

Former Berrien Deputy Hired By Covert Township

COVERT — Jimmie Lee Coburn, former Berrien county sheriff's deputy, has been hired as a Covert township policeman, the Covert township board announced at its meeting last night.

Coburn's hiring brings the department up to its full strength of three men, according to Mrs. Vivian Flagg, township treasurer. There has been a vacancy on the force for five months. Coburn was one of three Berrien officers dismissed from the sheriff's force in November because the sheriff said beer was being furnished to jail inmates.

Also last night, the board delayed consideration of a request to lease 30 acres of land in southeastern part of the township for holding outdoor meetings and workshops. The request was submitted by the Covert 1,000 Plus organization.

Board members told Michael Shane, of Benton Harbor, that 1,000 Plus would have to present proof of liability insurance and a sanitation okay from the Van Buren county health department before any action could be taken.

The area has been leased for several years by the Michigan Four Wheel Drive association for its annual Sand-O-Rama.

No action was taken on a proposal by Manatron Corporation, Kalamazoo, for the

corporation to prepare tax bills for the township.

Mrs. Flagg reported that \$123,326, or seven per cent, of currently due property taxes have been paid so far.

She said taxes may be paid at the township hall during January and February, on Saturdays only, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dog licenses may also be purchased, at \$4 per dog. A rabies vaccination certificate will be required.

A rabies vaccination clinic is scheduled at the township hall Feb. 17, from 2 to 5 p.m.

Coloma Rezoning Apartment

COLOMA — A zoning change for a proposed 12-unit apartment building is before the Coloma city commission.

The commission granted the change from residential to commercial zoning for 202 South Paw Paw street.

Action on the proposal scheduled for next week's commission required public hearing. A zoning ordinance required by the commission required requirements be maintained in other areas. Mayor C