

Councillor answers queries on pollution

Dear Editor,
In an effort to encourage greater participation in our community problems and activities, I would like to offer my support to any resident presenting complaints or constructive criticism. To achieve this end I will be pleased to acknowledge privately or publicly any information I have concerning their particular enquiry.

Provided the area of discussion is affecting a major segment of our community, I will reply in writing to our local newspaper so that interested individuals will be able to take part in helping find solutions, thus assuring greater possibilities for remedial action. Responsible dialogue between citizens, organizations and elected officials is an excellent way to promote effective local government.

I will try to present as many facts as possible but ask you to consider that any opinions expressed are personal, and although I expect some members of council will agree with my sentiments, these thoughts will not necessarily be the major opinion of Acton Council.

This week I feel there is a need to clear the air with several facts and opinions concerning the air pollution problem in Acton.

The first point worth mentioning is that more than one industry in town is responsible for the emission of fumes and odors that are creating this serious situation. At

present, all industries in town are being considered for a request for a survey by the Ontario Department of Air Pollution Control.

This summer, Acton's sewage disposal plant contributed to the odors. However, this was the result of the expansion program of the plant and this is now being corrected.

As most people in town are aware, the major complaints from residents over the last number of years have been protesting the contributions from Beardmore and Co. In a recent discussion with the district engineer from the Ontario Department of Air Pollution Control, I was assured that a preliminary investigation of this problem is now in progress. This is the result of numerous residents of Acton making formal complaints to the Department because of their concern over a possible health hazard.

All information concerning investigations of this type is kept confidential to protect patent rights, etc.; therefore the engineer whom I discussed this matter with could not give me specific details on time limits set for the initiation by Beardmore and Co. of corrective procedures. He told me his department is satisfied with the co-operation extended to them by Beardmore and Co. and of the progress being made.

This department has been indirectly responsible for

significant improvements in air quality in numerous communities across the province (including towns with tanneries) and are very optimistic that a solution will be found to improve the processing methods now used by the company.

To dispel any fears that an investigation of this type might force Beardmore and Co. to close up shop and cripple Acton's economy, I would like to add that the provincial government realizes the contributions that industry is making in all communities and is working for the benefit of all parties concerned.

Recognizing the significant contributions that Beardmore is presenting to Acton in the fields of assessment, employment market and parks expansion, I would be pleased to hear recommendations for the Department whereby the municipality could offer some assistance to help minimize the problem.

Agreeing with suggestions expressed recently by several people that air pollution is a responsibility of local governments as well and further appreciating the frustrations of residents who have been asking what is being done, I will try to keep in close contact with the Department and will pass on any information that becomes available to me.

Yours truly,
Peter Marks,
Councillor.



COUNCILLOR JACK GREER didn't attend the Ontario Municipal Association conference at Niagara Falls but he's willing to attend another if the headlines from the newspapers Deputy-Reeve Ted Tyler hung up at the last council meeting have any credibility. Turned out the whole thing was a plot to implicate the senior officials who were plenty busy during the convention with business. — (Staff Photo)

Awards made to Milton, Georgetown

Pedestrian safety awards were awarded the towns of Milton and Georgetown by the Hamilton Automobile Club at a luncheon in Hamilton Tuesday. Milton received a plaque for going eight years without a fatality while Georgetown was awarded a special citation for pedestrian casualty records for populations from 10,000 to 25,000.



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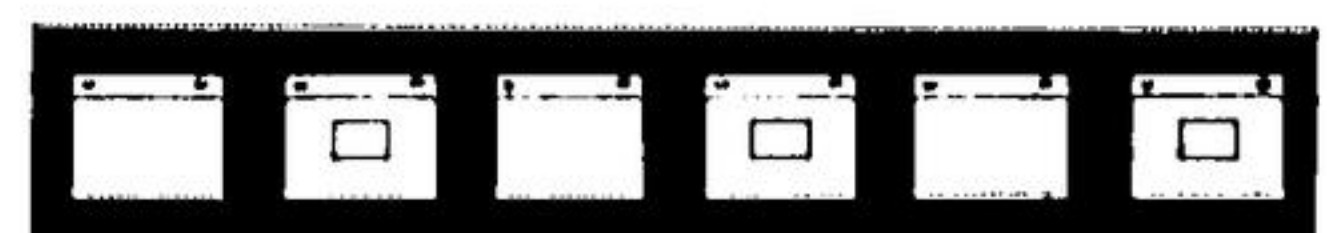
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OUR READERS WRITE:

