

# Lions seek Acton pool grants via Halton Hills

If the town of Halton Hills and Acton Lions can come to some amicable agreement at a special meeting, another \$15,000 in government grants may be available for the Lions swimming pool project in Acton.

The Lions swimming pool committee appeared at the Monday meeting of Halton Hills council to discuss the project with council accompanied by the pool engineer, contractor and a representative of the Halton Board of Education. After a spirited discussion between Councillor Ric Morrow, pool committee chairman Art Gordon, and other council members it was decided to try to arrange another meeting the next day to make further project plans.

Morrow told the Lions that if Halton Hills assumed responsibility for the project the grants may or may not be available, but it would have to be classed as a municipal project to be eligible. He said, however, the municipality wanted approval from the Lions to proceed, without giving the im-

pression they were trying to steal their thunder.

**More available**

Art Gordon told council it had always been the intention of the Lions to build a municipal pool. They were spearheading the drive so the people of Acton could get behind it. The former town of Acton donated \$65,000 towards the project and the former township of Esqueusing added another \$5,000. At that time he didn't expect further grants but he had read in the press there was money available.

When the project is totally assumed by the municipality then we can make formal application for the municipality, Councillor Morrow continued. Understand?

Yes, you are saying the Lions did a good job, we'll do the job now and be the big wheels, Mr. Gordon retorted.

No, I never meant that. It has to be in the municipality's name to be eligible for the grants, Morrow replied.

We'll be happy if the municipality does

take this part over, said Gordon. The only reason is to take advantage of extra grants available at this stage of the game, Morrow explained.

Councillor Les Duby, former mayor of Acton, said the town had made application and received approval at both government levels for winter works grants, and Mr. Gordon reiterated it was important the pool project go ahead since grants were cut by 50 per cent at the end of May.

**Good price**

Gordon said the Lions felt they had a good price for construction of the pool and more delays would only escalate the cost.

"We are here to get the contract signed," he told council. "We've already tendered."

"Everything that could have been done has been done," agreed Duby, noting the Lions had voluntarily spearheaded the pool campaign as a public service. "Something worthwhile is underway here. Let's get on with the job."

Councillor Harry Levy wondered if the

town's application for further grants would have any effect on any other applications for grants from the town of Halton Hills. Council had already decided to apply for grants for a Georgetown pool which is a municipal project without voluntary participation in the formative stages. However, Councillor Morrow assured Mr. Levy it would not make any difference.

Mr. Gordon was annoyed by council's insistence that the project would have to go through their processes which would create considerable delay.

**Lossing**

"I've been on the pool committee for nine months. The contractor has given us a fair price but it could change with the delays, he repeated. "We brought the engineer with us in order that we could answer all questions about the pool tonight. We can't tie the price down, and every day the job is not done we are losing 50 per cent of the labor costs."

Questioned by councillors, he noted approximately \$100,000 of the \$275,000

needed to finish the pool had been raised and there was another \$90,000 in winter works grants if the project was done during the winter months before May 31.

Councillor Morrow said he understood then that the municipality would not go into any large debt over the project, could understand that any further delay would cost more. It is better to keep the ball rolling. As he understood it the town could not take it over without substantial delay.

"Forget about us and go ahead," he urged the Lions.

But Mr. Morrow's opinion was not shared by the clerk-administrator or Councillor Ern Hyde. Mr. Hyde thought it was necessary to go through the proper channels again since the town of Acton had done it prior to the introduction of regional government. "It has to carry on as this council's," he said. Maybe, he suggested, the Lions could appoint a committee to work with the administration committee of council to iron out problems.

Mr. Hyde asked Councillor Duby what Acton council had in mind for the balance of the agreement which he figured would come to over \$60,000. We're you planning to debenture? he asked.

We probably would have raised the money needed by taking a mill from the rate and taken the remainder from current revenue, Duby replied. There were no plans to debenture.

