling village manager. The decision was made in an executive session Thursday night, and will be voted upon formally at the next regular village board meeting.

"I'm glad to be returning," said Markus, contacted in Savage, Minn., where currently he is village administrator.

Markus, 28, will assume his duties on May 1. His starting salary will be $38,000 per year, rising to $40,000 after the first six months, Village President William Hein said. Current Village Manager Carsten Leikvold receives $35,000 per year.

Leikvold, who resigned last October, has agreed to stay in office until March 31. He has not made public his plans for after that date. Leikvold resigned following prolonged strain between him and some trustees.

In the interval between March 31 and May 1, an interim village manager will be selected. Village Finance Director Greg Peters likely will be named to the post, a position he has held before, Hein said.

Asked if he believes Wheeling has changed since he worked for the village (1974-77), Markus said: "I think the village has matured quite a bit." He said it is too early to discuss goals he will seek while manager, but did say he expects he will seek the hiring of an assistant village manager, a post which has been vacant for some time.

Markus joined the village as administrative assistant and treasurer, and later was promoted to assistant village manager. He served under village managers George Passolt and Terry Zerkle, both of whom were fired. Markus resigned in 1977.

Also considered for the job of village manager were William Sommer, assistant village manager of Buffalo Grove and William Lewis, a village administrator in Arkansas, and former Wheeling finance director.

Early in the selection process trustees decided to seek candidates themselves, rather than pay an agency to find candidates.

The mayor of Savage, Minn., Rod Hopp, with whom Markus has worked as village administrator there, commented favorably on his job performance.

"He's done a super job," Hopp said. "He was especially good in the financial end."

2-28-80-Wheeling Life

Can't rezone library in 30 days time

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING-BUFFALO GROVE—Although the Indian Trails library has given a 30-day option to a group of insurance brokers to purchase the library building at 850 Jenkins court, Wheeling, Steve Manning, assistant planner for the village of Wheeling, said the building could never be rezoned in that period of time.

The option runs from Feb. 6, but as of Tuesday, Feb. 19, Manning said the library had not submitted a petition to the village to rezone the property. The building is now zoned R-3, residential, and would have to be rezoned to a commercial use for offices.

According to Manning, the rezoning time could be "as short as two months," or much longer, depending upon whether any problems arise. The library would have to have the matter submitted to a public hearing before the Wheeling plan commission; the plan commission would have to then make its recommendation on the rezoning to the village board; and the village board would decide. The matter would have to go before the village board at least twice for the rezoning ordinance to be passed.

THE LIBRARY board voted at a special board meeting Feb. 6, to accept the offer of Compete Equity Markets, Inc. for $375,000 for the building. According to Diane Nicholson, library board president, $375,000 is the appraisal price of the building.

The board had two other offers but accepted this one because "it offered the best contract," according to Nicholson.

The insurance firm, headed by two women, is currently located in Wheeling at 1098 S. Milwaukee avenue.

Nicholson apparently believes the property does not need rezoning. She told The LIFE Monday, Feb. 18, that the library board attorney said the place is zoned commercial. "There shouldn't be any problem" she noted. However, Manning disagrees that the timetable can be met before the option runs out March 7.

THE INDIAN TRAILS library has used its present building since 1971, when it was converted from a church. It was put on the real estate market when the library began building its new facility at 300 S. Schoenbeck, expected to be ready for occupancy in the spring 1981. The current building is much smaller than state library association standards require for the population of the library district.

The selling price of the building is expected to help defray the $2.1 million cost for the new facility. Cost of the new building is being paid out of operating funds. Two referenda asking for tax increase for the building were defeated, causing the library board to seek another means to fund construction.

Buffalo Grove residents were so angry at the procedures used by the Indian Trails board, that a citizens committee was formed to determine whether Buffalo Grove can form a municipal library. Although the matter is on the back burner now, many Buffalo Grove citizens are still angry at the Indian Trails board, saying they were promised a building in their community when they annexed to the library district. However, Indian Trails board members justified the location of the new building, claiming it is in the center of the district, which serves Wheeling, a portion of Prospect Heights and a portion of Buffalo Grove.

Nicholson said the offer of the insurance company will be discussed at the Wednesday, Feb. 27 meeting of the library board.

County board to rule on hospital

3-3-80 Herald

The Cook County Board is expected today to make a final decision on plans by a Chicago hospital to build a 232-bed branch facility near Wheeling — almost three months after an advisory panel unanimously ruled against the plan.

However, regardless of the decision, it could come too late for the would-be builder, Franklin Boulevard Hospital, which has been trying for six years to build the hospital on Schoenbeck Road, in unincorporated Wheeling Township. Because of a change in state guidelines, Franklin Boulevard was required to have started the project by Jan. 1 or have its plans reviewed by regional health planners.

The Suburban Cook County-DuPage County Health Systems Agency, the group that would review those plans, has called for a moratorium on new hospital construction, saying the area already has too many hospital beds.

THE COUNTY zoning board of appeals rejected Franklin Boulevard's plans in December. Officials said the project has been delayed in coming before the county board because of a requirement allowing objectors at least 30 days to respond to zoning board findings. The county board, officials say, rarely overturns a negative recommendation of the zoning board.

Wheeling, Buffalo Grove and Prospect Heights have objected to Franklin Boulevard's plans, criticizing the proposed location of the hospital — a narrow stretch of a two-lane road that does not have any sidewalks. The towns' objections mean a three-fourths majority of the county board is needed to approve the project.

Four area hospitals also have said the new hospital should not be built. Besides creating a surplus of beds, the hospital is not needed because of plans for emergency walk-in clinics in Wheeling and Buffalo Grove, hospital officials say.

The county board meets at 10 a.m. at the Cook County Building, 118 N. Clark St., Chicago.

The week ahead

3-3-80 Herald

Board to consider builder donations

A law that would require industrial as well as residential developers to donate land or cash to the park district will be considered tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

While several nearby towns have ordinances that require residential developers to donate land or cash to school and park districts, Wheeling is expected to become one of the first towns in Illinois to require contributions from industrial developers.

Park officials plan to use the donations, along with federal matching grants, to buy three park sites of about 10 acres each. Although a majority of the board supports the ordinance, Trustee Roger Powers says he will oppose it. Powers says forcing donations from industrial developers, who already pay 2½ times the tax of residential developers, is unfair.

The board meets at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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FOR A FOURTH time, the Wheeling Village Board will consider spending $26,000 for a study that will evaluate the village's water system and the need for Lake Michigan water.

Some trustees have balked at the request, saying the study might duplicate the work of previous water studies. They also say they are concerned the study might not tell how the lake water is to be distributed if the village receives an allocation. Three years ago the village was rejected for a lake water allocation.

In the meantime the village has started building two new wells. However, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, who has recommended the study, says the wells are only a temporary measure. The area's water table is rapidly dropping and villages on deep well systems like Wheeling are having trouble meeting tougher standards on drinking water imposed by federal environmental authorities.

The board will consider the proposal at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd

Trustees approve study to probe water system

3-7-80 Herald

Wheeling trustees Monday night approved a $26,600 study which will evaluate the village's water system and will present a case for a Lake Michigan water allocation.

The board threw three times had delayed approving the study by the Chicago firm of Consoer Townsend and Associates because of confusion about whether the study would provide information not covered in previous water studies.

Wheeling three years ago unsuccessfully applied for a lake-water allocation.

IN THE MEANTIME, the village has started building two new wells. However, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, who has recommended the study, said the wells are only a short-term solution to water shortages which have plagued the village in the past.

A lake-water allocation is needed, he said, because the area water table is dropping rapidly. Also, towns, like Wheeling, which have deep-well systems, are hindered by strict new drinking-water standards which are being imposed by federal agencies.

The prospects for the village getting a lake-water allocation appear to be better this time around because of a decision expected soon from the U.S. Supreme Court.

A special master assigned by the court agreed last week to let Illinois allocate a greater portion of the 2.1 billion gallons of water the state pumps daily for community use.

3-5-80 Herald

Village wants to buy smaller police cars

Wheeling trustees have ordered the village's police department to seek new bids on eight squad cars the village is buying in an attempt to reduce spending in the village.

Police Chief Ted Bracke said Tuesday he'll abide by the request but added that smaller cars will reduce police productivity and adversely affect "officer morale."

Specifically, trustees have objected to Bracke's request for full-size cars with V-8 engines and AM radios. The bid recommended by the staff was $62,000 for the eight squads.

"We've got to start planning ahead," said Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld. "We're talking about having gas that costs $1.75 a gallon. Soon there will be no full-size cars as we know them today. In a couple of years, there will be no choice but to go to smaller cars."

OTHER TRUSTEES said they could see no reason for police to have AM radios, because they should be listening to the patrol radio when they are on patrol.

Two weeks ago, trustees delayed a decision on the eight patrol cars, asking Bracke for additional justification for the bigger cars. He said the bigger cars wear better and boost "officer morale" because the cars are more comfortable.

Trustee Sheila Schultz said Bracke's explanation was "totally out of line. I've gone to a mid-size car, and my morale is just fine."

Bracke said officer morale "is very important to me. The men don't like the small-size car. I realize eventually we'll have to go to the smaller car, but it is going to have an impact on police productivity. I'm interested in getting the best equipment that's available on the market today."

Bracke said the AM radios are needed "to help keep the officer alert, to eliminate the boredom of patrol. You've got a guy working the 11-to-7 shift, (and) sometimes he just gets fatigued. That radio is like a cup of coffee."

Village board wrapup 3-5-80, Herald

Annexation of five land parcels OKd

Wheeling trustees tentatively have approved the forced annexation of five small parcels that are located throughout the village.

Trustees say the annexations are needed to square off village boundaries and to incorporate sections of town where the village already is providing services. Also, the annexation will prevent construction of any inappropriate developments which could be built under less restrictive county building and zoning laws.

Some of the owners of the parcels have complained about the annexations because of the automatic residential zoning that comes with an involuntary annexation, and they have asked for different zonings before their property is annexed. Trustees have refused their requests, saying it would set a dangerous precedent. However, the board has agreed to waive the fees that normally would be required if property owners present their cases for rezoning to the village plan commission, as long as the landowners are seeking zoning that is less than or equal to zoning status they already have with Cook County.

The parcels are:

- About one acre near Hintz and Schoenbeck roads.
- Nearly eight acres on Cornell Avenue, south of Hintz Road.
- More than 16 acres southwest of Wolf and Lake-Cook roads.
- Less than one acre on Hintz Road, west of Wolf Road.
- About 8½ acres at the southwest corner of Hintz and Wolf roads.

Senior citizens panel approved

The Wheeling Village Board has approved a measure to establish a senior citizens commission, proposed by Trustee Sheila Schultz.

The commission is expected to work at obtaining federal grants for senior programs, developing plans for the federally subsidized senior center which the village is planning and addressing the housing and transportation needs of the elderly.

Mrs. Schultz said she is looking for Wheeling residents to serve on the seven-member commission. Four of the commission members must be older than 60. Applications can be obtained through Geraldine Swan, village senior citizens coordinator, at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Sidewalk variation granted

A variation that will allow the developer of 102 condominiums in Buffalo Grove to build sidewalks around the trees in a Wheeling subdivision was given preliminary approval by the Wheeling Village Board.

The variation from village ordinances was granted despite a recommendation by Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold to remove the 300 trees to keep the sidewalk away from heavily traveled Dundee Road. The sidewalk runs from the Grove Terrace subdivision to Field School, Wheeling.

Trustee Charles Kerr, who lives in Grove Terrace, asked for the variation, contending that the area where the trees are located is one of the few green areas along the two-mile portion of Dundee Road that runs through Wheeling.

Village rejects parks contributions law

3-6-80 Herald

After more than five years of debate, Wheeling officials have decided not to require developers to contribute cash to the park district.

Several trustees had waivered on the issue, but when it came to a vote Monday night, the law, modeled after a landmark ordinance in Naperville, was supported only by Trustees John Cole and Charles Kerr.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, who previously had said the amount required of industrial developers would not be that great, said he decided an "additional tax" could slow industrial growth in the village.

He also said Wheeling's law would not carry the legal weight of the Naperville law, which was upheld three years ago by the Illinois Supreme Court. That ordinance requires only residential developers to contribute land or cash to school and park districts.

PARK OFFICIALS say they are looking for cash donations from the developers to use federal matching grants to buy three 10-acre park sites in industrial portions of the village. Park Director David Phillips said the additional 2¼ cents per square foot it would cost the developers for land "far outweighs the cost back to the employer work as well as those who live in this community."

He said the village has several strong selling points to lure industry to Wheeling — the proximity to the Tri-State Tollway and Pal-Waukee Airport and a program of industrial revenue bonds that provide low-cost financing for developers.

The average cost of industrial land for developers is $1.77 per square foot, and Trustee Roger Powers said corporations "have been known to make a location change over 0.8 cents per square foot."

Robert McLennan, the developer of a proposed 121-acre industrial park in Wheeling, told trustees there would be "symbolic protests" to the new tax. The village, he said "would be seen as having a hostile attitude toward business. I don't think this is the way to raise money."

HOWEVER, HE said a land dedication ordinance would not stop development, but "it would have some incremental slowing effect. You lose all the property tax revenues while you slow it down. I think you'll lose money in the long run."

Cole said he disagreed with one of the primary objections to the ordinance — that industrial property pays a greater share of the tax burden because it is assessed 2½ times the rate of residential property for tax purposes. He said you can build more houses on the same size lot, generating as much tax revenue through individual property owners.

He said there are "so many variables" it is impossible to gauge if a land dedication ordinance will hinder industrial growth. The new tax, he said, "would probably be more than offset by our industrial revenue bonds."

Want restaurants, not bars

2-28-80 - Wheeling Life X

Meet on liquor licenses

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — Several changes and two additional categories in the liquor license ordinance were discussed during a workshop session of the Wheeling village board, Monday, Feb. 25.

Object of the discussion is to keep restaurants as restaurants and prevent restaurant owners from closing food service early and operating a bar. According to Trustee Sheila Schultz, the requirement for a restaurant seating capacity was eliminated in Class B and C licenses.

Two new categories were added: Class G for temporary full service by civic groups, not-for-profit organizations, and churches, and a hotel/motel category H.

Class A licenses allow for a 4 a.m. closing time and require a seating capacity of 200, said Village President William Hein. He noted that there is only one Class A license available and in use in Wheeling.

IN THE B CLASS, the license holder is required to serve food at all times while serving liquor, Hein told the board.

Village Attorney David Epstein recommended that the board include a requirement of either a seating capacity or a time the kitchen may legally close if it wishes to insure that the restaurants are restaurants.

Trustee Charles Kerr suggested Class B license holders be required to take orders for food at least two hours prior to legal closing.

The village does not have a legal opening time for serving liquor, Hein told the board. However, the board did not set one.

Since a Class D license is for a bar, seating capacity should be included in the Class B license, Hein said. Epstein suggested the board check present restaurants for seating capacity and take an average to determine the number to be included in the new ordinance.

The board is not talking about changing existing seating capacities, but is trying to stop the bar size from increasing in restaurants, Schultz said.

TO DISTINGUISH Class C from D, the Class C license holder should be required to serve food of some kind not less than five days a week, Schultz said. A license holder can upgrade from D to C or B, by applying to the village, which could give the holder the right to operate in the classification requested, Epstein said. However, if the business is sold, the license will revert back to its original category and the total number of licenses in the village remain the same, he said.

Taking someone from D to C or B would require a special-use permit plus an additional fee, Hein noted.

The temporary license must be approved by the board; the organization receiving the license must have dram shop insurance in advance; and the fee would be $50 per day, Hein said. The license would be good for five days and an organization may be licensed three times a year. A Wheeling resident should be involved in the organization, Schultz added.

EPSTEIN SUGGESTED the board charge a flat fee for a motel or hotel with an add-on charge for additional bars or restaurants such as the Lincolnshire Marriott has. Schultz suggested $3,500 for the motel/hotel classification with $1,500 add-on fee for each additional bar. Kerr agreed that he would like to have the license start at $3,500.

Epstein suggested the village check with other communities to see what the hotels and motels are paying.

There are 25 liquor licenses in Wheeling at the present time. A Class A license costs $1,750. There are 14 Class B licenses, two Class Cs, five Class Ds and one Class E. Each costs $1,500. Two private club licenses are authorized, with one in use. The fee is $500. No motel/hotel licenses are authorized unless the board takes action and sets a number for the category.

Hard to square off boundaries

2-25-80 X Wheeling Life

WHEELING—Squaring off Wheeling's boundaries is not as simple a process as it appeared at first.

Property owners near Hintz and Elmhurst are objecting to the involuntary annexation without some type of rezoning. Property is normally annexed with an R-1 (single-family) designation. The board has discussed giving some of the owners annexation agreements with new zoning included, but Village Attorney David Epstein told the board Tuesday, Feb. 19, that the attempt to have annexation agreements "was misconstrued. It was not suggested that annexation agreements would be proper in every instance. The board would have to determine hardships."

The board proceeded with the annexation of the property owned by Kenneth and Elizabeth Bard, granting the owners the right to continue the nonconforming use of an automobile body and fender-repair shop for 10 years. However, should that use be discontinued for a period of six months or 180 days within that 10-year period, the property is to revert back to a conforming use at that time.

THE BOARD continued public hearings on annexation of 32 acres of property at the northeast quadrant of Hintz and Elmhurst roads, along with four other parcels of property.

Property owner Donald Milz, who owns 7.7 acres on Cornell, south of Hintz, said he would close the street in front of his house on Cornell, if annexed. Milz would keep the street a private one.

When Village President William Hein suggested tabling the annexation matter on this property, Village Manager Carsten Leikvold said, "We are losing sight of squaring off the boundaries. After (these parcels) are brought in the village, the problems can be worked out."

An attorney for the property owners on Cornell told the board that Cornell will not become a public street after the annexation. "Cornell is actually owned by the property owners and will not become a public street after annexation," he noted.

The hearing was continued to another time for:

- .88 acres located one-quarter mile east of Schoenbeck on the north side of Hintz.
- 7.7 acres west of Cornell, approximately 800 feet south of Hintz.
- 16.2 acres approximately 1,150 feet west of Wolf, approximately 800 feet south of Lake-Cook.
- .79 acres located 1,200 feet west of Wolf on the south side of Hintz, and 8.56 acres at the southwest corner of Hintz and Wolf.

Industry land donations mulled

2-28-80 - Herald X

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

After more than five years of debate, Wheeling trustees are likely to approve an ordinance that will require industrial, as well as residential, developers to donate land or cash to the park district.

Most trustees support the ordinance, saying industrial developers will be asked to contribute relatively small amounts and the park district needs the money to buy three park sites of about 10 acres in the industrial portions of the village.

But Trustee Roger Powers says he will oppose the new law, calling it an unfair tax on businesses, which already are taxed at rates 2½ times more than residential taxpayers. He said the law could persuade developers to build in other towns, eroding the village's tax base.

"Certain corporations might not come into the village if they are going to be forced to pay money to enter Wheeling," he said. "The guy's going to say, 'Hey, I have to pay extra to settle in Wheeling; therefore, I'm going to build my $1 million plant in Northbrook."

INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY is assessed at a rate of 56 percent of its fair market value for tax purposes. For houses, the rate is about 22 percent.

Trustees who support the land dedication ordinance, modeled after a landmark ordinance in Naperville, say that developers building in Wheeling agreed to donate money to the park district.

Park officials plan to use the money from industrial developers with federal matching grants to acquire land for park sites.

"I guess we've more or less been convinced by the park district that industry is expecting these kinds of programs for parks and open space," Trustee Charles Kerr said. "And, if the park district provides that service, industry should pay for it."

One of the main reasons for the delay on the land ordinance, Kerr said, was confusion about the complicated formula that determines how much developers must pay.

The formula is based on the size of the development and the number of employees it will generate. For the typical development, village officials say, it will add about 2½ cents per square foot to land costs. The average cost of industrial land amounts to about $1.77 per square foot.

AND THAT small of an increase in costs is not likely to convince developers they shouldn't build in Wheeling, Kerr said.

But Powers argued that charging industrial developers any amount to settle in Wheeling is unfair. "That's like saying a policeman only wanted a small bribe to fix a ticket," he said.

Village Atty. David Epstein said Wheeling may become the only Illinois community to require industrial developers to donate land to the park district. The Naperville ordinance, which was upheld by the Illinois Supreme Court, requires only residential developers to donate land or cash to school and park districts.

The land dedication ordinance will be considered by the village board on Monday.



3-6-80 Herald

WHILE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS its old quarters remodeled, it has moved over to the new fire department offices. Police are expected to return to their remodeled offices by June. (Photo by Peggy Pollard)

Reject ordinance

3-6-80 Herald Leader

Industry won't have to donate money to buy park land

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — After its inception some six years ago, and a rebirth last year, and after being tossed around in committee and discussion workshops — the land-dedication ordinance for industrial property was voted down by the Wheeling village board, March 3.

Park District Supt. Dave Phillips told the board that the park district would like to obtain land for parks in the industrial areas of the village. He said the main problem was obtaining money to buy the land.

The park district is not seeking prime land, but land that can be left as open space, Phillips said. He suggested the donations from the industrial developers be placed in a savings account until approximately $360,000 had been saved.

However, Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld said that he was wary of putting another burden on the industrial and commercial tax base. Building permits and growth "are coming to a screeching halt," Sommerfeld said.

RATHER THAN TELL the industrial developer that "now it will cost you more" tell them "we're going to offer you something," he said.

Trustee Roger Powers, who has several corporate affiliations, told the board that several business that he knows of moved out of state because of the high prices in Illinois.

Trustee Robert Ross said of the companies in the village, 73% of the employes lived in the village. And he asked if the ordinance would impose double taxing on the employes and employers.

However, Trustee Charles Kerr noted the ordinance has no value if it does not include industrial property.

Realtor Robert McClennen, an industrial developer, said as a developer he would oppose the land dedication ordinance. He told the board a lot of businessmen are sensitive to the government, and some feel the government has become oppressive. The businessmen can see a need for parks, he said.

However, McClennen continued, the businessman feels he is paying 2½ times the tax bill, and he says this is adding insult to injury.

"It is not going to stop development," McClennen said, but it may have some slowing-down effect.

The board voted down the land ordinance because of the economic situation at this time.

Herald 3-6-80

Tom Markus is new manager

WHEELING — Tom Markus was officially appointed to the post of Wheeling village manager, Monday, March 5, at a regular board meeting.

After a brief executive session which lasted less than 30 minutes, the board reconvened to make the announcement.

Markus will assume his duties May 1, 1980, according to Village President William Hein.

Markus is a former assistant village manager in Wheeling. He left to become city administrator in Savage, MN, in 1977.

It will be the first time a village manager in Wheeling has had a contract. Markus will receive $38,000 a year.

Carsten Leikvold, the present manager will leave March 31. Leikvold came to Wheeling in 1977 when Terry Zerkle left. Zerkle was with the village from 1975 to 1977.

Village board votes to save trees on Dundee

3-6-80 Life

WHEELING—The village board voted unanimously Tuesday, Feb. 19, not to cut down trees to build a sidewalk along Dundee road, west of St. Armand. The sidewalk is being built to service condominiums planned on the eastern edge of Buffalo Grove.

Original plans for the sidewalk would have required cutting down a line of trees planted by property owners abutting the north side of Dundee road. Trustee Charles Kerr requested that the location of the sidewalk be moved to save the trees.

The sidewalk was suggested as a safety precaution for children walking to school.

Kerr expressed anger at Village Manager Carsten Leikvold, who suggested following Wheeling's ordinance, which would have required cutting down the trees. "I was surprised at the letter from the village manager on this," Kerr told the board. "He was saying he would try for a variation so we could save the trees and then I was amazed when he did a turnabout and said 'let's just cut the Goddamn trees down and follow the ordinance.' I would still like to go to Buffalo Grove (to request elimination of the sidewalk)."

HOWEVER, TRUSTEE Hugh Sommerfeld said it was Wheeling that suggested building the sidewalk at a Buffalo Grove plan commission meeting on the project. "We suggested the sidewalk for children to walk to school. Now I find it incongruous that we ask them to remove it."

Little League holds sign-up

THE WHEELING Athletic Assn. Youth Baseball will hold its 1980 Little League baseball registration on Sundays, March 9 and 23, at Wheeling high school (main entrance). Registration will be from noon to 3 p.m. for boys and girls, ages 7 through 16.

WAA is an "open league" and invites all youths from the area to participate.

Cost to join is $35 for the first player and $10 for each additional child per family, plus $10 worth of WAA decals per family.

'Annex' 5 parcels to round out boundaries

Pub'd 3-6-80 Life

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — The Wheeling village board March 3 passed the ordinances for posting in the forced annexation of five parcels of land.

In an effort to "round out Wheeling's boundaries" the following parcels were "annexed," with the board's final decision to be made at the next board meeting.

- .88 acres located ¼ mile east of Schoenbeck road on the north side of Hintz road.
- 7.70 acres west of Cornell avenue, approximately 800 feet south of Hintz road.
- 16.2 acres approximately 1,150 feet west of Wolf road, and approximately 800 feet south of Lake-Cook road.
- .79 acres located 1,200 feet west of Wolf road on the south side of Hintz road.
- 8.56 acres at the southwest corner of Hintz and Wolf road.

MOST OF THE residents at the public hearing proceeding the passage of the ordinances expressed concerns for the same thing: mainly the high cost of hooking on to sewer and water lines, which is required within one year. Another problem home and business owners were concerned about was the zoning changes required. And third — "Who will pay for the streets?"

The board decided to annex the property as R-1. Where business use is established it may continue, according to the board; however, the land owners should apply for a zoning change immediately. Fees will be waived for land owners who are zoned down to lesser classification than they had with Cook county.

However, a landowner who is annexed and has not had the zoning upgraded by the county, will be required to pay the fees, according to David Epstein, village attorney.

ACCORDING TO Village Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld, the owners may file petitions as early as Tuesday.

Because of the complexity of the procedure, the property is being annexed under R-1, said Village President William Hein.

Village Attorney David Epstein also urged the people to "come in now, if asking for a waiver of fees; and not five years from now, expecting the fees to be waived."

Water study is approved

3-6-80 Life 4

WHEELING — The Wheeling village board, Monday, March 5, approved an agreement with Consoer Townsend & Assoc. Ltd. to begin a water study for the village.

A time limit of 180 days has been imposed in the contract for completion of the study, according to Village Attorney David Epstein. The time limit was set so the village staff would have complete data for the Lake Michigan Water Allocation hearing.

The consulting firm will gather available data, maps, water main atlases, past winter usage figures, annexation forecasts, ISO reports and other available information. The study will include population figures, land use, and water demand.

With projections and estimates based upon the data and future water demand estimates, the firm will evaluate the present village water system's ability to meet maximum usage demands, including fire demands.

"WHEN THE PROJECTED costs of alternative water supplies have been evaluated, the consultants will make recommendations concerning the most feasible method for increasing the water supply capacity of the existing system," according to the terms of the agreement.

The pay scale for the consultants includes $30 per hour for officers, $14 to $15.30 for associates, $6.70 to $9.70 for engineers.

Traffic plan presented

3-6-80 Life 4

WHEELING — Wheeling Police Chief Ted Bracke presented a plan for traffic at the new Wheeling Municipal Complex, during a workshop session of the board, Monday, Feb. 25.

Bracke said that the village manager insisted the customers of the village have first priority for parking. The front area cul-du-sac has been reserved for customer 15-minute parking, Bracke said. Traffic at this location is both entrance and exit, and allows people to come into the parking area, he continued.

Certain areas are for handicapped parking. The 32 spaces designated as customer parking may be more than is necessary. Twenty spaces may be sufficient for customers, he said.

Areas near the police and fire departments have been designated as police and fire parking, he noted. Of the 32 spaces along the western extremities, the last six to 10 may be designated for public works, Bracke said.

Trees will be planted to set off the police and fire yards.

TRUSTEE HUGH Sommerfeld asked if there would be access from the back of the new building other than walking through the council chamber area. He asked about administration parking.

Thirty-two spaces, plus three additional ones, should be employe and/or official parking, Bracke replied.

The area in front of the fire department area is strictly no-parking, Bracke commented. The drive on the west area is strictly an exit, he added.

Sommerfeld suggested marking employe parking spots, however, Lorraine Lark disagreed, saying employes should park on a first-come, first-served basis.

When the building is completed, we can see better the flow of traffic, then the parking problems will probably be resolved, she said.

NORTHWEST WHEELING HERALD MARCH 7 1980

Village's lake water try adds option for suburbs

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

If Wheeling is successful in joining the list of Northwest suburbs eligible to use water from Lake Michigan, it may add another option to an already complex array of choices for piping lake water to the suburbs.

The eight suburbs that already have permission to draw water from the lake have discussed at least three different routes and coalitions for building a pipeline.

If Wheeling wins a lake water allocation later this summer, that may give birth to yet another plan, a line to Northbrook serving only Wheeling and Buffalo Grove.

Two years ago, Buffalo Grove considered a plan to build a pipeline along Dundee Road to Northbrook, which already draws water from Lake Michigan, but that proved too expensive for just one community, Assistant Village Mgr. William Sommer said.

"There also was some question whether Northbrook's system capacity was big enough," he said. But that may have changed, and a Wheeling-Buffalo Grove alliance may be the cheapest way to get lake water.

WHEELING OFFICIALS say they will not worry about where to build a pipeline or who will share the costs until after they get permission to use lake water.

The U.S. Supreme Court is preparing to increase the amount of water that Illinois can draw from Lake Michigan. Once that ruling becomes official, the Illinois Dept. of Transportation will decide which towns will receive lake water allocations. Wheeling is preparing for those hearings with a $26,000 study.

If the village does not get an allocation, it may be the last time it will be allowed to apply until the year 2025 because towns are asking IDOT for a 45-year guarantee on their allotments, Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said.

ALL OF THE SUBURBS agree that they must join force to hold down the cost of a lake water pipeline, but they have not agreed on a plan. The options include:

- A pipline to Evanston, which has cheaper water rates, for five suburbs represented by a group called DAMP. That group includes Arlington Heights, Mount Prospect, Palatine, Buffalo Grove and Rolling Meadows.
- A pipeline along the Northwest Tollway to Chicago water supplies at O'Hare Airport, a plan developed by an eight-town coalition called the Northwest Suburban Water Venture. That line would be paid for by Hoffman Estates, Schaumburg, Buffalo Grove, Elk Grove Village, Palatine, Rolling Meadows, Mount Prospect and Arlington Heights.
- An offshoot of the Venture plan that still calls for connecting to Chicago's water system via a more southerly route and adding new members such as Hanover Park and Streamwood to help share costs. That option arose as some members of the original Venture group began expressing a preference for DAMP's Evanston plan.

IN ADDITION, two towns may be able to make their own connections to lake water. Elk Grove Village once considered tapping into Chicago's water system and O'Hare Airport but decided instead to work for a suburban water system. More recently, Mount Prospect officials have talked about connecting to Des Plaines' water system, which already carries water from Chicago.

Arlington Heights already has stated its preference for Evanston water, but Mount Prospect, with its three different options, is waiting for the report by a Venture consultant.

If Mount Prospect decides to buy its water from Chicago, that would "seriously impair" the plan for a pipeline to Evanston, Arlington Heights Village Mgr. L.A. Hanson said. But, he added, Wheeling could replace Mount Prospect if it gets an allocation and chooses Evanston water.

A final, but less likely, option for Wheeling, Leikvold said, is to do nothing about lake water and rely on the town's wells. When all its neighbors use lake water as their main source, there will be less of a drain on the area's water table, which is dropping rapidly.

Legal fight over, but Pal-Waukee yet may disannex

3-10-80 Herald

by Debbie Absher
Herald staff writer

Although he's lost a three-year fight that challenges the existence of the City of Prospect Heights, Pal-Waukee Airport owner George Priester said the issue "still isn't over" because he may decide to disannex from the city.

The time has expired for Priester to appeal a 1979 Illinois Appellate Court ruling that upheld the city's right to exist, removing the final roadblock for the city to become "a full-fledged municipality," Prospect Heights Mayor Richard Wolf said.

"There are no further appeals pending and no further hindrance for anything the city might want to do in the way of incurring long-term obligations," he said. "Prospect Heights is a city permanently."

PRIESTER SAID he had challenged the city's decision, soon after it was incorporated in 1976, to annex the eastern half of the 40-acre airport, the portion that accounted for most of the sales tax receipts.

Priester questioned the right to "cut my place in half." But with a unanimous ruling by the appellate court, "I certainly wouldn't go to the Supreme Court," he said.

However, he said he still may pursue another lawsuit pending in Cook County Circuit Court that asks the court to order the disconnection of the airport from the city.

When Prospect Heights incorporated in 1976, it annexed only the eastern half of the airport's 40 acres. That portion of the airport has been a rich source of sales and motor fuel taxes that combine for more than half of the city's yearly revenue, helping the city council keep its pledge to refrain from levying a property tax as long as possible.

THE CITY annexed only half the airport to avoid exceeding the four-square-mile limit placed by the state on its effort to incorporate.

"Everything now is at a standstill until my attorneys decide what to do," Preister said. "But I don't know that it's over with."

Wolf said the end of the challenges means the city will be "able to act for our residents in a number of different ways." Until the issue finally was settled, Wolf said it was doubtful that the city could have borrowed money because bonding houses would not honor commitments "as long as we had that cloud hanging over us.

"Fortunately, we haven't had any need to borrow any money," he said. "But now we're a full-fledged municipality."

3-10-80 Herald

The week ahead

Trustees to discuss squad car request

Wheeling trustees today will continue discussing a request by Police Chief Ted Bracke for eight new squad cars.

Bracke had requested eight new full-size cars with V-8 engines. Trustees, however, ordered the village staff to seek new bids, saying the village should reduce fuel costs by going to smaller cars.

Trustees also have objected to the cars being equipped with AM radios. The bid recommended by the staff totaled $62,000 for the eight squad cars.

Bracke said he'll abide by the request for smaller cars, but said they do not endure well and are less comfortable for patrolmen and provide little room for prisoners. He also has defended the installation of AM radios, saying they help keep patrolmen alert.

The board meets at 7:30 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

• • •

PLANS FOR the design and construction of a federally subsidized senior citizens center will be discussed today by the Wheeling Village Board.

The center, to be built with a $1.2 million federal grant, is part of Wheeling's downtown redevelopment program. Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, plans to build a $4.5 million emergency walk-in clinic. The Cook County Housing Authority is expecting to build a 100-unit rent-assisted housing project for the elderly.

All of the new developments are slated to be built near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street, although trustees have not pinpointed the exact location.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold has scheduled two architectural firms to meet with the board tonight to discuss the design of the building so it will be compatable with surrounding developments.

The board meets at 7:30 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

• • •

THE FINAL installment of a study on public ownership of cable television systems is expected to be presented to mayors and managers of 21 North and Northwest suburbs Wednesday night.

An attorney and a cable consultant are expected to report to the Northwest Municipal Conference on the possibility of the suburbs installing the cable lines themselves rather than hiring a private company do it.

A subcommittee of the municipal conference already has said public ownership has been successful and can make a profit for the cities and villages.

The municipal conference is coordinating an evaluation of 14 cable companies that have applied to install cable systems in the area. The final report on the companies is expected late this month, and individual suburbs then will decide whether to award cable franchises and, if so, what firms should receive them.

The conference meeting Wednesday begins at 7:30 p.m. in Wheeling Township Hall, 1616 N. Arlington Heights Rd., Arlington Heights.

• • •

WHEELING TOWNSHIP Dist. 21 parents have been asked to tell the school board tonight what kind of person they would like to replace Supt. Kenneth Gill.

Gill will leave the district next December, and the board has launched a search for a replacement, hiring William Hazard, a consultant, to recruit candidates.

The open forum will be from 7 to 9 p.m. in the administration building, 999 W. Dundee Rd., Wheeling. Hazard and several board members will be there to take notes on the parents' opinions.

Written opinions also may be sent to the district administration office.

Hazard, a professor at Northwestern University, said the parents' comments about the kind of person they want for the job will be incorporated into the brochure mailed to applicants for the job.

He said the school board hopes to choose someone by Aug. 1. He said the salary probably will be between $45,000 and $50,000.

Wheeling/daily briefing

Today's agenda

• A immunization clinic will be from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Wheeling High School, 900 S. Elmhurst Rd. The clinic is sponsored by the Cook County Dept. of Public Health and is free. Parents must accompany children.

Upcoming events

• A free breast cancer clinic will be offered for all adult women from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday at Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Rd. Representatives of the American Cancer Society will instruct women on monthly breast self-examination and provide information on current treatments and test procedures used to detect the disease. To register, call the Wheeling Park District, 537-2222.

NORTHWEST WHEELING HERALD MARCH 11, 1980

Grant to go for traffic patrols

Wheeling police will receive a $73,050 state traffic enforcement grant this year and say they'll use the money for additional patrols on high-accident stretches of roads, mainly Lake-Cook Road.

The village last year received a $102,718 Selective Traffic Enforcement Grant. That money was used for traffic studies, new personnel and equipment. Police increased patrols almost exclusively along Dundee Road, the road with the highest accident rate in the village.

Patrolman Armando Pizzi, head of the traffic division, credited the increased patrols with reducing the road's accident rate 2 percent, from 443 in 1978 to 434 in 1979. And although Dundee Road will continue to get the bulk of the traffic division's patrol efforts, Pizzi said, "Lake-Cook Road is going to get a little more of our attention."

ALTHOUGH THE accident rate on Lake-Cook Road does not compare with Dundee Road, "we've had some awfully serious accidents there," because motorists apparently are disregarding the 50 mph speed limit, Pizzi said.

"It's especially bad along the Soo Line railroad," he said. "We've caught people going over 100 mph along there. And come summertime, I'm sure it's going to get worse."

Pizzi said that if the serious accidents on Lake-Cook Road increase at the beginning of spring, he may ask the state to reduce the speed limit.

Other roads that will be given increased traffic patrol include Elmhurst, Wolf and Old McHenry roads and Milwaukee Avenue, Pizzi said.

The state grant this year will pay the salaries of the five policemen in the traffic division. Because the amount of the grant is being reduced, no new equipment will be added, Pizzi said.

Next year is the last that Wheeling will be eligible for the state funds. Under the STEP program, the village's share increases each year, from 25 percent last year to 50 percent this year. Wheeling will have to pay 75 percent of the cost of the traffic safety program next year, Pizzi said.

Building ban imposed near airport

3-11-80 Herald

by Debbie Absher

Herald staff writer

The City of Prospect Heights will forbid construction of any new buildings bordering Pal-Waukee Airport until the Federal Aviation Administration determines whether buildings would interfere with air traffic.

City officials unanimously approved the moratorium on new construction for vacant property at the end of runways between Wolf Road and Milwaukee Avenue, saying they would wait for the FAA's ruling.

If they were to allow developers to build on property within the so-called "glide scope" that determines airport landing patterns, the land would have to be condemned and the buildings razed at considerable expense if the FAA decided the buildings were hazardous to air navigation, Mayor Richard Wolf said.

"The FAA has recommended that there at least be certain clear zones set aside," he said. "Our concern is we don't want to build in areas classified as hazardous. We'll wait until we get some additional input as to safety and hazards on these properties."

WOLF SAID HE expects "some clarification" from the FAA within the next few weeks, after which the city council will establish permanent standards for the property near Pal-Waukee.

The Village of Wheeling in December restricted building around the airport to prevent a Glenview developer from building a 30-foot-tall factory near the end of Pal-Waukee's longest runway at Hintz and Wolf roads.

Part of the reason the towns' officials also decided to prevent new construction is because they are co-sponsors of a study to see whether they can afford to buy the financially strapped airport before proposed developments close in. Proposed factory and condominium complex developments near the end of Pal-Waukee's longest runway could force shortening of the runway by 500 to 750 feet, making jet landings impossible on the runway that now accommodates almost all the airport's jet traffic.

PLANS FOR OTHER developments that may or may not affect operations at Pal-Waukee seemed to be springing up with what officials called alarming frequency.

Village and city officials could condemn the land now, but both towns said they could not afford to do so without the 90 percent federal aid they would be entitled to as owners of the aiport, which is valued at up to $20 million.

Leikvold is blasted for 'illegal' buying

3-12-Herald

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

Lame-duck Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold has been accused of illegally spending an additional $177,000 for the village's new municipal complex.

Village trustees have stripped Leikvold of his purchasing power, and one trustee says he should be fired even though he already has resigned effective the end of March.

Leikvold acknowledged that he exceeded his legal authority when he approved additions to the $3.37-million village hall construction contract. He offered no defense, saying only that he is "deeply sorry" and does not "know what I was thinking at the time."

Without consulting the village board, Leikvold approved:

- An additional $71,000 for heating and air conditioning equipment in a new pistol range for the police department, an item in the budget but not the construction contract.
- An extra $69,000 for additional paving for a new parking lot.
- Additions of $9,500 to build a room for printed materials and copying machines, $1,900 worth of oak paneling for the manager's new office and $750 for tearing down a wall in the new police department offices to install a window.

UNDER LOCAL ordinances, the village board must approve any expenditures exceeding $2,500.

Most of the additional money went to Joseph J. Henderson and Sons, a Gurnee construction firm that is building the municipal offices at 255 W. Dundee Rd. Construction is expected to be completed this summer.

Trustees said most of the additions — except for the oak paneling — probably would have been approved. But they were dismayed that Leikvold never consulted them on the decision.

Village Pres. William Hein ordered Leikvold to present daily reports to the board and have all spending approved by Finance Director Gregory Peters.

Trustee John Cole asked for a closed meeting next Monday to discuss appointing an acting village manager immediately. Thomas Markus, hired last month to replace Leikvold, is not scheduled to come to Wheeling until May 1.

"The only thing I can say is the money was there," Leikvold said. "I'm sorry. I'm deeply sorry. If I had to do it over again I would have done it differently."

Most of the additional work had originally been part of the construction plans but were deleted in 1978 when the village board tried to reduce the cost of the project.

CountrysideReminderNews

MARCH 13, 1980

Leikvold spent $187,000 without approval

Unauthorized spending by manager revealed

By MARION SOURS

Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold Monday was stripped of his powers to approve expenditures for the remaining three weeks he will be in office, after it was disclosed he had authorized the spending of about $187,000 without the village board's approval.

At Monday's village board meeting trustees reviewed a report which showed that during the last 11 months Leikvold routinely had approved change orders involving thousands of dollars for construction work on the village's new municipal complex and branch fire station. He had not presented these items to the board, despite a village ordinance which requires that expenditures of more than $2,500 must be submitted to the trustees for approval.

The trustees were outraged at the disclosures.

"Where did you ever get the idea you had the authority to do this kind of thing?" Trustee John Cole asked Leikvold. "To my way of thinking it is criminal!"

"185,000 of the taxpayers money was spent without proper authorization!"

"I can't believe you knew this was going on and hid it from the board for 11 months," Trustee Charles Kerr said.

Following the discussions, Village President William Hein, taking a suggestion from Cole, instructed Leikvold to submit any change orders during the next few weeks to Finance Director Greg Peters, who would be asked to bring them immediately before the village board.

Leikvold will be in office until March 31. He resigned last October, following prolonged strain between him and several trustees, and agreed to stay in office until that time. Former Assistant Village Manager Thomas Markus recently was chosen as the new village manager.

Leikvold told trustees he did not mean to act unethically in approving the change orders, which were for such sums as $71,300, $69,800 and $9,500.

"I'm deeply sorry," he said. "I can't justify it (violating the ordinance). If I had to do it over again, I would do it differently."

Although the ordinance states that the expenditure of a sum of more than $2,500 must be brought before the board for approval, trustees said they realized the manager would be required to approve some expenditures of more than that amount during the construction process. In other words, they said they recognized it was necessary that some of the change orders had to be made in the field, regarding such things as masonry work, electrical work, etc.

But trustees said it always was their understanding that changes which involved planning, and cost more than $2,500,

(Continued on page 48)

Expenditures unauthorized by board—

(Continued from page 5)

would be submitted for their approval, as per the ordinance. Leikvold, however, said once he began the process of approving change orders he included all types of orders, even those which involved planning, such as the $69,800 order authorizing paving of a parking lot.

"I knew there was money available in the budget, and I knew it would have to be spent eventually..." Leikvold said.

"Who approves the budget? You or the trustees?" Cole retorted.

Construction on the remodelled municipal complex, at 255 W. Dundee Road, was begun in the summer of 1978. Expansions were added for all village offices in the main building, and a fire station also was included. A separate building was constructed for the operations and maintenance department. Construction still is underway on the project, though a number of departments already are working out of their new offices.

Also being built is a branch fire station at Hintz and Wheeling roads. The original contracts for the work on both projects was about $4.13 million.

The change orders which were approved have boosted the cost of the projects to about $4.31 million. Reportedly, the village has $4.86 million available to cover the costs. This money would come from the $3.9 million in bonds the village sold to finance the projects, as well as from such sources as the sale of village property, and funds transferred from the general fund of the village budget.

In planning for the projects, trustees said they were extremely concerned with keeping costs down. They said that is why they were especially appalled at the added expenditures.

"We cut out about 10 per cent across the board (in the original plan)," said Trustee Robert Ross. "Now we're close to back to where we were." He said even though there is money in the budget to pay for the changes, the board might not have wanted to authorize them, and should have been given the choice.

"Somehow the point was missed that we wanted to economize," Trustee Sheila Schultz said. She referred to the change order authorizing the installation of $1,973 worth of oak panelling in the village manager's office.

Leikvold and the architect for the projects, Wallace Bates, of Associated Architects, of Arlington Heights, said the panelling was consistent with panelling in other parts of the building. They said the order to add it was approved after a decision was made to change a conference room and library to a combination conference room and manager's office.

"This is the first time I've heard of the village manager's office being moved," said Trustee Kerr.

One expenditure to which the trustees objected was $71,302 for work on the police pistol range and equipment to be installed there. Trustee Cole said this expenditure was never in the originally approved plan. "These were not change orders. They were add-ons," he said.

Other expenditures which trustees questioned included

— $69,804 for the paving and curbing of the parking lot to the east of the operations and maintenance building. In the original plans, it was decided that the gravel base for the lot would be installed, but its paving would be postponed indefinitely.

Leikvold, however, authorized the paving of the lot, after receiving numerous complaints from employees and the public regarding the poor condition of the gravel lot. He said Monday he knew the work would have to be done eventually.

THE DAILY HERALD

3-14-80

Low-income housing sites await approval from HUD

County housing authorities say they should know in about a month where they plan to build 20 units of housing for low-income families in Wheeling.

Victor Walchirk, executive director of the Cook County Housing Authority, said the agency has submitted 10 sites scattered throughout the village to the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development for approval.

"I'm hopeful the site package will be approved," he said. "We should know within 30 days." He would not however, reveal what sites the housing authority has in mind or how many units will be built on each site.

"That's sort of like putting the cart before the horse," he said. "We're talking about acquisition of land by a public agency. I'm not trying to be secretive about this, but that's confidential information until the plans are approved by HUD."

Submitted with the low-income housing package were site plans for a 100-unit rent-assisted housing complex for senior citizens. That housing project is part of the village's plans to use a separate $1.2 million federal grant to build a center for seniors and handicapped persons and provide street lighting and other neighborhood improvements near Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue.

The senior housing project has been described as a six- to 10-story building that will be available to Wheeling residents more than 62 years old with annual incomes of less than $9,000.

Nineteen of the 20 units of family housing will be made available to Wheeling residents who meet the income requirements. A family of four, for example, must earn less than $13,000 to be eligible, Walchirk said. However, he added those limits may be increased 10 to 15 percent by the time the project is finished.

Walchirk said the housing authority has worked closely with the village staff in determining the criteria to be followed in determining the low-income housing sites.

One of the guidlines established by the village, said planner Richard Greenwood, is that the low-income housing be "socially compatible" with existing housing.

"Basically, that means we want the county to come back with housing in an area where people wouldn't reject it," he said. "For example, you wouldn't put multi-family housing in a (single-family) residential area."

3-13-80, Revised

Village to buy 6 small, 2 big police cars

Wheeling police and village trustees have agreed on a compromise for eight new squad cars the village plans to buy — six of them will be smaller cars, but two full-size cars will be retained for the traffic division.

The village board two weeks ago ordered the police department to seek new bids, arguing the bigger cars are rapidly becoming unaffordable because of fuel costs. The village staff had recommended spending $62,000 for the eight cars with V-8 engines and AM radios.

Police Chief Ted Bracke argued heavier-duty engine is needed because those cars spend more time idling than other patrol cars, he added.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld called Bracke's proposal for two full-size cars "a reasonable request," noting it is the first time the village has reduced the size of its cars and will be able to compare the performance of the big and small cars.

Although Trustee John Cole argued that he sees "no reason for high-speed chases," Sommerfeld contended he would hate to see police unable to apprehend a speeder who "might go and knock down a pedestrian."

Except for Cole, trustees agreed to allow the AM radios to remain in the new squad cars. Bracke said the radios "relieve boredom. Police patrol, unfortunately, is very boring. Consequently, (the radio) is an antidote to keep the officer from snoozing." They do not interfere with an officer's ability to sort out calls on the police radio, he said.

Cole said the AM radios are "a distraction. It's not just the (police) calls. He should be paying attention to what's going on outside the car."

THOSE CARS "that have a little pep" are needed by officers on radar patrol to zip into traffic on high-speed roads like Palatine Road, he said. The bigger cars also are needed to make room for persons filling out forms at the scene of a traffic accidents. A traffic division to continue to use the bigger cars.

Herald 3-15-80

Wolf Road too close to runway: FAA

3-15 - Herald

Federal Aviation Administration officials said Friday a half-mile stretch of Wolf Road will have to be closed or rerouted if Pal-Waukee Airport is to comply with federal safety standards or it becomes a municipally owned airport.

However, Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said there is "no way we can start closing up major arterial streets just to keep an airport open."

Wheeling and Prospect Heights are sponsoring a two-year study to determine whether they can buy the financially strapped airport.

David Welhouse, an airport engineer for the FAA, told local officials and airport consultants Pal-Waukee's longest runway comes closer to Wolf Road, south of Hintz Road, than FAA standards allow.

TO MAKE the runway comply, about one-half mile of Wolf Road would have to be routed to the west or else the 5,000-foot runway would have to be shortened to 4,650 feet, he said.

Reducing the runway length would make it impossible for much of Pal-Waukee's jet traffic to land, which would "defeat the financing plan" for Pal-Waukee, said Larry Donoghue, president of the consulting firm hired by Wheeling and Prospect Heights.

Consultants are hoping the airport users and commercial airlines at O'Hare Airport can be persuaded to pick up a portion of the airport purchase price, which may run from $21 million to $85 million. "You don't want to chase away the people that can pay the rent," Donoghue said.

But Leikvold noted that Hintz Road, west of Wolf Road, has extensive industrial development, with more factories and businesses being planned. He said if any new roads are to be built, construction should take place around the present roads.

IN THE MEANTIME, he said, airport users would just have to endure the shorter runways.

Officials originally had feared the entire intersection might have to be moved and rerouted away from the end of the runway. Welhouse said Wolf Road could end at Hintz Road and traffic along Hintz would be unimpeded.

However, even the less dramatic relocation plan poses several problems, officials said. They include:

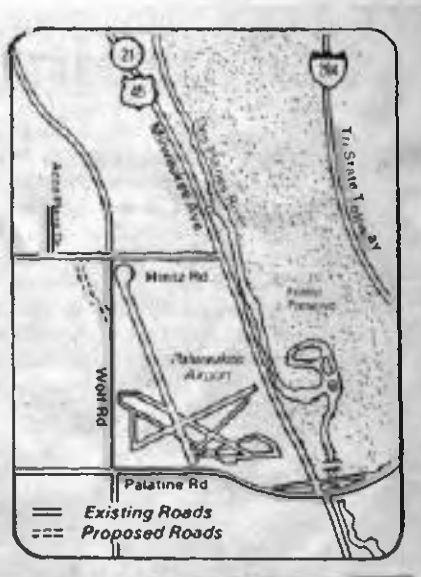
- The airport must be in compliance with federal law that applies to the height by which planes must clear the roadway the day the airport becomes municipally owned, Welhouse said. Donoghue suggested local officials seek special legislation that would give municipalities acquiring private airports a "grace period" to comply with federal safety rules.

- Who will pay for the consultant's fees to determine the cost and plan for relocating the road? Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said he could "almost guarantee" the village won't pay for a traffic study. FAA officials said they are unsure if there are any federal grants to pay the $25,000 to $50,000 that would be needed for such a study.

- If a portion of Wolf Road is to be closed, it is likely the State of Illinois, now maintaining the road, will expect Wheeling to maintain the road to where it dead-ends at Milwaukee Avenue, said Robert Fialkowski, transportation engineer for the Northwest Municipal Conference.

David Zavattero, a planner for the Chicago Area Transportation System, said his agency could prepare a report that would measure the impact of closing Wolf Road would have on other nearby roads. However, he said he doubted he could compute the cost of a road relocation project.

Donoghue and FAA officials said they will investigate ways to pay for the road study and try to have a plan by the next meeting of the group March 27.



Trustees won't fire Leikvold

3-19 Herald

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling trustees have decided not to fire lame-duck Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold for illegally spending $177,000 but will allow him to continue as manager for two more weeks.

Leikvold already had resigned, effective April 1, when trustees learned that he had approved additional spending on the village's new municipal complex without consulting the board. The board then stripped Leikvold of his purchasing power, and Trustee John Cole called for his immediate firing, saying "there's no telling what he will do in the next two weeks."

However, after meeting in closed session for about five minutes Monday night, the trustees announced that Leikvold will stay on until April 1 and that Finance Director Gregory Peters will be the acting manager until May 1 when Thomas Markus arrives. Markus, a former Wheeling assistant manager, was hired last month.


CARSTEN LEIKVOLD

COLE SAID he could not "legally discuss what went on in there, but you know my feelings. For another two weeks, it wasn't worth all the screaming and hollering. His authority was somewhat reduced anyway." Asked if his call for Leikvold's firing did not have the support of other trustees, Cole said, "You could say that."

Board members also agreed to pay Peters, who has been ordered to approve all spending instead of Leikvold, an additional $500 for the month he will serve as acting village manager.

Under local ordinances, the village board must approve any expenditures of more than $2,500. But Leikvold admitted exceeding his legal authority when he approved additions to the $3.37 million village hall construction contract. The new buildings, at 251 W. Dundee Rd., are slated to be finished this summer.

Leikvold offered no defense for his actions, saying only that he was "deeply sorry" and that most of the additional projects he approved were part of the original construction plans but were deleted in 1978 when the village board tried to reduce the cost of the project.

BOARD MEMBERS temporarily had shelved those plans, to be done at a later date. The two biggest apparent illegal expenditures included an additional $71,000 for heating and air conditioning equipment in a new pistol range for the police department, an item in the budget but not in the construction contract, and an extra $69,000 for additional paving for the new parking lot.

Trustees said most of the plans would have been approved, but they were dismayed that Leikvold never consulted them on the decision.

The week ahead

Shop center restaurant on agenda

Plans for a building a restaurant in the shopping center being developed by Village Pres. William Hein will be considered today by the Wheeling Village Board.

The restaurant would be called Ms. O'Leary's. Owner Gene Gulinski says the restaurant would seat 170 persons and dinner prices would range from $2 to $9. All restaurants built in Wheeling require a special use permit. It would be the first time village officials have taken any action on plans involving Hein's shopping center, known as Riverside Plaza, at Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

The village plan commission unanimously recommended approval of the project. The trustees will meet at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

• • •

Forced annexation of several small parcels scattered throughout the village will be considered for final approval today by the Wheeling Village Board.

Trustees say the annexations are needed to square off village boundaries and to incorporate sections of town where the village already is providing services. Also, the annexations will prevent construction of any inappropriate developments under less restrictive county building codes.

Some of the landowners have complained about the annexations because of the automatic residential zoning that comes with the annexation. The parcels being considered are:

- About one acre near Hintz and Schoenbeck roads.
- Nearly eight acres on Cornell Avenue, south of Hintz Road.
- More than 16 acres southwest of Wolf and Lake-Cook roads.
- Less than one acre on Hintz Road, west of Wolf Road.
- About 8½ acres at the southwest corner of Hintz and Wolf roads.

The village board meets at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

• • •

Wheeling Township officials will continue their discussion Wednesday on how to spend $471,000 in federal revenue sharing money next year.

Township Supervisor Ethel Kolerus says funds for local social service agencies probably will be increased by about 10 percent, although the exact amounts have not yet been determined. However, the agencies are requesting nearly $500,000 to continue their programs.

Of the federal revenue sharing money, Mrs. Kolerus is recommending that $78,000 alloted to Wheeling Township be set aside in case the federal revenue sharing program is discontinued. That money would carry the programs the township provides for senior citizens for an extra year.

The township also plans to reserve $60,000 of the federal funds to finish work on a new parking lot, just west of the Township Hall, 1616 N. Arlington Heights Road. Last year the township spent $125,000 to buy land for the project.

The township trustees will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall.

HERALD MARCH 17, 1980

Leikvold planning extensions of roads

3-20 Herald

Road work that would connect most major industrial developments in Wheeling, eventually providing a road that would extend almost from Palatine Road to Lake-Cook Road, is being planned by Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold.

The project would call for two quarter-mile stretches of roads to be built between Hintz and Dundee roads, areas presently undeveloped, but in which industrial development is planned, Leikvold said.

It has not been determined how much such a project would cost or who would pay for it, but Leikvold said he is enthused about the project because it would create a three-mile north-south road that would provide better access for workers in area businesses and factories.

"Also, it would get all that truck traffic off the residential streets," he said. "I don't think there's one school or church on any of those roads."

Under Leikvold's proposal, Chaddick Drive, which presently dead-ends at Hintz Road, would be extended to the north to meet Carpenter Avenue. That road jogs to the west and then north to Commercial Drive, which ends at the Soo Line Ry. tracks.

BUSINESSMEN IN that area have asked the village to petition the Illinois Commerce Commission for a crossing that would allow Commercial Drive to be extended to the west to meet Wheeling Road. However, Leikvold said the railroad is fighting a crossing proposed for an industrial park south of Palatine Road.

"They (the railroad) surely would fight this one even more vigorously," he said.

Instead, Leikvold says Commercial Drive should be extended north along the railroad tracks for one-quarter of a mile and connect with Boehmer Avenue, which ends at Dundee Road.

But by rerouting Boehmer about 200 feet to the east, it could join Northgate Parkway, which intersects Lake-Cook Road. That would involve taking a portion of the parking lot from Wickes Furniture Co., at Boehmer Avenue and Dundee Road, Leikvold said.

However, creating the new intersection and installing a traffic light would improve traffic flow there "immeasurably," Leikvold said. He added that the store had an abundance of parking. Preliminary discussions with store officials about removing a portion of the parking lot "have indicated they would work with the village on this."

ALTHOUGH LEIKVOLD said he doesn't want to discuss "costs or how long something like this would take until we present something to the board."

The businesses and factories that would benefit from the new roads could be taxed to pay for the improvements, he said.

The village board has not scheduled a discussion of the matter.

Appoint senior citizen unit

3-20 Herald

WHEELING—The Wheeling Village Board, Monday, March 3, approved an ordinance establishing the senior citizens commission, to serve as an advisory body to the village board.

A steering committee, under the direction of Scheila Schultz, recommended the formation of the commission. Some of the duties of the commission will include work on the senior citizens center, and health care facility, and ways of funding various senior citizen projects.

According to Geraldine Swan, Wheeling information and referral coordinator, for senior citizens/handicapped, one of the major needs of the seniors in the village is transportation. Although the RTA and Dial-A-Bus are available, not all of the seniors can make it to the bus stops, Swan said.

The Meals-on-Wheels program is available through the Wheeling township offices, and is conducted by Holy Family hospital, Swan said. However, the hospital has had a problem obtaining volunteers for the dilevry.

For additional information about Meals On Wheels, interested persons should telephone the township offices, Swan said, at 259-7730.

VITA, a local program, is run through the cooperative efforts of the National Retired Teacher's Assn., and the American Association of Retired Persons, and provides free help for seniors figuring out income taxes Swan said. VITA help is available at the Wheeling Trust and Savings bank on Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon. To make an appointment, telephone Geraldine Swan at 459-2613, Monday through Friday mornings.

According to the special census in Wheeling, there are 1,600 persons over the age of 60-years old, and "fairly evenly distributed throughout the village," Swan said.

At the present time, the village is doing a transportation study among seniors in the community in the form of a survey, and is checking into using federal revenue sharing funds for the seniors, she said.

3-20 Life

Palwaukee problem

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Relocation of the intersection of Wolf and Hintz may prove to be the "Catch-22" for Palwaukee airport. In order to make the airport economically viable, the intersection must eventually be moved. However, there is a question of who will pay for engineering, planning and actual construction of such a project.

The question arose at a technical advisory committee (TAC) meeting Friday, March 14. Wheeling Village Manager Carsten Leikvold asked if the expense for engineering and cost estimates for the project could be added to the cost of the feasibility study now taking place. However, he was told that would not be possible. Leikvold said the two roads in question heavily impact Wheeling residents, business people and industrial concerns but he could "almost guarantee that the village of Wheeling won't pay" for the relocation effort.

The intersection must be moved in order to maintain a 5,000-foot runway at the airport. It is this runway which consultants say makes the airport financially feasible. Once the airport becomes public, its owners must adhere to Rule 77 of the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) guidelines which pertain to glide slope. Although the ruling is in effect for all airports, explained David Welhouse, airport engineer for the FAA, it is not enforceable for private airports.

TAC DISCUSSED a letter from the FAA on deviations to Part 77 and waivers of building restriction lines at the airport.

Until the intersection is moved, the thresholds will be moved in such a way that it would curtail some landing and takeoffs of turbojets to the north. Minimum visibility for landing would be maintained at a minimum of one mile. Welhouse said if at some future date it is decided minimum visibility must be lowered to ¾ of a mile, the Plum Creek condominiums would have to be moved. However, he emphasized this is not something that would be done for at least 10 years.

A portion of the Wheeling Drainage ditch may also have to be moved to the east in order to remove it from the primary surface area (the area on which an airplane would be able to run with no protrusions above ground).

RUNWAY 16-34 (the 5,000-foot runway) would have to have its primary surface widened to 500 feet. All other runways would have a primary surface of 250 feet in width.

Any structures remaining in the primary surface area would be lighted and marked, excepted for the Plum Creek condominiums, which would be lighted. Welhouse quipped that the FAA does not intend to paint the building orange and white.

Trees in the forest preserve would have to be cut down to eliminate protrusions into the clear zones established for the airport. There was no number of trees given. Sam Gabriel, chief of forestry for the Cook county forest preserve district, said a request would have to be submitted to the forest preserve district to cut down any trees. He said the board would have to discuss this.

"If it's a wholesale removal of trees, I don't know if we would do it," Gabriel said. "It could be possible to cut down the trees at a certain point, we wouldn't be killing them then, but it would be contingent on the need for safety and how many trees are involved," he said.

Some T-hangars near Palatine road would have to be moved immediately upon opening the airport as a public facility. The remainder will have to be moved when there is land available to move them to, according to Welhouse.

Another change would be the road to the 94th Aero Squadron restaurant. The road would have to be moved to clear the way for Runway 24R.

Larry Donoghue of Ralph Burke Assoc., the consulting firm doing the study, said no buildings may be built on the northwest corner of Wolf and Hintz because they would intrude into the primary surface area for Runway 16-34. "That does not mean under due process you don't have to acquire the man's property," he cautioned. Donoghue was referring to Sigmund Lefkowitz who asked to have zoning to build offices on that piece of property. The village turned him down because of its airport height restrictions passed as a result of the airport study.

Welhouse stressed that all the work done so far has been based on information given to the FAA. He said information will have to be verified by a field study.

According to the airport engineer, every runway at Palwaukee violates the criteria for runway width and should be widened as soon as possible.

LEIKVOLD NOTED that the service station near Wolf and Hintz, which was just annexed to Wheeling, would have to be moved.

David Zavattero, chief planning analyst for the Chicago Area Transportation study (CATS), said his organization will put together traffic estimates and the effect of relocation of some of the obstructions currently surrounding the airport. He said this information could be used to help TAC make a recommendation to the state on moving some of the obstructions.

Zavattero said he will have the information ready the next TAC meeting Thursday, March 27.

Palwaukee options

WHEELING—Although no definite plans have been made, alternatives for moving the intersection of Hintz and Wolf to provide more space for a runway at Palwaukee airport are:

• Elimination of the intersection with diversion of traffic to an industrial road west of Wolf. Cul de sac Hintz both west of Acco and to the east of the present intersection. Wolf would have a cul de sac south of the entrance to Plum Creek condominiums.

According to Larry Donoghue of Ralph Burke Assoc., consultants for the airport feasibility study, this method would be a "simplistic approach" and his firm has not examined any obstructions in the way of carrying out this plan, such as homes or other buildings.

• Terminate Hintz from the east and angle Wolf road from north of Hintz, across the property in front of Acco to a point west of Wolf.

• Permit Hintz road to go along as it is and eliminate the intersection. A detour would be created west of Wolf along Chaddick drive.

Donoghue stressed that no engineering has taken place and that other alternatives may be discussed.

3-20 - Life

Gregory Peters to be acting village mgr.

WHEELING — Village Finance Director Gregory Peters will become the acting village manager on April 1. The village board unanimously voted at the March 17 regular meeting to elevate him to the position temporarily.

Peters will serve in the interim between March 31, when current manager Carsten Leikvold leaves and May 1 when the newly-appointed manager Tom Markus assumes the post. Peters will earn an additional $500 for his temporary duties.

Markus, now the city administrator in Savage, MN, was an assistant village manager in Wheeling before he took his current job. He will be the first village manager to have a contract with the village since Wheeling first established the council-manager form of government 10 years ago.

Leikvold resigned in October 1979, but agreed to continue to serve the village until March 31. He will announce his future plans at a later date.

3-20 Life

Franklin Boulevard

Deny hospital

WHEELING-BUFFALO GROVE—The Cook county board Monday, March 17, turned down a proposal by Franklin Boulevard community hospital to build a 232-bed hospital on a 20-acre parcel on Schoenbeck road north of Hintz.

The proposal has been pending in the county since the Wheeling plan commission voted more than a year ago to recommend denial of rezoning of the property for a hospital. The Cook county zoning board of appeals recommended denial of the petition after holding two public hearings in the area in the fall of 1979.

Plans for the hospital were grandfathered into the Illinois Health act of 1974 and since that time hospital officials have been trying to get the project under way.

Officials of the Cook-DuPage Suburban Health Systems agency (HSA) came out against construction of the facility, saying there is no need for it and another hospital would just increase health care costs.

The denial is a victory for area hospitals who banded together to fight the project. In addition, officials of Wheeling, Buffalo Grove and Prospect Heights had all submitted objections to the project.

Talk about new road

3-20 Life

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Village Manager Carsten Leikvold said Friday, March 14, that the village staff has been talking about the possibility of building a new north/south road in Wheeling which would wend its way through the industrial area and take truck traffic off Wolf road.

Leikvold said the road is strictly in the "talking" stage but that such a road would be "ideal" for this village.

The road would hook up Northgate road, which runs north from Dundee to Lake-Cook, to Boehmer road just west of Wickes, continue through Heritage park, along the Soo Line tracks, and then go east past Glenn heading south again past Hintz with a hookup with Wolf road at a point continuous to Palwaukee airport.

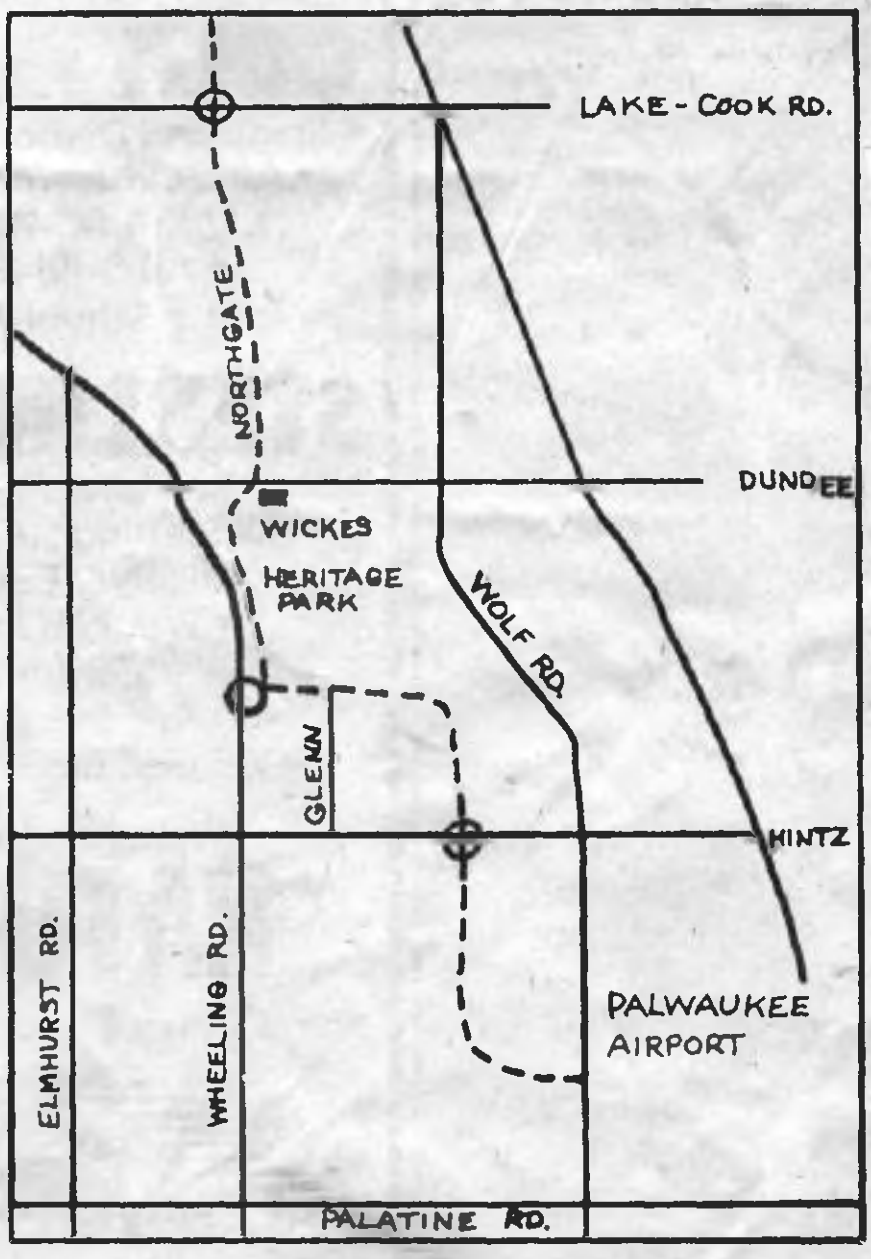
Such a road would require traffic signals at Lake-Cook, Dundee, and Hintz, he said. Although Leikvold said the road would tie into a proposed railroad crossing at Commercial avenue, he said he does not have much hope that the Interstate Commerce commission (ICC) will approve the crossing. Hearings on the crossing were continued March 6.

DAVID PHILLIPS, superintendent of the Wheeling park district said Monday, March 17, that he has heard "offhand" comments about such a road but that there has never been an official inquiry regarding one.

According to Leikvold, the portion of the road going east (just south of Heritage park) and then south to Hintz is already in the planning stage. Continuing the road south of Hintz and hooking it up with Wolf road would enable the intersection of Wolf and Hintz to be closed off so the long runway at Palwaukee airport could continue to operate should the facility become a public one. (See related story.)

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld said the board is aware of talk about construction of the road and that it would be a very good idea for the village. He said the village is having "trouble getting the (railroad) crossings, which makes the road a very desirable idea. "We would be able to funnel all industrial traffic through the village," Sommerfeld noted, adding that it would "be helpful in additional growth."

The problem lies in acquiring some of the easements involved, according to the trustee.



THE VILLAGE STAFF has proposed building a road wending its way through the industrial area of the village. The road would take truck traffic off Wolf where there are residences. The road is just in the talking stage, however, and getting easements through Heritage park may prove the most difficult part of the project, according to one source.

FAA study throws curve to Pal-Waukee

3-20 Countryside

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) officials popped an unpleasant surprise on area officials Friday. They said Wolf Road must be realigned immediately upon the purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport by area municipalities, rather than over a five-year period, as had been hoped. Such a requirement could boost the initial cost of the project, and prevent jets from using the runway temporarily.

The FAA report was presented at the Friday meeting of the Technological Advisory Committee (TAC). The committee is made up of state, federal and area officials, and representatives of Ralph Burke and Associates. Burke is the consulting firm which is preparing a $120,000 study regarding possible financing of Pal-Waukee, the country's busiest privately owned airport.

The report, while it did give leeway regarding removal of some obstacles, was definite regarding the need for an immediate Wolf Road realignment. In its present location, Wolf Road penetrates by 12 feet the approach surface of the airport's 5,000-foot runway—its longest.

The FAA officials said such a situation is not acceptable for jet landings. Since Pal-Waukee currently is a private airport, such FAA requirements cannot be enforced. But if the airport were purchased by Wheeling and Prospect Heights, as proposed, such requirements would be binding.

"You have to give people time to accomplish things," said Burke president Larry Donoghue, in response to the report. He said it is unreasonable for an airport to be hit with such requirements immediately upon changing hands from private to public ownership.

The report states "...to obtain a 5,000 foot runway length, Wolf Road would have to be relocated to the west." If the runway were shorter than 5,000 feet, this would place "severe operational limits on certain turbo-jet activities. The 5,000 foot usable landing length would not be available to aircraft landing on (the runway) until such time as Wolf Road is relocated..."

In other words, if the realignment of the road were not accomplished prior to the municipalities taking control of the airport, there would be a period of time during which certain jets would not be able to land on the runway. Donoghue objected to such a situation, saying it is the jets "who will pay the rent" of the airport.

The Burke consultants estimated in January that the cost of the airport could be as much as $85 million, financed over a 20-year period. Of that sum, $11 million would be spent for the purchasing of land in the area of Wolf and Hintz roads, for the relocation of the roads during the five years after the purchase.

The $85 million figure was based on a worst-possible situation, in which the FAA would refuse to relax any safety standards for the airport. In fact, Burke officials said, the FAA report was not as harsh as it might have been, except in the matter of the Wolf Road realignment.

The Burke firm will present a revised cost estimate, taking into account the FAA requirements, and possibly will present it at the March 27 TAC meeting.

Of the total cost of the airport, whatever it might be, the federal government is expected to pay 80 per cent of the cost, the state 10 per cent and the local goverments 10 per cent.

However, FAA officials said that if a grant is given to the local municipalities, in order to buy the airport, assurances must be given that the FAA requirements will be met forthwith. If these requirements are reneged upon, further grants could be withheld.

Donoghue, at the meeting Friday, suggested that an amendment be drafted to the federal law which sets forth requirements for public airports. He said some provisions need to be made for cases like Pal-Waukee, in which an airport may change from private to public ownership.

Village to have building site appraised

3-21-80 Herald

3-21 Herald

Wheeling officials are preparing to hire appraisers to estimate the value of land the village will buy with a federal grant to build a federally subsidized center for senior citizens.

The appraisals, which will cost about $4,000, will estimate the land value of the 10-acre site where developers Thomas Popke and Lambert Domas plan to build 114 condominiums near Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue.

The hiring of two Chicago firms to do the appraisals should be approved by the village board April 7, and the firms' work must be completed within 45 days, Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said.

That means the location for all of the village's redevelopment plans in that area should be completed by this summer, Sommerfeld said. The Cook County Housing Authority plans to build 100 rent-assisted apartments for seniors on Milwaukee Avenue south of Strong Street. Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, plans to build a walk-in emergency clinic on Strong Street west of Milwaukee Avenue.

THE VILLAGE has three options for the Popke-Domas project, known as Three Lakes, Sommerfeld said. They are:

- Buying two acres of the developers' land, the minimum amount that would be needed for the senior center.
- Buying the northern half of the Three Lakes land, about four acres. This is the plan preferred by the developers, whose building plans have been postponed until the village decides how much land it will buy.
- Buying the entire 10 acres owned by Popke and Domas.

Sommerfeld said the latter option could provide a "beautiful" development, with new roads and open space being preserved next to Chamber Park. However, he added it is highly unlikely the village will have enough money to buy all the land.

The grant provides the village with $160,000 to buy land and another $760,000 to build the senior citizens center. Village planners and local real estate agents informally have estimated the value of the Three Lakes land at $50,000 to $75,000 an acre.

Sommerfeld said the appraisers also will be looking at land that fronts Milwaukee Avenue that is not owned by Popke and Domas. However, village officials say land costs there will be substantially higher, possibly more than $100,000 an acre.

