

Breakdown of Acton's 1970 budget

1970 BUDGET Receipts		1970 BUDGET	
1969 ACTUAL	1970 BUDGET	1969 ACTUAL	1970 BUDGET
Taxation			
Local Improvements	5,166.93	5,166.93	
Supplementary	5,772.08	6,000.00	
	10,939.01		11,166.93
Debtenture Debt Recover.			
Hydro	5,929.50	5,819.75	
Water	32,089.71	31,898.77	
Sewers	22,038.13	22,089.37	
	60,057.34		59,807.89
Grants & Subsidies			
Relief	21,003.95		
Highways	19,569.42	24,000.00	
L.C.B.O.	911.98	1,000.00	
County	7,774.20	7,270.30	
	49,259.55		32,270.30
General			
Licenses	838.00	850.00	
Dog Tax	1,260.50	1,200.00	
Tax Penalties	1,787.87	1,500.00	
	3,886.37		3,550.00
Other Revenue			
Town Hall Rent	39.00		
Fines	698.00	600.00	
	737.00		600.00
Recreation & Community			
Ambulance	7,665.89	7,230.00	
Cemetery	7,665.89	7,230.00	
	15,331.78		14,460.00
Misc. Items			
Sundry	358.77	200.00	
Twp. Standby	9,400.00	9,400.00	
Sale of Land			
	9,758.77		9,600.00
Cash in Lieu			
Post Office	4,333.00	4,200.00	
Liquor Store	1,178.32	1,200.00	
	5,511.32		5,500.00
Surplus	47.16	4,589.02	
Library Rent	5,280.00	5,280.00	

DISBURSEMENTS		1970 BUDGET	
Water Administration	3,600.00	3,600.00	
	8,927.16		13,469.02
Unconditional Grant	22,521.60	24,459.00	
General Administration			
Council Salaries	10,005.00	10,200.00	
Administration	35,037.02	33,443.00	
Pension	4,191.85	4,200.00	
Audit Fees	1,235.00	1,360.00	
Unemp. Ins.	1,032.90	1,000.00	
Health	2,380.09	2,500.00	
Cemetery	8,325.08	9,405.00	
General Insurance	6,013.20	6,000.00	
Printing & Postage	2,127.05	2,800.00	
Public Buildings	2,794.31	2,475.00	
Office Operations	8,858.81	8,550.00	
Legal & Ct. Costs	3,170.65	6,000.00	
Election Expenses		600.00	
Workmen's Comp.	1,044.73	1,000.00	
Dog Control	1,080.00	1,080.00	
	87,295.69		90,613.00
Protection to Personal Prop.			
Fire Dept.	17,773.82	19,415.00	
Police Dept.	39,624.72	57,310.00	
Division Ct.	48.00	48.00	
Street Lighting	16,309.87	19,500.00	
	73,756.41		96,273.00
Public Works			
Roads	23,465.64	30,400.00	
Misc. Roads	7,651.27	10,150.00	
Equipment	15,767.64	10,100.00	
Sidewalks	3,288.11	15,000.00	
Bower-Mill-Park	1,268.64		
Lakeview Resurf.	8,432.60		
	59,873.90		65,650.00
Sanitation & Waste			
Garbage Lbr.	8,199.73	9,500.00	
Dump Labor	5,884.01	6,500.00	
Dump General	710.60	1,200.00	
	14,794.34		17,200.00

Conservation of Health			
Inaull	10.18	15.00	
Ambulance	5.00		
V.O.N.	154.00	497.00	
	169.18		512.00
Social Welfare	26,740.49		
Recreation & Community			
Library	13,450.00	16,300.00	
Comm. Centre Oper.	8,315.61	11,733.62	
Comm. Centre Cap.	1,049.89	2,319.95	
Comm. Centre Repairs		13,000.00	
Pks. Bd. Operations	8,258.78	8,982.17	
Pks. Bd. Capital	3,757.77	2,000.00	
Fair Fair Bd.		300.00	
Planning Bd.	3,738.23	2,898.09	
Urban Bd.		300.00	
Citizens Band	4,000.00	4,250.00	
Comm. Adjust.	210.09	947.26	
	43,380.37		62,731.09
Debentures			
Water	23,803.25	23,640.25	
Water OWRC	13,453.39	13,425.45	
Sewer	44,076.25	44,178.75	
General	20,847.50	19,977.50	
Hydro	5,929.50	5,819.75	
	108,109.89		107,041.70
Interest Charges	3,353.85	3,350.00	
Sewer Deficits	6,033.71	13,639.37	
Taxes Written Off	1,156.65	1,000.00	
	10,544.21		17,989.37
Misc. Items	4,472.00	4,453.00	
Credit Valley	2,620.45	3,321.00	
Hydrant Rental	4,950.00	4,950.00	
St. John Ambulance	250.00	250.00	
Development Comm.	633.89	1,200.00	
Res. for Dep. Sr. Cit.		150.00	
Crossing Guards		1,200.00	
CORDC		385.00	
TOTAL	437,590.82	473,839.16	15,909.00
RECEIPTS			143,194.41
TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION			330,645.02

