

# City Council



# Calendars

## Your City Government: What It Is Doing

By ELMORE M. MURPHY

### Set March 1st, 1941, as Motor Vehicle Tax Deadline; New Traffic Code Is Presented to The City Council

For one reason or another the tone of Monday evening's council meeting was the best it has been for many a long day. The line of communication among the council members themselves and between the council and the precincts beyond the inner rail appear to have been restored for the time being at least. We earnestly trust that this happy situation is not a temporary one.

In his report to the council Mayor Ronan announced that March 1st had been set as the deadline for payment of motor vehicle taxes. Automobile owners who have not purchased their 1941 city license plate by that date will be subject to arrest. In stressing the necessity of a concerted drive to collect the motor vehicle tax, the mayor pointed out that to date out of a possible 4200 registrations only about 1350 have bought their 1941 license. As this tax became due on January 1st, the mayor and the council feel that ample time has been allowed the public to comply with this ordinance.

Commissioner Sharp's contribution to the meeting was presented in the double form of a bouquet and a brick bat. He awarded one of Walter Winchell's famous orchids both to the water department and the public for the current excellent state of affairs of water bill payments. Out of a total billing of \$46,825.90 for the last period billed only \$565.59 remains unpaid. Along with the bouquet, Commissioner Sharp earnestly requests that the citizens of the community keep up the good work in paying their water bills on time.

The brick bat came in the form of a warning that any person or persons found dumping refuse on the site of the old incinerator will be subject to arrest and fine. It appears that not only have some of the good citizens of the city been resorting to this practice, but they have also been making off with some of the city's equipment.

Commissioner Sharp who was definitely in a "get things done" mood, also stated that collection of delinquent real estate taxes which heretofore have been conducted on a hit or miss basis is scheduled to start in earnest. He deplored the present tendency of legislative bodies to make up deficiencies caused by failure to pay real estate taxes, simply by heaping more taxes on the backs of those who make their payments regularly. Commissioner Sharp stated that the new regime in Waukegan has promised its cooperation in any effort sponsored by local Highland Park groups to alleviate this situation. He added that as soon as the new lists were received showing the delinquent taxpayers the "fur was to fly" and hoped that those who found the shoe to fit would

take steps to out themselves in the clear.

Commissioner Swanson reported that the Women's Garden club had sponsored a meeting at which various groups went on record as favoring a resolution to collect \$2500 for landscaping and otherwise improving the Central Street railroad station property. If this sum could not be collected within the organizations themselves it was suggested that the council authorize a tag day, or something similar to it, to raise the necessary funds. Acceptance of plans for the improvement which have already reached the blueprint stage is being held in abeyance until the funds are definitely raised. Commissioner Bowes moved that the council go on record as approving the efforts of the various groups in bringing about this improvement. Commissioner Sharp stated he favored the tag day idea as he felt the burden of financing the proposition should not be allowed to fall on one, or at most, a few organizations.

Commissioner Swanson stated that he was in favor of retaining the old incinerator structure for the use of dead storage space. Mayor Ronan and Commissioner Sharp replied that due to the rat menace it was deemed advisable to clean out the whole thing. This program would of necessity include tearing down the building.

Commissioner Swanson informed the council of two new kennels in the process of construction in Highland Park and suggested that the city lease space from one of them to take the community's stray dogs.

One of the most important actions taken at Monday evening's meeting was the presenting of the completed draft of the Citizens Safety Commission's new Traffic Code to the council by Benjamin F. Lewis, chairman of the General Codification Committee and Edwin Gilroy, chairman of the Citizens Safety Commission. The code was placed on file for ten days at the motion of Commissioner Swanson.

The Citizens Safety Commission's Traffic Code is the outgrowth of many months of study. It has been examined and approved by J. S. Baker, Traffic Safety Consultant, National Safety Council, and has been reviewed by the mayor and members of the council.

