

Council debates reeve's proposal to fill in point at Prospect Park

Reeve Bert Hinton's proposal that the Credit Valley Conservation Authority be asked to consider filling in and rounding off Prospect park point with the dredge at no cost to the town, received a cool reception at Tuesday's meeting of Acton Council.

A lively discussion ensued when the proposal came up for discussion. Councillor Ted Tyler recalled a previous meeting of all the bodies involved when the recommendation was discussed in detail and it was decided it was almost impossible to put fill in around the point with the dredge.

"It's an unreasonable request to the dredge company," claimed councillor Tyler. The idea emanating from the meeting was to store the fill at the end of the arena and then transport it by our loaders to the point. All were agreed this was the most feasible method to use.

"We didn't all agree," retorted the reeve. "Beardmore officials agreed with me."

"Are you for or against the project?" the reeve asked Mr. Tyler. "For? Alright, if we can get it done for nothing, what's wrong with that. We had engineering advice it can be done."

"Beg your pardon?" asked Councillor McKenzie.

"Alright, I had engineering advice it could be done," the reeve said.

"We had it explained to us, too," Councillor Tyler replied but got different advice.

"You are just repeating Mr. Parker's words," the reeve answered. "If it is going to cost the town anything I'm opposed."

Mayor Doby said the town's representative on the Conservation Authority should be commended for his interest in the dredging project. "I'm very much opposed to an appeal to the Authority at this time."

Chairman of Committee of the Whole Bob Drinkwater interjected to ask, "If the point is filled, who will it belong to?"

"Esquising and Beardmore's," the reeve replied. He said, however, that negotiating with the Authority could produce results. "We weren't getting this end of the pond cleared, we negotiated and it was done."

"I beg to differ," the mayor told Mr. Hinton. "It was planned to be done. It was clearly understood. I've never known it to be forgotten."

"Another point," Councillor G. McKenzie chimed in. "This is

being done to provide a water reservoir. To fix the point would mean dumping thousands of tons of earth back in the lake. If we want it done it will have to be another project. The reeve has had it explained."

Mr. Hinton said he wasn't the only one who would favor it. The president of Beardmore & Co., Mr. Braida, contradicted the Authority and authorized filling in of the swamp land beside the arena, and he took the same position as the reeve on the project.

The simple way to do it, countered Councillor Tyler is to put in a retaining wall and dump

loads at the point.

The reeve disagreed. "We'll need hundreds of loads of fill to enlarge the point," he claimed.

Councillor McKenzie, becoming increasingly exasperated, asked the reeve, "How can you ask the dredging company to take earth out of the lake and then dump it back in?"

The mayor reviewed the history of the project and commended Mr. Parker for his help in getting it done in Acton. "It's a pilot project and could have gone somewhere else," he pointed out.

"You're clouding the issue,"

the reeve countered. "I'm not speaking against our representative on the Authority. We're not disagreeing the point can not be filled. My request is just for the Authority to consider it. I've had engineering advice that it can be filled. Mr. Parker is not arguing the engineering part with me. He's arguing about who's going to pay for it."

Councillor Drinkwater said he agreed with what the reeve was trying to do but he thought the first requisite was to ask permission of the property owners before proceeding.

"It's Parks Board business,"

thought Councillor Tyler.

"Mr. Braida and I were in agreement with putting fill in the bulldozers at the last meeting," the reeve stated. He felt he would also agree with him on this case.

"Everyone at the meeting was in agreement," the mayor retorted.

"I must have been at a different meeting than you," Councillor Tyler said to the reeve.

"You probably wished you were," the reeve flashed back.



CAUGHT GLANCING THROUGH THE SHELVES are David Marcoux and Becky Baxter, during Young Canada Book Week. (Staff Photo)

Crown attorney quits no appointment yet

Acting Crown Attorney for Halton, Ronald Thomas will resign from the Department of the Attorney-General and go into private practice at the end of November.

Mr. Thomas said he had been offered a job in a private practice since coming to Halton. He said the move was in his best interests, and he could not turn it down.

He said there would be a man

from the Attorney-General's Department appointed to Halton for the coming sessions and there might be a full time appointment made very soon.

Mr. Thomas replaced Peter McWilliams last spring when McWilliams gave up the post to run for federal parliament after serving 10 years as Crown. McWilliams is now in a private practice as well.

Esquising electors nominate candidates

Electors in Esquising will be nominating candidates for the offices of reeve, deputy-reeve and councillors for the first two year term in the township's history at the nomination meeting next Monday night. Also to be nominated are candidates for the new Halton County Board of Education.

The nomination meeting will be held in Esquising community hall at Stewarttown starting at 7:30 p.m.

Although most of the present incumbents have not declared

themselves, Deputy-Reeve Tom Hill has indicated his hat will again be in the ring. Keen observers of the township scene expect all the present office holders will again be contesting their seats.

George Currie is the present reeve of the township, Tom Hill is deputy-reeve and councillors are C. F. (Pat) Patterson, Bob Lawson and Wilfred Leslie.

