

The Acton Free Press

What Council did

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SHOVELS ARE REQUIRED to assist in the building of houses on the upper part of Elmore Drive in Lakeview as Acton's residential building boom starts to swing into full production. (Staff Photo)

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Town bell proves solid brass firefighters will build cairn

Chairman of the fire committee, councillor Williams reported Tuesday the town bell from the cupola on the roof of the town hall had been removed by the firefighters and sent away to be sandblasted and cleaned up. He said the bell was of solid brass and had the date 1882 on it. The firefighters are to build a cairn on the north side of the town hall on Bower Ave. for this bell as their centennial project.

is no intention of selling it.

Deputy Reeve Oakes inquired of No. 2 committee whether the road committee would be doing further repair work and patching of sidewalks this year. He was assured that the patching and repair program was not finished and the work would be proceeding throughout the balance of the season.

Reeve Hinton "facetiously" suggested that council might be able to work out a deal with the hydro commission to "install sidewalk between the transformers". He suggested the particularly dangerous areas of Acton Blvd. and Wallace St. would be good areas to install sidewalk.

(Reeve Hinton was apparently making reference to the sidewalk it should be rebated to their new office on Alice St. It has been his contention that sidewalks are not within the area of responsibility of the hydro commission and if there is money available for sidewalk it should be rebated to hydro consumers through a lower rate structure.)

The mayor, countering the reeve's dig, expressed appreciation to the hydro commission for their co-operation in installing the lighting of the grounds in front of the centennial library.

Clerk McGeachie reported that the renovations on the police office had been started on Tuesday; carpenters were working and plumbers and electricians will be required in a short time.

Whether to specify a male or female required in an advertisement for a replacement for the office staff generated much discussion. The thought was advanced that the hiring of a male clerk, who could do the present clerical duties and also understand the clerk and deputy-clerk might be advisable.

It was pointed out the deputy-clerk and clerk would be retiring. It was also pointed out neither would be retiring for at least five years under the town pension scheme.

Upshot of the whole discussion was the decision that the ad could ask for applications from either male or female.

Council at their regular session on Tuesday evening:

- Authorized payment of accounts totalling \$14,227.18.
- Authorized payment to Caroline Nurseries for trees planted in the new section of the cemetery in the amount of \$156.25.
- Paid the expenses of Mayor Duby at the Mayors and Reeves convention in Niagara Falls amounting to \$98.89.
- Authorized the attendance of clerk J. McGeachie at the clerks' and treasurers' conference at Honey Harbor in June with all expenses paid.
- Concurred with the recreation commission in their proposal to replace the recreation director with an arena manager.
- Instructed the clerk to proceed to carry out the renovations at the police office as outlined in the original plan with no deviations from the plan unless authorized by the building committee.

- Rescinded a motion opposing the front yard variance granted H. G. Stewart, granted by the committee of adjustment, which was to be appealed to the Municipal Board. The appeal was dropped because Mr. Stewart changed his plans and the location of the garage is now behind the front elevation of his house.
- Authorized payment of \$9,730.01 from the special library account to A. S. Kerr Construction on the architect's certificate No. 6. The clerk was instructed to issue the cheque when assured by the solicitor there were no liens registered against the building at the registry office in Milton.
- Passed a resolution approving and supporting the recommendations of the consultative committee on education.

- Approved and appointed No. 1 committee to co-ordinate the centennial program of the town at the time of the fall fair.
- Authorized the clerk to award the tender for the centre line and line markings on the streets to the lowest bidder.

- Confirmed George Stull as acting town superintendent in the absence of superintendent Alf Duby who is ill.
- Accepted the advice of R. V. Anderson, consulting engineer of the town, and agreed to have soil tests taken at the site of the proposed new sewage treatment plant at an estimated cost of \$2,500.
- Accepted an invitation to attend the opening of the centennial library, June 3.
- Agreed to convene a court of revision hearing on Monday, May 29.

- Credited consumers' deposits to their water and sewer accounts.

Acton driver hurt in head-on crash

Sidney Fields of R.R. 4, Acton, is in St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph, following an accident on Highway 7 a mile west of the Eramosa line at 5:30 p.m., Thursday.

Repeat hymn on TV program

Demands for a repeat of Herman Freiler's Hymn to Canada have been so brisk that producers of the CBC television show Hymn Sing have decided to sing it again for their nation-wide audience Sunday, June 18.

Builders erect 50 houses in Acton Lakeview subdivision bears brunt

Construction in Acton is going all out to meet the tremendous demand for houses. Lakeview subdivision is experiencing a boom which will produce half a hundred new residences. It's a hive of activity with shovels, bulldozers, chain saws, block layers, cement trucks, carpenters and bricklayers all contributing to the din.

Three construction companies are busy building in the subdivision with Rubin Construction starting on an initial 30 houses. A and Z Construction,

which has been raising houses there all winter, are in the process of constructing another 10, most of which are sold. Sesto Construction is building three and will likely start soon on another.

The big development in the subdivision is on Tyler Avenue but the emphasis will probably swing to Elmore Drive when the street is extended from the upper northern part to the shores of Fairy Lake.

Services are just being installed in this section of Elmore after workmen razed poplar and birch trees and cleared brush and logs away. Next item will be a road for the street. It runs parallel and behind Tidy Ave.

