

Council discussions

Exasperating slowness approvals, Christmas lighting, Boxing Day

An early start in 1971 on the improvements at Mill and Park Avenues appeared unlikely, council learned on Tuesday night. Councillor McKenzie queried the public works committee wondering if an early start could be anticipated.

It was reported by the public works committee that engineers had discovered the concrete in the present culvert was deteriorating badly and this would necessitate a completely new culvert.

Estimates up
Engineers had discovered the condition of the concrete in October and just now the final estimates of the costs including the new culvert had been received. On the original project the total cost was to be \$31,550. This amount will be increased by \$20,850 representing an increased cost to the town after the 80 per cent subsidy by the Department of Highways of \$4,170. The total town share of the whole project is now estimated to be \$19,945.

Deputy-reeve Tyler expressed the opinion the only way the project could get started by April would be if a provincial election were called or if the town agreed to pay the whole cost of the project out of current revenue.

Slow progress
Exasperation in the slow progress of necessary approvals from the Department of Highways and the Ontario Municipal Board caused councillor McKenzie to wonder "What's the sense of all this committee work if we can't get approvals from Toronto?"

Councillor Greer pointed out that O.M.B. approval on the original project which was submitted in July had not been received yet and it was his opinion that an early start could not be expected in view of the fact that the additional work would require the necessary approvals.

Mayor Duby said the Department of Highways fiscal year ended in April and it would probably take until July for the Department to get going on the 1971 projects.

Second proposal
The drainage program for Bower Ave. was reviewed in the public works committee report. The committee is seriously considering a second proposal submitted by the engineers. Under this proposal the main trunk line would be built along Bower Ave., go south on Elgin St. and empty into the creek in the southerly portion of town.

Cost of this project was estimated to be \$75,000. The original proposal for draining Bower Ave. would have cost \$43,000 and would have put the drainage water into the creek north of Bower Ave.

Five times
Under the engineer's second but more costly proposal the main trunk sewer on Elgin would also form a basis of a storm sewer system for Mill St. and Church St.

Mayor Duby suggested "the second proposal makes available five times the drainage area served."

Apartment height
Council was advised the Ontario Municipal Board will hold a hearing in Acton on December 21 to consider the town by-law 70-1470. This by-law restricts the height of apartment buildings to 70 feet. The clerk was instructed to have the planning consultants attend the hearing along with engineers necessary to present the town's case in support of the by-law.

Council agreed to amendment No. 6 of the official plan which was recommended by the

planning board. The amendment will rezone formerly owned municipal property recently sold for residential uses.

No objection
An application has been received by the committee of adjustment by Dr. T. B. Moore for minor variances to allow him to construct a garage and an addition to his home on Lake Ave. Council had no objection to the granting of the minor variances.

Mayor Duby reported that the hydro commission had agreed to keep the costs for underground wiring to service the Ontario Housing Corporation on Cobblehill Rd. as low as possible.

No contribution
The resolution previously submitted by councillor Marks to contribute \$250 to the Chamber of Commerce to help defray the cost of Christmas lighting was voted on and unanimously rejected at this meeting.

Discussion had indicated that the cost of the Christmas lighting program were not as great as had first been anticipated. Councillor Marks said he opposed his own resolution now, as it was "not as applicable as I thought."

If further investigation brings to light other circumstances he said he would re-submit the resolution to council.

Boxing day
Boxing Day was set for Monday, December 28. Councillors Masales, Marks and Coats opposed this resolution. It was reported Georgetown was holding their Boxing Day on

Saturday, December 26. However no other information was available and council decided Acton's Boxing Day would be on Monday, Dec. 28 and the necessary proclamation was to be published.

By resolution council made the final payment on the stipend for the 1970 mayor and councillors. Councillor Greer opposed the motion on the basis of its wording.

Annexation
The clerk reported he had received no reply yet from the Department of Municipal Affairs to a letter written in July on the possibilities of annexing land east of Acton between the third and fourth concession of Equeagus township. A phone call to the department indicated that a reply could be anticipated in three or four days.

Council instructed the clerk to secure Christmas turkeys for the full-time employees of the municipality.

Band grant
A letter from bandmaster G. Elliott requested a meeting with council early in the new year in the light of the re-assessment of the municipality which would increase greatly the value of the band grant.

Councillor Greer asked if this was a voluntary request or had been made at the suggestion of the town. He learned it was a voluntary request on behalf of the band. It was wholeheartedly agreed to set up a meeting at an early date.

Rotary, Legion host dinner

By Mrs. Elsie Reed
The Rotary Club and the Canadian Legion were joint hosts to nearly 100 members of Acton Golden Age Club on Tuesday night in the Legion Hall. Transportation was provided for all who needed it, and a delicious and beautiful Christmas turkey dinner with all the trimmings was well cooked and efficiently served by the men, who did a marvellous job of it.

The hall was beautifully decorated and the tables nicely laid with a Christmas centerpiece on each table. A leather key-case, compliments of Boardmore Co. was beside each plate. (Boardmore Co. also donated a genuine leather wallet to the executive officers of the Golden Age Club.)

Special welcomes
The guests were welcomed by M. C. Johnny Goy; the Rotary President John Andersen and the Legion president Robert Angell with special mention to the over-nineties, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Davidson whose 55th wedding anniversary came shortly, to Robert McEnery whose 80th birthday it was and to zone president William Fellows and his wife.

Rev. McKenzie said Grace and John Andersen proposed the toast to the Queen.

Music enjoyed
After the guests had done full justice to the hearty meal Muriel Holmes sang beautifully and without accompaniment, Blown in the Wind and Nobody's Child and was well applauded.

Joe Petric came with his accordion and played several instrumentals. Joe is an steady friend, of the Golden Agers and

has been coming over since their beginning when as a young lad and now a very accomplished musician he has been a delight. Joe has received many well-earned awards and is pressing on to greater attainments.

High standards
The initiation rituals of the Rotary Club were exemplified by Ted Hansen and Bob Stevens. The induction of Canadian Legion members was exemplified by officers of the Canadian Legion with Ted Hansen the new member. These were very interesting as the high standards of these Clubs were shown.

The Chorallers sang, and as usual were very much enjoyed, and were brought back later to delight everyone.

The Country D's with Isabelle Moore and Agnes McIntyre came with their guitars and were well received as they sang solos and duets and gave musical numbers. They were given a great round of applause.

Ho! Ho! Ho!
Of special interest was the large sparkling silver tree, decorated by colored balls and lit by a vari-colored revolving spot and under which lay a pile of gifts which were distributed by a Jolly Ho! Ho! Ho! Santa Claus who appeared to the tune of Jingle Bells. Santa managed to kiss each lady, short or tall, as he handed her a gift.

Singing Christmas carol concluded a wonderful evening of good food, fun and entertainment.

The Golden Agers very much appreciated all that was done for them and can only say "Thank you" and A Merry Christmas to all.

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