

Reserve decision on rezoning property

Decision was reserved by the Ontario Municipal Board on an application by the town of Acton for an amendment to the zoning by-law to permit construction of apartment buildings on property off Bower Avenue formerly owned by Mrs. A. Orr.

The application by Thrush Construction, requested a change in zoning from R3 to RM. The case was heard by H. E. Roberts of the Ontario Municipal Board Friday morning in the council chambers.

Objections

Objections were heard from Dills Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., which owns land abutting on the property and from Bower Avenue resident Don Ryder.

Mr. Ryder told the hearing he was spokesman for 28 residents of Bower Avenue but Mr. Roberts ruled objectors should be in attendance to substantiate their own opinions.

Although Mr. Ryder told 18 residents were in attendance and 10 signed statements showing why they could not appear, Mr. Roberts was adamant. "People who sign petitions don't read them. They sign because neighbors or friends ask them," he declared. He said it was not uncommon for people to sign contrary petitions on the same day.

Criticizes town

The chairman also criticized the town for not supplying more evidence to show why the former Orr property should be rezoned. He said it was the town's by-law and he expected there would be planners there to back up the town's request. Earlier he was told the town could not afford full time planners and an engineer.

Mr. Roberts, irritated by some of the testimony from solicitors, scolded them for presenting evidence which was not backed

up by professional opinion and refused to accept it.

Clerk-administrator Joe Hurst and solicitor P. G. Smith represented the town at the hearing. Dills Printing was represented by solicitor T. M. Holden. Thrush Construction was represented by B. Pilly.

Review case

Mr. Hurst reviewed the history of the proposed zoning change for the hearing, back to when the town planning board was requested to change the zoning. He said the planning consultant would not agree to the first draft and suggested changes in the application which were done to the satisfaction of planners. They recommended the revised plan be proceeded with and it was referred to the town engineer who said services to the land in question were satisfactory.

Council received the application and passed a resolution

to proceed with rezoning May 12, 1970. The request was subsequently sent to the Ontario Municipal Board.

Mr. Hurst, questioned by town solicitor Smith, testified there were schools close by, hard surface road and sidewalks and the area was fully serviced by sewer and water with no danger of flooding from the nearby creek.

Asks evidence

Dills Printing objected to the rezoning. Mr. Holden said because storm drainage would have to pass over their property. But Mr. Roberts asked where the evidence was to show rains would run any harder than they do now.

Mr. Holden referred to the previous OMB hearing when his client's property was to have been rezoned industrial but the amendment was not passed because of objections from the conservation branch of the

Department of Municipal Affairs which ruled land adjacent to the school creek must be used for conservation purposes. He said it was his client's understanding the amendment by-law stated there was a 40 foot setback from the creek's 50 year high water level but they were unable to obtain a copy of the final form of the amended by-law to certify it.

M1 designation

The amendment stated that an M1 designation for that 40 foot strip was unacceptable unless the company channelled the creek, testified Dills Printing president Dave Dills. He said the company hoped to utilize the land for industrial purposes in the future and visualized drainage problems if apartment buildings were constructed. He said channeling the creek with cement abutments would mean drainage from the apartment buildings would have to flow uphill.

The chairman refused to accept witness speculation on what the company would do with its land but admitted it was unusual that no amended by-law was available.

Town solicitor P. G. Smith told the chairman the situation now was that the zoning by-law does not conform to the official plan with regard to the small strip along the creek and testified the company reluctantly agreed to go along with the strip as O2.

Opposes

Bower Avenue resident Don Ryder opposed the zoning change citing the danger from increased traffic, pollution, loss of privacy, drainage problems and suggested other areas in town available for this type of proposal should be developed first. Bower Ave. residents are satisfied with the R3 zone, he said, and the money they had invested in their

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A WELL KNOWN barber in town for many years, Sandy McLean celebrated his 90th birthday, Sunday. The Free Press joins with citizens of Acton and the surrounding district in extending congratulations to Mr. McLean.—(Staff Photo)

Retired barber 90th birthday

A barber in Acton for many years, Sandy McLean celebrated his 90th birthday Sunday at Maple View Lodge.

"Everybody knows me," chuckled Sandy. Wherever he goes, people remind him that he used to cut their hair.

He learned barbering in Toronto, and came to Acton in 1904 where he started with 15c cuts and 10c shaves. He was married here in 1906 and his wife Alice Maud Thompson, died in 1960.