USE BY-LAW TO STOP TRAILER CAMPS

Dear Sir,

We understand that our present council and planning board in the Township of Nassagaweya are giving serious consideration to the application by one, Mrs. Chaplin of Port Credit, to open a trailer camp in the heart of the township at the junction of the No. 10 Side Rd. and the Guelph Line on the Eichenberger estate. Stan Henderson who already has a trio of trailers on his grounds south of Campbellville on the Guelph Line, has served notice that, if Mrs. Chaplin's application is granted, he wants the same prerogative.

With trailers even now sprouting like malignant fungi all over the township the time has come, not to fertilize their growth, but to spread a little fungicide in their path by implementing our trailer by-law, No. 21-67, (passed Aug. 28, 1967) and increasing their licence fee from \$10 to \$20 per month. This latter course was suggested at the last planning board meeting but no member moved a resolution to bring it to council. Why? I leave you to guess.

We all know what type of people a trailer camp will attract. Not retired couples as the ones in Florida of California, our winters are too hard. No, we will get

itinerant construction and quarry workers, racetrack followers who are prone to work and spend spring, summer, and fall, and depend on the welfare services come winter.

Our racetrack has been a great help to this township, providing work for many who would otherwise have needed welfare. It would be a grave disservice to reverse this beneficence by allowing a trailer camp on their doorstep.

Our educational facilities, already strained to the limit, would be overburdened by families making little or no contribution, land tax-wise, in comparison with what it would cost the township to:

- Educate their children,
- Provide good roads for their cars,
- Maintain their dump,
- Police their highways,
- Guard their fires,
- Clear their snow, and
- Administer their Township.

As the old saying goes, "no roots - no responsibility", and it is as true, in general, of today's trailer dwellers, as it was of the travelling tinkers of yesterday.

Let us hope that our council follows the policies as laid down in our Official Plan, by refusing such an application.

Yours truly,
"A worried resident"

HALTON County Council HIGHLIGHTS

During the regular meeting of Halton County Council, completed in a record one hour and 17 minutes on Tuesday, members:

- Approved a resolution to the Association of Counties and Regions of Ontario suggesting changes in the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System. The resolution, sponsored by Deputy-Reeve R. Harris called for an increase in survivor benefits and an improvement in the interest paid on funds in trust.
- Instructed the Warden to appoint a committee to survey the present staff complement and explore methods of closer Co-operation between departments. A report is to be tabled in December.

Were advised the present Health Unit staff of 25 public health nurses, three registered nurses and five registered nursing assistants was not a full staff.

Were advised by the Department of Highways the road from Palermo to the Bronte interchange of the QEW would be taken over as part of Highway 25 on April 1, 1970.

FRED A. HOFFMAN
Optometrist
58 St. George's Sq.
Guelph, Ont.
Telephone 834-2771

Free Press Local News Items

IT WAS a long, dry spell before the rain Tuesday.

DON'T MISS the special sales for fair "daze".

GROUPS ARE already making plans for Christmas events - bazaars and sales!

YOU CAN'T stop people from thinking—but try and start them.

GARDENS ARE parched, and potential exhibitors in fall fair flower classes are eyeing the dry blooms critically this week.

ACTON CITIZENS band executive was pleased to receive the third place cheque for competition at the C.N.E. this year.

GEORGETOWN library board was sped with 46 applications for three part-time positions.

WORKMEN ARE putting the facial brick on the curling rink this week.

ALL THE LOVELY prizes for Miss Acton Fair are on display in the window of the Cameo Boutique.

THE WATER LEVEL at Fairy Lake is down an estimated foot and a half. Boaters are hitting stumps they hadn't seen before.

LAST THURSDAY Guelph's blood donors clinic set a new record of 306. The clinic operates once a month there. Acton's clinic last week had disappointing results.

MANY VISITORS will be here for the fair next weekend. Names of your guests will make interesting reading in next week's "Personals" column. Please let us know about them.

CAROL WHARTON isn't going to be teaching dancing

FAIR DAZE

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