



Wicked Willie the Sculptor

Wicked Willie carves for Ont. Ombudsman

A hand-carved sculpture of a griffin done by William Johnson, better known as Wicked Willie, and NDP candidate in the last election, will be presented by him to Arthur Maloney, Ontario's Ombudsman, December 2.

The presentation will be made at the Nassagaweya Area Ratepayers' Association meeting, where the Ombudsman will be guest

speaker.

A griffin is a mythical creature, half eagle and half lion, which has served as an ancient symbol of defenders, for centuries.

Mr. Maloney has adopted the symbol for his office.

Mr. Johnson spotted the symbol on Mr. Maloney's stationery when he was in his office, and decided to carve it. "Everybody's always

asking the Ombudsman for something, so I decided to give him something for a change," explained Mr. Johnson.

The griffin is mounted on three trilliums, Ontario's provincial flower. One denotes the French heritage, one the British heritage and one the other ethnic groups who settled the country.

Powadiuk seeks new deal on Nassagaweya garbage

Nassagaweya area councillor Russ Powadiuk will appear before Halton Regional Public Works Committee today (Wednesday) in an effort to bring about a better deal for disposal of garbage in the Nassagaweya area.

A report dealt with at the last Regional Public Works Committee meeting suggested the region had two choices if it wished to keep a garbage

service open for the Nassagaweya people.

One choice would cost \$17,000 and that represented the cost of having a container there for residents to dump garbage in and have it taken to a regional landfill site. The second choice was to have the landfill site in Nassagaweya operated three days a week at an annual cost of \$43,000.

Costs up

Powadiuk noted the landfill

site cost \$7,000 a year to operate the last year, before regional government, and since then the cost has jumped to \$13,000 per year.

Milton Mayor Anne MacArthur echoed the sentiments of several councillors when she suggested the region was hoping that area councillors would throw up their hands and resign themselves to a single tier government.

Local autonomy wins at Region

The question of the division of responsibility between Halton Regional Council and the area councils has continually haunted regional councillors since the inception of regional government in Halton.

The question surfaced once again Wednesday when council was asked to approve debentures for the purchase of 4.3 acres of lakeshore land in Oakville at \$740,000.

Most councillors argued that the decision on whether or not the land should be bought rests entirely with Oakville Council and the region was restricted to either issuing or refusing to issue debentures. Those arguing in favor of local autonomy indicated the region's

sole consideration should be the impact on the region's debenture debt.

Oakville Councillor Mac Anderson had fought the purchase of the land at Oakville Council but when he lost his fight there, he turned to the region to veto the project by refusing to issue debentures. He said the land was too costly and it was not necessary to protect the lakeshore.

Anderson's attempt to have the region intervene left him open to attack from his Oakville colleagues. Councillor Carl Eriksen recalled how Anderson as a Liberal candidate in the last provincial election campaigned and told people how regional government had eroded the authority of area municipalities.

Eriksen said he was amazed to see Anderson, who was so concerned about local autonomy, ask the region to overturn a local area council decision.

Region's right

Several councillors were annoyed that Oakville appeared to be bringing a local fight to the region for a final decision. But Burlington Councillor Jack Raftis said the region had every right and in fact a responsibility to refuse to debenture the land acquisition. He argued that Oakville should pay for the land out of current revenue if it wanted to control the purchase.

Council voted 17-6 to authorize the issuance of debentures.

Arenas run at deficit

Arenas are running at a deficit, Recreation Director Glenn Gray told Halton Hills administration committee, Monday night.

The point was made when Councillor George Malby asked if there was a reduced fee for the handicapped or senior citizens at town facilities.

Councillor Ric Morrow said the town tries to run the facilities at a break-even point. He said the taxpayers subsidize the facility when the buildings are erected, so the users are expected to carry the operating costs.

Chairman Les Duby said he felt most people would agree with this approach.

"But are we running at a deficit?" asked Councillor George Malby.

The recreation director said the arenas are running at a deficit, and would until the rates are changed in the fall of 1977.

Morrow emphasized the rates should be reviewed if

they were getting too far out of line. He explained there had been an attempt to equalize the rates in Georgetown and Acton over a three year period so there would not be a big hike. "If other arenas are charging more and users come into town to use ours, we're being ripped off."

Parade

Milton's Santa Claus parade is this Saturday at 2 p.m.

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Ministry says

Nassagaweya landfill the 'worst site ever'

Directly opposing opinions on the operation and suitability of the Nassagaweya Landfill Site were voiced during a meeting of Milton Council's Community Services Committee Monday night.

Deputy Clerk and former Nassagaweya Clerk Campbell Thompson said the site had always been kept neat and tidy. He praised supervisor Allan Ferrier for the job he had done in supervising the dump.

Mayor Anne MacArthur felt the site had not been cared for as well since the re-

gion took over, as it was while under the control of the former township.

Paul Isles and Alex Giffen of the Ministry of the Environment took a different view to the situation, however.

Worst yet

Mayor MacArthur and Nassagaweya area Councillor Russ Powadiuk had argued that files and odors should be expected at dumps or landfill sites and shouldn't constitute a good enough reason for shutting a site down.

"No site has the files, the rodents and odor that that site has. I've seen hundreds and that's the worst site I've ever seen. I've been there when the files and stink were so bad I wouldn't get out of the car. I see reports on this site and know exactly what they say," Isles said.

Giffen told the committee that the opinion of the Ministry had never changed. "It was our opinion in 1970 and 1971 that the site should close and it is still our opinion."

He reviewed the poor drainage, the high groundwater, the potential of creating off-site problems, (polluting groundwater supply) and the fact that garbage has not been covered by six inches of soil as requested by the Ministry as reasons for closure. "The hydrogeological setting is totally unacceptable," Giffen added.

show mounds of garbage in water and garbage that had been pushed over the bank.

Mayor MacArthur insisted that no one had ever offered any proof of contamination of groundwater or surface water. She said she would be the first one to close the site if there was a serious indication that the creek was being polluted.

She pointed out that closure would mean a trip of 20 miles for some residents to dispose of their garbage.

Both Mr. Giffen and Mr. Isles suggested that the Ministry had been lenient and had not stuck to the letter of the law. They claimed the plight of area residents had been considered.

Suggest transfers

After a lot of discussion the committee agreed to consider the prospect of having a transfer bin established at the site or some other convenient spot in the township, where residents could dump their refuse. It would be hauled from there to a regional site.

Outside the meeting room, Giffen explained that both Oakville and Georgetown landfill sites violate certain sections of the code. He explained that Ministry personnel were working with landfill operators in order to prevent leachate and at the same time

make the fullest use of the site. Ongoing checks are made at sites across the province.

Giffen explained that the Environmental Hearing Board, not the Ministry, had the final say if a closure is disputed.

Milton site pushed again

The Milton site at Derry Rd. and Highway 25 suggested as a home for Halton Regional Government offices should be considered once again, Milton Mayor Anne MacArthur told the region's administration committee.

The mayor pointed out the maintenance and landscap-

ing at the Milton site could be done for the region by Halton Region Conservation Authority and a parcel of land is available there for \$35,000.

"We should put all of the figures down, side by side, and if we made that comparison I think our credibility would be questioned," she said.

Photos on file

The ministry representatives told the committee that pictures of the site on file

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