

The Acton Free Press

Ninety-Third Year—No. 30.

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1968

Twelve Pages—Ten Cents.



COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The town's council chambers has a new set of tenants this week. See Page Three for the story in pictures. (Staff Photo)

Big April! '67 building permits reflect spring boom

Building permit totals for 1967 were tallied up Tuesday by the town office to show that April was the town's big month. Permits that month, mostly for new homes in Lakeview subdivision, amounted to a whopping \$530,050, in value.

There were no industrial permits issued by the town all centennial year. There were 85 residential permits issued all year, totalling \$795,900. The five commercial permits represented \$35,325.

Despite the move from the former Mill St. office to the council chambers the day before, work was proceeding normally; the building permits were a project of the day - move or no move.

Mrs. Otterbein resigns

John Goy returned chairman parks, recreation committee

Chairman, vice-chairman and committees of the Board of Parks Management and Recreation Committee set up in 1967 will remain the same this year with one exception.

At their meeting last Thursday the two halves agreed to accept with regret the resignation of Mrs. Harry Otterbein after several years of community service. The board will seek someone to fill the remainder of Mrs. Otterbein's term of two years and take her place on the committee.

The motion to leave the administration end of the dual board alone returned John Goy as chairman and Brendan Ahern as vice-chairman.

Chairman Goy told the committee latest developments on purchasing the new compressor for the community centre. He said one the very same installed in Guelph held ice for the entire summer.

The new machine among other benefits eliminated possible trouble with the Department of Labor and did everything automatically what the old one had to do manually.

In his report arena manager Harold Townsley said the new compressor arrived at 1.30 p.m., a welder was there by 2.30 and only another hour elapsed when

Bob Drinkwater heads planning board for '68

At the planning board's first meeting of 1968, Bob Drinkwater was again named chairman, Sid Saltz vice-chairman and Iain Williams re-engaged as secretary-treasurer.

Mr. Williams and Mab Blow were appointed the board representatives to Halton County Planning Association.

Cranston Griese attended the meeting last Thursday evening in the council chambers to see if it would be feasible to present a plan of subdivision for his property. Chairman Drinkwater suggested he wait until the Seynuck estate is finalized.

Esqueusing township

Will give land to Acton if no dumping permitted

A suspicion the town of Acton might still use land they want to annex from Esqueusing township as a garbage disposal area was allayed by a delegation from Acton at the township council Monday night. An agreement to transfer the land will be drawn up by the township solicitor.

The land is a 69-1/2 acre parcel, town-owned in the township, around Fairview cemetery.

Esqueusing council was assured by the three man delegation from Acton council, consisting of Mayor L. Duby, Reeve Bert Hinton and Councillor B. Drinkwater, that the township had no intention of annexing the land for a disposal area.

Mayor Duby, acting as spokesman told Esqueusing councillors there were people interested in the area and they intended to open up lots for building, some of which were already serviced by the town. The mayor said there was an acute need for housing in

Acton. He brought township representatives up to date on a land exchange with Beardmore and Co. on the present site of the town dump which will be used for garbage disposal.

Reeve George Currie reminded the Acton delegation that the last time they made a request for the land to be used as a garbage disposal area township residents in the area petitioned Esqueusing council to turn it down.

"What part of the cemetery is in the town and township?" asked Councillor Peterson.

"The older part of Fairview is in town, the newer section is in the township," replied Mr. Duby.

Taxes on the property contribute only about \$58 a year to township coffers, said clerk K. C. Lindsay.

Further discussion after the Acton delegation left brought a suggestion from the reeve that

Assault charge laid at arena

A charge of assault has been laid following a scuffle at the arena Sunday afternoon during the public skating session.

Three youths had been asked to leave the ice by Don Price and then by police because of their language and behaviour. A brother returned to the arena and in assaulting Mr. Price also involved a woman spectator and a child.

Cigarettes, change stolen at Legion

Cigarettes and change valued at about \$6 have been taken from the Legion. The theft was reported to police early Saturday morning by Lloyd Masales.

Apparently entry was made through the front door which was found to be unlocked.

Taxes! Collect 88% 1967 taxes

Auditors poring over the town books came up with one piece of information which assured councillors at their meeting last week that Acton citizens were civic minded.

Clark J. McGeachie told council 87.94 per cent of the 1967 taxes were collected when the auditors checked the books, and extremely low figures. The arrears has also been considerably reduced since then.

"Few municipalities in the county can even come close to that figure," commented Reeve Bert Hinton.

"It shows there's a lot of civic minded people in Acton," Councillor Ted Tyler summed up.

- Authorized the secretary to pay the financial statement of \$244,17.
- Paid membership for the Ontario Municipal Recreation Association.
- Agreed to meet the third Thursday of every month in the new library.
- Instructed the secretary to send a cheque to the high school board for one dollar in payment for the old boiler.

True Canadian robin?

A robin has been spotted at the frog pond by the dump. A Crescent St. boy called the Free Press to say he'd seen the welcome



sight. Wonder if the bird just arrived or if it's a true hardy Canadian spending the winter with us?