NORTHWEST WHEELING HERALD MARCH 25 1980

'Postal alert' to aid ill seniors

Police and postal officials in Buffalo Grove and Wheeling next month will begin a "carrier alert" program to help senior citizens and handicapped persons who may have become too ill to leave their houses.

The purpose of the program is to provide assistance to elderly or handicapped persons who, when ill or injured, are unable to get help on their own, said Judy Mansueto, Buffalo Grove Park District recreation administrator. She is helping to establish the service.

Participants will mark the inside of their mailboxes with red decals, and mail carriers will be instructed to notify village officials if mail goes uncollected for two days.

Officials then will contact relatives or close friends listed by the senior citizens when they register for the program. If they can provide no information about the person's whereabouts, the police will enter the house to learn whether anyone is injured or ill, Mansueto said.

THE PROGRAM, WHICH has been in the planning stages since January, will begin on April 1. The Buffalo Grove Park District will maintain the names and addresses of Buffalo Grove participants and the persons they want notified in case of an emergency. Wheeling senior citizen coordinator Geraldine Swan will administer the program for residents of her village.

"Letter carriers for years have been sounding the alarm when elderly or handicapped persons failed to pick up their mail," Wheeling Postmaster Pat Wehrs said. "We just decided to establish a formal procedure to help people who want someone to look out for them."

Chicago, Arlington Heights and Skokie already have similar programs, Wehrs said.

Mansueto, who conducts weekly workshops with Buffalo Grove seniors, said most of them are enthusiastic about the service. "This village does not offer too many benefits to seniors," she said, "and I think they appreciate this."

Persons 60 years or older or handicapped living within zip code 60090 are eligible to participate in the program. Applications are available from the Buffalo Grove Park District and the Wheeling Office for Senior Citizens.

OK new liquor license law

3-27-Trib

By ELAINE LAMPERT
Correspondent

WHEELING — The village board Monday, March 17, authorized preliminary passage of a revised liquor license ordinance. The new ordinance, if passed at the April 7 board meeting, will go into effect on May 1.

Changes in license categories and fees are included in the proposed law. The four license categories will be expanded to eight.

Class A licenses for businesses seating more than 200 persons, will remain unchanged. Only one Class A license is authorized at a fee of $1,850.

Classes B — restaurants and D — beer and wine only, have undergone several changes. Under the new ordinance, four license classes have been set up.

Class B will now include predominantly restaurant business, with a bar and some sale of package liquor. Class C will be for predominantly bars, with small restaurants and some sale of package liquor. Class D will cover bar and package only, while Class E will be package goods only.

Classes B through E will pay a fee of $1,500 per year for a license.

PRESENT HOLDERS of Class D beer and wine licenses will be given Class B licenses. Those establishments include Newberry Place, Two Doves and Four Stars. A total of 14 Class B licenses will be allowed. There are currently 13 given out.

The new ordinance will allow two Class C businesses, five Class D and one Class E. All of these categories are presently filled.

The former Class C will become Class F, but will remain the clubs category. Amvets holds one of the two licenses which will be allowed in this category. The annual fee is $500.

Class G will cover temporary licenses, such as for church affairs or public celebrations. Class G licenses would be valid for not more than six days at a cost of $10 per day. An organization may be licensed up to three times a year.

Class H will cover hotel/motel use. Only one will be authorized, but "additional licenses for the same Class H premises may be used without limitation."

The fee for this category will be $5,000 plus $1,000 for each additional separate dispensing location on the premises.

IN OTHER action, the board:

- Annexed several small parcels of property to square off some of the village borders.
- Directed the village attorney to prepare an ordinance covering the building of a restaurant in the Riverside Plaza shopping center at Milwaukee and Dundee. The restaurant will have as its theme the Chicago Fire and is to be known as Ms. O'Leary's.
- Directed the attorney to draft an ordinance covering an intergovernmental agreement between the village of Wheeling and the city of Prospect Heights for the maintenance of the dissolved Prospect Heights Sanitary district. The district was automatically dissolved once all of its territory had been annexed by the two towns.
- Tabled until April 7 action on the Three Lakes subdivision. The village wants to cut the density of this proposed multiple-family subdivision which will be located near the planned senior citizen center and medical facility.

3-27-Life

Village plaque should list names of elected officials

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — The Wheeling municipal complex consortium has recommended that the dedication plaque read "built by the people of Wheeling."

It will not list the names of the elected officials who served the village at the time.

When I first heard about this, I thought it was rather admirable. I cannot recall entering a municipal building, school or library that did not have a plaque somewhere listing the president and board of trustees.

As I said, I thought it was admirable — until I returned to my old home town's new municipal building a couple of months ago. Of course, the first thing I asked was, "what regime built this?"

There was something nostalgic about seeing those names on the wall. In that brief moment, I understood why the president and board of trustees were listed on the wall. The people in town were proud of their new municipal building. They merely wanted to thank the people who helped them acquire it.

ABOUT 10, 20, or 30 years from now, a resident who has moved away may return and ask, "what regime built this?" Who will remember?

Taxpayer's money built the complex, everyone knows that. The complex should be dedicated to the people in Wheeling. It can even be said that it was "built by the people of Wheeling."

As one taxpayer put it, "Who do we blame if something goes wrong?" It is not so much a case of "who do we blame." And the day for blaming elected public officials should be past.

The president and board of trustees were elected by the people of Wheeling, supposedly "to do the will of the people."

In this case, the people of Wheeling had been promised the new complex

comment

for several years. It took a great deal of time, effort, and direction for Wheeling's present elected officials to finally complete the complex.

It would seem an impropriety not to have a plaque that read, "Wheeling Municipal Complex completed in 1980" and list the president and board of trustees.

Board wants study on senior center

3-27-Life

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — The Wheeling village board has decided to seek a "market analysis" of nearly 18 acres for the senior citizens center.

A minimum site for the senior citizens center will be approximately two acres at this point, according to Richard Greenwood, village planner.

According to Larry Oppenheimer, community development director, the grant for the center provides for only one appraisal of the property. If the board decides to have additional appraisals done by the MIA appraisers, as originally planned the village would be required to pay the costs, Oppenheimer told the board at a workshop meeting Monday, March 24.

Appraisals on the property from Milwaukee avenue and Strong street to Chamber park on the west, and north of Cameo Terrace condominiums could cost $6,000, Greenwood estimated. However, curbside appraisals (market analysis) of the property could range from no charge to $300 or $500 depending upon where the appraisals are obtained, Greenwood said.

"My recommendation is to get the site first, and then the appraisal." said Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld.

Trustee Roger Powers asked Sommerfeld "If we only have one appraisal, what do we compare it with?"

The board decided to go along with the suggestion by Greenwood to obtain a "curbside" appraisal of the parcels. Three parcels on Milwaukee avenue south of the proposed medical clinic to be built by Holy Family hospital and included in the proposed appraisals brought objections by Trustee John Cole.

Cole asked, "Why are we getting involved?" in the appraisals of the three parcels on Milwaukee avenue when the intent would be to resell the property to Holy Family hospital if the village should decide to purchase it. He said that he sees no reason for the village to become involved and asked, "Why should we spend government money just because it is available?"

Trustee Robert Ross said the village is involved because it has been awarded the grant for the senior citizens center and because it has the money. Sommerfeld added that the village is planning redevelopment of the area. "If we can make the project compatible with other property, we can sell the property back to the hospital."

COLE ARGUED further that the village has no interest in the property because the county "is telling us what to do," and the clinic is private. "Revenue sharing costs money to shuffle the money around," Cole said.

Sommerfeld said that he disagrees with Cole because the money is still part of the block grant awarded to the village, and the village has an interest in the planning for the area because "we have the choice of saying yes or no." Furthermore, Sommerfeld said, the village is "planning for the area as a total package."

Trustee Sheila Schultz agreed with Cole and asked if the village could control part of the plan. "Just because the money is there, we don't have to spend it."

Cole said he was upset because the people are "yelling they are being taxed" more and more. In addition, Cole objected to the village purchase of the three parcels along Milwaukee avenue for resale to Holy Family hospital because "the village is not in the real estate business." He questioned the legality of the move.

According to Village Attorney David Epstein, the courts have upheld much "worse uses for community development condemnations" and added that he thinks the village could legally purchase the property.

A 50-FOOT strip leading to Milwaukee avenue south of the Holy Family hospital proposed clinic would be included as an access road in any case, Greenwood told the board. According to Epstein, the village can offer to purchase the property from the property owners, and the property owner has the choice of either accepting or rejecting the offer.

In this case, if the property owners reject the offers, the village may then bring condemnation procedures against the property for the proposed community redevelopment project, Epstein told the board. He estimated condemnation procedures could take from six months to a year or more.

The senior citizens center is part of a three-point program outlined by the village and includes the proposed medical clinic now in the process of obtaining village approval at the request of Holy Family hospital, and a future senior citizens housing development. All phases of the project are part of a Community Redevelopment program resulting from a Harland Bartholomew study showing that the village needed the proposed senior citizens facilities.

THE DAILY HERALD
3-28-Herald

Pal-Waukee area road closing rapped

Closing a half-mile stretch of Wolf Road to save Pal-Waukee Airport was described by an airport planner Thursday as "entirely unfeasible," unless traffic is rerouted through an industrial area while a new road is being constructed.

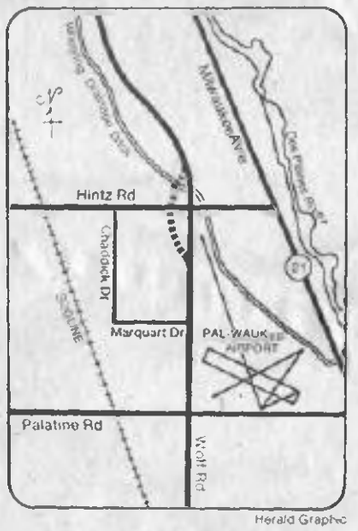
The new road would mean the demolition of 10 houses, as well as an awkward detour from the Hintz-Wolf Road intersection for one to two years while it is being constructed.

David Zavattero, of the Chicago Area Transportation Study, told a gathering of local officials and airport planners that traffic detoured from Wolf Road would use Milwaukee Avenue and Elmhurst Road as north-south routes.

Milwaukee Avenue, the closest road, already exceeds its recommended daily capacity by 1,700 vehicles, with projections reaching 4,700 by the year 2000, he said.

If Wheeling and Prospect Heights buy the privately-owned airport, the 5,000-foot runway that ends near Hintz and Wolf roads would have to be shortened by 350 feet because it extends closer to Wolf Road than federal safety standards allow.

HOWEVER, BY rerouting the road to the west, the present runway length, which airport consultants say is critical to jet traffic, could be maintained.



Herald Graphic

The new road, which would jog west about one-half mile south of Hintz Road, would force the demolition of about 10 houses in a small subdivision. The road would continue past Hintz Road across the property owned by Glenview developer Sigmund Lefkovitz, rejoining the present Wolf Road north of the Plum Creek condominium development.

Construction of a new road would take one or two years, Zavattero said. He said his agency, a branch of the Illinois Dept. of Transportation, will spend the next few weeks computing the cost of such a project and the traffic impact the proposed detour would have on other roads.

Rerouted traffic would travel west on Marquart Drive and north on Chaddick Drive before rejoining Hintz Road slightly more than one-quarter mile west of Wolf Road.

Despite consultants' insistence that a shortened runway will make Pal-Waukee Airport a bad buy, Prospect Heights City Administrator Steven Sturgell complained the study has gotten out of control.

HE SAID the study was intended to explore the airport facilities alone, but now includes road relocations, the two towns passing zoning laws and possibly relocating residents.

Wheeling Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold said he wanted to make sure the residents who would be displaced by a road relocation project were "informed of their rights at an early stage — that you don't just go in there with a bulldozer and knock there homes down."

Other officials said renters and homeowners would be relocated in comparable housing. Their moving costs as well as the difference between their present and new mortgage rates would be paid by the government, Donoghue said.

County shows interest in airport study

Cook County, which has shown only a passing interest in the Pal-Waukee Airport study, says it wants to help Wheeling and Prospect Heights with their plans to take over the airport.

County Comm. Carl Hansen, R-Mount Prospect, Thursday presented local officials and airport planners with a copy of a letter he has written to County Board Pres. George Dunne, calling for a revision of the county's land use plan to protect Pal-Waukee Airport.

Hansen also suggested a meeting next month among Dunne, Wheeling Village Pres. William Hein, Prospect Heights Mayor Richard Wolf, state transportation officials and business leaders to discuss the problems involved in a municipal takeover of the airport.

Much of the airport and the surrounding land is in unincorporated Cook County, and Hansen said the county should consider carefully the type of construction to be allowed near Pal-Waukee Airport.

He said the county has a zoning law prohibiting construction of new buildings that pierce the approach path of aircraft and suggested a revised land plan could prohibit building houses and apartments near the airport.

Hansen said he did not think the county, because of its problems financing Cook County Hospital, would be able to lend any financial assistance to the two towns.

3-28-Herald

Village to examine obsolete cab rates

Wheeling officials are preparing to "dust off" a long-ignored law regulating taxi cab rates but first will increase the prices to reflect current gasoline prices.

Current village codes, last amended in 1974, set a ceiling of 55 cents for a half-mile cab ride, 90 cents for one mile and 70 cents for each additional mile.

But The Daily Herald reported two months ago that all four cab companies doing business in Wheeling charge at least 70 cents for a half-mile ride. The rates for the first mile ranged from 80 cents to $1.60 and from 80 to 90 cents for each mile thereafter. And only two of the companies were licensed to do business in Wheeling.

Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold is recommending the village board consider changing the taxi cab rate limits before the police department issues any tickets.

ALTHOUGH SEVERAL cab companies have been charging rates well in excess of what is allowed by village law, Leikvold said in a report to the board that it is "rather difficult...to dust off and start enforcing an ordinance that has, for all practical purposes, been forgotten."

The last owner to approach the village for a rate hike was Robert Birks, owner of Wheeling Village Cab Co. He never supplied the board with the additional information requested in 1977, yet acknowledged recently he has been charging Wheeling customers the same rates as those in Mount Prospect and Elk Grove Village, where he does most of his business.

Trustee Charles Kerr, who has complained that cab companies "are just going out and raising their fees without asking anybody," conceded that it is probably unfair to ask cab companies to adhere to rates set six years ago.

"I think we should probably take a look at the ordinance, see if it needs to be changed and then do something to bring about some enforcement," he said. "There seems to be several ordinances that aren't being enforced."

No date has been set for the board to discuss the taxi cab ordinances.

Supplement to the Daily Herald

News From WHEELING AREA

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

Member of the Month



Chamber Vice President Richard Murray was chosen the Chamber's Member of the Month for March. Mr. Murray is the Assistant Vice President and Commercial Business Officer for the Wheeling Branch of the Glenview Guaranty Savings and Loan Association.

Besides the Wheeling branch office, which has been located at 433 N. Milwaukee Avenue for 4½ years, Glenview Guaranty Savings and Loan Association also has two offices located in Glenview, and one in Highland Park.

Guest Speaker Is Tax Specialist



Edward Holan of Illinois Annuities, Inc., 115 S. Wilke Road, Arlington Heights, was the guest speaker at the March meeting. Topics covered in his talk included "Tax Shelters for Small Businesses" and "Individual Pension Plans as Tax Shelters for Small Businesses."

"If the small business person really wants to make a contribution to the community which supports him, on a tax deductible basis, he should invest in a tax shelter for himself and/or his employees within the community — at a local bank or savings and loan association — rather than taking the money out of the community by having an insurance company a thousand miles away handle it. The business person and the community would then be better served.

"I have designed a series of eight plans and trusts, all meeting the requirements of the Treasury and Labor Departments, for the small business person who wants to adopt a tax shelter for himself and/or his employees without a lot of expense.

"My job is to go to local banks and savings and loan associations and show them my plans. If one of their clients needs our services, I see to it that a qualified person comes out and works with them."

Next Chamber Meeting . . .

The next Chamber meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 15, 12:00 NOON, at Hackney's Restaurant, 241 S. Milwaukee Avenue, Wheeling. Membership in the Chamber is open to all business and industrial people in the area and guests are always welcome.

Chamber Welcomes New Member



The Chamber welcomed new member Devra Newman at the March meeting. Ms. Newman is a Clinical Nutritionist in charge of Nutri-Med, Inc., which recently opened at 307 S. Milwaukee Avenue in Wheeling. Nutri-Med, Inc. is part of Clini-Med., Ltd., a medical clinic.

"Basically, I provide individual nutritional counseling on an outpatient basis," says Ms. Newman. "People are referred to me by their physicians for whatever type of nutritional counseling they need such as diabetes and hypertension therapy.

"We also offer a program called Hyper Alimentation. This is basically a form of nutritional support provided intravenously on an outpatient basis. The program involves total care from physicians and nurses as well as the pharmacist who makes up the solution. I monitor the content of the solutioin to make sure that the patient is receiving the proper nutrients and reaching his nutritional goal."

Member Offers Unique Savings Plan



George Milano has been a Chamber member since January. He is the owner of Golden Eagle Savings Plan Inc., which has been located at 1098 S. Milwaukee Avenue in Wheeling since October, 1979.

"Although the business is comparatively new, the plan which we've envisioned has been researched for ten years," Mr. Milano says. "Basically, it is an automatic savings plan for consumers who shop with certain participating merchants."

For a small fee — $15.00 the first year — a consumer can become a registered member of the Golden Eagle Savings Plan. When members shop with participating merchants, a portion of what they spend in cash is automatically put into a bank savings account for them where it remains for a full year drawing interest.

"The consumer affects savings for the merchant by not using credit, so the merchant in turn will share a portion of that savings with the consumer, who pays the same amount for the product as he would if the plan didn't exist," he continues. "A single unmarried consumer could get back anywhere from $800 to $1500 in a year's time with our plan."

Article and photos produced by Trade Industrial Press Service, Buffalo Grove

WHEELING AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Faye Moroz, Executive Secretary,
1111 West Dundee Road, Wheeling, Illinois 60090
Telephone 394-4657

NORTHWEST WHEELING

Tuesday, April 1, 1980 Section 1—5

THE DAILY HERALD

Village's projected spending up 25%

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

Inflated costs of providing services and the need for additional firefighters to staff a new station will increase village spending this year by nearly 25 percent in the $7.8 million budget proposed by Wheeling's acting Village Mgr. Gregory Peters.

Wheeling's tax rate, however, is expected to remain the same, Peters said, because revenues should exceed $7.6 million and a budget surplus is expected this fiscal year.

Residents pay the village 95.7 cents per $100 of assessed valuation, or $144 on a house assessed at $15,000. Village taxes are about 10 percent of a homeowner's total property tax bill.

The budget includes the $400,000 federal grant the village will receive this year to buy land and do the preliminary design work for a center for senior citizens and handicapped persons.

IN ADDITION, the village will spend an additional $263,000 to begin retiring the $2.5 million in bonds issued last year for water improvements.

New employees proposed for 1980-81 include nine firefighters to staff the new branch fire station at Hintz and Wheeling roads, four public works employees and a new sergeant and radio operator in the police department. Their salaries, plus the raise of as much as 7 percent set last year for village workers, accounts for a $400,000 increase in the budget, 12 percent more than last year.

Those wages and benefits make up almost half the budget, or $3.7 million. Raises for village employees that will be set later this year will be covered by a $320,000 contingency fund.

The amount the village plans to spend to retire debts will more than double, from $306,886 last year to $831,576. Besides the water improvement bonds, issued to finance construction of two new wells, the village also will spend $376,000 on bonds issued to finance construction of the $3.8 million municipal complex that includes a new police and fire station, a new public works building and the branch fire station.

OTHER BUDGET items include:

- More than $1.3 million for the police department, up from $1.2 million budgeted last year. Most of the increased spending comes from the hiring of the two new police employees and higher salaries.
- A 29 percent increase for the fire department to more than $1 million, again reflecting the new firefighters' salaries plus increased wages and benefits.
- More than $460,000 for the community development department, up from $395,000 last year. The increased spending comes from higher printing costs, computer services and fees paid to outside consultants.

The village board is scheduled to begin reviewing the budget next week, Peters said.

HERALD APRIL 1 1980

WHEELING VILLAGE BOARD VOTE SUMMARY

Selected decision from the village board meetings of March 3 and 17.



	Cole	Kerr	Powers	Ross	Schultz	Sommerfeld
*To approve an ordinance requiring industrial as well as residential developers to donate land or cash to the park district. (Failed 5-2)** *Village Pres. William Hein voted against the proposal.	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
*To hire Thomas Markus as village manager. (Passed 7-0)** *Village Pres. William Hein also voted in favor of the hiring.	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
To spend $26,000 on a study to prepare the village to receive Lake Michigan water. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
To allow a restaurant to be built in the shopping center being developed by Village Pres. William Hein. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

NORTHWEST WHEELING HERALD APRIL 2 1980



FIREFIGHTERS BEGAN taking calls Tuesday at Wheeling's new branch fire station, Hintz and Wheeling roads. Firefighter Jim Calanan inspects a fire hose, while Lt. Jim Johnson, right, and other firefighters watch.

Building 5 months overdue

Men fired up about new station

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

It's going to be a few days before all the cleaning is done.

A portion of the floor hasn't been sealed yet. After the overhead doors that house the ambulances and fire trucks have been closed, the motor keeps running.

And the five firefighters who staff Wheeling's new branch fire station, which opened Tuesday, spent the better part of the day waiting for their first call.

All and all, though, the firefighters say they are happy to be in their new building at Hintz and Wheeling roads, five months after the project was slated to be completed.

"IT'S NICE TO be in something new," said Lt. Jim Johnson, shift supervisor of the fire station's first crew. The fire station, built at a cost of $321,000, should provide quicker fire service to the west side of Wheeling. The present fire station, at 312 E. Dundee Rd., is located in the northeast section of town.

Although the branch fire station was cut to the bare essentials in 1978, when construction bids hiked the cost of the fire station to $661,000, Johnson said it will be "a luxury" to be able to pull a fire engine out of the station and conduct ladder training exercises in the driveway.

That is impossible at the old fire station because of building is too close to the roadway. A fire truck that leaves that building "sticks out onto Dundee Road by about 15 feet," Fire Chief Bernie Koeppen said.

Plans for a drafting pit and training tower, which originally were scheduled to be included with the branch fire station, will have to wait until the new police and fire station, at 255 W. Dundee Rd., is completed later this summer. The old fire station then will be abandoned.

KOEPPEN SAID THE new station will be staffed at all times by five firefighters, while the old station will have at least three firefighters on duty. In his 1980-81 budget request, Koeppen has asked for nine new firefighters, which will create six more firefighter and three lieutenant positions. Both stations then will have at least five-man crews, he said.

Tuesday's opening of the branch fire station marks the end of concern by Wheeling residents that the west side of the village was inadequately covered in the event of a major fire. Although the village has a mutual aid agreement with Buffalo Grove, some residents were concerned that a fire truck could be stalled by a freight train traveling along the Soo Line Ry. tracks, which divide the village in half.

Records dispute stalls Omni-House funding

HERALD APRIL 2, 1980

Unless they can force Omni-House Youth Services Bureau to open its files to village officials, Arlington Heights trustees may refuse to give the Wheeling Township social service agency $38,000 it is requesting for 1980-81.

A committee of village trustees has delayed until today preliminary approval of the donation to Omni-House, in the hopes the agency will allow a village employee to inspect its files.

For the past three years, village officials have tried to gain access to Omni-House files to prove village money is being spent on Arlington Heights youngsters.

Omni-House officials have refused the village's request, saying the inspections would violate privacy laws protecting their clients' confidentiality.

OMNI-HOUSE IS a not-for-profit private agency providing counseling and recreation programs for youngsters in six towns and Wheeling and Vernon townships.

Omni-House Director Harry Wells has offered to let a village employee inspect the records of youngsters who consent to the inspection, but estimated only 30 to 50 percent of the agency's clients would give their consent.

Some village trustees aren't happy with this proposal because they believe it would not provide them with a complete accounting of who is being served.

Instead, Trustee Martin Cawley is recommending that the village's human services coordinator, Edward Geiss, be made an Omni-House staff member so he could have access to records and verify how many Arlington youngsters are being served.

"I THINK THIS would solve all of our problems," Cawley said. Because Omni-House receives public money, he said the agency should be subject to at least some provisions of laws requiring public access to records, as well as privacy laws.

Officials will resume their review of the Omni-House funding request at a finance committee budget hearing tonight at 8 p.m. at village hall, 33 S. Arlington Heights Rd.

The village youth commission is recommending that officials approve Omni-House's request for $38,000 to serve village youngsters in 1980-81, an increase of 10 percent over the village's donation last year.

The agency is asking local governments it serves in Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Prospect Heights, Arlington Heights, Vernon Hills and Lincolnshire to increase their contributions up to 16 percent to meet increasing expenses and cuts in state and federal funding.

Pat Pontrelli, of Arlington Heights' youth commission, asked the trustees to reject Omni-House's request for an additional $3,000 because the agency will not open its records.

Wheeling/daily briefing

HERALD 4-2-1980

Upcoming events

• The Wheeling Park District's Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Rd., will be closed Friday. There will be a doll show in the gymnasium, but no volleyball or basketball will be permitted. For information, call the park district, 537-2222.

• A blood drive will be from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. April 16 at the Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd. The drive is conducted in cooperation with the North Suburban Blood Center. To schedule an appoint, call Jean Cole, 537-8329.

Wheeling cop faces excessive force charge

4-3-80 Herald

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling Police Lt. Thomas Conte has been charged with sticking a loaded pistol into the mouth of a 20-year-old man after he and other police responded to what turned out to be a false alarm of a bank robbery last month.

Conte, a 17-year veteran and a second in command to Police Chief Ted Bracke, is facing dismissal from the force and possible criminal charges.

The village fire and police commission will meet today at 1 p.m. to determine if Conte, 43, should be suspended for 30 days, pending a hearing on Bracke's recommendation that he be fired for using excessive force.

Thomas McGuire, a Buffalo Grove attorney who specializes in cases involving disciplinary action against police officers, will prosecute the case. He said the Cook County State's Attorney's office has been informed of the charges, and it may file criminal action against Conte.

THE CHARGES STEM from Conte's arrest of Eugene Grassmuck, 917 Valley Stream Dr., following what police originally thought to have been a robbery at Hoyne Savings and Loan, 699 W. Dundee Rd., March 4.

According to police, Grassmuck and a companion, David Pearlman, 20, 121 King Ct., drove to the bank parking lot about 10 a.m. In the car was an unassembled 12-gauge shotgun that Grassmuck had purchased at a nearby K mart store.

An elderly woman saw the men assembling the gun in the car and summoned police. Four officers, including Conte, arrived within minutes. They sealed off the parking lot exits and approached the car with their guns drawn.

According to police reports, the officers saw Grassmuck toss the gun in the back seat of the car as they approached. They ordered Pearlman out of the car and handcuffed him.

Conte pulled Grassmuck from the car, Bracke said. Even though Grassmuck's shotgun was in the vehicle's back seat, Conte "placed a loaded, cocked handgun near and/or in the mouth of Grassmuck while Lt. Conte had his finger on or near the trigger," Bracke added.

POLICE DETERMINED that the two men "had no intention of perpetrating a robbery," Bracke said, but

(Continued on Page 3)

4-3-80 Herald



THOMAS CONTE

Cop to face excessive force charge

(Continued from Page 1)

are awaiting trial on charges disorderly conduct for displaying the gun. The report said Grassmuck had a valid permit for the shotgun, and police later returned it.

Bracke said Wednesday it took two weeks of interviewing police and witnesses to the incident before he decided charges should be filed, and he relieved Conte of his duties. The other officers at the scene, he said, "followed good police procedure."

Conte was relieved of his duties two weeks ago and could not be reached for comment Tuesday. Grassmuck declined to discuss the incident.

Conte was the object of another departmental investigation five years ago for allegedly striking a prisoner with a blackjack.

Former Police Chief M.O. Horcher ordered Conte to undergo a psychiatric examination. Conte challenged the order in court, but eventually the Illinois Appellate Court ruled that Horcher had then right to administer the test.

Bracke never ordered Conte to take the exam. Bracke would not discuss that incident, saying only the matter "was closed" by Horcher

Herald-4-4



Herald photo

SUSPENDED FROM the force for 30 days pending a full hearing on charges that he stuck a loaded gun in the mouth of a 20-year-old man while making an arrest last month, Wheeling Police Lt. Thomas Conte confers with his attorney Thursday before a hearing of the village fire and police commission.

Cop suspended on misconduct charge

Herald-4-4-80

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling Police Lt. Thomas Conte Thursday was suspended from the force for 30 days, pending a hearing on charges that he stuck a loaded gun into the mouth of a 20-year-old man while making an arrest.

Conte, 43, faces dismissal from the department and possible criminal charges stemming from an incident last month during what turned out to be a false alarm of a bank robbery.

The village fire and police commission, which is hearing the case, took no testimony Thursday and set a hearing for 10 a.m. April 28. Jack Metzger, commission chairman, said Conte will be paid during his suspension, but ordered him to surrender his weapon and identification card to Police Chief Ted Bracke before leaving the hearing room.

Photo on Page 3

Bracke has recommended that Conte be fired. The charges stem from Conte's arrest of Eugene Grassmuck of Wheeling, following what police originally believed was a robbery March 4 at Hoyne Savings and Loan, 699 W. Dundee Rd.

FOUR OFFICERS, including Conte, were responding to a call from a woman who had seen Grassmuck and a companion assembling a 12-gauge shotgun while sitting in their car in the bank parking lot.

The officers sealed off the exits and approached the car with their guns drawn. They ordered the driver, David Pearlman, 20, of Wheeling, out of the car and handcuffed him.

It was while Conte was removing Grassmuck from the car that he allegedly "placed a loaded, cocked handgun near and/or in the mouth of Grassmuck while Lt. Conte had his finger on or near the trigger," according to the charges.

Police determined that the two men did not intend to rob the bank. They are awaiting trial on charges of disorderly conduct for displaying the gun.

Conte's attorney, Stanley Jakala of Berwyn, called the information in Bracke's charges "only a sketchy set of facts" and said he will ask Bracke for statements taken from witnesses and officers involved in the incident before the hearing.

Well, well! Mishap threatens water supply

4-5-80 Herald

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

The company drilling a new well on Wheeling's east side has accidentally sealed an older well with concrete, leaving the village with a $40,000 repair bill and a "shaky" water supply as warm weather approaches.

Acting Village Mgr. Gregory Peters said it may take a month to repair the damaged well on Milwaukee Avenue. Because another well on the east side of the village already was out of commission Peters said he may have to renew last summer's ban on lawn sprinkling.

The Milaeger Well and Pump Co., Brookfield, Wis., was hired for $190,000 to drill a new deep well south of the intersection of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road. Last month, the construction crew was pumping concrete into the new well to reinforce its walls when the concrete seeped fissures through the ground into a nearby shallow well, sealing it off.

PETERS SAID it will cost another $40,000 to redrill the shallow well, but the well drillers cannot be made to pay because they could not have avoided the problem. "You're talking about something that happened 200 feet underground," he said. "They knew it was a possibility, but you just don't know what's in the ground."

Peters will ask the village board Monday to approve the additional spending. The new well could be drilled within a month, he said, but with the other well out of commission as well, the water situation will be "shaky" and Wheeling residents could be looking at another summer of bans on sprinkling their lawns and washing cars.

REPAIRS TO the other damaged well, which will be fixed under warranty, should take two to three weeks, Peters said, but added that because both of the broken wells serve the east side of the village, sprinkling bans are a possibility when the warmer weather arrives and more water is used.

The village recently issued $2.5 million in water revenue bonds to pay for the new Milwaukee Avenue well, a second new deep well at Hintz and Longtree roads and other water system improvements. However, the Hintz Road well, which has a 1 million gallon storage reservoir, may not be finished before this fall.

The Milwaukee Avenue well is not scheduled to be completed until next year, Peters said. "With both new wells on line we have adequate water to meet the demands," he said, but added that emergency reserves in the event of a major fire or disaster may not be sufficient, which would necessitate the sprinkling bans.

The village board is scheduled to approve spending the money to repair the well Monday night.

Wheeling man charged in shooting murder

4-8-80 Herald

by Pamela Bailey
Herald staff writer

A 22-year-old Wheeling man, described by himself and his parents as an alcoholic and drug addict, was charged Monday with fatally shooting a companion in the head as they rode through the village.

Glenn E. Michals, 118 Mockingbird Ln., was ordered held without bond at Cermak Memorial Hospital, part of the Cook County Jail complex. He is charged with murdering Liborio M. Chavez, a 30-year-old Palatine man, in what the prosecutor called "a wanton, senseless killing without any motive."

According to police and Assistant State's Atty. Norm Ruber, Michals and Chavez, 420 W. Palatine Rd., were riding in a car driven by another man Sunday night when Michals pulled a small-caliber automatic pistol and shot Chavez once in the head.

THE BULLET PASSED through the victim's head and hit the windshield directly in front of the driver, whom police refuse to identify. The driver rammed into a police car parked at a service station on Dundee Road. Later, he told police he "feared for his life" and crashed into the squad car "to get attention."

Chavez, a factory worker who lived in a small Palatine apartment with his wife and two children, was pronounced dead on arrival at Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines.

Although the three were acquaintances, Ruber said the driver told him Chavez and Michals "barely knew each other" and that there had been no "fight or altercation" between the two men. The three had left a local tavern and were headed toward Michals' home, where he lives with his parents, Ruber said.

Michals appeared in court Monday barefoot and wearing a blood-stained shirt. Speaking only in monosyllables, he acknowledged that he has been addicted to morphine for the past 10 years and has been hospitalized "numerous" times for alcoholism.

HIS FATHER, Robert, testified that Michals was hospitalized for more than a month two or three years ago and for a week just before last Christmas. When arrested, he was still under his doctor's supervision.

David Wiener, Michals' attorney, argued that the youth "needs help" and asked that Michals be allowed to post bond and be placed at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge.

When Michals was arrested Sunday night, police tests showed he had a "tremendously high" level of alcohol in his blood, Wiener said.

"The tests show that he was at least under the influence, if not close to being legally dead," Wiener said. "It was the highest level I've ever encountered. He's in need of hospitalization."

"HE MAY HAVE an alcohol and drug problem, but he'll have the same problem in 24 hours," Ruber argued. "The fact is, a man is dead without any apparent reason. If he is allowed to post bond and he kills another person, the purpose of bail will have been abused."

Associate Circuit Judge Edward M. Fiala agreed that Michals needed medical help, but said his ability to get into the auto and discharge the gun "showed he had some degree of capacity."

Fiala ordered Michals confined at Cermak and scheduled a preliminary hearing for 9 a.m. next Monday in the Wheeling branch of Cook County Circuit Court, 255 W. Dundee Rd.



CHARGED WITH murder for the shooting death of a 30-year-old Palatine resident, Glenn E. Michals, 22, of Wheeling, leaves the Wheeling branch of Cook County Circuit Court Monday after being refused bail. Michals is charged with shooting Liborio Chavez, 420 W. Palatine Rd., while driving to Michals' parents' home after leaving a local tavern. Associate Judge Edward Fiala ordered Michals confined to Cermak Memorial Hospital, part of the Cook County Jail complex.

Herald photo by Dave Tonge

4-8-80 Herald

Bidding waived for well project

Despite the objection of a resident trying to get some business for his company, the Wheeling Village Board will waive competitive bidding and hire a firm working in the area to drill a new well.

The board unanimously voted to allow Milaeger Well and Pump Co., Brookfield, Wis., to spend as much as $40,000 to drill a new shallow well at Milwaukee Avenue and Center Street, a few hundred feet from the deep well the firm is drilling for $190,000.

Milaeger crews last month accidentally ruined the shallow well when concrete poured for the walls of the new well seeped through the ground, sealing the shallow well shut.

With another well out of commission on the east side of the village, Robert Gray, director of operations and maintenance, told trustees the village might not have enough water for one of the most congested areas of town unless the repairs are made immediately.

The well problems have led village officials to predict residents may face another summer of lawn sprinkling bans.

Although there is enough water to serve the village on a day to day basis, the emergency reserves needed to fight a major fire or some other disaster has been described as "shaky."

However, Douglas Lambert, a Wheeling resident and employee of Wehling Well Co., said the village should try to save the taxpayers some money and rebid the project.

"FROM A TAXPAYER'S standpoint, I would say get a bid on it," he told trustees. "You're adding 21 percent to the cost of the original bid. That's a lot of money to let $40,000 go on an emergency basis."

However, village officials said it would cause a delay of 1½ months to solicit bids and award a contract and there would be no guarantee any other firm would do the work cheaper than Milaeger, the low bidder for the deep well project.

Water Supt. August Lockefeer said Milaeger could have the well drilled within two weeks by working 20-hour days.

Under questioning by trustees, Lambert said he could not guarantee his firm would save the village any money.

HERALD APRIL 9, 1980

Village board wrapup

Housing repair financing sought

Wheeling trustees will apply for the second year of a three-year federal program that will enable the village to offer low-cost loans for housing improvements and to build a center for senior citizens and handicapped persons.

The village board agreed to apply for a $100,000 grant to be spent next year for persons making house repairs. The money is expected to be pooled to provide lower interest rates on loans for house repairs, Village Planner Richard Greenwood said.

Although most of the loans will go to residents in an area bounded by Mayer Avenue to the north, the Des Plaines River to the east, the southern village limits and Northgate Parkway to the west, Greenwood said other residents may qualify for the loan program.

Details on the income restrictions and what houses may qualify for the loan improvement program will be resolved later, he added.

The village this year is using a $400,000 grant to buy land for the senior center and hire an architect to design the building. A $1.2 million grant will be sought next year to construct the building and for street lighting, sidewalks and other neighborhood improvements.

Finance plan attracts factory

A low-cost financing plan, enabling a Des Plaines firm to build a factory in a Wheeling industrial park, was approved by the village board.

The village will issue $600,000 in tax-free industrial revenue bonds that will permit Bran & Lubbe Inc. to buy land in the Northgate Industrial Park for a factory where water pumps would be manufactured. Because the bonds are tax-exempt, investors are willing to settle for a lower rate of return.

The savings enables the firm to borrow construction money at lower than normal interest rates. Although the village issues the bonds, the firm carries the responsibility for repaying the bond buyers.

Bran & Lubbe is the sixth firm the village has aided with the low-interest financing plan.

Contract awarded for squad cars

A Waukegan Chevrolet dealer was awarded the contract for eight new squad cars for the Wheeling Police Dept. The bid submitted by Jim Sorensen Chevrolet was $58,342, about $5,000 less than the first series of bids that were discarded by the village board.

Trustees a month ago ordered new bids to be taken on the cars, requesting the police use smaller cars to save on fuel costs. Board members and Police Chief Ted Bracke agreed to buy six mid-size cars for patrol and two full-size vehicles for the traffic division.

Seidl Inc. to landscape complex

Wheeling will pay a Prairie View firm $75,903 to landscape the new municipal complex, 255 W. Dundee Rd., and the branch fire station at Hintz and Wheeling roads.

Seidl Inc. is scheduled to finish the tree plantings, plant the sod and put the other finishing touches to the $3.8 million complex by May 15. The municipal complex, which includes a new public works building and police and fire department, is scheduled to be completed later this summer.

RTA urged to reduce student fares

Despite the objections of one trustee, the Wheeling Village Board passed a resolution encouraging the Regional Transportation Authority to allow reduced fares for students on weekends as well as on weekdays.

Trustee John Cole voted against the proposal, saying residents who do not use mass transportation would be financing the cost of fares that would be lost.

"I am not against subsidizing kids going to school," he said. "But (the RTA) is going to have to recover this revenue somewhere, and we all know where that's going to come from. We already get ripped off by the RTA in so many ways it's ridiculous."

Other trustees disagreed, and Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said "anything we can do to encourage the use of mass transportation" is a good idea, especially when school-age youths are involved.

"Everytime my children are driving in an automobile, I'm scared to death," he said.

HERALD APRIL 9, 1980

4-10-80 - Herald

Downtown tax district discussed

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

ence to provide the funds to widen Dundee Road, Sommerfeld asked the village staff to "immediately begin a long-range study" to develop a local program aimed at improving the Dundee Road traffic situation.

The village, he said, should consider using its power to condemn land or create a special taxing district that would force Dundee Road businessmen to finance the repairs.

SOMMERFELD SAID he didn't have any specific plans for setting up the taxing district, and he didn't specifically know who would be affected or what kind of improvements could be made. However, he said it would be "only logical" to ask the merchants who would benefit from any downtown improvments to pay "since we seem to be unable to get any assistance from the state or local municipal organizations."

The village unsuccessfully petitioned the Northwest Municipal Conference and the Illinois Dept. of Transportation for $5 million to widen a two-mile stretch of Dundee Road. Sommerfeld said the improvements that could be accomplished with local funds "undoubtedly would be less dramatic, although coming up with local funds could improve the village's bargaining hand with other agencies."

ered. The 170-seat restaurant, to be called Ms. O'Leary's, would be part of the Hein family's Riverside Plaza, at Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

Trustees discussed the restaurant briefly, with Trustee Sheila Schultz saying she was "very concerned about adding to a traffic situation that's already bad."

TRUSTEE HUBERT Sommerfeld concurred, saying the village is "lacking a step-by-step program" to improve traffic congestion along Dundee Road, the most heavily-traveled road in the village.

In light of the refusal by the state and the Northwest Municipal Confer-

A restaurant for the shopping center being developed by Village Pres. William Hein has received preliminary approval by the Wheeling Village Board, but one of Hein's political rivals seized the opportunity to call for creation of a special taxing district that would affect Hein and other downtown merchants.

Announcing that he had a "monetary and beneficial interest" in the special permit sought by restaurateur Gene Galinski, Hein turned the meeting over to Trustee John Cole and left the room while the restaurant was being consid-

Block grant may free rehab funds

The Wheeling village board has authorized acting Village Manager Greg Peters to apply for for a $100,000 block grant to make available low interest loans for "residential rehabilitation."

The authorization was made after the third and final hearing by the village board on using funds for residential rehabilitation was completed Monday night April 7.

The area to be targeted by the block grant is from Lake Cook south to Manchester and between Wolf and Milwaukee Avenue, said Richard Greenwood, village planner. However, the loans will be available to anyone who meets financial criteria and plans to use the funds to improve a structure that is "architecturally sound," Greenwood said.

The block grant is part of the second year of a three year community development block grant program started last year.

The purpose of the block grant is to help residents who fall under a needs criteria to be determined by the village board of trustees who want to improve their homes, Greenwood said. The village hopes to have $100,000 available for low interest loans to be used for home repairs in a one year program or until the money has been depleted, he said.

REMINDER APRIL 10, 1980

REMINDER APRIL 10 1980



Wheeling Police Lieutenant Thomas Conte (right) and his attorney, Stanley Jakala, were present at a Thursday meeting of police and fire commissioners at which Conte was suspended for 30-days pending a hearing. Conte has been charged with using excessive force during an arrest. (Staff photo by Joe Cyganowski)

Excessive force charge grounds police officer

Lieutenant Thomas Conte, head of the Wheeling Police Department's investigations unit, has been suspended for 30 days pending a hearing, in connection with his alleged misuse of a handgun in arresting a 20-year-old Wheeling man.

The decision to suspend Conte with pay was made at a special meeting of the village's fire and police commissioners last Thursday. The meeting was called upon the recommendation of Wheeling Police Chief Ted Bracke, who said his investigations into the March 4 incident indicated Conte had exceeded the guidelines of "reasonable force", which police are to exercise in making an arrest. He has recommended that Conte be fired.

Conte, a 17-year veteran of the department, allegedly was guilty of misconduct in connection with a suspected armed robbery at Hoyne Savings and Loan, 699 W. Dundee Road, on March 4.

According to Wheeling police, the events transpired as follows: A woman exiting the bank observed two youths in a car assembling a shotgun. Suspecting they planned to rob the bank, she called police, who arrived and blocked off the parking lot and approached the car.

According to Bracke, one of the youths, Eugene Grassmuck, of 917 Valley Stream Drive, tossed the gun into the back seat of the car as police approached. Bracke, in the written statement presented at Thursday's meeting, said Conte pulled Grassmuck from the car and, despite the fact he was unarmed, "placed a loaded, cocked handgun near and/or in the mouth of Grassmuck while Lt. Conte had his finger on or near the trigger."

The other youth, David Pearlman, 20, of 121 King Court, Wheeling, was handcuffed by other officers. Bracke said police later determined the two youths "had no intention of perpetrating a robbery."

Reportedly, shortly before the incident, they had bought a shotgun at K-Mart, for which Grassmuck had a license. They were assembling it in the car, which was parked in the bank parking lot. Both were charged with disorderly conduct, however, for displaying the gun.

Bracke, in his statement, said Conte had violated police codes, which require that "only necessary restraint to assure safe custody and safety of the officer shall be observed."

At Thursday's meeting, Conte was present, along with attorney Stanley Jakala, who will represent him at the hearing before the fire and police commissioners on April 28. Commissioners had the option, if they decided to suspend Conte, of doing so without pay, but decided his pay will continue over the 30-day period.

However, they required that he turn over his police credentials and weapons.

Blood drive set in Wheeling area

Wheeling residents who are eligible to donate blood are urged to participate in the Community Blood Drive to be held between the hours of 3:30 and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Village Hall, 255 West Dundee Road.

This blood drive is held in cooperation with the North Suburban Blood Center, the regional volunteer blood donor program of the north and northwest suburbs. The Blood Center has the sole responsibility for providing all whole and blood components to the 14 hospitals of the region.

To schedule an appointment to donate, call Joan Cole at 537-8429. Volunteer blood donors will be helping to maintain an adequate blood supply for all who live and/or work within this region.

 REMINDER APRIL 10, 1980

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4-10-80 Page 1

Police lieutenant suspended for thirty days, but with pay

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The police and fire commission voted Thursday, April 3, to suspend Police Lt. Thomas Conte for 30 days with pay in connection with an incident in which Conte allegedly stuck his loaded gun "on or about the face" of a robbery suspect.

The incident involved a false alarm bank robbery which wound up in a disorderly conduct charge against a Wheeling resident. Police originally thought there had been a robbery at Hoyne Savings & Loan, 699 W. Dundee on March 4 and arrested Eugene Grassmuck and his companions, who allegedly were seen assembling a shotgun in their car.

Police subsequently determined that Grassmuck had a permit for the gun and there was no robbery or intention to commit one. Conte was the only policeman who was accused of harsh police procedures.

IN A PRE-SUSPENSION hearing, which the attorney for Police Chief Theodore Bracke tried to have terminated, Bracke, in written charges, asked that Conte be suspended for 30 days without pay, that Conte surrender his gun, badge and other forms of police identification and that Conte be prohibited from performing law enforcement activities for the duration of his suspension.

The charges, said Bracke's statement, "were of such serious nature, that to allow Conte to perform his duties would jeopardize the well-being of residents of the community."

Thomas McGuire, attorney for Bracke, questioned the authority of the police and fire commission to conduct a pre-suspension hearing. "The law says the respondent has no legal right to a pre-suspension hearing," he cited. McGuire said Conte would not have a fair hearing if he (McGuire) were made to present evidence regarding the suspension.

CONTE IS THE highest-ranking police officer under the police chief.

A date for the hearing in Conte's case has been set for 10 a.m. Monday, April 28. The place is to be decided upon.

REMINDER APRIL 10 1980

Wheeling delays senior center location choice

By GREG SMITH

The Wheeling Board of Trustees has postponed making a decision on chosing a location for a senior citizens center until results of "curbside appraisals" of 18 acres of land under considerations is completed.

The board on the recommendation of village planner Richard Greenwood has decided to have sites along Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street roughly appraised for their market value instead of a full appraisal because of cost. The board had hoped to have all of the lots being considered appraised but the $6,000 cost was more than the board wanted to pay. The curbside appraisals are expected to cost no more than $500 according to Greenwood.

The senior citizens center expected to be built on a site approximtely two acres is part of the recommendations of a Community Development Program outlined by the village. A Harland Bartholomew study used by the planning commission showed the village needs the proposed senior citizens facilities and is expected to be funded by revenue sharing funds.

The senior citizens center is being proposed to be built near site of a future Holy Family medical clinic to be built south of the proposed sites on Milwaukee Avenue.

REMINDER
APRIL 10, 1980

Critical water need speeds well work

By GREG SMITH

An emergency situation in the Wheeling water system has forced the village board for the third time in the past 18 months to waive competitive bidding for a public contract. The trustees approved a staff request for authorization to waive bidding for installation of a new shallow well not to cost more than $40,000.

The request to waive bidding was made to expedite construction of a new shallow well to replace Well Number One, Wheeling's oldest well built in 1926 that supplies water to the eastern part of the village and which became sealed March 10, according to Peters.

The loss of Well Number One means there could be a potential fire hazzard due to low water pressure this summer if a new well is not drilled and put into operation soon, said Robert Gray, Director of Operations and Maintenance for Wheeling. A new well is expected to take one-month to be constructed and costruction and drilling will be done by Mileager Well and Pump Company.

The contract to construct a new well is the largest dollar amount for which Wheeling has waived bidding, according to Peters. The previous largest dollar amount was $25,000 for repair work to Well Number Five last October, Peters said. Approximately a year and half ago Well Number Four also required emergency repair that was not bid for publicly.

"The problem with Wheeling's water system is most of the pipes in the older part of town are old sand cast models that were installed back in 1927," said Gray. "There is enough water in the system but the pipes are too small to adequately transfer the water from one part of town to another," he said. Wheeling has a repiping project being planned, but until plans for water supplies from Lake Michigan become finalized there won't be any major over-hauls of Wheelings water system, Gray said. "Until we know how the lake water will come into Wheeling, widening the pipes should not be done."

Trustee Sommerfeld agreed that the well project had to be expedited.

"We have to do it this way because if we asked for second bid we would have to open up the bidding and follow the government rules and regulations. If we (the board) were a business than we would call up private companies from around the area and ask them what they thought the drilling would cost. But we are not that fortunate, we have government regulations and rules we have to follow," he said.

If the village board was to accept competitive bidding for the well drilling and construction, the process would require specifications to be drawn up and the specifications would have to be published for 10-14 days, according to Sommerfeld.

The Mileager Company was chosen to do the construction and drilling because they have done work for the village before and

(Continued on page 9)

Well bid—

(Continued from page 5)

were working on Well Number One repairs at the time Well Number One became clogged, Peters said.

The company was repairing the pipe with grouting 485 feet below the surface when the wells casing at that depth proved to be filled with holes and cracks to large to patch, according to Gray.

Mileager took all the necessary precautions to avoid what happened from happening, Peters said. "Nobody could have predicted the precise geological formations as deep as the company was grouting."

The new well will be drilled near the old Well Number One at the site of Water Tower Number One near the intersection of Milwaukee Avenue and Center Avenue in Wheeling.

NORTHWEST WHEELING

Friday, April 11, 1980 Section 1—5

THE DAILY HERALD

Cuts in budget may hurt local projects

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

Talk of impending federal budget cuts has led Cook County officials to fear they may not get enough money to finance all community projects scheduled for next year, including a $760,000 senior citizen center planned in Wheeling.

That could leave Wheeling in a position of having acquired land for the project and hired an architect to design the building but not having enough money to construct the facility.

The village was allocated $400,000 in federal money last year to buy land and hire an architect to design the center for senior citizens and handicapped persons. The three-year plan submitted by the village calls for a $760,000 grant to be approved in 1981 to pay for construction costs.

But the amount allotted to Cook County this year is 10 percent less than last year, said Sue Holstein, county community development coordinator, and next year the situation may be worse.

There is talk in Congress of paring $80 million from the $4.1 billion to be distributed among 84 urban counties and major cities next year, she said.

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE to determine which county projects will receive reduced financing, she said, but it is possible "that we're going to have to go to some towns and say, 'The costs of these projects have skyrocketed, and there's less money available. Can you come up with the rest?'"

Ms. Holstein said the progress a town has made toward completing the project could be a determining factor in whether it will continue to receive full financing.

"Clearly, if you have a town that's had the money for 14 months and they haven't started the project, they are going to be cut back," she said, adding county officials are reasonably satisfied with the progress Wheeling has made on its project.

However, she said county officials "were under the impression they had a specific site in mind" when the village submitted its application. However, village officials have been debating the merits of several parcels, all near Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue.

They are awaiting the "curbside appraisals" of several parcels, although the most likely option appears to be two acres owned by developers Lambert Domas and Thomas Popke, who plan to build 114 condominiums on 10 acres nearby.

THE DEVELOPERS, who said they are willing to negotiate with the village, have had their building plans delayed while the village decides what land it wants to buy.

Village Trustee Sheila Schultz said the possibility of reduced federal financing for the senior center "is something that's probably always been in the back of everybody's mind."

If the village is allocated less than it has requested, "I would like to start thinking in terms of scaling down the project, although I would not be adverse to spending federal funds," she said.

Life 4-10-80

Murder?

Police find body in car

WHEELING—The driver of a car collided with a police squad car in the Martin Gas station Sunday, April 6, leading to the arrest of one passenger for the murder of a second.

According to police, the incident occurred at about 10 p.m. at the station at 621 W. Dundee, Wheeling.

The driver, a witness to the murder, drove into the squad car causing minor damage.

Police discovered the "still-warm" body of Liborio Mercado Chavez, 30, of Palatine, when investigating the accident. Also in the car was Glenn Michals, 23, of 118 Mockingbird, who was arrested for the crime.

According to police, a handgun was found in the car when it was searched.

MICHALS IS BEING held without bond after a bond hearing Monday, April 7. A preliminary hearing will be held in Wheeling at 9 a.m. Monday, April 14.

Michals was sent to Cook county hospital after he told the judge during his bond hearing that he has a "drinking and addiction problem."

Police are being very cautious about releasing information about the murder after one judge told them they had prejudiced another case by giving information to the media.

4-15-80 Herald

Gandalf Data delays plant plans

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Because of a "deteriorating" bond market, a firm that was planning to borrow $2.8 million through a village-backed low-cost loan for a new Wheeling plant has indefinitely delayed the project.

The village two months ago gave preliminary approval to issuing industrial revenue bonds that would enable Gandalf Data, 1111 Willis Ave., to build a new plant. The bonds, already issued to four firms, would be issued by the village but repaid by the firm.

However, because of skyrocketing interest rates and an unwillingness on the part of banks to loan money, Gandalf Data was left about $400,000 short of the amount it wanted to borrow, even though it scaled the project down to $2.6 million, said George Koloff, vice president of finance.

KOLOFF SAID his firm approached "virtually every lending institution in the Chicago area," but was unable to find investors willing to participate in the bond sale. Although the bonds issued by the village are tax free and investors are usually willing to settle for a lower rate of return, Koloff said the rate of inflation has discouraged investing in long-term notes.

However, he added his firm still wants to build in Wheeling, but said it would be "more than a few months" before the project could be reconsidered because of the tight money situation.

"We don't want to consider this project abandoned," he said. "We still want to keep the door open."

Other restrictions that would be imposed on the firm under the industrial revenue bond issue would hinder the firm's ability to borrow money for other purposes, Koloff said.

THE FIRM had planned to buy eight acres south of its present location and buy an existing 10,000-square-foot office building and construct a 50,000-square-foot factory. Gandalf Data had planned to install about $400,000 worth of new equipment and hire 250 to 300 new employees.

Despite the firm's indefinite delay on the project, acting Village Mgr. Gregory Peters said there still is "considerable interest" in Wheeling's low-cost financing plan, which was started two years ago.

4-16-80 - Herald

4th of July parade in jeopardy

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

There won't be a carnival in Wheeling this Fourth of July, and the annual parade and fireworks display appear in jeopardy, because several trustees are balking at donating $5,000 for the festivities.

The Wheeling Jaycees, sponsors of the annual celebration, say they need the money because there is only $13 in their treasury and the cost of the fireworks and bands for the parade and other expenses is close to $6,000. The carnival, a 20-year tradition in Wheeling, is being canceled because it doesn't make any money, Jaycees president Gary Krueger said.

The Jaycees instead are organizing a "community festival," which would include volleyball, horseshoe games, rides for small children and food. But several village trustees, after meeting with the Jaycees, said the festival appears to be only in the planning stages and it seems unlikely such an event could be organized in 2½ months.

TRUSTEES QUESTIONED whether there is enough community interest in the fireworks and parade to warrant spending $5,000 of taxpayers' money. The village last year donated $5,000.

"I'm completely opposed to blowing up $2,750 (the cost of the fireworks) of the taxpayers' money," said Trustee Charles Kerr.

Trustees Hubert Sommerfeld and Sheila Schultz gave their "qualified" support to the Jaycees but said they are not sure if there are enough residents who really want the festivities to warrant a $5,000 donation. "I have a terrible reluctance to spend additional taxpayers' dollars this year," Sommerfeld said, for anything "that could be viewed as frivolous or extravagant."

Trustee John Cole said he would support the Jaycees' request for funds if they agree "in writing" to help with a villagewide "cleanup day" tentatively scheduled for late May.

Trustees Roger Powers, Robert Ross and Village Pres. William Hein said they would support the Jaycees' efforts.

Ross said he believes there would be widespread support for the Fourth of July festival because the country "is more unified than it's been for a long time because of all this baloney all over the world with everybody being against the U.S."

HEIN SAID MORE residents would be staying home during the holidays because of the cost of gas, and people probably will enjoy "a good old-fashioned festival -- something to get their minds off of all the junk we've been hearing for the past six or seven months." He added that the village is in good financial condition and can afford the donation.

But Village Clerk Alberta Klocke, who was also critical of the board two months ago for its $3,200 donation toward a Wheeling High School band trip to Washington, D.C., said the Jaycees haven't worked hard enough at securing donations from the business community.

Although Krueger said the Jaycees sent out 200 letters in January to local businesses, Mrs. Klocke said, "You should have sent those letters out after last year's carnival. You guys have got to get off your duffs and start knocking on doors. And I'll volunteer my services."

The Jaycees organize 34 projects throughout the year, Krueger said, adding that the group can't devote all of its time to raising money for the Fourth of July festivities.

Acting Village Mgr. Gregory Peters asked the Jaycees for a detailed accounting of where the money was spent during the last Fourth of July. A vote on the matter is expected by the village board Monday.

Village still fighting car wash

4-17-80 Herald

Wheeling officials still are fighting a 6-year attempt by a Niles developer to build a coin-operated car wash on Dundee Road, across from village hall.

Although the would-be builder, John Kamyscz, won an appellate court decision 1½ years ago that would allow the car wash, village officials have asked the Illinois Dept. of Transportation's water resources division not to issue a construction permit if the building, which would be constructed in a flood-prone area, violates local flood control laws.

Although the village passed a federally mandated flood-control ordinance after the debate began on whether the car wash should be allowed, Acting Village Mgr. Gregory Peters said that the village believes the ordinance should be applied to the car wash.

THE ORDINANCE prohibits construction or imposes severe restrictions on the design and types of buildings that can be built in flood areas. The car wash would be constructed just west of the Wheeling Drainage Ditch, on the north side of Dundee Road.

Village officials have not seen Kamyscz's plans for the car wash, but they say they believe the building may not conform to local flood-control laws. Neither Kamyscz nor his attorney, Daniel Houlihan, could be reached for comment Wednesday.

In 1974, Kamyscz asked the village for rezoning that would allow the automatic car wash on the one-acre site. Board members then denied the request, saying the facility would add to traffic congestion along Dundee Road. They also said they were concerned about potentially icy road conditions that would be caused by water dripping off the cars as they left the car wash.

Kamyscz sued the village the next year, and his request for the rezoning was upheld by a Cook County Circuit Court judge. The village appealed that decision, but the Illinois Appellate Court in September 1978 upheld the lower court ruling.

$5,000 Grant In Limbo

JULY 4 PARADE DUMPED?

4-9-80 Sun

BY VIRGINIA SUTTON

The village of Wheeling may not have a July 4th parade or fireworks this year, despite efforts by the Community's Jaycees, unless officials decide to grant $5,000 in taxpayer funds for the annual event.

The local Jaycees have sponsored the parade and fireworks for "at least" the past 10 years, said Gary Kruger, president of the Wheeling Jaycees.

Last year, the village granted $5,000 for the event and the Jaycees paid for additional costs, which totaled $1,400 over the village grant.

HOWEVER, THE board was divided on whether to grant the funding this year. The Jaycees figured the cost of the parade to be $3,600 and the fireworks $2,700.

"Do the people really want us to spend that kind of money?" asked Trustee Shelia Schultz.

Trustee Charles Kerr blasted the request, and said, "In this day and age, I'm completely opposed to blowing up $2,700."

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld said he was against spending any public funds on actions that were "frivolous".

However, Trustee Robert Ross supported the request, and added the 'people should be more patriotic. Trustees Roger Powers and John Cole also voiced support.

Village President William Hein urged approval and said, "The village is in fairly good condition. The board has been conservative in spending. It may be worth our while to get everyone together and have a picnic, a few beers and watch the fireworks."

The board will make a decision on the subject Monday nite, Apr. 21.

THE JAYCEES also proposed to conduct a day-long festival on the 4th of July and asked other village organizations to participate. Some of the possible projects could include booths, refreshments, games, pony rides, a dance and a beer tent to be held at Heritage Park.

The Jaycees will not conduct a week-long carnival this year, due to problems with carnival representatives and space.

NORTHWEST WHEELING

Monday, April 14, 1980 Section 1—5

THE DAILY HERALD

Tax on businessmen again proposed

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

One of the two local merchants on the Wheeling Village Board says businessmen should pay a special tax to improve the appearance of the village and to clear up "horrendous" traffic jams on Dundee Road.

The other, however, warns that now is not the time for a new tax. What is needed instead, he says, are tax breaks to encourage downtown business.

The first is Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, the owner of a local shoe store, who is trying to revive a plan to create a special taxing district to pay for downtown improvements. The second is Village Pres. William Hein, manager of a auto parts store and developer of a shopping center.

THE IDEA of a special taxing district to aid the downtown redevelopment program initially was proposed by former Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold.

The idea was revived last week by Sommerfeld when trustees were considering a special permit that would allow a restaurant to be built in the Hein family shopping center. Hein left the room during the discussion, because of his interest in the matter.

Sommerfeld later said the taxing district was "sort of an off the top of the head-type suggestion," and he had no specific plans for who might be taxed or what the improvements would involve.

However, he said the village could start its own program that could range from rebuilding sidewalks to condemning land to provide room for widening intersections, particularly along Dundee Road.

Minor construction projects to improve traffic flow through business areas also are a possibility, he said.

Sommerfeld, who ran on a slate with Hein in 1977 but bolted ranks after Hein and his supporters fired former Village Mgr. Terry Zerkle, said his suggestion of a special taxing district was not aimed at Hein.

He said he proposed the issue because the village has been unsuccessful at getting money from the state and other sources to improve the traffic situation on Dundee Road.



William Hein



Hubert Sommerfeld

Sommerfeld owns a shoe store in Lynn Plaza shopping center at Dundee and McHenry roads.

HEIN, WHO is building the shopping center known as Riverside Plaza at Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road, said a proposed tax on merchants to finance improvements in the downtown area could be "detrimental" to plans to revitalize the village's downtown.

Businesses already are taxed at a higher rate that residents, he said, and "when business is already down, to put another tax on top of it could be kind of detrimental."

What is needed to spark Wheeling's downtown redevelopment program, Hein said, is a program that would provide tax breaks to businessmen who want to make improvements.

"I think that, as far as protecting the interests (of downtown businessmen), we should be discussing just the reverse," he said. "I like the idea of getting people involved," and another tax would discourage businessmen from making improvements, he added.

Hein said his opposition to Sommerfeld's suggestion does not stem from his interest in the shopping center, which is scheduled to open in July. However, he acknowledged that his contract with the tenants who will lease shops in Riverside Plaza calls for him to pay about 25 percent of the taxes.

"THEY'VE BEEN talking about the village putting up some money to improve Milwaukee Avenue for many years," he said. "We're doing it all on an individual basis with private funds, and we haven't asked anybody for a dime."

Although Hein's shopping center is in the heart of the area targeted for the downtown redevelopment, Hein said that, if there is to be a special taxing district, it should include all the business areas. "There's a lot of businesses that could have some work done to them," he said.

Faye Moroz, executive secretary of the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce, said merchants "may be so fed up with the traffic situation that they might be willing to contribute. I'm not sure it would warrant the kind of dollars you might be talking about."

But if a business tax would be used for Dundee Road repairs, she said, "I'm sure the chamber would oppose it. That road is supposed to be the responsibility of the state."

However, village plans that would include improving the traffic flow from the strip shopping centers and businesses along Dundee Road might prove popular with businessmen, she said.

The week ahead

HERALD APRIL 14, 1980

Fire, police budgets reviewed

A review of the police and fire department budget requests for 1980-1981 is scheduled tonight as Wheeling officials continue discussing the proposed $7.8 million budget.

That proposed budget is up 25 percent from last year, although village officials expect the tax rate to remain the same because revenues should exceed $7 6 million and a budget surplus is expected this year

The fire department request is one of the major reasons for the increased spending. Fire Chief Bernie Koeppen is asking for the money to hire nine new firefighters to staff the new branch fire station, Hintz and Wheeling roads.

The $212,000 extra that is needed to pay the salaries and benefits of the new firefighters acounts for the bulk of the increase. The fire department is requesting more than $1 million this year, up from $827,782 last year.

Police Chief Ted Bracke is asking the village to spend $1.3 million for police operations, up from $1.2 million last year Most of the increased spending comes from the hiring of a new sergeant and radio operator and higher salaries.

The village board will meet at 8 p.m. to review the police and fire department requests at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

A second budget hearing is scheduled for 8 p.m. Wednesday to review the budget request of the operations and maintenance department. Robert Gray, operations and maintenance director, is requesting $796,390, up from $700,942 last year. That department includes village road work and water and sewer operations.

• • •

A REQUEST by the Wheeling Jaycees for a $5,000 to $6,000 donation for the annual Fourth of July parade and fireworks display will be discussed today by the village board.

Jaycees say the Fourth of July festivities this year will cost $6,000 to $8,000. They say the village donation is needed because the organization's finances are very limited. Rain curtailed attendance at last year's carnival, a major Jaycee fund-raising event Also, several Christmas trees were stolen during last year's sale, Jaycees members said.

The village board traditionally has given money to the Jaycees for the Fourth of July festivities, donating $5,000 for the event last year.

Board members will discuss the request at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

4-17-80 Life

Spending up, revenues down in budget

By JOANNE KANTER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Finance Director Gregory Peters has proposed a budget for fiscal year 1980-81 which foresees a decrease in revenues and increased spending. The deficit budget is to be financed through the reserve accumulated in the past few years. Peters does not project any increase in taxes, at least for the coming year.

According to Peters' summary of the budget, property tax revenues are projected to decrease by 330% due to the reduction in the corporate tax levy, from $451,000 in the 1979-80 year to $103,000 for the 1980-81 year.

Increased expenditures are explained by inflation for supplies and increased costs for personnel due to the expansion of the municipal complex.

Contractual services are up 32% from $791,837 to $1 million, while debt service has soared from $306,886 in 1979-80 to $831,576 in 1980-81.

Peters characterizes the new budget as one of "consolidation." He says many on-going projects will be completed in the coming fiscal year, such as the municipal complex, wells number seven and 1A and the branch fire station.

SOME OF THE FACTS gleaned from the new budget are:

• A forecasted decline of 100% in building permit revenue from $200,000 this year to $100,000 next year. This year's figure is also down from $231,529 collected in building permit fees during fiscal 1978-79.

• A decrease in building inspection fees from $65,200 for this year to $40,800 for next. This year's revenue declined from the 1978-79 budget figure, which was $120,900.

• Planning and zoning fees will have declined from $66,365 in the year ending April 30, 1979, to an estimated $17,870 in the year ending April 30, 1980, to a projected $15,500 in the fiscal year ending April 30, 1981.

• Three proposals for revenue sharing funds recommended by the village staff include: $15,000 for a senior citizens program, including the salary for the senior citizen coordinator; $20,000 to purchase a bus for senior citizen trips; and $180,000 as a general fund transfer.

• The budget for the police department includes $1,055,712 in salary costs, up from $976,980 this year. These costs include pay increases for present personnel and an additional sergeant and radio operator.

• The fire department budget is being increased from $619,119 to $831,986, which includes additional firefighter/paramedics to man the branch fire station. The budget asks for three additional fire lieutenants and four additional firefighter/paramedics. The additional six firefighters are not to be hired until November this year.

• No additional personnel is slated for the community development department. Increases there are due to salary increases.

THE STAFF IS asking for $70,000 for aerial photography which includes 50 sheets, 30 by 30 inches of the entire village. Justification of this cost is to aid the planning and engineering division of the community development department, as well as the operations and maintenance department. Topographic plans included in the cost would be used in future studies of preliminary engineering and the design of water and sewer projects. In addition, Peters said the aerial photography "will be useful and essential in preparing many of the preliminary components of the comprehensive plan, including land use, annexation studies, open space planning, streets, flood control and a system for developing neighborhood drainage plans."

In sending the budget to the village board, Carsten Leikvold, former village manager, recommended its passage, saying the "village is financially sound" and has, "in the past few years accumulated a comfortable reserve." Leikvold recommended using this reserve in the coming year and possibly in the year or two following, to eliminate the need for an increase in property taxes for operating costs.

According to the former village manager, it is reasonable to expect that increases from sales taxes, industrial growth and other sources will grow faster than increases in the operating budget, which would do away with the need for increased taxes also.

Police budget approval expected

WHEELING — The Wheeling police department is likely to get its $1,368,832 1980-81 fiscal year budget approved at the village board meeting, Monday, April 21.

The department's budget came under little scrutiny during a budget hearing Monday night when it was reviewed by village officials and Police Chief Ted Bracke.

The proposed budget represents a $259,217 decrease in the amount budgeted last year by the village, but an increase of $125,173 above the estimated expenses for the current fiscal year.

Village trustees seemed more interested in the proposed $35,250 budget for regional and special agency and assessments for research and development. That category, which includes Omni House, is up from last year's budgeted amount of $17,510.

Omni House Executive Director Harry Wells said he doesn't anticipate any "whopping increase" in the budget in coming years.

He had strong support from Bracke who said that his department has been working closely with Omni House and recommended keeping it as more complex problems, especially sensitive crimes, increase in the area.

Trustee Charles Kerr said he is concerned about "an outside agency coming in and telling us what they need. We should be able to tell them what the percentage increase will be."

Wells explained that it might work best if the agency was able to draw up a plan, as it had done, so the board could see what support is needed.

Omni House served between 260 and 300 people last year, and while that represents a small number of the total population, it does not reflect the ongoing work done by the Omni House staff, according to Wells.

Other budget proposals, including the fire department and other village public service departments were to have been discussed at a meeting last night. The budget is slated to be on the agenda for the village board meeting Monday, April 21.

4-17-80 Life

Village board has big spending night

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — At a time when most people are tightening their belts, the Wheeling village board spent $184,245 in one night, not including the monthly bills.

During the April 7 board meeting, Seidl Inc. of Prairie View, was awarded a bid contract of $75,903 to landscape the municipal complex and branch fire station. An architect's contract, included with the bid, resulted in a lengthy discussion until Village Attorney David Epstein wrote an addendum to subordinate the architect's contract. According to Epstein, the architect is the village's representative to check the work of the landscaping contractor, who will be working under the specifications of a previous contract. The architectural contract was a standard form, Epstein said.

The bid award is $25,000 more than the amount set by the board for landscaping work on the complex, according to Acting Village Manager Greg Peters. After spending so much, not having the landscaping work done would "shortchange the citizenry," Peters added.

Landscape work should be completed on or before May 15, according to the contract.

THE SECOND village expenditure was a bid award to Sorenson Chevrolet for eight police cars. Two full-size, four-door sedans and six mid-size four-door sedans are costing the village $58,352.08.

Other bidders were Sunniday Chevrolet, Highland Park, with a bid of $59,813.30; Hoskins Chevrolet, Elk Grove, with a bid of $43,813.38, excluding the two full-size cars; and Lesley Motors, Chicago, with a bid of $56,-672.22. The bid submitted by Lesley Motors did not meet specifications, according to correspondence on the bids from Police Chief Ted Bracke.

The first bid opening requiring a 10% deposit resulted in a low bid of $62,000 and was rejected by the board. Next Chevrolet changed their order date from April 11 to April 1, and a telephone poll was taken of each board member, so the new cars could be ordered before the deadline date, according to Peters.

The firm of Karrison and Byrne was retained by the board to audit the village for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1980, for a fee of $10,000. According to Karrison, the firm is heavily committed to auditing governmental agencies.

4-17-80 Life

No fourth?

✗ Celebration in jeopardy without subsidy

By STAN ZOLLER
Correspondent

WHEELING — Wheeling may find itself without a Fourth of July celebration this year if the Jaycees and village officials can't agree on a subsidy for the celebration.

At a workshop meeting of the village board, Monday, April 14, representatives of the Wheeling Jaycees said that inflation has forced an increase in the amount the organization would like to receive from the village.

Village officials, however, were somewhat reluctant to open the purse and wilfully hand out money.

The Jaycees said they would like $5,000 from the village to help offset the cost of staging its annual parade and fireworks show on the Fourth of July. The carnival, sponsored by the Jaycees for the past 17 years will be replaced (hopefully, they say) by a village "festival." The carnival was not the money maker the Jaycees had hoped it would be last year, yielding only $300 in six days. Higher costs seemed to be the principal reasons for it. In addition to the cost, the Jaycees said that carnival operators contacted regarding this year's Fourth of July celebration didn't want to stage a carnival in Wheeling unless it could be held in front of a key area bordered by a major street.

received by the Jaycees was the response by village officials.

"I'm against it," said Trustee Charles Kerr, "I can't see blowing up $2,750 for fireworks."

The Jaycees estimate the parade to cost $3,600 and the fireworks $2,750.

"What we're asking for is $5,000 towards the parade and the fireworks. The cost is likely to be $6,300 and maybe more," said Larry Anderson, administrative vice president of the Wheeling Jaycees. "When the new officers take office, there's virtually nothing in our account so July Fourth is the first things we count on."

Perhaps the most serious accusation leveled at the group is that they are not organized and do not seem to be pursuing participation and fund raising for the Fourth of July as actively as they should be.

Gary Krueger, president of the Jaycees said that letters were sent to every Wheeling business and organization in February and that response has been almost nonexistent.

VILLAGE CLERK Alberta Klocke sternly told the Jaycees that "You've got to get off your duffs and go door-to-door. Sending letters just won't do it."

Krueger told The LIFE that being accused of not getting out actively for the Fourth is what irritated him the most.

"It's when people say we don't get off of our duffs to do anything that bothers me," he said, "I think people should really see what we do. We went door-to-door collecting old bottles this past weekend and pulled in $250 for our efforts.

"Besides, we have something going almost every week."

Several other trustees had other reservations about spending $5,000 for the holiday festivities.

"I think one of the major problems is that they really don't seem organized. They're not sure what is farther down the road," said Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld.

What might have prompted the doubt in Sommerfeld's mind was the discussion of the festival. The Jaycees said it would be held in Heritage park and would include a variety of craft exhibits, games, and assortment of food. "It would be open to any organization or association in the village," explained Krueger.

There was, however, concern over the expenditure needed for just the parade and fireworks. Krueger explained that a single band this year will cost $800 unless they go with youth bands. They cost $350 each. "And who wants to spend that kind of money for kids learning to play?" Krueger said.

Trustee Sheila Schultz was skeptical about village interest if residents knew how much the parade was costing.

"Do you think people really have an idea how much this cost when they watch it go by?" she asked. Larry Robertson, chairman of the Wheeling Jaycees said residents probably don't know the cost, but would probably not like to see the parade dropped.

"I can give it qualified support," said Sommerfeld, "But I want to know more about the plans and about community support. I have a terrible reluctance about spending extra taxpayers money this year."

Village President William Hein seemed optimistic that the residents would appreciate the parade and any festivities in the village because the general tone of the economy is likely to keep people a lot closer to home this summer.

Looking to get as much assistance for the Jaycees as possible, Hein requested that the heads of all community organizations and associations be contacted and urged to attend a meeting April 24 to garner support for the Jaycees.

4-20-80 -- Herald

Revenue sharing fund cutoff would hurt suburbs

(Continued from Page 1)

Will services be cut?

Local officials agree it would be a burden, even though the federal funds usually don'tamount to more than 4 or 5 percent of revenues.

BUT THEY HAVE been careful to use their federal funds for one-shot expenditures only; if they used the money for on-going operating expenses like salaries, they might develop a debilitating addiction to the unreliable federal money.

