

May Ask Demolition Firm to Blast Channel Through Glen Ice Jam

The ice jam and possible flooding at Glen Williams was the topic under discussion for almost the whole evening at Esquesing Council meeting Monday night.

Captain Don Henry, of a Toronto firm of underwater demolition men stated he had been up to the Glen to look over the situation, and said, "We'll take out the ice jam for you. I'm a marine specialist who has been blowing ice jams for fifty years."

He felt it was not too close to the houses for blasting since he uses a substance that blows down into the jam, not upwards. He claimed he could make a channel right down through the middle of the river. Quoting a price of \$300, he said, "if we don't blow it, you don't pay us."

Following Captain Henry's offer Reeve G. Leslie pointed out that they didn't know whose responsibility it was, and were trying to establish that at the moment. He felt that the Township had no authority to go on private property, and wondered who would be liable if blasting damaged the houses in the vicinity.

Mr. Roy McMillan, Chairman of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, explained that he was meeting with the Department of Lands and Forests to try to clarify the situation. "We were told after the flooding in the Glen four years ago that it was an Emergency Measures Organization responsibility. Now, we are told the E.M.O. only operates in a catastrophe."

Councillor W. Linham wondered if there would be enough water to "wash the ice away, even if it were blasted."

Councillor R. Lawson felt the health unit should also have some authority since he had heard there were 23 wells contaminated.

Mr. Parker, also of the Credit Valley Authority, explained that he had committed the Authority on his own to put a bulldozer in on Christmas Day. "I was lucky it was a small job," he added.

Williford Leslie felt that could be done again since the water is shallow at that point, and there would be no danger of damage by blasting.

Summing up, Reeve G. Leslie emphasized, "We have to get authority to do something fast, however, I can't leave the township responsible for damage to houses, purely we can come to some agreement to get something done."

Mr. McMillan promised to see the Minister of the Department of Lands and Forest the next day, then meet with the Authority again the following day, and invited the members of Council to join them.

The jam presently worrying the Conservation Authority, Esquesing council and the Glen Williams residents in the vicinity occurred in mid-January. It was created when ice cakes locked at a bend in the Credit branch a few hundred yards south of the village's west bridge. Since then, succeeding ice flows have backed the jam up around a second bend and the level of the locked ice has risen until it is now even with the top of the river banks.

A normal rain would have had disastrous effects a week ago when the jam was frozen right to the river bed leaving no space for sub-surface flow. Extensive melting and run off at that time would have left the river's course at a bend above the Glen's west bridge and caused flooding. It's likely some of the ice chunks would have broken away with the flooding waters and done serious property damage to neighbouring homes.

However, since then the water has washed through under the ice and there is a current again.

The Halton County Health Unit has issued warnings to residents in the vicinity of the river where flooding has occurred to bail their well water before using it.

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STEAM LOCOMOTIVE DRAWS FANS



Peter Jones Photo

RAIL BIRDS RECEPTION COMMITTEE FOR IRON HORSE

A large reception committee, most of them armed with cameras, greeted a ghost from the past when a steam locomotive, one of the last in existence in this country pulled a train of excursionists through here Saturday. The steam engine, a 340-ton 4-8-4 type, is believed to be one of the largest to pass through Georgetown. The steam engine and four passenger cars puffed into the local yard at about three o'clock and wood on the Main line near Main St. while onlookers inspected the link with the past from the Main St. bridge.

Retain Two, Add Five in Parks Board Appointments

Council retained two past members of the Board of Parks Management and added five new men, including two councillors, when 1963 appointments were made on Monday.

The board was created to administer the arena when the town acquired the building some years ago. Until now, the board has been composed of six members appointed alternately for 3-year terms.

Last week, council passed a new by-law calling for one year appointments, and a 7-member board of which at least two must be councillors.

There have been indications since the year-end that some councillors were intent on a shake-up in the board. There has been open criticism by some, and spirited defence by others, of a bank loan, backed by members of the board, which was made to pay for building renovations. The loan has since been repaid.

Appointments made Monday were Ivan Crabtree and Jack Gudgeon from the present board, Fred Maveal, Herb Robinson, Gus Fantus and Councillors Bill Smith and Jim Young.

The appointments were opposed in a 6-3 vote by Reeve Elliott, Deputy Reeve Hunter and Cr. Powers.

Stressing that he has nothing against any of the appointees, the deputy reeve said he could see trouble if council becomes involved in arena management. Cr. Powers echoed his sentiments.

"If no different than our recent appointment to the conservation authority," said Cr. Smith, "when we replaced a former appointee with a councillor (the deputy reeve)."

