

THE DALLAS POST

VOL. 81 NO. 44

DALLAS, PA. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1970

FIFTEEN CENTS



THE DALLAS POST—photo by Bob Saffian

Dallas Township okays sewers; solicitor objects

Plans for a Back Mountain sewer system were almost quashed when Atty. Frank Townend, Dallas Township's solicitor, stunned virtually everyone—including Dallas Township supervisors—by refusing to accept the recommendations of the Dallas Area Municipal Authority at a special meeting held last Thursday night at the Dallas High School. General Townend was sharply rebuked Monday night when Dallas Township supervisors, irked that he had voted negatively without their consent, voted unanimously to go along with the municipal authority's plans.

The solicitor's unsanctioned vote came after representatives of Dallas Borough and Kingston Township had agreed to accept a plan which provided for an \$8 per foot assessment, \$150 connecting fee, and \$125 annual sewage rental fee. Had Mr. Townend's unauthorized rejection of the sewer plan gone unchallenged, the entire project as well as \$4 million in State and Federal grants could have been jeopardized.

Atty. Townend flatly stated that the township would agree to an alternate proposal providing for a \$6 per foot assessment, \$150 connecting fee, and \$140 annual rental. "That's as far as we'll go," Mr. Townend said, "we feel assessment should be not more than \$6 and would rather have it less."

In his remarks, he also said that township supervisors must think of their election next year. Present officials of the municipality are Fred Lamoreaux, Phillip Walter, and Glenn Howell.

Mr. Townend's dissenting vote followed an explanation of the preliminary financial information by R. Spencer Martin, authority chairman, and a brief recess. When the meeting reconvened, Mr. Martin recommended proceeding with the project and financing as well as with the \$8 footage assessment and 30-year bond issue. The latter would be preferable to a 40-year issue, he explained, because the authority could save "something like \$2 million to \$2.5 million in interest" with the 30-year issue.

Three votes were taken in an attempt to get a unanimous vote, but each time Atty. Townend refused to accept the recommended plans. When the third attempt failed, Mr. Martin stated that the authority was at an impasse. "If we are held up at this time, there is nothing more we, as an authority, can do," he declared.

Chairman Martin and other authority officials said a meeting would be held Tuesday, Nov. 3, for the purpose of opening additional plumbing and heating bids. He then asked if Mr. Townend and the Dallas Township supervisors would discuss the situation among themselves and meet with the authority Nov. 3.

No answer was forthcoming from the Dallas Township officials.

Mr. Martin again asked if Dallas Township officials would meet with the authority Nov. 3. Again there was no response.

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sewer authority approves \$7.2 million bond issue

At a meeting Tuesday night, Dallas Area Municipal Authority approved a \$7,200,000 bond issue for the proposed Back Mountain sewage system on recommendation of its financial consultants, Butcher and Sherrerd. The bond issue will be financed over a 30-year period at an estimated 8 to 8 1/4 percent.

The 30-year bond issue was favored by the authority over the 40-year period because of the savings in interest and also, Mr. Martin told *The Dallas Post* earlier this week, because "long term bonds are not nearly as saleable as the short term bonds."

With minor adjustments in previously estimated figures, total project cost was listed at \$11,368,321.43, with total construction costs at

\$8,750,656.95. Three grants from State and Federal sources amount to \$4,200,000.

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voters nix library tax

The question of municipal support for the Back Mountain Memorial Library was resoundingly defeated in Tuesday's election when 2,125 persons voted against a referendum which sought to provide a two-mill tax for the library. Eight hundred twenty-eight voters cast "yes" votes on the question.

The preponderance of negative votes were cast in Kingston Township, with voters in the Shavertown Elementary School (N.W. district) defeating the measure by 406 to 121. Five hundred thirty-eight voters cast ballots against the tax question at the Trucksville polling place (S.W. district) while 179 voted for it. In Carverton, a scant 12 votes were recorded for the two mill tax while 118 "no" ballots were counted.

The margin was less dramatic in Dallas Borough, where 386 voters turned the question down and 194 persons voted "yes." The two district break-down found voters at the borough building defeating the measure 202 to 115, while at the Dallas Elementary School, 184 ballots were cast against the question with 79 ballots counted for it.

In Dallas Township, the tally was 677 votes against; 320 for. The middle district's total was 270 negative ballots, 185 affirmative; the south district voted the question down by a vote of 289 to 123; Kunkle recorded only 12 votes for the tax with a whopping 118 total against it.

heavy local vote picks Shapp, Scott

Voters in the Back Mountain Community confounded experts who had predicted a light vote in this off-year election. If area voters did not flock to the polls in droves, the over-all turnout was far better than had been expected.

In several communities, poll watchers estimated that between 65 and 75 percent of Back

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Mountain voters cast ballots, with the Carverton section of Kingston Township recording an astounding 79 percent voter turn-out.

