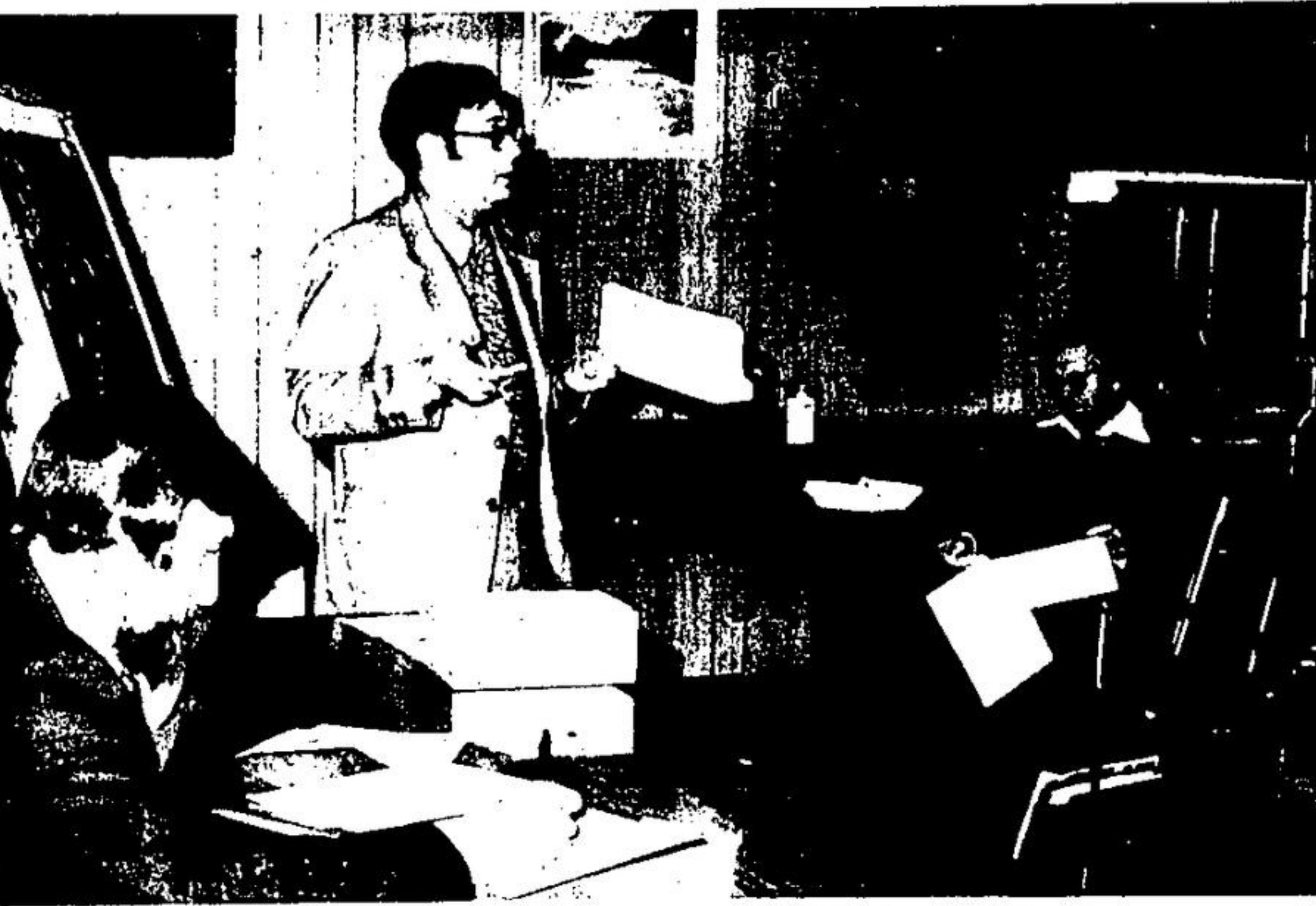


NUMBER OF PARKING locations indicated on inventory map was disputed at a meeting of citizens in the fire hall. Map shows many more parking spots than are actually available, the study's critics claimed. Suggested new bus stops are on Bower and Church.



HALTON HILLS planner Mario Venditti addresses a meeting of merchants in the fire hall. Chamber of Commerce president Mike Worthington (left) chaired the meeting.

## Town wants control over education costs

Halton Hills council want to have the right to say "no" to the board of education, when they ask for money. Council Monday night, backed a Port Hope resolution asking for legislation giving municipal councils the authority to reject board of education budgets if they are more than ten per cent higher than the previous year. The Port Hope motion pointed out municipalities have no control over education costs, which, according to the motion, are taking a disproportionate share of the municipal tax levy.

Councillor Pat McKenzie pointed out boards of education are an elected body, who have to answer to the people the same as municipal councils. He said council should not interfere with them. Councillor Roy Booth disagreed. He said municipal councils have to levy, collect and control taxes. "Education is constantly taking a larger bit out of the pie, and boards are over-stepping the guidelines by enormous requisitions. We're the fall guys, so we should be able to control to some degree."

