

The Acton Free Press.

Seventy-Second Year.—No. 26.

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Four Home-print Pages—Five Cents

Year End Business Acton Council Meet Held Last Night

Boardmore Co. Applies for Annexation of New Building Subdivision — Reeve Kirkness Thanked for his Work

At the last meeting for 1946 of Acton Council, all the members were present and Reeve C. L. Kirkness presided.

Accounts were passed for payment as follows:

C. J. VanGossum, tractor work at arena	4.00
Herbert Ritchie, expenses re Firemen's Convention	22.00
Armstrong, Anderson & Co., as per resolution	1000.00
Thompson Motors, Dec acct	30.01
C. F. Leatherland, legal account	84.42
E. Braida, rent of dump	50.00
	\$1190.43

Mr. R. R. Parker was present to discuss with Council the extension of the boundaries to include the new subdivision of Boardmore and Co. east of the Crescent. The Company would make application in accord with the terms of the agreement.

The Council also expressed a desire to further discuss straightening of the boundaries to include industrial property and record was made of this discussion.

Mr. D. Manning was present regarding the installation of sound equipment in the arena. He told Council he was having difficulty receiving P. M. speaker. He asked Council to consider using the two speakers he had suggested in the first place. He agreed that if the units were not satisfactory he would exchange them for four units when they were available at an additional cost of \$10 for labor. Council agreed to this change and passed a covering resolution.

Mr. Parker expressed his personal appreciation of the co-operation of the boundaries received in interviewing Council on any matter which he had discussed. Councillor Oakes expressed his appreciation of the splendid co-operation always accorded the municipality by Boardmore and Co.

The Treasurer reported on the present date which was quite satisfactory.

A letter from the Dept. of Health was referred to the next year's Council and the Board of Health.

Inquiry was made by Milton Council if Acton would be interested in building an incinerator to be used jointly by the municipalities for the disposal of garbage. Council did not consider such a plan feasible at the present time.

Further inquiry was to be made re indent accounts and information for sale of debentures. Information had been secured that the Municipal Board would not permit issue of debentures to cover cost of gifts to former service personnel.

Chief Harrop reported that during 1946 there had been three accidents at the level crossing on Mill Street.

On behalf of Councillors and officials, Councillor Oakes thanked Reeve C. L. Kirkness for his conduct of Council meeting and his work as Reeve the past year and presented him with several boxes of cigarettes as a token of appreciation from the Council and members.

Council decided to file certificate with the County Clerk showing that Acton was entitled to a deputy-reeve on County Council. It was realized the filing date for this year was past but the certificate was to be forwarded.

Intermediate hockey schedules are available to fans upon enquiry at the Free Press office. Get yours while the supply lasts.

Christmas Morning Fire Discovered Before Much Damage

A fire alarm was answered about 3:30 a.m. on Christmas morning when a blaze was found in the walls of the apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Yule in the Evan Jones property on Mill and Willow Street. It is believed to have started in a defective fireplace. Fortunately it was discovered early and firemen were able to stop its spread in the partitions where it was making headway on their arrival.

There are several apartments in this building and the store and warehouse of Hart's Grocery is in the Mill Street front. Smoke went through the building but damage was confined to the hallway where water damaged the building and walls were broken to reach the blaze.

Year End Business Completed by the Acton School Board

Teaching Arrangements Made for Vacancy — New Equipment Being Installed

A special meeting of Acton School Board was held on Monday evening to clear up year end business. Trustees L. Lovell, Dr. F. G. Oakes and J. Chapman were present and Chairman G. A. Dilla presided.

The Board by motion engaged the services of Miss Dryden of the Public School staff to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs. Deana. The secretary was to arrange with Mrs. Kaufman or another supply teacher for Grade 6 of the public school until mid-summer.

The new science desks were delivered to the Continuation School and are being installed during the Christmas holidays.

The secretary reported receipt of the capitation grant for the cadets of \$36 and this was by motion turned over to Principal Stewart for use of the Corp.