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NAME

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CITY

Council cuts arena repair budget no price tag on safety, says Marks

When Acton council slashed two mills (\$17,000) from the proposed budget of Parks and Recreation Thursday night, Councillor Peter Marks took exception charging sabotage of the parks and recreation program. He got support from tablemate Jack Greer on the arena repair bill which dominated the lively discussion.

Chairman of the two-hatted Board of Parks, Management and Recreation Thursday night, Councillor Marks told council he couldn't understand council's attitude since the parks and recreation committee felt they had already cut costs to the bone when they submitted their budget. He asked council to reconsider, especially the \$8,500 slashed off arena repairs, which Mr. Marks said would destroy their program and not bring the building up to proper safety standards as outlined in the engineering report.

Councillor Greer also questioned the wisdom of the budget committee in setting their own opinions on the arena's safety over and above that of the engineering firm which made the most recent inspection of the building.

Reeve Frank Oakes, chairman of the budget committee of council, said it was the feeling of the committee the entire parks and recreation budget was too high for a town of Acton's size, with parks asking \$3,900 more than last year and recreation over \$7,000 addition.

Why is it necessary to spend \$6,000 on parks development when there was a big arena repair bill (\$21,000)? he asked.

The budget committee decided they should take \$4,000 off parks to allow \$13,000 for arena repairs. They suggested the town board could find ways and means of continuing their program of park development and repairing the arena with \$2,000 allocated for parks and \$8,500 off arena repairs.

Councillor Marks most cogent remark? "You can't put a price tag on safety", he told council.

Councillors generally reacted strongly to the Marks remark. Led by the reeve they insisted the arena was still structurally strong and the advice of the engineering firm, although not to be ignored, should be taken with the well known grain of salt.

A local contractor put the price of fixing the arena at \$10,000 below the engineers' estimates, Councillor McKenzie said, challenging the \$21,000 figure.

Councillor Marks argued the finance committee's statement that parks and recreation was asking \$21,500 for arena repairs was false. The recreation committee asked the engineers how much it would cost to bring the building up to minimum safety standards. They hoped costs could be debentured.

Mr. Marks also charged it was just too much asking them to ou labor costs on both

recreation and parks when Georgetown and Milton were spending thousands of dollars more on labor costs. "I've got quite a list of what Milton and Georgetown spent on parks," he told council.

"Indicate where dollars are being misused," he said, "so we can pick up the dollars. The board is receptive."

He said council proposed cutting costs but had no suggestions on how it should be done. A rough calculation would show there would be at least 50,000 people go through arena and parks turnstiles each season and the parks and recreation felt that this kind of use warranted half a mill on development.

"We haven't spent much on parks but we have one of the nicest parks in Ontario," Marks continued but he felt the money allocated for development wouldn't accomplish very much.

Mr. Marks said the board would have to go out and find another engineering firm which could fix the arena for \$13,000. He hoped council wouldn't expect the parks and recreation committee to take responsibility for the building with only half the amount of money engineers said should be spent, with safety as a criteria.

Reeve Oakes defended the cuts in the board's budget by stating the finance committee could justify every figure in them. He suggested the entire program of recreation and parks was too rich for the town's blood.

"It is much less than other towns," retorted Marks.

"You suggested debentures," the reeve replied, declaring he investigated the possibility and found they "were so darn dear" they would never attempt to finance it, 8% costing 25% or more.

Piecemeal repairs would cost that much or more, too, Marks was advised by the engineers.

"You're stressing safety but if \$13,000 won't do it then we'll have to take a second look to see if the building is unsafe," Councillor Masales said.

"It would be nice to have it done this year," Deputy Reeve Tyler injected, "but it is like having carpets in every room in your home—it must be done a room at a time. If you find you can't do it on \$13,000 council will find some way to have funds diverted to have it done. It wouldn't be the first time it has been done."

