



CARING HANDS! The volunteer association at Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital recently elected a new executive committee. From left: Ellen Phillips, president, Dorothy Bodnar, past president, Elaine Hooper, corresponding secretary, Agnes Harford, recording secretary, Trudy Toetenel, volunteer co-ordinator, Betty Gordon, volunteer co-ordinator, Lynda Moor, treasurer. (photo submitted)



CRANING FOR A VIEW! Nobody was injured last Monday when a pile driving crane toppled over on the Hungry Hollow Bridge. The Ministry of Labour has issued a stop work order while it investigates the accident. (Jamie Harrison photo)

You have reached the...

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK

The Georgetown Gemini

After learning at Council last week that an \$11,265 deposit for a voice mail system at the Civic Centre was non-refundable, Ward 4 Councillor Al Cook withdrew his Notice of Motion that the system not be purchased until Council had an opportunity to discuss the service and see a detailed cost report.

Cook complained that a \$20,000 budget figure for telephone system upgrades was not specific enough and said that, "I hope in future budgets we don't have to ask for detailed information."

Arguing that he thought the budget item was for an upgrade to the existing system, Cook questioned if the Town could afford the \$20,000 budgeted for the item when there were other engineering and road improvement projects that could not be included in the budget.

In a memo to Council, Treasurer Andy Koopmans noted that staff did clarify

during budget debates that the money was for a voice mail system and that there were no comments submitted to staff on the proposed expenditure prior to final budget approval.

Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson backed up staff.

"I'm not a proponent of voice mail but the words were used during the budget talks - we talked about [North York Mayor Mel] Lastman not having voice mail and there was further discussion," Serjeantson said.

Town Administrator Ray King told Council the voice

mail system was there because of the need for it, not because it was a "fancy new frill."

"We need this to try to handle the volume of calls we have to answer and these issues were discussed at budget time," King said.

At this point, after being told that the deposit would be lost if the Town changed its mind now, Cook withdrew his Notice of Motion, but asked that after the system was up and running that staff do a report on how it is working if there are objections to the new system.

Lower densities proposed for Meadowglen property

Revised plans for a housing subdivision in the area of the old Meadowglen Mushroom plant on Mountainview Road will be unveiled at a public meeting slated for Tuesday, Sept. 3 at the Civic Centre.

The original plans of Georgetown Investments Limited and Meadowglen Mushrooms, which have adjoining properties at the Mountainview location, called for 297 medium-density single-family houses and townhouses.

In May the proposed plans were referred to the Ontario Municipal Board by the applicant and as a result of six pre-hearings the applicant was granted draft approval and water allocation for 59 units as Phase I of the development.

"The OMB agreed that the applicant could have a water

allocation equal to what the mushroom factory had and that allowed for approval of the 59 units," explained Town planner Arvin Prasad last Thursday.

Prasad said that the two developers had to revise their proposals when it became evident that they could not divide the approved 59 units equitably.

"They dropped plans for two of three proposed townhouse blocks so the actual number of units has dropped significantly and there will be a less intense land use," Prasad said.

The developers will share the storm water management works and a main road through both subdivisions and the Town will require that the proposed park be built as part of the first phase of development.



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We Love You, Georgetown!

Wow! What a town. From all of us here at the Gemini, thanks for the fantastic response over these first four weeks. So many local residents and businesses have told us we were right - that Georgetown really does need its own community newspaper, with real news about real people and issues. We're still growing, still evolving, and our best issues are in front of us, but we thought this would be a good time to say thanks. So ... Thanks, Georgetown!

THE GEMINI

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