

Increase price to cover costs

Ask uniform \$90 cemetery plots

Uniform rates for cemetery plots and burial services at Acton's Fairview Cemetery and Georgetown's Greenwood Cemetery were recommended by the finance committee of Halton Hills Council this week.

The committee rejected a staff report suggesting a \$75 fee for single plots in the two cemeteries and urged the treasury staff to lay out a schedule of fees based on \$90 per single plot in each cemetery—plus a 25 per cent additional fee for non-residents. Previous rates were \$50 at Fairview and \$75 at Greenwood.

Inequalities in the two cemetery charges were noted earlier this year and councillors called for uniform rates. They discovered a normal burial in Acton's cemetery would cost \$125 while the same service in Georgetown bore a \$164 price tag. The Georgetown price

went up a further \$15 if a winter burial was necessary between Jan. 1 and March 31, and a further \$30 was added for weekend burials. No extra charges were levied in Acton.

Treasurer Lloyd Peterson pointed out Fairview Cemetery lost about \$3,000 last year, while Greenwood went over \$2,000 in the hole. Staff recommended a 50 per cent increase in the Acton rates to bring both plot prices to \$75. A staff survey of rates in Oakville, Brampton and Burlington showed a wide variety of rates charged for the basic plot plus optional services. Brampton's was the same as Georgetown's at \$75 for a single plot while Oakville charged \$125 and Burlington's average was \$100.

Committee members were in agreement that non-residents should pay a 25 per cent premium on plots, but insisted the rate for the two

cemeteries in Halton Hills should be equal to avoid a rush on one cemetery.

Finally Councillor Ernie Sykes threw out the \$90 per plot figure, which the committee agreed to recommend to council. They also stipulated a \$175 fee for a double plot and a 25 per cent premium for non-residents. The treasury staff will prepare these prices on all cemetery services, including grave openings, cremations, disinterments, indigent burials, emergency weekend openings, winter charges, monument foundations, flat marker installations, corner posts, corner stones, transfers of ownership and overtime rates for weekend work.

It was also recommended the by-law covering cemetery operation make provision for "double-depth" plots (one grave on top of another) which is presently being done

in Georgetown to conserve land.

The committee also stipulated plot purchasers must take plots in rotation so the cemeteries will be filled up in some semblance of order. In the past buyers have been able to pick their plots at random, which was confusing to caretakers and gravediggers.

Staff members will also be named to show plots to prospective buyers. Acton funeral director Bruce Shoemaker has been showing plots to people and suggested

a \$15 fee for this service but councillors felt that was the responsibility of the town staff.

Treasurer Peterson said the proposed new rates would be high enough to cover costs of operating the cemeteries. "Cemeteries are not supposed to make money," Councillor Harry Levy said, but he felt the rates must be sufficient to meet the costs.

The new rates still have to be approved by Halton Hills Council and the provincial government.

Committee launches assessment appeal

"If we don't say anything, they'll think we're happy," summed up Councillor Harry Levy as Halton Hills finance and personnel committee agreed Monday to launch an appeal against the province's assessment equalization factor.

Councillor Ric Morrow has drafted a report urging the province provide an assessment roll for the town predicated on market values. Treasurer Lloyd Peterson told Monday's committee

meeting the Morrow report is "what we want" but it wasn't possible under existing legislation.

To bring such a system into effect, council might have to appeal the whole municipal assessment roll, item by item.

All three councillors at the committee meeting agreed the protest was worthwhile, and they decided to petition local MPP Jim Snow and MPP George Kerr with a strongly worded resolution.

Seek bigger system Phones plugged up

That new \$700 a month telephone system Halton Hills council implemented two months ago is already out of date and a larger system may have to be introduced.

These are just six phone lines in the present system and they are overloaded as they serve 32 extensions in administration offices in the three municipalities that merged into Halton Hills.

Councillor Harry Levy thought the council had been "misled" but Mayor Tom Hill reminded him council was given a choice of two systems and decided on the cheaper, smaller system.

The better system was earlier estimated at \$1,600 a month but a further letter from Bell Canada noted a \$100 reduction in that price. It would include a direct line to Toronto so the town would save some money on long distance calls.

Committee members recalled they received two proposals from Bell Canada last year and opted for the least expensive one to save costs. When the system was introduced earlier this year there were outlets for six or seven additional offices but they have all been taken up and more are needed, clerk-administrator Gordon Pritchard told the committee.

He added the bigger Bell system would still cost less than the total cost of the Acton, Esquimes and Georgetown systems that were in use last year.

The treasurer was asked to contact Bell representatives and bring a report to council next week.

Acton police offices "reasonably comfortable"

Halton Region Police Commissioner Harry Barrett, was not impressed with Acton O.P.P. headquarters on a recent visit to Acton. The building should be condemned Barrett felt.

Detachment head, Corporal R. J. Arbour, had written a letter of complaint to the regional police commission about his concern for lack of parking facilities for police vehicles. The only parking accommodation is a driveway too muddy to use, making it necessary to park police cars on the road outside headquarters, thus violating a no overnight parking by-law.

When contacted, Glenn Magnusson, member of the police commission from Georgetown, stated a load of gravel for the parking lot

would be ordered when it was established who owned the land. Despite reports that the building is in poor condition and the second story is actually unusable, Mr. Magnusson said there were no immediate plans for renovation of the building or for providing alternate headquarters.

"O.P.P. accommodation is reasonably comfortable," he said.

Former Mayor Les Duby remarked the lower floor is perfectly safe and adequate. The upper floor was no longer worth renovating and unsafe for use as an auditorium, he said, but this did not affect the lower story.

Mr. Magnusson commented: "We wish to do all we can to keep the O.P.P. in Acton operating efficiently."



