

Boundary changes in Esquesing area

Halton County Board of Education supported recommendations for changes in the boundaries for elementary schools in North Halton at their regular meeting in Oakville Thursday.

Changes were felt necessary to make Georgetown boundaries better defined for junior and senior public schools and to relieve overcrowding in Kennedy School and establish boundaries for Joseph Gibbons.

Students now attending school in Speyside, Limehouse, Wigglesworth, Chapel, Park and Pineview will go to Stewarttown for grades seven and eight.

Students in Norval and Glen Williams schools will go to Centennial for grade seven and eight and those in Harrison and Kennedy will go to Centennial for grades six, seven and eight. Kindergarten pupils from

Norval will be bussed to Pineview for their kindergarten year. For grade one they will return to Norval. In the past they have gone to Glen Williams.

Children in kindergarten, grade one, two or three presently attending Harrison or Kennedy and next year's kindergarten children who live in the area south of Sargent Road and west of Mountainview are to be bussed to Joseph Gibbons. These children would remain at Gibbons until grade five when they go to Centennial.

The boundaries for Joseph Gibbons will be the area north of the present Park School boundaries, west of Main Street to the town boundaries.

Trustee Bill Lawson pointed out Stewarttown School could not be used as a senior public school unless municipal services were available.

O.P.P. report

Lock up, alert neighbors inform police - advice

Bearing in mind the four break and enters over the weekend I would like the people in the town to follow the following procedure when going out for the evening.

The first step: check that all your windows and doors are secured. That means lock them good and tight, and when possible leave a light burning.

Second step: tell the man next door that you will be out for the evening and ask him to keep an eye on the place, and if you will be away for the weekend go a step further and call the Police Office who will then have the officer on his patrol check your property.

Cons. Roy Wood says "I have said in the past that when you see anything or hear anything of an unusual nature CALL THE POLICE. Well, again I would like to enlist your aid in putting this thief behind bars where he belongs, and a reminder to the thief that he faces a severe penalty when apprehended."

During our reporting week March 1 to March 8, the men at

the Acton Detachment while working 240 hours patrolled 579 miles.

Again it was a busy week in regards to traffic accidents and general occurrences. The occurrences were dominated by four break, enter and thefts, on Saturday night. The offences were all committed at private homes, and in all four cases the residents were out for the evening.

Other occurrences were a case of malicious damage, and a reported assault. Charges have been laid in both cases.

It was a bad week for traffic accidents with three accidents being investigated by the Detachment. The total damage in these accidents was \$2,425, and one person injured.

As I have said in the past, vehicles and highways don't cause accidents; it's people that cause them. Police officers don't like to issue a summons but if this is what is needed to cut down the accident rate, then the town could see an increase in the enforcement of the Highway Traffic Act.



EMPLOYEES AT THE GEORGETOWN PLANT OF Smith and Stone Ltd. commenced a legal strike, last Wednesday at midnight, after management and officials of UAW Local 1421 broke off negotiations the previous day (Tuesday). The company has offered a three year agreement, but union officials are seeking a two year pact. Some 360 employees are affected. — (Staff Photo)

Strike at Georgetown plant 360 employees idle

Some 360 employees at the Georgetown plant of Smith and Stone Limited went on strike at midnight, last Wednesday after negotiations between management and officials of UAW Local 1421 broke down the previous day, (Tuesday).

A release issued by company personnel director B. M. Anderson said negotiations between the company and union commenced October 5, 1969, and the collective agreement between the parties expired November 13, 1969.

Both the conciliation and mediation services of the Ontario Department of Labour were made available to the parties to assist in attempts to reach a settlement, the release said.

The company is seeking a three year agreement and has offered a package which includes wage increases, a cost of living allowance equal to 4c an hour in each of the second and third

years of the agreement, a company paid pension plan and improved fringe benefits.

Local 1421 president Harry Dewhurst told The Free Press the company's final proposal, made last Tuesday was not acceptable to members. He said the Local was trying to negotiate a two year agreement.

Mr. Dewhurst said management stated their proposal was final and as of midnight Wednesday March 4, they were legally terminating the agreement between Local 1421 and Smith and Stone.

U.A.W. policy is "No contract, No work." Mr. Dewhurst explained.

Local members are picketing the plant, round the clock. The Local has set up headquarters on Mill Street beside the Georgetown Legion.

Striking employees with families will receive \$40 per week, while married couples will receive \$35 and single persons

\$30.

In addition U.A.W. will pay all OHSIP, life insurance and blue cross drug plan benefits for the duration of the strike.

Mr. Dewhurst also told The Free Press, the company has laid off approximately 43 office workers of the amalgamated office unit Local.

He said there is presently no indication when management and union officials will get together again.

"The U.A.W. is prepared to back Local 1421 regardless of the length of time involved," Mr. Dewhurst added.