After further discussion it was agreed the town of Halton Hills should assume all debts of the pool and look after all financial arrangements. The Lions would continue fund raising efforts. A meeting was arranged with the administration committee at 5 p.m. the next day to implement the project without raising further delays.

Accompanying Mr. Gordon to the meeting were Lions Ray Evelan, Don Murdy and Don Gordon, the engineer, contractor and Jim Evans of the Halton board of education.

# The Acton Free Press

NINETY-NINTH YEAR NO. 36 ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 1974 TWENTY-EIGHT PAGES—FIFTEEN CENTS

## Lions canvass moves ahead

The Lions club thermometer has hit a new rating during the past few days and canvass organizer, Vic Bristow, is anxious that Acton residents look again at the break-down of monies gathered towards the swimming pool so far.

Total receipts to date register \$88,000 composed of town and township reserve contributions of \$70,000; business and industry, \$13,000; door to door canvass receipts, \$5,000. Projected requirement has been established at approximately \$250,000.

"Receipts are still great," say Vic Bristow enthusiastically. He explains that only 12 of the 70 volunteer canvassers have turned in their collection money. Lion Bristow points out that these 12 have collected \$5,000.

"People have been terrific," and the canvass manager says the campaign will be kept going until every resident has the opportunity to decide whether or not he or she wants to contribute.

Reportedly, the Lions hope to hit somewhere in the neighborhood of from \$30 to \$50,000 from the door to door resident canvass. "I feel that at least 75 percent of the residents are behind the club," he says, and gives special acclaim to the Lionettes.

He said they have manned the headquarter's store on Mill St. for the past few weeks from two to five p.m. every afternoon. During the evening the Lions do the job from 7 to 9:30 p.m. "Call anytime and get your answers," says Vic who enjoys seeing the community working together.



NO, YOU CAN'T go under this bridge today. The bridge is located just off Highway 7 at Crewson's Corners where flooding occurred Tuesday following heavy rainfall. The cars sped through the water anyway shooting up water all around the car.

## Seek approval pool debentures

Approval to borrow up to \$150,000 will be sought from the Ontario Municipal Board, to cover the cost of Acton's new swimming pool.

Following a special meeting of Lions club representatives and Halton Hills administration committee at 5 p.m. Tuesday, the motion was presented and approved that night. Halton Hills council, unable to get through its agenda on the regular meeting night Monday, continued from 7 p.m. until almost 11 p.m. Tuesday.

Councillor Dick Howitt reviewed the Lions financial position—\$65,000 from the town of Acton, \$5,000 from Esqueusing township; winter works grant likely to amount to \$70,000, recreation grant of \$15,000, LIP grant of \$14,000. The club hopes to raise between \$40,000 and \$50,000 in the canvass.

**Cover difference**

The OMB will be asked for approval to cover the deficiency although Mr. Howitt felt less than the stated \$150,000 would be required.

Costs are rising steadily, he said, and at the moment stand at \$275,000.

Councillor Len Coxie felt the amount asked for was too high. Councillor Levy and councillor Hurst pointed out expected monies will not have arrived at the time of construction.

Mr. Howitt explained only one proposal to build had been received by the Lions under a "proposal call method." The plan is not yet completed but should be in another 10 days or so.

After the motion was presented, it was realized that Halton Region must make the application to the OMB so the motion was changed.

The motion stated that the treasurer be authorized to apply for capital authorization for four projects individually which were listed and numbered as the arena-theatre complex in Georgetown, pool in Georgetown, library expansion in Georgetown and the pool in Acton.

Acton last Councillor Les Duby made

a bid to have Acton pool listed first instead of last, since approval is urgent but this was not supported.

A second motion, from councillors Hurst and Howitt, was to ask Mayor Tom Hill to ask the two members of parliament and the OMB to request expeditious decision on the capital authorization for the Acton pool.

Mayor Hill said he was willing to do this, but councillor Ern Hyde began to object. Brushed off by a wave of the hand by the mayor, he rose to his feet and spoke angrily saying council was making a priority out of the Acton pool. "Ours is well on the way," he declared, as well as "yours." The motion should refer to both pools.

