

Change minds — hire coordinator

Halton Hills councillors changed their minds Monday night, and voted to hire a Recreation Program Co-ordinator, only councillors Pat McKenzie and Ern Hyde opposed.

At the March 16 council meeting they voted to leave the position open. Some councillors changed their vote when told the recreation budget had been slashed by \$100,000.

The councillors, who originally opposed the motion, emphasized they had never opposed the individual but the position.

Karen King will now become Recreation Program Co-ordinator at a salary of \$11,500.

Councillor Ern Hyde repeated his opposition and called on councillors not to be swayed by "misleading headlines and editorials" in the press. He claimed the recreation director was never authorized to hire anyone. He said the recreation budget came close to \$200,000 at first and he had heard it was slashed by \$100,000.

"I'd like to slash more," Hyde said.

Councillor George Malby, quoting from the council minutes of December 15, 1975, said "the recreation director be authorized to advertise and hire a program co-ordinator". He emphasized council gave the recreation director the direction to hire "He did what he was told."

Councillor Pat McKenzie argued the recreation expenditures are too high, and cited \$30,000 scheduled for flowers

and shrubs around the Alcott arena.

Councillor Roy Booth said the administration committee have pared the recreation budget as requested by the finance chairman, but still felt there was no need of a program co-ordinator. He said the job is being done, and corners have to be cut somewhere.

Councillor Ernie Sykes stated he had intended the hiring be held up until the budget meeting.

Councillor Harry Levy contended council had acted in bad faith two weeks ago. He argued the recreation director had been given the green light to hire. "In fact the hiring motion did not have to come back to council at all, it was only a courtesy".

Councillor Ric Morrow pointed out this was not a new position. He stated the recreation director had been led to believe the position would be filled when he assumed his new position.

"The press is entirely correct in what they wrote, council did authorize the recreation director to hire," Morrow said. He pointed out there is a recreation program co-ordinator in Ward 1 and 2, and claimed there should be one in Ward 3 and 4. He claimed the recreation director should not have to fill two positions, his former one and his present one.

Morrow stated council two weeks ago voted against the hiring of anyone for the position, and said they did not vote to defer until a budget meeting as some councillors

contended.

McKenzie urged it be held up until the budget meeting, claiming more money would have to go back in the recreation budget for items overlooked.

Councillor Joe Hurst said department heads have the authority to hire when they are bringing staff up to complement. He said he had not been aware the applicant had been told she had the job when he voted against the original motion. "I would have voted for it if I had known."

Councillor Les Daby said he knew the administration committee had done the right thing in recommending the hiring. He said there was a commitment by council. He said the recreation budget had been pared.

Councillor Mike Armstrong said the whole thing was "away out of hand". He stated council had authorized the recreation director to hire the person, and he did it.

Councillor Dick Howitt explained he was not opposed to the hiring but simply wanted to know the impact on the budget. "If \$100,000 can be slashed, that's O.K."

A motion to defer the hiring, put forward by Hyde was lost on a 6 to 5 vote.

After Sykes assured council the recreation budget has been cut to comply with the finance committee's request, the motion to hire the program co-ordinator passed on a 2 to 2 vote, with Hyde and McKenzie opposed. Booth had left the meeting for a short time, and his vote was not recorded.



FRED CORMIER retired from Building Products of Canada on March 31 and was presented with the President's Purse as a gift. Mr. Cormier worked for ten years in the panel sheet department and the pipe PVC department. Mr. Cormier plans to relax in his retirement. Left to right, Hector Daigle, president of Local 603; Mr. Cormier, Brian Lockhart, plant manager; Paddy Dick, material handler and Fred Selby, production supervisor.

Commission lacks chairman

Halton Region Police Commission is without a chairman, at least until April 15. Chairman of the Commission since its formation in 1974 Judge William K. Warrender resigned the position effective March 31.

The Commissioners have decided a new chairman can't be elected until a meeting is held at which all members are present. It is hoped elections can be held at the next meeting.

Commissioner Glenn Magnuson, Georgetown, is the vice-chairman of the Halton Police Commission. Judge Warrender served as interim chairman at Thursday's meeting.

