

Inaugural Erin council session

Erin Township council held their inaugural session January 6 at the township offices in Hillsburgh.

After the Declaration of Office by Reeve Donald Matheson, deputy-reeve Bert Wheeler and councillors John Reid, Jack Marshall and Tom Ormisher, Reverend Cross read from the Bible and led council and guests in prayer.

Speaking as a citizen, he gave council his thanks for seeking office adding, "Having read the princely sum you'll be paid, I know you're not in it for the money."

First of the visitors invited to speak was Lloyd Lang, reeve of the township for the past four years. He congratulated all for being elected to council and said "Some of you are sitting in

different chairs, some are here for the first time. When you occupy those new chairs, the responsibilities you have are a little different."

Mr. Lang spoke to the new councillors of responsibility and decisions. "I've already noticed that when you're on the outside, decisions come easier than when you're on the inside."

In conclusion Mr. Lang said he was leaving with mixed feelings of relief and regret, and wished Reeve Matheson well in his new seat.

Next to congratulate the new council was Harold Griffin who had been active in municipal politics from 1946 to 1973. Mr. Griffin said he was glad to be at one more inaugural meeting and told

council "I know you have the desire and ability to make a success of this term."

At first Also on hand to greet the new council was M.P.P. John Root who said "I'm certainly pleased to be able to be here. I've attended many functions, but this is the first time I've been to an inaugural meeting."

Mr. Root confirmed his helping hand whenever he could give it, and spoke of the pioneer ancestry of some of the councillors, mentioning in conclusion, the influx of new faces and new industries to the area.

Reeve Donald Matheson, who was introduced by Clerk Elmer McKinnon as a lifelong neighbour and friend, said goodbye to Lloyd Lang and past-councillor Bill McLean and welcomed Jack Marshall and Tom Ormisher to the council table saying "this will take quite a bit of your time, but I hope you enjoy the work here."

Petition to Bell Canada urges better service

William A. Johnson is currently circulating a petition to Bell Canada (854) exchange Bell Canada subscribers, hoping to convince Bell that Campbellville patrons should have the same calling privileges as the customers in Milton do.

"Bell's boundaries should be the same as municipal boundaries," the R.R. 2, Rockwood resident told this newspaper. "It's even long distance to call my councillor, Russ Powaduk."

Johnson points out that Campbellville customers have only toll-free calling to the people on the Milton (878) exchange. But Milton can call Georgetown, Oakville and Burlington phones toll-free and later this year will have toll-free calling to Acton as well. Campbellville patrons won't be allowed no-charge calls to Acton either.

He says he lives in "no man's land"—his home is in northern Nassagaweya, now part of Milton, but his address is R.R. 2, Rockwood and his phone service is under Campbellville. The taxes go to Milton but the closest

community is Acton and his fire service is out of Acton. And he works in Georgetown.


Chairman of G.U.A.R.D. (Group United Against Rural Dumping) and an executive member of the Ontario Garbage Coalition, Johnson is active in many anti-landfill and anti-garbage areas. But he says people trying to reach him by telephone go through

as many eight phone calls before they can locate him, thanks to his Rockwood mailing address and Campbellville phone.

"We are getting very little service for the rates we pay," he suggests. "We have actually lost service since I moved here." "We didn't ask for a Campbellville exchange—they gave it to us,"

he adds. He said he realizes county-wide calling would cost more.

It also irks Johnson that he should have to initiate and steer this petition by himself. He suggested the new Nassagaweya Area Rate-payers Association should be doing such jobs, not him, but the NARA hasn't been very active since it was formed.



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Appointments made for Erin

At their January meeting, Erin township council:

Were told that, according to the evaluation given on building permits, residential dwellings had been built valued at \$3,655,800, industrial buildings at \$33,000 and commercial buildings at \$55,000. There were 81 new houses in the township.

Passed bylaw 175, enabling the reeve and deputy to borrow a sum of up to \$200,000 for township expenditures in 1975.

Received the resignation of the director of Erin township library board, Jean Awrey.

Intervention

Were informed that the Second Line from the 24 Highway to the 27 Side Road had been designated as a development road although it had been turned down as such on December 8, 1974.

Reeve Matheson directed the clerk to write MP John Root and thank him for his intervention in the matter.

Appointed Carmen Parkinson, Gladys Grey, Aurelia Rathbun, Isabel Wallace, and Tom Ormisher to the Library Board.

