

Morrow fights

Acton sewer main repairs paid from lot levies

After a bitter fight by Councillor Ric Morrow, who charged the town was going the way of New York city in running finances, Halton Hills council voted to pay the \$15,688 cost of repairing a sewer main on Mill Street, Acton, from the Acton lot levy fund.

In his fight against taking the cost from capital funds rather than operating funds, Morrow was supported by Councillors Harry Levy,

George Maltby and Roy Booth.

Morrow termed it "a dangerous procedure". He said responsible financing rules out using capital funds to subsidize operating budgets. He likened the move to paying extra snowploughing costs from a capital reserve fund.

Councillor Ern Hyde said he could see no reason to object since the lot levies had been raised in Ward One,

(Acton), and claimed the wishes of representatives in that area should be followed if possible.

Councillor Pat McKenzie said payment from the lot levies had been recommended by Regional Treasurer Don Farmer, and approved by the region administration committee. He said he supported it at regional council, but Morrow opposed, so it was referred to Halton Hills council for a decision.

McKenzie said there is \$102,000 in lot levies in Acton for water and sewers. He suggested the water trouble on Cameron Street might be overcome when this work is done.

Councillor Harry Levy said he opposed the funding method for the same reasons as Morrow.

"What's the alternative?" asked Councillor Dick Howitt.

Morrow replied, "Simply overspend the budget and

take it from another budget that has a surplus, or from next year's budget." He pointed out council had voted previously on another subject, not to take money from capital funds for operating costs.

Howitt contended the nature of the work to be done should determine whether or not it is a maintenance item or a capital item. "This is an unexpected one shot capital expenditure, whether or not it

is in the capital forecast.

Morrow insisted sewer repairs are maintenance. "In my seven or eight years on council, to my knowledge we have never taken capital funds to finance operating budgets. The whole basis of financial preparedness can be wiped out, and that's what happened to some major cities south of the border. They even ended up paying city salaries out of capital funds."



ELIZABETH BINSFELD, THE new pool supervisor, is a graduate of Seneca College's facilities management course. The 24-year-old Toronto native replaces Cathy Ashley, who returned to her university studies.

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JULIE CONROY peeps through a section of the Legion's float during its construction Tuesday. Volunteers are hard at work making the float to



FRED NEW HAMMERS away at the Legion float for Saturday's Fair parade. The float builders want it to be a big surprise to everyone.

Fall fair fever sweeping town

Many new and exciting additions to the Acton Fall Fair promise to make the park a fun place for everyone this weekend, according to vice president Brent Marshall.

Because of the 50th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion, the fair board and the Legion are combining to make one gala event. The Ontario Massed Legion Pipe Band will be in town in conjunction with the anniversary. After Saturday's parade, the approximately 125 members will be performing in the fairgrounds from half to three quarters of an hour, Mr. Marshall said.

A rolling parade wagon will be taking its turn at both the legion and Prospect Park where the parade is held.

The famed A&W Root Bear will be in the parade and giving youngsters rides around the park in his wagon.

Barbeque

The Kiwanis Royalaires of Quebec, one of the top bands in Canada, will also be performing, Mr. Marshall said, and a beef barbeque will be featured just outside the bavarian gardens. The fair board has taken over the gardens this year and arranged the barbeque in such a manner that anyone wishing to eat in the gardens is welcome, but those who do not want to, can eat in an outdoor area. Mr. Marshall explained this was to help create a family atmosphere for the lounge. He pointed out they are trying to keep the costs of the barbeque down to a family level.

The vice president reported that 175 pounds of beef have been purchased for Saturday and another 100 for Sunday. He is hopeful this will be enough.

"This is the third year in a row a bavarian gardens will be at the fair. It is the first year it will be run by the fair board." "This is either going to make money or we will pack it in," Mr. Marshall commented.

Payments rolling in

"Quite busy!" says Mrs. Lorna Clarke of business in the town office this week.

She has happily been accepting "quite a few" water bill payments Monday and Tuesday.

Monday night, the finance and personnel committee preferred offering the service at no charge. The alternative presented by the town treasurer was to charge the cost of billing to the Acton water budget.

Council will make the final decision on the book-keeping.

member explained there are at least five pieces of old fashioned equipment lined up.

Variety show

Jill Parry, Miss Acton Fall Fair 1975 will be on hand to hand over her crown to the new Miss Acton Friday evening. Many lovely girls are expected to compete for the title, with the eventual winner being eligible to enter the Miss CNE Sweetheart of the Fairs contest next August.

Vince Mountford will once again act as Master of Ceremonies for the evening. Many fine acts have been scheduled. Jerry Leader, a comedian, Trixon, the magical bird man, and Mr. Emmerson, the "amazing acrobatic antics" will be just part of the line show. The Ohulani Hawaiian dancers and the Nickel Brown Trio, the delightful music stylist, will round out the evening.

Bouncing babies

The baby show will go on as usual Saturday afternoon.

Building permits out

Building permits issued for Acton for August included one for a commercial building for Civierno Construction for \$120,000, one for a single family dwelling for \$14,000, one for a garage for \$1,500 and four for swimming pools, with a total value of \$13,500.

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To try again for fair parking

Works committee chairman Mike Armstrong said Monday night he plans to contact Acton councillor Pat McKenzie to see if they can talk the owners of a piece of land on Elizabeth Street into changing their minds and allow parking on the property during the Acton Fall Fair.