"We've made it a general practice not to use federal revenue sharing money for operating expenses, because we could never count on how long it would last," said George Pkorney, finance chairman of the Hanover Park Village Board. "We didn't build our level of services to the point where we'd be dependent on it."

While it's too early to predict what local communities would do without federal revenue sharing funds, a look at how much they're getting and what they are doing with it gives some idea:

• **Arlington Heights:** expects to receive $525,000 in federal revenue sharing funds for 1980-81 and plans to put all of it toward the $700,000 loan for the new fire and police building, which was built with revenue sharing funds.

"We don't believe we'll be severely affected if (federal revenue sharing money) is eliminated," said Frank Palmatier, chairman of the village board's finance committee.

• **Mount Prospect:** received $400,000 in revenue sharing funds last year and expects to receive the same amount this year. The library got $48,000, and the rest went for police cars and public works equipment.

• **Des Plaines:** anticipates $608,832 this year, and most of it probably will be used to investigate flood control, stabilize erosion banks of Weller Creek and finance a federal sewer evaluation, said Duane Blietz, city comptroller.

"The federal revenue sharing money has been used mostly for one-time, non-recurring expenses like flood control, sewers, environmental control," Blietz said. "The only thing ongoing is the senior citizen program, and that costs only about $60,000. We could fund that through other sources."

• **Wheeling:** is anticipating $183,500 for 1980-81. About $20,000 probably will be given to the Wheeling Park District to buy a bus for senior citizens. The rest, said Finance Director Gregory Peters, probably will be put into the general fund.

• **Buffalo Grove:** will get $123,948 this year, all of which will be used for the construction of a municipal fire station in Lake County.

If federal revenue sharing is cut off, "we could handle it OK," said William Brimm, finance director.

• **Palatine:** expects to receive $220,000 for 1980-81, and most is targeted for police services, according to Village Mgr. Anton Harwig.

If all revenue sharing funds were stopped, "that would put our budget out of balance and we would have to raise taxes and fees or cut services," Harwig said.

• **Schaumburg:** is anticipating $565,000 in revenue sharing funds, and $335,000 worth will be used for street improvements.

Federal revenue sharing has been "put to very good use in Schaumburg," Finance Director Joe Castor said. "If we hadn't had the money, we wouldn't have built the police station or fire station No. 3 when we did."

• **Hoffman Estates:** expects $240,000 in federal revenue sharing this year and Finance Director Keith Wendland says it will be spent on about 20 different things, ranging from adding machines to police squad cars.

"Basically we use revenue sharing money for a lot of little odds and ends," Wendland said.

• **Elk Grove Village:** expects to receive $602,000 this year from revenue sharing. Requests now before the budget commmittee include $660,000 for traffic signals, $400,000 toward a $1 million public works building and $109,000 for a new fire engine.

"If we lost revenue sharing, some things would have to go by the boards or be funded in some other way," said Elk Grove financial director George Coney. "It would hurt."

• **Rolling Meadows:** receives about $280,000 each year in federal revenue sharing, according to City Mgr. James Turi.

The city will probably put all the money toward the $405,000 fire station being built on Plum Grove Road near Kirchoff Road.

"Once the fire station is built, it will just be a matter of getting the money from the taxpayers next time we need something," Turi said.

• **Streamwood:** expects to receive about $270,000 in 1980-81, said Village Finance Director William Stafford.

Streamwood, like other small communities that do not have home-rule powers, is especially vulnerable to the cutoff of federal revenue sharing because it is restricted by state law from increasing taxes beyond a prescribed limit and raising revenue in other ways.

"In our property tax, we're already at the ceiling," Stafford said. "We can't tax any more. Without home rule, we'd just have to cut back on our operating expenses."

• **Hanover Park:** expects to receive about $306,000 for 1980-81, said George Pkorney, chairman of the village finance committee.

Pkorney would not speculate on whether a tax increase would be necessary if revenue sharing funds were cut off, but he admitted "it would cause a strain."

• **Bartlett:** expects to receive about $56,000 for 1980-81, said Earl Beckner, director of finance and personnel.

"Historically, in the area of federal revenue sharing, Bartlett has put the money towards public safety," Beckner said.

Village leans toward Evanston pipeline

4-22-80 Herald

Although they say they want to leave their options open, Wheeling officials are indicating they favor a coalition of towns that will build a pipeline to Evanston to obtain Lake Michigan water.

When the village submits its application for an allocation to the Illinois Dept. of Transportation on Friday, it must state whether an Evanston or Chicago pipeline will be sought.

A special meeting has been scheduled for tonight to discuss the options.

Acting Village Mgr. Gregory Peters said Monday the five-town coalition called DAMP "appears to be a little better" for Wheeling, mainly because of the cost and the fact that Evanston is offering "a longer-term contract."

Arlington Heights is leading a move to go to Evanston for lake water, a plan that will cost the towns about $81.5 million, 7 percent less than the Chicago connection at O'Hare Airport.

BUT THOSE TOWNS also belong to the Northwest Suburban Water Venture, an eight-town group that wants to get its lake water from the City of Chicago. And although officials from DAMP, and not Venture, are being invited to tonight's meeting, Peters insisted the meeting is to explain both options to village board members.

"The reason they are here is not because they're pushing DAMP," he said. "The meeting is for informational purposes."

Peters added that although the Evanston route appears to be cheaper, that could change because of the legal battles over whether Chicago's method of fixing the rate at which it sells lake water to the suburbs is fair.

Peters also said the village is somewhat at the mercy of the larger towns that comprise DAMP. If Arlington Heights drops out for example, it may be too costly for the remaining towns to pursue an Evanston connection. He added that a coalition among Wheeling, Buffalo Grove and possibly Palatine could be considered to build a pipeline to lake water supplies at Northbrook.

That idea was rejected by Buffalo Grove a few years ago as being too costly for one town.

Although the village will present one of the lake water options when the application is submitted to IDOT on Friday, Peters said he hoped the village could change its decision later. However, he added he thought the village should make a committment to Venture or DAMP by May 5.

X

4-23-80 - Herald

Village allocates $5,000 for fireworks

The village board has decided to give $5,000 to the Wheeling Jaycees for this year's Fourth of July parade and fireworks display.

Trustees Charles Kerr and Sheila Schultz opposed the donation, with Mrs. Schultz saying $5,000 of the taxpayers' money was too much to spend on the festivities. She said she would be willing to contribute a smaller amount.

Jaycees president Gary Krueger argued that his organization plans nearly 40 projects for charities and other groups. They would have to spend an entire year working on the Fourth of July festival alone to raise $5,000.

"We want to work with you, not for you," he said. "But we need your support, and, if the board doesn't feel this is a worthwhile thing, we won't have it."

He said the Jaycees were "hurt and upset" by what they had interpreted as criticism by some board members who said they had not been planning the Fourth of July festivities far enough in advance.

THE JAYCEES told board members last week they were cancelling the one-week carnival that accompanies the parade and fireworks display because the event does not make money and they were having difficulty agreeing on a site with the carnival firm.

Instead, the Jaycees are planning a "community festival" in Heritage Park. That event would include games, rides for children, a beer tent and food. But some trustees were skeptical the event could be organized in 2½ months. The Jaycees still have not arranged for the use of Heritage Park with the village park district, they said.

"Maybe that is a short period of time," Krueger said, adding that the committee organizing the parade and carnival was "up until 3 a.m." recently, working on the event.

Krueger also agreed to volunteer Jaycee manpower for a village "cleanup week," which will start May 18. But he also said Trustee John Cole, who asked for the commitment, should be present at next month's Jaycees meeting to "ensure passage and acceptance by the Wheeling Jaycees general membership."

COLE SAID later he was not sure he would be able to attend the Jaycee meeting because village business recently has forced trustees to meet at least three times a week.

Village officials will meet Thursday night to begin planning the cleanup week, which will follow an "Up With Wheeling Day." Village officials hope to recruit at least 400 persons to clean up litter in the village.

Other plans call for the planting of 300 trees along village roads and a "dump the junk" program that will call for the police department to pick up junked cars for free.

X

Village board wrapup

4-23-80 Herald

Restaurant permit gets final approval

A permit for a restaurant that would be built in the shopping center being developed by Village Pres. William Hein has received final approval by the village board.

As he has done previously, Hein left the room while the matter was being discussed because of his interest in the shopping center, called Riverside Plaza, at Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

The restaurant, called Ms. O'Leary's, was described by owner Gene Galinski as a 170-seat "family-type" restaurant. Hein's shopping center is scheduled to open in July.

2 persons named to advisory panel

For the first time since he took office, Village Pres. William Hein has filled the three-member advisory commission he established to avoid any conflicts of interest he might have while acting as liquor control commissioner.

Hein, whose parents own two liquor licenses, had appointed only two persons to that commission. One of them, Neil Brandt, resigned last year to serve on the village plan commission. The other, former Village Pres. Ted Scanlon, works for Hein in a family-owned auto parts store.

The two new commission members are Charles Barish and Walter Reedie, who were appointed while the board voted to fill several replacements on other village commissions.

Hein, however, has agreed to step down as liquor commissioner. The board is preparing an ordinance that would have all trustees, rather than Hein alone, act on the issuance or revocation of liquor licenses.

Other appointments included Robin Weiss to the appearance commission, Arni Miller to the board of health, Robert Hanson to the ethics board, Paul Kerstein to the municipal relations commission, Frank Projette to police pension board, Shirley Gray to the youth commission, Bernard Nathan and Elsie Hass to the senior citizens commission.

4-24-80 - Herald

Well builders want extra money

A Chicago firm that charged Wheeling $123,500 to design and supervise construction of a new well is asking $30,400 more for extra work.

However, several trustees are balking at the request by Keifer Engineering Co., saying it could encourage firms who do work for the village to bid low and ask the village for more money when the work is completed.

"To me, that's just like saying, 'Go ahead and bid low. Maybe these ordinances will be enforced and maybe they won't.' I can't buy that," Trustee John Cole said.

Keifer submitted its proposal to design and supervise the well project in 1977. The firm was selected from five companies that sought the project because it had just completed a well for Buffalo Grove, said operations and maintenance director Robert Gray. However, because professional consulting firms do not submit bids, cost was not considered when the firms were interviewed, he said.

THE NEW $1.3 million well at Hintz and Longtree roads is slated to be finished this summer.

Most of the additional cost occurred because Keifer was forced to rewrite the specifications on the project after only one contractor originally bid on it.

Also, new federal environmental standards were imposed after the well was designed, which caused the project to be redesigned to accommodate a treatment plant that might be needed to make the well comply with safe drinking water standards, said John Yost, a Keifer engineer.

A committee composed of Gray, Trustee Roger Powers and Village Atty. David Epstein recommended paying Keifer all but $2,700 of the overrun claim, saying the firm saved the village money by handling "peculiar" circumstances that arose after Keifer was awarded the contract.

They acknowledged, however, that Keifer should have asked the village board first for permission to do the extra work.

YOST SAID HE preferred to negotiate with the contractors rather than delay the well project, which his firm had been told by village officials was needed in a hurry. "We said, 'Let's get it resolved. We need bidders so the village can have a well and reservoir,'" Yost said.

Powers defended the firm, saying it spent considerable time supervising the contractors, making sure the well was installed correctly. "They could have walked off the job, saying they were spending too much time watching," he said. "But they did that for Wheeling's benefit."

Cole disagreed. "I don't care if it takes him 16 years," he said. "That's what they're contracted to do," he said.

Village officials have scheduled a May 12 meeting to continue their discussion with Keifer on the cost overruns.

Palwaukee tax plan unrealistic, says Priester

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

"IF THEY TRY to impose users fees like that, there won't be anyone here," Charles Priester, Palwaukee airport owner told The LIFE, Monday, April 21.

Priester was commenting on the use charge projected by Ralph Burke Inc., in the tentative Phase 2 report estimating the monthly income from aircraft based at Palwaukee. The consultant's figures were $25 for a single-engine aircraft; $85 for a multi-engine piston aircraft; $525 for a turboprop aircraft; and $2,200 for a turbofan or turbojet aircraft.

Priester said he appreciates what they are trying to do, but the fees as stated are not equitable. The way it is structured is unfair to the companies using the airport, he added. One reason Allstate is at Palwaukee is because it is a strong employer of people in the area, and under this plan it could cost them $100,000 a year for their jets, he said.

"It is not a cut-and-dried thing," Priester said. "It was the general concensus that the city will tax," he added, but for such things as gas, parts and so forth. "This type of tax is normally accepted," he said.

AS PRESIDENT of the Illinois Air Trades Assn., Priester said the people who use the facility would probably buy the bonds, but when they (the villages) originally talked about bonds it was at a much lower price than $78 million. He said there is no way the revenues will service this type of indebtedness. Revenues from the airport will substantiate $25 million to $30 million, Priester said.

"It must be presented as a business venture, and I would not insult them (investors) to ask them for a donation," Priester said. "Palwaukee has been here since 1953, operates safely, handles more traffic than any other small airport (300,000 flights a year). And for someone to say it should be expanded and everything moved at a cost of $78 million — we could justify $25 million to $30 million category," Priester continued.

"The original report made sense," he said, but Phase 2 is "misleading. We think the airport owned by Wheeling and Prospect Heights is a good thing, if we don't lose sight of where we are going and what we are looking at."

Glenview Naval air is not feasible as a commercial airport, according to Priester, because restrictive air-space limitations make it almost useless. O'Hare runways cross Glenview at about 2,200 feet. He said 75 to 80% of Palwaukee's traffic is business-oriented, and the economics of jets precludes flying from one airport to another, in the area.

MOST OF THE AIRCRAFT operators at Palwaukee are members of the business community that includes the North and Northwest side. The business community has grown in this area because Palwaukee is conveniently located for the executives to be flown in and out, Priester said, adding industrial growth of Wheeling and Northbrook will benefit because of the aircraft parked at Palwaukee.

It is not economical for an empty aircraft to park at Palwaukee and fly empty to pick up passengers at Midway, Priester said.

"When we moved here, there was nothing," he commented. "For years we talked about zoning, tried to tell everybody—" It has only been in the last two or three years that anything was done about it, he said. With Palwaukee, where it is, O'Hare flights are few and, when and if they do come over, they are restricted to 3,000 feet, Priester added. "Generally, they stay clear because of the traffic," he commented, but without Palwaukee traffic, O'Hare would use the area as a climb area.

"We realize airplanes are not popular with the neighbors, and we try to be good neighbors," he said, adding that in about five years or so, there won't be the noise because of improvements in the aircraft.

Residents warned to stayput or lose money

WHEELING — Homeowners in the proposed land acquisition area of Palwaukee airport should stay put or they could lose money, Bruce Carey, Illinois division of aeronautics warned.

During a TAC meeting Thursday, April 17, Carey said that FAA guidelines allow for a relocation assistance of up to $4,000 for homeowners and $4,000 for renters who meet the requirements. The relocation payments are in addition to the appraised fair market price of the property, he said.

Any relocation expense more than $15,000 must be assumed by the local sponsors, however. If the family has already moved, it "won't be eligible," he explained.

Carey told the committee that the relocation project should be studied to assure that the homeowners receive state and federal aid.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, FAA guidelines, occupancy times of from one to 89 days make the party eligible for moving costs, owner occupants and tenants who have lived in a home 90 to 179 days are entitled to moving costs, and up to $4,000 to rent or purchase a home. Owner occupants and tenants who have lived at a residence 180 days or more are entitled to moving costs up to $15,000 for owners, and $4,000 for tenants to purchase or rent a home.

IN ORDER FOR any individual or family to be eligible for payments they must be considered "displaced," and payments may be awarded to cover the cost of moving and related expenses, and also to find a replacement dwelling.

Carey suggested sending notices to the people who may be subject to relocation. However, Greg Peters, acting village manager, said later that he feels the TAC suggestion is "going too fast," because Phase 2 must be approved by both the Wheeling village board or Prospect Heights city council, and Phase 3 of the study is an environmental assessment which is to be made prior to approving the airport acquisition.

When asked by The LIFE if Wheeling would consider low-interest-rate loans, since Carey told the committee anything over $15,000 must be made up by the local sponsor, Peters said "it was all supposition." He said that first the board must decide to acquire the airport and added he does not agree with the suggestion to send notices to the families and businesses involved because Phase 2 has not been approved yet.

Displaced businesses and farms must meet certain income requirements before receiving a payment. However, according to FAA relocation guidelines the earnings must be at least $2,500, and not more than $10,000. Expenses up to $500 may be claimed if incurred searching for replacement property.

LIFE 4-24-80

WH gets new budget, too

THE WHEELING village board has approved a $973,100 operating budget for the 1980-81 fiscal year beginning May 1.

The figure is up from last year's budget $920,844 figure. Not included in the total is the federal revenue sharing portion of the budget. A special meeting for that will be held at 7:30 p.m. on April 28.

Also approved by the board was its salary policy for fiscal 1980-81 for professional-supervisory personnel, operations-maintenance employes and clerical-communications personnel.

The estimated proposed annualized salary approved was $1,262,000, an increase of $107,000 over last year.

5-1-80 Life

Someone to buy Palwaukee, says special committee

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

SOMEONE WILL BUY Palwaukee airport, was the concensus at a special Technical Advisory committee (TAC) meeting, April 24.

If Wheeling and Prospect Heights do not buy Palwaukee, someone else will, and the two communities will have nothing to say about how it is operated, Robert Fialkowski, secretary of the Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC) said.

Fialkowsky told the group that Wheeling and Prospect Heights are in a situation reminiscent of when Chicago acquired O'Hare field and developed Chicago O'Hare International airport.

Some government agency is going to come in and take over, Fialkowsky said, and airport consultant George Euring of Ralph Burke and associates agreed with him. "Look at O'Hare. All those towns are getting screwed," Fialkowski said. "They don't have a thing to say."

"If Wheeling and Prospect Heights don't want to see it go, they better be resigned to take it over," he added.

ACTUALLY, THE PLAN for Palwaukee is not to build a new airport or any amount of airport expansion, according to Euring. The $78 million total cost projected in the five-stage plan over a period of 20 years is to purchase the airport, clear it of obstructions, and meet Federal Aviation agency (FAA) standards for the Airport Development Aid program (ADAP) funding, Euring explained.

The way Palwaukee is, currently privately-owned, it does not necessarily have to meet all FAA requirements, Euring said. This does not mean the airport is unsafe, and it should not be considered unsafe, he added.

The difference between a private and public airport is obtaining user taxes for the purchase (approximately 80% to 90%, of the costs) in the form of the ADAP grant, he continued. "The airport must meet FAA requirements to get the money," Euring said.

AS A PRIVATE OWNER, Priester does not have powers of condemnation, Euring added. Furthermore, he added, the airport is so old it was built before the standards were written. However, when a public agency takes over, it has to meet the standards or it could not obtain state or federal money, Euring said.

According to Euring, the FAA requirements state that aircraft cannot be parked within a certain distance of the runways or taxiways, and a large part of the cost is acquiring a parking space away from the runways. Another cost is tearing down some nearly-new hangers and building new hangers, because these, too, are closer to the runway than the FAA rules state they should be, he added. Privately-owned airports do not have these restrictions, he noted.

According to Stephen Sturgell, co-chairman of TAC from Prospect Heights, the airport is of marginal benefit to Wheeling and Prospect Heights, and "Jane Byrne will benefit the most." He added that the "only way the project will fly is if the users of the airport go to Congress and ask for 90% to 95% financing."

Co-chairman of TAC and acting Village Manager Greg Peters of Wheeling asked Euring about the possibility of federal funding. Euring said it is not unusual for Congress to respond to such a request because the airport has been designated as a regional and state facility, and not just a local one. He said the users may have a good case for the request since Palwaukee is a reliever airport for O'Hare for small aircraft.

A Palwaukee public information meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. May 1, at the Chevy Chase country club, 1000 N. Milwaukee avenue. The Phase Two report will be presented to the people.

Board decides on funding use

WHEELING — The village board voted on the use of $215,000 in revenue-sharing funds, after a public hearing April 28.

A last-minute request for $5,000 from the Indian Trails public library district was incorporated into the budget document, which includes $15,000 to the senior citizens project, $20,000 to the Wheeling park district, and $175,000 to the Wheeling general fund.

Acting Village Manager Greg Peters told the board Head Librarian Ken Swanson had sent a letter requesting the $5,000 for purchase of new book shelving.

5-1-80- Herald

Liberty Asphalt cleared in noise pollution suit

A Cook County judge has dismissed a year-old lawsuit against a Wheeling asphalt plant charged by village officials with violating state noise pollution standards.

The decision by Circuit Court Judge Reginald Holzer comes 20 months after an independent testing firm found that Liberty Asphalt Co. had slightly exceeded environmental standards for allowable noise levels near a residential neighborhood. The plant, located at 231 Wheeling Rd., has been the object of complaints for years by nearby residents in the Dunhurst subdivision.

The special permit issued by the village three years ago that allowed Liberty Asphalt to buy the plant from its previous owner called for a $100-a-day fine if testing of the plant showed that it violated any state or federal pollution standards.

However, Holzer said he was "satisfied they had no intention to violate any laws or disturb the peace. And I'm not about to impose a fine."

ALTHOUGH TESTS conducted in September 1978 by a Palatine environmental firm showed Liberty was exceeding state noise standards slightly, Holzer said the firm set out to repair the equipment that had created the noise "almost immediately."

Another test, conducted in May 1979, showed the firm to be in compliance with state noise standards.

"There comes a time when communities have got to start being nice to the employees of people who live in the area," Holzer said. He added, however, that any further complaints against Liberty Asphalt "would be another matter."

He retained jurisdiction over the case, which means that if another violation is alleged, the village would not have to file a new lawsuit and the matter could be brought before Holzer immediately.

But Village Clerk Alberta Klocke, who has voiced most of the complaints about the asphalt plant, said the "village fathers were not very nice to the people who already lived here when they allowed that plant to come into the village."

SHE SAID the court decision proved that "you can break the laws, do whatever you want and get away with it. If this is justice, it's a pretty sick society we live in."

However, Axel Schwanke, manager of the asphalt plant, said he felt vindicated by the court decision. "I am very happy with the decision," he said. "We spent a lot of money to fix this place up. I believe I have one of the cleanest asphalt plants in the country."

Airport plan would force family move

By MARION SOURS

"I feel like an animal that's being moved from one zoo to the next. I don't feel like a human being."

Those are words of Vivian Pintacura, whose home at 1008 S. Wolf Road is among the buildings which might be condemned if Pal-Waukee Airport is acquired by Wheeling and Prospect Heights, as is being discussed.

Pintacura and her husband, Louis, along with a number of area residents, have protested the proposed purchase of the airport by the villages, which would make the airport a public facility. As a public facility, it would need to comply with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules which currently are not binding on the private facility.

See related story on page 13

Ralph Burke and Associates, a consulting firm which is compiling a feasibility study regarding the airport purchase, has said if the airport becomes a public facility, realignments of Wolf and Hintz roads would be necessary, along with other changes, which would necessitate the acquisition of some 18 homes and 12 businesses. The locations of these parcels are shown on the map on page 13.

The Pintacuras have lived in their home near the intersection of Hintz and Wolf roads for 30 years. They have raised two children there, and Vivian has operated a private school, Vivian's School of Music and Dance, in their home. She gives piano and dancing lessons. Louis now is semi-retired.

"It will be a big loss, both privately, and to this business," she said, regarding the possibility of a forced move.

"We're not young people. Moving is not something you do easily. We've added on to the house. We've raised two kids. There's a lot of sentimentality here."

"The trees have grown. How do you relocate that? The home is paid for. Will

(Continued on page 8)



Vivian Pintacura supervises a student at the music school she runs in her home on Wolf Road in Wheeling. Hers is one of several homes which will be condemed should Pal-waukee airport become a public facility. (Staff photo by Dean Rutz)

Thursday, May 1, 1980 REMINDER

Displaced families—

(Continued from page 5)

they compensate us for that, or for the aggravation and emotion?"

"It will affect us emotionally. We just want to live a quiet and peaceful life and be left alone." "If this project was going to help Wheeling," Vivian said, "I would say, maybe we should step aside. But this project is not going to benefit the average people around here.

"People are being pushed around. I feel like my civil rights are being infringed upon. It's a question of whether money speaks louder than people."

Vivian said that 10 years ago, when her father died, she convinced her mother to move to the area, so she could better look after her well being. "What happens to her now that I have to move?" she said.

When the Pintacuras first moved to their home, Pal-Waukee Airport was contained on a few acres bordering on Milwaukee Avenue, Vivian said. Over the years it has grown enormously, and today it is the nation's busiest private airport. It now is located directly across the street from their home.

She said area residents have tried protesting about the airport's size, but to no avail. She said in the 1960's a number of petitions were circulated protesting the expansion, but at the time of a hearing, someone misplaced the petitions.

She said she hopes the newly formed citizens group can have some impact in blocking the proposed airport purchase. If the villages do purchase it, however, and she and her husband are forced to move, she said they will not continue to live in the area.

REMINDER 5-1-80



5-1-80 Reminder

THE WHEELING VILLAGE BOARD examined the second phase of the Palwaukee airport study at its meeting Monday night. (Photo by Steve Donisch)

Questions, answers on Palwaukee use

Life 5-1-80

WHEELING — The Wheeling village board and Prospect Heights city council met to receive the Phase Two report of the Palwaukee Master Plan study, April 28.

Larry Donoghue, president of Ralph Burke associates, told the joint council meeting the consultants are continuing to work on modifying the text of Phase Two to update it and obtain more desirable and logical technical information as it becomes available.

Overall cost over a 20-year period is projected at $78 million, and the airport plan runs to the year 2000, Donoghue said.

At the public information meeting, May 1, at the Chevy Chase country club, the lands to be included in the land acquisition will be pinpointed so those involved will know about it, and everyone in the area will not think they are involved if they are not, Donoghue said.

He mentioned he had not yet received the reaction of the Priester family in regard to the Phase Two report.

Donoghue answered some questions a local homeowners group asked. These questions concerned the land removed from tax rolls, although the buildings will remain on the tax rolls according to Donoghue. The amount lost to the various taxing districts is about $10,000, and is estimated not to make any great impact on any one district because so many taxing districts are involved, he said.

FIGURING OUT the amount of tax loss for each district is beyond the scope of the report, Donoghue said, and the districts could probably answer the question much more easily themselves.

According to project manager George Euring, of Ralph Burke associates, in towns where the population of the area is less than 500,000 people, one percent of the people can sign a petition and ask a referendum on the airport question.

Another point Euring made was that at the time the consultants checked into bonds to be purchased by airport users, the interest rates on bonds were 7%. A bond issue may require legislation if the rates do not come down, he added.

Donoghue said he did not see anything unsurmountable in the public purchase of Palwaukee, and since O'Hare is the highest-priority airport, Palwaukee may receive the highest priority for Federal Airport Development Aid program (ADAP) funding, because it is a reliever for O'Hare.

SEVERAL QUESTIONS were asked by aldermen and trustees. Donoghue answered.

Q: Prospect Heights Ald. Bill Masloski asked if the consultants had eliminated inflation by using 1981 dollars to estimate maintenance costs.

A: The report assumed a common rate of constant dollars, and the debt service program allowed constant 1981 dollars. If the revenues go up with inflation, the airport will come out ahead, but if there is a deflation and lowering of prices, it would hurt.

Q: Wheeling Trustee Roger Powers asked about capital depreciation.

A: The adjustments to replace a facility normally do not depreciate if the item is a gift. They are asking for land under the building to be donated by Priester. Other lands could generate land rent.

Q: Prospect Heights Ald. Chris Carlson asked why there were not more than two fixed-base operators (FBO)s.

A: All of the things off the runways might be compared to an automobile dealership, or gas station. There are public streets, but the businesses that service the cars using the public streets are private.

Q: Prospect Heights Administrator Stephan Sturgell asked what the benefit is to the two municipalities to keep the airport open.

A: Benefit should really be to the northwest sector and those who use O'Hare, Donoghue replied. O'Hare has 700,000 operations and there are 300,000 at Palwaukee. O'Hare could not absorb the extra operations because it would cause delays. And it costs about $1,000 an hour in the holding pattern.

Q: Wheeling President William Hein asked if Wheeling and Prospect Heights do not buy the airport, are any other governmental bodies interested?

A: Donoghue said he did not think any others had bothered. Northbrook and Glenview may be interested in going in with Wheeling and Prospect Heights. Donoghue suggested the two municipalities closest should be involved so that they can control the destiny of the airport.

Q: Schultz asked if it was "all or nothing" as far as the airport was concerned

A: Donoghue replied that preliminary estimates show if the 25 jets do not use the airport, jet fees could go up from $2,200 to $9,300 a month, and that is not feasible. Single-engine prices could go from $25 a month to $40 a month. The turbo jets require the 5,000-foot length and moving the highway, he added.

Q: Schultz asked if the airport is so valuable to the federal government, which is willing to give millions, why would they not give continual support for maintenance.

A: There is no legislation for continued financing, Donoghue explained. However, there is federal impact money, and perhaps it will be available to communities.

Q: Schultz asked about the original contract not requiring the land acquisitions.

A: There are two solutions — if you shorten the longest runway, you lose 25 aircraft, and it could take the user, or private corporations, up to $9,000 in monthly costs. A delay at O'Hare could cost $2.5 million a year.

Q: Prospect Heights Ald. Terry Mongoven asked about the 65 LDN, the permitted level of noise.

A: Donoghue said the 65 LDN is generally accepted and anything above the noise level is generally not accepted. Some levels of noise have same level, but sound differently, have more frequency, so it is part loudness and part the sound frequency. Federal air regulations require noise levels be kept at a certain level.

More on Palwaukee
—See page 6

No decision made on charges against cop

Life 5-1-80

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — After an eight-hour public hearing of the police and fire commission, April 28, no decision was reached on the allegations against Wheeling Police Lt. Thomas Conte.

The hearing was adjourned and the commission must submit its decision in writing within 15 days.

Police Chief Ted Bracke filed the complaint alleging Conte placed a "loaded and cocked hand gun near and/or in the mouth of Eugene Grassmuck of Wheeling," and broke three rules of the police code.

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CONTRADICTORY TESTIMONY by three witnesses strengthened Jakala's case, and he pointed that out in his summation. He stressed Conte's nearly 20 diplomas from the Chicago Police academy, Northwestern Traffic institute and other schools, as well as his nearly 17 years police experience.

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McGuire had called Conte to the stand as a hostile witness, and he was ordered to testify despite Jakala's objection. Conte testified that he came upon a volatile situation that could not exist for any length of time. He said he had parked the unmarked squad car on the median of Wheeling road, near Dundee, because he could not get through the traffic at the light.

CONTE SAID he saw the officers in a combat position, and the suspects in the car. At that point, none of the officers had known the shotgun had not been assembled, according to their testimony. The three other officers who had answered the call said they had told the suspects to remain in the car and raise their hands. However, Conte said the car should not have been approached on foot, the suspects should have been told to throw the keys out, and to get out of the car and away from any possible weapons in the car. Also, Conte said he did not believe the situation was under control until the suspects had been handcuffed and searched.

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A WHEELING RESIDENT, Viola Alstrand, testified she went to the savings and loan and saw two men in a car with a shotgun across their laps. She said she thought it was suspicious and told the lady in the bank.

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Jakala stressed the commission members should keep in mind the scene of the alleged charges, that experts had not been called in to refute Conte's testimony, and that there is no manual of operations to cover a suspect's removal from a car.

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Put pistol in suspect's mouth

5-1-80 - Reminder

Lieutenant says force warranted in incident

By MARION SOURS

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He told them he believed his actions during a suspected armed robbery on March 4 were justified. He has been charged with misuse of a handgun in arresting a 20-year-old Wheeling man during that incident.

Commissioners heard evidence Monday, which they will weigh in deciding if the 17-year veteran of the force should be fired. They will announce their decision within 15 days after the hearing.

"You have split seconds to act," Conte said in his testimony. "I saw a Wheeling police officer in a potential cross-fire situation, and people on the other side, in the bank. I felt the situation couldn't exist for any length of time."

Conte, 43, was suspended with pay by the commissioners at a special meeting on April 3. The meeting was called upon the recommendation of Wheeling Police Chief Ted Bracke, who said his investigations into the March 4 incident indicated Conte had exceeded the guidelines of "reasonable force", which police are to exercise in making an arrest. He recommended that Conte, the head of the police department's investigations unit, be fired.

The suspected armed robbery to which Conte responded took place at Hoyne Savings and Loan, 699 W. Dundee Road, on March 4.

> One officer testified he heard the lieutenant tell the suspect to "suck on this" as he placed his pistol barrel in the young man's mouth. "I'll blow your brains all over the car," the lieutenant said.

Two Wheeling youths, Eugene Grassmuck, 20, of 917 Valley Stream Drive and David Pearlman, 20, of 121 King Court, were arrested in the incident, though later it was discovered they had not intended to rob the bank. They were sitting in the Hoyne parking lot assembling a shotgun they had just bought at K-mart.

According to testimony Monday, the events transpired as follows: A woman exiting the bank observed the two youths in their car assembling the shotgun. Suspecting they planned to rob the bank, she entered the bank and told a bank officer, who called police.

A call went over the police radio, to the effect that two men with a gun were in a car in the bank parking lot. Responding to the call were three Wheeling police officers who were in the area: Edward Theriault, William Stutzman and Ronald Hines.

Theriault and Hines, the first on the scene, blocked off the parking lot with their squad cars. They said the youths saw them and started to exit the car, but they told them to remain in the car, with their hands up.

Theriault said he and Hines had their guns drawn, and covered the driver, Pearlman, while Stutzman, who had arrived on the scene, covered the passenger, Grassmuck. All three officers said their guns were not cocked.

Theriault said he and Hines told Pearlman to exit, and told him to lie face down on the pavement, and Hines then handcuffed him.

Meanwhile, Stutzman said he was covering Grassmuck with his gun. At that point, according to the testimony of the officers and of Conte, Conte arrived on the scene and approached Grassmuck.

Conte said he had heard the call, became caught in traffic, abandoned his car on the Dundee Road median strip and ran across the field to Hoyne Savings.

Conte said when he arrived on the scene he saw Stutzman in combat position, with his cocked gun pointed at Grassmuck's head. He said a cross-fire situation existed, since if Grassmuck had fired at

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REMINDER Thursday, May 1, 1980

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LIFE 5-1-80

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Conte hearing—

(Continued from page 5)

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Conte said it is not unusual for a police officer to cock a gun when he is in combat position.

"Have you ever received training that placing a gun in a suspect's mouth is proper?" Bracke's attorney Thomas McGuire asked Conte. "Neither one way or the other," Conte replied.

Conte's attorney, Stanley Jackala, said there is no official policy that specifies such action is wrong. "The action was not inappropriate, according to his education and to the situation, in which he attempted to stop a robbery, burglary or loss of life," he said.

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HERALD 5-1-80

Mobile home garage law under way

Preparation of an ordinance that will allow residents in a Wheeling trailer park to build attached garages to their mobile homes has been completed, said Trustee Sheila Schultz, chairman of the committee studying the new law.

All of the guidelines of the ordinance have been completed, and the document should be written in the next few weeks. The law comes after a year's study between Mrs. Schultz' committee and residents of Whipple Tree Mobile Home Park on McHenry Road.

Residents there had complained that the three-sided carports, which village officials allowed a few years ago, gave little protection against weather, burglars or vandals. And despite county and state building codes that prohibit attached garages because they are a potential fire hazard, about half the residents in the 350-unit mobile home park have built the attached garages over the years.

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THE NEW LAW sets specific standards for the design and type of material used in the attached garage. Also, there must be at least two other exits from the mobile home, other than the garage, in the event of a fire.

"I think you have to assume that the people who built the garages did it either in good faith or in ignorance of the law," she said.

Residents in the only trailer park in Wheeling have complained over the years that state laws governing mobile homes are vague and outdated. Previous village administrations have not enforced the state building codes.

"I think that points out the need for some type of follow-up inspection of the buildings," Mrs. Schultz said. She said the new ordinance should be reviewed by the village board later this month.

Pick members

Life 5-1-80

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Questions, answers on Palwaukee use

Tribune 5-1-80

WHEELING — The Wheeling village board and Prospect Heights city council met to receive the Phase Two report of the Palwaukee Master Plan study, April 28.

Larry Donoghue, president of Ralph Burke associates, told the joint council meeting the consultants are continuing to work on modifying the text of Phase Two to update it and obtain more desirable and logical technical information as it becomes available.

Overall cost over a 20-year period is projected at $78 million, and the airport plan runs to the year 2000, Donoghue said.

At the public information meeting, May 1, at the Chevy Chase country club, the lands to be included in the land acquisition will be pinpointed so those involved will know about it, and everyone in the area will not think they are involved if they are not, Donoghue said.

He mentioned he had not yet received the reaction of the Priester family in regard to the Phase Two report.

Donoghue answered some questions a local homeowners group asked. These questions concerned the land removed from tax rolls, although the buildings will remain on the tax rolls according to Donoghue. The amount lost to the various taxing districts is about $10,000, and is estimated not to make any great impact on any one district because so many taxing districts are involved, he said.

FIGURING OUT the amount of tax loss for each district is beyond the scope of the report, Donoghue said, and the districts could probably answer the question much more easily themselves.

According to project manager George Euring, of Ralph Burke associates, in towns where the population of the area is less than 500,000 people, one percent of the people can sign a petition and ask a referendum on the airport question.

Another point Euring made was that at the time the consultants checked into bonds to be purchased by airport users, the interest rates on bonds were 7%. A bond issue may require legislation if the rates do not come down, he added.

Donoghue said he did not see anything unsurmountable in the public purchase of Palwaukee, and since O'Hare is the highest-priority airport, Palwaukee may receive the highest priority for Federal Airport Development Aid program (ADAP) funding, because it is a reliever for O'Hare.

SEVERAL QUESTIONS were asked by aldermen and trustees. Donoghue answered.

Q: Prospect Heights Ald. Bill Masloski asked if the consultants had eliminated inflation by using 1981 dollars to estimate maintenance costs.

A: The report assumed a common rate of constant dollars, and the debt service program allowed constant 1981 dollars. If the revenues go up with inflation, the airport will come out ahead, but if there is a deflation and lowering of prices, it would hurt.

Q: Wheeling Trustee Roger Powers asked about capital depreciation.

A: The adjustments to replace a facility normally do not depreciate if the item is a gift. They are asking for land under the building to be donated by Priester. Other lands could generate land rent.

Q: Prospect Heights Ald. Chris Carlson asked why there were not more than two fixed-base operators (FBO)s.

A: All of the things off the runways might be compared to an automobile dealership, or gas station. There are public streets, but the businesses that service the cars using the public streets are private.

Q: Prospect Heights Administrator Stephan Sturgell asked what the benefit is to the two municipalities to keep the airport open.

A: Benefit should really be to the northwest sector and those who use O'Hare, Donoghue replied. O'Hare has 700,000 operations and there are 300,000 at Palwaukee. O'Hare could not absorb the extra operations because it would cause delays. And it costs about $1,000 an hour in the holding pattern.

Q: Wheeling President William Hein asked if Wheeling and Prospect Heights do not buy the airport, are any other governmental bodies interested?

A: Donoghue said he did not think any others had bothered. Northbrook and Glenview may be interested in going in with Wheeling and Prospect Heights. Donoghue suggested the two municipalities closest should be involved so that they can control the destiny of the airport.

Q: Schultz asked if it was "all or nothing" as far as the airport was concerned

A: Donoghue replied that preliminary estimates show if the 25 jets do not use the airport, jet fees could go up from $2,200 to $9,300 a month, and that is not feasible. Single-engine prices could go from $25 a month to $40 a month. The turbo jets require the 5,000-foot length and moving the highway, he added.

Q: Schultz asked if the airport is so valuable to the federal government, which is willing to give millions, why would they not give continual support for maintenance.

A: There is no legislation for continued financing, Donoghue explained. However, there is federal impact money, and perhaps it will be available to communities.

Q: Schultz asked about the original contract not requiring the land acquisitions.

A: There are two solutions — if you shorten the longest runway, you lose 25 aircraft, and it could take the user, or private corporations, up to $9,000 in monthly costs. A delay at O'Hare could cost $2.5 million a year.

Q: Prospect Heights Ald. Terry Mongoven asked about the 65 LDN, the permitted level of noise.

A: Donoghue said the 65 LDN is generally accepted and anything above the noise level is generally not accepted. Some levels of noise have same level, but sound differently, have more frequency, so it is part loudness and part the sound frequency. Federal air regulations require noise levels be kept at a certain level.

More on Palwaukee
—See page 6

No decision made on charges against cop

Tribune 5-1-80

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — After an eight-hour public hearing of the police and fire commission, April 28, no decision was reached on the allegations against Wheeling Police Lt. Thomas Conte.

The hearing was adjourned and the commission must submit its decision in writing within 15 days.

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5-1-80 Reminder

Pal-Waukee looms as threat, new group says

By MARION SOURS

"We're saying enough is enough!"

Those words, spoken recently by area resident Warren Sunde, summed up the feelings of a number of other residents who have joined together to oppose the further development of Pal-Waukee Airport.

The first meeting of the new "Citizens Airport Activity Group" (CAAG) was held April 20 at the Plum Creek Condominiums. More than 50 area residents attended, and pledged their support for the group, which is seeking to persuade the villages of Wheeling and Prospect Heights to abandon their consideration of the purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport.

Leaders of the group have said they believe Glenview Naval Air Station in Glenview should be considered as a landing place for private planes, as an alternative to establishing Pal-Waukee Airport as a public facility.

Some members of the group, which was formed in March, live in the immediate vicinity of Pal-Waukee. Those persons might be affected by plans to relocate a number of homes, should Pal-Waukee become a public facility, and they are concerned because of that possibility.

But other members are concerned about other aspects of the airport. Dolores Host, who has lived in Wheeling for 21 years, said she has seen Pal-Waukee change drastically over the years. She said it has continually been "growing bigger, noisier, more dangerous..."

Pal-Waukee Airport, which is the nation's busiest private airport, is the topic of a current study, commissioned by the villages of Wheeling and Prospect Heights.

The two villages for years have considered purchasing the airport, and finally decided to have consultants make a report regarding the financial feasibility of such a project.

They chose Ralph Burke and Associates, of Park Ridge, to make the study, for which they are paying $120,000. The study, which is being compiled in stages, still is not complete.

The reason Wheeling and Prospect Heights have considered purchasing Pal-Waukee Airport, is because many officials have considered that the airport benefits the villages, by attracting industry to the area.

They have been concerned by long-standing complaints by airport owner George Priester regarding the high cost of maintaining the airport, which, as a private facility, is not eligible to receive tax monies.

They have feared he might try to sell the airport. Priester also has said that if he died and left the airport to his family, the high inheritance taxes would force them to sell it.

In the hope of being able to exert control over the future of the airport, therefore, village officials decided they should look into a purchase of the facility by the villages.

But if the airport became publicly owned, it would have to meet Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) standards with which the privately owned airport does not have to comply. The cost of meeting these standards would be great.

The recently completed Phase II portion of the Burke report estimates the total cost of the airport at $78 million. The federal government, it is estimated, would pay $60.78 million of this; the state would pay $8.03 million and local governments would have to pay the remaining $9.20 million.

The Burke study states that the local share would not require local tax funds. It would, however, probably require the sale of revenue bonds.

The Burke report states that in order to meet FAA standards regarding the airport's 5,000-foot runway, Wolf Road would need to be realigned. The FAA has said that road penetrates the approach surface of the runway by 12 feet.

The report states the Wheeling Drainage Ditch also would have to be relocated. In order to achieve both realignments, it is predicted 18 homes and 12 businesses would need to be removed.

At the CAAG meeting Sunday, residents said they were concerned that the removal of these businesses would remove tax revenue from the village. These businesses would include a nursery and several gas stations.

Burke representatives have said that any homeowners whose homes would be condemned would be adequately compensated for their loss. They said not only would they receive the amount with which to buy a comparable home, but, for example, if they had financed their home with a 9 per cent mortgage, the difference between that rate and the current rate would be taken into account, and they would receive extra money accordingly. Also, the homeowners would be given funds to pay moving costs.

But area residents at the CAAG meeting on April 20 said they believed that the proposed expansion of Pal-Waukee, if it becomes publicly owned, is only the beginning of the expansion. They said they do not want to see this expansion, since they said they believe the airport is too large and busy already.

"Its requirements will be insatiable," said Lowell Stolerow, one of the leaders of the group. "There is no land for Pal-Waukee Airport except by condemnation."

"...the noise is sometimes unbearable, and safety is a forgotten factor," said Warren Sunde. "We've been lucky. We've had some near-misses."

John Whitman, another leader of the group, pointed out there is no buffer zone around Pal-Waukee, as there is at Glenview, so that planes and jets land and take off directly over homes, schools and businesses.

Members of the CAAG committee have stressed that the Glenview airport has a runway which is 8,000 feet long. Its use, they say, would not require moving roads and condemning property.

Whitman said Glenview has only 7 per cent of the traffic of Pal-Waukee, though it is about four times its size.

"(Glenview) is a country club for the military," said Stolerow.

CAAG members have not yet contacted the Navy regarding their suggestions. Officials at Glenview have said they have not been aware of any talk of making the airport a combined civilian-military operation.

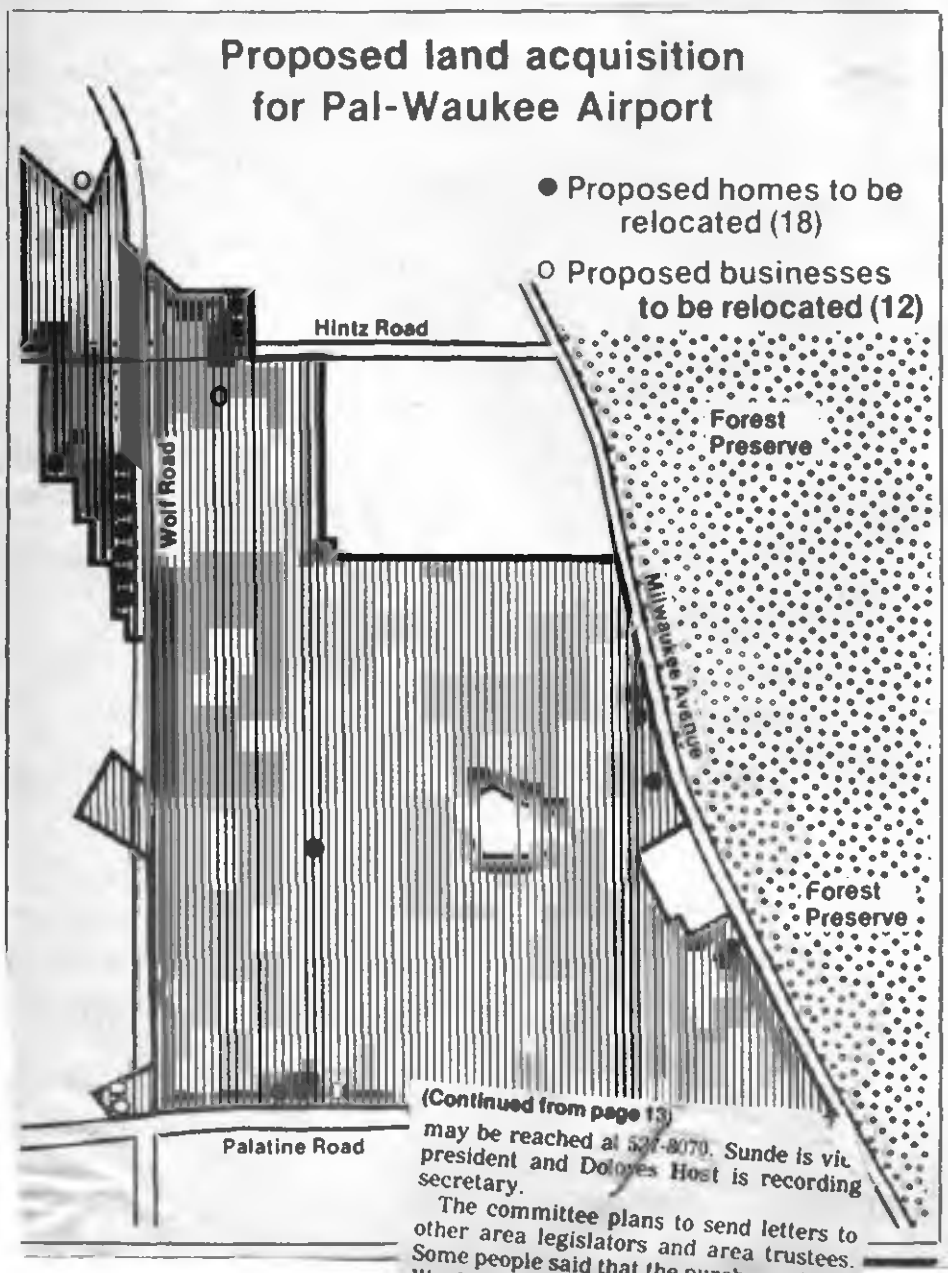
The CAAG group already has sent a petition letter to Sen. Charles Percy, to which they say they have not received a reply. At Sunday's meeting, officers were elected, and plans were made to contact members and to organize support drives, and possible petition drives.

The president is John Whitman, who

(Continued on page 15)



"Its needs will be insatiable," says Lowell Stolerow, addressing a Sunday meeting of the Citizen's Airport Action Group (CAAG), a group opposed to further expansion of Pal-Waukee Airport. At the meeting, Stolerow argued that expansion of the airport would mean condemnation of privately-owned land.



(Continued from page 13)

may be reached at 537-8070. Sunde is vice president and Dolores Host is recording secretary.

The committee plans to send letters to other area legislators and area trustees. Some people said that the purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport should be put to area voters in a referendum. Some suggested that if this did not take place, and the villages purchased the airport, a petition could be started, and a referendum could be held at that point, possibly to negate the purchase.

Committee members plan to attend a public hearing regarding the airport at 7:30 p.m., today, at the Chevy Chase clubhouse, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling.

Northwest suburbs' tax base up 9%

by Kurt Baer
Herald political editor

The Northwest suburbs' real estate tax base increased by an average of 9 percent last year, and that may help cushion property tax bill increases later this summer.

Figures released by the Cook County assessor's office show inflation and new construction pushed the county's total assessed valuation to $15,959,721,090, which is $959 million more than last year.

In suburban Cook County, assessed valuation climbed 7.8 percent to $8.92 billion, while Chicago's valuation increased 4.6 percent to $7.03 billion.

The sharpest increases were in southeast Cook County where all property was reassessed last year. For example, in Orland Township, the biggest gainer, assessed valuation increased 47.7 percent. The average increase in the area was 19 percent.

One-fourth of the county is reassessed every year. Single-family houses, condominiums and small apartment buildings are assessed at 16 percent of their market value.

IN THE SEVEN Northwest suburban townships, new construction and occupancy of buildings that were only partly complete last year resulted in the increased valuation, a spokesman for the assesor's office said.

Any increase in the total tax base tends to reduce the tax individual property owners have to pay.

However, local tax rates, exemptions and a state equalization factor or multiplier also will affect the size of the tax bills, which will be mailed in mid-summer.

Tax levies for most area cities and villages are higher this year than last, as are levies for most school and park districts.

Northwest suburban township assessments are: Barrington $58,796,686 up 10.1 percent; Elk Grove $556,208,752 up 9.7 percent; Hanover $136,707,480 up 8.5 percent; Maine $577,324,405 up 3.5 percent; Palatine $323,611,906 up 11.6 percent; Schaumburg $450,037,875 up 12.3 percent, and Wheeling $501,568,233 up 7.9 percent.

The assessor's office is mailing homestead exemption renewal forms to 148,000 senior citizen property owners.

THE EXEMPTION allows a $1,500 deduction from the equalized assessed valuation of the propery and saves an average taxpayer about $135 on his bill.

Property owners who became 65 years old before Jan. 1, and who want to apply for the exemption may write to the assessor at 118 N. Clark St., Chicago 60602 or call 443-6151 for more information.

4-10-80 - Herald

Wheeling argues to keep Stavros in bribery suit

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Attorneys for the Village of Wheeling told the Illinois Appellate Court Wednesday that the village should be able to recover damages from James Stavros, a former Wheeling Township Democratic committeman convicted of taking bribes from developers in the mid 1970s.

The court said it will take the matter under advisement. A written opinion is expected in about two months.

Former Village Atty. **John Burke** asked the court to overturn a lower court decision dropping Stavros from the four-year-old lawsuit. The village is seeking to recover at least $92,000 in bribes Stavros admitted taking from developers in exchange for building and zoning favors.

Acknowledging the case was perhaps the first of its kind in Illinois, Burke contended that Stavros' influence over village officials should make him liable for damages even though he held no village position.

"IT HAS LONG been held that one who accepts payments in derogation of his duty to his employer is liable for damages to that employer," Burke told the court. The village should recover bribes taken by Stavros because "criminal penalties are not sufficient to stem the tide of corruption, underhanded dealings and other activities which cause damage to the public at large," he said.



James Stavros

Stavros pleaded guilty in 1974 to extortion, perjury and tax evasion charges and was sentenced to four years in prison and fined $25,000. He was released in 1976.

The village filed the same year to recover bribes kicked back to Stavros by developers Zale Construction Co., Harmony Builders, Meister-Neiberg Co. and Wickes Corp. Also named in the suit were former building director William Bieber, former trustee William Hart, and the Ohio Casualty Insurance Co.

HERALD 5-2-80

Pal-Waukee purchase study draws fire

A consultant preparing a study on the feasibility of Wheeling and Prospect Heights buying Pal-Waukee airport received a hostile reception from a crowd of about 200 persons Thursday night.

Larry Donoghue, president of the consulting firm preparing the 2-year $120,000 study, presented his findings to date, in which he has estimated the cost of the airport at $78 million.

Most of the protest came from residents near the airport, some of whom may lose their homes if the airport is enlarged to comply with federal safety standards as would be required under municipal ownership. Other residents called the airport unsafe and complained of the noise.

However, a former Prospect Heights alderman who said he was instrumental in initiating the airport study called for an end to it.

"THIS PLAN SHOULD be deleted at this time, and no further study should be done," Thomas Merle said. "When we initiated this plan we were talking about $15 million. No we're talking $78 million, and I don't believe in subsidizing private enterprise."

Merle likened the situation to trying to subsidize fishing boats that use Lake Michigan. "What's it going to be tomorrow — $98 million — $200 million?"

Robert Schaps, a Prospect Heights resident, said it was "silly to spin our wheels," and spend $120,000 on an airport study when airport owner George Priester has made no commitment to sell the airport.

Schaps also referred to recent newspaper articles that have stated that Priester might not have to sell the airport if a bill that recently passed a congressional committee is implemented. That bill would qualify Priester for federal airport improvement funds.

"I think there should be a document between cities and Priester making a commitment to sell the airport before you spend any more money on studies that may be fruitless."

Consultant plugs 2 'best' cable TV firms

4-30-80 Herald

by Susan Duerksen
Herald staff writer

A major Canadian cable television firm and the U.S. company with a system allowing viewers to "talk back" to their sets have been selected as the best to provide cable TV to the Northwest suburbs.

In a long-awaited report released Tuesday, the two companies — Warner Amex and Cablenet — were recommended from among 14 applicants by Malarkey, Taylor and Associates, a cable television consultant from Washington, D.C.

The consultant said those two companies had superior financial strength, technical design, programming and rates.

The recommendation now goes to the 21 North and Northwest suburbs that commissioned the report, and each village board and city council will make its own decision on cable franchises.

WARNER IS THE New York firm that has been testing a two-way system called QUBE that allows viewers to respond to certain television programs by pressing one of five buttons attached to their sets. Cablenet is a subsidiary of an Ontario-based company that has been building and operating Canadian cablevision systems for 25 years.

The consultants suggested that one company should be chosen to receive franchises in all 21 towns of the Northwest Municipal Conference that participated in the study.

But local officials said they have no special preferences for Cablenet or Warner and doubted that a single cable company could win the entire Northwest suburban market.

"This report will not be binding as far as Arlington Heights is concerned," said Village Pres. James Ryan. Although it "sounds clean and logical" to have one network cover all of the Northwest suburbs, he said, "Arlington Heights is the largest community in northwest Cook County, and we can be an entire market by ourselves."

Des Plaines Mayor Herbert Volberding said it would be "impossible" to get all local governments in the area to agree on a single cable system.

"It's a good thing we have Central Standard Time, or we wouldn't be able to agree on the time of day," he said.

And Mount Prospect Village Pres. Carolyn Krause said she's not sure the suburbs need a cable television network.

"I think people can get entertainment now on television, and I'm not sure they even want cable," she said.

THE COMPANIES WERE given a week to challenge factual errors in the report before a final draft is prepared. Officials of at least one firm, Norcom, said they plan to dispute their rating because they said the consultants "didn't read our proposal carefully enough."

The consultants gave high ratings to four other companies but said each is lacking in one area. They said Cablevision, Coaxial and MetroVision had not documented sufficient financial ability to build a 21-town system.

The system proposed by Norcom, a partnership of Cox Cable and Paddock Publications, was rated unacceptable because it did not include 21 distribution centers that would permit separate broadcasts to each community. Cox Vice Pres. Vince King, however, said the report was in error because the Cox system could accomplish the same thing with four distribution centers.

Representatives of the four runners-up and other firms with lower ratings vowed to keep up the fight for franchises. Many pointed with hope to a separate report due in several weeks

(Continued on Page 3)

2 cable TV firms judged 'best'

Rating the cable TV companies

	TECHNICAL	FUNDING PLAN	PROGRAMMING	RATES
Warner	good	excellent	excellent	good
Cablenet	good	good	good	excellent
Cablevision	good	good	good	good
Metrovision	good	good	good	good
Coaxial	good	unacceptable	good	excellent
Matrix/ Tele-Matrix	acceptable	good	excellent	acceptable
Northern Ill.	acceptable	good	good	good
Norcom	unacceptable	good	good	good
Six Star	unacceptable	acceptable	acceptable	non responsive
United	unacceptable	good	acceptable	good
Continental	unacceptable	excellent	acceptable	excellent
National	unacceptable	acceptable	acceptable	acceptable
Centel	unacceptable	good	acceptable	acceptable

(Continued from Page 1)

that will evaluate each company's past performance in existing cable systems.

WARNER IS PROPOSING to charge $17.65 per month for basic service and pay-TV movies to two TV sets. The QUBE system would add $2 per month.

Eason Dobbs, franchising manager for Warner, said her company would have to receive franchises in at least half of the 21 towns to make its QUBE system possible.

Cablenet, a subsidiary of Agra Industries, of Ontario, was highly rated for its low monthly charge of $15.85 for the same basic services. The only company with lower rates was Coaxial, at $13.90.

ChangePalwaukee

AIR VIEWS ON PUBLIC USE OF AIRPORT

A public hearing will be held tomorrow nite (Thursday) at the Chevy Chase Country Club, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave., to determine public reaction to progress on plans for converting Palwaukee Airport from private to public use.

The Village of Wheeling and the City of Prospect Hts. are jointly studying the possibility of purchasing the private facility and converting it to public use thru a study done by the consulting firm of Ralph Burke Associates.

THE 2 COMMUNITIES met in a joint session Monday nite to hear a presentation on the progress of phase 2 of the report by Larry Donahue, president of Ralph Burke Associates. About 50 local residents attended.

Projected costs of the 20-year project are $78 million. This includes land acquisition, relocation of Wolf and Hintz Roads and modifications required by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

While the federal government now could fund 80 per cent of the project, current legislation will expire Oct. 1 of this year. The figure then could increase to 90 per cent, which is the new proposed legislation. The state could fund 10 per cent of the project.

The consulting firm has suggested the sale of revenue bonds for the 2 communities to finance the remainder of the project.

As the airport is now private, it has not had to meet FAA requirements. As a public facility, many changes would have to be made, including the removal of obstructions.

During the land acquisition phase, as many as 12 homes and 18 businesses would be forced to move.

ACCORDING TO the report, a fee would be charged to those basing planes at the airport, which would range from $25 per month for a single engine plane to $2,200 for larger turbo jets. The study stressed the airport would need the business of larger, corporate planes in order to remain financially feasible.

However, Wheeling Trustee Shelia Schultz urged that smaller planes be kept, thus creating a "trade-off" with OHare. Palwaukee would relieve some os the burden of small plane use if O'Hare would take the larger planes.

The 2 communities must now decide if phase 3 should be implemented. The next stage would go into deeper environmental studies.

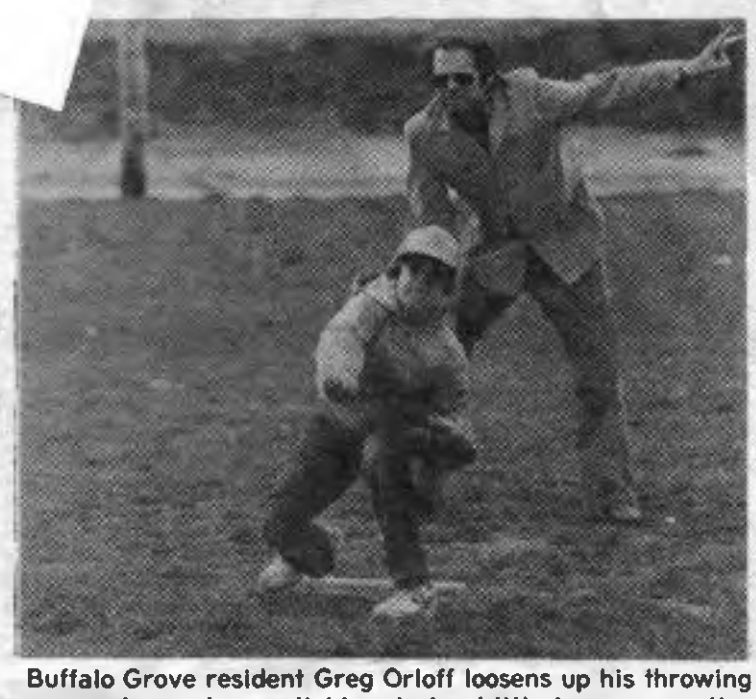
Animal Tags On Sale Tomorrow

Animal tags will go on sale at the Village of Wheeling beginning tomorrow (Thursday), May 1.

A current rabies certificate is required to purchase the tag for both dogs and cats.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The office is open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday.

For further information call 459-2600.



Buffalo Grove resident Greg Orloff loosens up his throwing arm as he works on pitching during Little League practice last weekend at Cooper South Park in Buffalo Grove.
(Journal Photo by Bill Whelan)

4-30-80 Topics

Federal Funding OKd By Board

Wheeling's Village Board passed the Federal Revenue Sharing portion of its annual budget Monday nite.

The village has been granted $215,000 in revenue sharing funds.

The board voted to grant $20,000 to the Wheeling Park Dist., $15,000 for senior citizens, $5,000 to the library for new shelves and $175,000 to the general fund.

HOWEVER, there was some dispute about including the $5,000 sum to the library in the budget. Trustees Charles Kerr and Roger Powers voted in favor of the measure, while Shelia Schultz abstained. Robert Ross voted against the measure. Hubert Sommerfeld and John Cole were not present at the meeting.

Because the vote was 2 in favor, one against and one abstention, President William Hein placed a vote. He supported the division of funds. In such a vote, an abstention goes with the majority decision.

'Wheeling Day'

Tap May 18-24 For Village's Spring Cleaning

The Wheeling Village Board has designated Saturday May 17 as "Up With Wheeling Day" and the week of May 18 thru May 24 as "Clean-Up And Fix-Up Week".

The Clean-up campaign has been designed to have residents, businesses and organizations work together to improve the appearnce of the community by cleaning up litter and fixing up property.

On Saturday May 17, village residents are urged to meet at the village hall at 8:30 a.m. to pick up litter and help plant trees.

DEPENDING ON the number of people who volunteer, the following locations will be worked on: Milwaukee Avenue, Dundee Road, Wolf Road and various shopping center parking lots.

Donated trees will be planted along public and state right-of-ways.

The schedule for Clean-up and Fix-up week is

Sunday, May 18: Planting program continues.

Monday, May 19: The Appearance Commission award for past excellence in beautification and-or maintenance will be announced during the Board meeting.

Tuesday, May 20: The Village President and Appearance Commission will present the beautification award at a pre-announced time.

Wednesday, May 21: Free pick-up of junk cars.

Thursday, May 22 no announced activities.

Friday, May 23: no announced activities.

Saturday, May 24: Recognition Day. The Village Board and the Chamber of Commerce will recognize individuals and organizations who have made contributions to the clean-up program.

Building Dropped Last Month

The number of new buildings under construction, the amount of fees collected and the number of buildings being remodeled in Wheeling sharply decreased during March of this year compared to March 1979.

According to a report issued by the Community Development Dept., the value of new buildings built in March was $15,100, which is dramatically below the $1.5 million total in 1979.

DURING MARCH 1979, 12 new single family homes were built and valued at $601,846. One multi-dwelling unit was constructed valued at $263,020, 3 industrial buildings were built at a total value of $664,800 and 2 garage units were erected at a $9,600 value.

This year, the only new buildings built in March were 3 garages valued at $15,100.

Total value for all new buildings and remodeling for March 1980 was $699,445 as compared to $1,923,025 in 1979.



LIFE
4-24-80

KEITH MAGNUSON, CHICAGO BLACK Hawk assistant coach, from left, Harry Wells, director of Omni-House youth service bureau, Bill Hein, Wheeling mayor, and Don Conley, owner of the Wheeling's McDonald's, eat lunch as they plan for McHappy day, Sunday, April 27, McDonald's 25th anniversary. On that day, Omni-House will receive 25 cents from every Big Mac sold at the store.

4-24-80 Countryside

Wheeling budget up, but not property tax

Property taxes for Wheeling homeowners are not expected to rise with the passage Monday of a $7.9 million village budget, which is up about $1.58 million over last year's budget of $6.32 million.

Wheeling trustees, at the village board meeting, approved the fiscal year 1980-81 budget prepared by Finance Director Gregory Peters and staff, with the exception of the portion dealing with federal revenue sharing requests. That portion will be discussed at a special meeting at 7:30 p.m. next Monday night.

The budget calls for expenditures of about $7.9 million and predicts revenues of about $7.64 million. The latter figure is estimated and is probably higher, therefore, the budget is judged to be balanced.

Peters, in his budget message, said no tax increases are expected this year as a result of the budget. "This in turn should actually result in a decrease to the citizen's tax bill the following year (fiscal year 1981-82)," his written message stated. "That will be due to the fact that the increased building of the past few years will be manifested in the village's equalized assessed valuation."

Among the greatest increases in this year's budget, over last year's, is an 11.7 per cent increase in expenditures for personnel services: from $3.33 million to $3.73 million. This increase is to pay the salaries of 15 new village employees.

All but one of these employees, a relief police sergeant, are being hired to fill positions which have opened with the increased size of various departments, including the operations and maintenance and fire departments. The latter department will have nine new employees, to staff the new branch fire station.

The hiring of an assistant village manager, at a yearly salary of $23,000, also has been included in the budget. This position has been vacant for several years.

Debt service has increased quite a bit — from $306,886 during the last fiscal year to $831,576 in this budget. Peters said this increase is because the village is "having to now fully begin to pay off the debt that has been incurred because of the two recent bond issues."

Expenditures in several areas of the budget are down, including capital outlays and capital improvements.

The proposed revenue sharing requests are $15,000 for the village's senior citizens program, $20,000 for the park district and $180,000 for a transfer into the general fund. Since the federal government has hinted it will cut revenue sharing, it is uncertain how much of this request will be granted. This topic will be discussed further next Monday.

4-28-80 - Herald

The week ahead

Report to be given on airport plans

Officials and residents from Wheeling and Prospect Heights tonight will get their first look at a consultant's report that says it will cost the towns $78 million to buy Pal-Waukee Airport.

The consulting firm hired by the two towns will present the second of its three-part study at a joint meeting of the Wheeling Village Board and the Prospect Heights City Council at 8 p.m. at Gary Morava Center, 110 W. Camp McDonald Rd., Prospect Heights.

That same information will be presented Thursday at a public information meeting at 7:30 p.m. at Chevy Chase Clubhouse, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling.

In his report, Larry Donoghue, president of the consulting firm, says state and federal funds will cover all but $9.1 million of the airport's cost. Donoghue has recommended borrowing the local share through a 20-year bond issue that would be retired with airport revenues.

He says he hopes the bonds would be purchased by airport users, commercial airlines at O'Hare Airport and other bond investors. To ensure the airport would produce adequate revenue to repay the bond investors, Donoghue has proposed a monthly "field use fee" that would range from $25 for single engine planes to $2,220 for corporate jets.

Most of the expense would be to buy the airport and land around it for clear zones, but $9.6 million also would be needed to move the Wolf-Hintz Road intersection away from Pal-Waukee's 5,000-foot runway. Eighteen homes and 12 businesses outside the airport also would have to be purchased and demolished.

• • •

THE WHEELING Village Board will hold a public hearing tonight and then approve the federal revenue sharing portion of its 1980-81 budget of $7.8 million.

The village expects to receive $215,000 in federal revenue sharing this year. Acting Village Mgr. Gregory Peters has proposed that $15,000 be set aside for various senior citizens' activities, and $20,000 to be donated to the Wheeling Park District to purchase a new bus. The balance, Peters says, should be placed in the village's general fund to lower the amount the village will have to levy in property taxes later this year.

The public hearing will start at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd. Trustees last week approved all but the federal revenue sharing portion of the budget. That was because of a delay in publishing notice of the public hearing before last week's board meeting.

4-28-80 - Herald

Local laws tighten the nozzle

Herald staff report

Northwest suburban residents who want green lawns and clean cars this summer will have to do it at odd hours to comply with strict restrictions set by towns trying to stretch their water supplies.

The days of unlimited water use are "something like 45-cent-a-gallon gasoline — they're never going to return," said one local official, Wheeling's Robert Gray. "It's not carte blanche."

Officials are preparing for the hot summer months, when increased water usage plays havoc with supplies, by starting to enforce sprinkling bans and preparing extra water pumps and wells for the seasonal strain.

Although most towns enacted sprinkling bans as far back as 1957, few enforced them until 1976 and 1977, when many began experiencing shortages that left some residents without water for short periods of time.

AS OLD UNDERGROUND wells began breaking down and the Northwest Municipal Conference urged its member towns to tighten water conservation policies, a few suburbs even imposed moratoriums on new construction and annexations because they couldn't supply enough water.

In some suburbs, police and public works employees write tickets and fine several hundred violators annually. Other towns rarely ticket residents, their officials saying they find that verbal warnings usually solve the problem.

In addition to restricting the times that residents may water their lawns and wash their cars, some communities have begun requiring developers to fit new and existing buildings with plumbing designed to cut water consumption and asking restaurants to serve water only upon request. Others have even shut off decorative water fountains and waterfalls in parks and public facilities.

The only communities that don't impose any type of restrictions on their residents are Prospect Heights and Des Plaines.

Single-family homes in Prospect Heights have their own private wells, and Des Plaines, which has only a voluntary water conservation plan, is able to allow residents free use of water because it purchases water from the City of Chicago in addition to its six wells.

OTHER NORTHWEST suburban communities are planning to purchase Lake Michigan water from either Chicago or Evanston in the future, but now rely solely on wells for their water supplies.

And municipalities spend thousands of dollars each year repairing those wells in hopes they will last until a pipline is built to pump lake water supplies to their towns.

For example, Hoffman Estates, which has 16 wells, has not drilled any new ones since 1976, but has spent $20,000 in the past year to lower two wells to reach the falling water supply. Developers building new subdivisions are required to drill new wells to supply those residents.

Elk Grove Village had no problems with obtaining water until 1976, when five of the village's nine wells were out of service in late April and mid-July. That, coupled with an unusually dry summer, caused trustees in late July of that year to impose a sprinkling ban and a moratorium on annexations and rezonings for a year.

Last summer, Schaumburg called for a total sprinkling ban for a week until a shower relieved a dry, hot spell. "If you reach the point where demand exceeds capacity, there's nothing else you can do," said Utilities Supt. David Varner.

MOST TOWNS WRITE "only a handful" of tickets for violators, although Elk Grove Village and Buffalo Grove officials wrote more than 200 tickets each. Mount Prospect credits its ongoing conservation awareness program and citizen education for a decrease from 76 tickets written in 1978 to 15 tickets issued in 1979. To continue emphasizing that, the public works department will hold an open house May 17 with water conservation as its theme.

If this summer is a "normal" summer, public water officials said, they foresee no major water shortages.

"But it could very easily happen," Varner warned. "If we have a dry summer, all the towns are going to be in pretty bad shape. People are just going to have to start conserving. There's no two ways about it."

Regulations vary town to town

Here are the current regulations in Northwest suburban towns for outdoor water use.

Arlington Heights: Sprinkling is allowed from 5 to 9 p.m. daily except Sunday. There are no restrictions on washing cars or hand-hosing a flower or vegetable garden. The minimum fine for violations is $25.

Bartlett: Persons at odd-numbered addresses may water their lawns only on odd-numbered days and those with even-numbered addresses on even-numbered days.

Buffalo Grove: Outdoor use of water for any purpose is prohibited from 3 to 8 p.m. The minimum fine for violations is $5.

Elk Grove Village: Water use is allowed from 5 to 9 p.m. but only on odd-numbered dates for residents with odd-numbered addresses and even-numbered days for those with even-numbered addresses. The minimum fine for violations is $25.

Hanover Park: Residents are on an odd-even address system but may sprinkle and wash cars any three hours of the day. The minimum fine for violations is $10.

Hoffman Estates: Outdoor water use is prohibited from 2 to 8 p.m. The minimum fine for violations is $10.

Mount Prospect: Water use is allowed on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday except for the hours between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. The minimum fine for violations is $10.

Palatine: Water use is allowed from 7 p.m. to midnight on the even-odd address system. The minimum fine for violations is $10.

Prospect Heights: No restrictions.

Rolling Meadows: Water use hours undecided yet.

Schaumburg: Water use is allowed 24 hours on an even-odd address system.

Streamwood: Water use is allowed 24 hours on an even-odd address sytem.

Wheeling: Water use is prohibited between 2 and 8 p.m. daily. Residents are on an even-odd address system.

X HERALD 4-29-80

Conte said he put gun in man's mouth

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

A Wheeling policeman testified Monday that Lt. Thomas Conte, stuck a loaded gun in the mouth of a 20-year-old resident while making an arrest and told the man to "suck on this" or he would "blow his brains all over the car."

Conte, 43, second in command to Police Chief Ted Bracke, is facing dismissal from the department for using excessive force in making an arrest during what police orginally thought was a bank robbery at the Hoyne Savings and Loan, on Dundee Road, March 4.

The village fire and police commission took the matter under advisement, saying it will begin its deliberations tonight in closed session.

Conte, who also testified, admitted that he placed the gun in the mouth of Eugene Grassmuck, of Wheeling, after Grassmuck and a companion were seen assembling a shotgun in a car parked the bank parking lot. The last of four officers to respond to the call, Conte defended his actions, saying two of the officers had put themselves in a "crossfire situation."

HE SAID HIS main concern was to remove Grassmuck from the car as quickly as possible because of his concern for the officers and the fact that innocent bystanders could have been harmed if Grassmuck "made a desperate move." He said a subsequent search of Grassmuck produced a hunting knife with a 5-inch blade that Grassmuck was carrying in a holster on the side of his pants.

However, the other three officers, patrolmen Edward Theriault, William Stutzman and Ronald Hines, testified that the driver of the car, David Pearlman, 20, also of Wheeling, already had been handcuffed when Conte arrived.

After handcuffing Pearlman, Hines testified he saw the shotgun, which was unassembled in a plastic wrapper. He had put his pistol back into the holster and ordered Grassmuck out of the car, when Conte leaned in the car and stuck the gun in Grassmuck's mouth, he said.

"He (Grassmuck) was just sitting there making no effort to resist and he was sucking on the barrel of the gun," Hines testified.

Theriault testified that Conte threatened to "blow his brains all over the inside of the car. He said, 'Suck on this, I'll give you something to think about.' "

Conte, however, said he did not remember his exact words while he pulled Grassmuck from the car. "I feel it was a justifiable act. It's a very difficult situation requiring extraordinary measures," Conte testified. "I was very, very fearful for the safety of other people, including police officers. You don't know what a person will do or how desparate they are."

HERALD 4-29-80

Pal-Waukee buy studied; U.S. aid chance improves

While officials of Prospect Heights and Wheeling Monday night debated whether they can afford to buy Pal-Waukee Airport, owner George Priester said he may not have to sell the financially strapped airport after all because federal aid may be available soon.

A House of Representatives committee Monday passed a $14.3 billion airport development measure that includes $225 million for improvements and safety projects at airports like Pal-Waukee that relieve traffic congestion at larger airports nearby. The bill now goes to the full House.

