

Petition presented: office stays open

Acton will still have a town office, Halton Hills council agreed unanimously Tuesday evening. In fact, to them it had never been really in doubt.

But a notice from the region that Acton water bills would have to be paid in Georgetown or at the banks precipitated a petition, signed by over 1337 presented at council by instigator Mrs. Sandra Marzo with spokesman H. H. Hinton.

Region councillor G. W. McKenzie explained that upon receipt of the notice he had contacted the region; he was told that Halton Hills staff had informed the region staff there would no longer be an office in Acton. Thus the decision to make the change was made.

In fact, Halton Hills had commissioned reports on the feasibility of keeping the Acton office open which were also due to be presented at council meeting Tuesday. Subsequently these reports agreed an

Acton office should remain open—with one clerk, the area recreation director and fire chief also located in the same office.

"Mistake"
The notice sent to Acton water users was termed a "mistake" and "misunderstanding" by councillors during the discussion which ensued for about half an hour.

With the fact the office would remain open established, regional councillors assured the petitioners they would do all in their power to ensure bills could be paid there. A motion passed unanimously that regional council be requested to authorize regional staff to authorize an agreement to permit payment of regional water bills, etc. at that office.

Share cost
Treasurer Ray King suggested that with under 2,000 accounts paid six times a year, the cost at an estimated 25 cents each

would be no more than \$2,000 or \$2,500. The region would be expected to pay this share of the cost of the office.

Councillor Pat McKenzie said part of the problem arose when Halton Hills staff really charged Halton too much for the share of the office. It cost them \$21,000 last year and they thought it was high, Mr. McKenzie said.

After the staff makes a recommendation, it will be dealt with again by the finance committee.

Report
The recommendation of the treasurer, fire chief and recreation director was that the Acton office remain open with one staff member and the office close from noon to 1 p.m. He recommended Mrs. Lorna Clarke remain in the Acton office with responsibility for carrying out present duties as well as such duties as are assigned by the recreation co-ordinator and the fire chief.

Councillors felt the office should remain open during the noon hour, and this will be considered by the departments involved. Treasurer King said in Acton an unusually high percentage of people pay their bills directly at the office by cash.

Will fight
Mayor Tom Hill assured the delegation that regional councillors would fight to keep the bill payment function in Acton. Councillor McKenzie congratulated Mrs. Marzo on her effort. With her were her daughter Mrs. Theresa Lockerbie and Mrs. Pat Robinson. Spokesman for the petitioners was H. H. Hinton, who read their preamble and then added remarks.

Mr. Hinton told councillors "we have not gained a Halton Hills attitude." Councils have not provided a sound and effective communications link and good public relations prior to a change, to avoid taxpayers frustration.

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Thirty-Four Pages—Fifteen Cents

Full weekend Legion reunion

Plans are taking firm shape for the Legion's big homecoming weekend, coinciding with fair weekend here. With a special band, entertainment, meals and transportation to and from the fair, the Legion will be headquarters for many during the weekend of Sept. 17, 18 and 19.

The Ontario Massed Legion Pipe and Drum band, which will march in the Saturday noon parade, will definitely perform again in the park, probably between 1:45 p.m. and 2 p.m. Legion spokesman Vic Patrick says. They are being served a meal at the Legion hall afterward.

A Legion float is being planned by a group under the direction of Mrs. Kevin Conroy.

During Saturday afternoon a mini-bus will run continuously from the Legion

grounds (free parking) to the fair gates.

Start day right
Organizers hope the Legionnaires, former members, families and friends will start the day at the Legion Saturday night with a big breakfast. Pancakes, bacon and eggs and coffee, all for a dollar, will be sold from about 8 a.m. until 10 a.m. or so.

Committee in charge of meals is Harry Otterbein, Cal McIntyre and Ron McKnight.

During the afternoon of Saturday hot beef sandwiches will be available at \$2 each.

Saturday night there will be one single \$1 admission charge for everywhere in the Legion Band engaged for dancing is The Royal Commission, which has played for the past two New Year's Eve dances.

In the lounge, Don's One

Man Band will perform. Don's man, the accordionist's his instrument.

The open concept is planned for that evening especially for the reunion, so people may move freely from one room to another.

Special entertainment was also planned for the Friday evening, Sept. 17. Ron Loutlet, Bob Findlay and Jim Haggart are lined up to play from 9 to 1 a.m.

Family Day
"Family Day" is the title for Sunday afternoon, when there will be lots of tables outside and the Acton Citizens Band will play from 4 to 5 p.m. Ron Loutlet will also be playing the organ.

The committee in charge suggests people bring picnic baskets along. Hot dogs, hamburgers, pop and coffee will be for sale. The barbecues will be outside, weather permitting.

Anyone is welcome, Mr. Patrick says, members, former members, widows and friends.



SQUIRT GIRL PITCHER Teresa Dunn shows winning form as the team clinched the Halton Rural playoff championships. See story, front page second section.

Complex out this year left for next council

The municipal complex is out for this year and is now dumped in the lap of next year's council.

Tuesday night, Halton Hills council made the complex a hot election issue by passing a motion to refer the bylaw to the 77 council to deal with early in the year. The Treasurer was asked to bring in a report on the means of financing.

Only Councillor Harry Levy opposed the delay. Councillor Mike Armstrong was absent.

Councillor Ernie Hyde in proposing the motion said the bylaw should have been given directly to the OMB.

He said this move would get the complex out of the political football field. "If someone wants to capitalize on it at election time, that's up to them." He said he now agreed it was poor timing.

Councillor Roy Booth described Hyde's motion as "magnanimous", and said no bylaw had raised such a hue and cry.