One of the principal differences between the new code and its predecessor is the creation of a Traffic Commission. The Traffic Commission is purely an advisory committee to be appointed by the city council to advise it on traffic problems in Highland Park. The present structure of the commission calls for seven members, namely, a member of the council, the Chief of Police, a traffic

(Continued on Page 22)

## Highland Park Events for Coming Week

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13—

- 12:15 p.m. Lions Club Meeting at Sunset Valley Club.
- 2:00 p.m. Regular Meeting of D.A.R. Mrs. Raymond Andrews, hostess.
- 7:00 p.m. Highland Park Chess Club, Community Center.
- 8:00 p.m. American Legion.
- 8:00 p.m. Young Men's Club, Community Center.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14—

- 10:00-4:30 p.m. Red Cross Meeting, Trinity Church.
- 1:00 p.m. Girl Scouts, luncheon, Community Center. Leaders and Council members.
- 7:30 p.m. Footlighters meet in the Highland Park Y.W.C.A.
- 8:00 p.m. Sheridan Rifle and Pistol Club meets at Club Range in Deerfield.
- 8:00 p.m. Keeney-Fresh-Soph Dance at H. P. Woman's Club.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15—

- 9:00 p.m. Barn Dance, YWCA. Mothers Club and Friendship Club.
- 8:30 p.m. Junior Italian Woman's Prosperity Club Dance at Labor Temple.

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16—

- 9:00 a.m. North Shore Hiking Club to meet at Gsell's Drug Store, corner of Central and St. Johns avenue.
- 7:00 p.m. Ravinia Club "Twilight Tea", Ravinia Village House.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17—

- 10:00 a.m. All day meeting Woman's Assn., Presbyterian Church.
- 12:15 p.m. Rotary Club meeting at Sunset Valley Club.
- 1:00 p.m. Red Cross First Aid Class at Community Center.
- 5:00 p.m. H. P. Social Service Board meets at Office.
- 6:30 p.m. Kiwanis Club Dinner, Sunset Valley Club.
- 8:00 p.m. City Council meeting.
- 8:00 p.m. Braeside P.T.A. (Paul Meisner) Braeside School.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18—

- 2:00 p.m. Highland Park Woman's Club at Club House.
- 8:00 p.m. Choral Club, Community Center.
- 8:00 p.m. Briergate Community Club.
- 8:30 p.m. Highland Park Lodge No. 1862 at Elks Hall.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19—

- 9:30-12 H. P. Hospital Auxiliary (making dressings) H. P. Hospital.
- 10:30 a.m. Highland Park Music Club Board.
- 10:30 a.m. League of Women Voters Board, Y.W.C.A.
- 1:15 p.m. League of Women Voters.
- 8:00 p.m. Elm Place P.T.A. at Elm Place School. Lecture, Clifford Shaw.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20—

- 12:15 p.m. Lions Club Luncheon at Sunset Valley Golf Club.

## Deerfield Events for Coming Week

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17—

- 3:30 p.m. Girl Scouts, Troop 1.
- 7:30 p.m. Girl Scouts, Troop 2.
- 7:00 p.m. Business Men's Bowling.
- 7:30 p.m. Sea Scouts.
- 7:30 p.m. Troop 51 Boy Scouts - Troop 52 Boy Scouts.
- 8:00 p.m. American Legion Auxiliary.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18—

- 7:00 p.m. Woman's Bowling.
- 8:00 p.m. Stagers
- 8:00 p.m. Masonic Lodge.
- 8:00 p.m. Townsend Club.
- 8:00 p.m. Holy Cross Services.
- 8:30 Holy Cross Choir.
- 9:00 p.m. Chamber of Commerce Bowling.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19—

- 8:00 p.m. Bethlehem Mid-week Service.
- 8:00 p.m. Badminton League.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20—

- 12:15 p.m. Rotary Club.
- 1:00 p.m. Presbyterian Woman's Club.
- 2:30 p.m. Parent-Teachers Association Meeting.
- 8:00 p.m. Order of Eastern Star.
- 8:00 p.m. Presbyterian Club (Y.M.C.C.)
- 7:30 p.m. St. Paul's Choir.
- 8:00 p.m. Presbyterian Choir.

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