Meanwhile, local officials and about 40 residents were told by consultants Monday night that it would cost $78 million to purchase the private airport and bring it up to federal aviation standards. Federal funds would finance 80 to 90 percent of that cost, but the two towns still would have to come up with $5 million to $9 million for their share, said Larry Donoghue, president of the Ralph Burke and Associates, a consulting firm hired by the towns.

Charles Priester, airport manager, said if federal aid was made available, the airport might be able to remain under private ownership. But that possibility is "nothing we can hang a hat on now," he said, so airport officials will continue to work with Prospect Heights and Wheeling over the proposed purchase.

PAL-WAUKEE IS NOT guaranteed money under the bill because applications still must be made for grants.

The goal of the bill passed by the House Public Works and Transportation Committee is to cut down on traffic at the largest airports by stimulating development of satellite airports. Currently, however, private airports like Pal-Waukee are not eligible for those improvement grants.

American way

LIFE 4-24-80

Jaycees get $5,000 for July 4 parade

WHEELING — It was a victory for mom, the flag, applie pie, not to mention the Wheeling Jaycees, Monday night, April 21, as the village board voted 4-2 to approve a $5,000 grant to that organization for the village's Fourth of July parade and festival.

The approval came only a week after the village fathers had been somewhat less than totally agreeable to providing a grant to the Jaycees.

"We were hurt at some of the implications last week," said Jaycee President Gary Krueger. "I don't think that should have been brought about. Our organization is here to work with you — not for you. We're also here to serve the members of the community."

Krueger added that the Jaycees are probably the "most patriotic" organization around and said they "don't need to run it (the Fourth festivities) — we want to run it for you (the village)."

VILLAGE BOARD PRESIDENT William Hein reassured Krueger that the Jaycees' work in the village hasn't gone unnoticed and that "I'm sure I speak for every member of this board when I say that every member has been to a Jaycee function."

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld said he was concerned not about the validity of a celebration on the Fourth, but about spending taxpayers' money. "We as board members have to do what will do the most good for the most people."

The dissenting votes were cast by Trustees Charles Kerr and Sheila Schultz.

"I'm not being critical of the Jaycees," Kerr explained, "I'm just being concerned about where the money might be needed."

Schultz, meanwhile, indicated that her opposing vote came not on the principal of the grant, but the amount.

The Jaycees will be putting on a "home grown" festival rather than have an outside group come in and run a carnival. Not only was the cost prohibitive, but carnival operators were being extremely selective about a site.

"We're looking for your support and guidance," Krueger told the board. "Because with it we do that much more."

Consider special use for Riverside restaurant

4-3-80 LIFE

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — An ordinance granting a special use permit for a restaurant at Riverside Plaza was passed for posting, Monday, April 7.

Village President William Hein, excused himself from the session and turned the chair over to Trustee John Cole who presided over the discussion.

Hein is beneficiary of a trust set up by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Hein, who are developing the Riverside Plaza shopping center.

Gene Gulinski, represented by Attorney Alan Garfield, requested a special use permit to allow two stores in the shopping center to be used for Ms. O'Leary's restaurant.

A restaurant was on the downtown redevelopment plan for the shopping center, according to Gulinski. He said that a 170-seat restaurant with stained-glass windows and hours from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m.

CONCERNS ABOUT the increased traffic at Milwaukee avenue and Dundee road were expressed by the board, after correspondences from Larry Oppenheimer, director of community development pointed out that most of the property in that area is designated for business and shopping uses, combined with the new design and improvement plan for the Wheeling business district, upgrading, will result in an increase of traffic.

An inner drive in the shopping center, in the redevelopment plan was designated to reduce traffic problems, Oppenheimer noted.

According to Trustee Sheila Schultz, the board has been trying to get relief on Dundee road, and she said there was concern about the increased traffic.

Gulinski said he failed to see where the restaurant was adding traffic, because the shopping center had approval and the restaurant was open late hours, and not conflicting with the rush hours as far as bringing in additional traffic at that time.

"No matter what we put in there will be some increased traffic according to the redevelopment plan, said Trustee Roger Powers.

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld noted that he too, is concerned about the traffic, that much of it is generated from people passing through the community, and he suggested "step by step improvements, even if a special tax of the business area is necessary," to improve pass-through traffic.

The staff should investigate some sort of program, since the village was denied funds by the state and North West Municipal conference for improvements, and then begin a long-range study, possibly eliminating and condemning property that might be adding to the close-in traffic situation in the area, Sommerfeld said.

LIFE

After permit denial

LIFE 4-24-80

May annex hospitalland

WHEELING — Now that the Cook county board has denied a special use permit for the Franklin Boulevard hospital, on March 17, the village of Wheeling may consider annexation of the property.

In a report to the board, Acting Village Manager Greg Peters said the original request for annexation by the Franklin Boulevard hospital group is still open, according to a report by Village Attorney David Epstein.

Although the village would not grant use as a hospital, the property, zoned R-4, will be developed eventually by someone, and the village should find out whether or not the hospital people wish to annex to Wheeling, Peters stated.

According to Epstein's report, the county board's action should end the hospital project, but the owners of the property can appeal the county zoning denial to the circuit court. This could delay the project beyond the deadline imposed by the Illinois health care facilities regulations.

Epstein noted the hospital "does own the property and at some point it will be developed by someone."

The village is interested in obtaining a 50-foot dedication for the area east of Schoenbeck road for future water and sanitary sewer improvements, according to Peters.

4-19-80 Herald

Fee plan may irk airport users

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

A consultant's plan for financing the $78 million public purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport will have the airport users "up in arms" says airport owner George Priester.

Larry Donoghue, president of a consulting firm hired by Wheeling and Prospect Heights to study the proposed purchase, this week released the report estimating the airport's cost. The local share would come to $9.1 million, with state and federal funds picking up the balance.

Because of local opposition to using tax dollars to buy the airport, Donoghue presented a plan to issue 20-year bonds that would be retired with airport revenues. The bond investors would be the businesses that base their planes at Pal-Waukee, commercial airlines at O'Hare and other bond investors.

To ensure the airport would reap an adequate profit to repay the investors, Donoghue has proposed a monthly "field use fee" that would range from $25 for single engine planes to $2,220 for the corporate jets based at Pal-Waukee.

But that plan, said Priester, is "like asking everybody to pay twice. You'll have everybody up in arms."

"I THINK THEY have an obligation to buy some of the bonds and probably most of them will go along with that," he said. "But when you have somebody buying gas, oil and parts here and then turn around and ask them to pay to use the facility... I wouldn't want to do it.

Priester predicted that some of the smaller operators would go out of business, some would move to the airfield at Waukegan and others "would fight their way into O'Hare."

Instead, Priester suggested the transient operators — those who represent about 40 percent of the air traffic and do not base their planes at Pal-Waukee — be charged a landing fee. However, Donoghue said a landing fee is difficult to enforce.

"You have to almost literally run onto the field and chase the guy down," he said.

PRIESTER WAS less specific about his reaction to what the consultants say he should receive for the airport. He would receive about $20 million for his 244 acres, but Priester said he had not had a chance to review the report to determine what airport buildings and equipment would be purchased.

"I think we see the need for the airport to continue operating, so I don't know how hard I'd haggle over the price," he said. "But I don't think we should give it away."

If Priester and the consultants are too far apart on the value of Priester's property, a condemnation suit would have to be filed and a judge or jury would affix a dollar value to the property.

The two villages also would have to acquire 18 homes and 12 businesses outside the airport, some with an estimated value of more than $100,000, in order to comply with federal aviation regulations. Anyone who doesn't want to part with his land, "could hold up a project indefinitely," said Bruce Carey, a relocation expert for the Illinois Dept. of Transportation division of aeronautics.

OTHER COSTS include $11.4 million to buy land and build roads leading to a new building that would house the airport administration as well as provide additional parking and airplane storage space. The consultants also estimate it would cost $9.6 million to relocate Wolf Road so that it would be further away from the 5,000-foot runway, a requirement of the Federal Aviation Administration.

The balance of the $78 million would be spent in the final 15 years of the airport improvement plan proposed by Donoghue.

Village residents want jets to go to Naval Air Station

The Navy doesn't think it's a good idea. Glenview officials are opposed to it. But a group of Wheeling residents plan to forge ahead with their proposal to get Pal-Waukee Airport's jet traffic routed to Glenview Naval Air Station.

The group, known as the Citizens Airport Activity Group, will have its first meeting Sunday night at 7 p.m. at the recreation room of Plum Creek Condominiums, near Hintz and Wolf roads.

Although one of the group's leaders, Lowell Stolerow, lives at Plum Creek, a complex that is directly in line with air traffic from the airport's longest runway, he says his primary objection to a public takeover of Pal-Waukee is the cost, rather than the typical complaint of noise and danger.

Stolerow says it would be far less expensive to re-route Pal-Waukee's air traffic to Glenview, which is eqipped with two runways that could accommodate jet traffic. The naval base, which often has been the object of rumors that it will close soon, is relatively traffic-free, he says.

LOCAL OFFICIALS SAY they won't buy the airport if property taxes must be used. The proposed financing plan calls for the $78 million purchase price to be provided by a 20-year bond issue that would be retired with airport revenues. However, Stolerow says state and federal funds will pick up almost 90 percent of the cost and that money comes out of everyone's pocket.

However, the Glenview Village Board is "unalterably opposed" to the introduction of civilian air traffic at the naval base, said Village Pres. Thomas Smith. He said the Wheeling residents are trying "to enhance their residential situation by opposing public acquisition."

Chief John Egbert, public affairs officer at Glenview, acknowledged there is relatively little air traffic and about 40 acres of undeveloped land. But that land is directly in the approach path of the runways and could not be developed.

Combining military and commercial operations would create a need for a new ground facility, roads, parking ramps and passenger terminals. "In effect, you're talking about building a new airport" that could be more costly than the purchase of Pal-Waukee. Having civilians on the naval base also would cause numerous security problems, he said.

NORTHWEST WHEELING HERALD 4-24-80

Well builders want extra money

A Chicago firm that charged Wheeling $123,500 to design and supervise construction of a new well is asking $30,400 more for extra work.

However, several trustees are balking at the request by Keifer Engineering Co., saying it could encourage firms who do work for the village to bid low and ask the village for more money when the work is completed.

"To me, that's just like saying, 'Go ahead and bid low. Maybe these ordinances will be enforced and maybe they won't.' I can't buy that," Trustee John Cole said.

Keifer submitted its proposal to design and supervise the well project in 1977. The firm was selected from five companies that sought the project because it had just completed a well for Buffalo Grove, said operations and maintenance director Robert Gray. However, because professional consulting firms do not submit bids, cost was not considered when the firms were interviewed, he said.

THE NEW $1.3 million well at Hintz and Longtree roads is slated to be finished this summer.

Most of the additional cost occurred because Keifer was forced to rewrite the specifications on the project after only one contractor originally bid on it.

Also, new federal environmental standards were imposed after the well was designed, which caused the project to be redesigned to accommodate a treatment plant that might be needed to make the well comply with safe drinking water standards, said John Yost, a Keifer engineer.

A committee composed of Gray, Trustee Roger Powers and Village Atty. David Epstein recommended paying Keifer all but $2,700 of the overrun claim, saying the firm saved the village money by handling "peculiar" circumstances that arose after Keifer was awarded the contract.

They acknowledged, however, that Keifer should have asked the village board first for permission to do the extra work.

YOST SAID HE preferred to negotiate with the contractors rather than delay the well project, which his firm had been told by village officials was needed in a hurry. "We said, 'Let's get it resolved. We need bidders so the village can have a well and reservoir,'" Yost said.

Powers defended the firm, saying it spent considerable time supervising the contractors, making sure the well was installed correctly. "They could have walked off the job, saying they were spending too much time watching," he said. "But they did that for Wheeling's benefit."

Cole disagreed. "I don't care if it takes him 16 years," he said. "That's what they're contracted to do," he said.

Village officials have scheduled a May 12 meeting to continue their discussion with Keifer on the cost overruns.

NORTHWEST WHEELING

Friday, May 2, 1980 Section 1—5

THE DAILY HERALD



THURSDAY MARKED Thomas Markus' return to Wheeling — this time as village manager.

Markus doesn't show first-day jitters

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

If Thomas Markus had any opening-day jitters his first day on the less-than secure job as Wheeling's village manager, they didn't show.

Markus, 28, Wheeling's fourth manager in the last five years, began Thursday what he hopes will be a long tenure as the village's top administrator. And while he said he plans to spend the next few months getting acclimated to the issues facing Wheeling, he outlined some of his plans to bring stability to village government.

Acknowledging he has "never seen a town with such division in political thinking," he said he hopes the village board will be able to concentrate on major issues, such as bringing Lake Michigan water to the village and possibly buying Pal-Waukee Airport, and leave the day-to-day running of village hall to him.

Markus, who served as Wheeling's assistant manager from 1974 to 1977 and saw two top administrators depart, said he has asked board members "to deal directly with me, rather than department heads, because I'm the guy that ultimately has to answer for their actions. I hate the idea of politics entering the day-to-day decisions of the administration."

HE WORKED CLOSELY with Terry Zerkle, who was fired in 1977 after he refused to appoint a political ally of Village Pres, William Hein as police chief. Markus had left for Savage, Minn. a few months earlier, where he was city administrator before returning to Wheeling.

Zerkle's successor, Carsten Leikvold, resigned in October after being criticized by a new majority of the board, which unseated the Hein forces in the April, 1979, election.

Leikvold had been criticized by the anti-Hein forces for making a number of promotions including that of Ted Bracke to police chief, and Markus acknowledged that there are "probably employees who fear for their jobs."

However, he said he met with all department heads Thursday morning "to let them know they will continue to work for the village as long as they're performing their jobs. I don't want employees to worry about their jobs at election time."

On specific issues, Markus said he plans to continue with a program to revitalize Wheeling's downtown area and draw up a five-year capital improvements program, calling for major street, sidewalk and sewer repairs.

He said he is particularly impressed with a recent Illinois Supreme Court decision that allows municipalities to freeze the taxes on an unimproved piece of property to induce developers to buy and make improvements.

NORTHWEST WHEELING

Saturday, May 3, 1980 Section 1—5

THE DAILY HERALD

Annexation urged before sewer hookup by firm

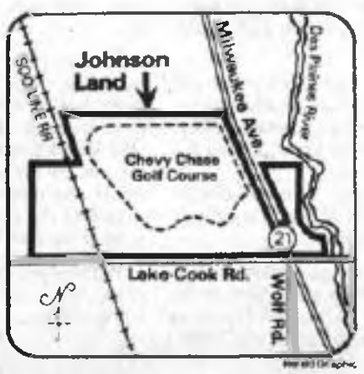
by Gordon Walek

Herald staff writer

Wheeling landowner William Johnson will make a final appeal to Buffalo Grove officials Monday for permission to connect the "decaying" Chevy Chase Sewer and Water Co. system to Lake County sewer lines and thereby resolve a lawsuit brought by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

But Buffalo Grove trustees, hungry for Johnson's 203 acres of industrial and residential property, want him to discuss annexing the land to the village before any sewer hookup is approved. One trustee says he will oppose Johnson's request unless it is accompanied by an annexation petition.

The IEPA last year filed suit against



Johnson's sewer company, which serves about 70 homeowners, a few businesses and the Chevy Chase Golf Course, charging the plant has dumped five times more treated sewage into the Des Plaines River than is allowed by federal pollution standards.

JOHNSON WAS ordered to upgrade his system, which he estimates will cost about $745,000, or get permission from Buffalo Grove to connect with the Lake County sewers. Buffalo Grove has a "sphere of influence" agreement with Lake County that gives the village final say about sewage connections in that area.

"This is something that can work to the benefit of both parties," said Trustee John Marienthal. "We want to broaden our industrial property base and Johnson wants his sewer connection. And I will not favor the connection unless he agrees to annex the property."

Johnson made a similar request to the village board in March, but trustees refused to act on it unless he at least "discussed" the possibility of bringing his property into Buffalo Grove. But Johnson said he would not consider annexation until he had consulted with other members of his family, who live in various parts of the country.

"I feel like my arm is being twisted," Johnson said at the time. "The annexation and the sewer connection are unrelated issues."

JOHNSON WAS not available for comment Friday, and his attorney, Robert Johnson, wouldn't discuss his client's plans except to say he wanted to get Buffalo Grove's permission to connect to the sewer lines.

The IEPA's pollution control board has given Johnson until May 16 to find a solution to the sewage problem.

Johnson reportedly has discussed annexing the property to Wheeling, but that village could not resolve the sewer problem unless the Metropolitan Sanitary District extended its boundaries into Lake County. And MSD Comr. Richard Troy said such an extension would be done only in "extraordinary circumstances."

Last year, Wheeling annexed 110 acres of Johnson-owned land south of Lake-Cook Road for a shopping center and an industrial park.

Johnson, or his attorneys, will meet with the Buffalo Grove trustees at 7:30 p.m. Monday in village hall, 50 Raupp Blvd.



Herald photo by Scott Sanders

HERALD 5-3-80

CLOSE CALL. Two persons miraculously escaped serious injury Friday when a car and a pickup truck collided on Lake-Cook Road in Wheeling, flipping the truck and sending the car tumbling to the bank of a drainage pond. Police said both vehicles were eastbound, about a mile west of Milwaukee Avenue, when the pickup truck swerved and collided with a car driven by Gisela Becker, 46, of Palatine. The driver of the truck, Thomas Hay, 29, of Buffalo Grove, was ticketed for improper lane usage. Both drivers were taken to Holy Family Hospital in Des Plaines where Mrs. Becker was reported in fair condition and Hay in good condition.

HERALD 5-3-80

Conte fired; projected 'image of brutality'

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

Wheeling Police Lt. Thomas Conte was fired Friday for using "excessive force" when he stuck a cocked and loaded gun into the mouth of a 20-year-old man he arrested in March.

Conte, a 16-year veteran and a second in command to Police Chief Ted Bracke, projected "an image of brutality to the community," and "set a bad example for younger police officers," according to a report from the village's police and fire commission.

Conte was present Friday when commission chairman Jack Metzger read the decision. He said nothing and waved away the reporters who approached him for comment.

Conte's attorney, Stanley Jakala, said he would file an appeal "post haste" in Cook County Circuit Court.

The charges against Conte stemmed from a March 4 incident when police responded to what was thought to be a bank robbery. A woman reported that two men were assembling a shotgun in a car in the parking lot at Hoyne Savings & Loan Assn., 699 W. Dundee Rd. Later, the two men told police that they had just purchased the gun and were simply inspecting it.

CONTE WAS THE last of four officers to arrive. The driver already had been removed and handcuffed by two officers and a third policeman had his gun trained on the passenger, Eugene Grassmuck, 20, of Wheeling, when Conte leaned into the car and thrust his gun into Grassmuck's mouth.

According to testimony at a hearing earlier this week, Conte told Grassmuck to "suck on it" and threatened to "blow his brains all over the car."

Another policeman at the scene testified that he had already placed his own gun back into its holster because he saw the shotgun between the bucket seats of the car, still unassembled and covered by a plastic wrapper.

In his own testimony, Conte admitted placing the gun in Grassmuck's mouth, but defended the action, saying two of the policemen could have been caught in a crossfire and there was danger of spectators being harmed if the officers were forced to open fire. He also said that a subsequent search of Grassmuck produced a hunting knife that he was carrying on the side of his pants.

JAKALA SAID Friday the policemen offered "conflicting testimony" on where and whether the suspects had their arms raised as police approached the vehicle.

"I think there were contradictory statements by the officers to cast some doubt on whether they truly had the situation under control," he said, adding that the appeal should be filed "within the next 10 days."

NORTHWEST WHEELING

Monday , May 5 , 1980 Section 1—5

THE DAILY HERALD

Trustees to consider water line

Wheeling Village Mgr. Thomas Markus will recommend tonight that the village join a coalition of towns that will build a pipeline to Evanston to obtain Lake Michigan water.

Wheeling, the only town in the Northwest suburbs without a lake water allocation, will present its case to the Illinois Dept. of Transportation in August.

Markus said he was basing his recommendation on the fact that buying water from Evanston appears to be slightly cheaper than building a pipeline to Chicago water sources at O'Hare Airport, as an eight-town group called Northwest Suburban Water Venture has proposed.

The group advocating the Evanston connection, called DAMP, has been in existence since 1957 and the DAMP system will be constructed "less than 200 yards from the lake. The Venture system would be located at O'Hare, which leaves some considerable gaps," Markus said.

HE ALSO NOTED that the proposed DAMP pipeline, which would run along the Soo Line railroad, would be convenient to three of Wheeling's larger water storage tanks.

However, Markus also said the village intends to reserve the right to change its mind, particularly if Arlington Heights, which has led the move to Evanston, should decide to abandon those plans.

The Evanston connection will cost the towns about $81.5 million, about 7 percent less than building the pipline to Chicago water supplies. Those costs could change though, if towns shift their alliances, Markus said.

The village board will consider a resolution stating their intention to join the DAMP forces tonight at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

HERALD 5-6-80

2 towns pick Evanston water pipeline

The village boards of Arlington Heights and Wheeling Monday night voted to build a pipeline to Evanston rather than to Chicago for Lake Michigan water.

The informal Arlington Heights decision came on a vote of 5-3 with Trustees Madeline Schroeder, Martin Cawley and Pauline Buss casting dissenting votes. Trustee Douglas Cannon was absent.

The Wheeling board had delayed its decision until receiving a telephone call from village officials who had staked out the Arlington Heights board meeting.

The votes increase the likelihood that two pipelines will be built to provide Lake Michigan water to the suburbs: the Evanston route, proposed by a group calling itself DAMP, and the Chicago option, which calls for building a pipeline to O'Hare Airport to tap on to lake water.

THAT CHICAGO plan is favored by Mount Prospect, Buffalo Grove, Rolling Meadows, Elk Grove Village, Hoffman Estates and Schaumburg, who have formed a loosely knit group called the Northwest Suburban Water Venture.

Palatine also has committed itself to the Evanston route. Village Pres. James Ryan of Arlington Heights said it is possible that Buffalo Grove would reconsider its alliance with the Venture group if Arlington acquires water from Evanston.

The cost for both pipelines could hit $200 million.

Before Arlington Heights officials voted, Village Mgr. L.A. Hansen told trustees he believed Chicago could not supply water to all 15 communities seeking it.

Venture says a Chicago pipeline could cost about $98 million compared to $81.5 million for an Evanston pipeline, a figure that does not include the costs for the additional storage that DAMP's plan would require.

In a report, Wheeling Village Mgr. Thomas Markus recommended Wheeling not join the Evanston connection if Arlington Heihts dropped out.

5-6-80

Company is denied sewer link

The Buffalo Grove Village Board Monday night refused to permit Wheeling landowner William Johnson to connect his Chevy Chase Sewer and Water Co. system to Lake County sewer lines.

Johnson, whose company is being sued by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for dumping five times more sewage into the Des Plaines River than is allowed by federal standards, now must either pay $745,000 to improve the system or persuade the Metropolitan Sanitary District to extend its service into Lake County.

Johnson's sewer company serves about 70 homeowners, a few businesses and the Chevy Chase Golf Course. EPA officials have described the system as "ancient."

BUFFALO GROVE and Wheeling officials for years have been fighting to get Johnson's 203 acres surrounding the golf course annexed to their respective villages.

Most Buffalo Grove trustees, hungry for additional industrial property for the village, have insisted that Johnson discuss his annexation plans before getting approval for a sewer hook-up.

Buffalo Grove has a "sphere of influence" agreement with Lake County that gives the village final say about sewer connections in that area.

Only trustee Elliott Hartstein favored the hook-up, saying the "sphere of influence" agreement was not intended as "a club" and that the only people that will suffer if Johnson must pay to upgrade the system are the 70-odd property owners in the area.

"If we deny this, we are taking a narrow perspective and thinking only of Buffalo Grove," Hartstein said.

But not one of his colleagues supported his motion to approve the connection.

JOHNSON DID not attend the meeting, but his attorney, Robert Johnson, said the sewer connection and annexation were two different issues and one should not be contingent upon the other.

"The Johnson family thinks it is not fair of the board to demand annexation before approving the sewer connection," the attorney said. "Chevy Chase and the IEPA think the connection is the only feasible solution to this problem. If you don't give your consent it is the resident who will be injured."

The IEPA's pollution control board has given Johnson until May 16 to solve the sewer problem.

The week ahead

Holy Family to give plan for new center

Holy Family Hospital will present its plans to build a $4.5 million emergency medical center near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street to the Wheeling Village Board today.

The Des Plaines hospital plans to open the clinic next year. It is designed to treat less serious ailments such as broken limbs as well as provide pre-hospital admission testing and health awareness programs for the community.

The village board will consider the request to rezone the two-acre parcel and grant a variation reducing the distance the building will be allowed from the roadway. The meeting will be at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

The clinic is the first of a series of developments designed to revitalize Wheeling's downtown area. The Cook County Housing Authority is planning to build 100 rent-assisted apartments for senior citizens, just southeast of the clinic.

The village also is planning to spend a $1.2 million federal grant to buy land for a center for seniors and handicapped persons. Land near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street is presently being appraised for the project.

• • •

THE SEVENTH firm seeking a village-backed low-cost construction loan will be considered Monday for preliminary approval by the village board.

Rexnord Inc., a firm that manufactures aircraft parts, is asking the village to approve $2.5 million in industrial revenue bonds for a 42,000-square-foot addition, doubling the size of the plant at Glenn and Shepard avenues.

John Harrop, sales manager for the firm, said the aircraft industry "has grown in leaps and bounds" during the past few years. With the addition, the firm will double the number of persons it employs over the next three to five years.

Under the financing plan, the village lends its name to the bonds, which under municipal sponsorship are tax-exempt. Investors are therefore willing to settle for a lower rate of return, and the savings is passed along to the developer, who is able to borrow construction money two to three percent lower than conventional interest rates.

Tuesday, May 6, 1980 Section 1—5
THE DAILY HERALD

Mueller picked to lead Wheeling park board

Shirley Mueller, a Wheeling Park Board commissioner since 1977, has been elected to serve as park board president for the next year.

Mrs. Mueller served as vice president of the board this past year. She said her main concern as president is to "get Heritage Park done — we've been working on that for nearly 10 years now."

Bids are scheduled to be opened later this month for construction work at the park, which includes enlarging a retention pond to a 10-acre lake for fishing and boating. The three-way agreement between the park district, the village and the Metropolitan Sanitary District also calls for construction of a pumping station to control flooding in the area.

Mrs. Mueller succeeds Frank Schnaitman as park board president. Traditionally, park board members take turns serving as president, with the vice president taking over the president's chair the following year.

Comr. Glenn Meier, elected to the park board in 1977, will serve as vice president. Schnaitman and Comr. Lorraine Lark will serve as co-chairmen of the park board's building and grounds committee.

Schnaitman also will co-chair the recreation and special events committee with Comr. Edward Klocke. Meier will chair the park board's finance committee.

Residents Debate Purchase Of Palwaukee Airport

5-7-80 Topics

About 250 residents of Wheeling and Prospect Hts. voiced their opinions on the possible purchase of Palwaukee Airport during a public hearing May 1.

"It was a very emotional situation," commented Wheeling Trustees Sheila Schultz. "We see people who are faced with the prospect of losing their homes and pilots who are losing a reliever airport."

The Wheeling Village Board and the Prospect Hts. City Council must now decide on whether or not to continue with the 3d phase of the study by Ralph Burke, Inc., which will address environmental concerns. Phase 2 of the study was concerned with financial feasibility.

"MY CONCERN is still the option of a big expanded airport or no airport at all," remarked Schultz. "There's got to be an in between."

Many area residents objected to the expansion necessary to meet federal guidelines. Currently, as a private facility, Palwaukee has not had to meet guidelines set by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

In order to meet these requirements, 18 homes and 12 businesses would have to be acquired and razed, and the intersection of Hintz and Wolf Roads would have to be relocated. Portions of Hintz Road would have to be moved further north.

"We need to get more information," commented Prospect Hts. City Manager Stephan Sturgell. "Many people are opposed to expansion of the airport.

HERALD 5-6-80

Dismissal of officer a warning to others

In the eyes of many Wheeling residents, the removal of Lt. Thomas Conte from the Wheeling Police Dept. is a just reward for his arrogant and injurious style of law enforcement. His conduct, questioned previously by his superiors, has finally caught up with him; the Wheeling Fire and Police Commission fired Conte last week on grounds he used "excessive force" March 4 while arresting two men.

Exactly what took place during the arrests is open to disagreement. Beyond dispute, however, is the fact that at one point Conte thrust his revolver into one man's mouth, told him to "suck on this" and — in the words of another officer on the scene — threatened to "blow his brains all over the inside of the car." The threat occurred after the man had been put under armed guard by another officer and after the second suspect had been handcuffed.

Nor was this the first instance in which Conte's behavior has come into question. In 1975, he used a slapjack to strike a prisoner who had become unruly after being picked up for drunken driving. The chief at the time, M.O. Horcher, ordered Conte to undergo a psychiatric examination, but Conte refused. The lieutenant never did take the examination, and he has continued to serve as a No. 2 man in the department.

Not any longer, if the commission's dismissal of Conte withstands his probable appeal to Cook County Circuit Court. The commission, after investigating the March 4 incident, declared that Conte projected "an image of brutality to the community" and "set a bad example for younger police officers." It ruled a dismissal was warranted. The commission was appropriately concerned about abusive police methods; this is at least comforting to law-abiding citizens who desire effective police protection and, as important, the respect of citizens by police.

No one should underestimate the difficulty in judging cases of alleged police brutality. Complete and credible accounts are hard to come by; witnesses can be speaking out of self-interest, and the stress prevailing over everyone on the scene only aggravates matters. Under the kind of pressure a police officer faces daily, the temptation must be strong to react overzealously.

For these very reasons, the use of force without real provocation needs to be discouraged vigorously. Only a small minority of police officers are inclined to resort to force and then to ask questions. The dismissal of Conte will, if nothing else, serve to warn them of the consequences of such action.

Animal tags sold at village hall

Animal tags, required on all cats and dogs in Wheeling, are on sale at village hall.

The tags must be displayed by June 1. A current rabies certificate is required to purchase the tag, which costs $5.

Office hours at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd., are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday. For more information call 459-2600.

HERALD 5-6-80

Season Sprinkling Ban Thru October

5-7-80 Topics

The Village of Wheeling has imposed water restrictions on non-essential use from May 1 thru Oct. 1.

Between 2 and 8 p.m., lawn sprinkling and other non-essential uses of water are prohibited.

Prohibited uses include watering lawns and shrubbery, washing cars and filling swimming pools.

During other hours, watering is permitted on odd calendar days for odd-numbered addresses and even-numbered addresses may water on even calendar days.

This has been implemented as a conservation effort to prevent future water shortages.

X 5-7-80 Topics

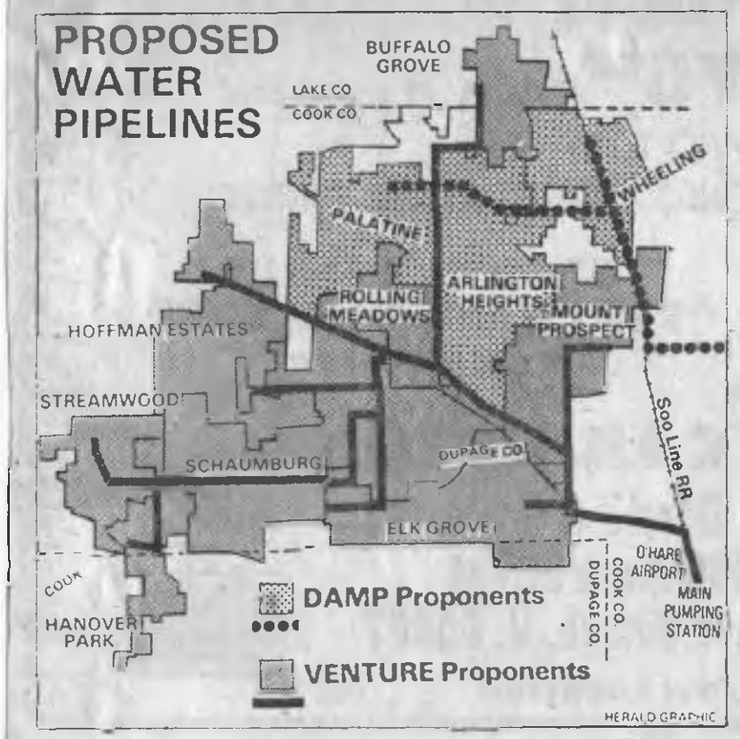
Police Lt. Conte Fired Following Conduct Charges

Wheeling's board of fire and police commissioners dismissed police Lt. Thomas Conte last Friday after hearing charges earlier in the week that he held a cocked, loaded revolver in a suspect's mouth.

Conte, a 17-year veteran of the force had been suspended with pay since early April when charges were brought against him by Police Chief Ted Bracke. The charges against Conte were unnecessary restraint, engaging in prohibited activity while on duty and unnecessary display of a weapon. No criminal charges were filed.

According to Bracke, Conte was terminated "effective immediately," but would offer no comment on the case.

Bracke said no one has been chosen to fill Conte's position, and all his former duties are being handled within the department. A replacement will be promoted from within the department "eventually" said Bracke.



Blanche: Made a copy of this for me. Jan.

5-7-80 - Herald

Suburbs paying for 2 pipelines

by Debbie Absher

Herald staff writer

After spending nearly $300,000 for consultants to help them decide whether to build a pipeline to Chicago or Evanston for Lake Michigan water, nine Northwest suburban towns apparently will build two pipelines at a total cost of about $200 million.

Suburban officials will meet today in Elk Grove Village to decide on a route for a lake water pipeline, but it appears no consensus will be reached. Instead, the towns probably will split and decide to build separate pipelines at twice the estimated cost for one line to serve all of them.

The original plan to build one pipeline was expected to at least double the rate residents pay for water, and officials admit that two pipelines would increase that amount even more.

Palatine, Arlington Heights and Wheeling officials have committed themselves to building a pipeline to Evanston, as advocated by the DAMP Water Commission, at an estimated cost of $81.5 million. In addition, they would have to spend a total of about $7 million to improve existing water mains and to construct reservoirs to store the water.

AND DESPITE the zig-zag pipeline that would have to be constructed to reach them, Mount Prospect, Buffalo Grove, Rolling Meadows, Hoffman Estates, Schaumburg and Elk Grove Village all favor the $98 million Chicago route proposed by a loosely-knit coalition called the Northwest Suburban Water Venture.

Those towns also would have to spend another $18 million to improve existing facilities to handle the new source of water.

And because fewer towns would be splitting construction costs if two pipelines are built, residents' water rates would have to more than double to pay for it, said John E. Callen of the consulting engineering firm of Consoer, Townsend & Associates hired by DAMP.

"We'll be honest about it — the more people (towns) you have involved, the more favorable it is because the costs go down for everybody," he said. "Now it's come down to a question for the communities to ask themselves how many towns it will take for them to afford it."

BUT REGARDLESS of how many towns join the effort to build an Evanston pipeline, the total cost "wouldn't be substantially different," he said, "because you still have to get from point A to point B."

And Venture members also agree their costs would be about the same even without Arlington Heights, Palatine and Wheeling.

DAMP members say they prefer Evanston because it is willing to sign a long-term price contract and fear Chicago because it may use its water sales to raise suburban money to solve its financial problems. But Venture members say that Chicago has more experience in selling water and more capacity to serve the Northwest suburbs.

LIFE 5-8-80

Watering restricted in Wh

WHEELING— Residents are reminded that water restrictions have gone into effect in the village of Wheeling. From May 1 until October 1, all "non essential" uses of water are pro- hibited between the hours of 2 and 8 p.m.

Watering will be permitted in other hours depending on address and the date.

Residents with even-numbered addresses will be allowed to water on even number days, residents with odd-numbered addresses on the odd days.

The village defines prohibitive water uses to include watering lawns and shrubbery, washing of cars and the filling of swimming pools.

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5-7-80 Topics

PICK EVANSTON AS ROUTE FOR LAKE PIPELINE

BY VIRGINIA SUTTON

Wheeling's Village Board voted Monday nite to adopt a resolution supporting DAMP, a commission seeking to build a pipeline from Evanston to supply water from Lake Michigan.

The decision was made primarily because the VENTURE group seeking lake water thru a pipeline from O'Hare, had a May 7 deadline. Communities were asked to decide which organization to join in order for VENTURE to draw up final engineering plans.

Wheeling has long suffered from water problems and bans have often been imposed on the use of water. Served thru a system of wells, Wheeling is now asking the state for an allocation of Lake Michigan water.

COMMUNITIES in DAMP include Arlington Hts., Mt. Prospect and Palatine. Those belonging to VENTURE include Arlington Hts., Palatine, Rolling Meadows, Buffalo Grove, Elk Grove Village, Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates and Mt. Prospect.

RECOMMENDATIONS from village staff urged the DAMP membership primarily because it is more economically feasible, said Village Manager Thomas Markus.

Rolling Meadows, Buffalo Grove, Elk Grove Village, and Mt. Prospect have decided to go with the VENTURE organization. Arlington Hts. and Palatine have voted to go with DAMP.

Wheeling has submitted an application for an allocation of Lake Michigan water. The village's scheduled hearing for the allocation is Tuesday, Aug. 12.

Residents can sprinkle lawns on alternate days

HERALD 5-6-80

Wheeling residents will be allowed to sprinkle their lawns every other day this summer under restrictions imposed by Village Mgr. Thomas Markus.

The new regulations take effect immediately, Markus said, and will be in effect until Oct. 1. The water restrictions also include other "non-essential uses," including car washing and filling swimming pools.

Residents with odd-numbered addresses will be allowed to sprinkle on odd-numbered days. Residents with even-numbered addresses will be allowed to sprinkle on even-numbered days.

The restrictions are intended to conserve water the village will have on reserve in the event of a major fire or disaster. Markus said limiting the use of water will lessen the possibility of a total ban on outdoor water use this summer.

Push-me-pull-me?

LIFE 5-8-1980

Palwaukee five-stage, $78 million project: Experts

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — Public acquisition of Palwaukee airport became a "Push-me-pull-me" discussion after the consultant's report was given at the public information meeting for Phase 2 of the Palwaukee public acquisition study Thursday, May 1, at the Chevy Chase country club.

Nearly 300 people listened, questioned and even heckled the consultants and village officials. Larry Donoghue, president of Ralph Burke and associates, the consulting firm hired by municipal, state and federal governments to do the study, told the group the total cost of the five-stage project is estimated at $78 million, with each stage taking place over a five-year period until the year 2000. But Donoghue could not convince many people that the project would not mean a tax raise. The projected number of operations ranged from 320,000 in 1979, to 400,000 in the year 2000 with a projected increase in aircraft based at the airport from 575 in 1979 to 700 in the year 2000.

LAND SLATED FOR acquisition along Palatine road includes a piece between the expressway and Frontage road, to relocate Palatine Frontage road; the Clark gas station; the vacant gas station and a parcel across the street; west from Wolf about 400 feet beginning at Lynn, and relocation of Wolf to where Wolf joins Acco, according to Donoghue. Moving the intersection of Hintz and Wolf is planned, along with relocation of Hintz to hug the creek, he said. Included in the acquisition is the property known as the Lefkowitz property, he said.

Estimated land acquisition is 268 acres, with 244 acres for the airport, 14 acres of land for displaced threshold clearance zones, and 10 acres on the northwest corner of Wolf and Palatine, according to Donoghue. The land acquisition will not include the motel, 94th Aero Squadron restaurant, or office building, all on Milwaukee avenue, but includes 18 homes and 12 businesses, Donoghue noted. The theater and mini-warehouse group are planned for later acquisition, he added.

Revenue bond financing with 10% interest, federal aircraft user funds, and state aviation user funds are suggested as means of financing, "with no taxes from local communities," Donoghue said.

WHO CAN BUY the airport? According to Donoghue, the federal government, state, airport authority, county, cities and villages, park district, transportation authority (RTA), township or a public university. Cities and villages have powers of emminent domain (purchase property for public use at a fair market value) and can do what George Priester could not do, he said.

The big problem is that if Palwaukee closes, where do the small aircraft go? he asked. "We cannot superimpose that much traffic (300,000 operations) on O'Hare field," he added.

WHY DO USERS want Palwaukee? According to Donoghue, proximity is the main asset, because the busy corporate executives who are the major users now and will be in the future, do not want to spend as much time on the ground as flying. In a survey taken by the consultant, 22% of the respondents answered that Palwaukee use "saves time"; 57% said "proximity"; 66% was transient "business"; and 92% was business both transient and based. Other uses were personal or flying schools, according to Donoghue.

If Palwaukee closes, 39% of aircraft owners would use DuPage county airport, 12% would use Midway; 7% would use O'Hare field; and 22% said they would sell the aircraft, Donoghue told the audience. Of the transients, 43% would use O'Hare field; 13%, Midway. Donoghue mentioned that Waukegan airport would not accommodate the jets. "If O'Hare International airport closes for two hours, traffic backs up all over the country because O'Hare is the largest airport in the world," Donoghue added.

After Donoghue completed his report, the session was opened for questions. Questions for the first half of the question-and-answer session came from the Citizen's Aviation Action group (CAAG) which opposes public acquisition of the airport.

LOWELL STOWEROW asked what guarantee the communities have that future airport commissions would not be doing future condemnations. Donoghue said he could not forecast what future commissions would do.

Warren Sundee, said he thinks the report by the consultants was "inaccurate" but Ira Berman commended the consultant's thoroughness, even though he "could almost see the color of the pilot's eyes" when planes land.

Harriet Oehler and Vivian Pintacura pleaded for their homes. Pintacura said he does not use the airport so why should she move. Someone from the audience shouted that the Soo Line runs through the town but when was the last time anyone used it. When order was reestablished, Donoghue compared the airport use to Lincoln Park zoo, Wrigley field and Sox park for impact. "When we go there we impact there, as the airport users impact here," he said.

Several residents said they do not believe taxes would not be raised if the villages were to acquire the airport, in spite of the consultant's statements about user, state, and federal funding. Robert Shasta asked why the people are spending $120,000 for the study when the villages have no commitment from the seller that he will sell. "Now it looks like federal aid will be given to private airport owners and Priester won't have to sell," Shasta said.

AIRPORT USERS defended the public purchase of the airport as adamantly as CAAG members objected, however. Jerry Witt of Lincolnshire told how closing the Chicagoland airport and putting in an industrial development did raise their taxes because the town had to install new water and sewer lines and had to provide additional fire and police services. "It is costing us more by closing the airport," he said. (Terri Schoeder, assistant village manager of Lincolnshire, said, however that the recent tax increase had nothing to do with the Chicagoland airport project.)

According to Robert Holtzstead, the village of Wheeling opposed the airport and then "all of a sudden did a reverse." He asked if the village was influenced by a "force from Washington."

According to Wheeling Village President William Hein, "When the village first got into the study, it was to see if it was possible to acquire the airport and make it safer for the people." He added, "The prime thing was safety — it's been a long time and there has been a lot of growth. Consequently, when you have something that will be there forever, one way or another, it becomes the village's responsibility to make it as pleasant as possible." Hein denied any pressure from Washington and said the acquisition is "a local matter."

Glenview naval air station was saved by former Sen. Everett Dirksen's efforts, and with the storage of ammunition there, it is not feasible to bring in civilian jets.

One question that remained unanswered, according to Wheeling Trustee Sheila Schultz, is whether Wheeling and Prospect Heights should seek a commitment from the Priester family to sell before proceeding with Phase 3.

Percy will 'monitor' Palwaukee situation

WHEELING — Sen. Charles Percy (R-IL) has replied to a petition and letter sent to him by the Citizen's Aviation Action group (CAAG) which opposes public acquisition of Palwaukee.

In a hand-carried letter, delivered May 1, by Scott Schulz, projects director of Percy's Chicago office, to Lowell Stolerow, Percy stated that he would "continue to monitor the situation," but he cannot say if he could do more at this stage.

Schulz reiterated that Percy's office did not have the expertise to do an economic impact study, such as the type the consultants had been hired to do.

However, Percy communicated with the Federal Aviation administration (FAA) to find out its perspective and to ask the FAA to keep the concerns of the petitioners in mind, Schulz said.

Stolerow, recording secretary, for CAAG said that Percy had received some 1,200 signatures opposing public acquisition of Palwaukee, and requesting that Glenview Naval air station be considered as a combination civilian airport as a reliever for O'Hare field and a military airbase, rather than purchase Palwaukee. In addition, the petitioners had asked Percy to check the consultant's findings.

LIFE MAY 8, 1980

Commission fires Conte after hearing

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — After nearly 17 years on the force, Wheeling Police Lt. Thomas Conte was fired, Friday, May 2, for putting a loaded gun into a man's mouth while taking him into custody.

The decision was the result of hearings held April 3 and April 28.

The fire and police commission found that Conte "projected an image of brutality to the community," and alleged that Conte set a bad example to the younger police officers by using "excessive force" while making an arrest.

Conte's attorney, Stanley Jakala said that he would appeal the decision in the Cook county circuit court. He said that he was convinced of Conte's cause and would not file if he did not think it could be won.

Police Chief Ted Bracke who filed the complaint with the fire and police commission was present to hear the decision, but was unavailable for comment after the decision had been handed down.

THE CHARGES stem from a radio-dispatched call to "all units" that "two men with shotguns were in the parking lot of Hoyne Savings and Loan," Wheeling.

During the April 28 hearing, Jakala contended that Conte was performing his duty as a Wheeling police officer. Three other officers who arrived on the scene before Conte were Edward Therjault, Ronald Hines and William Stutzman.

According to testimony, Conte said when he appeared on the scene he was told the shotgun was still in the car. He said he did not recall whether he told the suspect, Eugene Grassmuch to "suck" on the gun barrel. However, Stutzman, who had been on the passenger side of the vehicle with Conte said he did not recall the "substance" of Conte's statements to Grassmuch.

CONTE TESTIFIED he arrived at the scene on foot because he responded to the call while patroling on Hintz road, and after driving northbound on Wheeling road, he was unable to get through traffice at the intersection of Dundee and Wheeling. He said he parked the unmarked squad on the median and proceeded on foot. Conte testified that he acted as he had because he feared for the safety of the police officers on the scene and for the civilians who were in the savings and loan building.

Conte said that he did not believe the situation was under control when he arrived on the scene because the one suspect was still in the car. After the suspect had been removed from the car, Conte said that he found a black holster which contained a hunting knife with a five-inch blade on the suspect. According to the testimony, none of the officers had known the shotgun was unassembled when they approached the car.

During the April 28 hearing, Jakala brought out that there was nothing covering the situation of putting a gun into a suspect's mouth in the police manual. Conte said that he came upon a volatile situation that could not exist for long. He said there was a possible crossfire situation and one officer was in a direct line with the bank window.

When the fire and police commission decision to dismiss Conte from the police force was read, Conte's wife Vita broke into sobs. Jakala said Conte has grounds for an appeal because of the "manifest weight of evidence." Conte was a senior lieutenant in the department. He attended the Chicago Police academy, Northwestern traffic institute, and other schools.

LIFE 5-8-80

Wheeling closer to lake water

WHEELING—The prospect of Wheeling residents getting their water from Lake Michigan moved a step closer to reality Monday, May 5 when the village board decided to check into the feasibility of joining DMAP, a consortium of area cities and villages in need of an additional source of water.

The move to join DMAP (which stands for Des Plaines, Mount Prospect, Arlington Heights and Palatine) came on the heals with the DMAP proposal to get its water through a pipeline from Evanston.

Wheeling could have elected to join Venture, an eight-community consortium also seeking additional water supplies. Unlike DMAP, it would get its water from a pipeline that would run from Chicago to O'Hare airport and then out to northwest suburban areas.

"We're pretty sure we'll go this way," said Village Board President William Hein. "It's not an absolute decision, but we think it's the most cost effective for the village of Wheeling."

There is some duplication in the member communities between the two groups. For example, Arlington Heights, Mount Prospect and Palatine are also active in Venture. Other members include Schamburg , Hoffman Estates, Rolling Meadows, Elk Grove Village and Buffalo Grove. A meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, May 7 to discuss what communities would formally make up the Venture system

The key to membership could be Monday night's decision by the Arlington Heights board.

LIFE 5-8-80

Accident injures two on Lake-Cook

WHEELING—Two people were injured Friday, May 2, in a two-car accident on eastbound Lake-Cook.

Witnesses say the accident occured when a truck driven by Thomas Hay, Buffalo Grove, swerved across the eastbound lanes hitting a car driven by Gisela Becker, Palatine. Hay's truck overturned while Becker's car was pushed nearly 30 feet off the road.

Both were taken to Holy Family hospital. Hays, who was charged with improper lane usage, was released May 5. Becker was transferred to Lutheran General hospital where she was listed in good condition on May 6.

Wheeling Police were assited at the scene by Buffalo Grove Police.

LIFE MAY 8, 1980

Animal tags now on sale

WHEELING — Animal tags went on sale at the village office Thursday, May 1, for the 1980-81 year. They are due June 1 of each year. A current rabies certificate is required to purchase the tag. The fee is $5 per animal, whether dog or cat.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday.

For further information, call 459-2600.

Reminder 5-8-80

Officer fired for handgun misuse

Thomas Conte, who served on the Wheeling police force for 17 years, was discharged Friday by the Wheeling Board of Fire and Police Commissioners. The decision followed a hearing April 28, at which the commissioners heard evidence regarding misconduct charges against the police lieutenant.

Conte, who was in charge of the police investigations unit, was charged with misuse of a handgun in arresting a 20-year-old Wheeling man during a suspected armed robbery on March 4 in Wheeling. Reportedly, he placed a loaded, cocked gun in the mouth of the suspect during the arrest.

In a written statement read by a commissioner at a special board meeting Friday, the commissioners said they judged that Conte had violated three sections of the Wheeling police department's manual of rules and regulations.

Conte's "conduct could be harmful and detrimental to the overall operations and reputation of the Wheeling Police Department," the statement read, "by setting a bad example for younger police officers in the use of force in the making of arrests and projecting an image of brutality to the community which the police department is sworn to protect."

Also the commissioners said they judged that Conte had used "an unnecessary and excessive amount of force" in making the arrest, and had displayed his firearm in an unnecessary manner.

Therefore, they said they had decided that Conte would be discharged from the department. Conte, who was present at the Friday meeting, signed papers terminating his employment.

Conte's replacement in the department will be named by the commission. The person who fills his job probably will come from within the department.

5-8-80 Reminder

Pal-Waukee purchase hotly debated again

By MARION SOURS

More than 200 people showed up Thursday night at Chevy Chase Clubhouse, most of them to grill the village presidents of Wheeling and Prospect Heights and the head of an area consulting firm, about the proposed purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport by the two villages.

Though there were some comments in favor of such a purchase, the overwhelming number of speakers expressed vehement opposition to the proposals offered in the latest report issued by Ralph Burke and Associates. The consulting firm, under commission by the villages, is documenting the feasibility of a public purchase of the airport, and has predicted some condemnation of land will be necessary for such a purchase.

"These people you're pushing out were born here. .raised here. ." said audience member Harriet Orna, in a trembling voice. Orna's home at 32 E. Hintz Road is among those which might be condemned if the proposed airport plans ever are approved.

"We pay the taxes. All of a sudden you go after the little people. I don't care if George Priester (owner of the airport) gets rich!" Orna said, to widespread applause.

"I feel nothing but sympathy for your situation," said Larry Donoghue, head of Ralph Burke. "This is the most difficult part of our jobs."

Donoghue, Wheeling Village President William Hein and Prospect Heights Mayor Richard Wolf presided over the public information meeting Thursday, the third such meeting held since the village commissioned the report.

The meeting was held to discuss Phase II, the recently completed second stage in the Burke report. Three stages originally were planned, though village officials still have to give the okay before the firm begins the third, and final stage. The villages are paying $120,000 for the report.

Phase II gives cost estimates for a public purchase, and presents a staging program for public acquisition and improvement of the airport. According to the report, in order to meet Federal Aviation Association (FAA) standards, Wolf and Hintz roads would have to be realigned. These FAA rules are not binding on a private airport, but would be on a public facility.

The report estimates 18 homes and 12 businesses in the area would have to be relocated in order to meet FAA standards. Phase II estimates the total cost of the airport at $78 million. The federal government, it is estimated, would pay $60.78 million of this, the state would pay $8.03 million and local governments would pay the remaining $9.20 million.

The report states the local share would not require local tax funds. It would come from the sale of revenue bonds.

Many of the audience members who spoke Thursday expressed dismay at the proposed condemnation of land. Others said they were concerned with the Wolf/-Hintz realignments or with the increased noise and danger from more planes landing at the airport.

A pilot from Chicago, Mike Ableman, who keeps his plane at Pal-Waukee, was one of several people who argued in favor of the public purchase of Pal-Waukee. He said it was important that Pal-Waukee be kept open, in order to serve as a reliever for O'Hare.

"If you don't have it, there's going to be a catastrophe at O'Hare," he said, comparing it to the overcrowded situation at the San Diego, Cal. Airport. "I don't know if you can put a $78 million price tag on something like that," he said.

However, Ableman also suggested Glenview Airport might be looked at as an alternative reliever. This also has been suggested by the newly formed Citizens Airport Activity Group (CAAG), made up of a number of area residents opposed to the public purchase of Pal-Waukee.

Donoghue said Thursday he did not believe Glenview would be suitable, because there is little land available there for the construction of hangars. Safety restrictions on Naval property are greater than those on civilian property, so that more space must be devoted to buffer zones, he said.

Pal-Waukee Airport is the busiest private airport in the country, with more than 300,000 operations each year. O'Hare is the nation's busiest airport, and Pal-Waukee is its major reliever.

The reasons Wheeling and Prospect Heights have considered purchasing Pal-Waukee it because many officials have considered the airport benefits the villages, by attracting industry to the area.

Airport owner Priester, now in his seventies, has said if he left the airport to his family in his will, the inheritance taxes would be so great as to force them to sell it.

He also has had problems in the past in financing maintenance on the airport, which as a private facility, is not eligible to receive tax monies. (A bill now before Congress might change this situation, however Donoghue said the inheritance tax issue still would be the deciding factor in whether the airport stays open.)

Because of these problems, the villages decided if they wished to keep the airport open, a public purchase might be the only way.

A Lincolnshire resident, speaking at Thursday's meeting, warned what might happen if Pal-Waukee closes.

"Don't be foolish like Lincolnshire was in giving away Chicagoland (Airport)," he said. "We found that what it will cost to put in an industrial park (in increased water, fire and police services, etc.) will be much more than keeping the airport."

Getting to know you 5-8-80 Reminder

Senior's service her life

Geraldine Swan, Wheeling's senior citizens services coordinator, first came to the Chicago area in 1948, to work as a librarian in the Loyola University library.

A native of northern Wisconsin, Geraldine attended the College of St. Therese in Winona, Minn. and the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul. She came to the area to work at Loyala.

Soon after that she met Edward Swan, who had been paralyzed in action in World War II. They were married, and in 1950 they moved to a home in unincorporated Wheeling.

Her husband ran an accounting service from their home until becoming Postmaster of Wheeling in 1961, a post he held until his death in 1971. The Swans' son, Charles, was born in 1961 and now is 19.

Over the years, Geraldine has been active in many community activities. She worked as a volunteer secretary at St. Joseph the Worker and was president of the Catholic Women's Club for several years. She also set up St. Joseph's Closet for the Needy, which made clothes and other items available for needy families. She ran this service from her home. "It was aimed at keeping up their respect and giving them nice things," she said.

Geraldine took the job as a senior citizens coordinator a year ago, and she thoroughly enjoys it. "I've learned as much as through a college education in the last year," she said.

During the year, she helped start the "Carrier Watch" Program through the Post Office and helped establish the senior citizens commission and the handicapped parked system in the village.

In her spare time Geraldine likes to knit, crochet, read and write. She also helps her son, who is studying communications at Harper College. She makes costumes and revises scripts for his projects. He also is an avid photographer, and sometimes she helps him develop his prints.



Geraldine Swan

Wheeling village officials probably couldn't have picked a better person to help senior citizens in the village. Geraldine Swan has shown a commitment to helping people all her life.

5-8-80 Reminder



New village manager

Thomas Markus becomes Wheeling's new village manager this week replacing Carsten Leikvold who resigned and left office March 31. Markus worked for the village from 1974 to 1977 and recently was village administrator for Savage, Minn. (Staff photo by Dean Rutz.)

5-9-80 Herald

Three firefighters promoted to run new fire station

Three Wheeling firefighters are being promoted to lieutenant rank and will supervise the new branch fire station at Hintz and Wheeling roads.

The men, slated to be sworn in next week by the village's police and fire commission, are Daniel Dieter, 34, a 10-year firefighter, Richard Wydra, 30, who has been in the department for three years, and Richard Theobald, 42, an eight-year veteran.

Fire Chief Bernie Koeppen said the new station, which opened last month, has been run mainly by firefighters who have been appointed temporary shift commanders. The new lieutenants will be paid about the same amount that firefighters receive for temporarily running a shift, he said.

The three new lieutenants' salaries have not yet been set, Finance Director Gregory Peters said. Their minimum salary will be $22,349. The maximum a firefighter-paramedic is paid is $21,125, he said.

KOEPPEN SAID THE new station must "show adequate staffing and supervision" when the department is evaluated later this year by the Insurance Service Organization, an agency hired by insurance companies to rate the quality of municipal fire protection.

When Koeppen received approval from the village board earlier this year for nine more firefighters to staff the branch fire station, he warned that residents' homeowners insurance rates would increase at least 15 percent without the new men.

When Wheeling was last rated in 1967, its rating was one point away from making a 15 percent difference in homeowners' insurance premiums. The agency suggested then that Wheeling have a second fire station to cover the west side of town because the original fire station was located in the northeast portion of town.

5-8-80 Reminder

Buffalo Grove may review Chicago pipeline

Wheeling, Arlington vote Evanston water

Wheeling and Arlington Heights have decided to join Palatine and go with an Evanston pipeline to obtain water from Lake Michigan. Their vote might change Buffalo Grove's decision to seek access to the lake through a Chicago pipeline.

Citing costs, stability and other considerations, Palatine trustees last week voted to purchase water supplies from Evanston.

"There may be disadvantages in participating in a regional system several miles away," said Buffalo Grove Village Manager William Balling, referring to the village's vote last week to take part in the Venture pipeline plan.

The nearest communities in the Venture group to Buffalo Grove are Mount Prospect and Rolling Meadows. Arlington Heights and Palatine are charter members of both Venture and the DMAP commission, but both recently opted to join the DMAP program, which will seek a pipeline to Evanston.

Balling said the geographic proximity of the communities tied together in a pipeline is crucial to keeping costs down. When Buffalo Grove trustees voted last week to join in the Venture plan, they did not know how Palatine, Wheeling or Arlington Heights board members intended to vote on the issue.

They voted in favor of the Venture plan because they said more communities were involved and there was more stability in the membership of Venture than in that of DMAP. Balling said three members is the bare minimum DMAP could have in order for a pipeline to be feasible.

DMAP stands for Des Plaines, Mount Prospect, Arlington Heights and Palatine, which were the charter members of the group. However, Des Plaines since has joined a Chicago pipeline group and and Mount Prospect recently decided to go with the Venture plan.

Currently there only are three communities in the DMAP plan (Palatine, Arlington Heights and Wheeling) compared to five in the Venture plan (Buffalo Grove, Rolling Meadows, Mount Prospect, Schaumburg, Elk Grove Village and Hoffman Estates).

When Buffalo Grove trustees voted to go with the Venture plan, they recognized the decision might not be final.

The new Wheeling Village Manager, Thomas Markus, had recommended that trustees vote in favor of a DMAP pipeline. He said staff believed it was preferable because DMAP is an older, better-established organization than Venture and that equal rates would be charged to all communities, which would not be the case with Venture.

Also, Markus said, DMAP would not require reimbursement for prior engineering and feasibility studies, whereas Venture would ask for $25,000 in such costs. He also pointed out that the Venture water supply would be piped into the village at a pressure three times greater than current operating pressure, which would mean facilities would need to be developed to reduce the pressure. He said DMAP would pipe water in under "manageable pressure".

Wheeling officials Monday night had sought to hold off on making a decision, however, until they found out how the Arlington Heights board had voted. They delayed the vote until the end of the Wheeling board meeting, but since no decision had yet been made in Arlington Heights at that time, they voted anyway.

Although Palatine remains a member of Venture, Village President Robert Guss said trustees opted for the DMAP route after exhaustive studies of alternatives.

In a fact sheet prepared by village officials, benefits highlighted were lower and more stable water rates, an existing right of way and a provision for arbitration should contractual disputes arise.

NORTHWEST WHEELING

5-12-80 Herald

The week ahead

Trustees to discuss extra pay for contracted work

Wheeling trustees tonight will discuss whether to pay a Chicago firm that was paid $123,500 for designing and supervising construction of a new well an extra $30,400 for the work.

A special committee comprised of Robert Gray, operations and maintenance director, Village Atty. David Epstein and Trustee Roger Powers has recommended paying Keifer Engineering Co. all but $2,700 of the overrun claim, saying the firm saved the village money by handling unusual circumstances that occurred after Keifer was awarded the contract.

However, several trustees are balking at that idea, saying it could encourage firms working for the village to bid low, thinking they could get paid more later.

Keifer submitted its proposal to design and supervise the well project in 1977. The firm was selected from five companies that sought the project because it had just completed a well for Buffalo Grove. Cost was not considered when the firms were interviewed because professional consultants do not submit bids, Gray says.

The new $1.3 million well, at Hintz and Longtree roads, is slated to be finished this summer.

Most of the additional cost occurred because Keifer was forced to rewrite the specifications on the project after only one contractor bid on it.

Also, new federal environmental standards were imposed after the well was designed, which caused the project to be redesigned to accommodate a treatment plant that might be needed to make the well comply with safe drinking water standards, Keifer officials say.

The village board is slated to discuss the overrun claims at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

A CEREMONY HONORING Lloyd Kelm, who served as a volunteer fireman and fire inspector in Wheeling for 35 years, will be tonight.

Kelm, 68, will be recognized for his years of service with the village at 7:30 p.m. at village hall.

• • •

THE NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL Conference will meet Wednesday to decide how it will continue helping 21 suburbs set up cable television franchises.

A consultant hired by the municipal conference recently completed a comparison study of 14 cable companies applying for franchises in the North and Northwest suburbs.

Each village board and city council is now on its own to select a company to receive a cable franchise, or not award one.

But the municipal conference, a coalition of mayors and managers from 23 suburbs and seven townships, may remain involved by helping the towns write the ordinances and contracts necessary for a franchise.

Possible joint functions of the municipal conference will be discussed at a meeting of a cable TV task force at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday. The task force will make a recommendation to the full conference.

The conference meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Wheeling Township hall, 1616 N. Arlington Heights Rd.

TOPICS 5-14-80

Village Board Wrap-Up

$2.5 MILLION BONDS ISSUED TO INDUSTRY

BY VIRGINIA SUTTON

Wheeling's Village Board granted preliminary approval to Rexnord Inc., Seals Division, 634 Glenn Ave., to issue industrial revenue bonds in the amount of $2.5 million.

The bonds will be used to fund an addition to the existing building.

THE 42,000 SQ. FT. addition will boost the number of employees from 220 to 349 by 1984. The plant manufactures mechanical shaft seals.

Accruals of $51,036.94 for April were approved by the board. All items were approved with the exception of a $579.15 for a 35mm-70mm camera. Trustee John Cole questioned the need for such an expensive camera, and it was deleted.

Village Planner Dick Greenwood defended the camera purchase, indicating it was needed to take photographs of village houses for in-house reports on the comprehensive plan. Trustees would not approve the item.

THE BOARD voted to waive competitive bidding for repairs to a 1967 tractor due to a lower price obtained than anticipated. Case Tractor, 6260 Joliet Rd., Countryside, estimated repairs in the amount of $4,208.20. The estimated expense was $7,000.

Village Manager Thomas Markus urged that the $2,500 limit now set for requiring items to go out for competitive bid be raised. An amount, however, was not stated.

"It's unrealistic to require competitive bidding on such a small amount," Markus remarked.

IN ADDITION, a resolution accepting plans and specifications for improvements to Heritage Park on Wolf Road was passed. Four areas of the park will be addressed: low flow channel and siltation basin, pumping station; grading to the west; grading to the east.

Bids for the project will be accepted in the Office of the Wheeling Park Dist., Chevy Chase Golf Course, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave., until 10 a.m. Thursday, May 22.

The board of trustees will award the bid on June 2.

Venture For Lake Wate

Meadows Joins

The City of Rolling Meadows has voted to join the VENTURE organization, seeking to build a pipeline from O'Hare Airport to bring Lake Michigan wate Northwest Suburban area "It's a question of econ commented City Manag

include Rolling Meadows, Elk Grove Village, Buffalo Grove, Hoffman Estates, Arlington Hts., Palatine, Schaumburg and Mt. Prospect.

Elk Grove Village, Mt. Prospect and Buffalo Grove have also voted to join the VENTURE group along with Rolling Mead-

Arlington Hts. and Palatine have voted to join the DAMP group, seeking to build a pipeline from Evanston.

Wheeling has passed resolution supporting DAMP, while Prospect Hts. passed a resolution supporting VENTURE.

TOPICS 5-14-80

Village Launches Senior Watch

The Village of Wheeling instituted a Carrier Watch Program Apr. 1 for senior citizens and handicapped people living in the 60090 zip code area.

The system is designed to keep an eye out for elderly and handicapped citizens by placing a decal in their mailboxes.

When the mail carrier delivers mail to a specially marked box, a check is made to see if any mail still remains from the previous day.

If mail is not picked up, authorities are notified and will contact the resident. If necessary, they will send help.

Those who wish to register for the program must be 60 years of age or older or handicapped.

For further information, contact Geraldine Swan at 459-2613 or Sgt. Jack Kimsey at 459-2634 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

5-14-80
10 PICS

Name May 16 Day For Poppies

Wheeling's Village President William Hein has named Friday, May 16 from 4 p.m. thru 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 17 as Poppy Day.

The annual sale of poppies assembled by disabled veterans is a fund-raising campaign for the benefit of disabled and needy veterans, and the widows and orphans of deceased veterans.

The poppies will be sold by members of the V.F.W. Post 7178 and Amvets Post 66.

5-15-80 Life

Honor Kelm

WHEELING — At a cake and coffee reception prior to the workshop session Monday, May 12, the Wheeling village board honored retiring Fire Inspector and Second Asst. Chief Lloyd Kelm, who has been with the Wheeling fire department since 1945.

Kelm served under three fire chiefs. More than 70 residents and firemen came to honor Kelm for his longtime service to the department. Kelm was also on the Wheeling police and fire commission for eight years.

His fire department service was estimated at about 40 years, he said. Kelm said he can remember the time a pump broke down and so he went to a field in Northbrook and took a pump off a truck out in a field and brought it back so the village could have water. "It wasn't like it is now with all these men," Kelm said, pointing to the many uniformed firemen at the reception. "We worked around the clock."

Village President William Hein said that Kelm was a man involved in all facets of the community. He recalled when Kelm showed new recruits how to shift the fire truck, equipment, and how they met his wrath at two in the morning if the fire trucks were not ready for service. Hein called Kelm "one of the real dedicated people in volunteer services who stayed on and loaned their expertise to the village as employes."

With his wife Marilyn, a principal at Glencoe's South school, Kelm said he would "like to do it all over again." Fire Chief Bernie Koeppen said that Kelm "carried many hats, and when you gave him a job to do, he did it."

Kelm said he enjoyed working under Chief Koeppen the most because Koeppen "understood the business and I was inclined to do more because of his appreciation." He said that he enjoyed serving more when there were no paid firemen, only volunteers.

REMINDER 5-15-80

Area villages have until Aug. 1 to decide water pipe route

Buffalo Grove, Palatine and Arlington Heights have until Aug. 1 to give definite answers regarding which water pipeline they intend to utilize — the Venture pipeline to Chicago or the DMAP pipeline to Evanston.

Members of these villages and the four other villages which make up the Venture commission met on May 7 in Elk Grove to discuss the proposed Chicago pipeline to obtain Lake Michigan water. Several officials said they were under the impression a definite answer was to be given by that meeting. But the villages agreed to extend the deadline until Aug. 1.

The reason for the extension is to give members of the DMAP commission time to see if they can put together an economically feasible plan for obtaining water. Currently, DMAP has only three members — Arlington Heights, Palatine and Wheeling. The former two also are members of the Venture group.

If the DMAP pipeline looks feasible, Buffalo Grove may join the group, since the communities in that commission lie adjacent to the village, and joining such a grouping would be more economical than joining a pipeline several miles away.

Buffalo Grove Village President Verna Clayton asked one of the consulting engineers for Venture whether, if Arlington Heights and Palatine withdrew from Venture, Venture could supply water to Buffalo Grove at reasonable rates. "It appears to be out of the way to us," he said.

Other members of the Venture group are Hoffman Estates, Elk Grove Village, Rolling Meadows and Schaumburg. In a polling taken at the March 7 meeting, all these communities, plus Arlington Heights, favored a slightly different route for the pipeline than did Buffalo Grove and Palatine. The latter two favored a pipeline which would run closer to their communities.

All the communities also said they would prefer that the water be delivered under the standard operating pressure in their area.

Representatives of Hanover Park and Streamwood were present at the meeting, and said they may opt to join Venture, but have not yet made a decision.

Grab brooms; cleanup time

Grab your brooms and spades! Wheeling's "Up With Wheeling Day" is only two days away!

Area residents and organizations are encouraged to take part in Saturday's activities, which include organized trash pickups and tree plantings. Participants should meet at the operations and maintenance building, behind the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road, at 8:30 p.m. They will be directed to specific areas of the village.

The rest of the week, until May 24, will be "Clean Up and Fix Up Week," during which time eveyone will be encouraged to improve the appearance of private properties throughout the village.

Wednesday will be "Dump the Junk Day," when the Wheeling Police Department will tow away junk cars free. Those interested may call the police department to make a reservation.

As part of Clean Up Week, the village appearance commission will present an award for beautification and/or maintenance in the village. On the final day of the program, village officials will recognize everyone who took part in the week's efforts.

5-15-80
REMINDER

5-15-80 Life

Well number seven

Charge contractors took part in possible 'collusion'

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — During a request for an additional $30,400 after being paid $123,500, Kiefer Engineers Monday, May 12, alleged that the Lake County Contractors association took part in a possible "collusion" when bids were requested for Well number seven. But "collusion is hard to prove," they added.

In defense of the additional costs for their work, during a workshop session with the village board, Kiefer engineers said they encountered "unusualproblems" first with the bid letting and then with the construction itself.

During the first bid session on Well number seven, one bid was received from William Randolph, which included a list of 21 conditions, the engineers said. Since one bid was received, the engineers said they returned the bid unopened, and rewrote the bid contract, not the engineering specifications.

According to Village Attorney David Epstein, a whole group of contractors refused to bid, not on the specifications but on the contract. "Both the village and Kiefer are caught in a box," Epstein said. According to John Yost, Kiefer engineer, director of environmental engineering, former Village Manager Carsten Leikvold ran the rebidding.

IN THE REBIDDING specifications, the project was split into two distinct phases with the agreement of the village staff, Yost said. He added that the agreement to do a second bidding was reached during a meeting with the staff when Village President William Hein asked if the village had contracted to do one or two biddings. Hein noted the contract called for one bid letting.

Hein told Kiefer engineers, "It seems we are being charged by you to talk to the contractors." He asked, "Why pay for contractors who did not bid?"

Three contractors had a similar complaint, and the eingineers said they spent 270 hours of time talking on the telephone with the contractors to secure the objections, rewrite the bid contract, and attend a seven-hour meeting at which they ran out of tape after four hours, Yost told the board.

After discussions with four contractors, one dropped out and three bids were received at the second bidding, Yost said. He also mentioned he had contacted William Randolph to drop the list of 21 objections, which then made him low bidder, with Keno Construction entering the second low bid.

TRUSTEE HUGH Sommerfeld told the engineers that as a businessman their move was probably a smart one, but in a government agency, that type of discussion was not so good, because "Here we negotiated a contract away from a low bidder."

Yost replied, Randolph was low bidder when he dropped the 21 items."

Other problems that brought additional charges over and above the original contract payments to Kiefer engineers, who represented the village on the $1.3 million new well project at Hintz and Longtree roads, were alleged attempts by sub-contractors to "substitute equipment." In some cases the approval came through the general contractor, Yost said.

The general contractor subcontracted work to Meir Plumbing, who subcontracted work to O'Brien Electric who subcontracted to Holding Co., who subcontracted to Square D, Yost said. Square D was identified as the manufacturer. "When you go through that many people, it takes time," Yost said.

Dave Westerfall, executive vice president of Kiefer Engineers, charged that the general contractor had not adequately supervised the sub-contractors and allegedly substituted inferior equipment where he could, forcing the engineers to spend additional time rejecting the equipment.

VILLAGE MANAGER Tom Markus asked when the engineers had begun acquiring extra costs. Yost told him the firm began presenting extra costs to the village in November 1979.

An additional charge to the village came when Well number seven was held up by Environmental Protection agency (EPA) regulations, and according to Kiefer Engineers, the federal law regulating radiation levels in drinking water had not been put into effect in Illinois when the well project began.

Yost said the village still has a chance of ending up with a finished reservoir which they cannot use unless they put in a treatment plant or obtain a variation. Trustee John Cole told the engineers the federal law took precedence, over state law, "You gambled and lost your gamble."

Yost insisted the law was not in effect in Illinois and had to be adopted by the state EPA. According to Yost, the federal law was in effect since June 24, 1977. Three months after the contract was signed, the state adopted the law, when "we were under the opinion it would not be required," Yost added. "An additional $9,000 had to be added to bring the contract up to date," he said.

Hein asked if the engineers had not reviewed the law since 1978 and were charging $9,000 to review the EPA act.

Markus told the engineers that the village manager cannot authorize additional costs, and Sommerfeld said, "Wouldn't it be the intelligent thing to find out who authorizes payment?"

According to Trustee Charles Kerr, the only people bound by the contract is the village, and he asked, "What good is the contract to us?"

STAFF MEMBERS who authorized the work did not know it would cost extra, Markus said. "They were doing it in good faith," he said. However, they did not authorize additional expenditures because they did not know the cost, he added.

Kerr asked, "If we cannot rely on the consultants, who can we rely on?"

"Who can predict these things if you cannot?" he questioned. In November, the village appointed an ad hoc committee to check into the costs. The additional charges by Kiefer Engineering were as follows: $9,000 to redesign the reservoir; $9,500 to review EPA regulations; $600 to negotiate temporary construction permit with the school district; $1,700 to relocate farm tiles, $900 architectural and landscape work; $600 review of Longtree detention storm sewers; $300 to obtain setback variance from the village zoning board; $550 for field survey of wells on three village problem areas, (withdrawn by Kiefer), $2,500 construction management services; $3,000 additional resident engineer time; $1,000 rerun of testing when contractor's equipment broke down; and $4,000 review time for installation of equipment by contractors.

The ad hoc committee threw out the $1,700 charge as the village's responsibility to do the work, although no official action can be taken at a workshop session. Westerfall told the board it was obvious the trustees' minds were closed to paying the additional charges and mentioned contacting his "lawyers."

According to Epstein, the staff asked the contractor to do work which was not part of the contract, Kiefer did it. He added he had not come to any final legal opinion at this time, and it was not the time to give an "off the cuff" legal opinion. Markus suggested the board withhold any decision until it receives a legal opinion about the situation.

Cole said he was upset because the engineers, knowing the law, had not put into the contract some sort of provision — "just to assume a valid law will not be enforced is taking a gamble and they lost." "I'm going to take a gamble, if I lose you pay, if I win, I collect," he said. Sommerfeld and Trustee Roger Powers noted the engineers were adding in their profit and overhead. Sommerfeld suggested an additional study on the matter.

EDITORIAL REMINDER 5-15-80

On the waterline

When it comes to water decisions, the northwest suburbs have a choice:

Either "get wet" together, or "dry up" separately.

There needs to be a consensus on the issue of water access and there needs to be one now.

By 1990, the experts agree, and possibly as early as 1985, the northwest suburbs are going to be experiencing a "water famine." As growth continues, and population pressures mount, the water table will begin to drop. Existing wells will begin to dry up.

The answer to the problem, of course, is that big pond to our east, Lake Michigan. Everybody agrees on that. What they don't agree on, however, is where to go to get that Lake Michigan water.