Councillors Hurst and Howitt withdrew their motion.

Councillor Hyde had earlier suggested benefitting wards might bear the cost of such improvements.

Councillor Howitt wanted to know what these projects were going to do to his own tax bills. Raise it by \$5, \$50, \$500?

## Four in hospital following crash

A two car crash at the corner of the Third Line and Five Sideroad in Milton sent four people to hospital Saturday afternoon.

Donald Wilson, 39, of R.R. 5, Milton is reported in satisfactory condition at Milton Hospital. His '70 Chevy was written off with \$1,600 damage.

Three of four passengers in a '67 Mustang driven by Alex Smith, 16, of 17 Prince St. Milton were hospitalized. Smith is in fairly satisfactory condition at the Milton hospital.

Selina Schmidt, 13, Eden Mills, was taken to Oakville hospital for observation and Alden Beck, 17, 235 Ontario St., Milton was transferred to Joseph Brant Hospital where he is reported in fair condition with facial lacerations and an injury to his left leg.

Deborah Oakley, 12, of 4 Mill St., Acton was also in the Smith car but was not hospitalized.

## Rabies recurring regularly children safety threatened

Residents of the area of 25 Side Road, between the fourth and fifth lines of Nassagaweya, are becoming alarmed. They feel that authorities should be making some move for protection.

Already a number of incidents have indicated that rabies is prevalent with fox in the district, as remains sent to the provincial lab in Hull, Quebec, have been officially identified as rabid.

The latest story is one concerning a five year old family pet, Casey, a dog owned by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cormier, of 25 Side Road. Casey had been raised along with their ten-year-old son, Phillip, and was like a member of their family. He had apparently tackled a fox near their home, a week ago, since identified as rabid.

Word from the veterinarian from the Health of Animals Branch of Halton county was that the dog would have to be caged and isolated for three months. Previously inoculated, Casey retained a cut on his forehead indicating he had been bitten. The fox body showed saliva and the dog had been in contact.

**Couldn't cage**

The final decision for the Cormiers was a difficult one. If Casey had not been inoculated, the period of isolation would have been six months, but they could not bring themselves to cage or fence him up for even the

three month period as he had always been a freedom-loving animal. The cat, too, had always been allowed to roam. They had them both destroyed.

Mrs. Cormier's concern is that there could be even more serious consequences if the matter continues. Every morning several young children wait on the fourth line for the school bus to transport them to the Brookville school. Every day they return and have to walk short distances to their homes.

When the veterinarian examined the fox on her property, he insisted she contact her son Phillip, to ascertain if he had touched the saliva of the dead animal before going to school.

"If touching the saliva is so important, what if some other child unwittingly touches some other animal and forgets to mention it but puts his hand near his own mouth?" Mrs. Cormier is concerned that, while the children wait for the bus, they too, could easily be bitten.

Others

According to William Varcoe, living in the same area, he has seen several foxes in his bush. One recently was staggering along the roadway but disappeared into the woods before he could shoot it. Mr. Varcoe says he believes that many of the foxes are rabid but that also other animals must be carrying the disease.

"What I can't understand," he said, "is why we're spending so much money on getting people learning about and investigating these things but nobody's doing anything about the rabid animals around here." He's also afraid that one of the children waiting for a bus will be bitten before something is done.

A farmer, Art Diamond, living on 25 Side Road said two of his cows had to be destroyed last year, one in June, the other, September.

## Sad weekend for local fans

Acton hockey fans experienced their saddest weekend of the 1973-74 season, as the town's last two hopes for provincial honors vanished and Acton teams were blanked at the annual 4-town tournament in Georgetown.

The junior Sabres lost 5-2 to Bradford Vaseys here Friday night and were eliminated from the Central Ontario Junior "C" group finals in four straight games.

Saturday afternoon the team many local fans had pegged as a potential OMIHA champion, Acton Y's Men's peewee team, lost to Delhi Legionnaires and were eliminated from the first round of the OMIHA playoffs three games to one. Acton had lost only one game in 31 starts before they met Delhi.