KAZ LEWANDOWSKI, Elizabeth Dr., pulled this 9 lb. lake trout from a hole in the ice on Lake Simcoe, near Hawkstone, Sunday. The largest fish Kaz has ever caught. He used live minnows as bait. He took 15 minutes to land it, assisted by his buddy, Reg Nelligan with a gaff. It was the first time to his own fish but this year for the pair but they're eager to get back and try for more. Lake Simcoe, they assured the photographer, was full of fish like this. (Staff Photo)



Mrs. Nan Hurst graduates in first winter convocation

A charter member of Wellington College and the only grandmother in a group of 22 graduates, Mrs. Nan Hurst will receive her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Guelph at the first winter convocation. The 22 undergraduates and 28 graduate students will receive degrees at convocation Friday at 7.30 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. All the undergraduates receive B.A. degrees except one, who receives a bachelor of science degree.

Mrs. Hurst majored in English and history, and is presently employed in the arts library at the University of Guelph. One son and her daughter are still university students.

Since the number of those receiving degrees in the winter isn't large, graduates were not limited in their guests who could attend. Mrs. Hurst's family will nearly all be there: husband Joe, town office manager; son Michael, who's doing post-graduate work at York University toward his Master of Business Administration degree; daughter Jill, an undergraduate at Western university; son Jon and his wife, and son Mark, Acton; her parents Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hale, Georgetown; and Miss Frances Hurst, Richmond Hill.

Son Peter, a communicator



with the Department of External Affairs, is posted in Lagos, Nigeria, so he and his wife can't attend. And her two grandchildren are too young.

Mrs. Hurst returned to high school several years ago, and after graduating continued on to university in the new arts college at the University of Guelph. The university's recently introduced semester system results in this first winter convocation.

Mrs. Hurst is undecided about her future, since she's interested in both library work and teaching.

Town receives \$750 cheque from Rubin Co.

All contributions to the town coffers are gratefully accepted especially when they come unexpected like one from the Rubin Corporation.

Clerk J. McGeachie brightened last week's council meeting by reading a letter from the Rubin Corp. in which was enclosed a cheque for \$750 to keep the town's good will over the issue of silt in Lakeview pumping station's pumps.

Big builders in the Lakeview subdivision in 1967, Rubin said their operation might be contributing but they fell most of the silt in the pumps came from the town's sewage installation project on Elmora Drive. However, the company decided to contribute \$750 to the town to keep the good will of the municipality.

The letter was withheld until the Committee of Adjustment and the Ontario Municipal Board hearings were over so the company's motives would not be questioned.

"Very nice letter... a most acceptable gesture," chorused several councillors. Someone else thought it might be a good idea to send a copy of the letter to other builders in town.

Mayor Duby commented, "We won the game of checkers -- chess out!"

The clerk was instructed to write a letter of thanks to the Rubin Corporation acknowledging the contribution.

Construct road into industrial basin

A recommendation from No. 2 committee that an industrial road from Main St. to the industrial basin be constructed this year was passed by Acton council last week.

Council decided to proceed with the construction of a basic road after first receiving recommendations and costs from the engineers.

"We want to make this basin accessible to people who want to visit it," explained road committee chairman Bob Drinkwater. "We have to spend \$5000 or \$6,000 so it is foolish not to get the job done. The basin is no good until it's accessible."

Reeve Hinton said he was not pro or con but it put council in an untenable position when they didn't know the cost. It would be ridiculous if costs went to \$10 or \$12,000. He could see no reason

for council to commit themselves at this time.

Clerk J. McGeachie suggested council could ask the engineer to do the preliminary work and get an estimate of the costs involved in the job.

"Our committee is determined to get a road into this property," Councillor Drinkwater told the reeve. He explained it would not be a paved access, strictly a basic road for the first year.

"I'm in agreement with the committee," said Mayor Duby. "I've always felt we needed a road to present the property properly."