One faction wants to go to Evanston. This is the "DMAP" faction, which is presently comprised of Palatine, Arlington Heights and Wheeling.

Another wants to go to Chicago. This is the "Venture" group, which currently includes Mt. Prospect, Rolling Meadows and, most recently, Buffalo Grove.

We're in favor of the "DMAP" proposal.

In our opinion, it's the better of the two alternatives because:

(1) The plan has been around longer. Feasibility studies have already been conducted which won't have to be paid for again.

(2) It will result in lower and more stable water rates. Each village would be charged equally.

(3) It provides for an existing right of way and also for arbitration should contractual disputes arise.

(4) We're just plain skeptical of the entire region becoming a client of the city of Chicago.

So, we urge Buffalo Grove to reconsider its decision (indications are trustees may be doing just that) and urge the villages which haven't made up their minds yet to go with the DMAP proposal.

With a water shortage looming on the horizon, it just doesn't make any sense for villages to bury their heads in the sand. Sand, after all, it what they should be trying to avoid

NORTHWEST WHEELING

HERALD 5-16-80

Airport cost estimate trimmed

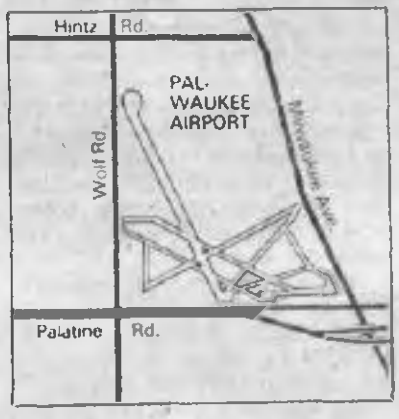
by Gordon Walek
Herald staff writer

Pal-Waukee Airport could be purchased and refined to meet federal standards for about $50 million instead of an earlier $78 million estimate, a consultant studying public ownership of the airport said Thursday.

The new plan contains three rather than four runways, allows fewer aircraft to park at the 278-acre site and cuts down on the number of taxi-ways. And only half of the 18 homes and 12 businesses scheduled for "relocation" under the original plan to meet Federal Aviation Administration standards would have to be moved.

"This is just another way it can be done," said Larry Donoghue, a consultant hired by Wheeling and Prospect Heights to study the feasibility of those villages purchasing the airport.

"You don't have to spend $78 million. You can develop a lesser airport, keep it in its present form and satisfy the FAA requirements."



The airport, at Milwaukee Avenue and Palatine Road, houses about 500 planes and handles about 1,000 landings and takeoffs each day. Pal-Waukee owner George Priester wants to sell the facility.

Because it is privately owned, the airport is exempt from certain FAA standards that apply to municipal ownership.

THE NEW PLAN includes $10 million to reroute Wolf and Hintz roads because current locations of the streets violate federal regulations. They are too close to the end of the airport's single 5,000-foot runway which handles jet traffic. Another $20 million would be used to buy the existing facility from Priester, with the additional funds used for taxiways and other improvements.

About $39 million would come from federal funds, with the state picking up about $5 million and Wheeling and Prospect sharing the remaining $6 million in costs.

But Donoghue said the less expensive project would reduce the number of aircraft that could park at the facility and the number of landings and take-offs might have to be curtailed.

"We should have seen this plan a year and a half ago," said Tom Baggot of the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission. "We've always been looking for the minimum we have to do and we should have had this plan in the first place."

Donoghue defended his earlier plan, saying he was hired to estimate the costs of purchase and improvements with all the runways in operation.

HE SAID the road rerouting and acquisition of some property would be necessary to keep a 5,000-foot runway open. "Ninety-eight percent of jet traffic uses the 5,000-foot runway," Donoghue said, "and if that is shortened, you will lose all your jet traffic. If you can't get jets, you shouldn't buy the airport."

Terry Schaddel, a planner with the Illinois Dept. of Transportation, questioned Donoghue's figures, saying the airport could be bought and improved for about $35 million.

"Our people were upset with that $78 million figure," Schaddel said. "We've got a budget to consider."

He said the IDOT cost estimate would be available for the next meeting with the consultant on June 3.

Officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights said their village boards will consider the proposal in the next two weeks.

HERALD Saturday, Ma 380

IEPA's sewer suit involves village

Buffalo Grove has been brought into the litigation of an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency lawsuit against Wheeling landowner William Johnson's utility company.

The IEPA's pollution control board agreed to involve Buffalo Grove in the case after Johnson said the village was blocking resolution of the suit by prohibiting his company from connecting with Lake County sewers.

The IEPA is suing Johnson's Chevy Chase Sewer and Water Co., which serves about 75 homeowners, a few businesses and the Chevy Chase Golf Course, for allegedly dumping five times more treated sewage into the Des Plaines River than is allowed by federal standards.

Buffalo Grove has a "sphere of influence" agreement with Lake County, giving the village a final voice about any sewer connections made in the area of Johnson's utility.

Village officials recently refused to allow the utility to connect with Lake County sewers because Johnson wouldn't consider annexing 203 acres of potentially valuable industrial property he owns to Buffalo Grove.

The sewer connection would have resolved the lawsuit filed by the IEPA last year.

The pollution control board is expected to schedule a hearing for Johnson and the village in late June or early July.

HERALD . . . 5-19-80

THE WHEELING Village Board will decide tonight if a Chicago firm that designed and supervised construction of a new well should be paid $30,400 for additional work.

Keifer Engineering Co., which originally charged the village $123,500 for the project, said it is owed the additional money because specifications on the well had to be rewritten. Also, new federal environmental standards imposed after the well was designed caused additional revisions, a Keifer engineer said.

Operations and Maintenance Director Robert Gray, Trustee Roger Powers and Village Atty. David Epstein form the committee that has recommended paying Keifer all but $2,700 of the overrun claim, saying the firm saved the village money by handling "peculiar" circumstances that arose after the contract was awarded.

They acknowledged, however, that Keifer should have asked the village board first for permission to do the extra work.

The village board will meet at 8 p.m. in village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

. . .

KENNETH R. BRADY and Paul Eisterhold are expected to be reappointed to the Wheeling Plan Commission tonight by the village trustees. Jerome Vesecky will be reappointed to a three-year term on the fire and police commission and Edward Spriegel is scheduled to accept another term on the Ethics Board.

The trustees will make those appointments, and others, at a village board meeting at 8 p.m. at village hall.



5-21-80 Topics

Wheeling Village President William Hein, left, congratulates retiring village fireman Lloyd Kelm following a May 12 ceremony honoring Kelm for his years of service to the village. The party was attended by trustees, village staff, the public and firefighters. Kelm received a plaque and reminisced about his experiences.

5-21-80 Topics

Village Commission Members Reappointed

Ten members of various Wheeling commissions and boards were re-appointed by Village President William Hein Monday nite.

The re-appointees are: Appearance Commission, Marilyn Minter, 3-year term; Board of Health, Meredith Tripp, Ida V. O'Reilley, and Arni Miller, each for a 3-year term; Ethics Board, Edward Spriegel, 3-year term; Fire and Police Commission, Jerome Vesecky, 3-year term; Plan Commission, Kenneth R. Brady, Paul Eisterhold, each for 3-years; Police Pension, Barry W. Levy, 2-year term and Zoning Board of Appeals, Crisanne Irmiter, 5-year term.

The only person not wishing to be re-appointed was Board of Health member Joan Cole. She informed the Board of Trustees she will serve until her successor is appointed.

5-21-80 Topics

Board Wrap-up

WHEELING MAY ADD 200 ACRES

Authorization for Wheeling Village Manager Thomas Markus to develop an annexation agreement to bring 200 acres of property into the village, was granted by the Wheeling Village Board Meeting Monday nite.

The Johnson property, approximately 200 acres of land in Lake County, located north of Lake-Cook Road, borders 110 acres south of Lake-Cook Road recently annexed by the village.

Village President William Hein added that the Johnson property annexation agreement would not incur any costs on village taxpayers.

AMONG THE ISSUES to be resolved in an annexation agreement is the availability of sewer and water services. Markus said request will be made to the Metropolitan Sanitary District (MSD) for sewer service in Lake County. He added the village will negotiate with owners of property adjoining the Johnson site to enter into consideration for annexation.

IN ADDITION, the board decided to approve a sum of $579.15 for the purchase of a 35mm camera for the Community Development Department. At the last board meeting, trustees refused to approve the expenditure, pending a justification from staff. In a written report, Village Planner Dick Greenwood said the camera would be used by staff to photograph maps, plats and housing conditions for a neighborhood analysis report. In addition, slides of structures and structural deficiencies will be taken for the report.

Trustee Sheila Schultz approved the item and said, "We're talking about a professional tool."

However, Trustee John Cole disagreed, "Unfortunately, the camera was already purchased. It's not intended for the kind of work you're doing."

The board also voted to enter into a formal agreement with DAMP, a group seeking to build a pipeline bringing Lake Michigan water from Evanston. Arlington Hts. and Palatine have already voted to go with DAMP. However, Mt. Prospect, the other active member of DAMP, chose to go with Buffalo Grove, Elk Grove Village, Rolling Meadows, Hoffman Estates and Schaumburg in constructing a pipeline from Chicago.

"This will solidify our position with DAMP and encourage other communities to join," commented Markus.

THE BOARD authorized the village manager to enter into a contract with Arlington Draperies, 12 S. Dryden Ave., Arlington Hts. not to exceed $5,468.36 for draperies for the new municipal complex. The manager was also authorized to enter into a contract with Alphabet Soup, 1550 Spruce Ave., Hanover Park, not to exceed $11,000 for graphic work at the municipal complex and the branch fire station.

5-21-80 Topics

Firm Asks For More Money For Radioactive Well Work

Officials from the engineering firm that handled construction of Wheeling's Well No. 7 asked Village board members May 12 for an additional $30,400 for extra work done in building the well.

Presently, water from the well cannot be used due to an extraordinary amount of water radioactivity. Well No. 7 is located at Hintz Road and Longtree.

IN MAY 1978, village trustees budgeted $1.3 million for the construction of the extra water supply. However, representatives of Keifer Engineering Inc., Chicago, informed the village of additional cost in November 1979.

At that time an ad hoc committee was formed to investigate the extra fee request. Members of the committee are: Trustee Roger Powers, Village Attorney David Epstein and Director of Operations and Maintenance Robert Gray. However, they cautioned their recommendations were not legal decisions.

John Yost, director of environmental engineering at Keifer Engineering explained the requests, which range from $9,000 for rebidding the reservoir contract, to $3,000 for additional resident engineer time, to $600 for construction of easements with the school district.

The primary objections raised by trustees was the need to have the project sent out for rebidding. According to Yost, all bids but one were withdrawn on the day they were to be opened. Contractors objected to terms of the contract.

This explanation did not meet with approval from board members.

"We hired you, supposedly competent engineers, and you screwed up," blasted Trustee Charles Kerr.

THE VILLAGE is seeking a variance from the Illinois Pollution Control Board to allow the well to function despite high levels of natural radioactivity. If the petition is denied, the village could be forced to spend $3.2 million for water treatment plants. Several of the village's deep wells may be in violation of limits set for radioactivity. New standards for radioactivity in water were put into effect in January 1979.

Village officials also objected to work proceeding without approval of costs by the board.

"You've been working with governmental bodies long enough to know that the village authorizes funding only thru the board," commented Village Manager Tom Markus.

"What bothers me is, the more you hear, the only person bound by a contract is the village. You bid on a job for a certain amount and you take a gamble," said Trustee John Cole.

As Dave Westfall, executive vice-president prepared to leave the meeting, he remarked, "We're wasting our time, aren't we?" As debate among board members continued, he added.

As the meeting was in a workshop setting, no official action could take place.

'Mini-approach' to airport

5-22-80 Life

BY STAN ZOLLER
Staff Writer

CALLING THE proposed $78 million price tag for Palwaukee airport "staggering," the Technical Advisory committee (TAC) for Palwaukee airport discussed a new "mini approach" to the airport at a meeting held Thursday, May 15.

The new proposal, laid out by Larry Donoghue, president of Ralph Burke associates, the airport consultants making proposals on the feasibility of municipal purchase of the airport, would keep Palwaukee pretty much at the same status it currently is.

Donoghue estimated the new program to cost about $49.6 million over a five-year period. It would, he explained, involve "lessor" development of the airport.

The money would be used to bring the airport up to Federal Aviation administration (FAA) standards for public airports and would also call for the relocation of Wolf road.

IT WAS NEARLY unanimous that the airport needs the 5,000-foot runway that ends at the intersection of Wolf and Hintz, although it is in violation of the FAA guidelines for a public airport, but not a general aviation airport (privately owned, publicly used) Palwaukee is presently owned by George Priester, who claims he must sell the airport so his heirs are not saddled with a prohibitive inheritance tax. Priester is in his 70s.

Donoghue pointed out to the committee that there isn't enough capacity in the area to accomodate the extra aircraft that would need a 5,000-foot runway.

The only airports in the area that currently have 5,000-foot runways are Midway, O'Hare and Aurora. Waukegan municipal airport is planning to construct a 6,000-foot runway, but that airport is expected to grow and space there would be limited, according to Donoghue.

The consultant stressed that if the airport loses its jet rating by removing the 5,000-foot runway, "then we should forget the whole project because that's what makes it financially viable."

Funding for the project would come from three sources: federal and state grants, and revenue bonds. The most significant would be from the Airport Development Aid program (ADAP) that would provide the project with more than $38.6 million, while the state would add $4.8 million. The remaining $6.1 million would come from local revenue bonds.

Terry Schaddel of the Illinois department of aeronautics told the committee that the initial acquisition of the land and improvements over a five-year period could cost between $32 and $35 million.

THE COMMITTEE is likely to begin work on another phase which, according to Donoghue, "gives us a chance to update and revise stage two."

He added that this project is most unusual because public bodies are seeking to buy a private airport from a single owner.

There was also concern expressed that once the project was completed, increased user fees could result in a drop in activity at Palwaukee.

"I think we need more of a demonstration of support by the users," said Tom Baggot of the Northeastern Illinois planning commission (NIPC). Other participants in TAC contended that users would not leave the airport because of the lack of airport capacity in the area.

There is no possibility of nearby Glenview naval air station being opened to civilian use either on a limited or complete basis. A citizens group composed of residents who live near Palwaukee and who oppose municipal purchase of the airport, have suggested the naval air station be used by jets as an alternative to Palwaukee.

Donoghue said that in the long run there would be complete plans implemented at Palwaukee, but "what I see coming, I believe, is acquisition of the airport, the elimination of obstructions and relocation of Wolf."

Prospect Heights City Manager Steve Sturgell expressed concern that the "sponsors" of the project, Wheeling and Prospect Heights, would be "left holding the bag." He added that he is "still not sure what we're buying."

The committee's next meeting is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 3, at the Mt. Prospect village hall, 11 S. Emerson.

Agree to join DMAP

5-22-80 Life

WHEELING — Officials of this community took another step closer to acquisition of Lake Michigan water by agreeing to join DMAP, a group of area cities and villages seeking an additional source of water.

The village board Monday, May 19, authorized Village Manager Thomas Markus to file a formal application with DMAP, which stands for Des Plaines, Mt. Prospect, Arlington Heights and Palatine. Des Plaines, however, has taken action outside of the group and is currently purchasing Lake Michigan water from Chicago.

Markus said he hopes the action will "help encourage other communities to join us." He added that such recruitment would justify the additional expense of the plan.

The DMAP commission plans to use Evanston as the water supply point, while a second group, known as the Northwest Suburban Water system (Venture), is proposing Chicago as the source of supply. Evanston charges only 18 cents per 1,000 gallons, to Chicago's 42 cents, but its water system will probably require more extensive capital improvements.

DEFINITE PARTICIPANTS in Venture are Buffalo Grove, Elk Grove Village, Hoffman Estates, Mt. Prospect, Rolling Meadows and Schaumburg. Hanover Park and Streamwood have expressed some interest in possible participation in the Venture pipeline.

Arlington Heights and Palatine favor the DMAP plan, but are also participants in the Venture.

Wheeling and other member and non-member communities of Venture have until Aug. 1 to decide whether they wish to join or remain as members of that consortium, or if they wish to purchase water from the Venture group.

Board plans aid for youth group

5-22-80 Life

By ELAINE LAMPERT
Correspondent

WHEELING — The village board agreed Monday, May 19, to help keep the faltering youth commission in operation.

Michele Siria, one of two active commissioners, appeared before the board to ask for help in maintaining and upgrading the commission. Siria said she and Comr. Pat Bofman, whose terms are to expire on June 30, have done most of the work to keep the commission's programs functioning.

The village board promised to appoint more members to the commission vacancies and to consider Siria's request that a chairman for the body be appointed by the board rather than elected by the commissioners themselves.

THE COMMISSION, which was created by ordinance, should have nine commissioners, five adults and four youths. Siria told the board the commission has not held a formal meeting since last June because she and Bofman would be the only commissioners attending and they would not constitute a quorum.

The body did function prior to that time although, she said, "The youth members were never sworn in and we were told by (former Village Manager Carsten) Leikvold that they could not have voting power."

Siria said the commission has serious problems because, "unfortunately we have a lot of token commissioners." She said people are appointed to the commission, but then don't attend meetings or take an interest in the work.

Siria has served on the commission for nearly six years, Bofman for about three. Siria said two other commissioners, Martin Murphy and Jack Pohn have stopped attending the meetings and the other positions are vacant.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT William Hein said the board appointed one new commissioner about a month ago, but Siria said that person did not contact her or Bofman.

Hein agreed there was a problem, saying, "People always want to serve on the plan commission or the zoning board. I have talked to Harry Wells from Omni-House to ask if he knew anyone who wanted to serve, but I have received no response."

"It's becoming a very 'Who cares?' commission," Siria said. "I don't want to see it go down the drain. Our youth jury is a big plus."

She told the board the youth members of the commission were high school and junior high students. "We would very much like to have the youth involved. They were very interested."

Trustee High Sommerfeld promised to work on upgrading the commission. "I don't think the citizens want to see us forget the jewels of the community," he said.

NOTING THAT the village is remodeling and adding buildings to the municipal complex, Siria said, "We can have all the buildings in the world, but if we don't have programs for the kids, it's no good."

She said the park district had suspended its participation in the youth jury program by not giving the jury any more job assignments during the past four months.

"If the community doesn't get behind the commission, it's not going to do any good. They'll complain there's nothing for the kids to do and they'll have no right to do so."

Building In Wheeling Drops By $70,000

5-21-80 Topics

The value of buildings under construction in the Village of Wheeling increased in April 1980 to $1.4 million as compared to $1.33 million for the same period last year.

Of the $1.4 million in construction, $1.2 is for construction of: 6 townhouse-condominiums; 5 multi-dwellings at $854,145; one commercial facility at $95,000; one garage-carport at $4,000.

For 35 Years

5-21-80 Topics

Retired Fireman Kelm Honored

Former Wheeling volunteer firefighter and village fire inspector Lloyd Kelm was honored for 35 years of service by village officials Monday, May 12.

Village Manager Tom Markus presented Kelm with a plaque, commemorating him for his service as a fire inspector from 1971 thru 1980. Prior to that time, Kelm served the village as a volunteer.

"I still would like to do it over again, but time catches up to you," Kelm remarked.

Village President William Hein and Fire Chief Bernhardt Koppen made brief speeches.

Klem retired from the fire department Apr. 30.

5-22-80 Lake

Village plans annexation talks with Johnson family

By ELAINE LAMPERT
Correspondent

WHEELING — The village board agreed unanimously Monday night, May 19, to enter into discussions with the Johnson family concerning the possibility of annexing about 200 acres of their property north of Lake-Cook road into Wheeling.

The trustees passed a resolution authorizing Village Manager Thomas Markus to work out with the Johnsons an annexation agreement for the 203-acre estate. In addition, Markus was directed to "seek the approval of the Metropolitan sanitary district" (MSD) for a service agreement to provide sewage treatment to the property if it is annexed into the village.

The board also authorized Markus to negotiate with the owners of adjacent properties with a view to their possible annexation to the village.

LAST YEAR Wheeling annexed 109 acres of the Johnson estate, located on the southwest corner of the Milwaukee and Lake-Cook road intersection. The larger parcel, located on the northwest corner of the same intersection, surrounds the Chevy Chase golf course, which is operated by the Wheeling park district.

The neighboring village of Buffalo Grove, by agreement with Lake county, holds control of the sewer connections in that part of Vernon township. On May 5, Buffalo Grove trustees refused to allow the Johnsons to connect their private utility company with the Lake county sewer system unless the family would agree to discuss the annexation of the property to Buffalo Grove.

THE JOHNSON firm, the Chevy Chase Sewer and Water company, serves 75 single-family homes, four restaurants, an office building and the Chevy Chase country club. The company, which has been sued by the Illinois Environmental protection agency for polluting the Des Plaines river, has been in violation of the law for more than five years.

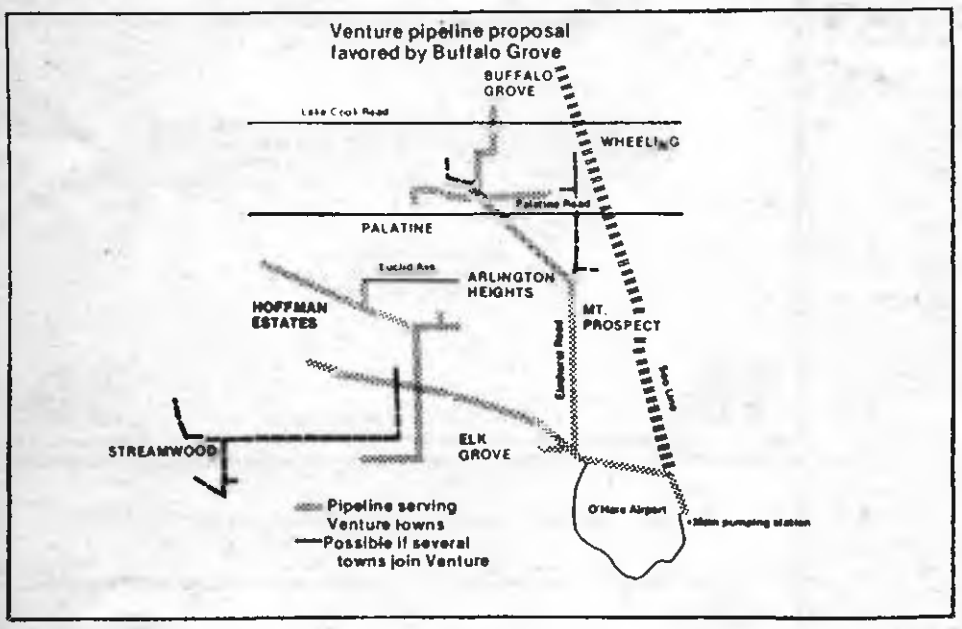
The Wheeling village board acted in response to a letter from Catherine Johnson, one of the heirs to the estate, requesting the development of an annexation agreement. The letter, dated May 6, states that "the heirs would like to pursue further discussions with the village of the possible annexation of the northern parcels on a more formal basis and on an expedited basis."

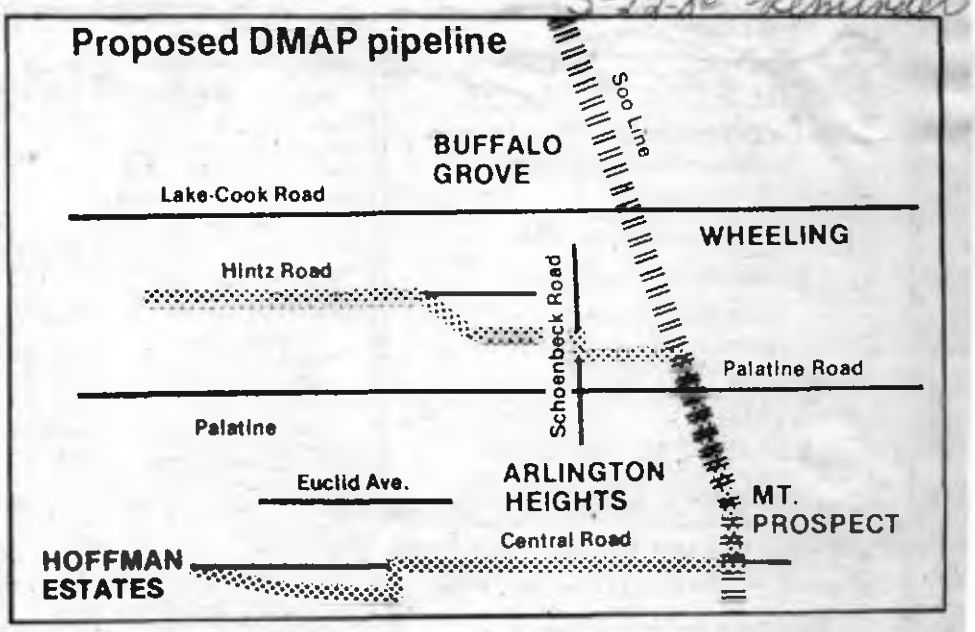
She wrote, "It appears that the overriding concern of both the village and the heirs is the availability of sewer and water services to the northern parcels, and the financing of the necessary improvements to bring such services to the property. We also share the village staff's concern that such services be compatible with and properly integrated into the village's systems. We further recognize and appreciate the board's concern that the necessary improvements should not in any way impose any financial burden on the village or on its present lands or citizens."

JOHNSON IMPLIED that Buffalo Grove's sewer rights could be circumvented by a special sewer agreement with the MSD. She also suggested a special tax be imposed solely on the northern parcel of property to finance the required sewer and water service improvements.

The resolution, which states that Wheeling desires to annex the property, also says, "The board has received a report which indicates that it would be feasible to finance all necessary public improvements for such properties without imposing any costs, taxes or burdens on the existing residents and taxpayers of the village."

5-22-80 Reminder





Wheeling, BG face tough water choices very soon

By MARION SOURS

Officials from Buffalo Grove and Wheeling have a difficult decision ahead of them. Within the next three months, they will need to make a definite decision about which group they wish to join to obtain water from Lake Michigan — Venture, which would draw water from Chicago, or DMAP, which would obtain water from Evanston.

Their decision will affect water availability and services in the communities in the remaining decades of this century, and into the 2000's. Both communities have tentatively agreed to join one of the two groups. Wheeling has said it will join with DMAP and Buffalo Grove has said it will continue with Venture.

DMAP currently has only three members — Wheeling, Arlington Heights and Palatine, the latter two of which also are members of Venture. Venture officials have set an Aug. 1 deadline by which the communities will have to say if they want to stay in Venture.

Venture has seven members, counting Arlington Heights and Palatine. One of these members is Buffalo Grove. However, if Arlington Heights and Palatine opt to remain in DMAP, Buffalo Grove likely will have to switch to that group. The consulting engineer for Venture has said it is unlikely Venture could supply water to Buffalo Grove at reasonable rates, if the two adjacent communities were not also involved.

It is hard to tell from looking at maps of the proposed pipelines just which would be the most economical, or provide the best services to the communities. However, following is a brief summary of some information which has been gathered regarding the two groups.

The financial figures developed by the Venture consultants take into account the communities which already are members of Venture. They do not take into account the possibility that communities would drop out. However, using the figure of 124 million gallons a day, which Venture consultants judged to be most feasible to meet future water use projections, the total estimated construction cost for the pipeline pictured above would be $100.9 million.

The pipeline pictured, one of four proposed by Venture, is the one preferred by Buffalo Grove. However, most of the Venture communities, in a polling taken on May 7, preferred a different pipeline, which would cost $3 million more. The service to Buffalo Grove would be identical with both, however.

Of the total construction cost, 20 per cent more would have to be added on to allow for financing costs, such as interest. On the maps above, the dotted lines show possible additions to the pipeline if various communities, such as Hanover Park and Streamwood, join Venture. The additions could up the costs by several more millions of dollars.

Buffalo Grove residents currently pay $1 per thousand gallons of water. Under the Venture proposal, water rates are expected to rise to about $1.22 per thousand gallons, when the system first becomes operational in 1985. However, water bills could rise substantially, because people would be paying not just for the water, but for various costs related to the system.

The brunt of the costs of the project would be financed by issuing revenue bonds. The Venture communities would sign a 40-year contract wit the City of Chicago. More definite financial figures regarding the Venture proposals will be available in a report to be issued within about five months.

The most recently released Venture study said Buffalo Grove's present (1980) water use is 1.98 million gallons daily, anticipated to increase to 3.18 million gallons by 1990; 4.37 million gallons by the year 2000 and 6.09 million gallons by 2020.

Venture anticipates the City of Chicago can meet the projected demands of the Venture communities through 2020. However, this anticipation is based on an optimistic view of the negotiations regarding Lake Michigan water allocations, which still are pending in court. If, as is projected, a new system of averaging storm runoff is put into effect, more lake water will be available for the suburbs.

Allocation hearings for the suburbs will be held in the near future, and both Buffalo Grove and Wheeling are expected to receive allocations of lake water this year — Wheeling for the first time.

The Venture plan calls for the communities to continue to use wells to supplyment the pipeline water. The deciding factor in the pipeline the Venture communities finally chose probably will be the access to right of way it is granted.

The DMAP pipeline already has its right of way established, since it will follow that of Commonwealth Edison and the Soo Railroad Line. The DMAP study lists four alternatives, using different towns in each. Probably the closest to the existing situation is alternate 4, which would cover Arlington Heights, Palatine and Buffalo Grove (or presumably, Wheeling).

Alternate 4, according to the DMAP report "...has the decided disadvantage of only serving individual communities at one point. Consequently, the individual communities would be required to appropriate significant additional expenditures to upgrade their systems to receive a single point source."

According to the DMAP report, the total project cost for alternate 4 would be from $57.6 million to $66.3 million. It also would be financed with an issue of water revenue bonds.

Water rates are anticipated to be $1.09 per thousand gallons for alternative 4 when the system becomes operational, in 1984. Water rates for Wheeling residents now are 90 cents per thousand gallons. Again, as with Venture, water bills would reflect costs beyond just the cost of the water.

Further financial figures on the DMAP proposal also will be forthcoming within the next year.

5-22-80 Reminder

Kelm volunteered one day and stuck around for 35 years

Thirty-five years ago Lloyd Kelm decided to spend some of his already busy days doing volunteer work for Wheeling. He had his own business, Triangle Motor Sales, but decided he would also become a volunteer fireman for the village.

At that time, the Wheeling Fire Department consisted of all volunteers. Kelm spent many long nights readying equipment for the next day's operations. Soon he began training new recruits.

"When there were no paid firemen, that's when it was fun," said Kelm, speaking Monday to friends and fellow fire department workers who had assembled in the village operations and maintenance building to honor him on his retirement.

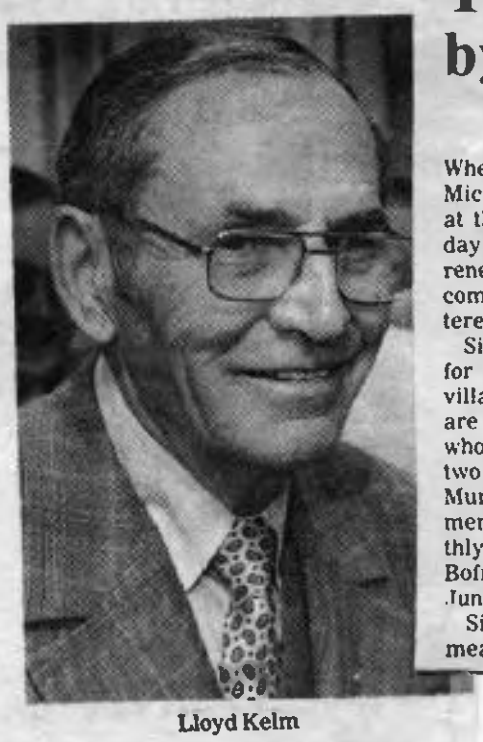
He was presented with a plaque, and cake and coffee were served to those in attendance. Several people, including Wheeling Fire Chief Bernhardt Koeppen, praised Kelm for his service.

Kelm, who originally is from South Dakota, moved to Wheeling in 1939, and opened a motor sales business, which he operated until 1965, when he sold it. He continued to be a volunteer fireman, even after the village went to a full-time department. In 1955 he was appointed as second assistant fire chief.

In 1971 Kelm took a job with the village as fire inspector, and he held that post until this year.

Kelm and his wife, Marilyn, have a daughter, Jean, who lives in New York.

He said he doesn't have any set plans for his retirement. But with the many friends he has in the village, no doubt his retirement will be a pleasant time.



Lloyd Kelm

5-22-80 Reminder

Youth commission threatened by lack of interest say members

Wheeling youth commission members Michelle Siria and Pat Bofman appeared at the Wheeling board of education Monday and told trustees they had not filed for renewal of their positions because "the commission is suffering from lack of interest."

Siria, who has served as a commissioner for six years, and helped set up the village's youth jury, said she and Bofman are the only members of the commission who show any interest. She said the other two members of the commission, Martin Murphy and Jack Pohn, were only token members who didn't even attend the monthly meetings, to the point that she and Bofman stopped holding meetings last June.

Siria said the commission originally was meant to have five adult and four youth members. However, she said last year the then-village manager Carsten Leikvold told her that the youths could not have a vote, since they were not appointed by the village. She said it was not possible to get nine adults to serve, since so few people had shown interest.

Bofman, who has served on the commission three years, helped set up the village's youth jobs program last summer. Both she and Siria have been working with area youth since last June, even though the commission has not been meeting.

Village president William Hein said a review of the commission's status should be made, and other trustees agreed with the suggestion. Both Siria and Bofman said they would be willing to serve on the commission if the village can resolve the problems.

5-23-80 Herald

Two youth commissioners criticize apathy on panel

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Two members of the Wheeling Youth Commission are complaining they have been unable to conduct a meeting for nearly a year because of poor attendance by commissioners at meetings.

Commissioners Michele Siria and Patricia Boffman say they'll refuse reappointment to the commission unless the village board appoints commissioners who are interested in the commission. Mrs. Siria also said the present chairman, Martin Murphy, should be removed from the commission. Mrs. Siria suggested she should be appointed to chair the commission.

"You're going to lose a commission," Mrs. Siria said. "Two persons cannot adequately do the the work of what is supposed to be a seven- to nine-member commission."

There has been a vacancy for an adult member on the commission for more than a year, she said, and former Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold told the commission last year that the four junior and senior high school students who sit on the commission could have only non-voting positions.

"We have been unable to get a quorum since last June," Mrs. Siria said, because Murphy and Comr. Jack Pohn "have been very unavailable."

MRS. SIRIA and Mrs. Boffman said they have had to run the commission's major project, a "peer group jury," by themselves. That group, started last year, is composed of students who impose "sentences" on their peers who have been convicted of a minor crime, such as shoplifting or vandalism.

Murphy conceded he has "pretty much lost interest in the village of Wheeling" and said the chairmanship of the youth commission is "a non-existing position." But he blamed his apathy on Village Pres. William Hein for supporting Leikvold's contention last summer that the youths couldn't vote.

"My basic theory was if village (officials) really wanted to save the commission, they would have done something," he said. The decision not to allow the youths to vote was an insult to the younger members, he said. "It's like telling them, 'You are a member of the commission, but keep your mouth shut and pay attention to the big people.' "

Murphy said the commissioners asked Hein for some support, but their letters to him went unanswered. "I guess everybody lost interest after that," he said, adding he never bothered to resign from the commission or make an effort to get the meetings started again because of "personal problems."

HEIN SAID Murphy's charges were "not true," adding he had not received any letters from youth commissioners. "Mr. Murphy has not called me about any problems in all the time I've been president of the board," he said.

Hein said he was unaware the youth commission was having problems getting a quorum until Mrs. Siria voiced her complaints to the village board this week. He said he did not remember Leikvold's decision to block youth members of the commission from voting, although he said he did not "see why that should be a problem. Maybe we should change the ordinance or at least make it clearer. I don't think a 15-year-old kid is going to be making decisions that are too detrimental to the village."

He also said he has attempted to keep the youth commission filled, but most residents are more interested in serving on village planning and zoning boards.

Village Mgr. Thomas Markus met to work out the group's problems. He also said he would be reviewing village ordinances to determine if the younger members of the commission are entitled to a vote.

5-24-80-Herald

Prospect Heights wants all of airport

In a move described by the airport's owner as "a kick in the teeth" and by Wheeling officials as an attempt "to steal the cashbox," Prospect Heights has launched a plan to annex the unincorporated portion of Pal-Waukee Airport as well as surrounding homes and businesses — a total of 300 to 400 acres.

Mayor Richard Wolf said the city has prepared a petition that would require the signatures of more than 50 percent of the residents and persons who own land in the area. The city then would need a court order to proceed with the annexation.

He called the annexation plans "very speculative" and said it has not been determined what property would be affected. However, he said the city would like to annex the northern half of the airport, Plum Creek condominiums near Hintz and Wolf roads, and the businesses that line Milwaukee Avenue near the airport.

Airport owner George Priester has waged an unsuccessful court battle over Prospect Heights' 1977 decision to annex the southern part of the airport and said he would fight any effort by Prospect Heights to annex the remainder.

ALTHOUGH PROSPECT HEIGHTS does not levy a real estate tax, it receives a portion of the sales taxes collected at the airport and, if it annexes the rest of the property, would receive more sales taxes from Priester's 94th Aero Squadron restaurant, described by Priester as a $2.5 million-a-year operation. There also would be considerable income from the retail businesses, airplane hangars and airport gasoline pumps that would be annexed.

But, Priester said, the tiny city does not provide the services to match ther airport's tax payments. "We've had more goddamn thievery going on here since we were annexed," he said. "The police protection out here isn't any better. During the last blizzard they came around asking if they could borrow our snow removal equipment to open up their roads."

Wheeling Village Pres. William Hein said the annexation proposal "ruins the spirit of intergovernmental cooperation."

The two towns are considering jointly buying the airport because Priester says he can no longer afford to run it because of encroaching development, high taxes and an estate tax problem that would force his heirs to sell the airport when he dies. Each town has chipped in 5 percent toward a two-year, $120,000 consultant's study now in progress.

"We were supposed to be working together on this airport study and then to hear about this second hand really takes me aback," Hein said. "It looks like he (Wolf) is just about saying he can handle the whole airport acquisition by himself," he said.

"That's like kicking a guy in the teeth," Preister said. "Wheeling's got to put up with all the residents who scream about the noise and the air traffic and Prospect Heights is trying to grab all the benefits. I think it stinks."

HEIN ALSO SAID he did not think Prospect Heights' services were adequate to serve Pal-Waukee, the nation's busiest private airport.

"They have to contract with Cook County for police services. They don't even have their own wells. Last year, during the blizzard they were asking if our crews could help them plow their roads," he said. "The Wheeling fire district fights their fires. Priester's got 75 or 100 employees out there. It's a very complex operation."

But Wolf said the airport could be more easily managed if it fell within one corporate boundary. He also said residents would get better services, like police protection and street sweeping and plowing, from Prospect Heights, rather than Cook County.

He also said being a Prospect Heights resident would give the people "a greater voice in the running of the community."

But Wolf contended that it has been "no secret" that the city has had its eye on the balance of the airport and some of the adjacent land and said he had no idea how soon or exactly what areas would be included in the annexation proposal. He said he did not think it would affect the joint airport study.



Topics May 28 1980

Appearance Group Presents Awards

June 1-7
Park Week
In Wheeling

The week of June 1 thru June 7 has been designated as Park and Recreation Week in the Village of Wheeling by the President and Board of Trustees.

The Wheeling Appearance Commission presented its 1st annual awards for excellence in building and landscaping design May 20 during a Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting.

Winner in the industrial category is E-Z Por Corp., 1500 S. Wolf Rd. Commercial winner is the Wheeling Trust and Savings Bank, 350 E. Dundee Rd. Winner in the residential category, other, than single family, is Lake of the Winds Condominums, 1038 N. Harbour Ct.

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Prospect Hts. Begins Own Drive To Annex Palwaukee

The City of Prospect Hts. has started the ball rolling to annex the unincorporated area of Palwaukee Airport and a surrounding area of homes and businesses.

A petition has been reportedly prepared requiring the signatures of over 50 per cent of residents and landowners in the area under consideration for annexation. After that, the city would need a court order to proceed with annexation.

SUCH A MOVE could cause problems with the Village of Wheeling. The 2 communities have been working together on a 2-year consultant study on the feasibility of acquiring the airport.

Palwaukee, the nation's busiest private airport, is owned by George Priester. Because Priester claims he could not continue to run the airport due to taxes and possible estate tax problems, the 2 communities have been jointly studying the possibility of acquiring the facility and turning it into a public airport.

DETAILS ON LAND affected by the possible annexation have not been determined, but Prospect Hts. could acquire property near the intersection of Hintz and Wolf Roads, businesses along Milwaukee Avenue and the northern portion of the airport.

Prospect Hts. annexed the southern portion of the airport back in 1977. Owner Priester waged an unsuccessful court battle fighting the decision.

Considerable income from businesses and restaurants in the area could boost sales taxes for Prospect Hts. Additional income could come from airport gas pumps and airplane hangers.

Herald 5-29-80

Zoning district plan finds favor

Hoping to attract "higher quality" developments and to reduce traffic congestion, Wheeling officials may require village board approval for all construction work — no matter how minor — in the downtown area.

Village administrators have proposed a "special zoning district" encompassing a two-mile stretch of Milwaukee Avenue, from Manchester Avenue to Lake-Cook Road, where no construction could begin until the village trustees approve the plans. Normally, village board approval is required only when the builder requests a change in the zoning codes.

"Basically, it adds another layer of review to the building process," said Village Mgr. Thomas Markus. Aside from meeting the existing building and zoning ordinances, developers building additions or remodeling existing buildings will have their plans scutinized by the village board and plan commission.

"LET'S SAY somebody who has an existing building on Milwaukee Avenue comes in and wants to put in one little store in an area that's been designated for an office complex," he said. The special district "allows the village to view it as it relates to the plan. It forces coordination with adjacent lots."

Lack of an overall plan for the downtown area is one of the reasons for the hodge-podge development that has occurred along Milwaukee Avenue. "If you drive along Milwaukee Avenue, one of the most obvious problems is that you don't have controlled ingress and egress," Markus said. "There's very little curb and gutter along there. (Motorists) just sort of roll into the business of their choice."

Village trustees have reacted favorably to the proposal, which has been slated for preliminary approval next Monday, although some expressed reservations about imposing unnecessary delays on a businessman making minor repairs to a damaged sign or storefront.

"There are possible problems if it is carried to the fullest extent," said Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld. However, he added that the ordinance will include provisions that will allow building department officials to exempt persons making repairs or remodeling work that is relatively minor.

"BASICALLY, YOU can't just come in and get a building permit anymore," Sommerfeld said. "This gives us more control over the appearance and the appropriateness of a project as it relates to the theme of the downtown area."

A consultant's report, adopted by the village last year as a plan for downtown development, recommends more retail and commercial development along Milwaukee Avenue, and specifically suggests an emergency clinic, housing and a center for senior citizens, a theater and a hotel-conference complex.

Hospital, Des Plaines, has submitted plans for a $4.5 million emergency clinic to be built at Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street. The Cook County Housing Authority plans to build 100 rent-assisted apartments for low-income seniors, and the village is planning to use a $760,000 federal grant to build a center for seniors and handicapped persons. Those developments also would be built near Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue.

Billboards ordered down

Perhaps one of the more visable signs of Wheeling's efforts to control the appearance of the village may be seen within the next few weeks, as the owners of four billboards have been ordered to take down their signs.

The village last year outlawed billboards, giving their owners until the end of 1981 to tear them down. However, any illegal billboards — those without a village sign permit — must be taken down immediately.

Charles King, a village building inspector, said of the 11 billboards in Wheeling, four are standing illegally. Letters were sent earlier this month to the owners, Duo Signs Co., Wheeling, and Diamond Sign Co., Des Plaines, informing them that the billboards will be removed by the village sometime next month if the owners do not do it themselves, King said.

However, he added that the owners plan to appeal that decision to the village zoning board of appeals, which reviews protests to the village's sign code. No action will be taken until the zoning board makes its recommendations, King said, adding that the village staff is not likely to recommend extending the deadline until the end of 1981 — as is the case for other billboard owners.

"If you start handing out special privileges, before long you haven't got much of a sign code," he said.

No date has been set for the zoning board to hear the appeal.

THE TOPICS, WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1980, PAGE 9

Prospect Hts. Begins Own Drive To Annex Palwaukee

The City of Prospect Hts. has started the ball rolling to annex the unincorporated area of Palwaukee Airport and a surrounding area of homes and businesses.

A petition has been reportedly prepared requiring the signatures of over 50 per cent of residents and landowners in the area under consideration for annexation. After that, the city would need a court order to proceed with annexation.

SUCH A MOVE could cause problems with the Village of Wheeling. The 2 communities have been working together on a 2-year consultant study on the feasibility of acquiring the airport.

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TOPICS
MAY 28, 1980

Fired cop appeals dismissal



THOMAS CONTE

Herald photo

5-28- Herald

Former Wheeling Police Lt. Thomas Conte, fired earlier this month for using excessive force in making an arrest, filed an appeal Tuesday in Cook County Circuit Court to have the dismissal overturned.

Conte, who had served on the force for 16 years and was second in command to Police Chief Ted Bracke, protected an "image of brutality" according to findings of the village's fire and police commission after a seven-hour hearing on the charges against him.

In his appeal, Conte contends the fire and police commission made its decision "contrary to law and contrary to the actual facts of the case" and asks the court to reverse the decision. No court date has been set.

The charges stemmed from a March 4 incident when police responded to what was thought to be a bank robbery. A woman reported that two men were assembling a shotgun in a car in the parking lot at Hoype Savings & Loan Assn., 699 W. Dundee Rd.

CONTE WAS THE last of four officers to respond to the call. According to the testimony of other officers, Conte leaned into the car, stuck a cocked and loaded revolver into the mouth of the passenger, a 20-year-old Wheeling man, and told him to "suck on it."

The incident occurred as two of the officers already had removed and handcuffed the driver and a third policeman had his gun trained on the passenger, Eugene Grassmuck. While making the arrest, police discovered the shotgun, still unassembled and covered by a plastic wrapper, according to testimony at the hearing.

In his own testimony, Conte admitted placing the gun in Grassmuck's mouth, but defended the action, saying the other officers had positioned themselves in a crossfire and there was danger of spectators being harmed if the officers were forced to open fire. He also said a subsequent search of Grassmuck produced a hunting knife he was carrying on the side of his pants.

CONTE'S ATTORNEY, STANLEY Jakala, said at the hearing he doubted if the three officers truly had the situation under control before Conte arrived and said they offered conflicting testimony on where and whether the suspects had their arms raised as police approached the vehicle.

Police later determined the two men did not intend to rob the bank, but charged Grassmuck and the driver, David Pearlman, 20, of Wheeling, with disorderly conduct. Those charged were dismissed Tuesday by Cook County Circuit Court Judge Joseph Schwaba.

HUD housing plans draw local resistance

By MARION SOURS

"Why does HUD need to build houses on the few remaining lots in the village?" Juanita Sachs, of 240 N. Third St., asked Wheeling and Cook County officials at a hearing Tuesday night. The hearing concerned the proposed construction of 100 units of senior citizen housing and 20 units of low-income housing in Wheeling.

Many residents of the "Old Wheeling" area to the northwest of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue were present, and strongly objected to the inclusion of low-income houses in the area.

"I feel the sites are not truly scattered throughout the village," said Pat Gurley, of 182 E. Strong St.

"I don't understand why our area has been singled out," said Laurel Anderson, of 64 E. Strong St.

Wheeling Village Planner Richard Greenwood gave a presentation Tuesday, outlining the sites for the proposed projects. The 100-unit, 8-story senior citizens housing is proposed to be built on Milwaukee Avenue, south of Strong Street.

Single-family rent-assisted housing is proposed to be built at the following locations: 2nd and Strong, 3rd and Strong, Mayer and 6th (one on the northwest corner and one on the northeast corner), Center and Wille, Manchester and Stone.

A rent-assisted duplex is proposed to be built at Mayer and Fifth. Four-unit rent-assisted townhouses are proposed to be built on Ninth, north of Strong; at Hintz and Maple; and on Hintz, west of Cornell Avenue.

Victor Walchirk, executive director of the Cook County Housing Authority, said Tuesday the 20 units probably would house about 100 people. The homes, which he said would be about "$60,000 to $70,000 products" would contain up to three bedrooms and could contain a maximum of eight persons.

Walchirk said to qualify for such housing, a family of three could not have an annual net income of more than $11,000. A family of eight's income could not exceed $18,000, nor could any family have fixed assets of more than $5,000.

Walchirk said to qualify for the senior housing, a person, (or one member of a couple) must be age 62. Annual net income could not exceed $9,500 for one person or $10,200 for two persos. The fixed value of assets could not exceed $15,000, he said.

> "Why does HUD need to build houses on the few remaining lots in the village?" one resident asked Wheeling and county officials.

Wheeling officials have said they want to give Wheeling residents the first chance at both types of housing. People who work in Wheeling would be next in line.

At the hearing Tuesday, two of the owners of the sites on which the low-income housing is proposed to be built, said they would not agree to sell. "I don't feel I want to sell at any price," said William Cokenower, who owns the parcel at Center and Wille. Robert Anderson, who owns the parcel at 2nd and Strong, echoed his sentiment.

Walchirk had said the government ultimately has the power of eminent domain, and could force landowners to sell. But Wheeling trustees said they do not want this to happen. Greenwood had said 38 sites originally had been considered, before narrowing it down to 11. The trustees said they believed alternate sites should be considered if landowners do not want to sell.

Finally, trustees said they wanted Cokenower's and Anderson's sites dropped from the plan. Trustee Charles Kerr said he was concerned that some of the landowners might not be aware of the proposals, since they were not sent notices of the hearing, but only might have been aware of it from seeing a notice in the newspapers.

Trustees will vote on the proposals at next Monday's village board meeting. The projects will be funded through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which will give the money to the Cook County Housing Authority. The projects probably will take about three years to be completed.

The senior housing and low-income dwellings are part of a development plan that includes a downtown redevelopment project, a senior citizens center and an emergency medical clinic. Some of these projects are funded by a Community Development Block Grant.

The senior and low-income housing, being funded by HUD, are tied together as component parts of a project. Walchirk was asked Tuesday if the village turned down the low-income housing, whether HUD still would fund the senior housing. He said he did not think so.

Many of the homeowners present Tuesday said they were concerned that the low-income houses would attract unruly residents. They pointed to the fighting, piles of trash, etc., that mark the low-income Wildwood Apartments on Dundee Road.

However, Walchirck said credit checks and reference checks would be made on all potential residents of the low-income housing. He said once they move in, the housing authority would continue to make checks on them, and would maintain the homes.

The rationale for dispersing the homes, according to village officials is to decrease "the visibility of the low income residents and (increase) the potential acceptance by the surrounding residents.

"I don't like to see children, or adults, labelled as low-income families," said Trustee Sheila Schultz.

Wheeling officials said they chose sites which were not in high-income areas, so that the homes would not be out of place. The residents of the Old Wheeling area said they resented this classification of their neighborhood. Comments were especially audible when Greenwood described Old Wheeling as an older area in which "some of the houses could use some rehabilitation."

REMINDER MAY 29, 1980

Condo residents may sue over barricade

by Jim Davis

Herald staff writer

5-30-80 HERALD

Residents from a Wheeling condominium complex say they will take Prospect Heights to court if the city does not remove a barricade by the end of next week that keeps them from using Robert Avenue, a narrow road in Prospect Heights that leads to Ill. Rte. 83.

Conceding that Prospect Heights has the right to construct some sort of barricade, residents of Sandpebble Walk Condominiums say the one there now prevents emergency vehicles from leaving the complex, which is a provision of a 1½-year-old court order. However, Prospect Heights officials say the barricade is the only means of preventing Sandpebble residents from breaking the traffic laws set down by the court.

The squabble started three years ago when Robert Avenue residents asked Prospect Heights to close the road, charging that Sandpebble residents ignored stop signs and sped through their subdivision, endangering children playing in the area.

THE SANDPEBBLE residents countered that some children threw rocks at their cars and deliberately blocked the path of motorists. Also, they contended they needed to use Robert Avenue, especially during evening rush hours because the only other way southbound motorists on Rte. 83 could enter the complex was to turn left on Palatine Road, drive past the complex and then double back on a frontage road.

The matter apparently was settled in court when the late Judge Raymond Berg ordered the road closed to Sandpebble residents except during evening rush hours. The publicity and notoriety of the case caused Sandpebble residents to abide by the court order — at first, Robert Avenue residents say.

But gradually the number of Sandpebble residents illegally using Robert Avenue increased, said Carol Dowd, one of the leaders of the drive by Prospect Heights residents to have the road closed. The barricade, she said, was the only solution "when the signs are about 70 percent ignored."

But Ricky Ament, a Wheeling attorney representing the Sandpebble residents, said the barricade — a series of slanted metal spikes that retract when an eastbound car travels over them, but prevents cars from crossing from the other direction — doesn't allow emergency vehicles to leave the complex.

Prospect Heights City Administrator Stephen Sturgell said police cars and ambulances can get around the barricade by driving over the concrete barrier that juts into the roadway.

HOWEVER, AMENT said that will be impossible when snow is piled there during the winter. Also, Sandpebble residents are supposed to be allowed to use Robert Avenue in the event the frontage road along Palatine Road is closed because of a snowstorm or for repairs. That, Ament says, is impossible as long as the barricade remains.

"We have sent a letter to Prospect Heights demanding they remove the barricade," Ament said. "If it's not removed we will ask the (Wheeling) village board to go in with us to the circuit court to make sure the consent decree is carried out."

"They're entitled to their opinion," Sturgell said. "In my opinion the barricade doesn't violate the spirit of the court order. When everything is properly signed and the agreement is still violated you have to do something about it."

5-880 Herald

Police face administrative 'mess'

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

The firing last week of Wheeling Police Lt. Thomas Conte, plus a tangled lawsuit involving nearly everyone associated with the police department, has left the department with an administrative "mess," Police Chief Ted Bracke said.

Conte's firing means a lieutenant's position will be available, although possibly on a temporary basis, since Conte's attorney has said he will appeal last week's decision in Cook County Circuit Court.

Also, two or three sergeant positions are available, depending on a ruling by a federal court judge on a suit filed by 11 policeman against Village Pres. William Hein, Bracke, two policemen and five present and former members of the village fire and police commission.

The village board recently authorized a new sergeant position, and a second sergeant post will open up because Conte's replacement is likely to be Sgt. Michael Hermes or Sgt. Jack Kimsey. Both lead the promotion eligibility list.

THE THIRD sergeant's position may be only a temporary one because of the lawsuit charging Hein and the commission with conspiring to promote officers because of political ties, rather than merit. Until that suit is resolved, a patrolman will be allowed to serve as sergeant for 120 days and then must return to patrol duty. Another officer then would be selected for the temporary post.

What the potential juggling of officers means, Bracke said, is a possible "breakdown of supervision," leading to problems supervising patrolmen and implementing new police programs. Also, he said, there could be squabbles on whether a policeman is entitled to full pay when he returns to a lesser job.

"If a man puts on his stripes and for four months he's in charge of 'X' amount of men and then for some reason he goes back to line operations, it weakens supervision," he said. The patrolman is far less likely to obey a superior when "he knows he is going to be back out on the road with him in a month."

Village Atty. David Epstein likened the possiblity of rotating sergeants to that of "substitute teachers — everyone takes advantage of them." He has filed a motion with federal court Judge Nicholas Bua, asking that last year's promotion of Sgt. Tad Leach, who replaced a retiring sergeant, remain in effect until the lawsuit is resolved.

HOWEVER, Michael Wall, attorney for the 11 policemen, including Hermes, is fighting that motion, contending state law prohibits such a move. Also, allowing Leach to remain a sergeant is unfair to the 10 patrolmen who allege they were illegally denied promotions, he said.

The conspiracy suit, now more than a year old, alleges that police promotion exams were altered and some policemen were given the answers to test questions in advance. As a result of the alleged tampering with the exams by Hein and the fire and police commission, former sergeant William Ralston and former patrolman Jack Koenig were promoted to lieutenant and sergeant.

The fire and police commission fired Conte last week, saying he used excessive force in arresting a 20-year-old Wheeling man during what proved to be a false alarm of a robbery at a local bank. Bracke, who recommended Conte's firing, said he intends to replace Conte as soon as possible, even though Conte's attorney has pledged a court battle to get his client's job back.

THE OPENING of a lieutenant's position as a result of Conte's firing raises some doubt on whether Hermes would want to pursue the lawsuit if he gets the promotion. Hermes said Wednesday he has not decided and will wait until the fire and police commission decides who will get the lieutenant's job. He noted though, that he may still be able to pursue the lawsuit to recover back pay and seniority.

At least one of the 10 patrolman filing the lawsuit would be eligible for the three possible sergeant positions. Wall said he did not know how those possible promotions would affect the lawsuit.

"We'll just have to wait and see what they do," he said.

NORTHWEST WHEELING HERALD MAY 31 1980

Village OKs youth panel voting

The uncertain fate of the Wheeling Youth Commission apparently has been resolved, as village officials have agreed to allow junior and senior high school students who serve on the commission to vote.

Also, the board is expected Monday night to appoint Michele Siria as chairman. She is one of two commissioners who complained the group has been unable to conduct a meeting for a year because of apathy on the part of other adult members.

Mrs. Siria had complained that the group's major project, a "peer group jury," was foundering from lack of support. That group, started last year, is composed of students who impose "sentences" on their peers who have been convicted of minor crimes, such as shoplifting and vandalism.

MRS. SIRIA and Comr. Patricia Boffman had threatened to refuse reappointment to the commission because they were the only members doing any work. Mrs. Siria charged the two other adult commissioners, Chairman Martin Murphy and Jack Pohn, were not interested in attending the meetings.

The commission has contacted Pohn, who said he still was interested in the commission and pledged to get involved once again. Murphy, however, has told The Daily Herald that he has "pretty much lost interest in the village of Wheeling" but had not bothered to resign because of "personal problems."

He "seems to have resigned in your paper," Mrs. Siria said.

Village Pres. William Hein recently appointed resident Shirley Gray to fill a year-old vacancy on the commission, and Mrs. Siria said she already has started preparing applications to recruit four students from local junior and senior high schools.

THE DECISION last year that blocked youth commissioners from voting apparently was a reusult of "a misunderstanding" between the commission and former Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold.

"We met with Mr. (Village Mgr. Thomas) Markus, and no one can really figure out what there is in the ordinance that would keep the kids from voting," Mrs. Siria said.

Until the commission is brought up to full membership, Mrs. Siria said the group will meet informally. "But I'm really anxious to find some kids to serve on the commission and get some ideas for projects that come from them," she added.

How a French Chef Finds Culinary Bliss In a Town in Illinois

* * *

Jean Banchet Imports Beans, Goes Easy on the Flour —And Wows Food Critics

By Steve Weiner
Staff Reporter of The Wall Street Journal

WHEELING, Ill.—Richard Williams, a dentist who lives near Detroit, postponed his scheduled operation for phlebitis the other day. He had managed to set up another long-planned appointment, one he judged more important than attending to his health.

Instead of checking into a hospital, Dr. Williams flew to Chicago with his wife and some friends. What drew them there so urgently was a reservation at a restaurant in the middle-class suburb of Wheeling. "It would have taken someone with a gun to make me miss it," he declares.

Soon Dr. Williams was working his way through a dinner that included, among other delights, pheasant soup, lobster mousse, sweetbreads en croute with red wine sauce, salad and chocolate mousse cake. Later, mellow with the memory of some of his life's most sensual calories, he did not doubt the wisdom of his course: "Absolutely terrific," he proclaimed. "Unbelievably grand cuisine."

Such are the responses being inspired by the cooking of Jean Banchet, 39-year-old son of a French bus driver and the chef of a restaurant called Le Francais. In the seven years since he opened it, the portly, goateed Mr. Banchet has brought his restaurant to the gastronomic pinnacle. Critics have extolled it, the Mobil Travel Guide has given it a rare five stars, and the gourmet magazine Bon Appetit has declared it "America's greatest restaurant."

A survey of 120 food authorities for Playboy magazine rated Le Francais No. 2 in the country, trailing only New York's Lutece. The chef of Lutece, Andre Soltner, calls Le Francais "fantastic."

Fighting on the Phone

Mr. Banchet backs away from such superlatives. "I want to be the best," he concedes, "but it is a matter of taste. We aren't perfect."

Enough people seem to think so, however, that the restaurant's phone rarely stops ringing, as diners seek and sometimes demand reservations. Unfortunately for many, Le Francais tends to be booked for a month or more in advance. "We have to fight on the phone," sighs Mr. Banchet. He assigns that task to a smooth-tongued dining-room captain, in the hope that his gracious manners will soothe the disappointed.

The food that draws the crowds is a blend of classical French cooking, with lots of butter and cream, and the lighter *nouvelle cuisine*. To lighten textures, Mr. Banchet often omits flour where traditional French cooking would call for it. Complex sauces are used on almost everything.

Like most top chefs, Mr. Banchet buys from suppliers world-wide. From France he flies in turbot, truffles and all manner of cooking utensils. Frogs' legs are shipped from Florida, squab from a game farm in Los Angeles, green beans from Mexico, salmon from Seattle, decorative crayfish from New Orleans. Endives come from New Zealand, at $80 a box.



One day Mr. Banchet obtained a supply of fresh figs, so he decided to experiment. The result was duckling in a delicate fig sauce.

To make sure that vacillating diners appreciate all the menu possibilities, the captains at Le Francais show them samples of the entrees, displayed on serving platters in beds of aspic decorated with flowers and leaves. More uninhibited epicures can be heard to sigh or gasp as the captains play upon their gustatory ardor.

After trying Mr. Banchet's cuisine, few diners have anything really critical to say of it. Some, however, suggest that his huge reputation may be just a bit inflated. "It was one of the best meals of my life, but I wouldn't stay up nights thinking of adjectives to describe it," says Edward Herbert, a member of the party that dined with this reporter (while a persistent fly buzzed overhead). One food critic wrote that "if there's a problem with the place, it's that it's too good."

That certainly was true for one diner, Annette Eckert of Chicago. "The food is so rich that your system goes nuts and rejects everything," she says, alluding to her own

Please Turn to Page 6, Column 4

How a French Chef Finds Culinary Bliss In Wheeling, Illinois

Continued From First Page

stomach's refusal to cooperate with the Le Francais experience. Despite this unsettling episode, though, the Chicago lawyer is eager to go back. "The food is grand," she says. "But I'll take a few precautions next time." Like eating less of it.

Preparing rich repasts has been Mr. Banchet's whole life. At 14, he was apprenticed to a hotel kitchen in his hometown of Roanne, France. He got his big break a few years later when he was accepted at La Pyramide in the French city of Vienne, under the tutelage of the legendary chef Fernand Point. "After that, all the doorways were opened," Mr. Banchet says.

He worked with another student of Mr. Point, the celebrated chef Paul Bocuse, and at 21 he was named chef of the Sporting Club casino in the Knightsbridge section of London. With money no object, the young chef was free to experiment and hone his skills. "I'd try something, and if it was no good, I'd give it to the help," he recalls.

After coming to America in 1968 and cooking at several Chicago-area establishments, Mr. Banchet bought an old German restaurant in Wheeling, across the street from a building-supply company and just down the block from a funeral parlor. "I wanted to be away from conventioneers," he explains. "I wanted a regular clientele of people who come here for the food."

Soon, members of what Mr. Banchet calls "the French-chef mafia" began to spread the word about his restaurant. Roger Fessaguet, chef at New York's La Caravelle, told New York Times food writer Craig Claiborne, who ate at Le Francais and praised it in print. Another Times writer, Mimi Sheraton, described the restaurant in an Esquire magazine article as "a gastronomic miracle."

One near-miraculous quality to the Manhattan writer seemed to be the Midwestern location. "If the restaurant were in New York, it would get a lot of attention. But it wouldn't bowl people over quite the way it does where it is," she wrote.

Mr. Banchet puts in six-day weeks, often 12 or 14 hours a day, preparing many of the specials himself and supervising the rest of his kitchen staff. He has two people on vegetables and appetizers, two on pastries, one on salads, three on sauces, and several more on general preparation. The kitchen is bigger than the dining room.

The restaurant serves about 60 persons at each of two nightly seatings, squeezing in a few more on weekends. The 15 or 20 entrees cost $17 to $25 each, but a full-course meal can easily run $65 or $70 per person. That isn't counting wine, which ranges from $15 a bottle to a 1961 Chateau Lafite Rothschild costing $400.

Though he loves his work, Mr. Banchet isn't happy about the long hours. Seven weeks a year he goes on vacation to Europe and the restaurant stops serving (it is closed right now). One day, he hopes to open a much smaller and even more exclusive restaurant, perhaps on the French Riviera, seating just 20 or so diners and serving only specials.

Although this dream is some time off, the recent death of a chef who was an old friend has turned Mr. Banchet a bit philosophical about his culinary perfectionism. "You work hard all your life, then one day you drop dead," he reflects. "Your customers go right on eating."

Herald 6-3-80

Village may sue over well repair

Wheeling officials are threatening legal action against a Brookfield firm that was supposed to have repaired a broken well more than two months ago. Unless that well is fixed soon, officials say, a total ban on outdoor water use could become necessary.

The village last May paid more than $29,000 for repairs to one of its three deep wells, at Manchester and Sunset avenues, to the J.P. Miller Artesian Well Co. But in March, one of the underground pipes "wore out," said Robert Gray, village director of operations and maintenance.

And despite almost daily contact with the firm, Gray said, the company has failed to begin repairs to the well — something he said should have taken no more than a couple of weeks. "I would say for that kind of money we should get more than 10 months of service," he said.

In a letter to the well firm's vice president, Richard Hakala, Village Atty. David Epstein said the village will file suit in two weeks unless the repair work is started. And if another firm is hired to make the well repairs, the village not only plans to recover its costs, but also to bar Miller from bidding on any future village project, Epstein said.

Hakala could not be reached for comment Monday. The firm's president, William McEllhiney, would not comment on the disagreement, although he said he would like to set up a meeting with the village to resolve their differences.

GRAY SAID the company has complained of being too busy to repair the well and apparently is balking at doing the repair work under warranty. He said he will start today tp draw up the specifications for a new firm to repair the well.

With the deep well out of commission, the village has been forced to rely more heavily on its shallow wells for drinking water. Those wells have a high mineral content, which accounts for the complaints of rust-colored water and water that "has a rotten egg smell," Gray said.

With the uncertainty over how soon the Manchester Avenue well will be repaired, village officials have delayed pulling and inspecting another deep well that has not been inspected since 1969, Gray said. He said he is not certain that well can last the summer.

The water situation in Wheeling "is getting a little sticky, to put it mildly. And if it gets any worse, we may have to go to a total sprinkling ban."

Since May, residents with even-numbered addresses have been allowed to water their lawns and wash their cars on even-numbered days. Residents with odd-numbered addresses are permitted outdoor water use on odd-numbered days. So far, Wheeling police have issued 32 tickets to persons not abiding by the sprinkling restrictions.

Herald 6-3-80

Low-cost housing approved

Despite the objections of about 70 residents, Wheeling trustees Monday night approved plans by the Cook County Housing Authority to build 100 rent-assisted apartments for senior citizens and 18 units of subsidized housing for low-income persons.

The residents, most of whom live in the Strong Street area, west of Milwaukee Avenue, objected to the low-income housing. They said the housing would lower property values and cause their neighborhood to deteriorate.

DESPITE ASSURANCES by village officials that Wheeling residents will get first shot at the family housing, some residents said the housing would be filled by illegal aliens.

"Are we going to be guaranteed, and I mean guaranteed, that they're going to be occupied by U.S. citizens?" said Donald Shapiro, 376 Charabanc Dr. "I'm spending my tax money for this, and I want a guarantee — in writing. The citizens of this country are getting damn tired of how the federal government is spending their money."

To some degree, trustees agreed with the complaints about the family housing, although only Trustee John Cole voted against submitting the housing package to the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development. Cole said he did not think village firefighting equipment can serve the eight-story senior apartment building, to be built at Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street.

Trustee Charles Kerr complained that the village has lost control over the housing project and criticized the county for not notifying the residents in advance that the family housing would be built in their neighborhood.

"ALSO, WE'VE BEEN told the village will decide who will occupy the low-income housing," Kerr said. "Don't bet too much money on the village participating in that." However, he added the need for the senior housing was great enough to "put up" with the low-income housing.

Topics 6-4-80

Smoking Banned At Village Hall

Now that Wheeling's new municipal complex is on the road to completion, and the Village Board has moved into its new quarters, visitors to the building had better be aware of a new rule.

Smoking will not be permitted except in designated areas.

Signs will be posted in prominent spots thruout the complex, and notices will advise visitors of the new rule.

The village will levy fines of not less than $10 and no more than $500 to offenders.

HERALD JUNE 4, 1980

Village board wrapup

Officials resolve well disagreement

Wheeling officials have reached an agreement with the Chicago firm that designed and supervised construction of a new well, with the village board agreeing to pay Kiefer Engineering Co. $20,000 for extra work.

The firm, which charged the village $123,500 to design the new well now being constructed at Hintz and Longtree roads, had asked the village for an extra $30,400, mainly because the firm was forced to rewrite the specifications on the well after only one contractor bid on the $1.3 million project. Also, the project had to be redesigned because new federal environmental standards were imposed that could make the well site accommodate water treatment plant.

A special village committee had recommended paying Kiefer all but $2,700 of the overrun claim, but Village Mgr. Thomas Markus conducted further negotiations with Kiefer, and the firm agreed to settle for $20,000. The firm also agreed that any future cost overruns must be approved by the village board before any work will be started.

Cable offer rules laid down

In order to protect village employees and trustees from any "undue pressure" from cable television firms seeking to do business with the village, the Wheeling Village Board approved a policy that requires trustees, commission members and employees to pass all inquiries to Finance Director Gregory Peters, who has been appointed village cable TV coordinator.

The policy states that employees and elected officials of the village are not required "to listen or respond to anyone regarding cable TV." Also, village officials are required to report to Peters "the name, company and affiliation of any person who makes or implies an offer of personal gain or enrichment to either you or the village."

The cable television policy also requires any firms seeking the village's business to submit all proposals in writing and request any public presentations through Village Mgr. Thomas Markus.

NORTHWEST WHEELING HERALD JUNE 4 1980

Prospect Heights feud escalates

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Angered by Prospect Heights' plans to annex Pal-Waukee Airport and by the barricade the city constructed on Robert Avenue, some Wheeling trustees say they are not interested anymore in talking to Prospect Heights officials about matters concerning the two towns.

And as the animosity grows, a court battle over the barricade appears imminent; the future of a complicated $120,000 airport study is cloudy.

Wheeling Trustee Robert Ross has suggested Wheeling discontinue "any negotiations whatever they are with Prospect Heights" — a move that Village Mgr. Thomas Markus called "a little rash."

And Trustee John Cole said he does "not care to sit down and talk to their council. Those people have not acted in good faith. But I don't think we should stop the two managers from talking."

PROSPECT HEIGHTS MAYOR Richard Wolf Tuesday said he was surprised by Wheeling officials' comments. "We try to be upfront with everything we do," he said. "We're not trying to pull any surprise moves."

On charges the city has not acted in good faith. Wolf said he does not "like to react to those kind of second-hand comments. I would prefer to deal with the Wheeling board directly."

The ill will between the towns flared up Monday night when the Wheeling Village Board voted to join residents of Sandpebble Walk Condominiums in reopening a 1½-year-old lawsuit over the closing of Robert Avenue in Prospect Heights.

In October 1978, a circuit court judge ordered Robert Avenue closed to Sandpebble residents except during evening rush hours. The Robert Avenue residents had complained Sandpebble motorists endangered their children by speeding along the narrow road and ignoring signs.

TWO WEEKS ago, Prospect Heights constructed a barricade, a barrier that prevents Sandpebble motorists from leaving the complex via Robert Avenue.

Wheeling officials contend the barricade prevents emergency vehicles from leaving the complex. They have demanded the city take down the barricade by the end of the week and remove a concrete curb constructed several months ago that juts onto Robert Avenue.

But the Prospect Heights City Council, also meeting Monday night, voted only to repair a portion of the barricade that had been vandalized. Asked if the barricade or the curb would be removed, City Administrator Stephen Sturgell said, "We're going to court."

Wheeling officials also were irate when they learned of Prospect Heights' plans to annex the unincorporated portion of Pal-Waukee Airport as well as surrounding homes and businesses — a total of 300 to 400 acres. Wheeling Village Pres. William Hein described the move as an attempt "to steal the cashbox" and accused Prospect Heights of "ruining the spirit of intergovernmental cooperation."

THE TWO TOWNS are considering jointly buying the airport because its owner George Priester says he can no longer afford to run it. The towns have chipped in 5 percent toward a two-year, $120,000 consultant's study now in progress.

The consultants, village and city administrators and other airport experts met Tuesday to hear the latest estimate on how much it will cost to buy the airport. An official of the Illinois Dept. of Transportation submitted a plan calling for considerably less land around the airport to be purchased for clear space. That plan is estimated at $33 million, with state and local funding picking up all but $3.3 million of the cost — well below consultant Larry Donoghue's estimate of $78 million.

Donoghue likened Prospect Heights' annexation proposal to "the illegitimate son showing up at the wedding." Later, he described the move as "very unfortunate," because both towns are considering buying the airport and have contributed to the cost of the study.

Sturgell defended the move, saying it was residents near the airport who initiated the annexation request.

"Prospect Heights' policy is to respond to those requests," he said, "just as I'm assuming the Village of Wheeling would to a similar request."

Vehicle Stickers On Sale At Village Hall

Topics 6-4-80

Truck and recreational vehicle stickers for 1980 went on sale at the Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd. on June 2. The stickers are for vehicles with Illinois license plates ending in from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Offices are not open on Saturday.

Stickers must be displayed by July 1, 1980.

A $5 late charge will be added to the sticker price after July 1.

Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. On Wednesday, office hours are

For further information, call the Village Hall at 459-2600.



It was standing room only at Wheeling's new council chambers Monday nite as the Village Board conducted its 1st meeting in the new municipal complex at 255 W. Dundee Rd. The microphone system had not yet been installed and trustees had to strain their voices to be heard, but construction should be completed shortly. The complex houses village administrative offices, the police department, a fire station and garages. The council chamber doubles as a courtroom
(Topics Photo by Bill Whelan)

Topics 6-4-80

Village Agrees To Pay Firm $20,000 More For Well No.7

Wheeling's Village Board voted Monday nite to pay an engineering firm an additional $20,000 for work done in the design and construction of Well No. 7.

Representatives from Keifer Engineering, Inc. had requested an additional $30,400 in engineering fees for work done on the deep well.

The $30,400 bill for extra services incurred by the firm was the center of debate at a recent workshop session.

TRUSTEES then objected to many of the costs, including the need for the entire project to be sent out for bid again.

However, apparently some village staff members had asked for additional services without knowing additional costs would be incurred.

During the May 12 workshop, representatives from the engineering firm left the meeting saying they would "pursue other courses."

At the time, Village Attorney David Epstein argued that the village was not obligated to pay, but did benefit from the services.

AT THE Monday nite board meeting, Village Manager Tom Markus said the $20,000 figure was a "negotiated settlement".

"As result of staff action, we have an obligation," commented Markus. "I believe, considering the amount of work left to be done, and staff commitments, let me sign the agreement."

Trustee Charles Kerr was the only dissenting vote. After the vote was called and the manager was authorized to pay the fee, Kerr commented "Here comes Santa Claus again."

WHEELING officials objected to the City of Prospect Hts. erecting a metal barrier on Roberts Avenue, west of Wheeling's Sandpebble Walk development. The barrier was designed to permit entry into the development, but not allow exit at the spot.

The Village of Wheeling objected to the barrier, which was to have permitted entry and exit at all times for emergency vehicles. In addition, the general public was to be allowed entry between 4 and 7 p.m., Monday thru Saturday.

In a letter sent on May 28 to Prospect Hts. City Manager Stephen Sturgell, Village Manager Tom Markus demanded the barrier be removed within 7 days.



MCDONALD'S OWNER DON CONLEY (standing left) and Village President William Hein (standing right) were on hand to greet these senior citizens at a recent special breakfast for the seniors. Seated left to right are: Martha Kozacek, Herman Schunk, Herman Backus, Josephine Backus and Leona Schunk. The Schunks are newlyweds. Conley hosted more than 500 senior citizens at the breakfast held in honor of National senior citizens month.

Life 6-5-80

Public housing approved

By STAN ZOLLER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—After nearly a year of discussion, negotiations and public concern, the Wheeling village board gave the approval for low-income and senior citizen housing.

