

Take another look at ice rental policy

(Continued from Page One)

Comments
 Commented councillor Les Dudy "Staff have come up with ways of trying to make arenas self-supporting but there is always room for reviewing any situation where things are as critical as this."
 Councillor Hyde said there were points in the brief which should be considered and felt it should go back to committee. Mr. Elliott said representatives had already met with the administration committee.
 Councillor Pat McKenzie added that the representative felt they did not get the consideration they should at committee "so they came here tonight."
 Councillor Roy Booth said "I see a lot of things in here that weren't brought up previously. There are a lot of questions I'd like to ask and the finance committee should have some input." He suggested the matter be referred back to both the finance and administration committees.
 One of best
 Councillor Ric Morrow termed the presentation one of the best he'd heard. He also would like to have representatives of the groups signing the brief come to the committee for an open discussion.
 "I follow arena rates very closely," said councillor Harry Levy, "and I agree this is an excellent report. Some of these items are new to me and I thought I had gone into every facet of arena rates. I agree it should go back to the finance and administration committees."
 Serious
 "I'm encouraged by these comments," said Councillor McKenzie. Referring back to administration committee meeting, he said he hoped the problem would receive more serious consideration than

staff and councillors throwing money on the table.
 Councillor Joe Hurst added his congratulations to the people who drew up the brief.
 "If everybody wants to consider it at committees, I'll be delighted," said Councillor Dudy.
 Councillor Hyde made "one small point"—all arenas serve ward Two, not just Acton arena.
 "That's a good comment," replied Mr. Elliott, who explained their intention was simply to point out that Ward Two residents also use Acton arena extensively.
 Anxious
 The groups are anxious to discuss the situation again, he said. One thing not pointed out in the earlier discussion is the fact that not only were the rates increased, but by revising the hours to make prime time charges as early as 9 or 10 in the morning, virtually all ice time is now charged prime time rates.
 Councillor Dudy asked if it is possible the Intermediate Club would be able to continue this season.
 Bill Campbell replied that the Swords have been forced to withdraw.
 Councillor George Malby said he too would like to take the matter back for review.
 "There's certainly a big difference between what the Swords paid last year and these rates." He wondered if this could have forced them out of business.
 Brief
 The brief included several pages of tables which illustrated the points made.
 The brief reads:
 "The purpose of this brief is to assist Council members in their discussions concerning ice rates for Ward I and Ward II residents. The intentions of the undersigned associations is to bring to Council all relevant information that may not have been available during previous discussions.

It is hoped that Council will review this information and consider the implications of current policy as it affects the lives of the hundreds of families in our community who hope to use the Acton Community Centre this winter.
 "It is our understanding that the main goals that Council is trying to achieve with the new ice rate schedule are:
 "a. Arena operations that will be relatively financially self-supporting (by persons using the service directly) e.g. significant reduction of current operating deficits and
 "b. close parity with Memorial and Gordon Alcott arena ice rates.
 "In this brief, the undersigned associations would like to present our views that generally endorse the principle of the above ideal goals and yet, request minor divergence from this policy to fairly compensate for the unique factors related to the Acton and Ward II operation (Community Centre).
 "We feel the following economic and social factors could be ample justification for this policy to be reviewed and our recommendations considered.
 "a. The proposed rates and resulting increases over the 1976-77 season (see Table I) are excessive over a 1-year period (from 44-204 per cent) in this year (or any year) when families wages have been limited to 8 per cent increase.
 "b. All associations have been budgeting annually in accordance with the mutually negotiated increased rates established by Council in 1974, which provides for Minor Sports rates at 18/hour and Adult local at 25/hour with wider non prime time privileges. NOTE: Over three years, this increase is in excess of 100-150 per cent and we have fulfilled

our responsibilities to meet this plan. Although we were notified of this policy amendment in May/76 when minor associations were forced to reluctantly accept the increases, and now again for the Local Adult Associations in October, 1976, the time to alter our 3-year budgeting plan to find new sources of revenue, places extreme hardship on our associations and Ward I and Ward II residents. We also feel very strongly that after struggling for three years to comply with Council's policy, that our associations or any corporation (Council included) should not reasonably be expected to produce from 33-204 per cent new operating revenue on such relatively short notice. Associations will present financial statements to Council upon request to indicate our non-profit balance (and sometimes not balanced) budgets.
 "c. The third factor we

would ask that you consider is to compare the Acton Community Centre total operating costs to the Gordon Alcott arena total operating costs.
 "See table 11, that indicates the extensive financial contributions made to the Construction of Gordon Alcott Arena by all taxpayers in Halton Hills. It would appear that similar shared funding by Ward I and Ward II residents will apply to Memorial Arena as well.
 "To a significantly lesser extent (\$100,000 from 1974-76) all taxpayers contributed to the renovations of the Acton Community Centre. (The A.C.C. construction was financed by private donations).
 "See table 111 that indicates the actual 1976 operating costs of the two arenas.
 "The undersigned associations feel that it can be concluded from these tables that the parity policy with Georgetown vs. Acton arenas and the financially self-

supporting principle cannot reasonably be (and in fact is not being) applied to all arenas in Halton Hills because all taxpayers in Halton Hills are and have been subsidizing the Alcott total costs much more than is the case with the Acton Community Centre. Our associations endorse Council's financing policy for Alcott; however, it is suggesting that the financial self-supporting and parity policy is obviously not valid when compared to total costs of buildings that must include capital costs. We, therefore, feel that this invalid principle should not be applied to the building (A.C.C.) that appears to have by far the lowest and financially reasonable operating deficit for 1976.
 "To summarize, ice rate increases in Acton to reduce the operating deficit is reasonable to a point. When a much higher percentage of costs are reduced by tax-

