



WON'T SOMEONE COME FOR ME? this stray pooch incarcerated at Houndhaven Kennels seems to be pleading. Soon there will be no township pound in which strays can be harbored. —H. Coles Photo

Eramosa Council activities

At the August meeting:

Eramosa township council decided that S. Robertson would need a minor variance to operate a machine shop and welding business from his home at Lot 1, Con. 7, although much of his work would be directed towards repairing implements, an agricultural pursuit. Council decided that if Mr. Robertson also wanted to do some light manufacturing in a building he proposes to construct, it would be an infringement of the by-law, so advised him to apply for the variance. Members of council who are farmers said there was a real need for such a business in the area.

Council reluctantly passed a motion to strike off \$2,870 in Bell Canada taxes, as required by the Municipal Act, and listened raptly as clerk Lloyd Hindley revealed efforts were being made to alter the Act.

Received a letter advising that the supplementary subsidy on roads for 1972 would be \$24,000, \$3,000 less than the \$27,000 requested.

Councillors decided there was merit in belonging to the newly formed Association of Municipalities, an amalgamation of the old Mayors and Reeves and OMA, but decided to forego membership this year.

There was little comment as council passed a resolution granting the Wellington County Plowmen's Association \$50 to help defray expenses of the 1972 plowing match, being held at the farm of Barclay Forsythe, R.R. 1, Rockwood, on October 14. Mr. Forsythe's farm is located on the Fifth Line, a mile above Strattons Corners.

Councillor Dick Strong suggested that perhaps an impartial person or body should investigate complaints from farmer Victor Jessop of R.R. 5, Rockwood, that the drainage system on his farm was not working properly. But both Reeve Warren Parkinson and Councillor Ken Fair were convinced the drain was working satisfactorily and Mr. Jessop's complaints had been fully investigated. The reeve said he inspected the system personally.

A request from the Emergency Measures Organization of Wellington county for a meeting with council was tabled until a suitable time could be designated at the discretion of the reeve and clerk. The co-ordinator is asking each municipality in the county to have a suitable plan drawn up to meet emergencies, both civil and war time.

The clerk was instructed to find out the mechanics of a tree planting program following receipt of a letter from the Junior Farmers who are conducting a survey to determine a community betterment project. Councillor Bill Adsett suggested tree planting could be a real investment in the future.

Weed Inspector George Martin was asked to investigate complaints of weeds at several places in the township and the village of Rockwood. Councillor Dick Strong said he had also received complaints about spraying alongside township roads and suggested consideration be given to cutting next year, rather than spraying in certain areas where trees and gardens could be harmed.

Council noted that a building was being erected on the rental car lot of Jack Sheehy in Rockwood and that a building permit had been issued. The building inspector was to check whether or not a permit had been received from the board of health. Council has opposed the setting up of a business on the lot.

Three tenders for shingling of the municipal offices were opened and G.E. Jestin was awarded the contract. His was the lowest tender, at \$420.

Councillor Bill Adsett advised he could not proceed with erection of a fence to protect the Rockwood ball park from a precipitous limestone bluff until the area was defined. Repeated requests to the Grand River Conservation Authority to outline boundaries had so far been ignored.

Council left it up to the road superintendent Bob Hamilton and the clerk to negotiate the sale of the old lawnmower and purchase another larger unit.

Councillors decided they would attempt to persuade the Village trustees of Rockwood it was their responsibility to ensure whether the nursery school in the village was to be assisted financially, since all children attending were from the village. Councillor Fair said at a recent meeting with the chairman he had been assured they would cooperate in any way possible.

Road superintendent Bob Hamilton was asked to investigate whether taxpayers would be paying for a 24-inch pipe adjacent to the new Fourth Line bridge. Councillor Strong said it was his recollection that the O.W.R.C. ordered the installation of the pipe which goes back about 40 feet into the roadbed and the township was to be reimbursed for the expense.

Reeve Warren Parkinson presided for the five hour meeting with all councillors present except Deputy Reeve Duncan McPhedran.

Running pound provides plenty of pet problems

Jean Whiting makes no bones about problems operating a township dog pound.

It's just not worth it, she told the Free Press this week at her R.R. 4, Rockwood, kennels. "We get \$6 for keeping a dog for 72 hours but most of the dogs are brought in here Friday, Saturday and Sunday don't count as pay days, so we often end up keeping dogs for six days for the same amount."

She and her husband Tony operate Houndhaven Kennels, situated on the Seventh Line, Eramosa township. They board cats and dogs at the clean, well ventilated kennels with wire runs but the provincial government has decreed they may not act as a dog pound through the winter months unless they spend considerable amounts of capital

to adhere to regulations laid down by Bill 194.

Raise own

Out of these kennels they raise Norwegian Elkhounds, Boxers, Cairns, Miniature Wirehair Dachshunds and German Shorthair Pointers, many of them championship material.

