

Erin Twp. Council briefs

Refuse to invest in bridge work

At the regular monthly meeting, Erin Township Council:

—Heard recommendations for tax write-offs totalling \$2,029.65. Included were taxes on businesses considered uncollectable by treasurer Bert Berry, where the owners had moved away.

Mr. Berry pointed out that utilities such as the telephone company, churches, cemeteries, the fire hall, community centre, library, shed, and pump house, were all wrongly listed on the tax roll because the IBM machine had not picked them out as being tax-exempt.

There were also refunds totalling \$301.41 and overpayments of \$80.45.

When questioned why the community telephone, a private company, was exempt, Mr. Berry informed council that instead of taxes, the company pays a grant of five per cent of taxable income on their lines.

—Met with Lester Prouse, appearing on behalf of the Colossus Development Corp., who asked for approval of a subdivision plan subject to agreement on roads.

The 94 lot subdivision will be bounded by the Eighth Line and 15 Sideroad, adjacent to Erin Village. Plans are underway to begin within two years.

Mr. Prouse pointed out the matter concerning the township is the share of costs of bringing the roads up to standard. There was also a question of who owned a bridge that needed work.

Reeve Lloyd Lang advised not only that the township doesn't own it, but the county also declines ownership. He went on to say that Erin Village and the township split road maintenance cost now on the stretch in question, but the village refuses to put money into reconstruction. Since all benefits of the subdivision will go to the village, the township decided not to invest money in it either.

Deputy-Reeve Donald Matheson summed up. "They can have our approval, but road negotiations should be between the village and the subdividers."

—Agreed that \$50 per month was too little money for weekly garbage pick-up from 40 homes in Mountainview Subdivision, Erin. O. J. Hearn will now receive \$70, retroactive to January 1.

—Learned that Dog Control Officer Alec Duncan was threatened after appearing in court to collect unpaid dog taxes.

A Guelph judge had instructed Mr. Duncan to check to see if two dog owners disposed of their animals within the month, but the owners warned him against appearing on the property, he told Council. He was further instructed to take along a police officer.

—Learned that George Herrington of Limehouse is willing to drive to Erin township and the villages, one day a week, to collect dogs running loose. He would come varying days and charge \$15 each trip.

—Agreed to pay Henry Wheeler for 31 days time put in at the township offices while Clerk Elmer McKinnon was ill.

—Received a livestock death account of \$41.50. Elizabeth McQuaid lost 21 hens, 2 ducks, 1 turkey, and 1 goose to dogs last month.

—Agreed to pay expenses for Bob Cheyne to go to the four day Fire Chiefs' Convention in Mississauga.

—Heard Reeve Lang express his doubts as to the forming of a Recreation Board for Erin township. He commented "It seems that everybody's in favor, but nobody wants to do the work. We need a bit more enthusiasm here."

Councillor Bert Wheeler pointed out that there would be enough work, once it got going, to make the hiring of one man feasible.

—Met with a representative of the Library Board to discuss the fate of the old library. Council was informed that children had been breaking in, and it was feared they might set fire to it. It was decided to tear the building down.

Suggested changes in layout of a proposed subdivision to Dennis Edwards when he appeared to ask approval for his plan at Ballinfad on the Shortill farm.

Reeve Lang added that he doubted very much if the Planning Board would approve of another subdivision in the Township.

Teachers' president says school trustees should act without pay

Trustees sitting on the Halton County Board of Education should offer their services free of charge. At least that is the opinion of Tom Ramautarsingh, president of the Halton Division of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation.

Ramautarsingh made the statement in a speech to the Falgout-Holton Heights Community Association last week.

Real indication
 "The board believes in maintaining its budget although prices and the cost of living have risen. I feel that a good place to start is that the trustees should offer their services free of charge. It should be a true indication of those members who earnestly want to serve their community. This can help to not only maintain the budget, but help to reduce it. Before the formation of the Halton County Board of Education, the trustees of other boards served well without remuneration. The trustees can act immediately or keep it in mind when the next election comes along."

Hydro rate increase noted at convention

An increase in hydro rates was announced last week at the annual convention of the AMEU-OMEA. Acton delegates were among the many who heard the announcement made in the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, by Ontario Hydro chairman George Gathercole.

Wholesale power rates will go up 8 per cent on July 1. Like other commissions, Acton will likely have to pass on the increase to consumers, meaning higher electrical bills.

Mr. Gathercole told the hydro men increases are inevitable

Charge laid
 An Acton person was charged following an attempt to cash two n.s.f. cheques during the past week.



MANAGER BRENDAN Aherne presents the annual report of the Acton Community Credit Union. "A great surge forward" was reported for 1971.—(Staff Photo)

Credit Union growth cited at annual meeting

The annual report of the Acton Community Credit Union shows a "great surge forward during 1971" to use the words of president Jack C. Denny. Assets have just about doubled and the rate of growth is expected to continue during 1972.