Bill Lawson, a member of the present Esquising School Board has said he will run for the new County Board of Education.

Tax rebate totals \$21,769

Homeowners and tenants in the County of Halton are getting more than \$2,100,199 this year through the Ontario Government's new system of reducing taxes on residential properties.

Acton homeowners and tenants received \$47.74 each in refunds.

The system was introduced by Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough as a means of easing the burden of municipal and school taxes. Ontario makes the payments to each municipality, which in turn reduces the taxes for each house or apartment.

The amounts for individual municipalities in the county range from \$21,769 in the Town of Acton to \$1,009,317 in the Town of Burlington.

The following is the complete list, as released by the Department of Municipal Affairs:

Town of Acton, \$21,769; Town of Burlington, \$1,009,317; Township of Esquising, \$74,556; Town of Georgetown, \$186,216; Town of Milton, \$92,903; Township of Nassagaweya, \$24,292; Town of Oakville, \$691,146.

Elmer still flies at M.Z. Bennett students say thanks to John Bruce

Pupils in M.Z. Bennett school watched their new Elmer flag raised in front of the school last Friday afternoon marking their fifth year without a single accident.

Corporal Ray Mason presented Larry Quinn, head of the safety patrol, with another bar for the Elmer Safety plaque. The plaque shows a perfect safety record from 1963.

It proved an appropriate time to present John Bruce with a gift

on behalf of Glenlea children. Mr. Bruce, now in his 80th year, recently retired after 12 years as crossing guard on Hwy 7. Gloria Brown made the presentation of a leather wallet and key case, and a letter of appreciation signed by students who used the crosswalk. Extra money collected filled the wallet. The letter stated:

Dear Mr. Bruce,
We would like you to accept this token of appreciation

for guiding the Glenlea children across Hwy. 7 for 12 faithful years in all kinds of weather. We hope this will remind you of us in future years.

Afterwards, students filed past Mr. Bruce, shaking hands and bidding personal farewells on their way back to classes.

Principal Elmer Smith said he felt Mr. Bruce was largely responsible for the school's enviable safety record.

Santa Rama draw Saturday afternoon

Kick-off draw for the Santa Rama program sponsored by the merchants of Acton will take place Saturday afternoon in front of the Y.M.C.A. at 3 p.m.

The participating merchants will be playing Santa Claus to customers for the next six weeks. Each purchase will allow customers a chance to win cash vouchers worth \$90 each week.

A clown band will tour the town Saturday afternoon to drum up enthusiasm for the project and wind up on the "Y" steps.



STRAINS OF LASY POST and Revellie split the frosty silence Sunday morning when citizens gathered to pay their annual solemn homage to the town's fallen servicemen. Above, Mrs. H. H. Hinton lays one of the 19 wreaths. The cenotaph is flanked by honor guard from the Lorne Scots, with Acton band to the right. A service followed in Knox church. (More pictures first page of second section. (Staff Photo)

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RUD FLAYS CN ON HOUSE FLOOR

Halton M.P. Rud Whiting brought the plight of the smaller centres who face closing down of their railway stations—and specifically Acton—to the attention of the nation Friday afternoon.

In his maiden speech to the House of Commons, the Halton Liberal M.P. accused the C.N.R. of ignoring the best interests of the people under the guise of economy in order to implement their Master Agency Plan.

Referring specifically to the proposed application to remove the agent-operator at Acton, Mr. Whiting said the CN's action will mean virtual loss of railway service to the community if it is successful.

"I take strong exception to the cavalier methods used by the C.N.R. prior to making formal application to the Board of Transport Commissioners," the Halton M.P. told the House. He scored the CN for failure to consult users of the railway before going ahead with a decision to apply to the Canadian Transport Commission for approval of the Master Plan Agency in Acton.

"A decision was made in the light of its effect on railway operations alone," Mr. Whiting charged. "No users of the railway were asked to give any facts or express their views as to the effect of this re-arrangement of service."

Speaking with a conviction that brought accolades from all sides of the House afterwards, the Halton M.P.'s speech was picked up and amplified by TV, radio and the daily press.

It was a double-barrelled speech: Mr. Whiting also asked for a reappraisal of federal, provincial and municipal responsibilities for housing. He advocated standardizing building codes and standards across Canada and allocation of more money to building houses so they were within the reach of ordinary wage earners.

But the large part of the speech concerning the railway's proposals to close stations hit the headlines.

Asked in an interview afterwards what the citizens of Acton could do to oppose the proposed removal of the agent-operator and eventual closing of the station here, the Halton M.P. replied that he is willing to carry the matter further and he welcomed any additional support from the citizens, industries and business of the town.

M.P.'s from other constituencies congratulated him on the conviction behind his words and the facts he presented. "That's exactly the way the railway works," one said.

Following is the text of the speech:

"Mr. Speaker, I would like to discuss a situation which is not peculiar to my riding alone, but is common in many constituencies across Canada. It relates to the railroads. I refer specifically to the C.N.R. and their policy of removing the agent-operator from certain stations and incorporating these stations into what they refer to as a Master Agency Plan. This is being done under the guise of economy and is supposed to

provide a more efficient service to the user."

