

What council did

* Parking will be regulated on Agnes and Elgin Sts., in the vicinity of Beardmore and Co. entrance. A by-law, finally passed Tuesday after consideration since 1967, will be submitted to the Department in Toronto for approval.

The by-law specified sides of the streets, times and days of the week to limit parking.

Councillor Greer wanted to be assured that the residents along the streets affected knew about the proposed changes. He was assured they did.

This area is not satisfactory for parking with insufficient shoulder.

* The town had applied to the C.N.R. to lease an area of their right-of-way in Glenlea park. The CNR's reply asked \$25 a year rental plus taxes, with Acton to erect a chain link fence, six feet high, all along the property. By resolution, council agreed not to lease the land. (A new ski run has been built in this area.)

* Meb Blow and Iain Williams were named to the Halton County Planning Association.

* A letter of appreciation was read from Mr. and Mrs. Parker, thanking the town for the gift on their 50th wedding anniversary.

* Council approved the Hydro Commission's set charge of 27 cents a reading for water meters.

* Council recommended building inspector Ernie Marks receive 100 per cent of the building permit fees, with the exception of municipally financed construction, with a guaranteed minimum of \$500. (This is the same as last year.) Councillor Peter Marks abstained from voting.

* By by-law, deeds were authorized for the transfer of land for street purposes only from Alfred John Creasey and Nikolaij Chorolaskij, Guelph St., to the town. The road has been used as a service road for years and the deed "ties up a legal situation."

* A half-time secretary will be hired to assist assessor William Erskine. He is more than half the time out of his office, and has already been receiving help from the town office staff. At committee level it was also recommended that a senior high school student or university student be hired for the summer for census taking.

Project Planners will be asked to prepare a concept plan of the town, at an estimated cost of \$1,300. Councillors hoped this might answer some of their questions. For instance, applications are in the works for several apartment buildings. "We could confirm in our own minds if we need this many," said the mayor. We had none suddenly we might have six or seven.

* A special meeting of councillors with representatives of the Department of Planning and Development, the town engineer, solicitor and planning board members will be held tonight (Wednesday) to review procedures in the applications of subdividers.

* Dynamiting of ice on Fairy Lake by the dredging crew is causing concern. Nearby residents are beginning to wonder if damage will be caused to plaster. Night blasting awakens children. There was also blasting on Sunday. Council agreed enquiries should be made.

The meeting, which began half an hour early due to the volume of business, went by resolution past the curfew and ended at 11 p.m. All council members were present with the reeve and deputy-reeve arriving late from a county council dinner at Halton Centennial Manor.

Car, truck in collision

A car, stopped to let out a passenger, was struck by a truck Tuesday afternoon of last week at 2:30 p.m.

The car, driven by Guy Bussell, Georgetown, was travelling west on Mill E, when it stopped. The Tyler Transport truck driven by Ernest Daer, Queen St., Acton, struck the rear fender of the car, causing \$125 damage. There was no damage to the truck.



ICY WINDS AIDED FLAMES in levelling the 102 year old barn of T. E. Kerkhoven, Lot 28, Con. 3, Nassagaweya, Saturday morning. Eighty pigs were lost in the windswept blaze as well as poultry. Mr. Kerkhoven herded 50 pigs to safety, 15 of which had to be later destroyed.—(Staff Photo)

Second Saturday fire

Flames level 102-year-old barn

A historic 102-year-old barn, 80 pigs and 150 chickens were lost in a roaring fire whipped by icy winds Saturday morning on the farm of Thomas Kerkhoven, R.R. 1, Campbellville.

Known as the Floyd Hammond place, the farm is situated at Lot 28 on the Guelph Line. The barn, erected in 1866, was completely destroyed in a few minutes. Acton firefighters responded quickly to the alarm at 10:15 a.m. but when they arrived on the scene only the frame of the building was standing beside the sturdy silo. Mr. Kerkhoven

managed to herd 50 pigs from the blaze but another 80 were lost in the blaze along with 150 chickens.

Mr. Kerkhoven was outside cleaning equipment when he heard crackling noises in the barn. When he stepped in, he was greeted by intense heat. He was burned about the face and a neighbor, as yet unidentified, took him to Guelph General hospital for treatment.