The board made its decision following lengthy discussion with residents at the regular board meeting Monday, June 2.

The resolution passed the board by a 5-1 vote with only Trustee John Cole voting against the proposition. The proposal calls for a 100-unit, eight-story senior citizen housing building and 18 low-income housing units to be located in the building, mostly in the northeast section near Milwaukee avenue and Strong.

Residents of the area were concerned that the majority of the housing would be in the area and that it was selected because the area is, as one resident put it, "depressed."

Claiming their area was misrepresented, residents said they were concerned that the senior and low-income housing would not be harmonious with exisiting residential units and might not be of the same assessed value.

Trustee Charles Kerr said that if nothing else, the village had learned a lesson. "I think we've lost complete control on where it was going to go. The federal government came in and simply told us where it was going to go."

Cole, on the other hand, said later that he had a "variety" of reasons for voting against it." He expressed concern about the condemnation procedures used by the federal government.

Additionally, he said there should be concern about a 100-unit building that will not only have 30 parking spaces, but might very well be too high for the village's fire department.

"The highest the fire department can go is 90 feet," Cole said adding that he is also concerned whether the village has the water pressure to serve a building of that size.

A FEW RESIDENTS EXPRESSED concern about the water situation citing their own complaints about current service. Village President William Hein reassured them that the village is constantly working to improve the water situation.

"I am confident that the wells will produce," Hein said adding that the village "is going through a complete redevelopment program."

Larry Oppenheimer, director of community development added that two additional wells are being dug and they w will, hopefullyy, help ease the water situation in the village.

"We're not against it," said Juanita Sachs, "But we think it is too much in one area."

The resolution spelled out nine conditions that must be met by the Housing Authority of Cook county (HACC) and United States department of housing and urban development (HUD)

These included:

- Garages of not less than 350 square feet for single- family homes.
- The senior citizen housing complex be developed with a site plan which is "compatible and in agreement" with an overall site plan for the area being developed by Harland Bartholomew and Associates.
- The construction of the units meet all building codes and regulations of the village.
- All rights-of-way for other housing sites be dedicated in accordance with village's official map.
- The board may require additional conditions as a part of a special use permit or variation following public hearings.
- The village be notified before the HACC procedes with condemnation
- Priority be given to residents who currently live in Wheeling with secondary priority to persons who work in the village.

The residency requirement will be developed by the village at a later date. Still, residents in the area of Strong and Wolf expressed concern, not only who their neighbors would be but if there are enough senior citizens in the village to fill an eight-story, 100-unit building.

Village Planner Richard Greenwood said that he estimates there are between 500 and 600 people eligible to live in the senior housing and that he has already received calls about senior housing in general that might be available in the village.

Donald Shapiro questioned the board whether the residents of the low-income housing would be United States citizens. "If it's being built with taxpayers' money, will we have a guarantee that these residents will be United States citizens?"

Shapiro said that "people in this country are tired of the government spending money the way we (taxpayers) don't want it spent."

WHILE THAT MET with agreement from some of his neighbors, it did arouse Cole.

"Are you implying that only citizens of this country pay taxes? If you do, you're mistaken."

Shapiro said he knew of cases where people didn't and implied that he doesn't want housing paid for by taxpayers' money being used for non-taxpayers.

Resident Harish Bhasin said his concern about the project is that it would lower values of existing homes in the area. He said that it is an "injustice to the residents living in the area."

A few residents said that even though the issue has been discussed for nearly a year, some people were not aware of it.

Trustee Sheila Schultz said that somehow it didn't get to be "general knowledge" and that there wasn't a "perfect way to let people know" about the matter.

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld said it took four negotiation sessions with county and federal representatives to concur on the plan approved at the June 2 meeting.

"They didn't care for it, but at least we had some control instead of having them come in carte blanche."

Life 6-5-80

Neighbors voice concern

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING—The village board passed a resolution to build senior citizen and low-income housing in this community Monday, June 2, but not before tabling the resolution at a special meeting May 27 because of adverse comments of neighbors of the new projects.

Although Victor Walchirk, executive director of the Cook county housing authority (HACC), told the board at the May 27 meeting that it can use the power of eminent domain (condemnation) to acquire the properties, the board decided to incorporate into the resolution a clause allowing the property owners the choice of selling or not selling the property slated for the project.

Robert Anderson objected to selling his 132 by 100-foot lot at Second and Strong for low-income single-family housing and was joined by William Cokenower who told the board he does not wish to sell his vacant lot at Central and Wille but hopes to keep it for open space in the residentially-crowded area. Both lots had been slated for single-family homes along with nine others still slated for purchase by the HACC. The 11 parcels approved by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), were slated for 20 low-income family units. Removing the two parcels reduced the project by only two units leaving 18 units which would be acceptable to HUD, according to Walchirk.

DESPITE THE board's suggestion to submit alternate properties to HUD, Walchirk insisted the remaining 18 units are adequate because approval of the alternate properties could delay the request for funding from 60 to 90 days.

Village Attorney Gary Weintraub told the board he prefers to build a provision into the resolution giving property owners the right to refuse to sell rather than forcing the owners to sell through the right of eminent domain. The northwest corner of Strong and Third has been slated for a single-family unit. A duplex is planned for the southeast corner of Mayer and Fifth, and single-family units at the northeast and northwest corners of Mayer and Sixth.

A four-unit townhouse is planned for the east side of Ninth, 400 feet north of Strong, a two-bedroom two-story unit. Another single-family unit is slated for the southwest corner of Manchester and Stone. Two more four-unit townhouses are planned for Hintz, one at the southeast corner of Maple and another south of Lakeside Villas and 356 feet west of Cornell between single-family homes and the V.I.P. apartments.

MOST OF THE Strong street and old town area residents objected because they said they feel the sites for the senior citizen and low-cost family housing are not scattered adequately throughout the village, but are primarily in the northeast corner of Weeling.

Laurel Anderson agreed the seniors probably need some housing, but objected to the family housing because the proposed units would be rental units.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT William Hein, and Trustees Hugh Sommerfeld and Charles Kerr objected to using condemnation procedures to obtain the sites. Sommerfeld noted that originally 38 sites had been submitted, but Walchirk told him the 11 had been approved by Hein said that if a person does not want to sell, he should not be forced to, but neither does he want a refusal to sell to jeopardize the program.

"Why can't HUD buy homes that are for sale and renovate them"? asked Mrs. Sachs. Walchirk said HUD does not have provisions to do so. In addition, he added, low-income family housing works out better if the homes are new and built according to HUD specifications so that the people moving in can afford to live in them.

If the low-income family housing is rejected, it would jeopardize the senior citizen housing, Walchirk told the board. Scattered low-income family housing is required as part of the bargain, he said.

Voicing most of the residents' objections, Trustee John Cole said he objects to the project because a need for senior housing has not been demonstrated to his satisfaction and he objects to the "government constantly subsidizing things. Government points out the problem on one hand, then passes legislation to encourage the problem," Cole said.

One reason low-rent housing failed was because the government set a program for low-income families to afford a house but made no provisions for the family to afford the standard of living in the area, Cole said.

MOST OF THE time the low-income families cannot work in the area because jobs are not available for unskilled labor, he continued. The government looked at the problem, tackled it by subsidizing the housing, yet should have had job training and jobs to help instead, Cole noted. "The middle-class pays — when the taxed middle-class is out of existence, the whole economy collapses," Cole added.

Low-cost housing will be made available to families in the $12,000 to $18,000 income bracket based upon the number in the family, Walchirk said. Twenty units are estimated to hold about 100 people, and Walchirk told the citizens that no percentages are required racially. Wheeling residents will have priority on the housing.

According to Village Planner Richard Greenwood, the old town area has been selected because 1,300 questionnaires in a survey had been used to develop the criteria, for the program and funding. This area was picked for improvements in utilities, storm sewers, sidewalks, and because "some of the older housing requires rehabilitation," he added.



THIS BARRICADE ON Roberts has both neighbors and the village mad at Prospect Heights. See story on page 3.

Life 6-5-80

Reminder 6-5-80

Airport neighbors react to Heights annexation

Almost all of Pal-Waukee Airport may fall within the boundaries of Prospect Heights in the future, if three annexation petitions recently prepared by that village can receive the required number of signatures.

Prospect Heights Village Manager Steve Sturgell said the village drew up the petitions in response to requests by landowners who said they wished to have their areas annexed into the village. One parcel includes the subdivision which contains Cindy Lane and Debra Lane, and also the Aero Squadron Restaurant. Another would take in the area on which Plum Creek Condominiums is situated. The third would take in the Industrial Lane and Stavros Road area.

The total area would take up all the remaining land in the airport, which now is in unincorporated Cook County, plus the land proposed for acquisition in the Ralph Burke and Associates report. This report was commissioned by the villages of Wheeling and Prospect Heights to study the feasibility of a joint purchase of the airport.

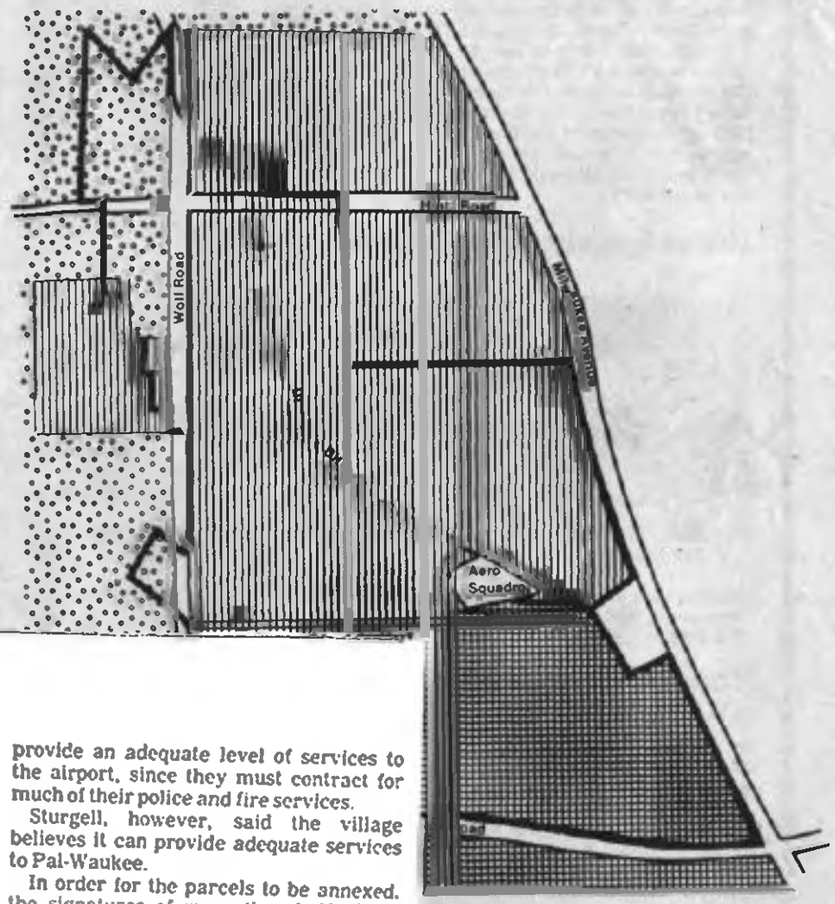
"The village is upset that Prospect Heights couldn't extend it the courtesy of discussing the matter," said Wheeling Village Manager Thomas Markus, when asked about the petitions. "We will respond to them about the situation," he said.

Markus and Larry Donoghue, head of Ralph Burke and Associates, said it is too soon to tell what effect such annexations, if they do take place, would have on the airport venture.

At a previous airport hearing, some Wheeling residents asked whether the village would lose tax revenue if some homes and businesses are demolished when the airport becomes municipally owned, as proposed. (Such demolitions would be necessary because a municipal airport must meet more stringent requirements regarding buffer zones around runways than must private airports).

Donoghue had said it would not, because new buildings at the airport would make up the revenues. In the future, however, if Prospect Heights owns most of the land on which the new buildings lie, the situation conceivably could change.

(Continued on next page)



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Possible Prospect Heights annexation

Prospect Heights officials recently drew up annexation petitions for several parcels of land in the area of Pal-Waukee Airport. If the land is annexed, most of the airport could fall within the boundaries of Prospect Heights, as shown in the map above.

Proposal cuts c

Proposal cuts cost of airport acquisitio
A proposal which would cut the initia
costs of acquiring Pal-Waukee Airpor
from $54 million to $33 million was o
fered Tuesday by a representative c
the Illinois Division of Aeronautic
(IDOA).

Terry Schaddel, an engineer, outline
the IDOA plan, which was develope
after a review of Phase II of the Ralp
Burke and Associates report. Th
Burke report was commissioned b
Wheeling and Prospect Heights an
studies the feasibility of a public pu
chase of the airport.

Schadel's proposal would cut costs, primarily by not requiring the acquisition of a number of parcels or structures which Burke had recommended. Under his plan, seven businesses proposed for demolition would be allowed

The IDOA plan still must be studied by the Federal Aviation Administration. It will be included in the final version of Phase II of the Burke report, and may be used as a guideline for the development of the airport, if it becomes municipally owned.

Airport plan—

(Continued from page 5)

If the annexations take place, Prospect Heights also would gain the sales tax revenue from the successful Aero Squadron.

Prospect Heights incorporated in 1976, and its boundaries were drawn through the southern part of the airport. Airport owner George Priester took the village to court over the matter, but Prospect Heights won that case, as well the appeal.

Priester says Prospect Heights cannot provide an adequate level of services to the airport, since they must contract for much of their police and fire services.

Sturgell, however, said the village believes it can provide adequate services to Pal-Waukee.

In order for the parcels to be annexed, the signatures of more than half of the residents and landowners of the areas involved must be affixed to the petitions. Prospect Heights then would need to obtain a court order.

Reminder 6-5-80

Conte goes to court appealing firing on gun misuse charge

Thomas Conte, who was discharged from the Wheeling police force on May 2, has filed an appeal in Cook County Circuit Court.

Conte, a former lieutenant, who served on the force for 16 years, was removed from the department by the Wheeling Board of Fire and Police Commissioners. The decision followed a hearing at which Conte was charged with misuse of a handgun in the arrest of a Wheeling man.

Conte's attorney, Stanley Jackala, who specializes in defending police officers, filed the appeal on May 27 in the law division of the Cook County Circuit Court. A court date has not yet been set.

At the Wheeling hearing, Jackala said Conte, who admitted placing a loaded, cocked gun in the mouth of a 20-year-old man he was arresting, had not acted inappropriately. Jackala said Conte had been under the impression the man, Eugene Grassmuck, was armed, and that he presented a danger to other police officers and to customers of the bank at which the incident occurred.

Members of the police and fire commission, however, in dismissing Conte, said they judged he had violated three sections of the Wheeling police department's manual of rules and regulations. They said he had set a bad example for younger officers, he had used an excessive amount of force and he had displayed his firearm in an unnecessary manner.

The incident involving Grassmuck and another Wheeling man originally was suspected to have been an attempted armed robbery of Hoyne Savings and Loan. The two were seen assembling a shotgun in their car, parked in the bank parking lot. It later was determined, however, they had no intention of robbing the bank, but were merely assembling a shotgun they had purchased shortly before at K-mart.

Reminder 6-5-80

Opinion

Cooperation

To the editor:

The Wheeling Park District Board of Park Commissioners wishes to make the citizens of our community aware of recent action taken by the Village of Wheeling President and Board of Trustees, to donate $20,000.00 of their allocation of Federal Revenue Sharing Funds, to the Wheeling Park District. With this donation, the Park District has been able to purchase a new 1979 44 adult passenger bus, which costs $19,633.00.

This bus has been badly needed to replace an old used bus, that many of you have ridden in, or seen.

The intergovernmental cooperation exhibited by the Village of Wheeling is deeply appreciated by the Wheeling Park District, and will be appreciated by the Senior Citizens and all riders that will be able to utilize the bus for trips, knowing (instead of hoping), that it will arrive at is destination and return, without mechanical failure.

The Village of Wheeling is to be commended and recognized for their unselfish view of the total community's needs. They have our heartfelt thanks and deserve your thank you as well.

Shirley Mueller
President
Board of Park Commissioners
Wheeling Park District

Reminder 6-5-80

Wheeling votes for senior, low-income housing project

"I think we learned something about the federal government," said Wheeling Trustee Charles Kerr at Monday night's meeting of the Wheeling village board.

"We completely lost control of this project (senior citizens and low-income housing) the moment we started. We were told where the senior citizens housing would go. They selected the sites for the low-income housing."

"Now if we don't approve the low-income, we are going to lose the senior citizens housing. I think it is more important that we have the senior housing than that we get this undesirable housing. So I'm going to vote for it. But I don't like it!"

Kerr spoke before the trustees took a vote on a resolution which would authorize the construction of 100 units of senior citizens housing and 18 units of low-income housing in Wheeling. The projects, to be funded through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) are part of a development plan which includes a senior citizens center, an emergency medical clinic and a downtown redevelopment project.

The resolution passed, to the dismay of many residents of the "Old Wheeling" area, where most of the low-income and other developments are located. They had expressed their disapproval of the proposals at a hearing on May 26 and again on Tuesday. Many said they believed their area was unfairly being singled out for these projects.

I think the low-income housing will have a devastating effect on home values in our area," said Tom Heitink of Sixth Street.

After the vote was taken a five-minute recess was called, during which many of the homeowners remained to talk with trustees. Some of the conversations were heated. Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, talking to one irate homeowner, was heard remarking, "If you think you can do any better, you should run for trustee yourself!"

Demand barricade removal

Life 6-5-80

WHEELING—A letter has been sent by Village Manager Tom Markus to Stephen Sturgell, city administrator of Prospect Heights requesting that the city alter its barricade to Sandpebble Walk.

According to Markus' letter, the barricade does not allow easy access into the development to eastbound traffic and the barricade erected by Prospect Heights makes it difficult for municipal vehicles to leave going westbound on Roberts.

According to Rick Ament, the settlement worked out in 1978, a barricade would be installed so that there could be easy ingress to Sandpebble from the west.

The barricade, however, erected about five months ago is two-fold. One is a series of spikes designed to let eastbound traffic into Sandpebble but not outgoing westbound. The other is an extended curb into Roberts about five inches high. According to Ament, this curbing is designed so that emergency vehicles would have a difficult time getting over and through it.

"It's a standard curb all the way around," Ament explains. "But in the middle it is just broken up street and it's extremely difficult for any vehicle to get through it.

"Suppose someone had to get to a hospital in an emergency," Ament says, "Time is of the essence and there's no way a vehicle could get through without going very slow — and in an emergency time is of the essence."

The only exit for residents is on to Frontage, which Ament says is a much slower route, especially in an emergency.

Markus said Prospect Heights plans to replace a piece of the barricade that was torn off. That piece covered the 'teeth' in the barricade that causes serious tire damage if a driver tries to go against it.

Sturgell confirmed that the city is in fact going to repair the barricade. "It's our opinion that the barricade is constructed according to the agreement. It's just a question of controlling the vandalism." He said there will be additional department to eliminate vandalism to the barricade.

This, Sturgell feels, would keep the barrier in working condition and would permit easy access by emergency vehicles.

Life 6-5-80

Wheeling pays less for engineering work

WHEELING—Keifer Engineering will be paid for the extra expenses it incurred for work on well number seven.

But not the $30,400 it originally asked for.

The village board Monday, June 2 agreed to pay the firm $20,000 for additional engineering fees the company charged the village for the project.

Most of the trustees seemed to favor the renegotiated settlement.

"I don't think it's a matter of what items were deleted from the statement," said Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld, "But the work on the renegotiated settlement."

Trustee Charles Kerr, a long-time opponent of what he calls "open-end contracts," voted against the settlement saying "here comes Santa Claus again with open- end contracts."

Life 6-5-80

Prohibit smoking

WHEELING—Holding its first meeting in the new council chambers, the Wheeling village board wasted no time in preserving it.

There's no smoking allowed.

The ordinance was passed by the village board at its meeting on Monday, June 2. It stipulates that smoking "of cigars, cigarets pipes or other similar materials is" prohibited anywhere in the new village hall where a public hearing or meeting by any commission, board or agency of the village is held.

No smoking signs have been erected, but are likely to be replaced by more aesthetically compatible ones in the near future.

By the way, there is a fine for smoking in the village hall. The ordinance calls for fines of not less than $10 and not more than $500.

Herald 6-7-80

Pal-Waukee mulling annex to village

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

In an attempt to thwart Prospect Heights' plans to annex the northern half of Pal-Waukee Airport, airport owner George Priester is planning to annex the unincorporated portion of the airport to Wheeling first.

Although he said he is less than thrilled about annexing the northern 125 acres to Wheeling, Priester said Friday his attorneys were left with little choice because of Prospect Heights' plans to force the airport into the city. They have filed a petition with Wheeling to incorporate into that village.

"Make no mistake about it, we're not doing this because we love Wheeling," Priester said. "But with all this sudden pressure being applied by Prospect Heights, it seems our legal people were left with little choice.

"NUMER ONE, Wheeling's a much larger community and in a better position to provide the services this airport needs to stay open. If it comes to a showdown and for some reason they stop this airport study, I think Wheeling's better equipped to take over this airport on their own."

The towns have considered jointly buying the airport and have chipped in five percent toward a two-year, $120,000 consultant's study now in progress. The southern half of the airport was annexed by Prospect Heights when the town was incorporated, although Priester is still fighting in court its right to incorporate. The northern half is in unincorporated Cook County.

Prospect Heights recently launched a plan to annex the remainder of the airport as well as surrounding homes and businesses — a total of about 300 to 400 acres — by circulating petitions requiring the signatures of more than half the residents and persons who own land in that area. The city then would need a court order to proceed with the annexation. As only one landowner, Priester would be powerless to block an annexation move if the majority of residents who surround his property supported it.

Priester's decision to annex voluntarily to Wheeling "effectively stops" Prospect Heights' designs on the businesses and houses "because they would no longer be contiguous to that property," said Wheeling Village Mgr. Thomas Markus. A public hearing on the annexation proposal will be conducted June 23.

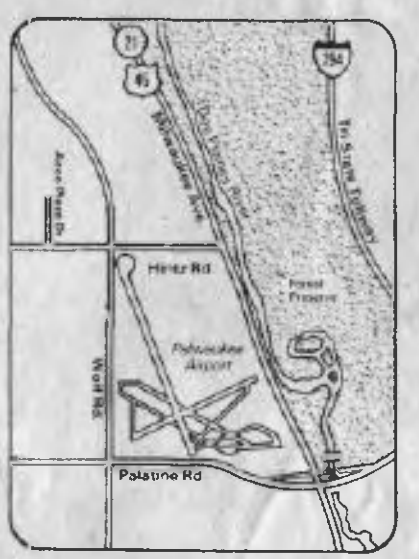
WHEELING OFFICIALS were angered about Prospect Heights' plans to take over the airport while the joint study was in progress, calling it an attempt to "steal the cashbox."

If Wheeling annexes the property, it will receive property taxes from the airport as well as sales tax revenues from airport businesses and Priester's 94th Aero Squadron Restaurant, a $2.5 million a year operation.

"It should mean a net increase to the village," Markus said. "The cost of providing services to the airport should be minimal. Police in many instances respond to calls there. There are no dedicated roadways that Wheeling will have to maintain."

Prospect Heights Mayor Richard Wolf said Friday he was unaware of the latest development in the feud between the two towns concerning control of the airport. "At this point, I would say I don't have any public comment until I've seen the annexation petition," he said.

Wolf said he had consulted Priester on Prospect Height's annexation plans and Priester "did not indicate any intention to proceed in this manner."



The week ahead — Herald 6/9/80

Trustees mull second phase of airport study

Wheeling trustees tonight will discuss the second phase of a three-part consultant's study on the feasibility of buying Pal-Waukee Airport, with cost estimates that range from $33 million to $78 million.

The village, along with Prospect Heights, is considering buying the airport. The towns have contributed a total of 5 percent toward the $120,000 airport study. But before the study can proceed, both towns must authorize the consulting firm, Ralph Burke and Associates, Park Ridge, to continue the third phase of the study, which will measure the impact of the airport on the environment.

Trustees must deal with cost estimates that have even the consultants and other airport experts studying the airport confused. Larry Donoghue, president of the consulting firm, in April submitted a plan to spend $78 million during the next 20 years to buy land for clear space, reroute roads and upgrade the airport. That plan was met with skepticism by residents and some elected officials.

In May, Donoghue presented a revised "mini-plan," calling for a three-, rather than a four-runway airport and less demolition of homes and businesses that are closer to the runways than federal safety standards allow. That plan would cost about $50 million.

This month, an official of the Illinois Dept. of Transportation proposed buying even less land and making fewer improvements at Pal-Waukee in a plan that would cost $33 million. Federal and state funding would pay most of the cost, but under the three purchase plans, the local share would range from $3.3 million to $9.1 million.

Because both towns have objected to using property taxes to finance their share of the airport, the consultant has proposed issuing 20-year bonds that would be repaid from airport revenues. He has suggested the bonds be purchased by airport users and commercial airlines at O'Hare Airport.

Village Mgr. Thomas Markus said it is unlikely Wheeling will authorize completion of the final phase of the study until the previous part is in its final form.

The board will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

• • •

A PROPOSED budget of $16.6 million for Wheeling Township Dist. 21 will be discussed Wednesday night by the board of education during a workshop meeting.

The proposed 1980-81 budget is about 5 percent more than the current budget of $15.8 million while revenues are expected to decline about 6 percent, from $15.7 million to $14.8 million. As a result, the district will have to dip into its $6 million cash reserves for the third consecutive year to cover the $1.8 million difference.

District administrators have not estimated a tax rate for 1980. This year's tax rate is $3.02 per $100 of assessed valuation, or $302 a year on an average house assessed at $10,000.

The board meets at 7 p.m. in the administration building, 999 W. Dundee Rd., Wheeling.

• • •

MAYORS AND MANAGERS from 21 North and Northwest suburbs will receive a report Wednesday on what their next steps should be in choosing a firm to provide cable television service.

The recommendations will come from a cable TV task force of the Northwest Municipal Conference, which has been meeting on the issue for months. The task force will meet on Tuesday to finalize its report.

The municipal conference has coordinated the review of proposals from 14 cable companies applying for franchises to build cable systems in the 21 suburbs.

A final evaluation of the companies is expected later this month from a Washington consulting firm hired by the municipal conference. In a preliminary report released last month, the consultants gave their highest recommendation to two of the cable companies, Warner Amex and Cablenet.

However, several of the other firms have asked for revisions, charging the consultants' report contained factual errors and misinterpretations.

Once the final consultants' report is received, it will be up to each individual village board and city council to decide whether they want to grant cable franchises and to which company.

The municipal conference meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Wheeling Township Hall, 1616 N. Arlington Heights Rd., Arlington Heights.

Herald 6/9/80

Hintz Road work urged by chamber

Convinced the state is not going to make any major improvements to Dundee Road in the near future, the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce is turning it's attention to getting a mile-long stretch of Hintz Road widened.

Faye Moroz, executive secretary of the chamber, said she wants to set up a meeting with village officials and officials from Cook County, which maintains Hintz Road. She has suggested the road be widened from two to four lanes, between Wolf and Elmhurst roads.

"Obviously, we are not going to get anywhere with IDOT (Illinois Dept. of Transportation) or the Northwest Municipal Conference to get any money for Dundee Road," she said. "So I think the only solution is to go to the county to see if we can get anything for Hintz Road, which is our next major east-west road."

THE CHAMBER and village officials earlier this year unsucessfully requested $5 million to widen a two-mile stretch of Dundee Road.

6-11-80

Trustees postpone Pal-Waukee study

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling trustees say they won't authorize completion of the Pal-Waukee Airport study unless they have a guarantee from airport owner George Priester that he's serious about selling the airport.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights, which are considering buying the airport, have chipped in a total of $6,000 toward a two-year, $120,000 airport study.

However, Wheeling board members say they are concerned about Priester's recent newspaper comments saying he might not need to sell the airport if Congress passes a bill which would make him eligible for federal funds presently reserved only for improvements to public airports.

Trustee John Cole said it is pointless to proceed with the final phase of the airport study — one that will measure the impact of public ownership of the airport on the environment — unless the towns receive "a letter of intent" from Priester. "I don't think we should go to phase three without it," he said. "We've never had any kind of commitment" from Priester.

PRIESTER COULD not be reached for comment Tuesday, but his son Charles, who manages the airport, said there should be "no difficulty with signing a letter or affadavit" indicating the Priester family's willingness to sell. However, he added the deal would have to be contingent on guarantees that the "sale is so structured that it doesn't put us in a tax situation we could not cope with."

Also, the younger Priester said he would like some assurances that none of the airport employees will be let go when the airport is municipally owned. "We have 205 employees and quite frankly, we're not going to turn our backs on any of them," he said.

There may be other problems "when it comes time to actually sign on the dotted line. Obviously, we haven't seen the terms of purchase, and there are a great number of details to be laid out," he said. "But I don't see anything that we could request that would be all that unreasonable. I think we've made it clear that the airport is for sale and should come under public ownership."

Despite the possibility that private airports like Pal-Waukee could be eligible to receive gasoline taxes collected from airport users that is pooled by the federal government, Priester said there are "no guarantees" the airport will not have to comply with federal safety standards before it will be elgible to receive federal aid.

IT IS THOSE improvements, like buying land for clear space and rerouting the Hintz-Wolf Road intersection, that have caused the cost of the airport to skyrocket. Although consultant Larry Donoghue estimates it will cost $78 million to purchase and make the improvements required by the Federal Aviation Administration, only $20.6 million would be used to buy Priester's land, runways and hangars.

"When you talk about these funds being available, that's great," Priester said. "However, we have no way of knowing what the ramifications would be as far as Pal-Waukee being eligible for those funds."

He added that the airport still is confronted with an estate tax problem and "the question of zoning." That estate tax problem would force the heirs of the elder Priester, who is 72, to sell the airport to pay the estate taxes when he dies.

Also, the airport is unable to prevent development from occurring near the airport that would hinder aircraft operations. Although the towns have passed zoning laws prohibiting construction of buildings that pierce the "clear zones," which determine the paths airplanes take, some officials have expressed doubts that such ordinances would withstand a court challenge.

BALKS AT BUYING PALWAUKEE

Topics 6-11-80

Questions Remain: Board

BY VIRGINIA SUTTON

Claiming that questions about the acquisition of Palwaukee Airport have not been answered by consultants, Wheeling's Village Board have expressed reluctance to proceed with the final phase of a 3-part study.

The consulting firm of Ralph Burke Assoc. was hired jointly by Wheeling and Prospect Hts. to study the feasibility of acquiring Palwaukee Airport, and turning it into a public facility.

Currently, the airport is owned by George Preister.

The price tag on the acquisition has ranged from about $33 million to $78 million.

DURING A WORKSHOP session Monday nite, trustees discussed the progress of phase 2 of the study. Village Manager Tom Markus asked for instructions from the board, as Larry Donoghue, president of Ralph Burke Assoc., wants to wind up this portion and continue with phase 3.

However, several trustees indicated that earlier questions had not yet been answered.

"My specific question was how much revenue is coming in without jets? What kind of money are we talking about?" asked Trustee Shelia Schultz. "He said it's not economically feasible, and that he had the figures. I said I wanted it in writing."

"ON COMPLETION of phase 2, we decide if we go or we don't," remarked Trustee John Cole. "We are going to decide if we will purchase the airport or not. We can't decide until we get some answers."

Trustees also wanted some explanations of "mini-plans", which have reduced the cost considerably by eliminating large land purchases and limiting the size of runways.

"There are no options or alternatives in the phase 2 report," commented Cole. "Originally, we asked is it feasible for Palwaukee to stay open? If feasible, what would it cost? If it came public, what would it cost to conform (to Federal Aviation Administration standards)?"

Because the airport is privately owned, it doesn't have to comply with FAA rulings.

Trustees also indicated they would want some kind of letter of intent from Preister before proceeding with the study.

A decision on whether or not to purchase the airport must be made before proceeding with phase 3, which is the environmental impact study.

Adopt New Policy For Cable Firms

Topics 6-11-80

Wheeling's Village Board of Trustees last Monday adopted a Cable-Television policy to handle requests from firms looking for a franchise in the community.

Wheeling joined a number of other local communities eyeing various cable-television firms thru a study committee of the Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC).

Once the study is complete, the NWMC group will recommend to the municipalities several franchises. Then each community will decide whether or not to permit cable-TV, and which firm, if any, to approve.

THE WHEELING board voted to set a written policy to avoid any pressure from any cable-TV company. The policy will set the standard for receiving information about various franchises.

No local ordinances

Life 6-12-80

Neither Wheeling or Buffalo Grove have an ordinance controlling condominium conversion, but both are in the process of developing one.

Buffalo Grove did "some work" on an ordinance about 18 months ago, although it was neveracted on. According to administrative assistant Ingrid Park, the village board delayed action on an ordinance because "most of the apartments in the village have become condominiums."

Village Manager Bill Balling, however, said there might be a reexamining of an ordinance like that. 'We don't have a lot of ground root support to reopen the issue," says Balling, "so I am not even sure how the ordinance would read."

He adds that the conversion of many apartment units to condominiums has "changed the housing opportunities in the village" but there has been little, if any problem with the owners of a condominium complex.

"We've had good luck with them," Balling says, "They've done a good job of upgrading the complexes where it has been needed."

An ordinance controlling condominium conversion could become a reality in Wheeling within the next two or three months.

But emphasize the word could.

According to Steve Manning, assistant village planner, his office is working on a report for the village board outlining a condominium conversion ordinance.

"It would be complex," Manning says, "and would likely have around 20 provisions," He said the village planning department sent a memo to the village board members regarding the issue and it met with "favorable reaction."

Manning estimates that the current breakdown of rental to owned housing in the village is 45% owned, 55% rental.

"We've been looking at similar ordinances that have been proposed in other area villages icluding Evanston, Buffalo Grove and Skokie," Manning explained. He said there have been several other villages examined as "resources" for an ordinance in Wheeling.

"We've still got a long way to go," Manning says. "Right now we're still working from reports so it will probably be at least two to three months before anything goes to the board."

Applications for summer jobs

Life 6/12/80

WHEELING-BUFFALO GROVE — Applications are now being taken to fill numerous summertime jobs open to northwest suburban youths able to meet economic guidelines.

Persons aged 18-21 are needed to fill junior supervisor positions in the program, which is sponsored by the Cook County Office of Manpower. The 20 junior supervisor positions will pay $3.85 per hour for 25-30 hours of work per week.

Also available are approximately 300 jobs for youths aged 14-17. These positions, paying $3.10 per hour for 25 hours of work per week, will last for 10 weeks. One of the weeks will be devoted to career exploration, with pay.

Jobs will be with various non-profit organizations such as schools, park districts, municipalities and libraries. Junior supervisors will work with the younger students at the various locations.

George Theodore, who is supervising the program, said the junior supervisor positions would be ideal for self-supporting college students able to meet the economic guidelines.

To qualify for the junior supervisor or regular jobs, applicants must meet certain economic guidelines. For example, a family of four may have a maximum family income of $8,280, while $11,530 is the maximum family income for a family of six.

YOUTHS WHO ARE physically handicapped or who are enrolled in a special education program may qualify for the summer jobs without regard to family income.

The 10-week program begins the week of June 16, with the final day on the job being Aug. 23.

For further information, or to apply for a job, call 537-2753 or 537-6500, ext. 36.

Municipal code gets review

Life 6/12/80

WHEELING—Review of the village's municipal code was the focal point at a workshop meeting of the village board on Monday, June 9.

Several parts of the code are being amended, but it was one part, not being changed, that seemed to draw the most interest from trustees.

There was a lengthy discussion about the ethics ordinance spurred on by Trustee Roger Powers. Powers, despite some hesitation by fellow trustees, wanted a clarification on that part of the municipal code.

The code calls for complete disclosure by a village official of any business connections he or she might have as well as members of his or her immediate family could have.

Powers said he knew it has been part of the code, but wanted to know "why it was so extensive."

Village Manager Tom Markus said the ordinance was probably drawn up in view of some of the "problems" experienced by the village in the past.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY David Epstein said the extensiveness of the ordinance should avoid "any loopholes."

Trustees also discussed, at length, decorum when handling phone calls from residents. The main concern here was to set a pattern for village officials should a resident be calling in regards to a sensitive matter.

"A problem could arise," Epstein said, "If a resident was calling about a zoning matter which might prove to be more of a specific favor than a general action."

The code suggests that the trustee, or village official involved, have the resident submit his or her concern in writing to the entire board.

The same is true, Markus said later, if someone calls an official and tries to pursuade his or her of something.

"The trustee should discontinue the call and report it to the full board," Markus said.

Trustee Sheila Schultz said action by a trustee should come if there is atrempted pursuation on attempted pursuasion other than zoning. She cited special use permit requests as one area while Epstein noted that this procedure could also include the letting of bids by the board and contract matters.

Members of the board also said they feel that purchases of $5,000 or less could be made without request for seal bids by the board.

State has plan for Palwaukee

Life 6/12/80

THE STATE HAS proposed another plan for Palwaukee airport. The plan was discussed at a meeting of the Technical Advisory committee (TAC) looking into control of the airport on Tuesday, June 3.

Generally, the plan follows a similar proposal made by Larry Donoghue of Ralph Burke and Associates, airport consultants examining how the airport can best be controlled if and when it becomes a public facility.

His plan called for the initial phase, mostly land acquisition, to cost around $54 million. The state's plan, says Donoghue, would cost $35 million for the initial phase, again being land acquisition and upgrading of the facility to comply with Federal Aviation administration (FAA) standards.

Public and private airports have different guidelines to follow. Palwaukee is currently a private airport.c

The state's plan would eliminate a good portion of the perimeter land around the airport but would maintain a plan to relocated Wolf about 400 feet relocated its current location at Hintz.

. Donoghue said with less land being acquired, there would have to be studies made to see if there would be enough room to relocated aircraft parked too close to the runway. These would have to be moved to comply with FAA regulations.

Donoghue's firm has completed two of a projected three phases. The third, he said, hasn't begun because he has not been authorized to begin work on it. That phase will focus on the environmental impact on the area near the airport.

His phase two plan, however, has yet to be approved by TAC or by Wheeling or Prospect Heights. Officials of the two communities must give the green light for phase three.

The committee is scheduled to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 18 at the Wheeling village hall.

Village board tries to talk about airport

Life-6-12-80

By STAN ZOLLER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The village board tried to discuss Palwaukee airport at a workshop meeting Monday, June 9, but the board felt that without a lot of specific information about the phase two study prepared by Ralph Burke and Associates, airport planners for the project, there really wasn't much to discuss.

Trustees contended that since they received their copies of the phase two study, two alternate proposals costing less than the estimated $78 million needed for phase two, have been presented to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) examining the use of Palwaukee airport.

"There have been too many changes since the printed phase two report came out," said Trustee John Cole.

His sentiments were echoed by Trustees Sheila Schultz and Roger Powers, both of whom said they couldn't give Village Manager Tom Markus input to take to TAC at its next meeting without more information.

"I've asked for the figures (from representatives of Burke and Associates)," said Schultz, "and was told I was going to get them. But so far, I still don't have them."

TRUSTEES SAID they are concerned about revenue figures from the plans, as well as knowing what the plans are that have been discussed.

"Phase two will decide if we can go on with the project or not," said Cole, "and I want the smaller proposals included with phase two."

Powers said it was difficult to give Markus, the village's representative to TAC, any input because they haven't received the information promised them.

Resident Bill Rogers said the state's objective for the airport is "to see what money it will take to keep the airport operating and viable."

The state's most recent proposal calls for the acquisition of some land and upgrading of the airport to meet Federal Aviation administration guideline's for a public airport. Palwaukee is currently privately owned and operated. There are different standards for private and public airports.

"There's no doubt that the state has some reservation on how much it wants to put into the airport," Rogers said.

COLE POINTED OUT that there were two main topics being addressed — should Palwaukee remain an airport and if it does, what would it cost to make it a public airport.

There was some speculation and concern about possible future actions that might be taken by the airport's owner, George Priester.

Trustee Charles Kerr said there has apparently been no formal communication between Priester and TAC and until there is a definite commitment from Priester, the committee can't move on to phase three.

Some speculation focused on a bill that would provide private airports financial aid. That bill was reported to be out of committee and on to the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

It was thought that if that bill passes sometime soon, Priester could decline to even sell the airport and have it remain a private facility.

On the other hand, Cole expressed concern about what Cook county would do if the airport becomes public.

"We haven't heard from them regarding this," he said, "I'm wondering if we were to go ahead and buy the airport if they'd want to come in and control it."

Countryside 6-12-80

News From WHEELING AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



Village President William Hein, left, and Chamber President Nick Fanella, right, pose with the winners of the Beautification Awards: Jules Anderson, Lake of the Winds, left; Gus Stavros, Wheeling Trust & Savings Bank; and Norman Letofsky, EZ Por Corporation.

UP WITH WHEELING

The Village of Wheeling declared May 17th through May 24th as "Up With Wheeling" week, dedicated to the clean up of the village. Individuals and members of various civic organizations volunteered their services in the clearing of debris from public areas and shopping centers; local business people donated trees which were planted in priority areas. On May 24, the Village Board and Chamber of Commerce presented certificates of appreciation and awards to organizations and individuals actively involved in the program, which will be an annual event.

At the May Chamber meeting, Village President William Hein also presented Beautification Awards to three village buildings which exhibit outstanding concepts in design and landscaping. The Village Appearance Commission selected the winners of the residential, commercial and industrial division awards.

Lake of the Winds was the winner of the residential division award. Jules Anderson, President of the Lake of the Winds Homeowners Association, accepted the award on behalf of the condominium complex, located on Hintz Road.

The Wheeling Trust & Savings Bank won the commercial division award. Bank Vice President Gus Stavros, who served as the Chairman of the Building Committee, accepted the award on behalf of the bank, located on the corner of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue. "Having been a farmer — I was born and raised in this town and my father and brothers and I used to farm most of the land in the village — I really love to keep the place spruced up," says Mr. Stavros.

EZ Por Corporation, 1500 S. Wolf Road, was the winner of the industrial division award which was accepted by Controller Norman Letofsky. "We have been located in Wheeling for about two years and we take a lot of pride in our building," he says. "It was designed to be both extremely functional and beautiful, providing a good working environment for our employees."

Pal-Waukee owner may ask Wheeling to annex

Countryside 6-12-80

Responding to Prospect Heights' recent indication it might seek to annex the remainder of Pal-Waukee Airport, airport owner George Priester has said he will try to prevent this by asking Wheeling to annex the land.

"I felt that as long as both communities were putting up with the noise and pollution from the airport, any benefits should be divided equally between the two communities," Priester said, when contacted about the situation.

"When I saw that Prospect Heights was trying to gobble it all up, I consulted with my attorneys to see what I could do. They said they only way I could prevent annexation by Prospect Heights was to seek annexation to Wheeling."

Prospect Heights officials recently drew up three annexation petitions that apply to parcels of land which would take up the rest of the airport. They said they drew up the petitions in response to requests by area landowners.

Priester stressed that "he has no love for Wheeling," any more than he has for Prospect Heights. He said he has had problems with both villages over the years.

Prospect Heights incorporated in 1976, and its boundaries were drawn through the southern part of the airport. Priester took the village to court over the matter, but the village won the case, as well as the appeal.

Priester said he wanted to have the airport in unincorporated Cook County rather than in Prospect Heights because the airport had been dealing with the county since 1953, and Prospect Heights was a new community.

He said he still would prefer that the rest of the airport remain in the county, but will go ahead and ask to annex Wheeling because he said he is concerned about the equity of the situation.

"I want to be sure both villages get an equal share of the tax money coming out of the airport," he said. He added, however, that the services provided by Wheeling would be far better than those of Prospect Heights.

"Wheeling is the only one which has taken care of us. If there is a fire here, they respond. Prospect Heights doesn't have its own fire department, or its own police department."

Prospect Heights and Wheeling have cooperated in funding a consultant's study regarding the feasibility of their joint purchase of the airport.

The hearing on the annexation proposal will be on June 23 at the Wheeling Village Hall.

The week ahead

Herald 6-16-80

Construction law on village agenda

A law that would require village board approval of all construction in the downtown area will be considered tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

By creating a special zoning district along a two-mile stretch of Milwaukee Avenue, trustees hope to attract "higher quality" developments and reduce traffic congestion. By requiring greater scrutiny of all construction, village officials hope development in Wheeling's downtown area will be more orderly.

Normally, village board approval is required only when the builder requests changes from village building and zoning codes. And aside from meeting the existing building and zoning laws, developers building additions or remodeling existing buildings will have their plans reviewed by the village board and plan commission.

The special zoning district will be considered for final approval at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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A COMMITTEE of municipal administrators, consultants and airport experts studying a public takeover of Pal-Waukee Airport will meet Wednesday to begin putting the second phase of the $120,000 airport study in final form.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights have chipped in a total of $6,000 toward the study which will determine if the towns can afford to buy the airport from owner George Priester.

The consultants now are faced with determining the feasibility of three separate airport purchase plans, which range from $33 million to $78 million. Consultant Larry Donoghue's initial plan, that called for extensive land purchases as well as demolition of numerous homes and businesses, drew criticism because of its $78 million price tag. He later presented a scaled down "mini plan," estimated at $50 million.

Following that, state officials submitted a less ambitious acquisition plan, estimating the airport's cost at $33 million, and suggested the state may set a ceiling on what it contributes to buying the airport. The state is expected to contribute about 10 percent to the purcahse price.

The local share, depending upon which plan is followed, should range from $3.3 million to $9.1 million.

The committee will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

News From WHEELING AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



Village President William Hein, left, and Chamber President Nick Fanella, right, pose with the winners of the Beautification Awards: Jules Anderson, Lake of the Winds, left; Gus Stavros, Wheeling Trust & Savings Bank; and Norman Letofsky, EZ Por Corporation.

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HERALD JUNE 16, 1980

OK STUDY OF SENIOR CENTER

BY VIRGINIA SUTTON

Wheeling's Village Board Monday, June 16 authorized a $2,700 preliminary study of the proposed senior citizen center.

Village Manager Tom Markus is to enter into an agreement with the architectural firm of Holabird & Root to determine the possible scope of services for the village's senior center.

"The study will tell us how much we can build for the money," explained Markus. "It will be a shell to be developed. We will plan out from that point."

Holabird & Root has been retained by Holy Family Hospital to design the ambulatory health care unit to be built at Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue.

THE BOARD also awarded a $6,327 contract for 2 industrial mowers to Dehne Lawn & Garden Equipment, Northbrook. The firm's bid was the lowest received and was under the $7,000 budgeted for the project.

REVENUES from the vending machines in the village employees' lunchroom will be placed in the general fund, the board decided.

The commission received from the use of vending machines could be used for annual events, such as the employee-elected official picnic, explained Markus. Such monies could also be used to defray the cost of a holiday party, he added.

Final approval was granted to the "no smoking" ordinance in the municipal complex. "No Smoking" signs will be posted at entrances, smoking will be permitted in certain areas, and this will be also indicated by signs.

TOPICS JUNE 25, 1980

6-25-80 TOPICS

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Village Manager Tom Markus is to enter into an agreement with the architectural firm of Holabird & Root to determine the possible scope of services for the village's senior center.

"The study will tell us how much we can build for the money," explained Markus. "It will be a shell to be developed. We will plan out from that point."

Holabird & Root has been retained by Holy Family Hospital to design the ambulatory health care unit to be built at Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue.

THE BOARD also awarded a $6,327 contract for 2 industrial mowers to Dehne Lawn & Garden Equipment, Northbrook. The firm's bid was the lowest received and was under the $7,000 budgeted for the project.

TOPICS JUNE 25 1980

'American And Proud': Theme

July 4 Celebration Ready

Hurtlin' Turtles Race On July 4

Wheeling's Jaycee Jills are preparing for its annual turtle race on Friday, July 4 at Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Rd. The rack will be set up, gates readied and the announcer's booth installed.

The great turtle race begins at 2 p.m. as part of day-long festivities scheduled to celebrate the 4th of July.

FOUR-INCH box turtles will race in several different heats. A member of the Jaycees will call the race.

Earlier this year, the Jills went to various local merchants, asking them to sponsor a turtle in the race. The funds collected are used for the annual $500 scholarship the Jills present to a Wheeling High School student.

FOLLOWING THE RACE, plaques are awarded to 1st, 2d and 3d place turtle sponsors.

The annual race usually draws a large crowd, as people gather to cheer on favorite contestants.

After the race, the turtles are returned to the pet store where they were acquired.

For more information, or if you wish to sponsor a turtle, call Trixie at 541-1819, after 5:30 p.m.

"American and Proud," is the theme for Wheeling's upcoming 4th of July celebration.

The day-long celebration will incorporate 3 different areas: a parade, a family festival in the park and fireworks.

The Wheeling Park District, in cooperation with the Wheeling Jaycees, will be coordinating the day's events, which will involve many Wheeling service organizations.

PARADE–Sponsored by the Wheeling Jaycees, this annual event features such groups as: Wheeling High School Band, Banjo Buddies Dixieland Band, Chicago Connection Drum Corp and others. Floats will be entered by historical society, Kiwanis, Wheeling Park Dist., Indian Trails Library, Wheeling Trust and Savings Bank, Jaycees and the Jaycee Jills.

The parade will kick off at Dundee and Old Wheeling Roads and continue east on Dundee to Wille, south to Highland, winding up at Holmes Jr. High.

FESTIVAL IN THE PARK, coordinated by the Wheeling Park Dist., featuring food, drink and game booths, sponsored by local service organizations. Some groups represented: VFW, Amvets, Wheeling High School Instrumental League, Lions Club.

Live entertainment will be provided by Wheeling High School Pep Band, "Stage West," a country swing band, and "Fugitive," a rock group. Scheduling and additional entertainment information will be available at a later date.

Family Games (every hour on the half hour) include a sack race, frisbee toss, 3-legged race. Contests schedule includes turtle race and horseshoe pitch. In addition, bingo will be played at St. Josephs church, beginning at 2 p.m.

FIREWORKS will be sponsored by the Wheeling Jaycees.

Call the Wheeling Park District at 537-2222 for more information.

REVENUES from the vending machines in the village employees' lunchroom will be placed in the general fund, the board decided.

The commission received from the use of vending machines could be used for annual events, such as the employee-elected official picnic, explained Markus. Such monies could also be used to defray the cost of a holiday party, he added.

Final approval was granted to the "no smoking" ordinance in the municipal complex. "No Smoking" signs will be posted at entrances, smoking will be permitted in certain areas, and this will be also indicated by signs.

'American And Proud': Theme

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Topics June 25 1980

94th manager says he'll work with anybody

THE MANAGER OF THE 94th Aero Squadron restuarant says it doesn't matter to him what city he's in because he'll do whatever George Priester does and will work with anybody.

Gerry Racoff says inspectors from Wheeling's health and electrical departments have been through the restaurant and didn't find any violations or problems at all.

"In fact," Racoff says, "the health inspector was amazed at how clean our kitchen is. He said it's probably one of the cleanest he's seen in the village."

Under the annexation agreement approved by the Wheeling Village Board Monday, June 23, the restaurant would be granted a class B liquor license. There are presently 14 licenses allocated for the village, but it was understood that if a license is not available when the annexation agreement goes into effect, the village will increase that number to 15.

Another stipulation of the agreement calls for the restaurant to tap into the Wheeling water system and install a sprinkling system. The restaurant currently has two wells to service the building.

"There wouldn't be any problem at all," says Racoff. As for the sprinkling system, it was part of the restaurant's plan for the 1980-81 fiscal year and $12,000 has been allocated for a system installation. It should be installed by the end of the summer says Racoff.

"I DON'T HAVE any preferences where we we are located," Racoff says. "It just seems to make more sense for us to be in Wheeling." He says the Wheeling Fire department responds to calls at the restaurant and the building's alarm system is connected to the Wheeling police department.

"The whole thing is of little consequence to us," Racoff says. "We're a solvent business and the future looks rosey for us and we'll be able to work with anybody."

LIFE JUNE 26, 1980

HERALD JUNE 26, 1980

Phase three near for airport

ALTERNATIVES DEALING WITH Palwaukee airport were discussed by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) dealing with the feasibility of purchasing the airport for a municipal facility at a meeting Wednesday, June 18. Although the committee hasn't seen a final copy of the phase-two report being prepared by airport planners Ralph Burke and Associates, president Larry Donoghue said the time to consider phase-three is rapidly approaching.

His alternatives for the airport focus on ownership, improvements, property acquisition, the relocation of the Wolf-Hintz intersection and the possibility of no action at all.

Donoghue said ownership of the airport could be by Prospect Heights, Wheeling, a consortium of what he called "multi-city" owners, Chicago, Cook county, or joint ownership by Wheeling and Prospect Heights.

There was also mention of public-private ownership which could be done by having public ownership of the land and private ownership of the facilities by a user corporation. Another alternative to ownership would be public ownership of the land and private ownership of the facilities by current airport owner, George Priester.

TWO PROPOSALS for complete private ownership are by a user corporation or by Priester with a federally-approved appropriation from the Airport Development Aid Program (ADAP).

Donoghue calls his alternatives a "scoping procedure."

This procedure he says, "are the steps taken in preparing an environmental impact study. You have to start in front and the first step is scoping it."

Other scoping ideas for improvement considerations included adoption of the Burke plan, adoption of the Illinois Division of Aeronautics mini-plan, deviations of both or not making any improvements at all.

Deviations from the plan focused on various runways, but would include maintaining the 5,000-foot runway and possible reduction of it to 4,635-feet,

Before any reduction would take place, however, there will be an extensive study to see how it might affect the airport.

PROPERTY ACQUISITION according to Donoghue's plans could follow the Burke plan, the state plan or a long-term purchase plan that would give the state right to "first refusal and waives condemnation proceedings." Under this plan, there would not be any acquisition until a "specified period of time."

As in all of Donoghue's scoping proposals, there is also the possibility of no action at all, or in this case, no acquisition at all.

As for the Hintz-Wolf intersection, Donoghue's scoping calls for a depression of the elevation of the intersection using the same right-of-way, or rerouting the roadways.

Rerouting of the roadways would follow one of three patterns according to Donoghue's plan. One would be to have Hintz rerouted around the northern boundary of runway 16 (the 5,000-foot runway) clear zone.

When it comes to Wolf, there are two possibilities. One is to reroute it around the western boundary of 16's clear zone while another is the adoption of the proposed Wheeling Industrial road as replacement of Wolf from Palatine road north.

Another alternative, one that is likely to meet with opposition from residents and nearby businesses, is the closing of both roads where they "encroach" the clear zone.

The possibility of no relocation of either road is also listed as an alternative.

DONOGHUE'S FINAL alternative in his scoping step is that Priester keep the airport and maintain it as is.

Donoghue stated that while he does not have approval to begin on phase-three, he developed these steps as a way to start planning for it, if and when he gets approval for the third phase.

"These are things we'll have to look at and take into consideration," he said. He added that it's also important that the committee start "looking into phase-three and find out what the alternatives might be."

He said the final phase-two report would be ready by July 16 and it would, at the request of officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights, include the state's mini-plan proposal.

The committee will discuss the final report at its next meeting July 31.

Day-long plans set for Fourth

WHEELING—Final plans are being worked out for Wheeling's July 4 celebration which will feature a day-long list of activities starting at 11 a.m. with a parade.

The parade will start at the corner of Dundee and Old Wheeling roads going east on Dundee to Wille, south to Highland and finishing at Holmes junior high school.

"We have nearly 40 businesses and organizations taking part in the fourth activities," says Mary Strauss, coordinator of the festivities sponsored by the Wheeling park district and the Wheeling area Jaycees.

"We have had a lot of help with all of the committees and so far everything is going very smoothly," Strauss adds.

Following the parade, the festival in the park will be held at Heritage park.

A wide variety of activities will be held including entertainment and family-oriented contests.

Entertainment will begin at 1 p.m. with the rock band "Fugitive" performing. At 3 p.m., Stage West, a country swing band will perform while at 5 p.m., the Home Town Favorites, a barber shop quartet will entertain.

From 7 until 8:30, the Wheeling Choral League will be performing. All day long, members of the Wheeling high school band entertain throughout the park.

Contests for persons attending the festivities include turtle races, horshoe pitching, sack races, Frisbee toss, three-legged race and bingo, which will be held at St. Josephs church.

Bingo will begin at 2 p.m.

The annual fireworks display, sponsored by the Wheeling Jaycees, will begin at 9 p.m. at Heritage park.

For additional information, call the park district at 537-2222.

LIFE JUNE 26, 1980

Taxi owner hits deregulation

6-26-80 HERALD

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

The owner of a major suburban taxicab company says that proposals to deregulate business — being considered in Mount Prospect and Wheeling — would lead to an influx of "scabs and gypsy" drivers who would charge much more than is currently allowed by local laws.

Robert Birks, who owns Mount Prospect's only taxicab company, is asking Mount Prospect for a 13 percent rate hike, but village officials said they should consider giving up the power to set taxicab rates and let "the natural forces of the market" control the prices.

But Birks, who holds all 18 licenses in Mount Prospect, says allowing competition would force him out of business "within a year ... I'll pay you $1,000 if that doesn't happen."

Birks says unlicensed "drivers would come in and rob the citizens blind. It opens everything to every scab and gypsy."

"When people want a cab, they're usually in a hurry and they don't have the time to check the fares, like you might for an airline," he said. "They want to get in and go.

"What you'll have is companies who screen the calls and won't pick up when Mrs. Smith wants to go to the K-Mart. Some of them won't take senior citizens," he said. "The village is defeating the whole purpose of having local cab service."

MOUNT PROSPECT Village Mgr. Terrance Burghard conceded that Birks "makes essentially a decent point" in his opposition to deregulation, but added the main problem the village has had with Birks' requests for rate hikes has been trying to determine whether the size of the increases he has requested are warranted.

"Common sense tells me that a business that relies so heavily on oil products is obviously going to incur greater costs," he said. "But it's going to take more than common sense or a gut feeling" to determine how much of an increase Birks should be granted.

Financial information on Birks' operation has come from figures provided by Birks. A certified audit of his books would cost at least $7,000, something Birks contends he "can't afford."

Burghard said he is reviewing Birks' income tax returns, but determining how much money Birks is making in Mount Prospect alone will prove difficult, because he also runs a freight operation as well as cab companies in Elk Grove Village, Wheeling and Prospect Heights.

Burghard also said he plans to review a 100-page report from the Chicago Area Transportation Study, which includes reports on towns that have tried deregulating their taxicab businesses.

IN WHEELING, Birks is one of two operators licensed to do business. However, his company, Wheeling Village Cab Co., as well as several others, have been charging rates well in excess of what a 1974 ordinance allows.

Village officials haven't enforced the ordinance, however, and concede that rates set six years ago are not reasonable. Finance Director Gregory Peters said he plans to present a "series of options" for the village board to review within the next few weeks.

Birks has requested a rate of $1.70 for the first mile and $1 for each mile thereafter, the same rate he is requesting in Mount Prospect.

Once the village determines what it wants to do with its outdated ordinance, Peters says the police department will be asked to start enforcing it. "What we have now is an ordinance on the books that is basically unenforceable," he said.

Lake county doesn't want MSD to serve Johnson property

HERALD JUNE 26, 1980

THE LAKE COUNTY board is trying to protect its interests by keeping the Metropolitan Sanitary district (MSD) from crossing into Lake county to provide sewers to the 203-acre Johnson property.

Glenn Miller, county board chairman, told the members of Vernon Area Government association (VAGA) June 19, that the board has passed a resolution aimed at keeping the MSD restricted to Cook county. "There's no way we want the MSD to come into Lake county to sewer our properties and we feel we have a very good case," he said. Miller added that further action by the MSD may eventually lead to a lawsuit.

The Johnsons have been negotiating since May with the village of Wheeling for annexation of the large parcel, which lies northwest of the Milwaukee and Lake-Cook road intersection.

Last year Wheeling annexed 109 acres of Johnson property southwest of the intersection. The Chevy Chase golf course is being operated by Wheeling's park district although the land is not part of that village.

IN MAY, BUFFALO Grove, which controls sewer rights in that portion of Lake county, refused to allow a sewer hookup to the family. The village board has stated often that it wishes to consider annexation of the property into Buffalo Grove.

Miller said he received a reply to his request that the MSD reconsider its action authorizing preparation of an agreement with Wheeling to service the area from MSD President Nicholas Melas.

Melas pointed out the legality of agreements to service areas of "municipalities located partly within and partly without the territorial limits of the district." He gave as an example the agreement of the MSD to serve St. Mary's school in the Lake county portion of Buffalo Grove.

MILLER ACKNOWLEDGED that agreement, but said there was a severe need at the time and the Lake county sewer lines were not as close to the school and church as the MSD's. "I've been told just because we didn't contest (that agreement), doesn't set a precedent," he said.

"Melas told me, 'We were kind of pressured into this. Wheeling wanted it,'" Miller added.

Miller also mentioned the 350-acre Buffalo Creek retention basin being constructed with $5 million in Lake county funds to prevent flooding in areas of Cook county. "In return, they're (the MSD) trying to come in and take the property," he said.

Wheeling annexes airport

By MARION SOURS

Prospect Heights officials may have had their eyes on Pal-Waukee Airport, but Wheeling thwarted them Monday by voting to annex part of the facility.

Wheeling Trustee Charles Kerr, who said the village was "almost giving the airport away", was the only trustee to vote Monday against a proposal to annex the northern section of Pal-Waukee to Wheeling.

Recent moves by Prospect Heights appear to have been responsible for the village's haste to act on the matter.

Wheeling trustees gave preliminary approval to the proposal to annex the remaining unincorporated portion of Pal-Waukee — about 125 acres — to the village. The vote followed a public hearing regarding the annexation.

The entire proceedings prior to the vote took less than one hour. The annexation proposal had not been discussed at any prior board meetings.

"I think something of that significance deserved at least a workshop," Trustee Kerr said when contacted after the meeting. "We never once sat down with the people from the airport."

Wheeling officials were approached earlier this month by George Priester, owner of the private airport, who asked to have the remaining unincorporated land in the airport considered for annexation to Wheeling. His request followed closely upon action by Prospect Heights officials, who recently had drawn up three annexation petitions that applied to parcels of land which would have included the rest of the airport.

The southern part of the airport already lies in Prospect Heights, because of the way the village's boundaries were drawn when it was incorporated in 1977. Priester took Prospect Heights to court, because he didn't want to be included in that village, but Prospect Heights won the case, as well as the appeal.

Though he had asked to annex to Wheeling, Priester said he would have preferred to have the remaining land unincorporated. However, in view of Prospect Heights moves, he said he was concerned about the equity of the situation.

"I felt that as long as both communities were putting up with the noise and pollution from the airport, any benefits should be divided equally between the two communities," Priester said several weeks ago.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights have been cooperating during the last year in a study which is investigating the feasibility of their join' purchase of the airport.

Trustee Kerr, speaking after the meeting, said he believed "there is no question" that the Prospect Heights moves were an impetus behind the village's rapid action on the matter. He said, however, that he believed once the Priesters had filed the petition for annexation there was no need to act immediately on the matter.

Wheeling Village Manager Thomas Markus, contacted after the meeting, also said the Prospect Heights moves spurred the village to act as soon as it did. He said the issue was not discussed at prior board meetings because village staff did most of the negotiations.

Kerr said he was concerned that the village was imposing few restrictions on the airport. "We are allowing county regulations to exist, which we always op-

(Continued on page 9)

JUNE 26, 1980

Airport—

(Continued from page 5)

posed before because of their leniency."

Under the terms of the annexation ordinance, "all presently existing uses and structures on the tract shall become legal uses and structures, whether or not in conformity with village zoning ordinances..."

Kerr objected to this Monday night, though Trustee John Cole said this allowance was no different than that granted to other already-developed parcels petitioning for annexation.

Wheeling resident Delores Host, speaking during the public hearing, expressed concern that the airport would be governed entirely by state and federal (FAA) regulations, and that the village would not have enough say in the way the airport was run.

Acting village attorney Weintrab said that Wheeling's home rule powers might be used to give it some control over the airport. However, he said the ordinance presented Monday had waived such powers.

Christina Carlson, representing Prospect Heights at Monday's meeting, said that village is opposed to the annexation. After the ordinance passed Monday is posted publicly for two weeks, it will come up for a vote again before the Wheeling village board. If it passes again, the parcel will be annexed to the village.

REMINDER JUNE 26 1980

Clipped wings

Seldom was heard a discouraging word, so the Wheeling board voted Monday to annex a portion of Pal-Waukee Airport.

After months, even years, of expensive studies, careful debate, and strained intermunicipal relations, the Wheeling action came as a surprise. "Hasty" might be a better word.

Prospect Heights' saber rattling about annexing the airport to that town precipitated the action by Wheeling. Or should we say reaction?

Reaction, especially such spontaneous reaction, makes the deliberate action of the past months meaningless. And that's just not thoughtful government. Slow down, and think carefully again, Wheeling.

What's involved

6-26-80

WHEELING—The annexation agreement between the village and the owners of Palwaukee airport lets the airport exist in the village pretty much the way it has in unincorporated Cook county.

Current building code requirements will be adhered to for hangars under construction . The agreement also lets the airport "...continue to operate subject to standards and subject to applicable Federal Aviation administration and other federal and state of Illinois regulations and requirements..."

Village Attorney Gary Weintraub said the agreement will keep current taxes at the airport and that no new levies will be imposed.

There will be some zoning revisions for the airport property in Wheeling and the village will have one year to adopt zoning revisions or airport owner Geogre Priester would have the option of disconnection (deannexation proceedings).

Other annexation stipulations in the agreement include:

- A class B liquor license granted to the 94th Aero Squadron restaurant.
- No annexation fees paid to the village
- An agreement that the village will not adopt any ordinance "inconsistent with or stricter than" any federal or state regulation.

Airport annexation talks set

By STAN ZOLLER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The village board Monday, June 23 agreed to enter into annexation discussions with the owners of Palwaukee airport so the northern part of the facility would be in the village.

The proposed agreement, reviewed by the board and Village Attorney Gary Weintraub (see related story) at the June 23 meeting, contains a number of provisions for the airport to enter the village in its current condition.

Both the resolution calling for annexation discussions to begin and the annexation ordinance were approved 5-1 with Trustee Charles Kerr casting the lone dissenting vote.

Kerr's main objections were not to having the airport in the village, but "the way it (the agreement) was put together. I think there are too many concessions and lack of limitations."

He also said there should have been more review by the entire board. "The board never met as a whole to discuss it (the annexation). We were given copies and asked to submit comments."

Kerr added that a project "of this multitude" needs a workshop meeting and perhaps additional public hearings.

"The Johnson property annexation had two or three public hearings," Kerr said.

VILLAGE BOARD PRESIDENT Bill Hein said the village staff did an outstanding job preparing the documents and that it had been fully reviewed.

Hein said "we welcome the Priesters to Wheeling. We've worked hard on this project."

There was little resident reaction. Residents in the area of Plum Creek condominiums expressed concern that the village would have little control over the airport and that there might be an increase in air traffic.

Weintraub said the village has no current control over the facility and that future operations probably won't change.

One resident questioned what would happen if Prospect Heights, which has the southern part of the airport within its boundaries, would try to prohibit or allow take-offs and landings at certain hours. Hein compared the dual municipality annexation (half in Wheeling, half in Prospect Heights) to cities or villages that are located in two counties. (Buffalo Grove, for example, is located in both Cook and Lake counties).

PROSPECT HEIGHTS MAYOR pro-tem Christine Carlson said officially that Prospect Heights is against the Wheeling annexation. She said later that she is unsure what that city would do in response to Wheeling's action because board members knew very little about it. "We found out through the papers. It seems to me that we should have been notified."

Kerr told the hearing that he was still upset at the ease with which the airport was annexed "We didn't place any restrictions on the annexation agreement. We just gave them the key."

Part of his objections came because compliance with Cook county codes was the basis for acceptance for annexation to Wheeling.

"We've always been opposed to the county requirements as being too lean in the past." Kerr said. He added that not only was there no "control" but there was a considerable amount of nonconformity as well.

"What makes them any different than any other commercial business in the village with all the exceptions they have?" Kerr asked.

TRUSTEE JOHN COLE reacted to Kerr's charged of noncomformity, especially when it came to parking, by pointing out that this annexation was "nothing different that any other annexation. Two weeks ago you okayed a complex which has only one parking space to every three units." That approval was for the eight-story senior citizen housing.

The ordinance approved by the board will be posted for 10 days. Final approval is expected to come at the board's next regular meeting Monday, July 7.

LIFE JUNE 26, 1980

Priester: Keep airport land equal

By STAN ZOLLER
Staff Writer

THE PRINCIPALS INVOLVED in the annexation of the northern portion of Palwaukee airport to Wheeling had their reasons.

The two leads in the continuing drama of the local version of "Airport" said it was a matter of intergovernmental cooperation and/or (depending who you listen to) sharing the cash register receipts.

Wheeling President Bill Hein prides himself and the village with offering what he considers best services for the airport.

"We've always led the way for intergovernmental relationships," Hein says. "When Prospect Heights needed help with snow removal two years ago, we helped." Hein is quick to point out how Wheeling helped Prospect Heights because it is that city which wanted to annex the northern portion which would have put the entire airport in Prospect Heights.

"If we have joint ownership," Hein says in reference to the ongoing discussions of making Palwaukee a public airport owned jointly by Wheeling and Prospect Heights, "what could be better?"

Hein has, in the past, emphasized services to the airport area, including fire and police protection and water.

AIRPORT OWNER George Priester, however, says that wasn't the only reason for asking for annexation to Wheeling.

Priester, who has had his share of battles with Wheeling citizen groups, claims that Prospect Heights, in its bid for the northern section of the airport was only going for "the cash register." Priester says "it seems to me that Prospect Heights wants to hog the whole thing."

Which is against his principles.

"The problems with any airport aren't with just one community," he says, "That's why I don't think any one community should have all of the benefits. That's the way I've always felt. Share equally."

Much of Priester's remarks zero in on the biggest 'cash register' in the northern portion of the airport. The 94th Aero Squadron does an estimated $2.5 million business annually, a figure that has been confirmed by management at the restaurant.

"That's where Prospect Heights made their mistake," Priester said. "They were allowed to annex four square miles and when the restaurant went up, it wasn't in their limits."

"THE AIRPORT IS IMPORTANT to Wheeling," Priester says. "It's right near their industrial area and provides a service for them."

The realm of secrecy has kept Prospect Heights officials somewhat in the dark.

"We don't know anything except what we read in the papers," says City Administrator Stephen Sturgell.

Sturgell says Prospect Heights officials did talk to Priester as recently as a month ago.

"We got the same answer when we talked to him four years ago," says Sturgell. "He didn't say yes, but he didn't say no."

And while Priester didn't want the whole airport to go to Prospect Heights, he wasn't overly excited about Wheeling.

"I'M MAD ABOUT the money I spent fighting," he says. The fight, he says, came when runway 16/34, the 5,000-foot runway, was built.

"They said they were concerned about the school (Holmes). The runway was built in 1964, the school in 1966."

Priester, who admits he'd be happy just being part of unincorporated Cook county, thinks people tend to overlook some of the things the airport has been involved with in the past.

"Not too long ago we had a call from Northwest Community hospital wanting to know how long it would take to get an air ambulance ready. Do you know we had it within 40 minutes."

Priester says his airport is being a good neighbor and that he realizes that "for every right you have, you have a responsibility."

It still, however, boils down to dollars and cents.

"It's going to have to be share and share alike," Priester says, "If it's going to be equal purchase, it's going to have to be equal control."

6-26-80



Moving day at village hall

EMPLOYES AT THE WHEELING village hall took to the hallways last week as new furniture and carpeting arrived. But it's still business as usual. Virginia Vizensky (left) and Ann Dick continue with their daily routine in a somewhat more cramped area. (Photo by Steve Donisch)

HERALD 6-27-80

Village bans outdoor water use

Because of the recent hot weather and two wells that are not operating, Wheeling Village Mgr. Thomas Markus Thursday imposed a total ban on outdoor water use.

Violators of the sprinkling ban can be fined up to $500.

Markus' order prohibits residents from watering lawns, filling swimming pools or washing cars. Previously the village had been operating on an "odd-even" system, where residents with even-numbered addresses were allowed to sprinkle at certain hours on even-numbered days and residents with odd-numbered addresses were allowed to sprinkle on odd-numbered days.

However, with the two wells out of commission, the remaining wells are pumping almost constantly to meet the demand, and still village hall is getting complaints from residents about air in the water system, Markus said.

ONE OF THE VILLAGE'S seven wells accidentally was sealed with concrete by a firm that is drilling a new well at Milwaukee and Center avenues. Another well at Manchester and Sunset avenues had underground pipes that needed to be replaced. Those repairs were to be made in March, but the well firm refused to make the repairs until the village threatened to sue.

Water Supt. August Lockefeer said the new well on Milwaukee Avenue is nearly completed, and the the repair work on the Manchester Avenue well should be completed some time next month.

He said he hoped the sprinkling ban would not have to remain in effect the entire summer. A new deep well at Hintz and Longtree roads should help alleviate the water shortage. That well also has a 1 million gallon storage reservoir.

Last summer during the total water bans, former Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold granted exemptions from the water ban to residents with newly seeded or sodded lawns. However, Markus says there will be no exceptions, and suggests residents, especially those in condominium complexes, buy or rent a pump to draft water from reservoirs or retention basins for outdoor water use.

HERALD - JUNE 27, 1980

8 street workers walk out

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Eight workers in the Village of Wheeling's street department staged a wildcat strike Thursday morning but returned to work a few hours later when Village Mgr. Thomas Markus threatened to fire them.

"I guess they reported for work at 7:30 a.m., told their supervisor they were unhappy and walked off the job," Markus said. He said he informed Street Supt. Robert Issleb to inform the disgruntled employees that they would be fired unless they returned to work by noon.

Don Allison, one of the workers who walked off the job, said Thursday he did not want to comment on the reasons for the walkout.

"I'm not going to say anything until we've had a chance to get our differences straightened out with management," he said.

MARKUS SAID he met only briefly with the workers before they returned to their jobs. The dispute, he said, apparently centers around pay raises four of the workers were expecting. Markus said he was recommending their salaries be increased, but not until later this year.

Markus said he thought there also was some "general discontent" with a pay plan approved by the village board earlier this year. That plan basically called for village workers to receive pay raises ranging from 8 to 12 percent.

He said the move caught him "completely by surprise," adding that there was no indication the workers were unhappy. Markus called for a one day "cooling off period...for both sides. I'm kind of upset they didn't come in before they'd make a move like that."

He plans to meet with the employees today before deciding whether any disciplinary action will be taken. There also may have been "other problems" the employees were experiencing, Markus said. He would not elaborate, saying "I haven't yet been able to determine what all the problems are."

NORTHWEST WHEELING

Saturday, June 28, 1980 Section 1—5

THE DAILY HERALD

Airport annex affects nearby residents

Wheeling's plan to annex the northern half of Pal-Waukee Airport may block Prospect Heights from annexing two subdivisions along Wolf Road.

Prospect Heights Ald. Christina Carlson, 4th, said homeowners in the Wolf Road Estates and Wheeling Estates subdivisions, which house about 60 families, have asked to be annexed by Prospect Heights. But the two developments are surrounded by Wheeling on three sides and the airport on the fourth side.

In order for Prospect Heights to annex the property, there has to be strip of land or corridor connecting them to that city. Prospect Heights officials are asking Wheeling to let them annex a narrow corridor of the airport property.

"We've received a petition from about 70 percent of the homeowners in those subdivisions asking to be annexed to Prospect Heights," Mrs. Carlson said. "If Wheeling does not allow us to have the corridor, they are forcing those homeowners into a position where they have no choice but to annex to Wheeling. We feel the wishes of those people cannot be ignored."

HOWEVER, BOTH George Priester, owner of the airport, and Wheeling Village Pres. William Hein say they oppose the idea of "corridor annexation."

"The whole area there is closer to Wheeling, and we can better provide services to the developments," Hein said. "It would be a disservice to those people to let them annex to Prospect Heights, and I would hope people in those areas would listen to a proposal from us too."

Priester agreed. "It's not up to me, but I don't think it's a good idea at all. If Prospect Heights is unhappy about things now, it's their own fault. And it just doesn't make sense to start cutting up the property at this late date."

The feud between the two towns over the airport annexation peaked earlier this month when Priester filed a petition with Wheeling to incorporate into that village.

Priester filed that petition after learning that Prospect Heights officials were trying to collect signatures from residents in the area to annex both the airport and the surrounding homes and businesses to their city. If more than half the land owners in the area had signed the petition, the city then could have received a court order to annex all of the land. Priester, as only one property owner, could not have blocked the move.

