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The Lowell Ledger

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Wednesday, January 1, 1997

Nothing alarming found in city audits

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

If the audits of accounts and records for the city of Lowell, Lowell Light and Power and Lowell Cable Television were chills, there would be no "alarm" disclaimers.

In fact, the audits prepared by the firm of Biggs, Hauserman, Thompson and Dickenson P.C. would all be considered pretty bland.

The city of Lowell's audit showed the general revenue was up 2.6 percent or \$43,000 (from approximately \$1.6 to \$1.7 million).

Also rising slightly were state shared revenue (by a couple of percentage points) and property tax (by one percent).

Thomas Dickinson, CPA, said these were all in line with past years.

One item that did draw attention to itself is the expenditure ledger in which an increase of 11 percent or \$165,000 was incurred.

"This was due to sidewalk construction and the purchase of fire and police equipment," Dickinson said.

The fund balance of \$718,512 continues to represent 10-15 percent of the total budget.

Of that total, \$130,000 of the reserve is set aside for vacation and sick pay.

The audit also shows that \$100,000 was transferred from the equity fund to help in the financing of the downtown water main.

Dickinson also pointed out that the city of Lowell's building and site fund has been reduced to a nominal amount. He recommended the balance of approximately \$1,700 be transferred to the building

authority or general fund. The building and site fund could then be terminated.

The Frank L. Carr Fund and the Lee Fund are both trust funds held by the city of Lowell for the benefit of city residents.

The funds have no adopted policy to allow these funds to grow through retaining a portion of their annual fund balance.

Dickinson suggested that the city council adopt a policy for these two funds which would be similar to the policy adopted by the Look-Daley Fund. The Look-Daley policy reserves 15 percent of the annual income in the fund balance.

With an investment base of \$2.6 million, the Lowell Light and Power investment fund remains quite healthy.

Virgil Biggs, CPA, said in order to realize the maximum return on these funds, it is important that cash be analyzed frequently so that a balance between short-term, mid-term and long-term investments can be maintained.

Lowell Light and Power's net income for the year ending 1996 was \$344,753, up \$123,990 from 1995.

"The most significant factor in the increase in net income was a reduction in purchase power costs of \$125,174," Biggs said.

The interest income for the year was \$157,172 compared to \$133,770 a year ago.

In 1992, the profit spread was \$756,000. Four years later, the profit margin now stands at over \$1 million.

Biggs suggested that the city revisit the \$600,000 re-

Audit, cont'd. pg. 6

Gifts From The Heart



Employees at Lowell's FMB State Savings Bank helped brighten the holidays of five area families. Employee contributions were collected over a month and a half. Coordinator Diane MacNaughton said the idea for "adopting families" over the holidays came from pastor Roger LaWarre of First Congregational Church of Lowell. Money is collected until the first weekend in December. Parents of the families are contacted and shopping lists are made up. FMB employees then go out and shop for items on the list. "We used to exchange names, but this is much more enjoyable and more in the spirit of Christmas," MacNaughton said. The gifts pictured above were for one of the five families.

Sports club reaches agreement with township board regarding facility upgrades

By Marc Popiolek
Contributing Writer

Lowell Charter Township officials have received word from the Northeastern Sportsman's Club that the organization will meet the guidelines set by the township board to keep its facility operating.

The board gave the club a list of 10 guidelines that must be met to continue its operation on Grand River Drive.

Besides installing a privacy fence, a gate that locks and a commercial driveway, and informing the township board of the club's governing body, the organization must clean up its septic system to meet Kent County Health Department codes. The septic system violation was the most serious found at

the club, which has occupied the same location on more than 43 acres of land since 1960.

The club will operate as a "rustic" campground until the septic system has been cleaned up, according to township supervisor John Timpson.

Members of the club pay an annual fee to store their camper trailers during the winter and visit them during the summer.

The club existed before zoning came to the township, but a review was prompted when the township began receiving complaints from neighbors of the club.