Local contractor Jack McMullen has initiated a housing development on the south side of Cobble Hill Road. His company, Jem Construction, has started on five houses and Mr. McMullen anticipates there will be a demand for more.

Three of his houses, which he describes as being "cottage splits", have already been sold. Two are being built on speculation.

Mr. McMullen figures this will keep his builders going until late summer. Additional units will be started if there's a demand.

Developers expect houses presently under construction will look after immediate needs in the district but predict there will be an ever increasing need of housing in this area as Toronto prices skyrocket.

Some individual building is also started at different locations. The area around Acton is humming with building activity as people buy country lots and construct houses to suit their needs.

This is getting a mixed reaction at township council level. Some councillors would prefer farm land remain rural and being used to grow things. Others welcome the influx of new families and large houses with their taxes.

In most cases the former outnumber the latter and in some townships those contemplating building houses will likely be faced with stringent land separation and building regulations.

Demands on taxpayers for new and expanded facilities is the main reason given by opponents of expanded housing.



THE BOOK OF BOOKS, a well bound copy of the Holy Bible, was presented to library board chairman George Lee, right, by Acton members of the Gideons Friday night. Doctor Craig Hutchinson made the presentation while

George Herrap, left, and M. M. Coles assisted. Mr. Coles led in a prayer of dedication. Mr. Lee and Mayor Duby made replies. (Staff Photo)

Reeve claims misconduct

Protest lost, county sells \$589,000 bonds

A 30 day option to sell County of Halton debentures totalling \$589,000 at 6½ per cent to yield \$98, was granted the bond firm of Bell, Gouinlock by County Council Tuesday, over the protests of Acton representatives.

Reeve H. Hinton countered the resolution to call tenders on the issue and if an acceptable bid was received, it could be accepted at the next county council meeting, but the amendment was lost.

Supporting his opposition to the option, Reeve Hinton suggested the money was currently borrowed at six per cent at the bank and if market conditions improved as some suggested in the fall, the debentures could be sold at that time.

Deputy Reeve C. Menefy predicted the bond market was not going to improve on municipal issues and suggested interest rates could reach eight per cent by next year.

Miss Maxted reviewed information on the market she had received from various sources. "It may cost more or less if you wait," she suggested, noting it was essentially a gamble.

Reeve Hinton argued the county had the duty to go into the open market and call bids. When his resolution was defeated, supported only by himself, Deputy Reeve F. Oakes and Deputy Reeve W. Hoey, he observed the county was closing out all other firms. "It is in grave conflict with good financial conduct," he concluded.

"We've been advised this is the best offer and to wait could be much worse," Deputy Reeve F. Rogers noted.

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Two A.D.H.S. speedsters make All-Ontario finals

Acton district high school athletes turned in another outstanding performance at the C.W.O.S.S.A. "A" meet at the University of Waterloo last Thursday. The Acton team placed in the top 10 among 57 schools competing.

Two of the Acton track team, Jim Slaven and Allan McKenzie, racked up first in two events and will represent the school at the All-Ontario finals in Hamilton this Saturday.

Track coach Bruce Andrews was pleased with his team's performance and lauded the school spirit. He said times recorded were good considering adverse weather conditions.

Jim Slaven, who won the Most Valuable Award for the track and field team took a first in the open two-mile race with a time of 9:48.8, establishing a new high school record. He was also first in the intermediate mile, clocked at 4:32.9.

Allan McKenzie took a first in the 400 intermediate race and also a first in the intermediate 800.

The Acton relay team finished second in the open mile relay with a time of 3:37.7, a scant four-tenths of a second out of first and the honor of competitor in the All-Ontario finals.

Other athletes who did well at the meet were: Dan Arbic, who placed fourth in the senior 100 yard dash in 10.6 and fourth in the triple jump.

Laurie Chisholm who clocked at 29.6 in the intermediate girls' 220 dash, finishing fifth. Bob Andrews who was third in the midjet pole vault event, jumping nine feet even and placed sixth in the midjet mile with a time of 5:09.9.

Two Actonians hurt in crash

A three-car collision at Dublin and Suffolk Sts. in Guelph Thursday morning involved two Actonians, Terry Slaven, R.R. 4 and his passenger, Mrs. Robert Anderson, Cameron St.

The two returned home following treatment in St. Joseph's hospital.

Mr. Slaven was treated for concussion and head injuries and Mrs. Anderson had facial and leg lacerations. The impact of the collision drove her from the back seat into the windshield.



HIGHLIGHT OF ACTON DISTRICT High School's first Athletic Awards banquet was the presentation of trophies to the year's outstanding athletes. From left, Jim Slaven, most valuable member of the track and field team; track coach and teacher Bruce Andrews; Sandi Slingerland, outstanding female athlete; Rob Roughley, most valuable player on the soccer team; Bill Landsborough, most valuable junior basketball player; Allan McNabb, most valuable player of the senior cage team; Jeanne Landsborough, most valuable girl volleyballer; Ron McCallum, athletic department head; Dan Arbic, outstanding male athlete. Seated are the most valuable girl basketball player, Therese Marzo, centre, and Elizabeth Atkey, girls P.T. teacher. Not able to be present was the most valuable volleyball player, Steve Johnston. Full results of the awards will be in The Free Press next week. (Staff Photo)