THE TWO TOWNS in the past had considered jointly buying the airport and even had chipped in 5 percent toward a two-year, $120,000 consultant's study now in progress.

The southern half of the airport was annexed by Prospect Heights when the town was incorporated, although Priester still is fighting in court his right to incorporate. The northern half now is in unincorporated Cook County.

Priester's decision to annex that section to Wheeling "effectively stops" Prospect Heights' designs on the land, but Mrs. Carlson said they still are "investigating the legality of the annexation."

JUNE 28 1980 HERALD

Wheeling wage dispute is resolved

A wage dispute that prompted eight workers in Wheeling's street department to walk off the job for several hours Thursday has been resolved, Village Mgr. Thomas Markus said Friday after meeting with the disgruntled employees.

"They were concerned about the merit pay plan and how they can proceed to get step increases," Markus said. "Our meeting went very well, there are no personal grudges and everyone is satisfied. They said they were sorry for walking off, but that they were upset at the moment."

None of the workers could be reached for comment Friday.

The merit plan calls for village workers to receive pay raises ranging from 8 to 12 percent.

The eight employees walked off the job Thursday morning after reporting for work at 7:30 a.m. However, they all returned to their jobs when Markus said they would be fired if they did not come back to work by noon.

Markus said he wasn't aware the workers were unhappy with a merit pay system, or that they had any plans to strike.

The week ahead

6-30-80 HERALD

Heritage conversion on park board agenda

The Wheeling Park District will hold a public information meeting today to explain to residents how they plan to turn swampy Heritage Park into a major recreation area.

The 7 p.m. meeting at the Heritage Park board room, 222 S. Wolf Rd., will begin with a presentation by park officials and the project's engineer on what they hope to accomplish. Following that, there will be a tour of the Heritage Park grounds, said park director David Phillips.

The three-sided agreement among the village, park district and Metropolitan Sanitary District calls for the retention pond at Heritage Park to be enlarged into a lake for fishing and boating. Although plans for the Heritage Park conversion are 10 years old, the final engineering and design plans have only recently been approved by all three groups. Construction is expected to begin next month.

A Rosemont construction firm will begin building a pumping station designed to drain the eight-acre lake, which has remained marshy and swampy because of inadequate flood control devices.

The village has agreed to spend $180,000 to install the piping, storm sewers and sediment retention ponds that will enable water to be channeled from Heritage Park to the Wheeling Drainage Ditch. The MSD will spend $45,000 to construct the pumping station.

Park officials plan to use a $100,000 federal grant to excavate and landscape the lake into a 10.5-acre pond, eliminating the so-called "yucca flats." Eventually the lake will be stocked with fish and boat docks will be built for paddleboats and possibly other non-motorized vehicles, Phillips said.

NORTHWEST WHEELING

HERALD July 1, 1980

Commissions to jointly review developer's plan

In an attempt to "arrive at a consensus," three Wheeling commissions will meet jointly Wednesday night to review the plans of a developer who is proposing to build a 26-store shopping center at McHenry and Elmhurst roads.

Plans for the shopping center, named The Point, have to be reviewed by the plan and appearance commissions and the zoning board of appeals. "We thought it would be best for all three groups to sit down and come to a consensus on what they are going to require the developer to do," said village planner Richard Greenwood. The groups will meet at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

Highland Park developer Eugene Sadin, who proposed and then backed out of plans to build an 18-story high-rise building in Arlington Heights, has contracted to buy the eight-acre site for the shopping center. The land is held in a trust.

Greenwood said his main concerns about the development are how much traffic the development will generate and the fact that because of the location of the buildings there will be no rear entrances, which means garbage pickup and deliveries will have to be made in the same area frequented by shoppers.

HOWEVER, HE added village officials have met with Sadin and "most of the problems have been solved, although there is still some concern about the trash collection being out front."

They also met Tuesday with officials from the Illinois Dept. of Transportation and are expecting by Wednesday night to receive recommendations on what road improvements will be needed because of the shopping center. Greenwood said McHenry and Elmhurst roads are maintained by the state.

Plan commission chairman Anthony Altieri said "our biggest concern was having all those (garbage) dumpsters out front. That might create kind of an awkward situation." However, he added, "At this point I don't know if that's going to generate any major problems."

Markus: Pay plan confusion to end

Wheeling Village Mgr. Thomas Markus said Monday he will try to meet with employees on a regular basis to avoid any future misunderstandings over an employee pay plan, which apparently prompted eight village workers to walk off the job last week.

He also said the eight employees, all of whom work for the nine-man street department, have been disciplined for their actions. "Disciplinary action was taken, but I'm not going to reveal what it was," he said.

When asked if the employees were docked for the time they were off the job last Thursday, Markus said, "Maybe. I consider that a part of personnel discussions that are between me and the employees."

However, he added that he "could understand why they were upset. I think some of them were promised to move up in the pay plan. They assumed everything would be taken care of when I got here." Markus has been Wheeling's manager since May 1, replacing Carsten Leikvold, who resigned under fire from a majority of the village board.

THE EMPLOYEE pay plan, approved last April by the viillage board basically called for village workers to receive raises ranging from 8 to 12 percent. But the plan also calls for periodic merit increases, and Markus attributed confusion over the timing of "when somebody actually gets an increase" for the walkout.

"Those kinds of things should originate with management," he said. "I think we should sit down, look at each position and the criteria for when a person's job grade is increased should be looked at periodically."

Thursday's strike lasted only a few hours. The disgruntled employees walked off the job about 7:30 a.m., but returned before noon after Markus threatened to fire them.

NORTHWEST WHEELING

July 2, 1980 HERALD

WHEELING VILLAGE BOARD VOTE SUMMARY

Selected decisions from the Village Board Meetings of June 2, 16, 23.



	Cole	Kerr	Powers	Ross	Schultz	Sommerfeld
To approve rent-assisted housing for the elderly and low-income persons. (Passed 5-1)	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
*To annex northern portion of Palwaukee Airport. (Passed 6-1)** *Village Pres. William Hein also voted in favor of the annexation.	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
To spend up to $180,000 for basin improvements at Heritage Park. (Passed 5-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	ABSENT

TOPICS 7-2-80

Wheeling Imposes Ban On Home Washing, Watering

The Village of Wheeling has implemented a complete ban on non-essential water use.

Effective immediately, the ban includes the following uses: non-commercial washing of vehicles, including trailers or mobile homes; any outdoor watering of lawns, gardens or other landscaping; filling of swimming pools.

Due to increased demand on the Village's water system in warm weather, lack of rain and 2 wells out of service, the ban was declared beginning June 25 by the Village manager Tom Markus.

During the complete ban, no permits for sprinkling sod or seeded yards will be approved.

IT IS POSSIBLE that residents may be able to draft water from reservoirs or retention basins if these facilities are available to them. The village does not restrict the use of that water for sprinkling.

Residents of planned developments may want to contact their homeowners association about the possibility of purchasing a pump to provide water from their detention basin.

Alleged Wage Dispute

8 Public Works Employees Back After Job Walkout

A wage dispute that caused 8 public works employees in Wheeling to briefly walk off the job last Thursday has been resolved by Village Manager Thomas Markus.

"The walk-out was very brief, and the village manager handled the situation," commented Trustee Sheila Schultz.

The walk-out, due to questions about the village's merit pay plan was resolved when Markus ordered the workers to return to their jobs by noon or be fired. They had reportedly walked off the job Thursday, June 26 after checking in for work at 7:30 a.m.

According to Markus, the matter was discussed and solved. "As a result, we're going to spend more time on our merit pay plan, and develop criteria for raises."

Workers returned to the job without any problems, Markus added.

7-2-80 TOPICS

ANNEX OF AIRPORT LIKELY

Palwaukee Due For July 7 Vote

Wheeling's board of trustees will probably give final approval to a plan to annex the northern portion of Palwaukee Airport on Monday nite, July 7.

The board gave preliminary approval to the project at a meeting on June 23. Following a public hearing that lasted about an hour, village officials and owners of the airport came to an agreement for annexation. The only dissenting vote came from Trustee Charles Kerr, who reportedly felt the annexation should have been discussed more thoroly.

DURING THAT meeting, Prospect Hts. officials objected to the proposal. The city was in the midst of gathering signatures from homeowners prior to annexation in an unincorporated subdivision at Hintz and Wolf Roads. Without the northern portion of the airport, Prospect Hts. would be unable to annex the subdivision, because it would now be surrounded by Wheeling.

While Prospect Hts. City Manager Stephan Sturgell said that Wheeling's actions would not have any effect on the joint study between the 2 communities on the feasibility of a joint purchase of the airport, he did say that the city was "looking at legal recourse" on the annexation.

The southern half of the airport lies in Prospect Hts.

IN THE agreement reached by Wheeling and Palwaukee's owners, the village reportedly promised not to impose special taxes on airport users, as long as the facility remains privately owned, and to zone the area to permit airport commercial enterprises.

Two airplane hangers currently under construction will be permitted to be finished under Cook County's building code rather than the village's.

A restaurant on the property must comply with the village fire code within 2 years after the restaurant is hooked-up to the village's water system. The fire code requires an automatic sprinkler system.

Hein Names 6 To Commissions

Wheeling's Village President William Hein recently appointed several local residents to village commissions.

Appointed to the Municipal Relations Commission for a 3-year term was Kim Dachman. His term began June 16, 1980 and will expire June 30, 1983.

Gertrude Way was appointed to a one-year term on the Senior Citizen Commission. Her position was effective June 16 and will expire on June 30, 1981.

Two new members were appointed to the Youth Commission for 2-year terms. Sue Knippen and Nancy Lambert assumed their posts on June 16, and will serve until June 30, 1982.

Two members of the Youth Commission were re-appointed to their positions for 2-year terms. Michele Siria and Patricia A. Bofman will serve until June 30, 1982.

Heritage Park West work to start

7-3-80
REMINDER

Wheeling's Walden pond soon not just dream

By MARION SOURS

Imagine it: a picturesque lake, where people can boat and fish; a lake bounded by grassy shores, with well-kept docks, all located near the center of Wheeling.

A dream? Well, until now, yes. But on Tuesday this will start to change. Men on bulldozers will drive into Heritage Park on that day. They will drive past the baseball diamonds and the football field, back to a swampy area where a shallow pond lies. And they will begin shaping this pond into the dream-lake, to be called "Heritage Park West".

It has taken many years for this dream to be realized. The 66-acre Heritage Park was acquired in 1964 with funds from a successful parks referendum and a matching federal grant. In 1969 plans were created for the development of the park, includng a lake to the west.

That same year, the Metropolitan Sanitary District and the Village of Wheeling provided funds for a contractor to dredge a lake bed on the park land, to the south of the Wickes Furniture site. It was to be used as a stormwater retention area.

This project was intended to kill two birds with one stone — to provide an outlet for stormwater, and to be used for a recreation area. However, there was not proper drainage for the pond, and the areas surrounding it became swampy. There thus was no access to it for recreation use.

A referendum in 1972 provided $700,000 for the development of the park. But there was not enough money to develop the western portion of the park, where the lake lies.

"The funding stopped at the football field," said Park Director David Phillips. "There were no funds available for the basin."

Then in 1976 the park district received a $100,000 federal Community Development Block Grant to be used to develop the lake. The estimated cost of the initial phase of the project is $320,000. The rest of the cost will be met by the Village of Wheeling ($175,000) and the Metropolitan Sanitary System ($45,000).

The plans for the project recently were given final approval by these three donating bodies, and so the way is clear to proceed with Phase I of the development of Heritage Park West.

Currently, the pond takes up from 8 to 12 acres of land, depending on the water level, which varies with rainfall.

It is surrounded by swampy areas, and unsightly vegetation has sprung up around it. In Phase I, a construction firm will drain the pond. They then will deepen the lake bed and construct a channel through which stormwater can flow to the Wheeling Drainage Ditch.

This channel, plus a pumping station, will control the level of water in the pond, as well as keep it from becoming stagnant.

Once the lake bed is deepened, stormwater again will be released into it, having first passed through a siltation pond to allow sediment to settle out. The new pond will be about 10.6 acres, Phillips said. It will range in depth from about 3 feet at the banks to about 15 feet in the center. Currently the pond is about 3 inches at the banks, though the center is 15 feet.

The construction company in charge, Greco Contractors of Rosemont, then will remove the swamp-type vegetation surrounding the lake, fine-grade the land and plant grass seed.

The final phase of the project — the installation of docks and the stocking of the lake with fish — called Phase II, will come later. Phillips admits there is no funding available presently for Phase II, but it is being sought.

Phillips said the Phase I work may be completed as early as August. Then, though there will not be docks, at least there will be access to the lake, which until now has been lacking. People with walk-in type boats, such as canoes, may be able to take advantage of the lake this summer.

Wheeling OKs Pa

Wheeling trustees Monday night gave final approval to annexing the northern half of Pal-Waukee Airport.

The move apparently will thwart plans by Prospect Heights, which also has objected to Wheeling's annexation plans, to annex the balance of the airport property. Prospect Heights annexed the southern half of the airport when the town was incorporated in 1976. That move was opposed by airport owner George Priester.

Priester is trying to sell the airport to the two towns, which are co-sponsoring a two-year airport study on the purchase. The consultant has produced cost estimates ranging from $23 million to $78 million, with the local share coming to at least $3.3 million.

The only discussion on the airport Monday night was a brief statement by Village Atty. David Epstein, "clarifying" the fact that the village only was annexing the airport, not buying it.

7-3-80
REMINDER

Villages pull out all stops for bangup 4th

It wouldn't be the Fourth of July without a parade and fireworks — and both of these will be featured in the area tomorrow.

Wheeling's Fourth of July events are being coordinated by the Wheeling Park District and the Wheeling Jaycees. The theme for the day's three events is "American and Proud."

The events will start with a parade, which will begin at 11 a.m. at the intersection of Dundee and Old Wheeling roads. It will move east on Dundee to Wille, south to Highland, and end at Holmes Junior High School.

Featured in the parade will be the Wheeling High School Band, the Chicago Connection Drum Corps, and the Banjo Buddies Dixieland Band. Also, there will be floats entered by such groups as the Jaycees and Jaycee Jills, the Historical Society, the Wheeling Park District, the Indian Trails Library, the Kiwanis and the Wheeling Trust and Savings Bank.

Following the parade, at about 12:30 p.m., will be the "Festival in the Park" at Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Road. This event will feature game booths, such as dunk tanks, food and drink booths and live entertainment. Among the groups scheduled to perform are "Stage West," a country band; and "Fugitive," a rock group.

At the festival there also will be games and contests, including: horseshoe pitch, sack race, turtle race, Frisbee toss, three-legged race and turtle race.

The fireworks will begin at 9 p.m. at Heritage Park.

The Buffalo Grove Park District will sponsor a July Fourth softball tournament at Twin Groves School, 1072 Ivy Hall Lane, Buffalo Grove, and at Kilmer School, Old McHenry Road, Long Grove. The tournaments are double elimination, 12-inch men's softball games. They will start at 9 a.m. at both sites and last until about 4 p.m., with 12 teams playing.

It is too late for players to enter the tournaments, but there will be facilities for spectators available. A second day of tournaments will be held from 10 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Saturday at Kilmer School only.

7-8-80 Herald

l-Waukee annex

THE CLARIFICATION was made at the request of Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, who said he was afraid residents had misunderstood the issue and had thought that Wheeling was buying the airport.

Trustee Charles Kerr has been the only Wheeling official to oppose the annexation, charging that the village has acted hastily in the matter and is giving Priester too many building and zoning concessions. He did not speak on the issue Monday night.

However, village officials who have called Prospect Heights' attempts to annex the balance of the airport an attempt to "steal the cashbox," say they need to act quickly to prevent Priester from being forcibly annexed to the city.

'DAMP' IS WATER WAY

Topics 7-9-80

BY VIRGINIA SUTTON

Deciding to obtain Lake Michigan water from Evanston, Wheeling's Board of Trustees voted Monday nite to join the DAMP Water Commission.

DAMP is an organization of communities seeking to bring Lake Michigan water to member municipalities by constructing a pipeline from Evanston. Arlington Hts. and Palatine have already voted to go with DAMP but Buffalo Grove remains undecided.

Mt. Prospect, Rolling Meadows, Elk Grove Village, Hoffman Estates and Schaumburg are pooling their resources in the Northwest Suburban Water System Venture to build a pipeline to the Chicago water system. Hookup would be east of O'Hare airport. Prospect Hts. and 3 private water companies, including Citizens Utilities, are considered probable users of the Venture pipeline.

The board also approved a resolution Monday nite authorizing DAMP to serve as the village's representative in the state's Lake Michigan water allocation hearings in August.

WHEELING has a long history of water problems. Currently, the village has set a ban on all non-essential water use. The ban prohibits lawn sprinkling, filling of swimming pools and non-commercial washing of vehicles, including mobile homes.

The ban was imposed due to lack of rain and because 2 wells are down.

According to DAMP attorney Sue Harmon, 1985 is the date set for implementation of the pipeline.

Village Attorney David Epstein expressed concern at Wheeling's financial obligations to DAMP should the village be denied a water allocation. The state in the past refused Wheeling's request for a water allocation.

Harmon assured the board that Wheeling's obligation would cease on the date the village is denied an allocation, but said DAMP commissioners are confident an allocation will be granted.

A decision on water allocations will be made in November by the Illinois Dept. of Transportation (IDOT) water resource division.

Offer Insect Information

Wheeling has issued a report on 2 insects currently attacking village trees.

While no spraying program is scheduled for this year, the village will inspect trees during the Winter to determine the extent of live scale insects. Should the examination reveal extensive insect problems, a spraying program will be recommended for next Spring.

COTTONY MAPLE SCALE primarily attacks silver or soft maple trees, but can infest other trees as well. Trees under attack by the insect develop growths that look like cotton on branches. The mass appears on twigs in late May or early June and contains hundreds of eggs. The eggs hatch in late June or early July, and the pale yellow-green nymphs migrate to leaves and begin to feed. This action destroys branches, weakens trees and gives trees a scraggly appearance.

The insects multiply as they feed on sap. Frequently, the feeding results in a secretion of a clear sticky substance called honeydew.

In Autumn, before leaves fall, nymphs return to twigs where they stay for the Winter as small brown objects.

Infestations are difficult to stop with chemicals, tho they can be controlled by perfectly-timed spraying while the insect is in the crawling stage. To be effective, spraying would be needed in surrounding communities as well as Wheeling.

The natural enemy of the cottony maple scale is the 2-stabbed lady bug, which feeds on the insects until they are eliminated.

ANOTHER INSECT causing problems in the Wheeling area is the aphid, or plant lice. These insects usually do little harm, but when abundant, can be serious pests.

Aphids are very small, soft-bodied insects, less than one-third an inch in length. Most are naked, tho those in the Wheeling area are covered with a white thread-like material. This insect also feeds on trees by sucking sap.

Heavy infestations may cause tree leaves to curl and produce twisted twig growth. Many natural enemies destroy this insect, and clear, dry periods of weather are unfavorable to their growth.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION can be obtained from Wheeling's Operations and Maintenance Dept. or the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Ill.

Grant Final Approval

Annex Palwaukee Airport

BY VIRGINIA SUTTON

Final approval for the annexation of the northern portion of Palwaukee Airport was granted Monday nite by Wheeling's board of trustees.

Village Attorney David Epstein cautioned that annexation does not mean the village has purchased the property. The village is "extending legal and taxing jurisdiction", Epstein said.

The board gave preliminary approval to the project on June 23 following a public hearing. The only dissenting vote came from Trustee Charles Kerr, who reportedly felt the annexation should have been discussed more thoroly. He again voted "no" at Monday nite's meeting.

THE NEWLY annexed property extends south and east from the southwest corner of Wolf and Hintz roads. Included in the annexation is a restaurant, the 94th Aero Squadron.

In the agreement, the village promised not to impose special taxes on airport users for as long as the facility remains privately owned, and to zone the area to permit airport commercial enterprises.

Two airplane hangers currently under construction will be permitted to be finished under Cook County's building code rather than the village's.

Wheeling Schedules July 23 Blood Drive

Wheeling will conduct a community blood drive on Wednesday, July 23 at the Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd. The drive is scheduled for between 3:30 and 7:30 p.m.

To schedule an appointment to donate blood, call Joan Cole at 537-8429.

Donors must be between the ages of 17 and 65, in good health and weigh at least 110-lbs. Donors must not have donated blood for 8 weeks prior to the July 23 drive.

WHEELING participates in the regional volunteer blood donor program of the North Suburban Blood Center.

The blood center has the sole responsibility of providing all whole blood components in 14 regional hospitals.

Wheeling residents will help to provide the approximately 850 units of blood needed each week in this region.

Village board wrapup 7-9-80 HERALD

Trustees planning to join pipeline

Wheeling trustees have formalized a decision to join at least two other Northwest suburbs seeking to buy Lake Michigan water from Evanston.

The so-called DAMP communities, including Arlington Heights and Palatine, say the water from Evanston will be cheaper than Chicago water. Other Northwest suburbs, which comprise a group called Northwest Suburban Water Venture, are considering buying Chicago water and pumping it to the area through a pipeline to be built near O'Hare Airport.

Officials from DAMP have agreed to represent the village when the Illinois Dept. of Transportation conducts its hearings on what towns will be allocated lake water. Wheeling is one of the few suburbs that was not initially given an allocation. Although local officials are confident the village will be given an allocation this summer, Wheeling does not become a DAMP member with voting powers until it receives an allocation.

Law requires village water hookup

Despite the protests of one trustee, the Wheeling Village Board amended village ordinances to require all residents who presently use private wells to hook up to village water lines as they are made available.

Trustee Charles Kerr argued that it is unfair to ask residents to discontinue using private wells "when the village can't provide the people with adequate water." Last week, the village imposed a total ban on outdoor water use because two of its seven wells are not working.

Village Mgr. Thomas Markus defended the move, saying the ordinance under which the village issued $2.5 million in water revenue bonds to pay for two new wells requires all residents to tie into the system. "It's only logical that everyone pays for the system as we make improvements," he said.

But he also said it "would be hard to justify" actively forcing residents to connect with village water lines and abandon their private wells as long as the sprinkling ban is in effect. He said the ban is "a temporary situation" and probably will be relaxed sometime this summer.

Anti-nepotism law strengthened

Wheeling officials have strengthened the village's anti-nepotism policy by prohibiting the hiring of relatives of elected officials, the village manager or department heads.

The personnel policy presently "discourages" any hirings that may be made on the basis of family ties, although it states that the most qualified candidate for a village job could be hired regardless of family ties. Village Atty. David Epstein suggested the change could run a greater risk of a discrimination suit, although such anti-nepotism policies have generally been upheld by the courts when they make specific exclusions.

The new policy also forbids the hiring of a second family member within the same department.

Officials urge Lake-Cook completion

7-9-80 HERALD

by Sandy Riemer
Herald staff writer

Village officials from Palatine and Buffalo Grove are urging the Cook County Highway Dept. to complete a half-mile stretch of Lake-Cook Road that would turn the highway into an east-west artery from Lake Michigan to Barrington.

Although the county already has spent $20 million on the highway, the last part of the job — a $6 million bridge between Rand and Hicks roads costing about $6 million — has been stalled by opposition from Barrington officials and residents, who fear the road will funnel more traffic into their village.

Because of "heavy vocal opposition," said Louis Quinlan, Cook County's chief engineer, the bridge may never be built.

"Twelve years ago the highway department recognized that Lake-Cook Road needed to be extended," Quinlan said. "But apparently the public has not."

Buffalo Grove and Palatine officials are urging the highway department to complete the road as planned, citing a traffic study completed by the county that predicts the road will be used by 15,000 cars per day by 1999.

"SOMETIME IT'S going to be widened through Barrington," Palatine Village Pres. Robert Guss said. "We have to face the traffic counts. I can't agree with Barrington's position. I think it's ludicrous."

"We look at this situation differently than Buffalo Grove or Palatine," said Barrington's Robert Silhan. "This will give motorists who now use Dundee Road an incentive to go through Barrington. Our No. 1 problem in this town is transportation and heavy traffic."

Last September, Barrington residents held a rally to protest the heavy traffic they feel will fill their streets.

But Quinlan said the highway by itself will not generate traffic. "Everyone wants good roads and to get someplace in the least amount of time but they say 'put it outside someone else's door,'" he said.

Because of complaints by Barrington residents, construction has been delayed and Cook County Highway Supt. Richard Golterman stated in a letter to Barrington that the department "will temporarily delay the construction until it is a necessity recognized by the public."

Buffalo Grove Village Pres. Verna Clayton and Guss are trying to turn the county's decision in their favor by countering Barrington's complaints with letters supporting the extension.

The highway department has been ready to begin work on the roadway since December.



Village-Prospect land-swap proposed

7-9-80 HERALD

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Now that Wheeling has annexed the northern half of Pal-Waukee Airport, a Prospect Heights alderman is suggesting that his city abandon its hold on the southern half in exchange for some industrial land presently in Wheeling.

Saying the airport would be better served under one municipality, Ald. Terrence Mongoven, 4th Ward, suggested Tuesday that Prospect Heights let Wheeling annex the rest of the airport, which has been in Prospect Heights since the city was incorporated. In exchange, Wheeling would give up an undetermined amount of land west of the Soo Line Railroad tracks and south of Palatine Road, to "protect our single-family areas," Mongoven said.

That land presently is undeveloped, but zoned by Wheeling for industrial use. Mongoven said if the land is acquired by Prospect Heights, he would like to see it developed with single-family houses, keeping in character with the present Prospect Heights neighborhood that lies northeast of Wheeling and Camp McDonald roads.

WHEELING VILLAGE Mgr. Thomas Markus said he "would not be opposed" to annexing the balance of the airport, but he questioned whether the village would want to give up any of its industrial land in exchange.

Much of the land Mongoven is seeking for Prospect Heights is part of a proposed 121-acre industrial park. "That's pretty far along at this point," Markus said, but added the village "is always open to discussions" on Mongoven's proposal.

Prospect Heights had begun legal action to annex the northern part of the airport when airport owner George Priester filed an annexation petition with Wheeling instead. A hearing on Prospect Heights' annexation attempt is scheduled for July 18, but Mongoven said it "appears unlikely" the city still has a chance to force the annexation to Prospect Heights.

"It's been my feeling the airport should be under the control of one municipality," he said. "What I feel Mr. Priester is doing is playing both towns against each other."

MONGOVEN CONCEDED that his proposal to swap territory could be fraught with problems, such as the legal intricacies of trading land between the two communities, how much land Prospect Heights would want in return for the remainder of the airport and the fact that Prospect Heights would be losing considerable sales and fuel tax revenue by giving it's part of the airport to Wheeling. He also said he was unsure if the proposal would receive any support from other city officials, but "I intend to bring it up to the council."

Prospect Heights relies on airport taxes for between 5 to 10 percent of its operating budget.

The two towns are co-sponsoring a two-year study on whether they can afford to buy the airport, which Priester repeatedly has threatened to sell to developers. That study recently has bogged down because of disputes between the two towns over who should control the airport while the study is in progress.

REMINDER 7-10-80

Wheeling picks Evanston route for its Lake Michigan water

By SHARON MARZANO

Wheeling is joining Arlington Heights and Palatine in a water authority coalition called the Des Plaines, Mount Prospect, Arlington Heights and Palatine water commission (DAMP), which plans to build a pipeline to Evanston to obtain Lake Michigan water.

Monday's vote of the Wheeling village board increased the likelihood that two pipelines will be built to provide Lake Michigan water to the northwestern suburbs: DAMP is proposing the Evanston route and the northwestern suburban water Venture is proposing a Chicago option via a pipeline to a water treatment plant to be built near O'Hare Airport.

Evanston is considered to be more stable than Chicago which is one reason why DAMP was chosen over Venture, Tom Markus Wheeling village manager said.

"It's possible that Chicago, if it finds itself in a tight financial situation, might increase its price in order to raise additional revenue," Markus said.

DAMP's inital projected cost is $6.5 million cheaper than Venture's projected cost of $98 Million, which is another reason why DAMP's offer appears more attractive, Palatine's Village Manager Tony Harwig said.

Buffalo Grove and Des Plaines, which does not chose to remain an active DAMP member, along with other northwestern suburbs plan to support Venture. Although Buffalo Grove may be economically forced to join the DAMP collective, Markus said.

"The situation is really a economy of scale, the more people involved means the cheaper the water supply," he said.

Markus said he expects the Venture-DAMP situation to "come to a head" sometime in early August because Venture has issued a deadline at which time all involved parties must permanetly decide whether or not to join Venture's collective.

No matter what Buffalo Grove does, Wheeling, Palatine and Arlington Heights will still proceed with DAMP, said Arlington Heights' Village Manager H.L. Hensen.

Wheeling wells ordered capped

Wheeling residents with private wells will be forced to connect with the village's water supply within one year, and these residents will then have 30 days to cap their wells, the village board decided Monday. Trustee Kerr provided the only dissenting vote.

Kerr said the village's water supply is already strained, evidenced by the village water ban on car washing and lawn watering.

"I don't know of a worse time to bring this about. When the village apparently does not have a sucessful water program," he said.

Village Manager Tom Markus defended the ordinance by stating that bond funding would be forfeited if the village allowed "competing franchises" to operate.

Markus also justified the neccesity of the ordinance by citing the futilty of attempting to improve the water situation by installing new water mainlines and then not using them.

Ambulatory health center to open

7-10-80 Life

AROUND THE CLOCK hospital care will become a reality for the Wheeling-Buffalo Grove area Aug. 1 when Northwest community hospital opens its ambulatory health care center at Route 83 and Lake-Cook road.

The facility, the first of its kind in the area, will operate on a 24-hour-basis, seven days a week. It will not only provide "walk-in" emergency care, but general health services. The facility will not be used by area ambulance services. Patients requiring critical care will be taken to the nearest hospital.

The health center is the second effort by an area hospital to provide health care with extended hours to the Wheeling- Buffalo Grove area.

Highland Park hospital earlier this month opened medical staff offices in Buffalo Grove that are opened 12-hours-a- day. That facility, however, is not freestanding as is the Northwest community health center.

THE MAIN SERVICE area for the Northwest community facility is Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Long Grove and north Arlington Heights. "We are bringing emergency and general health care to the community's doorstep," says Malcolm MacCoun, president of the hospital. He says facilities such as the one being opened by Northwest community contribute to the lowering of some medical cost.

The hospital has been rated one of the most cost effective hospitals in the Chicago metropolitan area.

MacCoun is confident that the center will give people the additional opportunity to see a physician at hours when they might not be able to.

Additionally, he points out that people needing follow- up care will be referred to a hospital staff physician for treatment.

In general, says MacCoun, the facility will provide services for people with "upper respiratory disorders, fractures, cuts and other non life-threatening illnesses and injuries."

The hospital is currently planning to have a health education advisory board that will review and recommend the use of the facility for health-related organizations.

That board will include representatives from community health, safety and information groups.

There will also be health education seminars. Clarice Rech, R.N., of Buffalo Grove, will be manager of the health center.

The center's phone number is 459-6100.



NORTHWEST COMMUNITY HOSPITAL will open its health center at the corner of Route 83 and Lake Cook road Aug. 1. It will enable Wheeling and Buffalo Grove residents to have 24 hour health care available every day of the week. (Photo by Steve Donisch)

impresses officials

HERALD 7-11-80

Evanston water pitch

After being fed and courted by Evanston city officials at a water plant Thursday night, officials from four Northwest suburbs said they were "very impressed" with Evanston's proposal to sell them water.

However, local officials said their decision to buy Lake Michigan water from either Evanston or Chicago would be determined by which pipeline route was the cheapest to build and operate.

"It still all boils down to the most cost-effective way," Buffalo Grove Village Pres. Verna Clayton said.

To promote their interest in selling water to the suburbs, Evanston officials took officials from Arlington Heights, Wheeling, Palatine, and Buffalo Grove on a tour of the Evanston Water Plant at Lincoln Street and Sheridan Road. The tour ended on a grassy bank overlooking Lake Michigan where a casual buffet dinner cooked by city officials was served under a red-and-white-striped tent.

AFTER DINNER, the group moved indoors where Evanston officials told guests that the purpose of the get-together was to "reaffirm our interest and our ability to serve you with water in the decades ahead."

Arlington Heights, Palatine and Wheeling already have said they want to buy water from Evanston through a group called the DAMP Water Commission.

However, Arlington Heights officials, who fear that the estimated $81.5 million project to Evanston might be too expensive for three towns to afford, wanted to know precisely where Buffalo Grove, Wheeling and Palatine stand on the issue. They had hoped the Evanston presentation would persuade those towns to join their pipeline effort.

Buffalo Grove officials in May said their first choice for lake water is through a pipeline to Chicago at O'Hare Airport. Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates, Elk Grove Village, Mount Prospect and Rolling Meadows — all members of the Northwest Suburban Water System — also have committed themselves to acquiring water from Chicago through a proposed $98 million pipeline.

VENTURE HAS set an Aug. 5 deadline for towns to sign up for Chicago water and DAMP wants to know by Aug. 10 if enough towns have banded together to build an Evanston pipeline.

Evanston officials promised the towns they would "come up with any feasible terms you want" to sell them water and reassured area officials that the plant, which is undergoing a $13 million renovation, can supply enough water through the year 2020.

Mrs. Clayton said Evanston's presentation was "very well done" and that it answered some of the village officials' questions about the proposed plan.

HERALD 7-12-80

Village doesn't plan to treat trees

Wheeling officials say they're not doing anything this year about treating numerous village trees that residents say are dying. The officials say past attempts to save them have cost too much.

However, Director of Operations and Maintenance Robert Gray said pamphlets on diseased trees, obtained from the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, are available at village hall. The brochures detail the kinds of insects that attack trees and what can be done about it.

Wheeling presently is under attack from two insects, the "cottony maple scale" and aphids, or plant lice. These bugs attack mainly maple trees — which make up nearly half the trees in Wheeling, Gray said.

When the maple scales attack, the trees develop growths on their branches that look like cotton. The fibers contain hundreds of eggs that hatch in early July, and the "nymphs" migrate to the leaves and begin to feed on them, giving the trees a "scraggly" appearance, Gray said. The aphids, he added, have a "wooly" appearance, and suck the sap out of trees.

THE VILLAGE six years ago conducted a tree sparying program to combat the problem. The reason that hasn't been tried again is because it's expensive, the spraying has to be timed "perfectly" to do any good, and "for every one person who complains that we're not spraying, there's probably 1½ who will complain if we do," Gray said.

The problem is that persons with allergies could be bothered by the chemicals used in spraying the trees. Also, in 1979 it cost the village $19,000 to spray its trees. The figure now runs about $45,000, Gray said.

Nonetheless, Gray says the village may want to reconsider a tree spraying program next year, especially if there is a mild winter, which causes the insects to flourish. Normally, Mother Nature takes care of the problem. Ladybugs, which eat the insects, arrive later in the summer.

Gray said officials in Zion have imported five million of the ladybugs to speed up the process.

But if the insects become too prevalent, the ladybugs can't keep up. "And if you let this thing go on year after year after year, eventually the trees are going to die," Gray says. "Then you've got to consider how many millions of dollars does the village have invested in all its trees."

HERALD 7-16-80

Liquor law puts Hein in dilemma

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling Village Pres. William Hein, who for years resisted attempts to take away his authority over liquor licenses, is now trying to give away that power.

But his political rivals on the village board, who once fought for the control of liquor licenses, are now in no hurry to take it. And the resulting standoff has cast a cloud over Hein's political future.

His problem is that the same state law empowering mayors and village presidents to act as liquor commissioners also says no elected official "shall be interested in any way, either directly or indirectly, in the manufacture, sale or distribution of alcoholic liquor. . ."

Hein is the developer of a shopping center at Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road, scheduled to open later this fall. One of his tenants will be a restaurant, and will be asking Hein for a liquor license.

If a complaint is filed, said Irene Bahr, an attorney for the Illinois Liquor Control Commission, the commission could revoke the licenses or order Hein to divest himself of his interest in the shopping center. A complaint also could be filed with the state's attorney for criminal prosecution.

HOWEVER, THERE IS a proposed change in local liquor laws that possibly, but not certainly, could get Hein off the hook. If it is adopted, it would give the power over licenses to the entire village board.



William Hein

It was proposed almost two years ago by one of Hein's political rivals, Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, who said he wanted to "remove any political overtones" from any decisions made by Hein, whose parents hold two liquor licenses. At the time, that suggestion got a lukewarm reaction from Hein and his supporters, who then comprised a majority on the board. Sommerfeld's amendment never came to a vote and has been pigeonholed in a committee ever since.

Last week, Hein took the unusual step of placing the amendment on the agenda, a move normally made by the committee chairman. But Sommerfeld and his allies, who now comprise a narrow majority, sent it right back to the committee.

Hein denies he made that move to bail himself out of a sticky situation, saying he was under the impression the board had discussed the issue enough and wanted the ordinance passed. Whether the law is changed when it comes time to issue the liquor licenses to the restaurant in his shopping center doesn't matter, he says.

"All I can tell you is I won't do anything that will be involved in any conflict," he said. If he is still liquor commissioner when the restaurant applies for its license, Hein says he will "ask the board for permission" and not vote nor involve himself in the discussions.

BUT THAT, says Ms. Bahr, can't be done. A village president "can't delegate that authority," and even if the licensing power is shared among all the trustees, the village president would still be barred from having any interest in the sale of liquor.

"The law is really aimed at avoiding the people who have any authority (on the issuance of liquor licenses) from being able to be tempted to abuse it," she said.

A key question concerns Hein's terms with the restaurant. If Hein were to receive a percentage of the restaurant's revenue — a common element of many shopping center leases — it could constitiute a "prohibited interest," Ms. Bahr says. But if the lease is written so that Hein's rental income does not depend on how well the restaurant does, his personal interest in the liquor license might be so indirect that the commission would not act.

Hein's leasing agent, Koenig and Strey Inc., has described the leasing arrangement as "base rent to be applied to a percentage of gross sales," but Hein himself says that will not apply to the restaurant and smaller stores, which will pay only a flat rate.

The bottom line of the standoff may be that Hein is faced with a dilemma: continuing as village president at a salary of $6,000 per year or continuing in his new career as a shopping center developer.

He says he plans to give up neither, but added that he hasn't figured out a third alternative. "My attorneys are looking into it right now," he says, adding that the whole situation was "unfair."

"I DON'T THINK it's fair to this man (the restaurant owner), who's spending over $300,000 on this restaurant and trying to do business in the town," he said. "We've got over $5 million in the shopping center, trying to do something to redevelop the downtown area."

Hein also said he was "getting a little provoked" that his status as an elected official is preventing him from finishing what might be to any other developer a routine procedure. "I've tried hard to separate my private interests from my public duties," he said, but "It seems as though you can't be an elected official and try to do business in the town."

Sommerfeld, who ran with Hein in 1977 but has since bolted ranks, says the political possibilities did not enter his mind when he agreed to shelve his own liquor law amendment.

"I am not going to potentially violate the law for anybody," he said. "And the section of the law that deals with the situation, as I read it, presents a substantial problem to the village president regardless of how the ordinance is strengthened."

Ferndale Heights Utilities fourth partner for DAMP

by Sandy Riemer
Herald staff writer

A small utility company in Palatine Township has reversed its position and now plans to buy lake water from Evanston instead of Chicago, giving Palatine, Wheeling and Arlington Heights the fourth partner they have needed to begin final plans for an Evanston pipeline.

Ray DiVito, president of Ferndale Heights Utilities Co., Monday asked the Evanston-associated DAMP commissioners to "consider allowing" Ferndale Heights to become a member of that water commission "so our facilities can be included in future planning."

Officials from Palatine, Wheeling and Arlington Heights have delayed moving forward with plans to buy water from Evanston because they said one more partner was needed to make the project economically feasible.

Buffalo Grove was the most likely recruit, but its officials have said their first choice for lake water is through a $98 million pipeline to Chicago at O'Hare Airport, as proposed by the Northwest Suburban Water Venture — a coalition that includes Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates, Elk Grove Village, Mount Prospect and Rolling Meadows.

AS RECENTLY as last week, DiVito said his utility company, which serves about 20,000 customers in northern Palatine Township, was "firmly committed" to joining the Chicago alliance.

His change of heart means that DAMP no longer needs "to wait for Buffalo Grove," said Palatine Village Pres. Robert Guss.

"Either they will become a part of DAMP or eventually buy water from DAMP," he said. "Now Buffalo Grove is not the tail wagging the dog."

The commitment of the Ferndale Heights utility, which has 20,000 customers, would bring the DAMP project's total customers to about 142,000, more than enough to make the $81.5 million Evanston proposal affordable, Guss said.

Arlington Heights Village Pres. James Ryan agreed that Ferndale Heights' decision makes the Evanston route "very do-able without Buffalo Grove."

"But I really hope they join with us and go with DAMP," Ryan said. "It makes sense economically and geographically."

BUFFALO GROVE Village Pres. Verna Clayton said trustees will discuss Ferndale Heights' decision Monday and take a stand on which water route to follow.

"We are studying reports now and we'll have to see which is the most economical route," Mrs. Clayton said.

Although DiVito and the utility company attorney, John H. Vandervries, could not be reached for comment Tuesday, Guss and Ryan speculate that Ferndale Heights switched to the Evanston route because DAMP is more organized than Venture and because Evanston has offered to use its name to acquire financing through municipal bonds for the pipeline.

HERALD 7-10-80

Town positions on DAMP sought

With the deadline only three weeks away for Northwest suburban towns to sign up for Chicago water, Arlington Heights trustees plan to meet with Buffalo Grove, Palatine and Wheeling officials to discuss the economics of acquiring from Evanston instead.

In May, Buffalo Grove officials said their first choice for lake water is through a pipeline to Chicago at O'Hare Airport. Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates, Elk Grove Village, Mount Prospect and Rolling Meadows — all members of the Northwest Suburban Water Venture — also have committed themselves to acquiring water from Chicago.

Arlington Heights, Palatine and Wheeling have said they want to buy water from Evanston through a group called the DAMP water commission.

However, Arlington Heights officials, who fear the estimated $81.5 million project to Evanston might be too expensive for only three towns to finance, want to know precisely where Buffalo Grove, Wheeling and Palatine stand on the issue.

"It would be very questionable for just three towns to go to Evanston," said Arlington Heights Trustee Alfred Barboro, "and that's certainly the least palatable option for us. Arlington and Palatine must fish or cut bait with the Venture group by August 1, and we must know where the other towns draw the line."

ALTHOUGH BUFFALO GROVE trustees unanimously agreed that the estimated $98 million Venture project would be the most economical for their village, they have not entirely ruled out the DAMP option.

The firm of Metcalf, Eddy and Murphy Engineering, hired by Venture, is expected to release a report early next week, detailing how much it will cost for Buffalo Grove to pursue a Chicago connection if Arlington Heights goes to Evanston.

"I think the ideal solution would be for the largest possible group to go to Chicago," said Buffalo Grove Village Mgr. William Balling, "but if some other towns feel a strong need to go to Evanston, I expect they could proceed without us."

Balling said Buffalo Grove's source of lake water will be determined by economics. "Even without Arlington Heights, it might be cheaper for us to get water from Chicago," he said. "But if the engineering report indicates it will cost us 12 to 15 cents more per thousand gallons to do that, we would have to consider the Evanston source."

Arlington Heights Trustee Pauline Buss said it was a mistake that none of the towns have met for discussions since making decisions about water two months ago. "We've got to stop pretending we live in a vacuum," she said, "and we should have started talking a year ago."

MRS. BUSS AGREED with Barboro that the Evanston connection will be prohibitively expensive if only Arlington Heights, Palatine and Wheeling are involved.

Proponents of the Evanston connection received another setback when the Ferndale Heights Utility Co., which serves about 20,000 residents in unincorporated areas of Palatine Township, decided to join the Northwest Suburban Water System.

Ferndale president Ray DiVito said his utility will become a dues-paying member of the group on August 22. "We're firmly committed to getting water from Chicago," he said. "Evanston looks like it will be too expensive and the best plan would be for all the towns to pool into one group."

DiVito said his company expected to receive its water allocation from the state on July 31.

Barboro said the villages will be invited to meet with the Finance Committee of the Arlington Heights Village Board on July 15. The engineering report should be available on July 14.

"We just want to see if Buffalo Grove will consider Evanston," Barboro said, "and we should decide what we will do. Depending on what the figures show, we could go with the Northwest Water System."

MEANWHILE, OFFICIALS from Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove, Wheeling and Palatine have said they will attend a meeting in Evanston tonight to tour the water plant facilities there and to discuss the logistics of acquiring lake water from that village.

Evanston Village Mgr. Ed Martin said the session will give officials a first hand look at the facilities. "This isn't a sales pitch," he said, "but if you're contemplating buying something, you should know what you're getting."

The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Evanston Water Plant, 555 Lincoln St.

Ecko Lake water used by village

Contrary to the complaints being received at Wheeling Village Hall, the village is not violating its own ban on outdoor water use when it waters the newly planted sod at village hall and the branch fire station.

The water used at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd., and the new branch fire station, at Hintz and Wheeling roads, is being pumped from nearby Ecko Lake, rather than from village water supplies.

"We're not getting it from the hydrants," said Fire Chief Bernie Koeppen. "We're using a pump to draft the water from Ecko Lake. With all that water alongside the station, it would be a shame to let the grass burn up."

The village two weeks ago declared a total ban on sprinkling lawns or washing cars because two of the village's seven wells are not working. Village officials are encouraging residents, especially those who live in apartment or condominium complexes, to rent or buy pumps that can be used to draft water from retention ponds.

Village Mgr. Thomas Markus says he hopes the water ban will be temporary, but in the meantime, violators will be ticketed and subject to fines of up to $500.

Last week, Wheeling police charged 60 residents with violating the sprinkling ban, Markus said.



WHEELING RESIDENTS CAN'T miss this reminder from the village that the use of watering for anything non-essential is not allowed. (Photo by Steve Donisch)

7-10-80 Lake

Annex half of airport

WHEELING — The village of Wheeling officially annexed the northern half of Palwaukee airport into the village at its meeting Monday, July 7.

Village Attorney David Epstein said the annexation does not involve any change in ownership of the airport, nor does it represent any purchase of property or of the airport. Epstein said he wished to clarify the annexation so that there is no misunderstanding.

The village is extending its boundaries, and extending the legal and taxing jurisdiction, Epstein said.

After final approval, Charles Priester, airport general manager said, "It is good to be a part of Wheeling." Ironically, several years before, George Priester, Palwaukee owner, had said he wanted no part of Wheeling after a citizen's committee headed by William Rogers, had begun pressuring the airport owners for increased safety and less noise.

Trustee Charles Kerr voted against the annexation, because of the number of concessions made by the village and the lack of limitations, as he had noted two weeks ago. The main concession was the acceptance of Cook county codes by the village.

George Priester had previously said he felt that Prospect Heights was attempting to "hog" the entire airport and agreed to Wheeling annexation of the northern portion because, "if it's going to be equal purchase, it's going to have to be equal control."

IN LATE MAY, Priester filed a petition for annexation to Wheeling. The agreement allows the airport to operate in the village much the same as it operates in unincorporated Cook county.

LIFE 7-10-80

Oh, for good water

Wheeling continues attempt to tap into lake

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — When Wheeling residents turn on the water tap, they are never sure what will come out. The latest has been cloudy, over-aeriated water.

At times, Wheeling water has smelled of sulpher, tasted like old eggs, been rusty, turned white clothes yellow and produced a flaky, homogenized sediment when boiled.

At the village board meeting Monday, July 7, the village signed a resolution to join DAMP, and make another bid to receive an allocation of Lake Michigan water.

DAMP is the Des Plaines, Mt. Prospect, Arlington Heights, Palatine water commission. According to DAMP representative, Sue Harmon, DAMP authorized the allocation hearings, that will affect "what we all do."

Whether Wheeling finances its share of the DAMP project for water, depends upon whether the village receives a lake water allocation. However, the board was told that the village would be responsible for part of the engineering costs and legal fees incurred in the water study now underway.

THE VILLAGE of Buffalo Grove will also attend the DAMP meeting, and has until Aug. 1 to decide if it will join DAMP or VENTURE, Harmon said. Mt. Prospect, at this time, plans to join VENTURE, Harmon noted.

Harmon estimates the allocation hearings will be over by November and the village notified whether it will receive Lake Michigan water. However, the program date given and "always talked about was 1984," Harmon said when asked when Wheeling would receive Lake Michigan water if the allocation goes through.

At present, a sprinkling ban on non-essential use of water is in effect, and 60 residents have been ticketed.

Trustee Charles Kerr asked for a status report on well number seven. Village Manager Tom Markus said the new pump has been delivered and is being installed. However, the EPA meeting to grant the variance for radioactivity has been delayed, Markus said.

Well number three will be back in commission by the third week in July, Markus said, after the board approved an additional $4,728 for 24 sections of pipe to replace some pipe as old as 20 years old.

According to Markus, deep well number one is still under construction, although shallow number one is operating.

Despite all the problems with the water situation, the board finalized two ordinances which require residents who have water and sewer available to hook up, and provide that all private wells on these properties be abandoned and sealed up.

Kerr had requested the ordinances be set aside until Wheeling has sufficient water, but Markus said the ordinances make clear that once the residents hook up to Wheeling water, they cannot continue to use private wells. Residents have one year to hook up after the connections are available, according to the ordinances.

MARKUS SAID that he does not think the only reason for the ordinances is that people drive by and see people watering from private wells, but to comply with the water bond ordinances which state that there cannot be a competing franchise in the village.

Kerr argued that private wells should not be shut down until the village can provide the people with adequate water. When Kerr asked Markus if he intends to enforce the ordinances, Markus said he does, but that it would be hard to justify at this time.

Markus reiterated that the village could not have competing water systems side by side with the village system. He noted that the ordinance was in effect before the plumbing code was adopted (concerning the bonding ordinance) and that the new ordinances tried to add clarity to what the plumbing code was supposed to be.

Trustee Sheila Schultz asked if the village has areas facing the one-year restriction at this time. Markus noted the village has sent letters to villagers to connect where the water main is available, and pressed for the ordinance to back up the system because of the economics of the situation.

Markus said the way the situation was handled in the past was not equitable, because some residents were told to close their wells and others permitted to operate. Kerr, who cast the only dissenting vote against the ordinances, noted that his lawn has burned out for the past four years.

Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld noted that it was a matter of priorities where the available Wheeling water should be directed. He said that drinking water and fire protection are the most important and are more important than lawns.

Meanwhile, the public works department, in its report, stated that the cloudy, over-aeriated water problem would be solved by flushing the mains, once all of the wells are back in operation, and there is adequate water to do so.

Four wells are in operation 20 hours a day, according to the report.



DESPITE REMINDERS AND THE THREAT of ticketing, some Wheeling residents choose to take their chances and continue with business as usual. A new ordinance will enforce hookup to village water so people can't water from private wells. (Photo by Steve Donisch)

REMINDER 7-17-80

Industry in Wheeling diversified, expanding

"From 1970 on, the industrial situation rapidly took off," Lawrence E. Oppenheimer, director of Wheeling's Community Development Department said.

Today, roughly 22 per cent of the land falling within the village limits of Wheeling is marked for industrial development.

Existing industry includes testing labs, manufacturing of paints, office supplies, power tools, locks and packaging.

There are also distributors of beverages, food service equipment manufactures, importers and warehouses.

Why has Wheeling expanded as an industrial center? Oppenheimer says it is because the village is able to offer developers some key advantages. Advantages that he says include:

--the Soo Railroad tracks and spurs;

--good traffic flow, with access to the tollroads;

--and Palwaukee Airport.

"Industrial developers on the whole consider the airport very high . . . but probably not the major. It depends on the industry," Oppenheimer said.

A good fire rating also attracts industry. "The industrial user knows insurance rates are not going to break him (in Wheeling)."

Another key factor in the development of the village is that industrial sites are available, he said.

When an industry wants to locate in an already zoned industrial park, procedure is fairly simple, he said.

The first step is for the architect of the proposed plan to design a plant in keeping with ordinances specified in Title 19, the village's zoning codes. After the plan is reviewed in detail by the Department of Community Development, it is submitted to a five member Appearance Commission.

The Appearance Commission, appointed by the village board, must approve of the building's exterior design and land use.

After approval of the Appearance Commission, the Department of Community Development and the issuance of a sewer hookup permit, a building permit is issued.

The oldest industrial site in the village is near Hintz and Wheeling Roads.

Several new industrial parks are under consideration for zoning and Oppenheimer said he believes that will mean continued room for industrial expansion for the next 22 years.

The residents of Wheeling have expressed some concerns about industrial pollution, Oppenheimer said. Although in general, he terms Wheeling's industry clean, he said there is always a concern about pollution.

Palwaukee Airport has been a long term concern of area residents, he said. Other industries are a concern because they handle highly flammable products, he said.

But in general, Oppenheimer said, the bulk of Wheeling's industries do not contribute to pollution.

Oppenheimer suggests that the reason the village is taking off as an industrial site is simple: "A developer looks around and says, "Wheeling–they have a lot to offer."

LIFE 7-17-80

Hard on vegetation

Sprinkling woes

By JUNE STEWART
Correspondent

WHEELING — Newly-planted shrubbery, trees, and flowers at the Wheeling municipal complex are feeling the toll of the sprinkling ban.

A large bush at the front entrance was wilting, and trees and yews had dead or browned limbs on July 14. The use of non-essential water was still prohibited.

At no small cost to taxpayers, the newly-landscaped municipal complex is following the village's sprinkling ban.

In other areas of the village, lawns and gardens are burning out. One homeowner commented, "I worked too hard digging my garden, and with the price of vegetables, I'm not letting them die out — it's sinful." He admitted watering his vegetable garden and said that he would continue to do so.

A very irate homeowner said, "I spent over $400 on resodding my lawn. Look at it!" The freshly-sodded lawn was slowly turning brown. "This isn't the first time. This is the third attempt I've made to resod," she said. "Every time, it seems I pick the years there's a water shortage." She said that she had considered watering the newly-sodded lawn, but feared something drastic would happen to the village wells, "and then I would feel guilty," she added. "Maybe it will rain," she commented.

SOME PEOPLE do not take the sprinkling ban seriously, as one homeowner said, "It's a ruse." The last he had heard was that he could water on odd or even days corresponding with his address. "I don't believe all this nonsense about a water shortage," he said. Then he added, "I'ts only a way of getting more money out of the taxpayers."

When asked if he would follow the sprinkling ban, he laughed and said, "What do you think?"

One angry resident blamed the problems of Wheeling's lack of water on the people who allocate the water from Lake Michigan. "Everybody knows the problems we've had in Wheeling," he commented. "We should have had lake water long ago. It's criminal, that's what it is. In Chicago and places where they get city water, they have plenty of water. We should have had it long ago," he reiterated. When asked if he would comply with the sprinkling ban, he commented, "I won't let my garden burn out, if that's what you mean."

One resident with a backyard swimming pool said that she was watering her garden with water from the pool and hoped the ban would soon be lifted because the water line on the pool is getting lower.

Another resident with a backyard pool said that she is suppling water to several of her neighbors who are following the sprinklin ban. Still another resident with a pool had not heard of the sprinkling ban. When asked if she would comply, she said, "Of course."

SEVERAL OTHER residents said they had not heard of the ban on non-essential water use in the village. "Non-essential? Watering flowers, and trees and vegetables is essential!" insisted one woman. "Don't you know they are alive! Don't you know they have feelings?"

The sprinkling ban carried over to the Monday night workshop session, of the Wheeling board, July 14, when Trustee John Cole said he would like to see the water pitchers returned to the meeting. "The sprinkling ban," noted Village Manager Tom Markus, explaining the omission. "Thirst is something else," Cole replied.

Two villages may consider swap including airport land

reminder 7-17-80

By SHARON MARZANO

Should Prospect heights give up the annual $50,000 to $100,000 in revenue it receives from its portion of the Pal-Waukee Airport in exchange for some of Wheeling's undeveloped land? At least one Prospect Heights alderman seems to think so.

Fourth Ward Alderman Terrence Mongoven, in response to last Monday's hasty annexation by Wheeling of Pal-Waukee's northern half, said the airport should be under the control of one municipality.

It will be next to impossible to get two separate local governments, which posess different goals and strategies, to act harmoniously on the issues, Mongoven said.

Mongoven therefore intends to ask his fellow councilmen if Prospect Heights should let Wheeling annex the rest of the airport. In exchange, Wheeling would be asked to give up a substanial quanitity of land which is now undeveloped, but zoned for industrial use.

"It's too complicated at this point to comment," said Wheeling's Village Manager Tom Markus.

"We will listen to any proposal made by Prospect Heights, but I don't think the village will be willing to give up property that is already a part of our utility plan or property that has already been zoned for specfic use," Markus said.

Mongoven does not plan to act on his proposal until after an outcome is reached over Prospect Heights' annexation petitions which are scheduled for a July 18 hearing.

Wheeling did not have to go through the court system when it voted to annex the northern half of the airport last Monday because the annexation request, made by airport owner George Priester, was voluntary.

Much "bitterness and resentment" has developed over the recent annexation, Mongoven said.

This resentment could even influence Prospect Heights' decision over whether to finance the third and final part of a feasibility survey concerning a Wheeling and Prospect Heights joint purchase of the Pal-Waukee Airport, Mongoven said.

Today's firefighters are trained for emergencies

REMINDER 7-17-80

By Lynn Pattison

I'm not that old, but I can still remember shopping with my mother at the old Jewel on Dundee Road (where Country Dairy is now) and hearing the fire alarm go off at the fire station across the street.

It was so loud you had to hold your hands over your ears to muffle the sound, but it was exciting to see the men come running from every direction, out of the shops along Milwaukee Avenue and the gas stations at the corner of Dundee and Milwaukee to answer the call.

In those days Wheeling's Fire Department was all volunteer, and many firemen kept police radios turned on all night in their homes so they would be able to answer the calls.

The department looks very different today.

In 1969,the department's first full time chief was named. Today the department boasts 13 full-time "firepersons" (the first female firefighter was hired last year) in addition to 20 active volunteers. There is a full-time chief, a full-time captain and a secretary.

Capt. Ralph Perricone, the department's first full-time fireman, says the department has seen a lot of changes in the time he's been there.

"We were a little late in getting started, and it takes a while to build up a department, but we're getting there."

The department now works out of two stations, both on Dundee Road, and has 14 pieces of equipment, including pumpers, MIC (Mobile Intensive Care) units, and aerials, to help with the new multi-storied condominium developments sprouting up in the village. The department is expecting a new engine in September.

Perricone said the department is now in the process of designing a few fire prevention programs for the schools, in an effort to curb the incidence of kitchen fires, which he says is the village's biggest fire problem right now.

"We get three stove fires for every other kind of fire we have," he estimated.

Perricone said the department is in the process of compiling a new eligibility list in anticipation of adding about nine new firefighters next year.

Firefighters are currently required to take a 280-hour firefighter course taught by the village of Arlington Heights and the Arlington Heights fire department. They also go through an emergency medical technician (EMT) training course soon after joining the department.

Police headquarters updated for better service

Back 20 years ago, the Wheeling police were stuffed in a one-room building that served as their headquarters. Space was tight and equipment was sparse. The police had to share their dispatch radio with the fire and public works departments.

Today, things are much different. The police have just moved into newly remodeled headquarters in the Wheeling Municipal Complex at 225 West Dundee Road.

Instead of a one-room headquarters, the police have their own building, part of the $3.9 million complex construction project. Besides having plenty of room, the police also have the latest in crime-fighting equipment.

Gone are the days of a single radio. The police now have a two-man dispatch console, complete with computerized controls. When a policeman needs details on a suspect, the dispatcher can punch-up information from around the country on a computer terminal.

"If we need to find out some information about someone from Washington, we can contact them. Within minutes the information will come up on our video display terminal," said Sgt. Jack Kimsey, who's in charge of getting new equipment.

Also being installed is a computerized alarm system, which not only tells police the address where an alarm is ringing, but also the nature of the alarm.

Even in the records department, where workers ususally are plagued by paperwork, a computer system keeps track of all past records.

Modern technology will soon find its way to the exterior of the complex, where nine close-circuit cameras will monitor activities of people coming in and out of the building.

The new headquarters also has a large crime lab for fingerprinting and photgraphy, and eight new cells that can hold up to 12 prisoners.

Beyond all the necessities, the rest of the new police headquarters is even more striking.

When construction is completed, the police will have such luxuries as their own pistol range, a workout and weight room, a lounge and recreation room, and an outdoor patio with gas grills.

Decoration for the Municipal Complex is also interesting. Besides new furniture and carpeting, the rooms are decorated with paintings and houseplants. When completed, the center of the complex will feature an atrium filled with plants and trees.

"It was something that was needed, and it very beneficial to the community," Kimsey said. "It's an exciting thing, and something we never dreamed of 20 years ago."

Board discusses litter, liabilities

LIFE 7-17-80

WHEELING — Does mowing the grass on the parkway in front of a private residence have the same liability that shoveling snow from the sidewalk in front of the home does?

That was one of the questions asked by the Wheeling village board during a workshop session Monday, July 14.

Trustee John Cole, acting chairman of the session, said he did not think people could be required to cut grass on the parkway since the language of the ordinance states that it is not their property. He added that the parkway should belong to the individual homeowner and the village granted an easement.

The discussion came up in connection with a proposed litter ordinance which requires homeowners to mow the parkway, making grass eight inches or higher in violation of the ordinance.

WHOEVER HAS the duty of maintaining the property is liable for it, Village Attorney David Epstein explained.

Cole said he thinks the village could be liable for "problems" that could arise from homeowners being forced to maintain village property, such as the parkways in front of their homes.

He added that the ordinance requires the homeowners to maintain the parkways, but the village does nothing about the state mowing the parkways on state highways.

The liability stems from common-law liability, where the natural condition has been changed, according to Epstein.

The basic philosophy of the ordinance is to establish some criteria to keep up the appearance of the village, Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld replied.

He noted that considerable money has been spent on trees, shrubs, and other improvements in commercial areas and suggested the village rent street sweepers to the commercial areas on a regular basis, because costs of such equipment to the smaller companies maintaining the areas is prohibitive. Powers questioned the legality of renting out village equipment.

The cheapest way for a store to clean up the area is to send out an employe with a broom, Trustee Sheila Schultz commented. Common area maintenance is part of the lease, and the merchants renting a store pay for it, Sommerfeld noted.

ANOTHER AREA — between the sidewalks and streets on Dundee road — is one very few people pay attention to, Cole noted.

Village Manager Tom Markus told the board the village tickets the landlord for litter violations, and added, "I am a firm believer that if you bring them into court and they wait in line, they do something about it."

Cole and Sommerfeld agreed that enforcement of the anti-litter ordinance is the most important facet.

Other areas of the zoning code amendment, or anti-litter ordinance:

• Require garbage can lids to be used when the cans contain any quantity of garbage, litter or rubbish.

• Require grass on a homeowner's property or vacant property not to exceed eight inches in height. Landscape shall be maintained and replaced when the landscaping was a requirement for a building permit.

• Stipulate that commercial handbills, leaflets and circulars should be handed to the homeowners, where possible, and not left on homes where "no trespassing, advertising, or soliciting" signs are posted; and should not be left to blow away all over the yard.

• Prohibit sweeping litter from driveways and sidewalks into the gutter.

The proposed ordinance tightens up the controls on commercial vehicles carrying loose gravel, and on construction contractors who "shall not allow litter to accumulate on a construction site, except in approved litter receptacles."

It also tightens up on vacant lot dumpers — the people who carry their garbage to the corner lot and hide it in the weeds.

Fines are proposed at not less than $10, nor more than $200 for the first offense. A second offense is $25 to $200, and a third violation could cost the offender $50 to $200, if the subsequent violations occur within a one-year period.

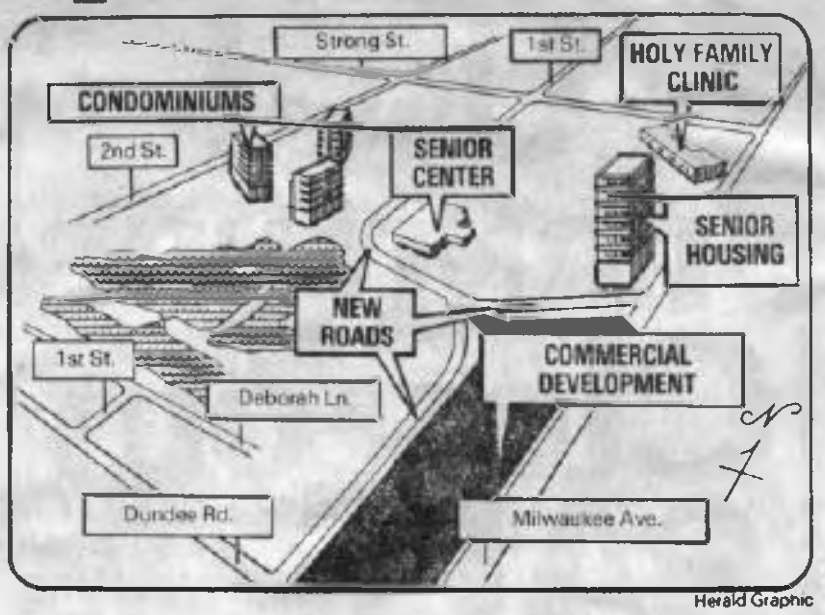
Plans prepared for new roads

HERALD 7-18-80

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Wheeling officials have prepared plans for new roads and more commercial development in the village's downtown area.

Those plans, for the first time, pinpoint the location for all the developments and improvements — including housing for the elderly, a senior citizens' center and an emergency clinic — on the 25 acres bounded by Dundee Road and Milwaukee and Strong avenues. The plans will be presented to the public on July 30, said Village Planner Richard Greenwood.



Herald Graphic

The plans include a $4.5 million walk-in clinic, to be built by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, at the southwest corner of Milwaukee and Strong avenue. Immediately south of the clinic, fronting Milwaukee Avenue, will be 100 rent-assisted apartments for senior citizens. The eight-story building, with an estimated cost of $4 million, will be constructed by the Cook County Housing Authority, and paid for by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS also plan land negotiations with the developers of a proposed 114-unit condominium complex called Three Lakes, located west of the senior housing. The village wants to buy slightly less than two of the 11 acres owned by developers Lambert Domas and Thomas Popke for the senior center, and is awaiting appraisals on that parcel.

Informal estimates have set the value of the Domas-Popke property at $44,000 to $66,000 an acre, Greenwood said. The developers have said they are willing to sell a portion of their land and scale down their condominium project. The building plans are being delayed while the village decides how the area will be developed.

The new roads would call for the southward extension of First St., which would bend to the east, meeting Milwaukee Avenue. That road would provide access to the senior housing, the center and the clinic, Greenwood said. A second road would be extended to the south, meeting Dundee Road.

THE 10 ACRES that would be bounded by the second new road, Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road are earmarked for commercial development. That development may be crucial to getting the new roads built, because the federal grants being used to pay for the senior housing and center do not include the cost of road construction, Greenwood said.

The village could offer a potential developer a new form of financial assistance known as "tax-increment financing," which recently was OKd by the Illinois Supreme Court, in exchange for the developer making the road improvments.

Under the financing plan, property taxes paid by developer on the unimproved parcel are frozen, and as the property is developed the additional taxes collected as a rsult of the increased value of the property are used to repay a loan taken out by the village to help pay the start-up costs of the project.

Once the bonds are retired, the increased taxes from the improved property once again go to the various taxing agencies.

Suburban growth forecast: cooling trend

HERALD 7-21-80

by Susan Duerksen
Herald staff writer

While population growth in the Northwest suburbs generally seems to be slowing, the small towns of Buffalo Grove and Wheeling are expected to boom in the next 20 years.

According to population forecasts being developed by the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commision, those two villages by the year 2000 will have caught up with Palatine and Elk Grove Village in size — each with about 40,000 people.

Meanwhile, several laps ahead in the population race, Schaumburg will have nosed out Arlington Heights as the largest Northwest suburb — with 84,200 residents to Arlington Heights' 83,000.

The entire area now is expected to grow much more slowly than had previously been thought. The total population of 13 Northwest Cook County suburbs is estimated to grow to 567,100 in the next 20 years, 128,100 less than projected just four years ago.

However, the growth estimates are not universally accepted. Some village officials of towns slated for diminishing growth have taken strong exception to the forecasts from NIPC, a regional planning and advisory agency.

THEIR CONCERN IS not merely the prestige of a large population. The NIPC forecasts are used by a number of state agencies that provide funding for facilities to serve future development — such as sewers and roads. And some officials said a low population estimate may limit the amount of water they are allowed to pipe from Lake Michigan.

Max Dieber, the NIPC population forecaster, said population growth is tapering off faster than expected — and faster than many local officials want to admit — partly because more people are moving south but mostly because the average family size is dwindling.

Especially in towns with a high percentage of multi-family housing, such as Wheeling and Prospect Heights, the average household size is expected to come very close to only two people per house by the turn of the century.

In the traditional child-rearing havens of the suburbs, Dieber said many local officials still are assuming an average family size of 3 or 3½ people, a statistic that was valid just a few years ago. But with more and more people living alone, waiting longer to have children or never having them, he said households are getting smaller everywhere.

The average household size statewide has dropped 13 percent in the past decade, and state forecasters are saying it will go down another 15 percent by 2000. But some local officials have convinced NIPC their local average won't drop that much because they are planning to build mostly single-family homes, not apartments.

"THE SUBURBS ARE shrinking slower than the city, but a lot of suburbs are losing population," said Chuck Metalitz, senior planning analyst for NIPC. "You can have hundreds and hundreds of housing units being built and the population is still dropping because the existing households are only holding two people."

Michael Richardson, planning and zoning director for Des Plaines, one of the suburbs where population is almost standing still, agreed with NIPC's estimate that the city will grow only 6 percent in the next 20 years, and he said the results of the 1980 census may actually show a population decline from 1970.

"Although we've added 2,000 new housing units since 1970, the number of people living in those units has decreased," he said. "We're gaining more households, but we seem to be losing warm bodies."

Towns like Des Plaines, Mount Prospect and Rolling Meadows also have little opportunity to add households to their population because they are surrounded by already-developed land with no space to expand.

Dieber said the population forecasts are based on a town's past building and growth patterns, where jobs are

(Continued on Page 3)

The week ahead

HERALD 7-21-80

Emergency clinic approval expected

Wheeling trustees tonight are expected to give preliminary approval to plans by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, to build a $4.5 million emergency clinic at the southwest corner of Milwaukee and Strong avenues.

Final approval of the project has been delayed because of disagreement between the village and hospital officials over whether they should be required to widen Strong Avenue, where it meets Milwaukee Avenue, to three lanes.

Hospital officials say they will widen the road, at a cost of $15,000, but contend that it is unnecessary because a traffic consultant hired by the hospital says Strong Street already is wide enough to accommodate an additional turning lane. Hospital attorney Robert DiLeonardi says unexpected construction costs plus other requirements imposed by the village has increased the cost of the project by $500,000.

He has asked the village to share in the cost of widening the road, but Village Mgr. Thomas Markus is recommending the village's participation be limited to using village street crews to help tear up existing curbs and gutters. He also is asking the board to require the hospital to reveal their plans for an adjacent parcel, which fronts Milwaukee Avenue.

If the board approves the project, construction is expected to begin next spring. The clinic would treat patients with less serious injuries, such as broken limbs, as well as provide pre-hospitalization testing and employment physicals for persons who work in Wheeling's industrial areas.

The board will meet at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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HERALD 7-22-80

Plans for clinic get preliminary village approval

Plans by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, to build a $4.5 million emergency clinic in Wheeling were given preliminary approval Monday night by the Wheeling Village Board.

Pending final board approval in two weeks, with construction of the clinic at Milwaukee and Strong avenues is expected to begin next spring. The clinic would treat patients with less-serious injuries, such as broken limbs, and provide pre-hospitalization testing and employment physicals for persons working in Wheeling's industrial area.

The board refused, however, to contribute to the cost of widening Strong Street, which had been requested by hospital attorney Robert DiLeonardi. Board members agreed with Village Mgr. Thomas Markus, who said the village's help should be confined to using public works crews to tear up existing curbs and gutters.

TRUSTEE CHARLES Kerr said the village would be setting a "bad precedent" by using village funds for a privately funded project. Also Barry Oppenheimer, village community development director, said village officials had overestimated the cost of widening Strong Street. It would only cost between $4,000 and $7,500, he said.

Hospital officials had pointed to a traffic consultant's study which said Strong Street already is wide enough to support a third turning lane. DiLeonardi blamed unforeseen construction costs and conditions imposed by the village on the hospital for adding $500,000 to the cost of the clinic.

He argued that the road-widening would benefit not only the clinic but whatever else is developed in the area. Because the costs "are mounting almost weekly," he said, the hospital is asking the village to contribute "as a gesture of continued cooperation."

He also said that any increased construction costs eventually will be absorbed by the clinics patients anyway.

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Village board nixes Sadin shopping center project

7-23-80 Herald

Saying the land should remain undeveloped, the Wheeling Village Board has unanimously rejected plans by Highland Park developer Eugene Sadin to build a $3.5 million shopping center at McHenry and Elmhurst roads.

The board's rejection of the 25-store shopping center comes despite approval by the village plan commission and zoning board. Village Mgr. Thomas Markus also "reluctantly" recommended approval, because the state was not requiring Sadin to install curbs and gutters along the roadway, something that would give the shopping center an "unfinished" look.

The shopping center, called The Point, would have been constructed on the banks of the Wheeling Drainage Ditch. Despite the flood control measures proposed by Sadin, trustees said new construction would only add to flooding problems in the village.

"We cannot continue to pave over the ground," said Trustee John Cole, adding the village should do its best to make sure nothing is built on the eight-acre site.

TRUSTEE SHEILA SCHULTZ cited a report issued more than two years ago from state officials who recommended nothing be developed in that area, when the board approved by a 4-3 vote construction of a mini-warehouse project, located across the drainage ditch from Sadin's proposed project.

She added that it was unlikely the state would do anything to stop a project "if our own community doesn't feel strongly enough. I'm very reluctant to see that land developed, period."

Sadin, who proposed and then backed out of plans to build a controversial high-rise building in downtown Arlington Heights, did not comment when board members rejected his plans Monday night. He said Tuesday that he "impeccably and religiously followed all of the village codes to the letter," and said he was "very confident" he could win in court the right to build.

However, he added he would not sue. "Life's too short," he said. "By the time you get through with two to three years of legal action, you've antagonized the board and you'll have problems building and developing the property." Instead, he said he probably will drop his option to buy the land, which is held in a trust, and "start this afternoon to see what other property is available in the Northwest area."

SADIN SAID HE was "very surprised and very angry" with the board's decision, and criticized their objections to the project as "typical lay arguments made by persons who don't have the knowledge" of engineers and other flood control experts.

He said he recently completed a shopping center in Mount Prospect, at Camp McDonald and Elmhurst roads, which had similar potential flooding problems. "Nobody's complained about that," he said. "Evidently Mount Prospect had people who were a little more knowledgable."

Buffalo Grove may have to join DAMP

HERALD 7-23-80

After previously supporting a plan to build a pipeline to Chicago to obtain Lake Michigan water, Buffalo Grove now appears headed toward joining a rival group that wants to build a water pipeline to Evanston.

Because towns surrounding Buffalo Grove favor the Evanston route, Buffalo Grove probably will have to join them to get the cheapest possible water rate, Village Pres. Verna Clayton said Tuesday night.

Arlington Heights, Palatine, Wheeling and the Ferndale Heights private utility company have said they are "in the process of getting pretty well set" to construct an $81.5 million water pipline to Evanston through the DAMP water commission.

That leaves Mount Prospect, Elk Grove Village, Rolling Meadows, Schaumburg and Hoffman Estates to build their own pipeline to Chicago water supplies at O'Hare Airport at an estimated cost of $98 million.

Buffalo Grove until now has said it favors the Chicago pipeline, but said it needed the consensus of its neighboring towns before it could join that effort. After polling each town Tuesday night at a meeting in Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove village officials found they all supported the Evanston route.

Without Arlington Heights, the Chicago pipeline would have to include a special extension to reach Buffalo Grove. And the village most likely would have to pay higher water rates than the other member towns under a proposed "telescopic" water rate structure, which means the towns furthest away from the O'Hare hookup would pay proportionately more for their water.

"Venture is still the best alternative for Buffalo Grove," Village Mgr. William Balling said. "We should not, however, be a non-contiguous member of a water system."

However, the village board won't decide officially until Monday night which pipeline effort it intends to join.

