

The Acton Free Press

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Fourteen Pages.—Ten Cents.

What council did

At the regular meeting of Acton council on Tuesday council:

* Authorized payment of a financial statement amounting to \$10,973.42.

* Credited consumers' deposits to the water and sewer account.

* Accepted a five year projection of capital requirements as recommended by the committee and authorized the forwarding of it to the Ontario Municipal Board.

* Accepted the recommendation of the appointment of E. Marks as building inspector with the additional requirements of having the building inspector sign building permits.

* Ratified the increase from \$10 to \$25 of the fee charged by the committee of adjustment for hearings on variances of the zoning bylaw.

* Accepted the recommendation of No. 1 committee that members of the committee of adjustment not be paid.

* Did not object to the Monex application before the committee of adjustment for changes in lots 43 and 44, on Cobble Hill Road.

* Advised solicitor C. F. Leabharland that council was not prepared to authorize the purchase of property owned by D. Campbell on Main St. S. near the work yard.

* Accepted the recommendation of the committee not to support a resolution by Tavistock in opposition to the re-organization of school districts.

* Paid an account of \$35 for sewer cleaning. It was found the blockage was in municipal lines.

* Paid solicitor James B. Thompson \$781 for professional services in connection with the Acri claim.

* Authorized superintendent Doby and as many employees as possible to attend the South Central Water Conference to be held in Kitchener.

Another phony \$10 found at B. of M.

On Monday afternoon another phony \$10 bill was detected at the Bank of Montreal - the second in just over a week. The bill was in the weekend receipts from a service station, and the owner had no idea who had passed it. Investigation is continuing.

Jet set

Flying high, a big V of Canada geese flew over Acton Sunday morning, headed back north. Crows have been back in the district for a week or so, and this week there's another report of a cheery robin back for another try at life in Canada.

Dr. Snelling will skate at carnival

Former Canadian senior men's champion figure skater Dr. Charles Snelling is expected to be the guest star at this year's ice carnival on April 6. Dr. Snelling, who practices in Burlington, accepted the invitation to come provided no medical emergency prevents him.

Other guest skater will be Lee Armstrong, Chatham, juvenile men's champion of South Western Ontario and Janice Peters of Chatham, who placed second in junior ladies in South Western Ontario.

With money from the recreation commission, new drapes will be made for this year's carnival.

A hundred children will take part and this year's theme is "A Round the World."



ADMINISTERING OXYGEN to Yail Twister Peter Papillon, exhausted from his arduous duties of extracting fines from his fellow Lions, are St. John Ambulance supervisor Ken Thompson, Georgetown, left, and Acton Divisional Officer Wally Gordon, while Lion Chief Vic Bristow raises the flag. The Lions presented the portable resuscitator to the St. John men at the regular dinner meeting of the club Monday evening. (Staff Photo)

Mason Knitting new owner anticipates expansion here

The "traditional nature of Mason Knitting Company" will be retained by the new owner, Brendan Swan, and he is also anticipating important expansion here.

The company, which had been in the Mason family for over 40 years, was officially turned over to the new owner February 15.

Previous owner George Mason is retired and lives in Toronto. The business was founded by his father Amos Mason, Acton's first mayor.

Mr. Swan, who is just settling in as the new president was born in Dublin, Ireland, and has been in Canada the past 13 years. He has had considerable experience in the textile business. He was

general manager of Trimfit Company in Rexdale before becoming general sales manager of Montox Apparel Industries in Rexdale. Both are highly diversified apparel manufacturers.

Married, with four sons, he will continue to live in west Toronto and commute to Acton. A group headed by Mr. Swan purchased the local business, which now employs about 70. Charles Kirkness remains as general sales manager. The same Mason Knitting lines are being produced, but a big change is in the offing.

He has obtained the Canadian rights to make and sell the famous Carter line of children's wear, and he intends to integrate this line into the Mason framework, with the necessary expansions this will entail over a period of time.

"We hope to turn Mason's into one of the finest knitting companies in Canada," he said this week. "We have the technical resources - all we need is time."

"We intend to start Carter's production in the near future," he said. "We have started research and development. New machinery will be installed."

Mr. Swan feels Acton's type of labor market is ideal and expects to use it "as much as possible" when expansion begins.

Armitage chairman

Interim Committee meets behind doors

The Interim Study Committee which will pave the way for takeover by the Halton County Board of Education next year held its first meeting in Milton Monday—behind closed doors.

Three reporters were asked to leave the meeting room. Halton County Council Chambers, prior to the opening of the meeting by Donald Young, Regional Superintendent of Education for the West Central Area. Mr. Young told the men the meetings would not be open to the press, but reports could be obtained the following day from the chairman and secretary.

Fred Armitage of Burlington Board of Education was elected chairman of the committee, with Dennis Lawrence representing Oakville Board of Education as secretary.