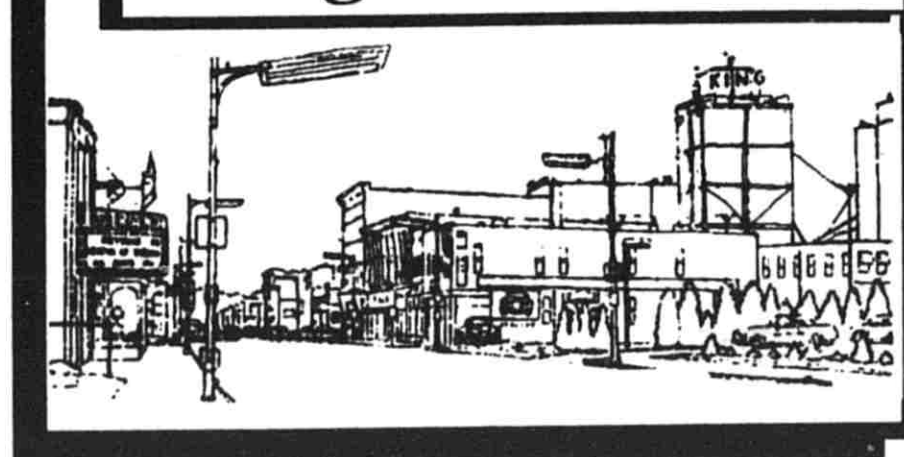
Residents' number one complaint was of people asking to use their phones during late evening hours.

If the club meets all of the township's guidelines, it will receive a special use permit.

In the past, Timpson said the club has shown good intentions of working with the board and neighbors regarding the new rules.

Timpson said the club's existence meets the use of the land and doesn't believe further problems will arise.

Along Main Street



LOWELL CABLE BOARD MEETING

The Lowell Cable TV board meeting of December 19 will be shown on LCTV Channel 2 at 7 p.m. through January 3.

YOUTH FOOTBALL MEETING

A Lowell Youth Football meeting will be held on Monday, Jan. 6 beginning at 7 p.m. in the Board of Education board room, 300 High Street.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Registration for fall 1997 at Lowell United Methodist preschool will begin Tuesday, Jan. 14.

For questions or information please call 897-8690 beginning January 6.

GIFTED AND TALENTED PARENT SUPPORT MEETING

A workshop will be held at Highlands Middle School cafeteria on 4645 Chandy NE on Wednesday, Jan. 15, 1997 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. It is entitled "To be gifted and learning disabled" with Dr. Susan Baum. There is no charge. If any questions, call Mary Nell Baldwin at 364-1333.

PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHOOL'S FIVE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

You are invited to assist Lowell Area Schools in developing five guiding principles for our community and schools. This will take place on Thursday, Jan. 16 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. in the Lowell Middle School Cafeteria, 750 Foreman Rd.

Please call 897-8415 with your RSVP or any questions.

Main Street, cont'd. pg. 6

INSIDE THE LEDGER

Lowell Wrestlers Third at Grandville, pg. 18

Cornerstone to Close Down Aviation Programs, pg. 15

DAYTIME MORNING. Broadcast stations: WWTM, WOTV, WGVU, WXII, WOOD, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM, TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, TRAV, TLC, SCIFI, HIST, AMC, DISN, HBO, MAX. Time slots: 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30.

DAYTIME AFTERNOON. Broadcast stations: WWTM, WOTV, WGVU, WXII, WOOD, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM, TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, TRAV, TLC, SCIFI, HIST, AMC, DISN, HBO, MAX. Time slots: 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30.

FRIDAY EVENING JANUARY 3, 1997. Broadcast stations: WWTM, WOTV, WGVU, WXII, WOOD, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM, TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, TRAV, TLC, SCIFI, HIST, AMC, DISN, HBO, MAX. Time slots: 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30.

FRIDAY LATE NIGHT JANUARY 3, 1997. Broadcast stations: WWTM, WOTV, WGVU, WXII, WOOD, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM, TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, TRAV, TLC, SCIFI, HIST, AMC, DISN, HBO, MAX. Time slots: 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30.

SATURDAY MORNING JANUARY 4, 1997. Broadcast stations: WWTM, WOTV, WGVU, WXII, WOOD, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM, TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, TRAV, TLC, SCIFI, HIST, AMC, DISN, HBO, MAX. Time slots: 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON JANUARY 4, 1997. Broadcast stations: WWTM, WOTV, WGVU, WXII, WOOD, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM, TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, TRAV, TLC, SCIFI, HIST, AMC, DISN, HBO, MAX. Time slots: 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30.