Cr. Smith said he had discussed the matter with former arena board members Bob Lane, Dick Licata and Clarence King. Mr. King had indicated he preferred to decline another appointment after serving on the board 15 years. Mr. Licata had submitted his resignation in a letter read to council that night. The sixth member was Arthur Scott.

"No one's feelings should be hurt by the change," said Cr. Smith. "The board has done a good job. Some of the members have been there for 15 or 16 years and we can use some new blood."

Ward 3 has a representative for the first time, he noted.

Georgetown's Share is 5.78% County Assessment

In figures given to Halton County by County Assessor J. Ford Rogers, it was shown that the assessment for Halton County now stands at \$274,104,335, an increase of \$3,078,516.

According to these figures Georgetown's assessment increased \$71,400 in the past year, and now stands at \$15,981,688.

In apportioning the county rate the following percentages will be paid by the seven municipalities in the County:

Oakville	44.38%
Burlington	38.71%
Georgetown	5.78%
Esquesing	3.60%
Milton	3.27%
Acton	2.65%
Nassagaweya	1.50%

Lions Honorary Memberships To Two for Community Work

A rare honour was bestowed on two local men, recently, when Rev. Kelvin Johnston, of St. Andrew's United Church, and John T. Armstrong, were presented with honorary memberships in the Georgetown Lions Club.

Dr. Alan Thompson, membership chairman presented the membership certificates in recognition of service done for the community. Honorary memberships are given rarely, with the last one given locally, going to Bob Goldham, ex-N.H.L. star.

At the same meeting in the banquet room of Stan's restaurant, Hugh Diamond was introduced into the club, and Ron Johnson transferred from the Angus Lions Club.

While accepting the honorary membership, John T. Armstrong, in his capacity as Chairman of the Georgetown Hospital Board, also accepted a cheque from the Lions Club for \$2,500 as part of their pledge to the hospital.

4-Way Stop Mooted Dangerous Corner

A 4-way stop at the dangerous Main and Maple intersection is being sought by two councillors.

Reeve John Elliott and Cr. Don Powers proposed this in a motion at Monday's council meeting, which was later withdrawn for study by the police committee. Cr. Powers pointed to a recent serious accident and said action should be taken before a fatality occurs.

At present Main is a through street, and Maple a stop.

"Stop lights are the best solution," said Cr. Jim Young, "Maybe when our new stop lights are installed on Main St. by Eagle Signals we can use the present ones there."

EXPERIMENT MAY SOLVE MILLS' WASTE PROBLEM

Maclaren Continues on Conservation Authority

Georgetown council's suggestion that Alex Maclaren be named an honorary member of Credit Valley Conservation Authority has been adopted.

On Monday council was informed by the CVCA that such action has been taken. Mr. Maclaren will continue as a member of the committee on land use and reforestation.

Mr. Maclaren, who had represented Georgetown on the group since its inception until this year, has been one of the most ardent advocates of conservation in this district. A former county councillor, when he was Georgetown's reeve, he was one of the initial organizers of CVCA, which concerns itself with the Credit Valley watershed.



ALEX MACLAREN

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Last Saturday, many citizens were casting enquiring eyes at an odd assortment of objects which were being loaded onto trucks on Main St.

A few queries were - "are the interiors of the stores being remodelled?" "has there been an accident?" "was there a fire?" "are these items for sale?"

No - it was not an accident, or a clearance sale of any kind, but simply the Georgetown Little Theatre moving to new headquarters. Having been forced to vacate their storage and rehearsal space - due to expansion of the owner's basement - they had finally found a new home, thanks to local businessmen, and were in the process of transferring the various props, scenery, etc. which have been accumulated over the years.

We hope they can overcome this added obstacle, in the preparation of their Festival Entry - "The Little Hut" - to be presented Feb. 25th.

Provincial, Domtar Papermills Working With OWRC in Testing

Action initiated at Monday's council meeting may mean an end to the multi-coloured Credit branch through town and to pollution of the stream in the north end of town.

For some time the Ontario Water Resources Commission has been working with council and management of the two paper mills on the problem. And, according to R. H. Millar spokesman for 4 OWRC men who visited council Monday, a solution is in sight.

After explaining a trial test, in which pre-treated waste from Provincial Paper, Ltd. will enter the town's sewage system for a month, council enthusiastically endorsed it.

There will be no charge for the test. But a yearly cost of four to five thousand dollars was mentioned by R. Porter, another visitor, if Provincial and Domtar use the system in future.

