

Rocky road to industrial park

The future of Acton's six-year old industrial park is in some doubt, following engineer Ken Hyde's surprise announcement that the proposed road will encounter rock formations. Mr. Hyde is making an immediate further study of the new problem. (The original road allowance had recently been changed due to a proposed sale.) He revealed the difficulty at No. 2 committee meeting on May 6 and the matter was introduced, again at regular council meeting Tuesday. Vocal discouragement resulted from the unexpected setback.

As a result of the disclosure, an offer of purchase from Frank Heller and Company, Limited, was tabled and sent to No. 1 committee.

An offer from Acton Wood Products to purchase three and a half acres was referred back to committee as well.

"I'm having second thoughts

about this whole industrial park," mused councillor Bill Coats. "Should we spend money to develop this or should we get out now?"

Commented the mayor wryly, "We're put into this position because we failed to put them (roads) in before! We haven't done anything to take responsibility and prepare the lots for sale."

"The problem has always been there," answered Dr. Oakes, "but council was reluctant to spend money until they saw the pot of gold."

The engineer had asked a two week extension to report on the road situation and, then estimates for services can be made.

Recalled the mayor, "The engineer already made soil tests, but now we are changing the road, and it's running into the rock belt."

Councillor Coats said it was

last year's council that sold off part of the original road allowance.

"We still haven't really sold the first lot", added councillor Masales.

"We can't afford to put services in for small parcels," said councillor Marks.

No. 1 committee will consider the new engineering problem, after hearing councillors wonder if it was feasible to proceed.

The best way to repair some of Acton's existing but lumpy roads is one of the matters under discussion at a special meeting this morning. (Wednesday) At a council meeting, clerk-administrator Joe Hurst told councillors the meeting was set up with the town engineer and Department of Highways engineers, and is being attended by town representatives including the mayor.

One of the subjects under

consideration will be the advisability of "slurry seal" treatment for some of the streets.

The capital works program for roads will be discussed, since the highway supplemental bylaws will have to be submitted before the end of the month.

Slurry seal toping (tar and stone) instead of paving was approved by Dr. Oakes. "It could give good service to more people," he felt.

Committee minutes passed by council indicated engineer Hyde's estimate for road costs for paving Lakeside subdivision, Bower Ave. from Willow to Wilbur, and the Mill St. extension at Mill and Park.

Mr. Hyde was unable to list an estimate for the industrial road due to the rock formation.

The long-awaited subdividers' agreement - 12 long pages - was

accepted in principle. Schedules will be added for each specific case and each agreement will come back to council.

Two subdividers are ready to begin right now, clerk Hurst said.

The agreement sets out the town's basic requirements for subdividers.

Do homeowners in new subdivisions want sidewalks or not? Opinion of councillors was divided when a letter was read concerning sidewalk changes in the proposed Reisman (Seynuck) subdivision.

Deputy-reeve Tyler felt strongly that sidewalks should be required on both sides of all streets from the beginning.

Councillor Marks and Mayor Duby both reported instances of homeowners being very happy to be without sidewalks.

The letter also included three proposed street names for the

new area Eric, Hanna and Norman Sts.

The matter went back to committee for discussion.

Even dying is getting more expensive.

Tuesday evening, council passed resolutions increasing the cost of cornerstones and the purchase of cemetery lots in certain cases.

Due to increased costs in material and freight, the Geiger Monument Company of Fergus informed council the price for one set of cornerstones will be \$20, and for the price to purchasers here will be increased to \$30 per set installed, from \$20.

Council also approved charging non-residents or non-landowners in the town 25 per cent more for cemetery plots and perpetual care here. Charges

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Mysterious bird eludes pursuers



THE VIEW from the Bennett's back patio window shows the strange bird which drew dozens of curious bird watchers. The bird was positively identified as a young peacock by high school vice principal Joe Bray. (Staff Photo)

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bennett, 196 Elmore Drive, were surprised Sunday evening to see a large bird in their back yard, which skirts a dense cedar bush.

It was like nothing they had seen before, relatively tame, eating bread crumbs and seed they threw out for it. Several neighbors also saw the bird but none could identify it. Some thought it was a peahen, others thought it was some species of waterfowl.

Monday morning the bird was still there. Mrs. Bennett called neighbors Mrs. Kevin Conroy and Mrs. Ered New. They organized an impromptu bird watching club, equipped with binoculars and an encyclopedia replete with identifying bird pictures.

Mrs. Conroy called The Free Press and a photographer went over to take some pictures of the big bird. She, it wouldn't get too close so she fitted the binoculars over the lens and tried to shoot the bird from inside the house.

The Free Press phoned the Department of Lands and Forests in Hespeler and Conservation Officer Dale Gartley said that in his opinion without seeing the bird it was probably a waterfowl nesting in the woods. The ladies didn't think so.

Monday at noon The Free Press contacted Joe Bray, vice-principal at the high school. He went to have a look at the bird and immediately identified it as a young peacock!

The peacock is still hanging around despite efforts by the Acton detachment of the O.P.P. to catch it with the help of three boys. The bird was just too slippery a customer for the police and helpers.

