

MAR 6/08
COLBORNE CHRONICLE

Library increase held to 4%

Cramahe Township council appears to be giving the Cramahe Library Board a message - get your costs in line.

Many areas of the township budget saw cuts in the projected budget for 2008. The library board saw its salary budget cut by \$10,000. The effect on the library budget is a reduction from an 11 per cent increase to four per cent.

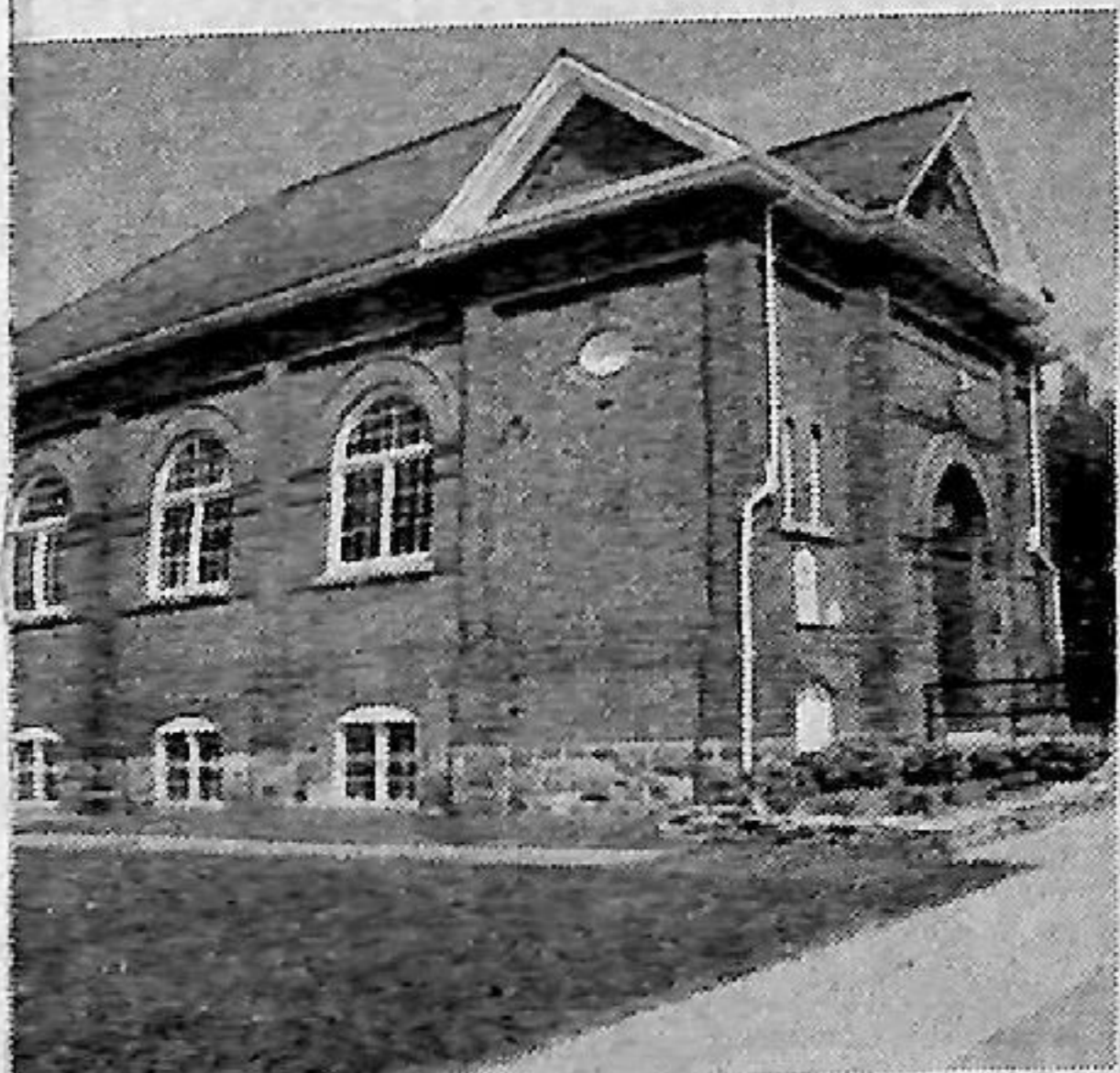
If council makes no further cuts to the board, it will get \$150,385 for its operations, not including its community access program which costs \$3,730 this year. According to Library Board Chair Ed Greenwood, the board budgeted \$162,862 last year but spent \$165,335. That number appears to conflict with the final numbers made public at the budget meeting where a library board surplus of \$13,663 for 2007 was announced.

In support of her proposal to put some restraint on the board, township Chief Administrative Officer Christie Alexander included the board's percentage increases since 2000.

Leaving out the first year after amalgamation which also showed an increase, the board's costs have averaged 20 per cent a year since 2001. In 2003, the increase was a whopping 65.94 per cent. The only year to show a decrease was 2002 when costs dropped by 11.68 per cent. Last year, it was 20.57 per cent.

"We need to bring the library increases in line with the rest of the budget," the CAO advised.

The year ahead promises to be an eventful one for the library board which seems split on changes identified as necessary for the Castleton branch. When all costs at the branch are taken into account, it costs the township over \$20 per book borrowed at the northern branch. The same is not true at Colborne where circulation is brisk.



Castleton Town Hall houses the Castleton branch of the Cramahe Township library.

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Card of thanks



A sincere and warm thank you to our wonderful family, very dear friends and neighbours for joining us on our very special 50th Wedding Anniversary at the Keeler Centre, Colborne on Feb 23rd.

Thank you all for the beautiful cards, gifts, floral arrangements and phone calls.

A special thanks to my sister Fern Day for joining us as my maid of honour, to Betty Oliver for the wonderful job on our anniversary cake and also to Jeanie, Cora and Mandy at the Keeler Centre for the lovely lunch that was prepared for all of us to enjoy.

An extra special thank you to our daughter Diane and husband Stan Chapman, our son Dennis and wife Jacqueline and our dear 7 grandchildren for organizing this special day for us. We love you.

Thanks to Bob Owen for his visit to our home and for all his kindness to our family and us. God Bless You

Harry and Jean Darke

www.northumberlandtoday.com

Card of thanks

Many Thanks

LEE, Rev. Agnes - We, Norman and Elsie Lee and all our families related to Agnes Lee would like to say sincere special thank-you to Brad Cotter and people of McCoubreys, Rev. Andrew and Karen Truter of Calvary Baptist Church, Cobourg and Ladies for excellent provision of reception for us; Dr. Caldwell and Nursing Staff of Northumberland Hills Hospital for the care of Agnes. The kindness, prayers, phone calls, flowers, cards and help of everyone is greatly appreciated in time of our loss of Rev. Agnes Lee.

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