A Georgetown restaurant, sympathizing with strikers has offered a complete bacon and eggs breakfast to all strike employees for .65c. Other businesses have donated coffee and biscuits for picketers.

A 1964 strike at the Georgetown plant lasted seven weeks.

Council agrees to consider review of costs on Seynuck subdivision

Huland Developments Limited, original purchasers of the Seynuck property bordered by Wallace and Mill Sts. and Acton Boulevard, will likely proceed with residential development following a decision by the Reisman Group to let their option drop.

The new developers have told the administration committee of Acton council that the price of the land, cost of services, capital charges and hydro installation do not make it economically feasible to proceed. They asked council's consideration for a review of services required, capital levies and type of hydro installation.

The committee asked the developer to set their request for a review of costs together with supporting figures and directed it be referred to the town engineer and solicitor for their comments and recommendations.

This decision drew sharp fire from deputy-reeve Ted Tyler and the reeve who felt the present subdividers agreement was fair and put the onus on the people who developed the land

to pay for costs rather than the taxpayer.

"Reisman came in here as God's gift to Acton," declared Mr. Tyler, "and this committee is going to take time and money to review this?" He said the town would be "nailed" for another \$1,000 for a review.

"This guy bought the land and knew the subdivider's agreement. It is just another play for a subsidy to line his pockets so he can become a big guy. He's not going to get anywhere asking for a review," the deputy-reeve declared.

"My feeling is they'll do the best they can to build houses under these conditions," the reeve said, "and they want help to reduce cost of lots."

"There's no intention of changing lot levies," the mayor replied. "Some areas may be overlooked and we would make only legitimate concessions."

Councillor Coats reminded council Huland bought the land where there was no subdividers' agreement or lot levy. He spoke against subsidizing developers but thought council should remember the benefit to assessment additional houses would create.

"I feel we should have the decency to sit down and discuss the problems with these people," said Mr. Coats.

"Capital levies could go up," said Councillor Chapman, committee of the whole chairman.

"We made a deal — stick by it," the deputy-reeve said.

Councillor McKenzie, irked by the discussion, put his cards on the table, too, stating he wasn't in favor of underground wiring as proposed in the agreement. He thought poles along the back of lots would reduce costs and make the project more attractive for the developer.

He was supported by Councillor Greer who asked council to remember that the town already lost \$500,000 assessment (as shown in the

previous year's forecast) on the Reisman Group's decision not to build. "Let's not lose another \$500,000."

"We've got to be reasonable," declared Mr. McKenzie. Back poles will save the developer \$750 a lot. "We can have the whole bundle or nothing."

"I'd rather have nothing," retorted Mr. Tyler. He charged underground wiring was less expensive in the long run, easier to maintain and not as unsightly as poles. He said the developer knew he had a good deal when the subdividers' agreement was thrashed out.

A motion to throw out the committee recommendation for a review was lost with Oakes and Tyler throwing the lone support behind the resolution.

"We must be always open for negotiation," the mayor declared in conclusion but he also agreed with a statement by the reeve that a subdivider should be able to come into the town office and ask for a subdividers' agreement, peruse it and decide whether he wants to abide by it.

Annual meeting, elections for Community Credit Union

Continuing growth of both members and assets was reported at the annual meeting of Acton Community Credit Union in the Masonic Hall, Georgetown. President Robert Drinkwater informed the membership of growth of members and assets. Reports of the board of directors, treasurer, credit

committee, supervisory committee and the education committee were heard and accepted by the membership.

The membership also accepted the board's recommendation for the distribution of profits for 1969. This included a dividend of 5% per cent on shares and a patronage rebate of 5 per cent on interest paid on loans.

The following members were elected as board and committee members: Board of directors Charles Blake and Jack Denny, credit committee Des Ciendinning, supervisory committee Mrs. George Logan.

Election of officers for the board of directors of the Credit Union was held Sunday, March 8, when the following were named: president Jack Denny, vice-president Robert Bruce, treasurer Brendan Abetne, secretary Robert Drinkwater.

Peel nixes marriage

Peel County's politicians are having trouble making up their minds about regional government.

Friday they reversed their earlier stand and voted almost unanimously at a county council meeting to reject Minister of Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough's proposal for a Halton-Peel merger into a two-level regional government. Peel prefers a region of its own, Peel warden Ivor McMullin of Albion Township said.

Earlier most of Peel's 10 municipalities favored a Halton-Peel marriage, admitting their fears that Mississauga would control too much power if the county went into a regional area on its own. Mississauga was the only town still in favor of a two county merger when the vote to "go it alone" was called on Friday.

Mississauga Mayor Robert Speck pleaded with Peel members to retain the merger idea.