Fifteen of the 50 pigs he rescued from the blaze were so badly burned they had to be destroyed later. Acton firefighters stood a cold

vigil beside the blazing barn for almost two hours and assisted in rounding up pigs which were put in a small shed. Fortunately the wind was blowing away from the house and other outbuildings and they were never threatened.

Mr. and Mrs. Kerkhoven moved to the farm two years ago and had just finished fixing the barn up to house swine. They have two children, Nicoleine 3½ and Carmen 1½. A veteran of the Dutch merchant marine, Mr. Kerkhoven said the loss was covered by insurance.

Both he and his wife expressed

appreciation for all the acts of kindness and help tendered them both during and after the fire. Neighbors and spectators all pitched in to assist.

Cause of the fire is unknown. It was the second call for the Acton brigade that morning. An overheated pipe in the floor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Freeman, Lot 6, 6th Line, Erin township, gave the Acton brigade a run at 5:50 a.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Freeman were asleep and were awakened by smoke. The heat from the pipe which came from the furnace was so intense it melted plastic water pipes nearby.

Firefighters soon had the blaze under control.

Dissolve Acton merge into one big municipality

(Continued from Page 1)

the government would like to see a strong buffer between the two large cities.

The minister further proposed each of the two participating counties select three members for a committee that will proceed with negotiations with himself and members of his staff. At a future stage he suggested a technical working committee of appointed municipal officials to speed the framing of details. Mr. McKeough hoped this could be done within 12 months.

Although the minister said he hoped they could give the widest possible opinion of details for

the scheme, he stressed that they were not extending the right of veto over a program to which the province is committed.

The committee will do much of the work to put together a final plan for the boundaries of the lower-tier municipalities.

Mr. McKeough proposed a regional council of 17 members, which would be extended to 21 if Burlington was included. Representation would be based on an approximate figure of one representative for every 20,000 residents.

The minister said he would not attempt to come up with names for the lower tier

Name architects for regional jail

The architectural firm of Dunlop, Wardell, Matsui and Atken have been engaged to prepare the plans for the

Driver nicks parked car

An accident at 12:55 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 26, was investigated by Acton O.P.P.

Keith Mainprize, MacDonald Blvd., Acton, was driving along Young St. when his car struck a parked car owned by Delmar Watson, Lansdowne, Ontario.

The driver told police the car slid on an icy patch on the road. Damage to the Mainprize car was estimated at \$75 to the left rear fender. The Watson car had only slight damage.

Maplehurst regional jail complex proposed for a Milton site, M.P.P. Jim Snow announced this week.

The firm had previously been engaged on the project by the joint Halton-Peel committee prior to the province assuming responsibility for the administration of justice.

The complex will include a reformatory, a minimum security training centre, and eventually a regional detention centre.

The architectural firm chosen for the project also designed the recent additions to the Milton District Hospital and the Milton District High School.

Only imaginable difficulties can't be over-come.

municipalities as this was a task they could carry out themselves.

Mr. McKeough said he was convinced administration including property assessment, tax billing and capital borrowing are more efficiently performed at the regional level. Health and welfare services are more logically administered at the regional tier. The regional council would also supervise planning for the area involved.

Planning, design and construction of water purification plants, sewage treatment plants and the major trunk systems would be the responsibility of the regional council. Parks, too, would be their responsibility.

The minister viewed garbage collection and disposal as a local responsibility and local streets, sidewalks and street lighting as well, but the main arteries would be the responsibility of the regional council. Police and fire protection responsibilities would be decided later.

McKeough stressed that his proposal was entirely preliminary and tentative but asked the two counties to select their representatives on the steering committee within one month. The town of Orangeville will also send a representative.

The full text of the Minister of Municipal Affairs' presentation is inside this newspaper with comment and objections from representatives of different municipalities involved.

Bolstering Mr. McKeough's presentation with their presence on the platform were the Hon. William Davis, Minister of Education, M.P.P. Jim Snow, George Kerr, Doug Kennedy and W. A. Downer.