Still walks

Used to meeting friends daily in Acton, Sandy is still with friends at Maple View. The ladies there assert that he is "very popular... he always notices our new hairdos!" They compliment Sandy as a "gentleman of the old days."

He was born 90 years ago on the sixth line of Erin near Ballinacree. He used to walk all over town after his retirement and still walks mornings and afternoons. He thinks his long walks must have helped keep him healthy

along with his hearty appetite for three meals a day.

He has always been interested in sports and still plays a little hockey in the basement with young Duncan Walde. He's a staunch Maple Leaf supporter.

He remembers exciting games in Acton with Frank Gibbons, Jack Greer and Minute Walters setting the crowds cheering. He recalls the time Jack Greer won the Ben Rachlin trophy for the most goals of the season, when Jack weighed in at 340 pounds. He used to go to all the games, and now still reads the sports pages avidly.

He also enjoys checkers and crokinole. John Harvey taught him how to play checkers years ago, Sandy says.

He has a good memory and enjoys reminiscing.

For his birthday, he received congratulations from M.P. Rud Whiting and Prime Minister Trudeau. He gets out to vote, and assured Mr. Whiting, the last time he saw him, that he could count on Sandy's "Grit" vote.

12-year-old's quick action saves house from flames

Quick thinking and immediate action by a 12-year-old boy averted what could have been a disastrous fire in Nassagaweya

township, Saturday night. Bernd Von Cube, returning from the barn on his parents' farm on Lot 23 on the First Line of

Nassagaweya, noticed smoke coming from the roof of the house. Realizing his 76-year-old grandmother, Mrs.

Blankenhagen, was inside the house alone, Bernd hurried back to the barn and retrieved a dry chemical fire extinguisher.

He entered the house, climbed through a small opening up to the attic and brought the fire under control until he was able to call Acton firefighters. Bernd's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sigismund Von Cube, were not home at the time.

The Acton brigade received the call about 6 p.m. and drove through the season's first snowfall to the Von Cube home. Thanks to Bernd's presence of mind, the fire destroyed only a three foot square portion of the roof. Firefighters covered the burnt portion to keep the snow out.

It is believed a spark from the chimney ignited the fire. Bernd is a student at Brookville school.



Paving done soon

PRELIMINARY LAYER of asphalt has been laid on Highway 7 from Acton east to Silvercreek and from Georgetown west to 22 Sideroad. Department of Highways project supervisor Bill Kovacic told the Free Press preliminary paving of the entire Acton to Georgetown stretch of the highway should be completed by the middle of next week, weather permitting.—(Staff Photo)

Hydro Commissioner upset about meeting with council

Hydro Commissioner Ted Tyler Sr. is upset about the treatment commission members received at a recent joint meeting of the commission and Acton council.

At Thursday night's monthly Hydro meeting, Commissioner Tyler referred to a joint meeting October 22 called by council's administrative committee to discuss costs in respect to the subdividers' agreement and the Hulad development, in particular.

Commission spokesmen backed up their stand for 100 per cent underground services in new subdivisions.

According to minutes of the meeting, Commissioner Tyler retired at 9 p.m.

Commissioner Tyler said it was almost as though hydro members were on the program "Under Attack". Reminding his colleagues they were invited to the joint meeting, he commented "As far as I'm concerned, if they want information in the future

they'll come here. I'm not going over there."

"We're not inferior, we're a duly elected body, we answer to ratepayers," Commissioner Tyler stated.

In defence of council, Mayor Les Dudy said there is no guarantee against individuals. The mayor said "he couldn't be held responsible for what some other clout says."

"I couldn't agree more," Commissioner Tyler replied.

Launch breathtaking project

Halton County Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association launched its new program for early detection of chronic lung disorders such as bronchitis, asthma and emphysema with a pulmonary function test given to most of the 414 staff members and office and plant employees at Beardmore and Company, this week. Tests were held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (today) afternoon.

During the test, participants were required to take deep breath and blow three times into a machine called a pulmonary function indicator. The indicator measured each person's vital capacity, the amount of air that can be taken in and breathed out during the deepest breath as well as the rate at which it can be blown out.

According to Dr. D. S. Kober of Oakville who supervised tests, persons should be able to blow out 80 per cent of their vital capacity in one second and the remaining 20 per cent within three seconds.

"If the machine shows a person can't get out 80 per cent in the first second, it indicates there

could be something wrong," Dr. Kober explained.