Mr. Marks reminded council his board had spent five nights preparing their budget and considered it a minimum bare bones figure.

"Per capita-wise Acton is more than doing its job for recreation," Mayor Dudy challenged Councillor Marks. The same held true for parks development. He said the proposed operation was too rich for the town's blood. We must be realistic, he said. There is a

lot of serious thought in the budget but things we would like to have must be postponed. It's the price we pay for being a small town, the mayor asserted.

Comparing the operation of the library and the \$17,000 spent on it compared to \$12,000 allocated for parks, Mr. Marks asked why the finance committee hadn't seen fit to knock more off their budget. The mayor replied there was a very mixed up system of small grants for the library and confusing to untangle.

"Well if we can't fix the arena's recommended do we have to close it down?" asked Councillor Greer.

"There's no indication it can't be done cheaper by local firms," said Mr. McKenzie.

Mr. Greer suggested perhaps council should find the money to fix the safety factor.

"I don't think the arena is going to fall in," retorted the deputy reeve.

Thanks to the school board, said Mr. Marks in a brief testimonial, the town has some extra money this year. Why not use it to fix up the arena?

"The school board wants lots of pats on the back but they murdered us last year," Reeve Oakes fired back. He suggested the drop in the school board levy of six mills was not as realistic as it seems since they had a cushion of \$20,000 overlevy.

"Well you are asking two

boards to get by on a watered down budget but you didn't appreciate getting one last year," Marks answered.

"You are still getting more than last year," was the reply.

"If these repairs are necessary it might be better to cut out sidewalk walks, suggested an unconvinced Councillor Greer.

"I don't go along with the deputy reeve. These are engineers. He's not an engineer. I'm led to believe we can't do this piecemeal. Listen to the chairman of parks," he admonished council.

"It will cost more piecemeal," admitted Councillor Coats, "but that's how we handle things in our homes in this town. My other comment is on safety. There isn't a house in the town of Acton where you couldn't find something unsafe if you look hard enough. Repairs, he suggested are done when the money is available.

"It would appear councillors either haven't had time to read the engineer's report," said Councillor Marks. "I'm just giving the facts...we have six items here...the engineers strongly recommend they be done. This is not a house but a public building."

When someone says "strongly urge" it be done it does not necessarily mean it will fall down, Mr. McKenzie told Mr. Marks.

"Did the engineers say the building will fall down?" asked the deputy reeve.

Mr. Marks replied that engineers would never forecast the probable fate of any building — only its condition and recommendations to repair it.

Various references to other buildings which were considered unsafe were given before the discussion concluded.

Mr. Marks and Mr. Greer both voted to accept the budget as outlined by the finance committee, with reservations.

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"Well you are asking two

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GRANULATED 10 lb. BAG **REDPATH SUGAR** **99c**

Veteran advertiser winner of award

The veteran advertiser in the Acton Free Press, C. W. Kelly and Son Ltd., of Guelph, last week received a certificate of award from Ad-Builder, space selling system, division of Multi-Ad Services Inc., Peoria, Ill., U.S.A.

The Certificate, which states

Unusual visitor in these parts

An unusual visitor to this part of Ontario was reported recently when a trapper in Huron County captured a strange looking fox. The predator control officer from Goderich who examined it identified it as a gray fox.

The gray fox is common in some states south of the border and there have been reports of them being seen in Southern Ontario at either end of Lake Erie. According to the Royal Ontario Museum there are records of the gray fox being found in the Rainy-River district in Northwestern Ontario and also in Southeastern Ontario near Kingston.

The gray fox is slightly smaller than his red fox cousin. His back and flanks are gray and a black strip runs down the centre of the back extending to the end of the tail.

C. W. Kelly and Son Ltd., is "hereby awarded this certificate of recognition of meritorious achievement in the uses of art work in creating distinctive newspaper display advertising", was given following a competition involving all newspaper media throughout North America which use the Ad-Builder Service.

C. W. Kelly and Son Ltd., who have been advertising in the Acton Free Press for over 60 years, won the award with a multi-color advertisement in the issue of December 10 displaying Claretone Stereo products.

Dedicated advertisers in the Acton Free Press, C. W. Kelly and Son Ltd. are firm believers in color advertising and quite frequently readers can see their products displayed in this manner.

The award was two-fold when the Acton Free Press advertising manager Don Ryder also received a similar certificate for his department for creating the advertisement entered in the contest.

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