SATURDAY EVENING JANUARY 4, 1997. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, and various news and entertainment shows.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON JANUARY 5, 1997. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-6:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs like Women's College Basketball, NFL Football, and various news and entertainment shows.

SATURDAY LATE NIGHT JANUARY 4, 1997. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-4:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs like Star Trek: Next Generation, Sparks, and various news and entertainment shows.

SUNDAY EVENING JANUARY 5, 1997. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs like 60 Minutes, Funniest Home Videos, and various news and entertainment shows.

SUNDAY MORNING JANUARY 5, 1997. Table with columns for time slots (5:00-11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs like Wall Street Journal, MouseMonster, and various news and entertainment shows.

SUNDAY LATE NIGHT JANUARY 5, 1997. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-4:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs like Star Trek: Tomorrow is Yesterday, In the House, and various news and entertainment shows.

MONDAY EVENING JANUARY 6, 1997. Table with columns for Broadcast Stations and time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30). Rows list various programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, and various news and entertainment shows.

MONDAY LATE NIGHT JANUARY 6, 1997. Table with columns for Broadcast Stations and time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30). Rows list programs like Late Show, Politically Incorrect, and various comedy and entertainment shows.

TUESDAY EVENING JANUARY 7, 1997. Table with columns for Broadcast Stations and time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30). Rows list programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, and various news and entertainment shows.

TUESDAY LATE NIGHT JANUARY 7, 1997. Table with columns for Broadcast Stations and time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30). Rows list programs like Late Show, Politically Incorrect, and various comedy and entertainment shows.

WEDNESDAY EVENING JANUARY 8, 1997. Table with columns for Broadcast Stations and time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30). Rows list programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, and various news and entertainment shows.

WEDNESDAY LATE NIGHT JANUARY 8, 1997. Table with columns for Broadcast Stations and time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30). Rows list programs like Late Show, Politically Incorrect, and various comedy and entertainment shows.

WLAV listeners find Gates relatable and passionate about their music

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

WLAV's morning disc jockey Tony Gates asked that he not be put on a pedestal.

"I'll trip getting up on it," Gates cracks during Saturday's remote at Lowell's Harold Zeigler Ford.

Gates has done anything but stumble since taking over the morning shift at WLAV a few years ago.

In fact, his show is one of the most listened to. "It's not the style.... I don't have a style. I make mistakes. I get in trouble, but I am relatable. I hang out with the people and listen to their input. People like the music we're playing," Gates said.



WLAV morning disc jockey Tony Gates was on hand for a live remote at Harold Zeigler Ford on Saturday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

album promotion director. "I was given a list of artists. It was my job to make sure the artists were getting played," Gates said. He promoted the likes of Michael Penn, Bruce Hornsby and ZZ Top.

After 10 years with RCA in Los Angeles, music began to change and with it came the onset of "grunge."

"It's an aggressive, progressive music," said Terri Crayton, WLAV's marketing consultant for Harold Zeigler Ford.

Gates calls it angry youth music. "I was being asked to promote music that I didn't like being played by 18-20 year olds," he said. "It wasn't fun, so I got out of it."

That brought Gates back to West Michigan and back to playing and promoting music he has a passion for - music he likes.

"I don't like to pigeon-hole the music as classic rock," Gates said.

He is comfortable, though, labeling it as music that has a message which has stood the test of time... unlike most of the music being produced today.

"Most of the music today will not be a factor five years from now," Gates said. "The music you and I grew up with was such a fabric of people's lives. People tried to end wars with their music. It was in the forefront."

Gates notes that there are incredible musicians out there. "Many of them can't get their foot in the door," he explains. "Years ago, musicians signed contracts to do three-four albums. Today, they get one shot; if the album is not a success, they are done."

As long as the market place shadows Gates' passion (music from the 60's and 70's), there will be a pedestal in West Michigan for Gates to play it from.

The music and Gates have played well in the 25-54 year-old demographics in West Michigan.

"We are playing music they grew up with in the 60's and 70's," Gates explains. "It's well made music. It appeals to all generations."

Ironically, Gates' first commercial radio job out of college (Grand Valley State) was with WLAV in 1973.

Gates was hired for the

overnight shift when the part-time disc jockey showed up for work inebriated.