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Wrecking yard

Court action proceeds owner seeks exemption

While the Town of Milton proceeds with court action against a resident of 30 Sideroad for illegally operating a salvage and wrecking yard operation in an agricultural area, the proprietor, D. Hepburn, has retained legal counsel and is seeking to obtain a zoning amendment to permit that use.

Mr. Hepburn, accompanied by lawyer Joseph Berry, appeared at last week's Milton planning and development committee meeting to press his case.

Seeks exemption

The applicant asked for an exempting by-law to permit the operation of a salvage and wrecking yard operation on the back three acres of a 10-acre piece of land located on the north side of 30 Sideroad, midway between the Second Line and the Guelph Line.

The property is zoned rural-agricultural in the Milton Official Plan. Mrs. M. McLaine is the property owner.

Councillor Don Gordon said he saw the property recently and said it was "neat and well-looked-after."

Town Planner Bob Zsadyani said, however, that "auto

salvaging is an industrial use and it is very hard to justify it—a piggery would be okay despite the smells."

4-3 vote

By a 4-3 vote, the committee members approved a resolution by Councillor Russ Powadiuk to obtain a technical report from town staffers, and consider the matter in more detail when it has been prepared.

The problem came to Milton's attention last Spring, when several 30 Sideroad neighbors complained to the town that the site was being used as a wrecking yard.

In a report prepared for the committee by Planner Zsadyani, he wrote that Zoning Administrator Hay Weido visited the site for the first time last April 22, and "there were approximately 33 derelict cars stored on the property."

"On May 7, 1975, the Zoning Administrator informed Mr. Hepburn that a wrecking yard was not permitted in a Rural A Zone without a specific zoning amendment.

Cars ordered removed

"On June 4th, 1975, the Zoning Administrator issued an

order to comply by registered mail demanding that all cars be removed from the said property."

The planner wrote that "the zoning department was informed that approximately 10 of the 33 cars had been removed, this work being undertaken sometime in late June or early July of 1975."

Now more cars

"On July 15th, 1975 the zoning department again visited the site and noted that there were now 36 cars on the property."

In his request for a zoning amendment, Mr. Hepburn has also asked for the right to erect a retail store somewhere on the three-acre section of the overall 10-acre property, for the purpose of selling salvaged automobile parts.

It is expected the technical report will take two months to prepare.

Police

Communications system starts operating in 1977

Halton Police Commission was relieved Thursday to find out it probably won't have to spend a nickel on its new \$500,000 central communications centre until 1977.

Ron Durand, communications advisor Ontario Police Commission, said Thursday tenders for the project will close May 30 and then all submissions will be reviewed, likely for two months.

After the contract is awarded it will be 10 months to a year before the new communications system is completed.

He explained to Halton Police Commissioners that there will be a gradual changeover from the old system to the new and police could start patching into the new system during the last two months of its development.

Durand said criteria governing the selection of a new system would include expandability in the years to come and adaptability to Halton police needs.

In addition it will have to be able to facilitate the mini-type computer which will likely be used four or five years down the road by Halton police for recording procedures.

Durand noted it is important the new system be expandable and adaptable to change because the police wouldn't want to spend a lot of money on something which would have to be scrapped someday because of new developments.

He described the new communications system as sizeable because of the needs of a regional force as compared to a small local force.

Commissioners beamed broadly when Durand said no work payments for the new communications system

would have to be made until 1977.

The commission has been wondering how it can pay for the system since Queen's Park said the region had already received money for it in its 1974 start-up grants.

Some commission members argued the money couldn't have been included in the start-up grants because those provincial funds were unconditional. If they were designed to be used for the police force then the money must have been a conditional grant.

The commission held a behind-closed-doors session

Thursday to discuss the grant situation for communications.

"While cost is a factor, compatibility and depth of design will have to be considered," Durand explained as the reason tenders will be examined for as long as eight weeks after submission before a contract is awarded.

He said Halton's communications system has been a long time coming since the Ontario Police Commission doesn't like dealing with more than one such project at a time and has been busy working on the new system for another region.

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