

of a contract obligating the village to periodic payments in future fiscal years for the furnishing of or continuing service or the leasing of property...

Restriction on Powers To Let Property Section 123. Any agreement or contract for the letting of property for a period longer than three years shall be subject to the same restrictions...

CHAPTER 13 MUNICIPAL OWNED UTILITIES General Powers Respecting Utilities Section 121. The village shall possess and hereby reserves to itself all the powers granted to villages by statute and constitution...

Management of Municipality Owned Utilities Section 132. All municipally owned utilities shall be administered as a regular department of the village government...

Utility Rates and Charges - Collection Section 134. The Council shall have the power to fix the time to time such and reasonable rates as may be deemed advisable for supplying inhabitants with water...

Disposal of Utility Plants Section 135. Unless approved by a three-fifths majority vote of the electors voting at a regular or special election...

mission: (b) To impose such other regulations as may be determined by the Council...

Section 14.2. Every public utility which has a franchise or other right to use any public place shall be recorded in a separate book...

Section 14.5. The grantee of a franchise may not sell, assign, or otherwise dispose of the same...

Section 14.6. The Council may grant a permit at any time in or upon any street, alley, or public place...

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Section 15.1. All trusts established for any municipal purpose shall be used and continued in accordance with the terms of such trust...

Section 15.2. The Council shall determine the method of publication of all notices, ordinances, and resolutions...

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# THE NOVI NEWS

YOU KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NOVI TOWNSHIP IF YOU READ THE NEWS

Volume 4, Number 17, 12 Pages Novi, Michigan, Thursday, September 11, 1958 10c Per Copy, \$3.00 Per Year in Advance

## Officials Explain School Tax Request

Novi school officials this week explained why they will ask voters on September 22 to approve a 2 1/2 mill increase in school rates for each of the next five years.

The basic reason: enrollment and costs have constantly gone up while revenue has fallen behind and in some cases gone down.

This picture of a growing financial squeeze, with the school budget showing a deficit, was presented by Superintendent William Medlyn and Secretary Kenneth Bernard in a question-and-answer session with The Novi News.

Documenting their statements with figures and "educated guesses," Medlyn and Bernard gave these answers:

How much will school taxes increase if the extra millage approved? By Nov 2 1/2 mills, but only by 1.67 mills — because the coming year's operating millage is .83 mills less than last year's. That is, the county allocation board okayed 8.81 mills last year but cut it to 7.98 this year.

Why have revenue failed to keep pace with this increase? They'll total 17.48 mills — including the 7.98 approved by the county, the 2.50 special millage, and 7 mills previously levied.

How much will the extra millage yield? About \$25,000 each year. The 2 1/2 mills levied on the district's \$11,070,000 valuation would give \$27,500, but delinquent taxes would reduce this by several thousand dollars.

Why do delinquent taxes reduce the extra millage? Because its revenue now appears about \$19,000 shy of its budget, and several more teachers are needed. The 1958-59 budget was set at \$252,200, but income will total only about \$235,000 unless the extra millage is approved.

Why have costs gone up so rapidly? Because enrollment has doubled in the past three years, teacher salaries have increased in competition with other districts, and general costs have risen.

Why has revenue failed to keep pace with this increase? Because both the state and county are forcing the local district to bear more and more of the tax load.

State aid payments don't reflect the added costs, and the county allocation board is inclined to cut the school's share of the 15-mill tax pie which is shared by the county, township and school district.

Novi has had a millage reduction every year since 1956 when it was 2.56. It was cut to 2.04, then to 1.81 and now to 7.98. Something has to give.

Could not some expenses be cut? It is nearly impossible. Most expenses are fixed, either by statute or by the need to compete salary-wise.

Salaries, for example, took up \$131,000 — or 67 percent of the \$195,000 budget last year. Tuition for Novi students attending Northville high school amounted to \$162,000 — another 16 percent.

That means \$16,000 to cover everything from new textbooks and new furniture to maintenance of buildings and cost of elections.

Can't the board manage its finances better? Expenses already are at rock bottom. For example, only \$1,453 is to be spent on maintenance of the \$600,000 Novi school — far less than necessary. Furthermore, no new buses have been bought in three years — though a couple are wearing out fast.

Could the district borrow money to tide it over temporarily? In the first place, that means paying interest. In the second place, a permanent answer is needed. Novi has had to borrow twice in the past two years — \$20,000 once and \$25,000 the second time. It's only a temporary answer, because when the money is paid back the same old problem returns.

Can't the board manage its finances better? It's not a case of bad management. All school districts face the same problem — the problem of a rising extra millage. In fact, Novi is one of the few Oakland county districts which has not had a special millage increase in the past few years.

What if the millage fails to pass? Cuts will have to be made somewhere. That will be up to parents and taxpayers to decide. Some districts have had to reduce bus service, go on half days, stop certain school programs, and even leave classrooms empty. This is not meant as a threat, but something will have to give if money is not available.

### Registration Deadline Tomorrow

Unregistered voters have until and will be held at Novi school, tomorrow (Friday) at 5 p.m. to register for the September 22 school millage tax election.



A BELL FOR A CHURCH — C. R. Snyder (left), president of the Willowbrook Community church, is seen with other church members...

Warren's request for a new trial is expected to be denied. The move was taken by the company's attorney...

### New Trial Request Opens Drug Store in Novi; Scheduled Monday First One in Many Years

A request for a new trial in the Warren Products-City of Northville annexation suit will be heard Monday by Judge Clark J. Adams...

The suit was brought against the city following a November 19 annexation election in which 229 voters of Novi township...

Warren's request for a new trial is expected to be denied. The move was taken by the company's attorney...

In its appeal Warren Products is expected to contend that the governing annexations from town to city were illegal...

It will mark the first test of the controversial annexation law before the supreme court.

The Novi township board joined Warren in the fight by voting to support the appeal and share expenses up to \$600.

Warren attorneys claim that all residents of the township should be allowed to vote.

Warren's request for a new trial is expected to be denied. The move was taken by the company's attorney...

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## SEPTEMBER 15 is the DEADLINE for REGISTRATION for The Novi Village CHARTER ELECTION

Everyone Must Register To Vote!

Section 16.1. The period from the effective date of this Charter to July 30, 1959, inclusive, shall constitute the term of the Charter...

Section 16.2. The period from the effective date of this Charter to July 30, 1959, inclusive, shall constitute the term of the Charter...

Section 16.3. The period from the effective date of this Charter to July 30, 1959, inclusive, shall constitute the term of the Charter...

Section 16.4. The period from the effective date of this Charter to July 30, 1959, inclusive, shall constitute the term of the Charter...

### Auction, Bake Sale Are Saturday

Here's your chance to help Novi! Goodwill loans that there will be "No Child Without a Christmas" will be held at the Novi library...

A community auction beginning at 11 a.m. and the township hall on Nov 10.

In connection with the auction, Mrs. Frances Starnes will have charge of a bake sale to be held in the Novi library behind the auction sale.

Bake sale donations may be brought to the township hall or will be picked up on request.

### Novi Highlights: Busy Social Week in Novi

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Salow, Sr. entertained Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Salow, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Homer Salow at a dinner at the Novi home on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Miller and their guests, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Liversidge, entertained last week from a week's camping trip in their new trailer.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Burton and Mrs. Frances Starnes entertained last week from a week's camping trip in their new trailer.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Burton and Mrs. Frances Starnes entertained last week from a week's camping trip in their new trailer.

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