In Georgetown Saturday Acton house league select teams lost all eight games, as Georgetown won both the bantam and midget 4-town titles, Orangeville the atom and Streetsville the peewee.

For the complete story on the weekend see the Free Press sports pages.

## For emergency bites call Brampton H.A.B.

Mrs. Joseph Cormier, of 25 Side Rd. Nassagaweya, urges that residents know who to call in case of emergencies with rabies. The owner of a dog recently infected by a rabies-carrying fox, tells of her own frantic difficulties when attempting to seek advice from local authorities.

She explained that, on discovering her dog with a cut resembling a bite on his forehead and a fox lying dead and mauled with saliva in the mouth area, she first called the local O.P.P.

"They referred me to other O.P.P.'s", she said, "and from there, I was told to contact the Humane Society." Mrs. Cormier said the Humane Society referred her from one branch to another and, at one point she was told they did not pick up in her area. It was suggested she call another place.

From pillar to post, apparently no one seemed to know where she should try. She said she finally called a veterinarian in Campbellville who gave her the number of the Health of Animals Branch of Halton County, in Brampton, 451-4963.

From there a vet went to see Mrs. Cormier, took brain specimens of the fox, which were sent to the federal lab in Hull, Quebec. She was notified of the findings last Wednesday morning. They were positive.

Mrs. Cormier feels that everyone should be aware of the proper method of obtaining service and know the phone number ahead of time.

In the case of Wellington county residents, the Health of Animals Branch of Wellington county would be the contact. Located in Guelph, the phone number is 822-1931.

## First robin

Debbie Watson, 8, and Robbie Watson, 6, have special news to tell in their classes at Speyside school this morning (Wednesday). They and their mother Gloria saw a robin at their home south of town on No. 25 highway while they were having breakfast.

The children were "all excited" about their first sign of spring. Mrs. Watson added "It made my day."



WHAT IT'S LIKE to make a speech is how Tracey Tyler, 12, was the top contender in the public speaking contest held last Thursday afternoon at the M.Z. Bennett public school. Participating were front, Grant Clarke, Tracey Tyler, Janet Rowe; back, Darlene Roach, Gord Chafe, Shelley Young.

## Council turns down new \$9,700 position

Halton Hills council turned thumbs down on a new area program co-ordinator for the recreation department Monday night, rejecting an administration committee recommendation.

Councillors Roy Booth, Dick Howitt, Les Duby, and Ric Morrow favored the position.

Councillor Ernie Sykes termed the area program co-ordinator a "luxury item". He said the budget wasn't set and no one knows the financial situation.

"Collison, the recreation director is a super salesman. Last year he sold us on one area program co-ordinator and now he wants another one to help the one he has," said Sykes.

Booth, chairman of the committee that made the recommendation, said it had been given a great deal of consideration. He said Halton Hills was far larger than the area previously handled by the recreation department.

Howitt pointed out the co-ordinator would cover wards one and two, while the present one would cover wards three and four.

Duby admitted he had reservations in the beginning, but now realized there was a full scale recreation program in Ward One, (Acton) and programs would be added in the hamlets in Ward Two. He claimed too much time would be spent travelling if the new man was not hired.

Councillor Ern Hyde pointed out the present program co-ordinator Glenn Gray had only been hired in the last two months of 1973. "Half the selling job was based on the fact there would be a population of over 30,000 in 1974. I'm definitely opposed," he added.

Councillor Russell Miller emphasized there was a good recreation program going in Esqueusing, run by volunteers.

He said Hornby was well organized. "Maybe two or three groups could do with advice but maybe it would be good advice, maybe not." He said as a representative of Ward two he felt it was an expenditure the town could not afford.

Miller said Ward two could manage quite well the way it was. "You might end up by groups saying they won't have to raise money this year, they'll just throw it all on the town of Halton Hills."

Councillor Len Coxie also from Ward two agreed.