Payment details will be discussed with the mills following results of the test. It was stressed that the system, which operates at some 50% of capacity now, will still be adequate. Increased sewage would amount to another 10% it is estimated.

Queried on whether the present settling beds at Domtar would be eliminated, Mr. Millar said not necessarily so, as the mill would have to pre-treat waste in some fashion before it enters the system.

Council Still Debates \$6000 Planning Budget

A \$6,000 budget for the town's planning board, requested last week, came to the motion stage Monday at council. But it was later withdrawn until a board meeting this Thursday.

The extra \$5,500 would mostly be used for a planning consultant which the board is recommending.

Mayor Gibbons said he had talked just that day with board chairman Claude Kentner and had been told a \$4,000 budget might be adequate.

"I can't support this motion tonight, and would like to hear what is said Thursday," he said.

Queried by Cr. Francis if he would endorse a \$4,000 budget the mayor replied "I might after meeting with the board."

But he refused to be tied to any promise of approval.

Cr. Francis said if a consultant could show where and how high rise apartments could be built in town, it could offset any budget increase for the planning board.

"We don't need a \$6,000 fee for that advice, it could be on a per diem basis," said Cr. Powers.

Reeve Elliott expressed concern about the increase.

"The police committee might be adding four men to the force and possibly be looking for new quarters. How are we going to hold expenditures with all this," he said.

"You're budget conscious here, but purchase of Cedarvale School is going to cost a lot more than this" quipped Deputy Reeve Hunter to the reeve. Mr. Hunter has opposed purchase of the school property as a centennial project.

RENEGOTIATING

Standard Products Limited, and the bargaining committee of Local 878 of the United Auto Workers have started negotiating a new contract. The Local rejected a contract offer at a meeting last week.

Esquesing School Board Votes \$40 Meeting Fee

The Esquesing School Board voted to accept the maximum pay for which they are eligible - \$40 per member per month - at a meeting last week. The amount of the honorarium is based on the attendance in the township schools in 1964.

The \$40 doesn't include a travelling allowance which the Esquesing board has also accepted.

With additions at the Glen and Stewarttown almost completed, still more space will be needed by fall, the Board feels. At least one more room at Limehouse and Pineview is envisioned. Inspector W. McDowell felt one classroom and one general purpose room, which could be used as a classroom when necessary, would be the most economical in the long run.

One of the biggest problems of all rural School boards transportation took up a fair share of the meeting.

Children waiting out in the cold when buses were late during the recent cold spell, prompted the vice-chairman Russell Miller to point out that it was up to the bus Company to make sure their buses would start in cold weather, by putting heaters in them.

"Council could put more sand on the flat roads, too," added Chairman Mrs. Shirley Armstrong.

Discipline on the buses was again discussed.

Mr. K. Nicol of the School Planning and Building Research division of the Department of Education will talk to the combined Esquesing and Nassagaweya School Boards at a special meeting Feb. 15th, on any proposed building projects, and the procedure involved.

Hikers Find



Peter Jones Photo

Mr. Klee has refused to pay a hydrant charge for fire protection imposed last year, claiming the hydrant has been on the property years before his Delta Craft firm located here, and that it serves other properties on River Drive.

Meanwhile, when council threatened to cut the water supply to the building unless the account is settled, Mr. Klee wrote council requesting several weeks' notice, so he can arrange for his own supply.

Mayor Gibbons argues that other water users are assessed the charge and that everyone must be treated equally.

Last week Mr. Klee submitted a bill to the town for \$1800 for accommodating two public hydrants on his property.

Hope Traffic Study to Solve Crossing Problem

A traffic study, aimed at providing a solution to a traffic problem created when the CNR station crossing was closed last year, will soon be underway.

Monday council named a 5-man technical coordinating committee which will make a survey of all town traffic arteries.

Town engineer William Carr is chairman, and members are Police Chief Roy Halay, Planning board chairman Claude Kentner, Ed Malison and county engineer Roy Smith.

A LOOK AT THE WEATHER

Jan.	High	Low
27 Wed.	21	15
28 Thurs.	16	8
29 Fri.	7	2
30 Sat.	15	-8
31 Sun.	20	4
Feb.		
1 Mon.	20	7
2 Tues.	17	10
Precep. for Jan. - 1.73" rain 17.14" snow		
High for January: 52, Jan. 8th; low 16 below, Jan. 18th.		
High for January, 1964: 46; low, -10; precip.: 10.08"		
An astronomer says that in the centre of the sun the temperature is 15 million degrees F. He's probably guessing.		