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Some happy, some not

Reaction to merger

Local reaction to Darcy McKeough's proposal for lumping Halton and Peel into one regional government unit has been generally unfavorable. While most municipal officials around Peel and Halton panned either the entire report or single section affecting their areas, a few found some areas worthy of praise.

It was generally conceded by most of the 200 officials attending the Minister of Municipal Affairs' announcement sessions in Toronto Wednesday that the two-county merger was probably inevitable. But the boundaries the minister drew around the seven proposed sub-regional units—areas one to seven, he

diplomatically named them, caused the greatest controversy. This newspaper polled several civic officials in the area, and here is a sampling of their immediate reactions to the report:

Nassagaweya Reeve William A. Hoye promised "Nassagaweya is going to be vociferous, we are not going to go down without a fight" when he learned the minister's plan would chop the township off at 25 Sideroad, lump the southern section in with Milton, and probably make a gift of the remainder to Wellington County.

"We have to keep the township in one piece," he said. "There is more to this than just representation by population." Mr. Hoye reiterated his earlier stand that area and future potential should be taken into consideration, not just population figures. He also objected to what he called "disfranchisement" of the rural people in both counties by tussling all townships to the mercies of the urban centres.

"Nassagaweya is a unit into itself, it has had a good local government for many years, it has contributed a great deal to the work of the county council, and we have absolutely no debt. We also have quite a potential. The minister said at a previous meeting we would just be a recreational area, well this is stupid. This is a good residential and farming community."

One bright glimmer of hope, he said, was voiced to him after the meeting. He was assured the northern boundary line of Area Five (Nassagaweya, Milton, southern Esquimaux and northern Oakville) could be changed to the extension of Highway 7 through Eden Mills—the township's present northernmost boundary.

Halton Warden George Currie, the Reeve of Esquimaux Township, offered a polite denial to comment when contacted by a reporter a day after the meeting.

"I would not care to make a statement right now," the veteran politician said. "It is going to take quite a while to study that document."

He did admit, however, the McKeough proposal was "along the lines of what we saw coming."

Milton Mayor Brian Best has some ideas for changing the drafted boundaries of the borough area including Milton, but generally agrees with the province's desire for a strong regional unit to keep Halton and Toronto from growing to meet one another. And he agrees an immediate merger of Peel and Halton would be better than making two regional units now and later joining them together.

"Milton could not do much better," he said. "And I was very pleased to see Milton remain as an entity on its own, rather than grouped with Acton, Georgetown and Esquimaux."

The new borough would have some control over its own destiny with the two-tier system of government, he felt.

Mayor Best felt if this regional unit came into being, the boards of education in the two counties should also be merged, to effect further cost sharing and savings. He has been critical of the administrative salaries being paid by the Halton Board of Education, and warned the Minister at the Toronto meeting on Wednesday that the same costs would be incurred in a regionalization of governments.

He felt north Burlington should have been added to the Milton-based borough, and suggests if Nassagaweya is to be cut up it should be cut about the centre with one half joining Milton and the other grouping with Acton and Georgetown.

Cobblehill...

(Continued from Page 1)

senior citizen couples "sadly in need of accommodation."

Earl Maxales asked if there wasn't something more to the petition, than the objection to the distance, hills and roads. Mr. Forbes admitted they didn't wish to be rezoned and explained, "We wish to be constructive."

As councillors reviewed some of the favorable points for low rental housing made at the last council meeting by Sidney Kaye, development officer for the Ontario Housing Corporation, Mr. Forbes remarked, "Practically, it doesn't turn out." In multiple units there is less control over children.

Mayor Doby, who had seen low rental units in other centres, stated they were "as nice as the day they were constructed." The residents are well screened.

Each councillor spoke to the delegation, with Peter Marks saying council had felt the project should go through for the good of the town.

"I don't think that's the proper place," stated councillor Jack Greer.

Councillor McKenzie mentioned Cobblehill Road might be greatly improved if future subdivisions are built beyond it.

The delegation left the meeting as the mayor thanked them.

Later in the council meeting, when the anticipated motion to initiate rezoning was presented, it was referred back to committee for further consideration.

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