Were notified of the possible formation of the Wellington County Arts Council under the Recreation Department, to encourage art

activities and humanities, fine arts to craft arts. A motion was passed appointing Virginia Kennedy as Erin's representative.

Passed bylaw 275, reappointing Walter McFee the Erin township committee of adjustment.

Committee

Passed a resolution appointing Don Matheson, John Reid, Walter McFee, Betty Sutton, and Byron Bruce to the Planning Committee.

Discussed asking past-reeve Lloyd Lang to serve on the Guelph and Suburban Planning Board along with Tom Ormisher and Walter McFee.

Discussed a request for permission to use portable flashing lights for fire volunteer's vehicles.

Heads

Discussed refusal to accept the streets in phase two of the Hillsburgh subdivision as part of the township road system until the roads are complete, also touching on methods of encouraging their completion.

Reeve Matheson commented "As far as sanding and plowing, legally those streets are just a private lane, but morally it's our responsibility."

Accomplishments

Reeve Matheson listed the accomplishments of the council over the past two years, the new fire hall and truck (adding thanks to the fire volunteers,) the new roads department building which was built in conjunction with the county and the passing of the official Plan.

He added, "I'm glad to have Bert Wheeler as deputy-reeve. I hope I can be as much help to him as Lloyd was to me."

Reeve Matheson mentioned his hope to get the zoning bylaw passed and official, as well as hopes for better roads. "Better roads are always the hope of a new council, but money has to be put to best use."

Color

After Reeve Matheson commented to the press that it was not his intention to be the most colorful reeve in council, those present at the press table assured him they would do their best to make him so.

Short speeches were also given by the rest of council, all expressing their pleasure at having been elected and their desire to do their best in the next two years.

Also asked to speak was a man who was introduced as "one who does all the work and has nothing to say." Secretary-treasurer Bert Berry who told council that 1974 was the best year financially that there'd been in a long time, that taxes came in better, there was money in the bank, and their loan was smaller.


Same place

Building inspector Jim Delaney "the man who takes all the guff from the builders" referred back to the talk of moving from chair to chair around the council table, commenting ruefully "Well, I've been in the same one for 10 years!"

Ed Bardon, township road superintendent, told council the new township sheds meant the equipment could be kept in better repair and gave the men more incentive. With the Second Line being designated as a development road, as announced by Mr. Root, there would be more money to spend on the rest of the roads.

This first meeting of 1975 was then adjourned until after lunch.

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Osprige

New officers death reported

By Doris Fines

A new slate of officers was installed at the January meeting of Osprige Ladies' Aid. Mrs. Ward Bruce was the hostess.

The devotional, taken by Mrs. George Lang, was on "Thoughts for the New Year, and the hymn "Take Time to be Holy," was sung.

The roll call was answered with paying of dues, by nine members.

The new officers elected are Mrs. Henry Pankratz, president, Mrs. Barry Clarke, vice-president, Mrs. George Lang is secretary and Mrs. Elmer Fisher is treasurer. Mrs. Gordon Aitken, pianist, and Mrs. John Taylor, card convener.

Mrs. Byron Bruce was program convener for the meeting, and she led in a game contest Mrs. Gordon Aitken favoured with a piano solo.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer, and lunch was served by the hostess.

Dance

St. Demetrius Greek Orthodox Church in Toronto held a dance Saturday night to bring in their New Year. Mr. and Mrs. Mike Dudnik, Natalie and Lydia Dudnik, Tom Dearing, and Mr. and Mrs. Norman McKenzie attended from here.

We were sorry to learn Mrs. H. R. Howard is a patient in Guelph General Hospital and underwent surgery last week, but we are pleased she is recovering nicely.

Death

Mrs. Enoch Wood was

shocked to hear of the tragic death of her great-grandson, 3 year old Randy Brand. The home of his parents Mr. and Mrs. Ben Brand in Mississauga was completely destroyed by fire. The wee fellow was overcome by smoke before they could find him in the smoke-filled house, and he died before reaching the hospital. His parents and a brother Brian, age 4, escaped. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Trahan of Toronto.

Injury

Guelph O.P.P. report a car and pedestrian accident on the Main Street in Hillsburgh at 10 a.m. on Jan. 11 which resulted in serious injury to James Gilmore Hackett, age 4, of Hillsburgh.

The child apparently ran in front of a car driven by George Marnoch, of Weston. The child was reported in serious condition in the intensive care unit at Sick Children's Hospital, Toronto.

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