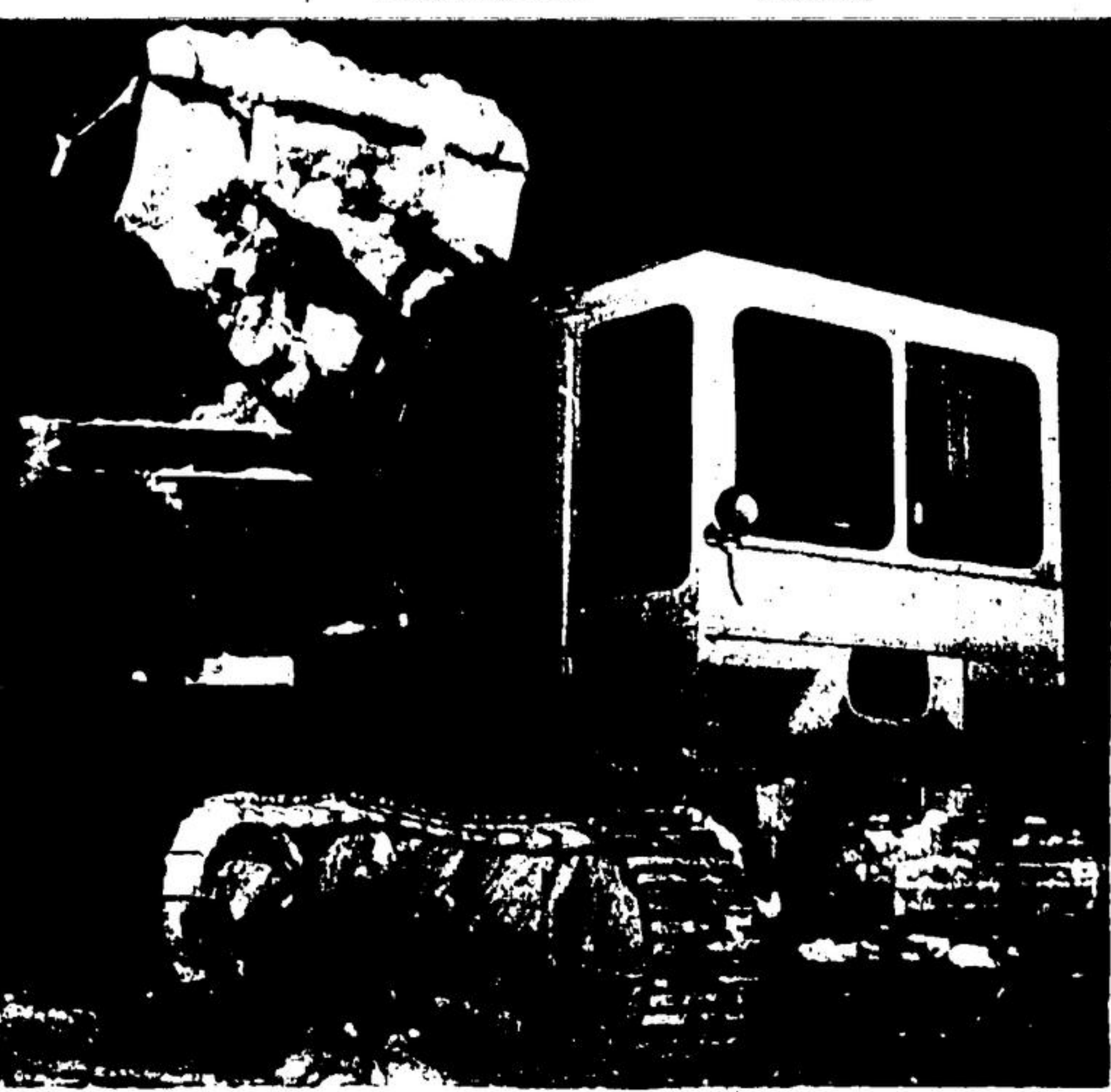
Further discussion and the reeve agreed to go along with a resolution providing it included a provision for first receiving a recommendation and costs from the engineer.

Resignation turned back for study

Acton council sent a letter of resignation from Councillor Bill Williams back to committee for further study at their regular meeting last week.

Mr. Williams cited shift work and his inability to attend all the meetings as his reason for resigning. However, he was to be contacted before any decision is made on accepting the resignation.

Usual procedure in a case like this is to contact the runner-up in the election and ask him or her to serve the remainder of the two year term.



BOUGHT FOR THE town dump, this new earth moving machine also came in handy as town workmen cleared streets of snow banks Wednesday and Thursday nights last

week. The Mill and Main St. business section was the main target of the loaders. A fleet of trucks was kept busy loading and unloading. (Staff Photo)

47 die on Halton roads in 1967

A statistical report on fatal accidents within Halton County compiled and released by Crown Attorney Peter K. McWilliams shows 47 people lost their lives in motor vehicle accidents in Halton County during 1967.

The score includes seven double, one triple, and one quadruple fatalities.

In 1966 only 27 perished in highway accidents but in 1965 the figure stood at 40.

Those killed include 19 drivers, 19 passengers, six pedestrians and three cyclists (motorcycle). Seven drivers with a blood alcohol reading of over .05 per cent were involved in accidents in which all seven drivers and four other people died.

Six people died after being thrown from their cars, three died of steering column injuries, and none of the three motorcyclists killed was wearing a crash helmet, although only one died of head injuries.

While in accidents where the vehicle was demolished a seat belt would have made little difference, none of the occupants of death-cars wore seat-belts.

Five pedestrians died, of which three were at fault, and one was struck by a drinking driver.

Three train accidents accounted for six fatalities, all at crossings unprotected by signals.

The number of collisions in overtaking vehicles increased from one to five. One of them: a double fatality, was caused by a drinking driver. Another double fatality was partly the result of the limited visibility at an intersection which is inadequate for present day speeds.

In its summary, the report called for a general review by the county and local municipalities of the adequacy of their roads for present day traffic with particular regard to sight lines at intersections, width of bridges and shoulders, as to conform to current design standards.

Eight of the 17 drinking drivers were killed, and 21 of the 47 fatal crashes involved drinking drivers.