Councillor Joe Hurst said that last year the fair board made an agreement with the owners of the land, Rugby Construction, for use of the land on fair days parking in exchange for the fair board cutting the weeds.

He explained this year the town cut the weeds and billed the owners and they refused to allow parking on their land during the fair.

Hurst said the fair board asked permission to allow parking on the old pioneer cemetery and he thought his proposal was impossible since both council and provincial approval would be needed and the fair is this weekend.

New grants may help Halton Hills

The 10.7 per cent increase in provincial grants to municipalities announced by Ontario Treasurer Darcy McKeough Friday "certainly will help but it's too early to know how much it will affect Halton Hills," town treasurer Ray King told this newspaper.

King said 50 per cent of the increase was ticketed for education and the remaining portion would go to various programs but there was not enough information at this time to say how much, or if it would keep taxes in Halton Hills stable.

There is an increase in the unconditional grant and police per capita grants are being raised from \$12 to \$15 per capita. Road subsidies will also be increased by \$49 million but Halton Hills won't receive information on how much this will mean until later.

"Undoubtedly we'll receive benefits from the Region but it is too early to relate to Halton Hills at this time," the treasurer said.

Spring start for plaza

A new plaza on Highway No. 7 just west of Acton is being envisaged by Gino Civierno of Civierno Construction. He has obtained a building permit for lot 3, conc. 1, on the highway for a commercial building valued at \$120,000.

The building which housed Family Bargain Centre will likely be torn down and the business will occupy three units of the new plaza. There are 14 or 15 units in the building planned, of about 1,200 square feet each. The other units would be for rent.

Construction will likely begin in the spring, Mr. Civierno says.

Water bills accepted here

Collecting of water bills at the Acton town office with no charge either directly, or indirectly through the Acton water budget was approved by the members of the finance and personnel committee of council Monday. Their recommendation will be forwarded to council.

Treasurer Ray King prepared the report which was given to committee members.

Council had already recommended maintaining an office in Acton where region water bills could be paid. Following receipt of cards saying Acton bills could no longer be paid at the Acton office, a petition was presented to council last week.

Mr. King prepared two alternatives, with the committee favouring the provision of the service at no cost. Mr. King explained since Mrs. Clarke would be in the office anyway, the extra cost of having her accept water bills would be very little. Councillors agreed it is a public service.

Enquiries or complaints regarding water bills would have to be directed to the region's Georgetown office since all the records would be there.

Water bills went out Monday and Mr. King said that based on his awareness of council's intent, he had instructed Mrs. Clarke to accept payment in Acton.

Councillor McKenzie reported with a big grin he had already been in the Acton office and paid his bill there. "I just wanted to make sure it could be done," he laughed.

School name McKenzie-Smith?

McKenzie-Smith school?

"That's what a group of supporters will be suggesting to school board as the new name for the new middle school, opening Sept. 1977. The group will be out at the fair Saturday collecting signatures to back up their request.

They will then send a letter to director of education Em Lavender and approach the school board.

Several people will be near the fair entrance with sheaves of paper for signatures.

The late Elmer Smith was principal of the M. Z. Bennett school and G. W. McKenzie, presently a councillor, was Robert Little school principal. Both were teachers and principals here for many years.

Attractive sidewalks for Mill?

Acton Chamber of Commerce president Louis Charlebois asked Halton Hills works committee Monday to have attractive sidewalks installed in the areas of Mill Street which are under reconstruction.

He said he realized his request was coming at the 11th hour but he had heard from town officials that if his request for textured sidewalks was made to works committee then there might be still time.

In a formal brief to the committee Mr. Charlebois said the Chamber of Commerce request "that during Mill Street reconstruction and eventually reconstruction of Main Street, textured sidewalks, such as brick or interlocking stones be installed in areas designated as Business Improvement Area."

Attractive

Mr. Charlebois explained that merchants thought the textured sidewalks would be of nominal extra cost as compared to normal sidewalks

and would make the downtown area more attractive.

Councillor Mike Armstrong said he had also heard it might not be too late to have the special sidewalks installed.

He noted the interlocking stones are made by Durastone of Georgetown and would be as attractive as those in Streetsville.

"We have kicked this idea around before. Acton has a lot of character now and this kind of sidewalk would enhance that," deputy engineer Ted Ballinger said.

He explained he has heard of no maintenance problems with the interlocking stone sidewalks, they look attractive, are easy to install and only a little more expensive to install than regular sidewalks.

The interlocking stones are easy to put in, easy to take out, easy to maintain and are becoming quite popular," Ballinger declared.

Limited

Councillor Joe Hurst noted the special sidewalk wouldn't

be installed everywhere on Mill Street since not all of the road is being reconstructed this year.

He explained no part of Mill Street east of Wilbur Street or west of Main Street would be worked on this year.

Mr. Charlebois said the merchants would be delighted if only the areas under reconstruction right now received the textured sidewalk. He added other areas of downtown Acton could get the textured sidewalks as the streets were reconstructed.

Ballinger and Armstrong noted there wouldn't be any money coming from Queen's Park for the textured sidewalks but they thought it could still be included in the reconstruction contract.

Hurst suggested the engineer be requested to report to the committee or council as soon as possible about the extra cost of textured sidewalks and the feasibility of having them included.

Armstrong said it might even be possible to bring the subject to council.



ACTON HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC Society President Sheila Cook (left) presents Andrew Kroezen with a brochure during the athletic assembly Friday. Andrew broke his left arm in a fall from a garage. The injury will keep him from athletic pursuits until September 27, when the cast comes off.