

Study shows Wawasee's administrative building should be enlarged, remodeled

By DEB PATTERSON
Staff Writer

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Harmon A. Baldwin and Dr. Dean F. Berkley, professors at Indiana University, recently completed a consultant study for the Wawasee Community School Corporation to assist the board in realizing short and long term goals. The study covered enrollment projections, facilities, financing school construction, and a summary and recommendation. This is the second in a series covering the contents of the study.)

Following a study of the Wawasee Administrative Building, Dr. Harmon A. Baldwin, professor at Indiana University, made the following statement: "While the current central office building is well constructed and well maintained, and would be the envy of many other school communities, it is not large enough to house all the needs expected of a school corporation of this size."

Dr. Baldwin suggests an addition of approximately 3,000 square feet, include a new meeting room for the school board with additional space for staff meetings and conferences. "If the addition is constructed, consideration should be given to a minor remodeling of the existing central office space with consideration given to the interrelationship of offices for those administrators and assistants." An example would be the business manager near the business area, not away from it.

The study also suggests the

superintendent should consider relocating to the existing board room.

An estimated cost of the addition would be \$350,000, but does not include any architectural fees, cost of money or other miscellaneous charges. Dr. Baldwin noted the cost estimates represent the best opinion of the consultants at the time the report is filed and "were intended to be generous. Local school personnel should track building costs in the region. Increases are expected in the next 24 months beyond those which have happened in the last two years."

Dr. Baldwin's experiences as a former school superintendent about the services rendered by such an office and how the facility can accommodate services expected were reflected in his study of the central office.

He noted the 3,900 square foot building was designed to be an administration building. But, with the two entrances for the public, plus an entry for supplies, a first-time visitor "will find it difficult to ascertain which is the main entry to the building."

He notes the board room is of sufficient size for its purpose as well as its use for meeting of committees or small in-service groups. He also commented on some of the internal modifications of the building with an entry way divided from the work area with a counter and an additional office remodeled.

"Traffic flow in the current building is poor," states Dr. Baldwin, noting visitors can easily be controlled by the receptionist, but they have to walk by offices or open area work desks to reach the office which they wish to visit. Addressing the storage area in the building, a notation is

made that it is too small to serve the needs of the school district.

The general comments made about the building include the building has been well maintained

and the esthetics of the building make it a pleasant place to visit or work. Regarding the air conditioning in the building, he notes the age of the system is

such it could need replacement soon and that its capacity is inadequate to handle the heat build-up from the office computer. However, a window air condi-

tioner has been installed to handle that need.

The board meeting room has limited seating for school board meetings (room for approximate-

ly 24 persons besides the board and administrative staff). General comments also included that the board room is used by the superintendent as a conference

room, and meeting room for various groups having its need.

Dr. Baldwin points out the building is not handicapped accessible except by use of the entry way labeled "non-public," and there is no curb cut for parking near that entry, thus the building does not meet state code.

A pellet gun hole in one window pane and a piece of facing cap missing on the north side of the building was pointed out in the report. Also noted was the fact the storage room not being large enough for instructional supplies and janitorial and other supplies for the school district.

Syracuse police investigate incidents

Syracuse Police investigated the following reports during the past week:

Hubb Wilkinson notified police at 3:01 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 23, that a semi had struck a Northern Indiana Public Service Company Pole with its trailer, breaking a ground wire. The incident occurred at 2:55 p.m.

Arthur Hatcher, Ambler, Pa., driver of the semi, reported he was driving the semi tractor-trailer away from Pacific Molasses when the trailer got against the pole at the intersection. He reported he stopped the vehicle, looked and tried to get away from it. There was damage to the rim and tire on the trailer. He was driving equipment for North and South Lines, Harrisburg, Va.

Theft
Duane Tope, Syracuse, notified police at 7 p.m., Wednesday, that sometime before 5:30 p.m., that evening someone had taken some cash from his home. The exact amount of money taken was not released.

Explosion
There was no damage to the home of Richard Pletcher, Syracuse, after several two liter plastic bottles were placed on his front porch and exploded. The incident occurred around 9:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 27. Police were notified at 3 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 28.

Animal control —

City, county look at joint program

By MARK HUFFMAN
Staff Writer

by both the city and county, would oversee the service.

In order to make the plan work, Klinger told *The Mail-Journal* that the current animal control facility, located on CR 100S, may have to be purchased. "There would be a joint effort, between the city and county, to purchase the building," he said.

Hoping to be armed with a purchase price after a third meeting between himself, Plank, County Commissioner Eddie Creighton and Animal Welfare League and humane society representatives this week, Klinger stated, "I plan to have an executive session Monday (Feb. 5) if the property is available for purchase."