Each school board in Halton has one delegate. The others are Horace Blyth for Nassagaweya school area board, William Lawson from Esqueping, Murray Smith and Thomas Watson for the Acton Public and high school boards, H. P. Johnston and John Noble for the Milton public and high school boards, and G. V. Sigurdson and Edwin E. Hall for the two Georgetown boards. Mr. Young's office reported

Tuesday morning that the first session was just an informational and get-acquainted session. "This committee will pave the way for the county boards and will prepare reports about the present systems in Halton for the guidance of the new board," the spokesman explained.

The new 20-member County Board will be elected this fall and take office in January, 1969. The one board will abolish the 10 present public and high school boards and boards of education the presently exist across the county, and will administer all schools in Halton.

Monday's meeting also named six two-man committees to draft guidelines for their work and begin studies into program descriptions, special services, statements of board policy, personnel and salary lists, pupils and transportation schedules, accommodation and finance.

Regular meetings dates were established for the last Monday evening of each month.

Department of Education officials present Monday included J. E. Thomson, assistant superintendent of the supervisory section, and regional business administrator Roy Brand.

Fair in Texas

Another trip for Choraliers?

With memories of Expo still in their minds, Acton Legion Choraliers are considering another trip to another fair - this one in San Antonio, Texas.

A letter was read at their last practice, Sunday, suggesting they come to "HemisFair 68" to sing. There will be 20 countries participating, including Canada. The fair lasts from April to October.

While the singers showed immediate interest in making another trip, they agreed to investigate the possibility of locating a sponsor - perhaps government assistance of Canadian Legion backing.

Ailing leader George Musella hasn't returned to his group yet. Meanwhile their leader is Ted Hansen, who directed them publicly last week.

Five year projection of town expenditure approved by council

Council's five year projection of capital expenses was approved at their regular meeting Tuesday evening.

The projection is updated each year and submitted to the municipal board. O.M.B. approval of the projection facilitates final approval of the project when it is finally undertaken. The projection also provides the OMB with a better understanding of the municipality's capital requirements in relation to each project.

Added to the projection this year was the year 1972 when \$250,000 has been earmarked for storm sewer installation. Other minor changes were made in the forecast.

Deputy-reeve Oakes remarked "It is better to overproject and be approved. If the schemes do not come to pass, no harm has been done."

Mayor Doby pointed out "We may have underprojected but it's the best we can come up with."

Reeve Hinton reviewed the assessment, tax rate and county rate over the past number of years.

Clerk J. McGeachie advised council the present capital indebtedness of the town was "a little over \$900,000" which does not include the high school debentures apportioned to other municipalities in the school area.

He estimated the gross debenture debt as slightly over one million dollars. An estimated \$465,000 will be added to the debenture debt for the construction of the addition to the sewage treatment facilities.

In the projection \$425,000 has been allotted for a public school extension in 1968.

In 1969 storm sewer extension is set at \$75,000; street paving at \$75,000 and the town's portion of the C.N.R. underpass at \$25,000.

In 1970 water works extensions and sewer main extensions are called for at \$50,000 each.

In 1971 sidewalks come in for attention with a possible expenditure of \$200,000.

1972 sees the quarter million dollar storm sewer program.

On the basis of debentures issued at the present time payments on principal require \$128,555 in 1968; \$131,257 in 1969; \$165,469 in 1970; \$154,993 in 1971; and \$148,530 in 1972.

To these annual principal payments would be added payments

on the sewer plant extension and any of the program which might be approved.

In the discussion of the five year projection councillor McGeachie wondered what part of town had no water. Councillor Tyler pointed out it was proposed to loop the water main on the third line north and all portions of the town are presently served.

Councillor Masales asked if the committee had considered buying up older property for a renewal project and felt the com-

mittee should look into it. Mayor Doby suggested this would "fall in the lap of planning."

Clerk McGeachie reported that the senior citizens' group had provided him with an additional list of people interested in low rental housing. The list was for six single units and two couples. In addition to what was sent in to the Ontario Housing Corporation, this indicates a requirement for 11 single units and three for couples.

Councillor Tyler asked what the change was from the recommendation of the committee with regard to the appointment of building inspector Ernie Marks. The Mayor said there were no changes other than that the building inspector would sign all building permits.

Council was advised the committee of adjustment had revised the charge from \$10 to \$25 for a hearing before the committee and council opposed the payment of committee members.

Mayor Doby said it must be thought of "as a public service." He pointed out there were many other appointed bodies in town which could conceivably ask for payment if the precedent were established.

Councillor Tyler asked if council was all agreed that the consolidation of school boards was acceptable. The subject came up on a resolution from Tavistock who were opposed to the consolidation of the school areas. Councillor Tyler said he could not "see how the whole county can function as one school board except through an increase in cost."

Reeve Hinton said it was his opinion that the quality of the professional staff (i.e. administrative) would reduce the time spent by the elective school board.

The clerk advised members the urban board had arranged a meeting with Mr. Thompson of the Department of Education to which will be invited school board members, councillors and the general public. The meeting will be held March 13 at 8 o'clock in Martin St. public school in Milton.

The assumption by the province of the cost of administration of justice will, "I think cost Acton more," said councillor Drinkwater. While certain charges for administration of justice will be assumed by the province the only revenue from justice would be the fines assessed on infractions of municipal by-laws.