Both said councils have to find the money no matter how much education boards ask. McKenzie asked, "How would we feel if Halton Region passed a motion saying we could only spend 10 per cent more. We would be up in arms." "I'd endorse a motion keeping the Region spending down to a ten per cent increase too," retorted Hyde. "We raise the taxes for them too." Councillors Mike Armstrong and Pat McKenzie opposed the motion.

## Taxi stand

An attempt was made to break in to the Reliable taxi stand. Owner Don Grein reported the incident to police Jan. 4. A screen was pried loose and the window broken.

## Duby on committee

Halton Hills council Monday appointed Les Duby to the special building committee. He is the only member of the committee from the general administration committee. The committee is concerned with municipal buildings. Currently underway is an extension to the works yard; workmen are starting to lay the footings now.

## Merchant influence

Continued from page 1 permitted. One way? The report, prepared by Dillon Consulting Engineers and Planners, shows three angle spaces in front of the police station, where parking only for police is allowed. The motion to make Mill Street one way came from a suggestion by Mr. Moss. He linked the idea with making Church Street also one way. "I believe much of Church Street is already zoned commercial," he said. Mike Kinal spoke in favor of removing the parking ban from the south side of Mill

Street, and for re-routing trucks around Acton. He said that the downtown area would grow if there was more room. "We have no choice but to re-zone downtown streets for commercial use," he said. The planning department report, prepared by R. G. Burnett, sets no on-street parking as a goal, but settled for suggesting parking on the north side of Mill Street only. This suggestion was shot down during the meeting. Roy Goodwin's motion to "leave the road as it is" was adopted by the meeting. Discussion The call for a meeting prior

to the mid-January deadline is to give the Chamber an opportunity to discuss its views with both the planning and engineering departments. The call for a lifting of the parking ban for the south side of Mill Street towards the track and the construction of a truck route around the town are motions which have already been presented to the works committee. Paul Nielsen presented the motions to the committee following a special Chamber meeting in October. The report prepared by the assistant town planner was prompted by a works committee request.

## Mayor warns trim budget

Mayor Tom Hill issued grim words of warning to Halton Hills council, Monday night, when he told each committee to take a good hard look at their budgets. The mayor said he had been talking to the treasurer who said "Queen's Park is going to be tough." Finance chairman urged all committees to stay below the 10 per cent increase guidelines. He reminded council there are programs started this year and not completed that will take up a fair share of the budget.

The mayor said he had been talking to various provincial ministers. "Darcy told me we'd have to tighten our belts."

Councillor Pat McKenzie asked if the suggested maximum increase was eight per cent.

The mayor said he understood the province was trying for six per cent.

Councillor Les Duby said he realized everybody has to exercise restraint, "but the province developed the monster and now we have to feed it."

## One to go

One of the two convicts who engineered a daring escape from Milton Provincial Jail Dec. 6 by sawing through a steel window bar with a hacksaw was arrested last week by police in Thunder Bay.

Florent Tanguay, 26, alias James Barwell, of Welland, who was described by police as "very dangerous," was returned to Milton in the custody of Halton Regional Police detectives.

Tanguay, who was awaiting sentencing after being found guilty on five counts of breaking and entering and possession of narcotics when the jailbreak occurred, appeared Tuesday in provincial court in Burlington but was remanded in custody pending Oakville court appearance on Jan. 9.

## Council will fill hydro seat

Halton Hills council has the power to fill vacancies on the hydro commission between elections, Mayor Tom Hill told council Monday night. A vacancy now exists on Georgetown Hydro Commission due to the death of Gerry McCallum.

The mayor asked council to submit names of people they considered suitable to fill the balance of the unexpired term, in time for the next council meeting.

The appointment must be made by the end of January.

## Credit limit

Halton Hills can borrow \$4.5 million dollars, but won't be doing it. That is simply a limit set in case of need.

The borrowing bylaw was passed at Monday night's council meeting, and will give the town the right to borrow until the first tax instalments are received.

Finance chairman Harry Levy stressed there was almost no chance anywhere near this amount would be borrowed, but the bylaw merely sets a limit.

## Donations

Donations may still be made for the fund started to aid Stuart Robertson who lost much of his welding shop at Crewson's Corners just prior to Christmas Week. Contributions can be made through the Acton Branch of the Toronto-Dominion Bank.

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## Arson suspected vehicle explodes

A car sitting on 17 Sideroad west of 10th Line was blown up on December 30.

Police are investigating the incident which is believed to be arson.

The car is believed to be a red 1967 Camaro and it was set on fire with gas. It didn't have a hood, engine or license plates.

Police learned of the explosion after receiving an anonymous call from a woman.

## Skaters

Skaters have been out on the pond.

## THANK YOU!

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