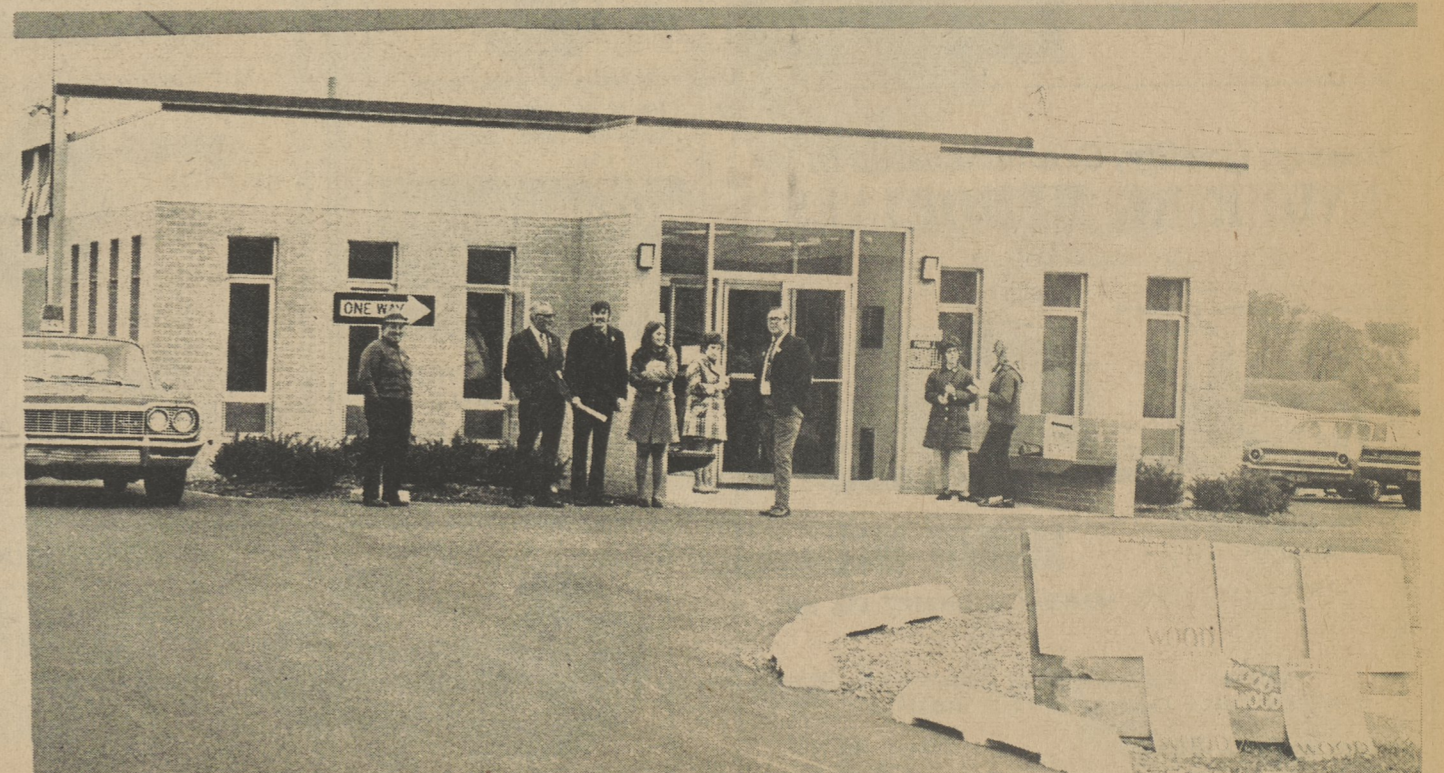
Perhaps most incredible was that five local communities in this predominantly Republican area chose to "go" for Democratic gubernatorial candidate Milton Shapp. With voter registration favoring the Republicans in some Back Mountain communities by a 5 to 2 margin, Mr. Shapp never-

theless found Idetown, Jackson Township, the west and north districts of Ross Township, and Kunkle in his winning column. An 88 to 88 tie in Lake Silkworth reflected the close tallies apparent in several of the contests.

Hugh Scott will be returned to the United States Senate, with large majorities in this area backing him over William Sesler. Dan Flood, unopposed for the U.S. House of Representatives, will begin another term of office in Washington D.C.

State Sen. T. Newell Wood was swept back into office, with every Back Mountain community according him winning totals.

Two incumbents—Frank O'Connell and Stanley Meholchick—were re-elected. Back Mountain votes accurately reflected State Representative O'Connell's victory, but only Idetown's 107 to 105 tally indicated that State Representative Meholchick would defeat the popular Republican candidate Joseph Halesy.



The Dallas Post (KOZEMCHAK)

emergency number

The County-wide emergency communications system which is being developed to provide better police protection for residents of Luzerne County will go into effect Nov. 9 at 11 a.m., the civil defense control center has reported.

Eventually, all fire, ambulance, civil defense, rescue and hospital emergency calls will be integrated with this system, but at this time only the main control station and the fixed-base field units have been installed for the police portion of the network.

Residents of Dallas Borough, Harveys Lake Borough, Dallas Township, Franklin Township, Jackson Township, Kingston Township, Lake Township, Lehman Township and Ross Township are urged to call

675-5259

for prompt police service.