Contacted Monday afternoon, Riffle stated that he was "willing to listen to any proposal," although he claimed no one had approached him about selling the property.

Riffle is also being considered to operate the facility, according to Klinger. "The (Animal Control) Commission would hire whomever it deems as its choice. Some people are leaning toward Riffle," he said, adding, "I don't really have a choice (preference)."

After an inaugural meeting two weeks ago, Plank stated that the "assumption" of those present

Warsaw and Kosciusko County officials are putting the finishing touches on a proposal that would provide animal control service through a joint city-county effort.

However, in the absence of a final plan, the county will receive animal control service from Public Safety Animal Control owner Dan Riffle on a monthly basis. The county commissioners approved the temporary service Tuesday, which will utilize emergency relief funds. Riffle agreed to provide the service under the terms of last year's contract until an alternative program is adopted.

The county received full service from PSAC for 11 days in January, with only shelter service provided for the remaining days.

Warsaw Mayor Jeff Plank, who would only say that an animal control program would require the county and city to work closely together, declined to discuss the specifics of a new plan. However, county council president George Klinger noted that an Animal Control Commission, comprised of members appointed

was that Riffle was out of business but, "that doesn't mean he won't be involved in animal control."

Riffle stated that he was currently considering several opportunities in other counties. "I have been approached by others about positions in animal control and am currently in a 'wait and see' position," he said.

Milford, Syracuse men shot at in Etna Green tavern

Jerry W. Hochstetler, 210 E. Carroll St., Syracuse, and Danny W. Sparks, 37, r 1, Milford, were not injured after being shot at, Saturday evening, Jan. 27. The incident occurred inside Wolford's Bar, Etna Green.

Christine Wolford, 53, P.O. Box 162, Etna Green, owner of the establishment, was charged with criminal recklessness and is being held in the Kosciusko County Jail until bond is set.

Kosciusko County Sheriff's Deputies Tony Ciriello and Jon Hart responded to the call at 8:32 p.m. Wolford told police she had wanted the two men to leave the bar and fired a gun at the floor to get them to leave. Police confiscated a .38 caliber Smith and

Wesson along with two spent shell casings as well as other evidence.

Hochstetler told police Wolford had asked him to dance and after agreeing, Wolford pulled a gun out from behind the bar and pointed it at him. She fired one shot into the floor between his legs before pointing the gun at his head and again firing a shot at the floor.

Hochstetler also stated that Wolford had told him he had been barred from the establishment following an incident over one year ago involving another person. Hochstetler was with Hochstetler stated he did not know he had been barred.

Both Sparks and Hochstetler ran from the bar after the second shot was fired. They notified police from a nearby phone booth.

At least four other persons in the bar at the time of the incident said they did not hear any gun shots. Loud music was being played at the time.

New copies of your tax return?

If you need a copy of a prior year's tax return, your request will take at least 45 days. There is a charge of \$4.25 per return. The copy may be requested on Form 4506, "Request for Copy of Tax Form." To get Form 4506, call IRS toll-free at 1-800-424-3676.

ly \$25,000 from the city of Warsaw.

Klinger maintained that the purchase of the animal control facility could lessen the cost for the service. "Personally, I think it can be done for the same or lower cost," he said.

Noting that the commission would be accountable to the city and county councils, Klinger stated that the new system would allow inspection by "anyone who wants to." "It would be a city-county business, otherwise, it's pretty much the same," he added.

Creighton, Klinger and Plank were the main principals in developing a plan. "It's not 100 percent yet. We still have a few details to work out," Klinger said.

A final proposal may be ready to go before the county council next Thursday. Approval from the commissioners and city council will also be needed.

Bond sale set at library

Syracuse-Turkey Creek Township Public Library Board of Trustees will be opening bids on the sale of Public Library Bonds on Tuesday, Feb. 13, at 1 p.m., in the library. The bonds are in the aggregate amount of \$1,500,000.

The sale of these bonds will be used in the building of the new library addition which will include a museum. Roselyn Jones, librarian, stated the board hopes to break ground sometime in April.

Personal Exemptions

The personal exemption has been increased to \$2,000 for 1989 tax filers from last year's personal exemption amount of \$1,950.

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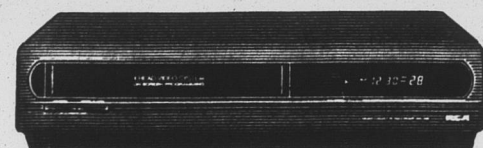


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