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TWENTY CENTS

District to sell vacant school

The Dallas School Board of Directors approved a motion made by Richard Hislop, chairman of the property committee, to advertise for bids for the sale of the Shavertown Elementary building by a vote of 6 to 3. Directors Harry Lefko, Earl Fritzes, and William Dierolf opposed the motion.

The building will be sold by sealed bids which are to be submitted to the secretary of the board on or before Tuesday, August 10, at 4 p.m. The building and the 1.23 acres on which it is situated will be sold as a whole and in its present condition. A survey of the premises by the successful bidder must be at his expense. Further terms and conditions shall be set forth in an advertisement for bids by the district.

A motion was approved to hold three meetings, one on June 15 for the sole purpose of answering budgetary questions of all interested residents; a second meeting for the final adoption of the budget, Friday, June 25, 8 p.m., at the high school, and a third for general purposes on June 30.

A motion by Richard Hislop was approved to change the regular meeting date of the board from the second Tuesday of each month to the second Monday of each month in order that directors may attend the activities of the school which fall on Tuesday.

Dr. F. Budd Schooley, Back Mountain Protective Association, asked about the anticipated loss in state subsidy for 1976-77. Dr. Linford Werkheiser, superintendent, stated that the district will receive \$8,000 more than it did in 1975-76. Joseph Kasmark, board secretary, clarified further by explaining that the age ratio has declined from 60.4 to 57.3 meaning that the district will get less for student, a decline of \$450.03 to \$437.53.

Mrs. Francis Ambrose, retired teacher, asked who gave out figures to a daily paper for an article published June 2. She stated that in the article it

gave wealth, millage, number of teachers and administrators, most of which were not factual, and listed the Dallas second only to Crestwood in wealth. She repeated the 187 faculty figure given by Werkheiser at the budget meeting and said in the article, a 153 figure with 11 administrators was cited. She also quoted the assessed value in the article as incorrect.

Kasmark indicated that it was and said that the correct assessed value in the district was \$27,130,550. (A check with William Helgemo, president of Dallas Education Association, by the Post reporter, revealed that there are 173 faculty members, the additional 14 members being guidance counselors, home school visitor and nurses.)

Mrs. Ambrose said she believes the board needs the right kind of press and the right information. She also referred to a new bill coming out for a reimbursement increase from \$150 million to \$160 million. Werkheiser explained that the bill would allocate \$297,000 for health services, instructional media services and transportation.

He stated that he had talked with Harrisburg the morning of the

meeting and learned that the bill had been returned to the committee for further study. If it is not passed, new ideas will be forthcoming and instead of a 10.6 percent increase for instructional subsidy it will be 7.8 percent, or about \$146,000 to the Dallas School District.

Dr. R.S. Russin reported that he had studied what other districts in the area are doing about paying tax collectors, whether by salary or commission. He said that he found most of them were paying salaries at a savings of about \$20,000 annually. He reminded the board that this would go along way toward paying two teachers' salaries.

He repeated his statement made at a previous meeting that the tax collectors are up for reelection in 1977 and that the board must make a decision soon. He indicated that they had approximately 60 days to study the situation.

He stated that a tax collector's job today is much easier than in the past since most of the taxes are paid by banks through escrow accounts and at the end of six months all delinquent accounts are turned over to the county for collection.



BICENTENNIAL SALUTE—Marine Corps from Albany, Ga., give their Bicentennial Salute at the Back Mountain Bicentennial Festival at College Misericordia last weekend.

Union eligibility hearing for school staff continues

The hearing to determine whether or not eight non-professional employees of the Dallas School District are eligible to take part in the election to be scheduled by the Pennsylvania State Education Association for inclusion of non-professional employees of the district in the Pennsylvania School Personnel Services Association, opened June 4 in the Dallas Borough Building before Charles Sokol, examiner for the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board. Atty. Ben Jones III, solicitor for the district, represented the district, and Walter Glogoski, PSEA, represented the school employees.

In a petition filed April 28, the petitioners presented evidence of 30 per cent or more of their group asking the board for a hearing on the matter of the election. The board questioned the status of certain employees on their eligibility to vote or become part of a separate unit covering custodial, supply, maintenance, housekeepers, cafeteria workers, and secretary-clerks.

Sokol explained the board is required to designate a collective bargaining unit and asked Jones why district was challenging.

Jones explained that district did not believe part time workers should be

included and that there were eight non-professional employees the district did not believe eligible either because of confidential or supervisory positions.

Both representatives agreed to the testimony of only one person if similar functions were challenged.

Jones first called John Gabriel, superintendent of maintenance, custodial, and supply workers, who testified that Thomas Dickinson, an employee challenged, was assistant superintendent of buildings and grounds. He stated that Dickinson's duties were to supervise other workers, assign duties and see that

they were carried out.

In cross-examination by Glogoski, it was brought out that Dickinson had no power to hire or fire, layoff or suspend, using his independent judgment; that he never resolved grievances and could not without consulting upper echelon.