"All indications are that we will pass the half million dollar mark before the end of the year," the president reported.

Assets now stand at \$326,000, a large increase on 1970 and the ratio of expenses are expected to improve during 1972.

Demand strong
 Manager Brendan Aherne reported that loan demand is still strong but he expected savings would increase in line with the demand. Delinquency is being held at a reasonable level, he asserted.

Highlights of 1971 included the renovation of the credit union's front office on Mill St. and a successful fall dance which the board of directors have decided will be an annual event.

The board recommended that a five percent dividend on shares based on the quarterly minimum balance and a five percent interest rebate to members meeting their full commitment during 1971 at the annual meeting of the credit union last week. The annual took the form of a dinner and dance and was held at Acton Curling Club.

Executive
 The board of directors reappointed Jack Denny president, Bob Bruce vice-president, Elaine Logan secretary and Brendan Aherne treasurer. John Last and Bob Drinkwater were re-elected to the board of directors and Robert Smiza to the supervisory board.

Former Actonian recognizes friends

Identification of the people in two old pictures published recently has come from Mrs. J. Ralston Brown who lives now in Calgary. Mrs. Brown herself — then Ethel Coleman — was in one of the pictures.

The photograph which appeared in the Free Press February 2 was taken on the occasion of Nellie Dingman's removal from Acton to the Stratford area in 1905, says Mrs. Brown. Musicians in the picture with Ethel Coleman (Brown) and Miss Dingman were left to right, Charles W. Mason, Al Nicklin, Mr. Booth, Joe Lake, Mrs. Tarswell, John Hill and Bert Smith. John Hill played the violin and was the leader. Miss Coleman was pianist replacing Miss Dingman. She recalls that Joe Lake worked at the Free Press at the time, and H. P. Moore, who is also in the picture, was Sunday School superintendent.

She also identifies two of the players in a recently-published picture of the Acton Crescents lacrosse team which won the Ontario championship in 1899. To those recognized here (Frank McIntosh, Fred Ryder and Eddie Hyder) Mrs. Brown added the names of Carr Williams and his brother Lawrence "Bud". She also says Charlie Erwin and Bob Scott were on the team but she can't tell which they are in the photo.

Mrs. Brown also notes that she remembers Mazo de la Roche and her cousin when they lived in Acton.

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Residents protest tree cutting along the Eighth Line, Erin

A delegation of nine appeared before Erin Township Council Wednesday to protest the cutting of trees on the Eighth Line.

A spokesman for the group related how, on February 29, the residents were surprised to see trees well beyond the township's six foot margin being felled, and had stopped any further cutting.

That evening, the Eighth Line Ratepayers' Association was formed, "to protect the environment we like to see maintained."

14 sign brief
 The Reeve was then presented with a memorandum signed by 14 residents, stating they would like to see the appearance of their road remain unchanged, that no herbicides or insecticides be used on the weeds, and that the school bus turning circle be completed, as the present slope is unsatisfactory. They also asked something be done about a sand pit in the area.

When Reeve Lang commented that the brush was being cleared

on complaints from the school board, that the trees clip the bus mirrors, the delegation answered that the bus driver had made no complaints at any time.

The Reeve countered by pointing out that the bus driver had no say in it what-so-ever, he went on, "If that's the desire of

the people on the road, we'll leave the brush alone, but the school board complains about that road every year, and has said the bus will pick up children only if trees are cut back."

Residents commented that they are not against the cutting of trees that need it, but would like the present beauty to be maintained. "There are tamarack roads on either side of us. Why not leave the eighth Line as a scenic route?"

Must remove hazards
 Clerk Elmer McKinnon entered the discussion to acquaint the delegation with the legal side of the matter. "The municipality is responsible for damages to vehicles because of the overhanging branches, and those

same branches prevent gravel trucks from spreading gravel properly. The township must remove obstructions or hazards they know are there."

It was decided that one of the delegation would meet with the road superintendent to decide which trees and branches must go. No decision was reached about the sand hill which residents regard as a hazard to small children who play in it. They pointed out that the overhang is very dangerous.

Reeve Lang re-assured the delegation on the question of insecticides. "I think I can promise you there'll be no spraying on your road this year. There's no money to spray anywhere, anyhow."

Student injured

John Hamilton, 16, of R.R. 5, Georgetown, is progressing following serious injuries suffered in an accident last week. He was driving to Acton high school to play basketball when the accident occurred on highway 7 east of town. He had a fractured pelvis, ribs and concussion, police report.

He was taken to St. Michael's hospital, Toronto.

The other driver involved was Fred Snider of Downsview.

Damage to the Hamilton vehicle was estimated at \$2,000 and to the Snider car \$500.

L.O.L. winners

L.O.L. 467 euchre winners for March 4:

Ladies' high Mrs. Edith Storey 124; ladies' low Yvonne Dewar; men's high Fred Robertson 120; men's low John Dewar 7; door prize Millie Rowles.

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