The peacock is still strutting around accepting handouts from the Bennetts and their neighbors.

So far no one has been able to establish where the bird came from and how it got in the woods behind the Bennett home.

A man from Galt said he may bring a peahen down and try to capture the bird with the oldest enticement known to man.

Meanwhile the Bennetts and their neighbors wonder who the peacock belongs to.

The Acton Free Press

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ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1969

Twenty Pages - Fifteen Cents

Council names Vic Bristow board member

Former public school trustee Vic Bristow was named to fill the vacancy on Acton Planning Board, following a vote by ballot at council meeting Tuesday night. He will fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Charles Perry.

Planning board secretary Iain Williams had written council asking a replacement be named. Planning board is now up to full strength.

False alarm on Thursday

Acton Firefighters answered a call last Thursday evening about 9:20 for a barn fire along 25 Sideroad but could find no trace of a fire.

The rural truck went along the full length of the fire area along the sideroad before turning back and retracing the route. Several phone calls were also placed in an effort to trace the fire.

After almost an hour of searching firefighters assumed the call was a false alarm.

Ruth Clow passes exams

Ruth A. Clow, secretary at the G. A. Johnson Real Estate office, recently wrote the real estate salesman examinations and was successful with a mark of 98 per cent.

The examinations are set by the Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs, Real Estate and Brokers Act.

A graduate of Acton schools, Miss Clow will now be in charge of the Property Management Department of the firm. One of her first duties is to rent the new apartment buildings on Churchill Rd.



Ruth A. Clow



MRS. G. H. LANTZ celebrated her 90th birthday surrounded by family and friends in the Knox Mary Ellen Anderson room Sunday afternoon. (Staff Photo)

What Council did

At its regular meeting Tuesday Council also:

- Approved a request from the Association for the Mentally Retarded to conduct a mailing campaign of the town during Canadian Mental Retardation Week, May 11 to 17.

- Forwarded to the Acton Development Commission a letter from the chairman of the Georgetown Industrial Commission suggesting a joint commission be set up for the town of Georgetown, township of Esquesing and Acton. Councillor Tyler added a warning that Acton shouldn't be "conned" into setting up a Georgetown region.

- Learned the B. Phillips Co. Limited would take a look at the town's elevated water tank and prepare specifications and price for its removal. They were requested to go ahead.

- Learned Peel St. residents from Acton Blvd. to Churchill Rd. wanted to know how to proceed for the installation of a sidewalk under local improvements.

- Filed a request for support from the National Ski Team fund.

- Approved routine bylaws allowing borrowing of money for the water pollution control plant and storm sewers on Tyler, Lakeview and Elmore.

- Approved rebate to Roy Goodwin for eight months on his tobacco sale license, since parks and recreation committee did not accept his arena booth tender.

- Heard a committee decision that the Decoration Day committee secretary be informed that due to the uncertainty of the north boundary line, it is not feasible to consider fencing the Pioneer Cemetery at the present. The committee had first requested complete fencing of the Cemetery in May, 1967.

- Received copies of a submission by the township of Esquesing to the Minister of Education in protest of the amount and the division of the proposed levy of the Halton County Board of Education.

- Learned superintendent Duby's estimate of \$1,591, for repairs to the Brock St. bridge involved the town workmen doing the excavating. Costs will be submitted for a retaining wall and sidewalk.

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Lively Mrs. Lantz celebrates birthday

A well-known and long-time resident of Acton, Mrs. G. H. Lantz happily celebrated her 90th birthday surrounded by family and friends here. Now a resident of Halton Manor, she was the guest of honor at the party her family arranged for Mother's Day. Over 115 attended the event in the Mary Ellen Anderson room of Knox church Sunday afternoon.

Lively Mrs. Lantz has a very familiar voice to many Actonians. She was night operator for some time, and she and her husband managed the telephone exchange from 1922 to 1945, living in the same building. It's now the Legion Hall.

Almost all her family attended the happy occasion Sunday. This includes four daughters and a son, Mrs. Stanley Coy (Clara) Willowdale; Mrs. Harold Sutcliffe (Marie) St. Clair, Mich.; Mrs. Ray Garden (Isabel) Willowdale; Stuart Lantz, Guelph and Mrs. Ross Robertson (Grace) Milton; 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Only one missing was Bill Sutcliffe, who's in California.

There were guests from Detroit, St. Clair, Toronto,

Oakville, Burlington, Willowdale, Hamilton, Barrie, Port Elgin, London, Guelph, Georgetown, Milton, Owen Sound, Kitchener, Everton and Acton.

Tea conveners were two nieces, Mrs. Mary McGurn of Guelph and Mrs. Willa Sinclair of Guelph, and five granddaughters served. The beautiful pink and white table centerpiece was the gift of the Hurst family, and there was a plant from Acton Women's Institute, of which she was a member.

Mrs. Lantz was proud to receive a framed plaque from Premier Roberts, a telegram from Prime Minister Trudeau, and messages from members of parliament Jim Snow and Rud Whiting.

She also received over 100 birthday cards.