It was also clarified that any assignment of duties made by Dickinson were from a master schedule already prepared by Gabriel but that if Dickinson goes out with a crew of men, he may make a decision if something unexpected arises. Employees are assigned by Gabriel, not by Dickinson, who merely carries

out Gabriel's order.

Gabriel stated that Dickinson may discuss changes with him after Gabriel has made up the schedule. Gabriel stated that Dickinson worked along with the other men. When questioned by Jones, he said that he (Gabriel) worked on occasion.

The second employee challenged was Peggy Boyes, secretary to Joseph Kasmark, business manager and secretary to the board.

Kasmark explained that his duties included working with preparation of the budget and providing information to the board; that he is responsible for working through figures coming up with calculated costs pertaining to contracts. He explained that Mrs. Boyes types the figures and also has access to the files in his office.

When asked for an example, he cited information collected from a statewide study which is confidential, although it is understood information from the Pennsylvania School Board Association is distributed generally throughout Pennsylvania and many of their information made available to media.

Glogowski asked how many employees were in the administrative office and if all were confidential. Kasmark indicated that they were not. Under further questioning he explained that he had only been in the position for less than two years and had never had an opportunity to use her in this position.

Glogowski called Mrs. Boyes for questioning and asked her if she was privileged to work in determining contract proposals. Mrs. Boyes answered in the negative and also stated that she did not assist Kasmark in determining public policy. She did say that she might have typed some confidential matter but that if she did, she did not know it.

She explained that she does not type teachers negotiations, service

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'Derelict' buildings target of Harveys Lake grant

'Derelict' buildings and public works projects got most of the attention last Thursday night as Harveys Lake borough council and residents attending the meeting zeroed in on eyesores and public works projects.

Kevin Nelson, Luzerne County Federal funds coordinator, advised the borough of their status regarding a presently authorized rehabilitation project for the removal of derelict buildings in the borough. A community development project approved for the borough will seek to eliminate nuisance or blight structures as determined by earlier surveys in Harveys Lake.

Nelson said he believed the federal funding could handle removal of all

structures suggested by the borough as long as due process of law was carefully observed in preparation for the removal. Nelson suggested the borough expedite passage of a local building code so that the buildings to be removed could be legally identified.

He said that liens would then be processed against property owners of such structures so that there would be "no reward" for "bad citizenship" and structure owners would ultimately be forced to pay the costs of the razing. As many as 65 "derelict" structures were mentioned in the discussion of the razing and Nelson said "We'll take care of what you have."

"Anytime you're ready, we're

ready," he told the council members, noting that the procedure for due process of law would be time consuming. He said his goal was to complete the project by the end of the summer, 1977.

Although reluctant to confirm a budget figure for the project, he acknowledged that funds in the amount of about \$20,000 were budgeted by his office.

Nelson also advised the borough that a \$30,000 public works appropriation would be available for their usage during 1977. He said the amount was the borough's portion of community development funds appropriated by the federal government for Luzerne County. He said the funds would be available for

the borough to apply as needed, for a project of their choosing within guidelines established by the federal government. Nelson said a number of communities receiving the grant were applying the funds to local recreation projects. He said 18 of 20 Luzerne County projects to date were for parks.

He said the amount could also be used as a "local share" to qualify for other 50-50 funding sometimes available.

Referring back to the derelict building project, council members were advised that it is likely that some of the structures, once razed could not be rebuilt under present borough codes. A council spokesman issued the statement to remind property owners that now is the time to repair and improve their properties.

During the meeting, residents followed up on a petition to ban loud motor boat operations on the lake and received a report of warnings issued to one operator on the order of Mayor William Connolly.

Council also discussed road surfacing projects planned for

Hickory, Spruce, Dudley Plot, School, Rood, Maplebrook, Maplewood, Baird St., Sanderson, Hull, Hillside and Cook Streets, totaling two miles or less. The council also approved the hiring of four parttime patrolmen for the borough.

The council also heard a complaint from a resident about a property on the Route 415 entry to the Lake which the complainant labelled a "junkyard." Borough officials advised that court action has already transpired against the property and that Judge Richard Bigelow had ruled that the property was not a "junkyard" and therefore not subject to junkyard regulations.

Councilmembers promised to look into the matter further and see what could be done about the complaint. Council president Bob Winterstein also urged residents to help the borough crack down on littering and other abuses of property by phoning the borough police with license numbers of offenders.

Council adjourned to meet again on June 17 to consider bids for borough garbage contract renewal.

383 graduate from Back Mt. schools

Three hundred eighty three seniors graduated from the two Back Mountain high schools last weekend.

Two hundred forty one seniors, 118 boys and 123 girls, were awarded diplomas at Dallas Commencement on Friday, June 4. Robert L. Dolbear, high school principal presented the class to Ernest Ashbridge Jr., president of the board. Ashbridge presented the diplomas to the graduates with the exception of David Dierolf, Diane Fritzes and James Swepton, who received their diplomas from their fathers, Col. William Dierolf, Earl Fritzes and Harry Swepton, all members of the board.

Dr. Linford A. Werkheiser, superintendent of schools, welcomed the graduates, their parents and friends and introduced George A.