They take pride in the appearance of the dogs they raise and under their care but so far as they are concerned acting as township dog pound has infinitely more problems than it is worth. Jean Whiting says only her natural compassion for dogs kept them operating the pound. So after October 31 they are through running the pound and the townships—Guelph and Eramosa—must find a new pound quarters.

Dog controllers bring in the

dogs when it is most convenient to them, Mrs. Whiting said. While the Free Press was there one township controller brought in a female dog expecting pups at any time. Mrs. Whiting just couldn't accept her, knowing the pups would soon arrive and she would be stuck with them.

It is expensive feeding dogs. The only time we ever made any money connected with the pound was when Eramosa dog controller George Martin was sick and we looked after dog control, Mrs. Whiting laughs.

Facilities good

Boarding facilities at the kennels are cleaned each day but it wasn't the Houndhaven facilities that restricted running a township pound. The Government has a list of stringent regulations regarding

winter quarters, stipulating pounds must be heated, all aluminum flea-free screens and compound floors.

Although the Whiting's own dogs flourish in their kennels, apparently other kennels make life hard for strays and regulations are provided to protect the canine population.

"It would be just too expensive a proposition," Mrs. Whiting observes, "to fix up our kennels to Bill 194 and then continue to lose money as a pound."

Grants are available to the municipality but Mrs. Whiting points out the Act states the municipality must be able to lease a township pound for 20 years, which discourages most initiative.

Meanwhile they have plenty to do looking after their own dogs



THE TWO PUPS Jean Whiting holds are Miniature Wirehair Dachshunds, one of them very valuable and recently sold to a buyer. The Whittings also raise Norwegian Elkhounds, Boxers, Cairns and German Shorthair Pointers at Houndhaven Kennels. —H. Coles Photo

Eramosa Council

Discusses joint pound with other townships

Eramosa clerk Lloyd Hindley is to investigate costs of a dog pound and the reeve is to look into the possibility of establishing a joint pound with Erin and Guelph townships, following disclosure that the present pound, Houndhaven Kennels, will not be allowed to operate after October 31.

A pound inspector ruled that the present township refuge for dogs would have to update its facilities if it was to continue its present role.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Whiting, pound operators, wrote council that

they did not intend to update facilities to the new standards while they were located on leased premises, noting they took in animals more as a service than for a profit.

Government grants are available at 20 cents per person for municipalities to renovate or construct municipal pounds, which would amount to approximately \$750 for Eramosa township. The reeve suggested a co-operative venture with adjoining townships and will contact Reeves of Erin and Guelph townships.

Not the end and that wasn't the end of council's canine troubles.

Dog control officer George Martin indicated he was thinking of stepping down from the post and advised councillors to start looking for a replacement.

Earlier Mr. Martin had questioned council's instructions about issuance of a kennel licence to Mr. and Mrs. Bloomfield of R.R. 3, Rockwood, although they

do not have 10 acres of land.

The dog controller said that now he will be besieged with requests for kennel licenses from those who do not conform to regulations and he would have to refuse them. If there were objections, he would refer applicants to council.

But he asked, how can you turn the others down?

Councillor Ken Fair explained that council had given special consideration to the Bloomfield request and had given only conditional approval—there could be no more than four dogs in the kennels. (A licence had been requested only so the Bloomfields could use the name for advertising purposes.)

Mr. Martin recalled two years ago when the province had issued a warning not to issue licences to anyone unless they had 10 acres, but council did not change their decision, although the reeve noted he had been against bending the by-law.

Obituary

David Harlan Wilson was custom thresher

David Harlan Wilson died at St. Joseph's Extended Care hospital, Guelph, Wednesday, August 9. Born in Nassagaweya township in 1894, son of David and Hannah Emily Wilson, he farmed there until 1958 when he moved to 8 Holes Cres., Guelph. He was well-known as a farmer and custom thresher and was a member of Ebenezer United church.

He was husband of Jean McMillan (Parker) and the late Elizabeth Matilda Simpson, father of Lois (Mrs. Harry Lawson) Acton; grandfather of Linda (Mrs. Gerry Ockenden), Harry, Cathy and David, all of Acton. He is also survived by one great-grandson, Jason Ockenden. He was predeceased by one son Ross James, three brothers Elwood, Alfred, Merwin and two sisters Laura (Mrs. J. Easterbrook) and Eleda (Mrs. Frank Hall).

Funeral service was Friday, August 11 at the Wall chapel, Lee and Custance funeral home, Guelph, conducted by the Rev. Russel Finley of Ebenezer United Church.

Interment followed in Ebenezer cemetery. Pallbearers were Elias Easterbrook, Harry Lawson, Larry Gowan, Ross Hall, Youart (Bud) Wilson and Harvey Simpson.

Flower bearers were Linda Ockenden, Gerry Ockenden, Cathy Lawson, David Lawson, Bradley Gowan and Tracey Gowan.

BETTER weather this week?

GERANIUMS planted on Decoration Day are doing very well this year, thanks to all the rain.



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