

(Continued from Page One)

don't see how we can't hold our own against urban centres."

Implementing committee members Reeve John Nadalin of Beachville and Reeve William Martin of South Norwich Township, presented the resolution for the restructuring along the lines of a position paper prepared by the province, based on an area government study.

Reeve Hartwell Baigent, North Oxford Township, supporting restructuring, said: "It has got to be the most important vote in many a long year." The system, he said, was introduced as an alternative to the menace of regional government being imposed.

"The study has been an outstanding success," he said, explaining that "the government has changed its policies on restructuring in the province."

Reeve Baigent said advantages will in-

clude equal voting rights, operation of local municipalities with improved assessment bases, uniform and orderly development, more control over planning and a solution for the police village of Thamesford, now within East Nissouri and North Oxford Township and without a direct voice on county council.

Reeve Robert Matheson, West Zorra Township, opposed restructuring. He said more clerks would be required under the new system.

Reeve Louis Barrett, Dereham Township, opposes restructuring. He said the area government report and provincial policy paper were never discussed item by item as has been the practice with reports from committees. "It deserves that kind of consideration," he said.

Reeve Darwen Scott, North Norwich Township, who opposed restructuring, called the decision "a little premature."

It will mean more administration, he said, probably about a one-third increase in the number of clerks. The county would possibly be faced with county police and a county fire department, he said.

Deputy-Reeve Mac Robson, East Nissouri Township, supported restructuring. He said increasing workloads of staff would require additional employees with the new government or not.

Supporting restructuring were: Reeve Baigent; Reeve Melvin Balls of Blandford Township; Reeve Ducklow; Deputy-Reeve James Francis, Tavistock; Deputy-Reeve Russell Honsberger, Tillsonburg; Reeve Lavern Irving, Norwich; Reeve Henry Killing, East Zorra Township; Reeve Ross Livingston, Blenheim Township; Reeve William Martin, South Norwich Township; Reeve Stewart Miles, Norwich; Reeve John Nadalin, Beachville; Reeve James Patience, East Nissouri Township; Deputy-Reeve Robson; Warden Perry Sibbick, Reeve of Blenheim Township; Deputy-Reeve George Wilhelm, East Zorra Township and Reeve Seldon Wilkinson, Tillsonburg.

Opposing restructuring were Reeve Barrett; Deputy-Reeve Robert Blair, West Zorra Township; Deputy-Reeve George Davis, South Norwich Township; Reeve Wesley Dew, East Oxford Township; Deputy-Reeve Robert Gilholm, Blandford Township; Reeve George Jakeman, West Oxford Township; Reeve Matheson; Deputy-Reeve Cecil Mingle, North Norwich Township; Deputy-Reeve James Muterer, North Oxford Township; Deputy-Reeve James McDowell, East Oxford Township; Deputy-Reeve George Nagle, Dereham Township; Reeve Rowland Rutherford, Embro; Reeve Scott of North Norwich and Deputy-Reeve Cecil Wilson, West Oxford Township.

Eight of the members have two votes each in a weighted system, based on the number of electors.

In Ingersoll, those favoring restructuring were Coun. J. T. Warden, Coun. C. A. Robins, Mayor Gordon Henry and Coun. Linda Turner. Opposed were Coun. Eugene Mabee, Coun. Douglas Harris and Coun. Norman Bain.

## Restructuring in Oxford approved by councils