The supply committee were empowered to get a new teacher's desk for the extra room at the Continuation School. The property committee were to arrange more adequate heat for this room.

The secretary reported on the year's finances and that it would be possible to leave with the municipal treasurer the sum of \$2,500.

The following accounts were passed for payment:

Y. M. C. A., gym rental	\$60.00
Moyer, School Supplies, supplies	7.70
Encyclopedia Britannica, year books	7.25
C. Chapman Co., supplies	7.70
Globe and Mail, adv.	4.62
John Inglis Co., boiler repair	555.90
Heintzman Co., music	69.
Free Press, printing	5.74
F. L. Wright, insurance	3.75
C. N. Telegraphs, telegram	45.
H. H. Hinton, K. P., supplies	16.07
Highway Garage, repairs	65.
Public Utilities, L. & W.	33.55-
Bell Tel. Co., phone	3.83
Fred Cripps, labor	4.58
	\$709.31

BROTHER MRS. NEIL McDONALD DIED AT BRACEBRIDGE HOME

Brother of Mrs. Neil McDonald, Mr. Charles Liddard of Bracebridge, died at his home on Sunday, December 22, aged 73 years. His wife and one daughter of Bracebridge survive him. Burial was in Bracebridge. Three sisters and one brother of Mrs. Neil McDonald have died within the past eight months and friends here extend sympathy in these bereavements.

\$400,000 to 450,000 for Sewers and Plant Here

Only Two Tenders Received for Construction on Sewers — No Bid for Plant or Pumping Station — Low Interest Rates Available for Debenture Issues — Tenders not Accepted and Council Will Wait for more Favorable Prices — Construction Halted Labor for High Bid

A special meeting of Acton Council was held on Friday evening when Councillors W. J. Benson, W. J. O. Oakes, J. H. Crighton and C. L. Cook were present and Reeve Kirkness presided. Also present at the meeting were Reeve-elect F. J. McCutcheon and 1947 Councillors W. Coan and R. M. Aylsworth and ex-Reeve J. M. McDonald.

Mr. R. V. Anderson of Armstrong and Anderson, engineers and one contractor were present in connection with tenders on sewage disposal beds for Acton system.

Two tenders were received for the laying of sewers only, which is known as Contract A. There were no tenders for Contract B, which includes the equipment for the pumping stations and the disposal plant.

Mr. Anderson explained that 18 contractors had taken the plans and specifications for inspection. Three had returned them as not interested. He had found that four others did not intend to submit a bid. Of the nine from which bids might have been expected, there were only two bids.

The Mahone Construction Co. bid was for \$236,731.50 for Contract A. A cheque for \$11,500 was enclosed with tender.

Weston Construction Co. Ltd. bid \$329,238 for Contract A and enclosed a cheque for \$18,460 as required by the stipulations of the contract.

Mr. Spatafora of the Weston Construction Co. was the only contractor at the meeting. When asked his reason for the high price, he placed the blame on labor conditions. He said contractors were disgusted trying to run a business that was not worth the headache. He had talked with other contractors who had their yards full of machinery and preferred to let it stay there than take on contracts under present labor conditions. Most of the men available did not want to work and were unemployable. He said the Acton system was more costly than the Clinton system on account of the water encountered at a higher level. Depth of sewers in Clinton averaged about 10 feet while Acton's average depth was 12 feet.

Mr. Spatafora had tendered on one contract only because he considered that under present circumstances one would be all that he could give proper attention.

The contract prices submitted did not include the section of Main Street north of the C. N. R. tracks or putting sewers to Queen Street to the Wool Combing subdivision. Other new subdivisions were however included.

Mr. Shook, representing the National Sewer Pipe Co. gave information of prices secured in Paris, Georgetown and Clinton and said these bids compared favorably.

Equipment and material cost. Mr. Anderson, engineer, submitted estimated costs of materials for the construction Sewer pipes, manhole frames and covers, cast pipe, compound, etc. were estimated to cost \$36,201.25. Engineering charges would be \$13,700 and other charges about \$2000.