Mrs. Lantz was born in Erin township, daughter of James and Mary Gamble, and came to Acton in 1916. Cheerful and energetic, Mrs. Lantz made a host of friends over the years.

She thoroughly enjoyed her big birthday party, during her 90 years. Was she tired? "Not one bit!" she exclaimed delightedly.

Housing delay irks council

More "growing pains" were felt by Acton council when they learned Tuesday night that another hearing on the zoning by-law will be required. The date is set for Thursday, June 12 in the council chambers. All those who objected previously will be notified.

This will produce another delay in the rezoning amendment by-law to rezone the Brown property on Cobblehill Road from R2 to RM to accommodate the proposed

senior citizens and geared-to-income housing, and the councillors termed the latest turn of events a "predicament" and a "dilemma."

Complained Mayor Duby "This urgent application is bogged down by red tape... it's ridiculous!"

Many are inquiring about the new housing, clerk Joe Hurst said. He will make contact with officials to attempt to speed up approval for the proposed new housing units.

"Action" Mayor's watchword

Enthusied by last weekend's conference of town officials at Renfrew, Mayor Les Duby found the delays reflected throughout. Acton Council's agenda irksome on Tuesday evening.

"Action" was his frequent reminder to fellow councillors throughout the long meeting, and at the end of it, after 11 p.m., he declared "maybe we're spending too much time and getting too little done."

Acton's six man delegation at the annual conference of the town and village section of the Ontario Municipal Association included the mayor, deputy-reeve Ted Tyler, councillors G. W. McKenzie, Bill Coats, Orv Chapman and clerk-administrator Joe Hurst.

During the conference Renfrew held the official opening of their new \$650,000 water pollution control plant. Ours is costing \$750,000; they started theirs earlier and got more for their money, the

mayor declared. "Think hard about these delays," he advised seriously.

He said the conference was most successful and valuable, with twice the attendance of previous ones and twice the enthusiasm.

It was a great pleasure to the Actonians at one dinner to find "our own" John Barr as guest speaker representing the Ontario Water Resources Commission. "The people there," said Mr. Duby, "are so grateful for what the Commission and John have done."

Then when Darcy McKeough arrived, with him was a former Rockwood man, John Mowat of the assessment department, who was well-known here as a hockey and ball player.

Looking back over the program and the knowledge gained for Acton, the mayor philosophized, "We can't just play in our own back yard any more."



Silver medallist performs at recital

Julie Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Smith, R.R. 3, Acton, performed the Caprice Impromptu by Cuthbert Harris at the Metropolitan Music Library the evening of May 1.

The occasion was the presentation recital by pupils of teachers from the Canadian Trinity Teachers' Association. All pupils playing in this recital had been auditioned previously, ensuring a high calibre of performances throughout the recital.

Julie was the recipient of a Silver medal for placing first in high honor marks in her grade of music in the last examinations held at the Georgetown centre and is a pupil of Dorothy Richardson Scull.



Wins two awards college of music

Lorna Sayers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Sayers, R.R. 4, Acton, was the winner of two awards from the Trinity College of Music.

A bronze medal for placing first and highest in honors in her grade of music and a proficiency award for the highest marks in Canada.

Presentation was made by the president of the Canadian Trinity Teachers' Association, Daniel Tait, at the Metropolitan Music Library, Toronto, May 10. Lorna is a pupil of Dorothy Richardson Scull.

Crowd control

Corp. Mason and all the men of the O.P.P. detachment here have attended full-day courses in crowd control at Hamilton Armories.

Expect Davis answer on municipal levies by Thursday meeting

Board of Education officials are hopeful details that could affect the municipal levies for their budget, will be revealed prior to the Board's Thursday meeting.

Board officials presented two briefs to the Minister of Education recently outlining the problems in the adjusted rate used to calculate municipal levies. The problem, the brief suggested, was in not making allowances for re-assessment that had taken place in Halton.

Following the Minister's address in Oakville Monday, he assured Board officials they would have their answer by Wednesday.

The re-assessment problem affects 80 provincial municipalities, Trustee Doug Wood told the Board Thursday. He reported the Minister received the briefs sympathetically and promised an early answer.

"If we get some consideration from the Minister it will be in spite of, not because of, the attendance of Oakville councillors", Trustee Wood

Hit and run

Willa Hewitt's car, parked behind Acton Creamery, received an estimated \$65 damage when struck by an unknown vehicle Saturday. The incident was reported to Acton O.P.P.

\$800 damage

A single-car accident on 20 Sideroad, Esquesing Wednesday evening caused \$800 damage to a Limehouse man's car. Police said the driver, Gordon Booth of R. R. 1 Limehouse, was unhurt.

Margie Mackenzie graduate of Acadia

Miss Margie Mackenzie of Acton has graduated from Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, on May 6, with her Bachelor of Arts degree. She majored in economics and also received her diploma in Secretarial Science.

She received the Secretarial Science Club prize.

She will be working for the Economic Council of Canada in Ottawa.

She is the daughter of Mrs. Lois Mackenzie and the late Ken Mackenzie. Mrs. Mackenzie attended her daughter's graduation as well as her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. P. Aitken of Pictou, N.S.



MARGIE MACKENZIE