Councillor Ric Morrow said he would support the motion because council had lost their credibility on the subject.

He stressed his opposition had always been based on the lack of proven need. "Besides, I don't want to

spend any more time on this."

Councillor Pat McKenzie said while he favored the project and the "ideal location", he too would support the motion.

Councillor Harry Levy, a consistent opponent of the complex, said "We have a responsibility to ourselves as well as the electorate to show we have the guts to say yes or no."

Councillor Les Dudy suggested rather than having another council go through the same exercise next year, perhaps a plebiscite was the answer.

NEW POLES, moved in Mill sidewalk project, east of Cameron, are located right in the cement of the sidewalk. Neighbors are surprised the poles weren't placed off the pavement, since they had to be moved anyway.

New pool supervisor

Elizabeth Dinsfield starts her new job today (Wednesday) as pool supervisor. Ms. Dinsfield was hired by the town a few weeks ago. She is currently residing in

Toronto. She replaces Anne Pickering, who is now the recreation co-ordinator for Acton and Esquesing.

Job situation looks up for Acton unemployed

There are more job vacancies in Acton at the present time than any time in the past few months, according to Canada Manpower councillor Nancy Evans.

She attributes the increase in jobs available to high-school and university students going back to school and employers getting over the summer slump and starting to get their staff number back to normal.

The majority of jobs open are for babysitters, housekeepers and factory workers.

"We have a lot of jobs for husky, strong individuals with a good attitude towards their work and a good work record," Mrs. Evans said.

Because a large portion of the jobs for Halton Hills are in Georgetown, councillor points out, it would be to the applicants' best advantage to have definite transportation arranged before considering an out-of-town job.

Skilled labor persons are always in demand, and are encouraged to register at any time of the year, she stresses. Skilled labor includes such professions as plumbers and electricians.

Firefighters to collect for national MD fight

Acton Firefighters start their annual canvas of the town next Monday to raise funds to fight Muscular Dystrophy in Canada.

The campaign will be carried out in the evenings of September 13, 14 and 15.

Last year Acton Firefighters contributed \$2,600 and their aim this year is to top that figure.

If townsfolk find that they have been missed in the three-day blitz, they can donate through any firefighter or through the chief's office in the YMCA Building.



TEN-YEAR-OLD Monica Musselle doesn't exactly make her fortune as a fortune teller, but she helped raise a lot of money at Tim Garton's muscular dystrophy carnival on Elmore Drive last Wednesday afternoon. For more photos see inside today's paper.

Region issues at special meeting

Readers of this week's paper may have noticed a tabloid inserted into this and other Halton papers by the Regional Municipality of Halton.

The four page paper deals with issues reportedly dominating the minds of the Halton taxpayer, growth and settlement, housing, transportation, economic development, the environment, mineral resources, agriculture, finance and recreation open space. A questionnaire provides the reader a chance to voice his or her opinion on various issues.

The tabloid also gives dates and places of displays and

public meetings put on by the region.

The Acton meeting will be held September 15 in the library. Chairman Pat McKenzie, region and area councillor; Terry Mannell, Oakville, councillor and planning board member; Halton Hills councillor and C. E. Babb and S. Johnston, of the planning department staff, will be on hand to answer any questions the public may have.

The meeting will be informal, according to Mr. McKenzie, and people may come and go as they wish.

Meetings will also be held in Georgetown arena on September 28 and in Brookville hall, September 9.

Whole town may pay Seventh Line water

Halton Hills Finance Committee decided to send up a trial balloon to see if the OMB will approve having the Seventh Line water main paid by all residents of the town,

rather than only Georgetown water users.

The recommendation to council was made at a special meeting, held late Tuesday afternoon, August 31.

Town treasurer Ray King pointed out this was the only way it could be done; first to obtain the region's approval, since they control water and sewers, and then have the region apply to the OMB for permission to finance the water line this way.

The treasurer said the OMB may not approve it because the water main does form part of the Georgetown system. He further stated if the question is not settled by

the time of the municipal elections, the OMB may ask next year's council to reapply.

Treasurer Ray King warned that if uniform water rates were established all over Halton in the next few years, he doubted the region would then assume the debt.

Councillor Harry Levy said council sees this water line as a benefit to the whole town since it is being constructed to serve the administrative building.

Councillor Ernie Sykes pointed out if the line is considered part of Georgetown's water system, only Georgetown would pay for it. (Continued on page two)



Retiring — Joe Hurst is leaving council. See page 2

Sr. Citizen land sale set

Construction on Acton's next Senior Citizens housing units on Elizabeth Drive should begin next year.

The land acquisitions on Elizabeth Drive from Rugby Construction and the land exchange of Bonnette property are being processed now by the Ontario Housing Corporation legal department.

When the acquisition is registered, OHC will be making application to the Halton Hills planning department for rezoning to accommodate the proposed development.

Preliminary drawings are underway.

Regional councillor Pat McKenzie says the town is hoping for 60 units in the new development. However, if not this many are approved, the project may be undertaken in two stages.

Councillor McKenzie is very happy that the long-awaited Senior Citizen housing will become a reality. There have been long delays and at times fears the project would not be undertaken, he said. The matter has been under consideration for over three years.

Some of the land is being purchased, while Lou Bonnette is involved in exchanging property behind Lakeview Centre for a lot at the corner of Elizabeth and Elmore Dr.



Portable education

FOURTH-PORTABLE classroom is moved into place at the Robert Little school ready for the first day of school next Monday. Youngsters watch apprehensively as the big building is

inched into place behind the school. All Acton schools are ringed with portables now, and the new high school is under construction.