Disposal plant and pumping station equipment were estimated at \$10,220 and treatment plant at \$12,567. Steel used in connection with this was figured at \$4800. Contractors charges for buildings and installing the two pumps were estimated at \$14,000 and the treatment plant at \$50,000.

An estimated total of \$143,688 for Contract B added to the lowest tender for Contract A of \$236,731.50 brought the total costs up to \$380,419.75 which is about double the first estimate of the costs. The other tender would bring the costs to \$472,927. An estimate under present conditions might therefore be \$400,000 and it was pointed out that such a debenture issue would be approximately 30 mills on the tax rate for 30 years.

Low Interest Available
Mr. Anderson had also secured quotations on the sale of the debenture issue and this could be negotiated at two and a half per cent. for the 1 to 10 year debentures and 3 per cent. for the 11 to 20 year debentures. Figures were given on the annual carrying charges if the costs had been \$300,000 and \$350,000.

Reeve and members of the 1946 and 1947 Councils expressed the feeling that the tenders would not be accepted and that at a later date when conditions were considered more favorable other tenders would be called. All engineering work and preliminary surveys have been made and were ready for proceeding when a reasonable cost could be secured.

Reeve Kirkness thanked the visitors for attending the meeting and supplying the information, which had been most helpful.

Guelph had its second costly fire in two weeks when the Guelph Creamery was destroyed on Saturday with a loss of thousands of dollars. 65,000 pounds of butter and 900 cases of eggs were destroyed in the blaze.

Money may talk but have you noticed how hard of hearing it is when you call it?

First Hockey Game Exhibition Tilt With Guelph Team

From the fair metropolis of Guelph came a flurry of activity which penetrated the innermost sanctums of Acton Arena to be faced by a machine that needed oil to ease out joints which were rusted from a summer long period of hibernation.

And the flurry we refer to could be the sparkling Junior B hockey squad who hail from the Royal City whilst the machine well, our own Acton Tanners, of course, who were again shooting the ice lanes after a long summer lay-off. 'Twas last night that this flurry was reduced to a walk and 'twas last night they were outscored by a 4-3 deficit and 'twas also last eve that the local squad carried off their exhibition laurels from the Guelphites.

My, how those lads from Guelph skated it was no pushover to keep an eye on them. Hither, thither, backwards and forwards. But faster still the Tanners pushed them back to their own end and with the exception of 2 or 3 breakaways managed to hold them back of the blue line.

Acton scored the first two goals while Guelph got a singleton. Again the Tanners added two tallies. Guelph added two more to their sheet in the dying minutes and threatened hard but were outweighed and pushed deep in their own territory for the remaining few ticks of the time clock.

A man who you thought would perhaps recognize, played a stellar game on defense for the Royal City. Believe he carries Fred Kenney as a moniker and deposited his weight well. Ask the Tanner forwards.

The locals played an outstanding game and with exhibitions similar to that in their series we won't be star gazing when we glimpse Acton at the head of the loop.

Toronto or no other city may hold a vote on the cocktail bars. Seems time for celebration of Magna Charta Day again.

Deer Dives in Window & Wrecks Stock of Hardware

On Sunday afternoon a full grown buck deer crashed through a window in the warehouse of Symon Hardware, tramped around through the stock, breaking crockery and smashing pipes and other material, and broke two more windows before it was driven from the building. It left a trail of wreckage and blood from numerous cuts.

Entrance to the building was made by the animal crashing through a window that is five feet from the ground. Mr. V. B. Rumley notified Mr. M. Symon and an attempt was made to get the animal out of the building. It crashed through a window on the opposite side and had its front feet on the roof of an adjoining garage. Attempts were made at other windows and into the front of the store. Finally the animal broke a third window on the same side of the building from which it had entered and got away. It was bleeding from innumerable cuts sustained in its rampage in the stock room.