"We haven't been playing games," Mrs. Clayton said. "We just want to study both (pipeline proposals) and determine which would be most cost-effective for us."

HERALD 7-23-80

Village board wrapup

Two-year pay hike set for firefighters

A two-year pay plan giving the village's 34 firefighters 9 percent pay increases this year and 8 percent next year has been approved by Wheeling trustees.

The pay hikes apply retroactively to May 1 and set the starting salary of a firefighter at $15,862. The top of a firefighter's pay scale is $21,387. For firefighters who also are certified paramedics, the pay range is from $17,083 to $23,026.

The starting pay range was increased only 5 percent, a move village officials said was necessary to keep the salaries in line with surrounding communities. Also, the pay plan would encourage new firefighters to stay in the village, because after the first year's service, a firefighter will receive a raise of more than 15 percent.

Choir tour fund request delayed

The Wheeling Village Board delayed action on a request by the Wheeling High School Choral League for $4,000 to help offset the cost of a trip to London, England, by the school's 16 "Madrigal Singers."

Although Village Mgr. Thomas Markus recommended the board deny the request because the trip is not "an appropriate municipal function," trustees did not close the door on the choral league, saying they wanted time to examine their policy of giving village funds to various groups.

Although the board has agreed in the past to donate money to the Jaycees for its Fourth of July parade and fireworks display and the high school instrumental league, trustees have questioned whether they should be giving the taxpayers' money to private groups.

Trustee Sheila Schultz called for the board to establish specific guidelines for making donations. Other trustees suggested the choral league try to raise the $20,000 for the trip on its own in the meantime.

Choral group director Frank Dobler said the trip is planned for next spring, and the singers are planning to give several concerts as well as tour the historic sites of England.

Second aide OKd for Markus

Wheeling trustees approved a request by Village Mgr. Thomas Markus that he be allowed to hire a second administrative assistant to help him with his duties.

Although the budget allows Markus to hire an assistant village manager, Markus said he would prefer to have Bheula Peterson, who has acted as administrative assistant on personnel matters for several years, to remain in her present position.

The new administrative aide would report directly to Markus and would be involved mainly in coordinating planning activities of the building dept. and working on special projects. Markus says he will begin advertising for candidates immediately. The job pays between $17,748 and $25,020.

Fear Of Flooding

7-23-80-TMPM

SHOPPING CENTER DENIED

BY VIRGINIA SUTTON

Plans for the construction of a 26-store shopping center at the corner of Route 83 and Old McHenry Road were effectively crushed by the Wheeling Village Board Monday nite.

Trustees objected to the center's placement in an area beset with flooding problems.

"We have got to realize that we can't continue to pave over all the ground, unless we want to continue to flood," commented Trustee John Cole.

Thru engineering, the water from rainstorms would be held in detention ponds in the center's parking lot, and then released into Buffalo Creek, which flows directly behind the proposed shopping center, explained Larry Oppenheimer, Director of Community Development.

However, trustees remained strongly opposed to the project because of serious flooding problems in the past.

Trustee Sheila Schultz, contacted after the meeting said, "I've been on record, and I hope the whole board has been on record on not wanting to add to the flood problems. The basic problem (with the project) is that it's in the wrong place."

Village Manager Tom Markus suggested to the board that a list of definite reasons for the denial be prepared and presented to the petitioners.

Trustees denied recommendations from village staff and the Zoning Board of Appeals for variations to permit 2 buildings to be constructed on the site, instead of just one. The other proposed building was to house a financial institution.

"This is an old, sensitive subject," commented Schultz. "To give the developers due, they don't have the grasp (on the flooding problems). They haven't lived thru it."

Health Care Center Gets Preliminary OK

Progress continues on plans for an ambulatory health care center at Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue as Wheeling's Board of Trustees granted approval on several items Monday nite.

Preliminary approval was granted to 3 of Holy Family Hospital's requests to rezone the property from R-3, to B-4 and B-5; grant a special use for an ambulatory health care center; grant variations for yard setback requirements. Final approval is expected to be granted at the next regular board meeting, Monday, Aug. 4.

In addition, the board gave approval for the final site plan.

THE VILLAGE offered to help with the proposed widening of Strong Street from 2 to 3 lanes by removing curbs and gutters.

Officials from Holy Family Hospital estimated the cost of widening Strong Street at $15,000 and had asked the village to help offset the cost.

However, village staff made inquiries to 2 contractors, whose estimates ranged from $4,000 to $7,500 for the same work. The offer to only remove curb and gutter was firm, said Markus, "no more, no less."

Trustees indicated that to contribute financially to widening of the street would be setting a bad precedent.

IN ADDITION, Markus asked Holy Family officials to explain the status of 3 parcels of land on Milwaukee Avenue the hospital has been trying to acquire.

Two pieces have been acquired and will be landscaped according to plan. The hospital has not been able to purchase the 3d parcel.

7-24-80 REMINDER

Plethora of engineers' reports muddies lake water decision

Officials from Buffalo Grove, Wheeling, Arlington Heights and Palatine gathered together last Tuesday night and showed strong majority support for obtaining Lake Michigan water from an Evanston pipeline route at an estimated cost of $81.3 million.

Most of the officials said they were concerned about which of the two possible routes of obtaining water was the most economically feasible. Buffalo Grove, which has not committed itself to obtaining water from Evanston, has been leaning towards obtaining water from Chicago beacuse of estimated costs believed by their village staff. The other villages currently think the Evanston route is the most promising.

After the meeting was over, Buffalo Grove Trustee Bobbie O'Reilly said she was glad to see that most of the officials from the neighboring communities were as confused as she was about which route of obtaining lake water was the most cost effective.

The confusion is because there are several engineering reports on how much it will cost to obtain lake water from different sources, all using different methods to come up with answers, said William Richardson, consultant for Evanston.

"It is hard to make comparisons because it would be like comparing apples to oranges to bananas," said Richardson about the reports. "All of the reports by the different engineers use different methods to come up with with estimates," he said.

Engineers from Evanston, the DAMP Commission and Venture have not been instructed to get together and compare notes and come up with comparisons that are meaningful, according to John Callan, engineer for DAMP.

Engineers from DAMP and Evanston have said they would be interested in getting together and coming up with one set of estimates.

"All that it would take to get the engineers together would be for the members of DAMP, Venture and Evanston to instruct them to do so," said Callan.

"Getting the engineers together would not be as easy as just making a few phone calls," said Callan. "That would be an oversimplification, but it could be done very quickly and would help clear things up."

7-24-80 - Herald

Correcting flood problems could cost $1 million-plus

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

It will cost Wheeling at least $500,000, and possibly more than $1 million, to correct the flooding problems that have plagued residents in the southwest section of town, according to report by a Chicago consulting firm.

The village last November authorized the $8,780 study by Mackie Consultants Inc., to come up with solutions for the flooding problems that have plagued residents in three multifamily complexes — Lakeside Villas Condominiums, Tahoe Village Condominiums and Mallard Lake Apartments. Residents in housing developments in nearby unincorporated areas and the Cambridge subdivision in Buffalo Grove also are affected by the flooding.

Although a variety of options are presented in the report, it basically calls for the village to construct new storm sewers and build at least two drainage basins. The plan also calls for rerouting of flood waters to make better use of existing sewers and drainage tile.

Village Finance Director Gregory Peters said the minimum cost of building the improvements would be $500,000. When the cost of acquiring land is added in, he said, "$750,000 is probably a little closer to it and it may exceed $1 million."

Peters said the village could pay for the improvements by imposing a special tax assessment on residents in the area.

HOWEVER, VILLAGE officials are a long way from deciding whether they even want to make the improvements. They say storm water which travels through Wheeling originates in Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove and unincorporated areas to the west, and contend that the neighboring towns should chip in to make the improvements. However, in the initial discussions with neighboring towns, "it seems like no one wants to help Wheeling," said Larry Oppenheimer, director of community development.

Also, officials are questioning whether the flooding problems are severe enough to warrant spending a minimum of $500,000 to correct the problem.

"You've got to consider the cost with the benefit," Oppenheimer said. "Take Lakeside Villas. The problem over there is that the streets flood. Well, actually the street is a pretty good place to store water. It's better than in somebody's basement."

And although village officials feel the flooding problem is shared by other towns, Wheeling apparently brought the problem on itself by signing agreements in the 1960s, which basically said, "Okay, Wheeling, you take care of the storm water," Oppenheimer said.

Allen Sander, Arlington Heights public works director, disputed Oppenheimer's claim that Arlington Heights permits more storm water runoff than MSD recommneds, and added that if Wheeling wanted to handle less storm water, "it's something Wheeling should have thought of 11 years ago."

Village Mgr. Thomas Markus has scheduled a meeting for next Monday to discuss the study and to determine whether the residents think the flooding problems are serious enough to warrant paying for the needed improvements.

Officials from Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove, Cook County, Wheeling Township and MSD have been invited as well as the residents who live in the 550 acres encompassed by the study.

Distribution costs extra in DAMP

by Gordon Walek
Herald staff writer

If Buffalo Grove is forced to follow its neighbors in buying Lake Michigan water from Evanston, officials say the village may have to spend an additional $2 million just to distribute the water.

And that additional expense is the main reason the village has not joined Arlington Heights, Palatine and Wheeling of the DAMP Water Commission in agreeing to purchase water from Evanston, according to Village Mgr. William Balling.

Buffalo Grove, which has consistently supported building a $98 million pipeline to Chicago through the Northwest Suburban Water Venture, was left isolated from the rest of the Venture towns earlier this summer when the towns surrounding it agreed to purchase water from Evanston.

Mount Prospect, Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates, Elk Grove Village and Rolling Meadows want to build a pipeline to Chicago, but because none of those towns have common borders with Buffalo Grove, it would cost an additional $16 million for a pipeline to the village.

"IT WILL NOT be economical for us to be a non-contiguous member of a water system," Balling said, "but there are some possible costs in the DAMP system that we just don't know about."

Under the Venture system, Lake Michigan water would be delivered to a Buffalo Grove pumping station at system pressure on Aptakisic Road. But Balling said he had no assurance on where water from Evanston would arrive.

"It's not clear what we will get from DAMP," he said. "Some plans show a pipeline to Hintz or Dundee roads, and we might have to spend between $1 million and $2 million for internal improvements for distribution. That's a substantial cost factored into the Buffalo Grove water rate."

And that issue won't be resolved until Buffalo Grove joins DAMP, Balling said. "It's a gray area, and once we join the commission, we'll have to go with their decision."

DAMP chairman James Soyka said the commission had "no plans cast in steel and concrete," regarding where water would be delivered.

"WE HAVEN'T designated any definite spots for delivery yet," he said. "It will be up to the individual villages to tell us where they want it, and we'll do our best to get it there. But we won't know what the final costs will be until we know who's in and who's out."

Despite Buffalo Grove's reluctance to support an Evanston connection through DAMP, Soyka said the water commission will welcome the village if it chooses to join. "The more people involved, the lower the cost will be," he said.

Soyka's acceptance of Buffalo Grove comes in spite of a scathing letter he sent to Village Pres. Verna Clayton earlier this month, accusing Balling of supporting the Venture system even before DAMP had an opportunity to answer questions posed by the village.

"It would appear to us that your manager has firmly and finally decided that Buffalo Grove will join Venture, no matter what the facts show," Soyka wrote. He also mentioned that Buffalo Grove had not contributed to the expense of legal and engineering questions researched by DAMP.

"They invited us to ask questions," Balling said, "and that's what we did. Considering the information we had in June, it looked like Venture was the best system for us, but we'll look at all the information we can get."

MRS. CLAYTON said the village offered to pay Venture for their research, but that the commission had not decided whether to bill them. "It's unfortunate Mr. Soyka felt we were not being straightforward," Mrs. Clayton said, "but we made our recommendation on what we knew at the time. But now it looks like DAMP will not be a bad choice for us."

The Buffalo Grove Village Board is expected to decide **on a water system** Monday night. The Venture organization has asked its members to make up **their minds** by August 1.

REMINDER - 7-24-80

Wheeling rejects hospital request

Fearful that their decision might set a precedent, Wheeling trustees voted Monday night not to help finance the widening of 150 feet of Strong Street west of Milwaukee Avenue, where Holy Family Hospital's proposed ambulatory care center facility will be located.

The village will "participate in removing the gutter and curbs" for the street widening, said Village Manager Tom Markus, but "it does not recommend financing the widening itself."

Holy Family Hospital's attorney, Robert DiLeonardi, said Holy Family would pay for the first $5,000 of the widening, which is how much village estimators believe the project would cost, if the village would split any remaining differences with the hospital.

Costs are mounting at the $4.5 million site almost weekly and "We're looking to the village for a gesture to show their continuing cooperation," DiLeonardi said.

But because only one party is requesting the improvement Trustee Charles Kerr said, "We would be opening the door if we start to use village money to participate in these types of projects."

Feb 7-24-80



THIS SITE WILL REMAIN as open land. A proposed shopping mall was voted down by the Wheeling village board at its meeting Monday, July 21. Plans called for a 26-store shopping area. (Photo by Peggy Pollard)

Construction soon for hospital clinic

WHEELING — Construction is expected to begin next month on the $4.5 million Holy Family hospital ambulatory care clinic at Milwaukee avenue and Strong.

The village board gave preliminary approval July 21 to final site plans and ordinances granting rezoning of the property and a special use permit for the location. Final approval is expected in two weeks.

The ambulatory care center would provide walk-in clinic services, laboratory and x-ray services and would handle company physicals and industrial accidents. The building will include space for some doctors, offices, a pharmacy and class sessions, such as prenatal classes, basic cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and babysitter's training.

In addition, the hospital will continue its "Meals on Wheels" program for Wheeling residents who are temporarily unable to prepare their own.

The village has asked the hospital to widen Strong by about four feet from Milwaukee avenue to the first driveway east of the site. Robert DiLeonardi, the hospital attorney, attempted to get the village to participate in the cost of the widening, but the officials denied his request.

DiLeonardi said the cost of the widening is estimated as $15,000, but the hospital is trying to keep the cost of the project down to lower the costs of health care. He said unexpected additional costs, including unexpected soil conditions and unexpected construction requirements of the village have added about $200,000 to the total cost of the project.

Community Development Director Larry Oppenheimer said two different contractors he had consulted estimated the cost of the widening at between $4,000 and $7,500, depending upon whether the paving of the parking lot was included in the arrangements. "It would be more for the widening alone," he told the board.

Oppenheimer said the village will remove the existing curbs and gutters and put in new ones after the street is widened. He said the widening itself should not run as high as the hospital's estimate.

The village staff told the board the street would not be widened without the ambulatory care facility being built there.

Defer request of funds for high school chorus

WHEELING — The village board decided Monday, July 21, to defer a request for funds for the Wheeling high school choral league.

The league had requested a contribution of $4,000 from the village to help send the 16-member "Madrigal Singers" group to London, England in the spring of 1981. According to league president Medora Deason, it is expected to cost about $1,000 per student. "With the scholarship program the choral league sponsors each year, plus this pending trip, we are aiming to raise $20,000 for the 1980-81 year," she said.

Although the village staff had recommended the request be denied, the board asked choir director Frank Dobler to have the students proceed with their fund-raising first and return to the board with any possible request later.

"In the past, the board has assisted other groups," Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld noted. He recommended the postponement.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT William Hein told Dobler, "The village will cooperate with any fund-raisers you have. Come back at a later time."

Trustee Sheila Schultz asked that the board formulate a policy concerning donations in the interim. "It's very hard to give to one (group) and not the other," she said.

Explaining his recommendation to deny the request, Tom Markus, village manager, said, "I cannot in good conscience recommend such an expenditure because I do not believe it is an appropriate municipal function. I personally believe that if the students are successful in raising the funds without a $4,000 contribution from the village that they will take much greater pride in their accomplishment."

IN OTHER ACTION, the board:

• Approved a special use permit that will allow a second parking lot for the U.S. Post Office to be built on land just west of its present building at 250 Dundee road.

The site had been zoned for residential use. It will be leased by postal officials from owner Amelio Fragassi. The lot, which will provide at least 24 more parking spaces for patrons plus additional employe parking, is expected to relieve congestion along Dundee road.

• Accepted and approved an agreement with Wheeling fire department employes concerning wages, call-back pay, training compensation and the uniform allowance. (See related story.)

• Received a resolution from the village of Long Grove objecting to a proposed agreement between the Metropolitan Sanitary District and the village of Wheeling to serve Lake county property owned by the Johnson family.

Wheeling plans to annex the 203-acre parcel north of Lake-Cook road and west of Milwaukee avenue. Buffalo Grove holds the sewer rights in that area of Lake county.

LIFE 7-24-80

No-ah go

Board turns down shopping center

By ELAINE LAMPERT
Correspondent

WHEELING — Plans for a "neighborhood" shopping center at the southeast corner of Elmhurst and Old McHenry roads were turned down Monday, July 21, by the village board, primarily because of potential flooding problems.

Developer E.J. Sadin had proposed building a 26-store center known as The Point shopping center on the eight-acre triangular site. The southern boundary of the property is Buffalo Creek.

The trustees voted unanimously not to have an ordinance concerning the center drawn up by the village attorney, but instead, to have the village staff prepare a resolution listing the reasons for the denial of approval.

Several of the trustees mentioned that the property is located in an area where the village has problems each time it rains. "I'm very reluctant to see that (land) developed from a flood standpoint," said Trustee Sheila Schultz. "I look at that site as unique in the village and, with its long history of flooding, I feel it should not be developed. She added that if any site in Wheeling should be left untouched, it is that one.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT director Larry Oppenheimer explained that the plan called for the parking lot to be used as a detention area for rainwater. According to him, the waters would eventually discharge into the creek over a several-hour period of time. He also said the buildings would be built north of the floodway limit line.

In answer to a question from Trustee Roger Powers, Oppenheimer said the homes on Valley Stream would not be affected if the center was built. Homes in that area have had chronic flooding problems.

Trustee John Cole objected to the idea that the shopping center would not add to flooding problems in the village. "Every time I hear that, I cringe. You're paving over ground that would have absorbed it (rainwater)."

Cole said builders and engineers constantly ignore the fact that the ground will absorb some of the water, but once it's paved, the water has no place to go. "It's still going to get dumped in the creek. I have seen that creek rise 10 inches in three hours," Cole added. "We've got to realize we cannot continue to pave over the ground," he said.

"Well, you'll have to stop all construction, then," Oppenheimer responded.

ANOTHER OBJECTION to the small center included the fact that the state would not require curbs and gutters to be installed along both roadways. Village Manager Tom Markus said he could only reluctantly recommend the development be approved because, "I believe it's advantageous to have this curb and gutter along there."

Markus said such improvements would give the center a "more finished" look, as well as being "proper street design." But, he said, the developer was unwilling to install them because of the cost involved and the state "convinced me it shouldn't be done at this time because it should be part of an overall system."

A third possible problem with the center was limited access to the shops themselves. The trustees were concerned both about the servicing of stores for delivery of goods and ingress and egress for drivers to and from the parking lot.

Fire department set, police should be soon

WHEELING—With the fire department now in the fold, Wheeling officials are hoping to settle with the police department very soon.

According to officials, the village board should receive at its next regular meeting, a proposal for police salaries.

At its meeting on Monday, July 21, the village board approved the settlement with the fire department.

IT INCLUDES:

• A 9% increase for all steps except step one. Step one was increased 5%. That means a starting salary for a paramedic is $17,083 for the year starting in May 1, 1980 That will rise to $18,279 starting May 1, 1981. Firefighters will start at $15,862 for the year which started on May 1, 1980. That figure will rise to $17,131 on May 1, 1981. Second year raises in the contract at 8%.

• Call back pay at $10 an hour. After one hour it will be payable in 15 minute increments.

Straight time will be paid required schools as opposed to 1½ time pay. The department will now make every effort to keep required schools in the normal work week.

Monday night paid-on-call drills will not be required for off-duty full-time personnel.

Effective Sept. 1, 1981, a new dress code will be in effect with clothing allowance set at $225 a year.

Aside from the wage scale and clothing allowance, all other provisions went into effect on July 1, 1980.

Water ban may be lifted

WHEELING—Residents may once again be able to water the grass, plants, each other or even wash the car.

It's possible that the ban on non-essential use of water will be lifted sometime soon.

According to village officials, the shallow well at Center and Milwaukee avenue is back in service and repairs on well number three at Manchester and Sunset are expected to be finished and the well back on line by July 28.

Officials say with favorable results, the ban could be lifted by the end of the month.

Officials are also hoping that a new well, well number seven, will be completed and in operation soon. That well also has a million-gallon reservoir.

Until the ban is officially lifted, however, non-essential use of watering

7-25-80 Herald

Pipeline choice stumps Arlington

by Mary Poker
Herald staff writer

Less than two weeks before they must commit themselves to a route for obtaining Lake Michgan water, Arlington Heights trustees still are divided on whether the best pipeline route is to Chicago or Evanston.

A committee of trustees studying the water issue has tied 2-2 on a vote to drop out of the Venture group that wants to build a pipeline to Chicago. Another vote, to urge Venture to build pipelines to both Chicago and Evanston, also deadlocked at 2-2.

Trustees supporting a pipeline to Chicago contend that route is cheapest, while those supporting an Evanston route say the same about that pipeline.

"It appears it's going to cost the citizens of Arlington Heights far more to buy water from Evanston," said Trustee Pauline Buss, a proponent of efforts to build a Chicago pipeline with six other suburbs.

IF ONLY the three towns now informally committed to the Evanston pipeline — Palatine, Wheeling and Arlington Heights — go ahead with the project, the village will bear about 50 percent of the estimated $81.5 million cost, Mrs. Buss said.

She said she believes the village would pay only about 20 percent of the cost of an estimated $98 million pipeline to Chicago that would serve Mount Prospect, Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates, Elk Grove Village, Rolling Meadows and Buffalo Grove.

However, Trustee Frank Palmatier, one of five members of the nine-member village board that prefers the Evanston route, said he believes the total cost of buying and transporting water to the village will be about the same whether it's from Chicago or Evanston.

The advantages of the Evanston pipeline, Palmatier said, are that the cost of the water itself will be cheaper, that Evanston offers a 40-year contract, that Evanston will agree to arbitrate any pricing disputes and that it does not need to increase its pumping capacity.

IN ADDITION, PALMATIER said there is what he called the "greater stability of the Evanston situation" in politics as well as its triple A bond rating, the highest available.

"It's time to make a choice and go charging off into the sunset, so to speak," he said. Accurate costs can only be determined by "moving there and getting there," and the faster, the cheaper.

Yet another alternative is advanced by Trustee Madeline Schroeder, who wants the Venture group to build a two-source pipeline, with water coming from both Chicago and Evanston.

This is the best method, Mrs. Schroeder said, because it ensures that there will be enough water in the future as demand grows.

VENTURE STUDIES show the group can build a dual-source pipeline for about $118 million. If the suburbs go ahead with plans for two pipelines, they will in effect be providing a dual source, but at a cost of about $177 million, she said.

EYE FLOODING OPTIONS

BY VIRGINIA SUTTON

Area gets acute drainage from area west of Buffalo Grove Road.

--Jackson Drive and Schoenbeck Road. Similar problems, but homes not threatened.

--University Court. Suffers severe problems, sewer design is inadequate for all but minor storms.

--University Court area. Problems related to University Court.

--Lakeside Drive. Area floods on a regular basis, often as deep as 18 inches in the street.

--Lakeside area. Primarily backyard flooding problems.

--Lakeview and Hunter Drives. Area floods regularly.

While most of the area is in Wheeling, some is in Buffalo Grove.

VILLAGE officials had asked the consultant firm to design solutions that would offer protection for a 100-year frequency storm.

Alternatives presented by Mackie included: construct a culvert in Jackson Drive; construction of a detention basin on property already located in flood area; increase the number of culverts and inlets at Cambridge and University Drives; elimination of pumping station; modifications of Mallard Lake; new outfall sewer; limit Arlington Hts. outfall.

Total estimated cost of these alternatives is $563,000.

WHEELING'S Financial Director Greg Peters listed possible methods of funding: an outside source, such as thru the state or federal government; special assessment of property owners; special taxing district; general obligation bonds; combination of several methods.

Calling the storm management problems "very complicated," Mackie indicated that an agreement made between Wheeling and Arlington Hts. in the late 1960's to permit discharge flow into Wheeling's sewer systems is a problem, but indicated the project could continue.

"Tell Arlington Hts. that you have a problem and try to work it out. The project could be done, but it would be more expensive," explained Mackie.

7-30-80 Topics

Des Plaines 60018 PERMIT NO

7-30-80 Topics

Wheeling Water Problems May Be Lessening

Water problems in the Village of Wheeling may be abating somewhat as a result of the sprinkling ban and the completion of a new well.

Last month, the village imposed a stringent ban on all non-essential water uses. Residents were told not to water lawns, fill swimming pools or wash vehicles due to critical demands on the village's water systems. The ban is still in effect.

At the time the ban was announced, 2 of 6 wells were out of service and the remaining 4 were operating 22 hours per day to meet water demands. When the ban was instituted, some water recovery was observed by village officials. Water storage was restored and wells were able to close down for longer periods of time.

SINCE THE ban was announced, a new shallow well at Center Street and Milwaukee Avenue was completed and put into operation to assist the eastern portions of Wheeling. Well No. 3, Manchester and Sunset is still being repaired and is expected to begin functioning sometime this week.

In addition, new deep well No. 7 and the one-million gallon reservoir on Hintz Road are expected to be completed and in operation in early August. While the well is finished, some electrical work needs to be done in order to place reservoir pumps in operation. The well is now in the process of being tested.

The Village recently received a variance from the Illinois Pollution Control Board and will be permitted to use deep wells until 1983. At that time, the wells must meet radioactivity standards.

WHEELING continues to seek water from additional sources by pursuing Lake Michigan allocations. The village also has joined DAMP, a group of communities seeking to build a pipeline for lake water thru Evanston.

Deep well No. one, still under construction, probably will not be completed until next year.

Other maintenance programs will resume following current well repairs and the completion of the new well and reservoir. Maintenance programs planned included tower painting and implementation of a hydrant flushing program.

Action on firm to begin

7-31-80 Life

By STAN ZOLLER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Legal action is expected to begin this week possibly to determine the fate of the Buffalo Grove Disposal company. The action is being instigated by Lexington Development corporation, developers of Lexington Commons condominiums in Wheeling.

What is unclear, however, is why Lexington is getting involved in the matter.

William Maybrook, vice president for marketing and sales refused to comment on the court action against Buffalo Grove Disposal, saying only that it is going to court.

Several sources, however, seem to feel the suit has something to do with the location of Buffalo Grove Disposal in relation to several housing units at Lexington Commons.

According to one village official, representatives from Lexington Development Corporation complained about the disposal area when "units were almost completed." The corporation contended, the official says, that they would not be able to market the housing units that overlooked the garbage area.

Meanwhile, officials of Buffalo Grove Disposal, who declined to be identified, said they have every intention of staying at their site on Route 83. "We have not been in violation of any village ordinances," one spokesman said, "and this is part of our operation."

THE DISPOSAL COMPANY maintains Lexington has no right to complain because, they say, "We were here first."

Ironically , the disposal firm has moved its administrative operations from the Wheeling site while the Old McHenry road location, which has limited dumping and compacting, continues to operate.

"We reviewed the situation," says one village official, "And the only problem we found was the parking of some vehicles on an unpaved lot."

The official added that the company has been there "for years" and that owner Jim Raupp has been "very cooperative" and has cleaned up the area considerably.

Adding a little fuel to the fire are complaints from some residents in the area. They were allegedly told that trees would be planted to conceal the disposal area, but so far none have. There is a stockade fence around the disposal area at the present time, but residents would like Lexington Corporation to install something more aesthetic around the area.

While residents complain and Lexington Corporation instigates legal action, Buffalo Grove Disposal may very well be giving up on the whole thing.

A sign advertising four acres of property zoned commercial as being for sale has recently appeared at the disposal site. While there is no real estate company listed, the phone number on the sign for more information is listed to the Buffalo Grove Disposal company.

JIM RAUPP, president of the disposal company was unavailable for comment, having been out of town. An employe of the company was unsure when Raupp was due back from town, but indicated it should be some time this week.

It is not known whether the land for sale includes the disposal property or if it is four acres adjoining the site.

Wheeling plans roads, business for downtown

7-31-80 Herald

Wheeling officials Wednesday night unveiled their latest plans for new roads and more commercial development in the downtown area, but several residents complained the proposal would cause major traffic tie-ups.

The plans, presented to about 25 residents, include a $4.5 million walk-in clinic to be built by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, at the southwest corner of Milwaukee and Strong avenues. Immediately south of the clinic, fronting Milwaukee Avenue, will be a seven-story building containing 100 federally subsidized for senior citizens.

The village also plans to buy about two of the 11 acres owned by developers Lambert Domas and Thomas Popke for a senior citizens' center. That building would be constructed immediately west of the senior housing and would be paid for by a federal grant.

The new road plans call for the southward extension of First Street, which would bend to the east meeting Milwaukee Avenue. That road would provide access to senior housing, the center and the clinic. A second road would be extended to the south, meeting Dundee Road.

THE 10 ACRES that would be bounded by the second new road, Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road are earmarked for commercial development including a restaurant or theater and other stores.

However, some residents said all the new buildings would create traffic congestion, which already is bad.

The new roads, said Pat Gurley, 182 E. Strong Ave., "are going to create one big bottlekneck and it's the residents of Strong Avenue who are going to be inconvenienced."

Another resident, Pete Belpulsi, 268 E. Dundee Rd., questioned the wisdom of building a new road that would allow more traffic to empty onto Dundee Road, the village's most heavily traveled thoroughfare.

"When I go out in the morning, I can't even get across the street," he said.

HOWEVER, VILLAGE MGR. Thomas Markus defended the plan, saying the interior roads leading to the new development would take some of the traffic off the major roads.

But Village Pres. William Hein questioned whether a developer would want to build on Milwaukee Avenue when the entrance would be someplace else.

Villages to repay Prospect taxes

7-31-80 Herald

by Pamela Bailey Akers
Herald staff writer

The villages of Wheeling and Arlington Heights have collected $83,000 in sales taxes that should have gone to Prospect Heights, state officials say, and the two towns are being asked to return the money.

After Prospect Heights complained of plummeting sales tax revenues late last year, officials discovered that five of the city's businesses had mistakenly reported their sales figures to the wrong town. As a result, Wheeling received $61,000 in sales taxes that should have gone to Prospect Heights and Arlington Heights was similarly overpaid by $22,000, the Illinois Dept. of Revenue says.

The Dept. of Revenue proposes to deduct $5,000 from Wheeling's share of sales tax revenues every month for the next year. The sales tax allocation for Arlington Heights will be reduced $4,000 for the next six months.

Officials from both Wheeling and Arlington Heights said Wednesday they would not contest the state's conclusion that they were overpaid and will cooperate with the repayment program.

"WE HAVE NO problem with it," said L.A. Hanson, village manager of Arlington Heights. "We agree that they have proven that a mistake was made. It's not that large of a sum."

But for Prospect Heights, the repayment of the lost money will be a big relief.

"We barely broke even last year as far as revenues and expenditures go," said City Administrator Stephen Sturgell. "That's money we're entitled to and we're attempting to build a public works complex and buy land for a city hall. Like everyone else, we're just trying to get the money that's due us."

The city, incorporated in 1976, relies solely on sales taxes and licensing fees for its income. The city does not levy a property tax.

City officials first began suspecting something was wrong in late December. The city expected to receive a minimum of $320,000 in sales taxes during the 1979-80 fiscal year and only $280,000 came in. After discovering that it had not received taxes from some of its businesses, the city called in the state.

MOST OF the businesses involved have mailing addresses in Wheeling or Arlington Heights, said Sturgell, including Pal-Waukee Airport, a service station, a catering agency and a bowling shop. The different address may have caused the mix-up, Sturgell said, but he added that sales taxes from at least two of the businesses — Pal-Waukee Airport and the service station — had been received by the city in the past.

Two other service stations in Prospect Heights also were found to have been paying taxes to the wrong town, but officials have not determined yet how much is involved and where the money has been going, Sturgell said

7-31-80 Life

No more flooded homes, consultant says

By HELEN KARAKOUDAS
Correspondent

WHEELING — For an estimated $563,000, Wheeling residents can rid themselves of the nightmare of flooded basements and swamped roadways every time a severe thunderstorm hits.

This was the figure quoted by John Mackie, a public engineering consultant, to residents whose property often floods and to the village board of trustees Monday evening, July 28. Mackie, whose firm began working on a storm water management plan for Wheeling in November, outlined possible solutions to the village's chronic flooding problem at a public information hearing prior to the board's scheduled workshop session.

The area troubled by frequent flooding is the recently-developed land bounded by Dundee road on the north, Hintz on the south, Buffalo Grove road on the west and Schoenbeck on the east. This parcel includes the Tahoe Village and Lakeside Villas condominium communities, in addition to an unincorporated area of Cook county along Jackson drive.

THE PLAN favored by Mackie's firm centers upon the construction of a water detention facility that would compensate for deficiencies in the present drainage system. A relief sewer system would be introduced, creating additional intake channels and improving existing inlets and catch basins.

Mackie said his firm was instructed by the village to address the problem with regard to providing protection adequate enough to handle a "100-year frequency storm." That is to say, a storm, the magnitude of which, strikes once a century.

The half-million dollar price tag on Mackie's package, however, does not take into account the cost of acquiring eight acres of land on which he has suggested the detention facility be built.

GREG PETERS, Wheeling's finance director, detailed three methods by which such a project, should it have board and citizen approval, could be funded.

The first is by special assessments. This would be based on a cost/benefit analysis of the project to both the public and private sectors. The special assessments method would proceed through a public hearing format and would entail optional paybacks.

The second method would create a special taxing district. Costs would be distributed based upon assessed property valuation; payments would be included on tax bills.

A general obligation issue is the third possible financing method of such a project. This would ignore any cost /benefit analysis and would rely on the full faith and credit of the village.

IT IS ALSO conceivable, Peters added, that a combination of all three financing methods would be worked out.

However, among the approximately 50 residents present at the information meeting, the consensus was that the village should absorb all cost for a problem they claim is the aftermath of the negligence of previous administrations.

Robert Kafka, a public engineer who spoke as a Tahoe Village resident, pointed out that had the village government scrutinized the plans of the developers to begin with, the problem of undersized water basins could have been averted.

According to Kafka, the area in question is not on a "natural" flood plain. "We are living in a 'man-made' flood plain created by the ineptness of other administrations," he said.

The current proceedings toward alleviating the problem were triggered just over a year ago when Hoffman Builders submitted plans for the Malibu development, an extension of Tahoe Village at a higher elevation. At that time, residents victimized by regular flooding brought their complaints to the Wheeling trustees. It was then noted that the existing sewer system had been underdesigned.

Since any storm water management plan for Wheeling would also have an impact on the neighboring municipalities of Buffalo Grove and Arlington Heights, Wheeling officials will try to meet with these village staffs before they authorize their consulting firm to proceed with any other plans, Village Manager Thomas Markus said.



IS THIS WHAT residents of Lexington Commons are complaining about? It must be. The developers of the complex, Lexington corporation are entering a suit against the Buffalo Grove Disposal company to try and make the area more attractive. Residents also contend that garbage truck tops are often visible from their units which they say, were purchased with the understanding that trees would be planted to make the fence and disposal area more aesthetic. (Photo by Peggy Pollard)

8-2-80 - Herald

Police, village agree on 2-year pay plan

Wheeling's 31 patrol officers and village officials have agreed on a two-year pay plan that gives police officers 9 percent raises this year and next.

The raises apply retroactively to May 1 and set the starting pay of a Wheeling police officer at $17,734. The top pay scale for a patrol officer is $23,026. Next year the pay range will be from $18,621 to $25,098.

The settlement, which was reached with the help of a federal mediator, is almost identical to the two-year pay plan agreement reached with the village's 34 firefighters. In April, the village board approved pay raises for other village hall workers, including officers, which ranged from 8 to 12 percent.

The starting salary for a patrol officer was increased only 5 percent, however. "Our entry level pay is higher than other towns," said Village Mgr. Thomas Markus. "We wanted to start working that down."

MARKUS DESCRIBED the two-year pay plan as beneficial to both sides because the police officers have guaranteed themselves as raise even if inflation levels off or if wage and price controls are mandated by the federal government. The village, on the other hand, will not have to deal with huge salary demands next year in the event inflation continues to spiral.

"We spend a lot of time in negotiation, so we've got it out of the way for next year," Markus said.

The village board is scheduled to approve the pay plan Monday night.

With the bulk of village employees salaries now set, Markus said he will soon determine what kind of raises department heads will receive.

The week ahead

8-4-80 Herald

Final OK expected for hospital clinic

A walk-in emergency clinic to be built by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, is expected to be given final approval tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

Pending village board approval, hospital officials say they plan to begin immediately the construction of the $4.5 million facility, at Strong and Milwaukee avenues. The clinic, which is expected to treat patients with less serious injuries as well as provide pre-hospitalization testing, is expected to open next spring.

Board members will consider the clinic plans at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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WHEELING TRUSTEES are slated to approve a two-year pay plan, calling for a 9 percent raise for the village's 31 patrol officers.

The agreement is similar to one reached last month with village firefighters, who received 8 percent pay raises. As with firefighters, the starting pay is being increased 5 percent to make the police officers' salaries comparable to those in other suburbs.

According to the new pay plan, which takes effect retroactively to May 1, a starting police officer will make $17,734. A patrol officer with more than 12 years experience will earn $23,026. In 1981, the pay range for police officers will be $18,621 to $25,098.

The board will consider the pay plan at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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VILLAGE BOARD members tonight are expected to form a special committee to determine what firm the village eventually will hire to install a cable television system.

Village Mgr. Thomas Markus has recommended the formation of the committee to review the findings of the consultant hired by the Northwest Municipal Conference and consider whether village residents want cable TV.

The board meets at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

8-5-80 Herald

Wheeling trustees give OK for medical clinic

A $4.5 million emergency clinic, to be built at Milwaukee and Strong avenues in Wheeling was given final approval Monday night by that town's village board.

Similar to a walk-in clinic that opened last week in Buffalo Grove, the Wheeling clinic, is being built by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines.

Hospital officials plan to being construction next month, with the completion date slated for next spring. Designed to treat emergency patients with less serious injuries such as broken bones, the clinic will also offer pre-hospitalization testing.

The clinic is part of Wheeling's plan to revitalize the downtown area. Other development plans include housing for the elderly, a center for senior citizens, condominiums, new roads and more commercial development — all to be built in the 25 acres bounded by Strong and Milwaukee avenues and Dundee Road.

The village plans to negotiate with the developers of a proposed 114-unit condominium complex for two acres upon which the senior center would be built with a $760,000 federal grant. The elderly housing, 100 rent assisted apartments to be housed in a seven-story building, is being built by the Cook County Housing Authority.

Although no developers have presented any plans, village officials say they will use special tax incentives to encourage builders to create a commercial complex that would include a restaurant or theater and other stores.

8-6-80 TOPICS

Hein Tags Bracke To Head Drive

Wheeling's Village President William Hein, has appointed Police Chief Theodore C. Bracke to head volunteer recruitment for the 1980 "Illinois Smiles For Little City" drive, to be held on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 8 and 9.

Little City, Palatine, a residential treatment center for mentally retarded and blind-retarded children, needs 3,000 volunteers for the areawide drive.

If you can volunteer one or more hours of your time, please call Police Chief Bracke at 459-2635.

8-7-80 LIFE

Board approves bonds for pump company

WHEELING—The Wheeling Village Board at its meeting on Monday, Aug. 4, approved a $600,000 industrial development revenue bond to Bran & Lubbe, Inc., an international company specializing in metering and proportioning pumps.

The company, according to President Rod Asbrey, has 60,000-square-feet it plans to develop in the Northgate Industrial Center.

Asbrey says the company plans to initally develop 12,000- square feet on the site with later plans for developing of another 25,000. The company is currently based in Des Plaines with a limited assembly and some light manufacturing. The new facility in Wheeling would have more manufacturing and assembly.

The need for the building, says Asbrey, is because of growth by the company in the United States.

According to Village Attorney David Epstein, the approval of the bonds for Brann & Lubbe is the "fifth or sixth" such approval in the last few years.

He added that there have been a lot of inquiries recently.

8-7-80 LIFE

Meadow talk postponed

WHEELING — Discussion concerning the surveying and dedication of Meadow lane, originally on the agenda for the village board workshop session on Monday, July 28, has been postponed due to the absence of Meadow lane residents from the meeting.

Meadow lane, a private gravel road, is located on property annexed by the village of Wheeling in March. The property surrounded entirely by Wheeling, is west of Wolf and south of Lake-Cook.

Village Manager Thomas Markus has advised against dedication, citing economic reasons. However, Larry Oppenheimer, director of community development for Wheeling, has an agreement, signed by the individual property owners on Meadow lane, requesting the village to pursue right-of-way proceedings.

8-7-80 LIFE

Village lifts ban on water use

THE TOTAL BAN on non-essential use of water was lifted by the village of Wheeling on Tuesday, Aug. 5.

Water restrictions do, however, remain in effect until Sept. 30. Those restrictions prohibit non-essential uses of water between 2 and 8 p.m.

Water usage during non-restrictive hours will be governed by a person's address. Persons having an odd-numbered address can water on odd calendar days while persons with even-numbered addresses can water on even calendar days.

Non-essential usses of water, according to village officials, include, but are not limited to, watering of lawns, shrubbery, washing cars and filling swimming pools.

At Holy Family

8-7-80 LIFE

OK ambulatory clinic

WHEELING—The Wheeling Village Board has given final approval to the $1.5 million ambulatory health care clinic to be built by Holy Family Hospital.

The board approved three ordinances that cleared the way for the clinic, which will be located Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street.

Taking the action at its regular meeting on Monday, Aug. 4, the board rezoned the property from R-3 to B-4 and B-5 and also granted a special use variance for the site for an ambulatory and emergency health care facility.

A third variation was from the village's title 19 and dealt with yard setback requirements.

Hospital attorney Robert DiLeonardi requested a waiver from the requirement of a berm along the eastern part of the hospital's clinic site. That area borders on Milwaukee Avenue and a berm was requested by the village to provide a buffer for four homes along Milwaukee Avenue.

DiLeonardi said, however, that the hospital has acquired three of the four homes and that a berm only 50-feet long and 4-feet high probably is not needed. He told the trustees that landscaping will be harmonious with the rest of the site.

Groundbreaking for the clinic is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 7.

LIFE 8-7-80

Committee to look at cable

WHEELING—Will cable television come to Wheeling? Do Wheeling residents want cable television? To hopefuly find out these answers, the Wheeling Village Board has formed an ad-hoc committee to examine the feasability of cable television in the village.

The three major issues the committee will be examining are:

- Do the citizens of Wheeling desire cable television?
- Will Wheeling be better off entering into a separate franchise for the community or participate in a regional or sub-regional cable television system franchise?
- What cable television company can best serve the needs of the village?

Village President William Hein appointed Trustees Roger Powers, John Cole and Sheila Schultz to the committee that will work with the village staff in examining cable television for the village. Greg Peters, director of finance for the village, will be the staff liaison to the committee.

X

8-7-80 LIFE

'Best' site for center is on Domas land

By DARCY GANS
Correspondent

WHEELING — Preliminary plans for the new senior citizens' center, housing for the elderly and the revitalization of the Wheeling business district were unveiled at a July 30 public hearing.

Representatives from the Village Board and more than 30 area residents reviewed a set of drawings with representatives from Harland Bartholomew & Assoc., the Northbrook-based consulting firm which recently completed feasibility studies for the three projects.

Bob Hamilton, a civil engineer with the Harland Bartholomew firm, and Gary Herbert, a landscape architect, explained that the new developments will all be located in an area bordered by Milwaukee avenue on the east, Wolf road on the west, Dundee road on the south and Strong street on the north.

HERBERT SAID that a study of 17 possible sites had concluded that the optimum site for the new senior center was a 2.8-acre tract of land on the Domas and Popke property. "We believe that this recreational facility should be located in a campus-like atmosphere which is located near public transportation, shopping, medical offices and churches and synagogue," he stated. "A 60-unit apartment building has been proposed for the land adjacent to the senior center."

Herbert added that both of these facilities will be within walking distance to an ambulatory care clinic Holy Family Hospital plans to build near the intersection of Milwaukee and Strong, as well as the downtown shopping district.

Tentative plans for the commercial area include the construction of a restaurant-theater complex. However, Herbert explained that the village has not received any proposals from developers with specific ideas for a revitalized downtown Wheeling.

VILLAGE MANAGER Tom Markus added that a marketing effort will also be necessary to encourage merchants to open stores in the new business district.

While many local residents attending the public hearing were senior citizens enthusiastic about plans for the new center, some villagers living near the proposed complex expressed their concern for traffic safety in the area.

Dave Arnold told the urban planners that rush-hour traffic jams are everyday occurrences in the vicinity of Milwaukee and Dundee roads and expressed his concern that additional construction in the area would worsen an already precarious situation. "I think that a traffic study is advisable before any further action is taken," he stated. "I am afraid that the current plans will have an adverse effect on the surrounding residential area."

JULIE WOODS said she feels senior citizens walking from the recreational center to the shopping district would have to cross too many busy streets and parking lots during their trip. "It is essential that the final plans include a safe walkway our senior citizens can use. Otherwise, their trip will be too precarious," she explained.

Another Wheeling resident suggested construction of a park adjacent to the senior center. "I think that the village should offer to purchase the homes of residents who do not want to live near the re-developed area. If people want to stay that is their choice, but traffic is so congested now I can't imagine what it will be like in the future."

Village Trustee Hugh Sommerfeld attempted to ease the fears of some of the protesters at the meeting by saying that numerous public hearings will be scheduled before final plans are approved. "For the first time in the history of Wheeling, we are going to carefully plan for the redevelopment of an entire area," he said. "We want the input of Wheeling residents on all of these matters."

Village President William Hein added that approximately two more years will be spent planning for the new project. A targeted completion date for the redevelopment has not been set.

X

Police settle

Board agrees to 9% hike in salaries

By STAN ZOLLER
Staff Writer

WHEELING—The Village Board approved a 9 percent increase in pay for members of the Wheeling Police Department at a meeting Monday Aug. 4.

The settlement, worked out with the assistance of a federal mediator, gives all steps of the police department's salary schedule, a 9 percent increase during the first year, effective May 1, 1980.

That means that the first step base salary is $17,734 with the highest step now at $23,026.

The agreement also calls for a 5 percent increase for step one effective May 1, 1981 and a 9 percent increase for the remaining four. That means that step one will increase to $18,621 while the top step will move to $25,098.

The new contract also calls for a holiday buyback system.

THE NEW agreement lets officers carry at least 16 hours, but not more than 40 hours of holiday pay per year. According to Village Manager Thomas Markus, officers who currently have more than 16 hours of holiday pay being held, will receive that money so they are back to the 16-hour level. At the end of a year, the village will buy back any hours over 40 so an individual officer does not exceed the limit.

It's estimated that if all of the department's officers had to drop back to the 16-hour level, the maximum cost to the village would be $18,136.

The cost of the agreement will move the current salary appropriation from $589,661 to a revised total of $643,921 for fiscal year 1980-81.

The new agreement with the department also provides a longevity benefit. Officers will now receive $400 per year after 12 years pf continuous service on the force.

ALTHOUGH THE agreement was approved by a 5-0 vote, Trustee John Cole questioned the buyback clause. He expressed concern that officers will be allowed to "carry over" holiday time. He said it is his experience that if an employee does not use his or her vacation time within a specified time, he or she loses it.

Markus explained that because of the difficulties in scheduling police officers, the payback system was a good alternative.

He added that it might make handling the department's payroll somewhat easier as well.

"In the past, when an officer left the force, if they had holiday time built up, they would get a rather large check and that would be a burden on us."

8-7-80 REMINDER

A 30-year history

Northwest pipeline: Long trek to water

By JOHN SLANIA
A News Analysis

The northwest suburbs are moving closer to their goal of aquiring water from Lake Michigan. But to many, public officials and concerned citizens alike, the long process of finding a pipeline has left them high and dry.

Between the countless hours of discussion, the stacks of reports and studies, the numerous hearings, and the endless pile of newspaper clips, it's easily realized that it's been a long trek to the watering hole.

With each passing year, the water table in the suburbs drops lower, and as the wells run dry, officials from each suburb become more motivated to get water from Lake Michigan. In short, much of the action to obtain lake water has taken place over the last few years, even though politicians knew of the problem 30 years ago.

As early as 1950, engineers from area suburbs were warning officials that groundwater levels were dropping about 10 feet per year. As a result, various suburbs began to investigate the problem.

In 1957, two water study groups were formed. One was the Tree Town Water Commission, involving the Western suburbs of Elmhurst, Glen Ellyn, Villa Park and Lombard. The other was the DAMP Water Commission, formed by the communities of Des Plaines, Arlington Heights, Mount Prospect, and Palatine.

Both groups commissioned engineering firms to do a study of possible alternatives to getting water from wells. Both groups agreed the easiest and the most cost-efficient way would be to go to Lake Michigan.

While DAMP was still considering a line of action, the Tree Town Water Commission moved ahead to finalize plans to build a crib and pumping station at a site on the lake.

While the Tree Town commission floated a bond issue, a lawsuit was filed in 1958 by six great lakes states, protesting the diversion of lake water by the State of Illinois.

Illinois countered by filing a suit in 1959 with the U.S. Supreme Court, asking for the right to withdraw lake water for domestic purposes. After years of deliberation, the Tree Town Water Commission folded, leaving DAMP to await a decision.

In 1966, Judge Albert B. Maris, special master of the U.S. Supreme Court, ruled in favor of Illinois' request, but placed a limit on the amount of water that could be drawn from the lake.

Maris said only 3,200 cubic feet of water per second could be removed from the lake, a figure derived from the amount of water it takes to reverse the flow of water from the Chicago River.

The decision left people scrambling to find ways to get more water out of the lake, while the Illinois Division of Waterways held hearings to decide allocations to each suburb.

(Continued on page 14)

8-7-80 Reminder

Water pipe history—

(Continued from page 6)

In the meantime, the SHARE Water Commission was formed by the suburbs of Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates, Arlington Heights, Rolling Meadows and Elk Grove Village.

By 1972, the Division of Waterways had made allocations to 45 municipalities, but the decision was challenged by the Metropolitan Sanitary District, who said it wasn't receiving its fair share.

The SHARE Water Commission had since broadened its membership to include Mount Prospect, Palatine and Buffalo Grove, and in 1976, it created a consortium called Venture.

The Illinois Department of Transportation took over the allocation process, and after a new series of hearings, made revised allotments of lake water in 1977.

Just when everyone thought the delays had ended, a new engineering report stated the system for measuring the amount of water flowing from the lake through the Chicago River was outdated.

It was discovered that the measurement was being taken at a filtration plant in suburban Lockport, more than 35 miles from the lake. Engineers contended that the true flow of water could be better measured closer to the source.

The new information was sent to back to the Supreme Court, which will soon decide whether it will allow the flow of water from the lake to be remeasured. In the meantime, IDOT is holding water allocation hearings in anticipation of a revised court decision.

Wheeling renews involvement with anti-drug police agency

Wheeling village trustees have decided to renew their contract with the Northeastern Metropolitan Enforcement Group, (NEMEG), in order to coordinate the enforcement of drug laws without regard to jurisdictional boundaries within Cook County.

NEMEG, a police agency comprising officers on temporary assignment from 35 area communities, was established in 1971. MEG officers investigate areawide drug activity.

Communities wishing to participate in NEMEG must contribute either manpower, cash or equipment. Wheeling has assigned one police officer who will work out of the agency's Elmhurst office.

In 1979 NEMEG, which is more concerned with prosecuting the dealers of hard drugs rather than its users, handled 591 cases, made 422 arrests and managed to attain a 91 per cent conviction rate involving the illegal trafficking of narcotics, NEMEG's director Robert Taylor said.

The agency also managed to stop $8,252,000 worth of illegal narcotics from reaching the street last year, Taylor said. That effort is also responsible for the decreasing use of heroin due to more stringent drug law enforcement by the Mexican and American governments., he said.

To compensate for the unavailability of heroin, the incidence of cocaine and PCP or "angel dust" use has increased recently.

"LSD is another drug making a comeback," Taylor said.

Wheeling village officials said they are renewing their membership in NEMEG because of their concern over, "the continued increase in trafficking of narcotics, controlled substances and dangerous drugs.

8-7-80 LIFE

Village works out deal on radiation in water

THE VILLAGE OF Wheeling has worked out a variance with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Division of Public Water Supplies in regards to the radiation levels in the village water supply.

The agreement was approved by the village board at its meeting on Monday, Aug. 4.

The agreement lists seven conditions the village has to abide by.

The conditions call for the village to follow the variance until Jan. 3, 1983, unless the village's request for Lake Michigan water is denied or if the village fails to enter into an "enforceable agreement" to join a reional water system. The village will also keep an ongoing watch on the radiation levels in the system and must continue its effort to pursue a Lake Michigan allocation.

The EPA has requested the village to keep it informed of the progress in gaining an allocation.

The most interesting condition listed by the EPA is that the village's new well, deep well No. 7, must be used only to provide back-up when any of the village's three other deep wells is not able to operate at full capacity.

Village Manager Thomas Markus said that condition applied only to the deep wells and not to the shallow wells. He told the board that most of the village's problems are with its deep wells.

The remaining conditions call for the village to investigate landfill sites that can handle radiation-bearing water- softening materials and that the village should, once every three months, notify its customers of the variance.

Village Attorney David Epstein said the variance is for three years, rather than the customary one, so the village would not have to reapply every year. The three-year variance, he said, is the reason for the lengthy list of conditions.

8-7-80 HERALD

Case not closed on cop purchase of garage door

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

A Wheeling police lieutenant has been reprimanded by Village Mgr. Thomas Markus for ordering an $1,000 automatic garage door opener for the police department without Markus' permission.

However, Markus said the matter is "not at all closed" because Lt. Ronald Nelson, whom Markus said initially admitted ordering the device to be installed, is now denying responsibility for the purchase.

Nelson could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

Markus said he wrote a letter of reprimand that has been placed in Nelson's personnel file. Technically, Markus added, he could file charges against Nelson with the village fire and police commission for violating village ordinances on proper purchasing procedures. No purchase order was signed for the garage door opener and the item was "delivered, installed and accepted" without Markus' OK, he said.

However, Markus added he would have approved the purchase, because the garage door opener, which allows radio operators in the police department to operate the garage doors by remote control, was scheduled to be a part of the new municipal complex addition, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

THE DISCIPLINARY letter given to Nelson was punishment enough, said Markus, adding, he did not see the need to pursue the matter further. "I think some of our procedures may have gotten a little lax while Carsten was here," he said.

Former Village Mgr. Carsten Leikvold, whom Markus replaced in May, drew considerable criticism from village board members for spending $177,000 in additions to the new municipal complex without first consulting the board.

Nelson, Markus said, "apparently doesn't want that letter in his personnel file" and is now blaming the salesman from the firm that sold the village the garage door opener for ordering the device installed without permission from the police department.

He added that he intends to question Nelson, Sgt. Jack Kimsey, who was ordered to accept delivery of the garage door opener, and Police Chief Ted Bracke about the purchase when Bracke returns from vacation next week.

MARKUS SAID he doesn't accept Nelson's argument about the firm that installed the device, Motorola Inc., Schaumburg. "A company doesn't just go ahead and put something in without somebody's permission," he said.

However, Trustee John Cole, who questioned the purchase when board members were approving the monthly payment of village bills, said the company should take a portion of the blame.

"I was upset for a couple of reasons," he said. "Not only were village procedures not followed, but any salesman who does business with a large company knows he needs a purchase order. It's not a big thing, but I would hope proper steps would be taken to ensure it doesn't happen again."

Camile Buzinski, the Motorola sales representative who handles the Wheeling area, could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

The week ahead 8-11-80 Herald

Personnel code revision proposed

A revised personnel code, calling for a tougher ethics law and more authority for Village Mgr. Thomas Markus, will be discussed tonight by the Wheeling Village Board.

The revised code would give Markus, who has been village manager since May, the power to hire and fire the police and fire chiefs and the village attorney. Under present village laws, the power to choose legal services in the village has resided with the village board.

Although Markus is empowered with hiring the police chief, the authority to fire him resides with the village fire and police commission. Trustees who have supported changes in the personnel code say putting those matters in the hands of the village manager is more consistent with the council-manager form of government approved by the voters more than a decade ago.

The more stringent ethics law would require all elected and appointed officials to disclose the land holdings and business ventures of their immediate families as well as themselves.

The proposed law differs from the current one in that the definition of "immediate" family has been broadened to include parents, brothers and sisters as well as spouses and children.

Also, officials would be required to disclose the name of any business in which they have more than 5 percent interest or serve as an officer or director. The current law requires disclosure only if the business is located within 10 miles of the village.

Violations of the ethics laws can result in fines or removal of officials from office.

The village board meets at 8 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Rd.

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CABLE TELEVISION consultants advising the Northwest suburbs will meet with local officials Wednesday to discuss possible regional cable TV systems.

The consultants, Martin Malarkey and Gary Hurvitz, of Washington D.C., were hired by the Northwest Municipal Conference to evaluate 14 cable companies applying for franchises to operate in the area.

Their report, which was released last month, strongly recommended that all 21 suburbs participating in the study choose the same cable company, a cooperative effort many local officials say is impossible.

The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Mount Prospect Holiday Inn, 200 E. Rand Rd.

Wheeling Trustees Study Cable TV

8-13-80 TOPICS

Three Wheeling trustees will study whether or not the village should get a cable television system.

Trustees Shelia Schultz, John Cole and Roger Powers are members of an ad-hoc committee and will authorize a residential survey to investigate whether a cable system is wanted. If warrented, the group will determine whether the village should enter into a regional or sub-regional cable system with other local communities.

Once the committee has completed the study, members will make recommendations to the entire village board. The board would then have to vote on the recommendations and decide whether or not to endorse cable television.

In Wheeling 8-13-80 TOPICS

APPROVE WALK-IN CLINIC

An ambulatory health care center and emergency clinic to be built at the corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street in Wheeling was granted final approval Monday, Aug. 4 by the village board.

Construction on the $4.5 million clinic is scheduled to begin next month with the completion date slated for next Spring.

THE CLINIC, to be built by Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines, is designed to treat some emergency cases and also serve as a medical center and offer pre-hospitalization testing.

The clinic, along with a proposed senior citizen center and housing for the elderly is part of Wheeling's plan to re-vitalize the downtown area. Additional commercial development, new roads and condominiums are all planned for the 25-acre area bounded by Dundee Road, Strong Street and Milwaukee Avenue.

While no developers have as yet submitted plans for commercial development, village officials reportedly plan to use special tax incentives to encourage commercial growth.

8-13-80 - HERALD

Manager seeks more hiring clout

by Jim Davis
Herald staff writer

Despite protests by police and fire officials, Wheeling Village Mgr. Thomas Markus wants to restrict the power of the village fire and police commission and give himself the authority to hire and fire all supervisory personnel.

Markus said the move will provide a "much more responsive department" if policemen are treated the same as other department heads. Under the proposed revision, Markus would hire and fire police sergeants and lieutenants as well as lieutenants and captains in the fire department. The authority to hire and fire patrolmen would remain with the fire and police commission.

The move apparently has the support of the majority of the village board, but it has unleashed a flood of protests, mainly from Police Chief Ted Bracke and other police and fire officers.

Although they say they have no complaint with Markus, the officers say giving one man that much power opens the department to the possibility of officers being fired on a whim or without a public hearing where the grievances against a police officer are aired.

Bracke argued that Markus is too busy with other matters and police officials are "better attuned" to whether a police officer is doing his job properly. He said he liked the idea of a "multi-grouped committee" making those decisions.

OTHER ARGUMENTS against restricting the power of the fire and police commission include the fact that an officer demoted just prior to his retirement could stand to lose considerable retirement benefits. Also, some argue that given the past instability of village government, there is no guarantee that Markus will be village manager for a long time, and the next manager could have heavy political connections, which could permit abuses of the "one-man authority," said Fire Capt. Ralph Perricone.

"It's nothing against Tom. I personally think he's a hell of a manager," he said. "But we've been in a position to watch village boards change and watch village managers come and go. Without a little protection, we're behind the eight-ball."

Markus was hired as village manager in May, becoming Wheeling's fourth village manager in the last five years.

He contends police promotions or firings can become political, no matter what system is used. "If they want to get somebody, they can still do it. It's still the politicians who appoint persons to the fire and police commission, isn't it?" He also argues that other village employees, like building inspectors, "make controversial decisions all the time. They don't have a right to a hearing if they're not doing their job."

Trustees who support Markus's proposal say he is responsible for administering the affairs of the village. Without that authority, they say, his hands are tied.

POLICE AND FIRE officials, said trustee John Cole, "theoretically are a member of the manager's staff. There are all kinds of laws that protect employees from spurious dismissal."

And because the police department is a "para-military organization" it should be under civilian control, Cole said.

Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld, who joined Cole and Trustee Sheila Schultz in supporting the change, said the present system is too unwieldy. "One of the problems with government is that it has too many layers to get things done. In my business, if someone isn't performing, you're out."

Trustee Charles Kerr said he would join the three trustees in supporting Markus's proposal if an officer received pension benefits for the highest rank he obtained during his career and if there was some type of review board established that would allow all employees fired by the manager an appeal route. Trustee Robert Ross said he "wasn't sold on the idea one way or the other," but agreed with Kerr that some type of review board should be established.

However, Trustee Roger Powers said to eliminate the "insulation" between the manager and police and fire officers was "not right. And I don't want that to happen."

Village revising ethics law, meeting agenda

Wheeling officials are revising the village's personnel and administrative code, calling for a tougher ethics law and changes in meeting procedures.

The changes include:

- Requiring all elected officials to disclose all land holdings of themselves and their immediate families. The definition of "immediate family" has been expanded to include parents, spouses and children.
- Citizen complaints and petitions, now normally handled at the beginning of village board meetings, will be placed at the end of the agenda. Persons who "have gone through the proper channels" to be placed on the agenda should have their business taken care of first, said Village Atty. David Epstein.
- Residents who want to address the board will be limited to five minutes, unless the board votes to extend that person's time.
- Abolition of permanent committees now chaired by trustees. In the future, board members will chair special committees that will be formed as specific issues arise.

The village board is expected to adopt the changes later this month.

Wheeling, Palatine Township Seniors Air Views At Forums

8-13-80 TOPICS

Residents in Wheeling and Palatine townships will get a chance to discuss problems concerning the aged in a series of senior citizen forums.

3 township officials would like to find out what issues concern area seniors thru the forums. Some of the information discovered will eventually be sent to the 1981 White House Conference on Aging.

The White House Conference, held once every 10 years, gathers information on senior citizens from across the nation.

PERSONS ATTENDING local forums will fill out questionnaires asking for topics of interest and concern. The questionaires will go thru the Northwest Suburban Coordination Council On Aging, government offices in the county and state and will eventually reach the White House.

The past 2 conferences have helped influence important legislation for senior citizens, including the Older Americans Act, increases in Social Security and the Medicare program.

Following is a schedule of upcoming area forums:

WHEELING TOWNSHIP

Aug. 13- Forum at the Americana Health Care Center, 715 W. Central Ave., Arlington Hts. at 11 a.m. For more information, call Marie Bruno at 392-2020.

Aug. 18- Forum at Arlington Hts. Memorial Library, 500 N. Dunton St. at 12:45 p.m. For more information, call Mary Jo Lynch at 253-5500.

Aug. 24- Forum at the Americana Health Care Center at 2 p.m.

PALATINE TOWNSHIP

Aug. 14- Forum sponsored by American Assoc. of Retired Persons (AARP), at the Palatine Library, Northwest Highway and Benton Street at 1 p.m.

Aug. 21- Forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters at the Palatine Presbyterian Church, Palatine and Rohlwing Roads at 1 p.m.

Aug. 28- Forum at the Palatine Twp. Senior Citizens Council, 123 N. Plum Grove Rd. at 1:30 p.m.

Wheeling Eases Sprinkling Ban

8-13-80 Topics

The Village of Wheeling lifted its total ban on non-essential water use last week.

However, lawn sprinkling and other non-essential water use is still prohibited, but only between the hours of 2 to 8 p.m.

In addition, during other hours of the day, residents with odd addresses can water lawns or wash cars on odd calendar days. Village residents with even addresses are permitted the same use on even calendar days.

Village officials expect the partial ban to remain in effect until Sept. 30. At that time, the situation will be reviewed to determine if more stringent conservation methods are required.

8 Towns In Venture Pipeline Group Set

Rolling Meadows and Buffalo Grove were among 8 communities and a private utility company that finally decided recently to build a pipeline for Lake Michigan water. They also decided not to permit any other new communities to join.

Northwest Suburban water Venture now is made up of Buffalo Grove, Rolling Meadows, Elk Grove Village, Hoffman Estates, Schaumburg, Mt. Prospect, Hanover Park, Streamwood and Citizens Utilities Co. of Illinois, which serves portions of Mt. Prospect and Prospect Hts.

The Venture group voted recently to go ahead with preliminary engineering work on the $98 million pipeline, now that it was finally clear on how many communities are involved.

Palatine and Arlington Hts. formally withdrew from Venture last week in order to pursue building a pipeline from Evanston with the DAMP organization.

8-14-80 REMINDER

Proposal controversial

Manager seeks power over police, fire officers

The power of Wheeling's Fire and Police Commission will be diminished if the recommendations proposed by Village Manager Tom Markus, are adopted by the village trustees.

Contained in the proposed revision of Title Two of the Wheeling's municipal code is the recommendation that the village manager should be soley responsible for the hiring, firing, promoting and demoting of any police officer who has reached the rank of sergeant and any fire officer whose rank is that of lieutenant.

Since the early 1950s this responsiblity has rested with the Fire and Police Commission, consisting of three men, one from each political party and one independent representative. All are appointed by the village president.

In the mid-1970s, the Village of Wheeling decided to go to a home-rule form of government, which would allow the village to impose taxes and adopt laws other than those specifically assigned to them by state statutes.

Also included in the home-rule referendum presented to Wheeling residents, was the recommendation that the Fire and Police Commission remain as it was.

Under the present system a police or fire official may appeal any disciplinary action taken against them to the Fire and Police Commission. Current members include Gerald Vasceky, Jack Metzger and Alan Carlson.

If the municipal code is changed, this right of appeal will no longer exist. It will be the village manager's sole decision whether or not to fire, hire, promote or demote any police sergeant up to the police chief, and any fire lieutenant up to the fire chief.

This was proposed, Markus said, to make village government more responsive, efficient and consistant with other village departments.

If an organization is encased in too many insulative layers than it becomes sluggish and will not respond properly, said Trustee Hubert Sommerfeld.

The issue which must be decided is whether or not the police and fire departments require special or different treatment due to the nature of their work, Trustee Shelia Schutz said.

Approximately 20 members of Wheeling's police and fire departments attended the village board's workshop committee meeting Monday. The discussion of the proposed changes in the munipical code was on its agenda.

Their opposition to the proposal included mistrust over whether one man, an outsider at that, should be given that much unchecked power over personnel.

"We don't want our futures resting in the hands of only one man, Lieut. Ronald Nelson said.

Another common complaint was over the issue of pensions. Presently a Wheeling police officer's pension depends on what position he held during his last year of police service. Under this proposal, a lieutenant, who has annually paid 7 1/2 per cent of his income into his pension fund, could conceivably be demoted to the rank of patrolman, without the right of appeal, and would therefore receive the smaller pension.

Fears were also voiced regarding possible backlash from the community because of the extreme visibility of policemen.

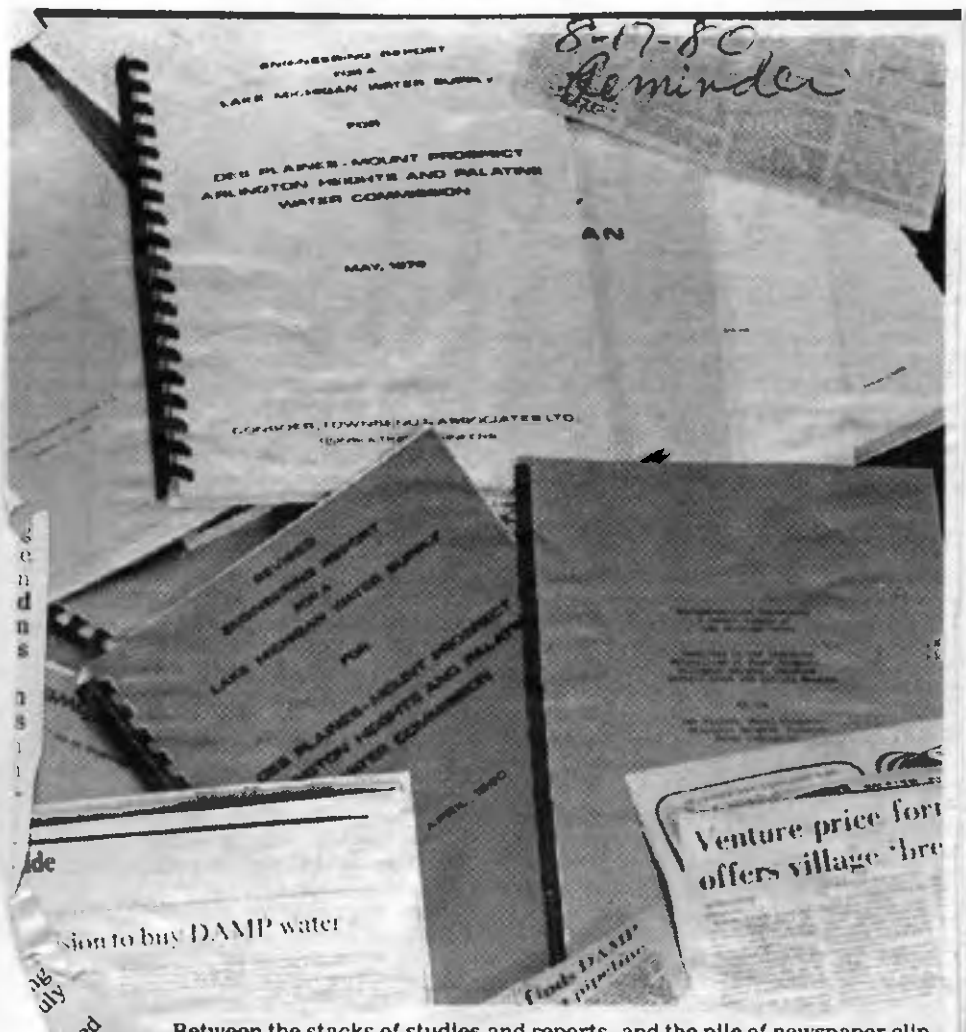
"If anyone is in trouble we are a hero, but more often our ticketing makes us extremely unpopular," said Nelson, who also added that complaints to the village manager could unjustly influence or bias promotion decisons.

Markus said that he would make his decisions with the help of department officials and would not be working in a vacuum.

This transfer of power is being done at all levels of the village government, Trustee Sheila Schultz said, who also added that it's part of the overall village design in which even village board members have relinquished some of their duties to the village manager.

But Police Chief T. Bracke was not convinced. "I joined this department 23 years ago because it had a fire and police commission. It's my opinion that the commission works," he said.

Fire and Police Commissioner Gerald Vasceky suggested that a compromise should be reached in which the village manager is a member or even the president of the Fire and Police Commission.



Between the stacks of studies and reports, and the pile of newspaper clippings, it's easily realized that the quest for a water supply from Lake Michigan has been going on a long time. (Staff photo by Dean Rutz)

8-17-80 Reminder

Chicago or Evanston? Route splits suburbs

By JOHN SLANIA

There is a whole Great Lake out there just full of water. The main problem the northwest suburbs now face is deciding whether to take water from Lake Michigan through Chicago or Evanston.

It's been a hot topic over the past five years, one that's had caused numerous arguments and more importantly, delays in making any final decisions.

The main question is whether it will be cheaper in the long run to buy water from Chicago or Evanston, and some communities have taken strong stands, dividing the Northwest suburbs into two groups.

The Venture group contends that hooking up a pipeline with the City of Chicago would be the the most ecconomical, and has solid members in Elk Grove Village, Schaumburg, Mount Prospect, Hoffman Estates, Rolling Meadows, Hanover Park, and Buffalo Grove.

The DAMP group which includes Palatine, Arlington Heights, Wheeling, and the Ferndale Heights Utilities Company, says that a pipeline from Evanston is cheaper.

A multitude of figures have been batted back and forth, with each group claiming that its costs would be lower. Differing estimates place Venture's cost to be anywhere from $95 million to $130 million. Similarly, DAMP's costs have been projected to be anywhere from $55 million to $77 million.

Venture proponents said because they have a greater number of members, the costs of getting lake water from Chicago would be lower in the long run. But DAMP members disagree, saying they have a greater guarantee the prices won't rise.

In an informal agreement with Venture, Chicago will charge the suburbs a rate it bills similar "high volume" customers, which would be businesses and industry. DAMP members think this will cause problems.

"In the future, when the City of Chicago goes to raise its water rate, who will they look to? They raise the rate of "high volume" users because they won't have any voting power," said Palatine Village Manager Anton Harwig. "Industries can deduct the increase on their taxes, but the homeowner in the suburbs will have no such benefit."

Harwig said that DAMP has an agreement with Evanston stating a gradual increase in water prices, and can go into arbitration if any member objects to an increase.

DAMP members said the cost of water from Evanston would be even lower if they could pursuade Buffalo Grove to join them, but the village continues to support a pipeline via Chicago.

It would cost an estimated $16 million for Buffalo Grove to connect to the Venture pipeline because it is so isolated from the other members. It's not known how the added cost would affect Venture's water rates.

Venture officials said Buffalo Grove couldn't be forced to drop from the group, but the board could decide not to sell water to the village if the costs were too high.

Realizing they may be isolated now that Palatine and Arlington Heights have dropped from Venture, Buffalo Grove officials still choose Venture over DAMP.

"No authorized study indicates any more economical source of water supply than the City of Chicago," said Buffalo Grove Village Manager William Balling. "Venture is a more effective organization with a better track record and a well programmed format."

While Buffalo Grove is insistent in its position, DAMP members are hoping the village will change its mind.

"I think Buffalo Grove is making a costly move by going with Venture. I think it will cost them substantially more money," said Wheeling Village Manager Thomas Markus. "I think they must be in a position where they're committed to Venture."

Discussions will continue tonight, as the board of directors of Venture meet to discuss adding other communities to their group.

DAMP members are close to signing a final engineering agreement with Evanston, and should move on that action in the next month.

And as each group searches for the most viable source for Lake Michigan water, there is one fact they agree on: final decisions must be made soon, before the well runs dry.

Two pipelines

8-17-80 Reminder

Why not two pipelines to bring water from Lake Michigan to the parching northwest suburbs?

That appears to be the only solution to what appears to be an impasse, even after 30 years of deliberation by governments, planners and ad hoc committees.

Two weeks ago we urged Buffalo Grove and the other Venture group towns to go with the DAMP villages. Venture leans to a Chicago water pipeline, DAMP to an Evanston link with the lake. Evanston, we reasoned, would be a more benevolent water supplier than Chicago.

Well, this week, Palatine made its commitment to DAMP official, and Buffalo Grove reaffirmed its allegiance to Venture. With other northwest suburbs likewise split between the two pipes, the impasse seems unbreachable.

So, why not two pipelines? Two pipes would spread the load on any one water system, provide backup in case of failure, and keep a brake on water rates through good old marketplace competition. If Evanston's rates are substantially lower than Chicago, wouldn't the big city be tempted to follow suit?

Of course, the biggest fly in the ointment is funding. With a capital outlay of around $50 million to $100 million for each pipeline, lending institutions will look askance at any duplication of effort.

The federal government, too, is sure to get involved. After all, who but Uncle Sam can throw around that kind of money these days on public works projects. There will certainly be federal bucks behind any pipe, and that means federal intervention.

On second thought, maybe a federal mediator is just what we need. It's only taken the courts a decade to decide the water allocation case. In 10 years or so, we might just have the Evanston-Chicago question answered as well.

Cable choice in panel hands

8-7-80 Reminder

A three-person ad-hoc committee, comprising Wheeling trustees, will analyze whether or not the village desires a cable TV system.

Trustees John Cole, Sheila Schultz and Rodger Powers will authorize a residential survey to investigate whether a cable system is desired and, if warranted, determine whether the village should enter a regional or sub-regional cable system with other communities, the Wheeling village board committee decided Monday.

After the committee has concluded its study, it will make its procedural recommendations to the entire village board, which must then vote on whether or not to endorse the cable TV option.