McCutcheon, guest speaker, whose topic was "Look In The Mirror," in which he complimented the graduates on their achievements throughout their high school years and expressed his confidence in their continued hard work and application in their future whether in higher education or the business world.

Invocation and benediction were delivered by the Rev. E. Leif Brehm, Trucksville United Methodist Church. Selections were offered by the Dallas High School Mixed Chorus, under the direction of Florence H. Sherwood, chorus director.

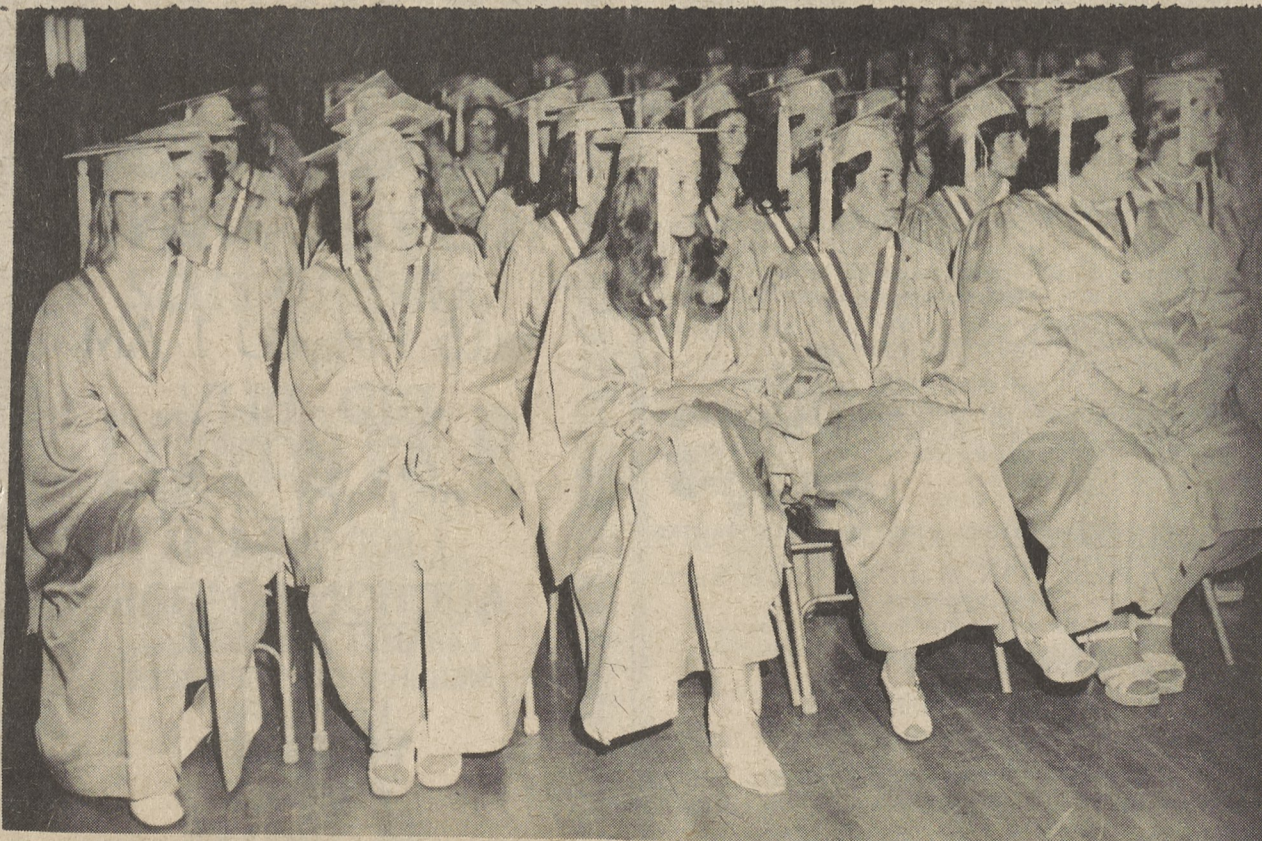
Seventy eight girls and 64 boys for a total of 142 graduates were awarded diplomas at Lake-Lehman on Sunday afternoon.

R. Arnold Garinger, president of the board, presented the diplomas to the

seniors, who were presented by Robert Z. Belles, superintendent of schools. James Nicholas, high school principal, addressed the graduates and their guests. John M. Zaleskas, assistant principal, called the roll of seniors and John J. Oliver, assistant principal, presented awards.

Gwen Salansky and Christine Zbick, honor students, were the commencement speakers. Greg James, president of the class, welcomed the audience and Diane Godleski, president of the student council, made few remarks.

The Rev. Leo J. Kozlowski, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Lake Silkworth, offered the Invocation and Benediction.



LL PRINCIPAL—Members of Lake-Lehman's Class of 1976 look on as High School Principal James Nicholas addresses the class at Sunday's Commencement program

in the high school gym. Left to right are Karen Adams, Wendy Amos, Sandy Barrall, Kathleen Borton, Patricia Brody. (Photo by Fay Broody Studio)