"My audition tape was on the table. Ed Buchanan saw it and called me and asked if I could do the shift," Gates recalls. "It is another one of those stories of being in the right place at the right time."

Gates remained with LAV for 10 years before taking a job in Los Angeles with RCA records as a national

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT FOR THE
COUNTY
OF IONIA

CITY OF IONIA, a
Municipal corporation

File No. 96-N-17753-CH
Plaintiff,
vs.

ORDER TO ANSWER

ANTHONY J. SYMKO
AND PATRICIA A.
SYMKO, husband and
wife, and GERTRUDE P.
HALANSKI,

Defendants.

John L. McNamara
(P17535)
Attorney for Plaintiff
220 W. Main St.,
P.O. Box 123
Ionia, MI 48846
(616) 527-0020

At a session of said Court, held in the Circuit courtroom, County of Ionia, State of Michigan, on the 13th day of December, 1996.

PRESENT: HONORABLE JAMES K. NICHOLS, Circuit Judge. On the 2nd day of October 1996, an action was filed by the City of Ionia, Plaintiff, against Anthony J. Symko and Patricia A. Symko, husband and wife, and Gertrude P. Halanski, Defendants, in this Court for the purpose of obtaining a Judgment against the Defendants.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Defendants, Anthony J. Symko and Patricia A. Symko, husband and wife, and Gertrude P. Halanski, shall answer or take such other action as may be

permitted by law on or before the 21st day of January 1997, at 9:00 o'clock a.m. Failure to comply with this Order will result in a Judgment by default against such Defendants for the relief demanded in the Complaint filed in this Court.

James K. Nichols
(P22831)
Circuit Judge

Prepared by:
John L. McNamara
(P17535)
220 W. Main St.,
P.O. Box 123
Ionia, MI 48846
(616) 527-0020
OrdAns

When you get there,
there isn't any there
there.

—Gertrude Stein

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

CLAIMS NOTICE
Independent Probate

File No. 96-163, 140-IE

Estate of JOSEPH A.
KISSINGER
SSN: 384-70-3995

TO ALL INTERESTED
PERSONS:

Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following:

The decedent, whose last known address was 10769 60th Street, Alto, MI 49302, died May 15, 1996.

An instrument dated has been admitted as the will of the deceased.

Creditors of the deceased are notified that

all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the independent personal representative, EVELYN KISSINGER, 10769 60TH Street, Alto, MI 49302, or both the independent personal representative and the Kent County Probate Court, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49503 within four months of the date of publication of this notice.

Notice is further given that the estate will be thereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

TUMMINO &
TUMMINO, P.C.
Michael J. Tummino, Jr.
Attorney At Law
#P21618
311 East Main Street
Lowell, MI 49331
(616) 897-5931

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SINUSITIS MIMICS HEAD COLDS



Dr. Anthony Trombly

Q: I've suffered from stubborn head colds all my life. Even as a boy I had more colds than anyone else. A friend said my problem might be sinusitis. What is that?

A: The sinuses are air pockets located in the facial bones. They are lined with moist mucous membrane and connect to the nasal cavity.

Sinuses sometimes become infected, swollen, and impacted with mucus, pus, and other fluids. The resultant inflammation is called sinusitis. Some of the symptoms resemble head cold symptoms: runny nose, cheek pain, forehead pain, pain behind eyes, vague illness feelings.

Sinus problems can be triggered

by allergies, air pollution, sudden changes in air pressure, temperature, or humidity, as well as water in the sinuses from swimming, and a host of other factors.

Only Nurture Heals.
We Help Nature.

Chronic sinusitis pain is usually dull and lingering compared to the sharp, aggressive pain of an acute attack.

Repeated acute attacks are likely to alter the mucous membrane and bring on a stubborn, chronic condition.

CHIROPRACTIC EXAM

You need to find out why your system is not conquering this nagging problem, whatever it may be. A chiropractic examination should determine if chiropractic can help you.

NOTICE TO LCTV SUBSCRIBERS

Effective December 30,
1996 WLLA-TV 64 will be
replaced with WJUE-TV 43
on Channel Position 5

This change is made due to the ability
of broadcast stations to elect must
carry status on our system.

ECKMAN
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MAINTENANCE
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&
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897-0819