RED CROSS FLAG is hoisted high above Acton Legion, symbolic of Red Cross month in Halton Hills. Georgetown Red Cross president Dick Perrott is at right; assisting Mayor Tom Hill raise the flag are campaign co-chairman Doug Tucker of Georgetown, Acton Legionnaires Fred Allen and Vic Patrick and sergeant-at-arms Ted LeBlanc.

Region borrows

(Continued from Page 1)

Oakville \$1,720,991 or 36.5 per cent, Milton \$377,367 or 8.014 per cent and Halton Hills \$638,332 or 13.5 per cent.

Have money now

Farmer explained that municipalities have the money on hand because of the interim levy at the local level. He noted the monies would be invested at a level of interest well below what the region would have to pay when it borrowed. He noted the decision would cost the taxpayer money.

It's expected the council will be spending considerable time discussing policies for financing the region in the very near future.

Farmer has told the council council that it will take about two years before standard water rates and other variables can be sorted out.

Personals

Mrs. Irene McLeod, Scarborough, visited with her mother, Mrs. Doris Fryer and family on the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Reed, Jr., Darryl and Jeffrey, Teeswater, Ont., visited on the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Don Reed Sr.

Snowdrops are blooming in sheltered spots.

Mrs. Joe Fuller has improved sufficiently to come home from the hospital.

Mr. Cosnar had a satisfactory check-up following eye surgery.

Mr. Creasey had a brief visit at home on Sunday which means that he is showing improvement.

Many happy returns of the day are sent to Miss Jane Higgins who is celebrating her sixteenth birthday today.

O.P.P. report Crackdown on careless

The reporting week of March 3-9, 1974 was a busy one for officers of Acton O.P.P.

There were 34 general occurrences ranging from domestic complaints to minor thefts.

There were three minor accidents which resulted in one person, a pedestrian being injured. Total damage in the accidents was \$265.00. Liquor infractions are on the increase and may be as a

result of spring fever resulting from the nice weather we have been having off and on during the past few weeks.

The following liquor charges were laid: two charges supplying liquor to minors; two charges having liquor other than residence; two charges of minor consuming liquor.

Acton Radar will be operating on all main streets in Acton at staggered hours

from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. throughout the coming summer months. A crackdown on "careless driving," "supplying liquor to minors" has and will continue in effect.

In recent weeks, numerous charges have been laid under the Liquor Control Act for Careless Driving.



ROAD CLOSED. The Given road between the Third and Fourth lines, of Halton Hills (Esquimes) was closed to through traffic last week during the spring thaw. Water covered the road making it impassable.

Churchill

Icy roads cancel service, Sunday class

by Mrs. Fred MacArthur

Worship Service and Sunday School was withdrawn on account of the hills being very icy in the early morning Sunday.

The next meeting of the C.C.C.W. will be held at the home of Mrs. Elva Winter, 105 Winston Crescent, Guelph, on Wednesday, March 20, at 8 o'clock. Everyone is welcome. Members or non-members are invited to attend.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Saunders on the birth of a baby boy on Wednesday, March 6 at Guelph General Hospital—a wee brother for Alfie.

Mrs. Archie Kerr, Mrs. T. Strokov and Miss Vera Strokov attended the 50th anniversary of the College Royale at Guelph on Sunday where Miss Erica Strokov is attending college.

Mrs. Garry Marchmont of Hornby visited on Sunday with Mrs. Wilbert Brown and family.

Mrs. D. M. Hines, student at the University of Guelph, attended a Landscape Art conference in California from February 26 to March 7. All

universities of North America were represented.

Miss June Swackhamer of London was home for last weekend.

Churchill Community friends will be pleased to hear Mr. William Butler was able to return home from Guelph General Hospital where he has been a patient. We hope each day at home will see him gain in strength.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Storey of Orillia and Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Storey and family of Barrie visited with their par-

ents Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Storey on Sunday.

A pretty wedding was solemnized at Churchill Community Church last Saturday when Miss Debbie Spears and Mr. Lloyd Reynolds were married. Rev. A. W. Fosbury officiated at the wedding with Mrs. Marie Anderson at the organ.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Reynolds on the birth of a baby girl at Guelph General Hospital on March 9. The baby's name is Kimberly Anne.

Developers eye township for houses

The Esquimes part of Halton Hills has become a mecca for potential land developers with Town planner Mario Venditti swamped with inquiries about the chances of rezoning and subdivisions.

"I must have had more than 50 people come in here in the last two months, and there were 42 applications last year," said Venditti.

Esquimes's official plan designated everything in its existing use, so all changes will necessitate an amendment.

The town planner said land ringing Georgetown and Acton is being bought up with

the owners hoping to convince councils to rezone for residential use.

"Most of the would-be buyers want to develop estate type homes," said Venditti. "Sometimes they draw up a plan and start negotiations, then sell the land with the new buyer thinking the land is on the point of being rezoned."

ANNOUNCEMENT



C. F. LEATHERLAND and associates KAPLAN, MORRIS, MEAGHER and SMITH are pleased to announce that Mr. ALLAN B. CLAIRMAN LL.B. has joined the firm as Resident Lawyer for Acton.

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"COPS AND ROBBERS"				
Thu. 21	Fri. 22	Sat. 23	Saturday Matinee 23	
"BONGO"				

Toyota Community Calendar

What's doing in North Halton area!

EUCHRE

Join in the St. Patrick's Euchre on Friday, March 15 at 8 p.m. at St. Joseph's church basement. Tickets are 75c and lunch and prizes will be provided.

PRE-NATAL CLASSES

Classes for expectant parents will commence April 9, at M.Z. Bennett School in Acton, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Now's the time to register! For more information contact the Halton Regional Health Unit at 877-3547.

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