Councillor Perry expressed the hope that "council members are thinking of the small change" (Continued on Page 3)

Planning board approves two minor variances, sets budget for 1968

Two applications for minor variances that went unopposed before the Committee of Adjustment were not opposed by Acton Planning board at their regular meeting last Thursday.

The applications by Monex Construction call for minor variances on lots 22, 43, and 44, plan 712. The property is situated on Cobble Hill Rd. at the foot of Victoria Ave. The variances were made necessary because the building on lot 44 through an error was situated too close to a lot line.

The application involves adjusting property lines on the three lot and incorporation of the street allowance on the extension of Victoria Ave. which was closed some time ago.

Secretary Iain Williams informed the board proper notices had been sent to neighboring property owners.

Board member Stan Joe summed up the feeling of the board when he said "I can't see anything wrong with that."

Present at the regular meeting were board members Melbourne Blow, Stan Joe and councillor Charles Perry; Sid Saltz, vice-chairman, conducted the meeting in the absence of board chairman Bob Drinkwater.

Two accounts were received and payment was approved for one account, \$304.30 to Project Planning Associates for professional services rendered during November and December 1967.

A second account from them of \$482.12 was held in abeyance until it has been clarified if the copies of the zoning map are completely up to date.

The proposed budget discussed at the January meeting was reviewed. The 1968 budget amounts to \$2,745 and with a 1967 balance of \$834.01, the amount to be requisitioned by the board for 1968 will be \$1,910.99.

Members informally discussed areas and subjects to be considered in future planning. The meeting was held in Acton library.

Do-it-yourself forecast kit for weather watchers Friday

With each copy of today's Acton Free Press you get this free bonus - a do-it-yourself kit for ascertaining specific meteorological phenomena. Be the first on your block to know whether it'll be warmish or frigid on March 31.

It's Easy! It's Fun!

No complicated instructions in French or even in English. Just look out your window Friday morning March 1 - and ZAP! you're a prophet. If the weather smiles back at you like



Flop-eared lamb?

this simple lamb, beware the end of March. If it roars



Leering lion?

back at you before you've even sipped your morning coffee, better days are sure to come... sooner or later.

Atlantic gale - freighter in trouble

Acton realtor witness on deck of Queen Elizabeth

Acton realtor Syd Lamb expected his vacation cruise on the liner Queen Elizabeth last week, a boyhood ambition realized, would be a breeze.

He never expected the stiff breezes the cruise ran into would increase to a gale, however, nor that he'd be part of a sea rescue.

Mountainous seas caused by the high winds ran the S.S. Scilly, a Canadian freighter into trouble off the coast of Georgia and the majestic Queen of the Cunard line, closest vessel, was asked to give assistance by the U.S. coast guard. She steamed 75 miles off course to find the Scilly wallowing in the North-west gale in a 20 ft. swell.

"You've no idea of the size of the waves," said Mr. Lamb who confessed to liking rough seas, "the rougher the better." Spray from the waves was coming over the bow of the Queen Elizabeth, 90 ft. high.

Passengers in the hundreds among them Mr. Lamb, lined the decks to see the troubled ship which by then had fixed the

broken steering and was able to hold her own in the gale at a speed of three knots. The Queen could go no closer than half mile to the Scilly for fear of collision in the rough swells.

"Ship officials said if they ever collided the freighter would be smashed to pieces on the huge liner," Syd explained.

After standing by for an hour and 15 minutes a U.S. coast guard cutter arrived and the Cunard liner was able to leave. Mr. Lamb said he attempted to take 8 mm. movies of the stricken Scilly as she tossed in the stormy seas but does not know yet how they turned out. He doesn't know how the Scilly made out either. When passengers disembarked at New York they immediately bought newspapers but could find no mention of it.

In spite of the detour the Queen Elizabeth made it to port on time scheduled. "She speeded up to 32 knots from her usual 26 knots and you could tell the difference in the fierce winds,"

said Syd. In spite of her size the liner shuddered and shivered. Passengers had no inkling of the intensity of the gale until they were well out on the Atlantic. The liner left Nassau two and a half hours early because of the gale. In harbor the Queen sheltered the ferry boats from the high winds.

Sunday morning at 5 a.m. the radio room received an S.O.S. from the Scilly. The U.S. coast guard at Miami asked the liner to standby until their cutter arrived.

Passengers were kept posted by the public address system, lining the decks of the Cunard Queen while she steamed to the rescue. Captain of the ship was Commodore G. T. Marr, retired officer of the Royal Navy. He was in command of H.M.S. Devonshire during the last war.

Mate and hearty after his voyage, a trip he'd recommend to anyone, Mr. Lamb looks back on the experience of a cruise ship and a sea rescue as one he will never forget.



COMMODORE G. T. MARR, captain of the Queen Elizabeth, meets Syd Lamb during his stay on the ship last week. The captain, commodore of the Cunard fleet, was in command of the famous British warship, H.M.S. Devonshire, during the last war.