We've often heard of the expression "like a bull in a china shop." But there was no more apt description of the damage that a deer can do in a hardware stock. There were numerous splashes of blood on the walls and floor where the animal had made attempts to get out of the building.

It was a white Christmas and indications are it will be white for the next few months.

Coming Events

Announcements of Meetings, Conventions, or Other Events, under this heading, are charged, so cents per line, with a minimum charge for any announcement of 5c.

Dance, New Year's Eve, Acton Town Hall, Fisher's Orchestra, Whistles, horns, hats. Admission 75c. 25-2

Dance to Bob Martin and his orchestra, Town Hall, Acton, every Saturday night. Dancing 8:30 to 12:00. Admission 50c. Auspices Legion. 77

Twp. Nominations in Esquesing and Nassagaweya Twp.

Election in Esquesing for Deputy-reeve and Members of Council

Esquesing Township
Only one acclamation was recorded in Esquesing Township on Monday when G. W. Murray, who has been 14 years in municipal affairs retired from office and Geo. Cleave was elected by acclamation.

For Deputy-reeve the contest will be between R. N. Brown and Geo. Currie, both members of last year's Council.

Five were nominated and are running for the three Council seats. They are: Craig Reid, Cecil Chisholm, Geo. Leslie, Wilfrid Bird, W. O. Brownridge.

Walter Linham, nominated for Council and School Area Trustee declined the council nomination and received an acclamation as School Trustee. Wilfrid Bird and Lloyd Fisher, nominated for School Trustees declined their nominations.

Nominations were held in Nassagaweya Township on Monday when Lloyd Crawford was given an acclamation for the Reeveship.

Five were nominated for the four seats at Council: John Robertson, Edgar Ellenton, I. McMillan, Wm. Vandick and Archie Service.

School area trustees elected by acclamation were Murray Mahon and Ivan Richardson.

Acton Folk Used Over 60,500 Stamps On Christmas Cards

Mail handled at the Acton Post Office this year set a new high record and was indicative of the community growth. Mondays preceding the holiday were the heaviest days with the period from December 18th to 23rd seeing the greatest amount of outgoing and in-coming mail. For three days the average mail sent was from 20 to 25 bags and 2 to 3 bags of letters. An average mail at any other season runs from 6 to 10 bags.

This year there were 60,500 one cent stamps sold and licked by Acton citizens which is about 8000 more than last year. In addition there were the other denominations issued too in larger quantities.

Christmas mailing was done early and most of the deliveries were well in advance of the day. By Tuesday the mails were pretty clear and on Christmas Day the staff were able to enjoy the holiday the same as other folks. Acton folk were pleased with the efficiency and handling of the big mail here by Postmistress Fern Brown and her staff.

Santa Holds Up Good Little Boy



At the Wool Combing Corporation children's Christmas party last week Santa had a chat with Douglas Baird before he made the distribution of gifts from the Christmas tree.



Thankfulness for the Past—Courage for the Future

The pages of this week's edition of the Free Press are limited to four in number, owing to the holidays. This eliminates our usual space for editorial comments. We couldn't, however, let the old year close and enter upon a New Year without expressing to one and all our appreciation of the opportunity to serve among you for the past year and to wish for one and all an even better, more joyous year for 1947.

The past year has had its joys as well as its setbacks, but it has been a year when the guns of great nations have been silent and a year when Canadian sons and daughters have been welcomed back home again. For these alone every heart is grateful. There are also many individual reasons for thankfulness of 1946.

And so as the old year dies we express our appreciation to the friends who have made its days joyous and spurred us on to meet the obstacles confronted. And as the New Year dawns a hope to have a continuance of those privileges in cementing those friendships and making progress with you and having a share in bringing about a brighter and better year, not only in 1947, but throughout the span to come.

The Editor and Staff

Santa Claus at Beardmore Party



Santa Claus had gifts for all the boys and girls at the Beardmore and Company Christmas Tree last week, when about the tree was piled high with Christmas stockings. The Free Press camera caught Santa Claus and his helpers at work.