"Mr. Speaker I would like to point out that what the C.N.R. is proposing in these communities is not always in the best interests of the people the railway has served. Nor do I believe that it will appreciably improve the financial position of the railway, nor does this proposal provide a more efficient service to the public."

"I would like to give you a case in point where the C.N.R. is presently making application to the Board of Transport Commissioners to remove the agent-operator at Acton, Ontario. If this application is successful, it will mean the virtual loss of railway service to this community. Acton is a progressive community of 6,000 people located 40 miles from Metropolitan Toronto. This is a community which should have increased railway service—not less. If, for example, the C.N.R. would give this community commuter service, undoubtedly people would move here from the congested areas of Metropolitan Toronto but would continue to work in the City. The removal of railway service will have an adverse effect on the future industrial growth of this town because in many cases industry requires the facilities provided by the railway. I might add that Acton is one of the very few communities which has a favourable assessment ratio of 60 per cent industrial to 40 per cent residential."

Errant canines under control?

Figures submitted by dog control officer George Herrington showing 116 errant pooches had been dealt with this year up until November 1, moved Mayor Doby to remark at council Tuesday that dogs are being well taken care of in Acton.

"The figures are timely," said the mayor because certain elements in town think dog control is not being looked after. Councillor Bob Drinkwater thought there was still room for complaint, however. Glenlea subdivision and other areas were not under control yet despite claims, he said. "We used to see the dog catcher two or three times a week whereas now we only see him every two or three weeks."

The mayor said there were no set hours for him to appear and staggered times helped him to catch unwary canines.

Figures submitted by Mr. Herrington showed 116 dogs had been picked up in the 10 month period and 31 were reclaimed. Eighty-five dogs had been relocated or destroyed. He had investigated 51 complaints and issued 68 warnings to dog owners.



RUD WHITING Two car collision Church, Main corner

About \$85 damage resulted when two cars were in collision at the corner of Church and Main Sts. on Friday.

The car driven by Evelyn Porty, Elgin St., received an estimated \$10 damage to the left rear fender. The second car, driven by Raymond Green, Harris St., Rockwood, received an estimated \$75 damage to the left front door.

Cars in accident on Mill St. Tuesday

Two cars travelling west on Mill St. were in collision Tuesday morning, when one of them attempted a left turn. Drivers involved were Norman Humeniuk, Wesleyan St., Georgetown and Howard Canon, Charles St., Georgetown.

The incident was reported to Acton O.P.P. who estimated damage to the Canon car at \$125 and the Humeniuk car at \$75.

Next Monday Expect large crowd nomination night

Nomination night—next Monday evening at the Robert Little school—promises to draw a larger crowd than usual this year. Main drawing card is the expected three-way race for the mayor's seat, the first time it's been contested in some years.

Few present councillors would commit themselves this week whether they'll be standing for office again. At least one had discussed retiring.

And newcomers for council are definitely expected.

Campaigns for Mayor Les Doby, reeve Bert Hinton and Councillor Bob Drinkwater for the mayor's post all began some time ago. All three are making as many personal calls on householders as they can.

There are also nominations for

four hydro commissioners next Monday. All posts are for a two year term.

Part of the Acton interest won't be located here in Acton; it's in Brookville hall that nominations are accepted for the single town township representative for the new area school board. Horace Blyth, Tom Watson and Cyril Bishop have all stated their intentions of contesting the seat.

After the hour's nomination session, reports will be presented, those nominated will have a chance to speak, and there'll be questions from the floor.

Qualifications are due in to the clerk's office the following day, before nominations are final.

No burning of leaves? "Ridiculous" - Dep. Reeve

"One of the most ridiculous things that has come up in 1968," said the deputy-reeve of the new Air Pollution Control Act which was brought to council's attention at Tuesday's meeting.

Dr. Oakes objected to the new regulations which some councillors felt were hazy and needed clarification.

"We can't even burn leaves," he complained. "It'll mean more work for the garbage people, keep the town untidy and require more money to collect the leaves."

"They're not too clear," agreed Councillor Drinkwater. Clerk Joe Hurst could see no problem in the clarity of the regulations. "They say no person can burn a fire without the supervision of a provincial officer."

By June 30 next year they will forbid open fires in dumps," the mayor observed.

"Ridiculous," said Dr. Oakes. Reeve Hinton told council many municipalities were observing the new regulations

now. "We may or may not, depending on the ruling from the provincial officer."

Council received a committee recommendation that fire permits be temporarily suspended until the issues are clear.

Council will not oppose rate change

Acton council decided to take no action on a request Bell Canada made to the Canadian Transport Commission for a change in telephone rates for the Acton exchange.

"In my opinion it is not council business," said Mayor Les Doby. "It's strictly up to the people and Bell."

"Have we ever acted on this type of thing before?" asked Councillor Earl Masales.

Deputy-Reeve F. Oakes recalled council had acted on a Bell change before but under different circumstances.