Before taking the test, participants were asked to answer three questions: How old were you when you began smoking? How many cigarettes do you smoke daily? or How long ago did you stop? In some cases persons

who are not able to blow out 80 per cent of their vital capacity in the first second are heavy smokers.

Although the pulmonary function indicator has been in use for about 15 years, the test is being given in Halton County for the first time. Dr. Kober hopes to extend the test to all local plants sometime in the new year.

On the final day of testing, (Wednesday) Association president C. McFadden was to make a lucky draw for three pairs of tickets to the December 26 NHL game in Maple Leaf Gardens.

Mrs. A. Near and Mrs. J. Van Fleet of Dublin's Women's Institute helped with registration. Helping administer the test and record the results were Mrs. Stebbing, Halton County Health Unit nurse, Mrs. Kennedy of Burlington, a member of the Association, and Mrs. Armour of Burlington who is on the Association's board.



First snowfall

Rockwood woman killed

Saturday's first snowfall of the winter was a contributing factor in the death of a 50-year-old R.R. 4 Rockwood woman early Sunday morning.

Mrs. Valerie Willard, a mother of seven, died when a car in which she was a passenger skidded out of control on an icy patch on Highway 25 three miles north of Milton, struck a tree and rolled over on top of her. Her husband and one daughter in the same car were slightly injured and two other children escaped unhurt.

Const. Ian McNally of Milton OPP, who investigated the accident, said the road had been sanded a few minutes earlier but an icy patch was visible where the car left the road, entered the ditch, struck a tree and rolled onto its right side.

Mrs. Willard's husband Irving Willard, 52, was driving the car. He suffered head lacerations. Daughter Gayle, 16, had a minor hip injury. Son Stuart, 11, and daughter Shirley, 13, also passengers, were unhurt.

were pinned inside it and he had to free them by himself—about 15 cars passed the accident while he struggled to free the family, yet not one of them stopped to offer aid.

The family was returning to their home after visiting friends when the accident happened just south of 10 Sideroad. The 1967 model car had \$1,800 damage.

Mrs. Willard was pronounced dead at the scene by coroner Dr. Ivan Hunter of Milton. No charges are being laid and no inquest is being ordered.

to Bill Kovacic, project supervisor for the Department of Highways. Some fresh material had to be laid because of the moisture in the ground.

The last loads of rock were taken out today (Wednesday) from the hill at Silvercreek. A new curve reroutes the highway on the other side of the Silvercreek store. Curbs are being installed up the hill and this part of the work should be finished in two days.

If weather permits, the work will end with third layers of paving at the entrances to Georgetown and Acton, says Mr. Kovacic.

The rerouting of the highway is a worry — and a threat — to Silvercreek store owner Dick Pedverse.

They just don't know what will happen to their business, but as they wait, they are very concerned.

Mr. Pedverse explains he had expected the Highways department would buy out his store and make a gradual curve instead of the new, sharp one.

He doesn't even know if the old road will be kept open. If it is, he "might be alright." Mr. and Mrs. Pedverse depend on highway business. Most of the people in the district go by car to shop in larger centres.

Nominations Monday

The auditorium of the Robert Little school will be the most important place in town Monday evening.

It is nomination night and there promises to be a larger crowd out than usual to nominate candidates for mayor, reeve, deputy-reeve, six councillors and four members of the Hydro Electric Commission.

Rumors have been rife that several new faces will be nominated to contest both council and commission seats.

Simultaneously, at Nassagaweya township hall, Brookville, nominations are being accepted for the single township representative on the Halton County Board of Education in conjunction

with Nassagaweya nomination for reeve, deputy-reeve and council.

All posts will be for a two year term.

There are nominations at Esquering township hall in Stewarttown where Esquering township interest will be centred Monday night. The North Esquering ratepayers' group has already declared they will run at least five candidates in opposition to some of the present incumbents and there are other rumblings of discontent.

Erin township nominations are being held on Monday afternoon between 1 and 2 p.m. for a reeve, deputy reeve and three councillors as well as three representatives to serve the townships of Erin, Eramosa, Guelph and the village of Erin and the Wellington County Board of Education.

HALTON TUBERCULOSIS and Respiratory Disease member Mrs. Kennedy shows Beardmore employee Jenny McGinn the proper way to blow out into the pulmonary function in-

dicator. Dr. D. S. Kober (extreme left) and Mrs. Armour record results. Most of the plant's employees took the test designed for early detection of respiratory diseases.—(Staff Photo)