SWAPPING STORIES about old times on the fire brigade are retired veterans Bill Chisholm and "Did" Price, two of the many guests feted by firefighters Saturday night in recognition for assistance during the year. The firefighters and their guests enjoyed a roast beef dinner and viewed films on space exploration and photography. The kitchen committee for the mouth-watering meal was composed of Bern Van Fleet, Will McEachern, Phil McCristal and Lloyd McIntyre. Chef Doug Mason, laid up by an operation, was able to attend also. — (Staff Photo)

Council opposes . . .

(Continued from page 1)

about a losing cause," Reeve Frank Oakes declared. "Their minds are made up. Nobody around here can change them."

If the railway hadn't been so smart 20 years ago transport companies wouldn't have got so big, Councillor Greer asserted. "Let's go on record as opposed."

And council did with the deputy-reeve and Councillor Marks voting against the resolution.

Driver fined \$200

In court in Milton last week Bill McMullin was fined \$200 after he pleaded guilty to a charge of careless driving and failing the breathalyzer test.

He was involved in an accident on Highway 7 just east of Acton at Christmas time. The other driver, Paul Paulsen, 16, of Acton was killed. Milton O.P.P. Cons. Jim Redpath investigated.

WHAT COUNCIL DID

- Introduced and passed by-laws to amend zoning from an R2 an RM zone to permit a three storey apartment building on Ransom St.; to allow apartment buildings to reach a maximum height of 70 feet from the previous allowance of 35 feet, where zoning is RM and the property meets other requirements.
- Passed a by-law authorizing the mayor and clerk to sign a deed of conveyance for property in the Industrial Park being purchased by Acton Wood Products. An offer of purchase has been signed and the purchaser must pay cash of \$15,942 on delivery of the deed.
- Passed a by-law authorizing expenditures on town roads up to \$42,000. The Department of Highways sets the figure on a per capita basis and will allow the town subsidy only on that amount. Mayor Les Doby urged council to have a serious new look at the roads this spring before any program is started.
- Authorized the clerk to purchase a heavy duty electric typewriter for the town office at a cost of \$460.
- Passed a resolution subject to approval of the Ontario Municipal Board setting \$250,000 for capital expenditures in 1970, part of the five year forecast required by the O.M.B.
- Appointed town superintendent Alf Doby weed inspector for 1970 and authorized him to attend a road school at the University of Guelph with all expenses paid.
- Passed a resolution that the town of Acton goes on record as being opposed to discontinuance of train service as proposed by the CN. The new railway proposal would leave the town without any railway passenger service. Deputy Reeve Tyler and Councillor Marks opposed the resolution because of the wording. They did not want to see the service discontinued but felt there must be an alternative if the railway was to avoid losing money, as it claims.
- Turned down a resolution which would have forbidden the administration committee of council to negotiate with Huland Developments request for a review of costs to develop the Seynuck property. The company has stated it would like to proceed with development on the property as the Reisman Group has not exercised its option.

Hydro employees unionized

Acton Hydro Commission employees are now unionized. A letter was read Monday evening at the commission meeting indicating the two linemen and meter-reader are now certified members of local 548, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, A.F.L., C.I.O. of the C.L.C.

The men will be negotiating a contract with the commission soon.

Commissioner Bob MacArthur said he had been talking at the recent convention in Toronto with E. V. Reynolds of the hydro's labor relations service, who would assist the commission in their negotiations with the union.

Chairman McEachern presided for the short meeting with commissioners Oville Brown, Bob MacArthur, Ted Tyler Sr. mayor Les Doby, superintendent Doug Mason and secretary Mrs. Audrey Urquhart present.

The meeting was held Monday so all the members may attend the special Y's Men's meeting Thursday to hear George Kerr speak on pollution.

Mayor Doby stated the council's plans for underground wiring on Willow St. from River tp Church; on Bower from Willow to Alice; and John from Bower to Church. This will eliminate the unsightly "crownst of wires at the site of the new Toronto-Dominion bank.

More standards for the

crosswalk sign would be required. Superintendent Mason said a new bank of transformers would be needed at the Bank of Montreal.

"Now's the time to go underground," said the mayor firmly.

Commissioners were informed of a special meeting in the library March 17 to discuss the Chamber of Commerce survey.

A letter was read from Iain Williams who returned meter reading cards and said he would not read his own meter. Someone is home Saturdays, after 4.10 p.m. and certain weeks in the morning, he indicated. (If no one is home when the meter reader calls, he does not return but leaves a card. If the card is not returned an estimate is made).

Commission members acknowledged no call-backs are made, and the meter reader doesn't work Saturdays.

Commissioners mused: "Can he expect others to work extra for him?"

"I can read my meter and I'm not an engineer."

"He can just ignore it - he'll get a bill."

The same large van for the hydro display has been arranged for the fall fair. The same parking space will be reserved.

Insurance on office contents in the hydro office is being increased by \$1,000 with Denny's Insurance.

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