payers on other facilities; however, some allowances must be made to balance these "apples and oranges".
 "In comparison, the ice rates that we endorse (1974 projected) seem to offer a fair balance for Ward I and Ward II users to carry.
 "NOTE: We are sure that analysis of other public services in Halton Hills would indicate similar financial inequities—some in favor of Wards 111 and IV and others favoring Wards I and II. This balancing goal is considered to be a major benefit of regionalization and we should not reasonably deviate from this policy in one area of service and not another.
 "d. The fourth point we would present for your consideration is that our associations in Ward I and Ward II have access to only approximately one-third the potential sponsors and one-third the paying spectators that are available to the

associations of Ward 111 and Ward IV and other larger municipalities where ice costs are even higher. We must therefore recover most of the 44-204 per cent increase through registration—thereby making hockey and figure skating etc. extremely difficult for the average family income in Wards I and II. All volunteer members of our associations are desperately trying to operate winter recreation activities that will not become exclusive to just the higher income or single child families, as is becoming the trend in larger towns and cities.
 "e. The fifth and final point to consider is that with the increased cost for children to register (up to twice last year's rates), we have already experienced a decrease in registration particularly of our teenage participants that can be directly related to the high rates we have proposed while

trying to comply with Council's new ice rates. If we have to cut back on programs, we know, as Council is aware that from a business point of view, the ice could be rented to out of town groups and the revenue recovered. However, the social impact to Wards I and II of discouraging teenagers and other children (regardless of how few) to participate in organized winter recreation would be hard to evaluate. We are all aware of the significant contributions that organized winter programs through the Acton Community Centre have made to all family members over the past years. The decline of Local Adult non-profit programs such as the Swords, Sabres, and industrial hockey, etc. would also seriously detract from our sense of community involvement and socialization for all ages from minors to Senior Citizens as spectators, etc."

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Association	Season (1975-1976)			Season (1976-1977) Projected*			Total Incr. %			
	Non Prime Hrs.	Prime Hrs.	Total Hrs.	Total Dollars	Total Hrs.	Total Dollars				
Legion Hockey	120	840	216	3,024	336	3,864	336	6,720	2,720	70
Fig. Skating	144	1008	144	2,016	288	3,024	288	5,760	2,736	90
Min. Hoc. Sc.			48	672	48	672	48	1,344	768	100
W-W Hockey	72	576	336	5,088	408	5,664	408	8,160	2,496	44
Sabres Hoc.		120	1,188	120	1,188	120	3,600	2,412	204	highest
Ind. Hoc.		96	2,160	96	2,160	96	2,688	720	24	lowest
Totals	336	2424	960	14,148	1296	16,572	1296	28,272	11,988	70

*Projected — using same total hours as 1975-76 with new rates.
 — based - 24 week season \$30/hr. Adult \$20/hr. Minor - Prime \$28/hr. Local Adult

TABLE 11
 Gordon Alcott
 Total Construction Costs — \$908,776.85
 Project Financing

.791.	1973 Surplus A/C 42510		
	1974 Contribution	51,197.81	
	1975 Contribution	69,476.31	120,674.22
	Recreation Res. A/C 42511		
	1974 Contribution		165,000.00
	Lot Levies A/C 42530		
	1974 Contribution	66,420.00	
	1975 Contribution	17,527.78	
		50,000.00	
	Add'l. 1975 Contribution	23,151.00	157,098.78 *
	1976 Revenue Fund		68,727.18 *
.792.	Recreation Reserves		
	1974 Contribution		119,378.19
.793.	Contr. from Province		
	Comm. Cen. Grant		150,000.00 *
	Winter Works	134,367.00	
	Decrease in Grant	(6,380.00)	
	Interest	(1,088.52)	126,898.48 *
.795.	Other Donations		1,000.00
	Total		908,776.85
	1976 Costs	7,468.52	
		40.18	
	1976 Revenue Fund	68,727.18	

NOTE: The above project financing table illustrates the extensive financial contributions made to Gordon Alcott construction by all Wards in Halton Hills including Acton and Ward II residents.

TABLE III

Comparison of Gordon Alcott operating costs vs. Acton Comm. Centre.

Arena	1975	1976 Projected
Acton Arena	39,515.00	36,163.00
Georgetown Memorial	26,035.00	38,632.00
Gordon Alcott	17,256.00	7,849.00

However — with Capital Costs Included

Arena	1976 Projected Costs	1976 Pro. Revenue	Actual Total Operat. Def.
Acton	149,102.00	78,733.00	70,369.00
Gordon Alcott	254,141.00	153,372.00	100,769.00
Memorial	Not included due to reconstruction program		

(Ref. all figures to budget approved by council June 1976)

Date of Sale... Oct. 20-21-22-23/76
 140 Mill Street, Acton, Ont.

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FOODLAND IT'S A... QUALITY FOOD SALE

Taste the Difference... Pocket the Savings!

<p>FAMILY PACK CUT FROM FRESH CANADIAN PORK LOINS</p> <p>PORK CHOPS 129¢</p> <p>RIB END ROAST OR PORK LOIN END ROAST 109¢</p> <p>Centre Cut Pork Chops 129¢</p> <p>Boneless Pork Loin Roasts 179¢</p> <p>Rib End Pork Chops 119¢</p> <p>Pork Side Ribs 129¢</p> <p>Sweet Pickled Peameal Bacon 69¢</p> <p>Lazy Maple or Sugar Plum Hams 59¢</p>	<p>SIDE BACON 139¢</p> <p>Store Sliced Pork Liver 55¢</p> <p>Swifts Premium Wieners 79¢</p> <p>Old Mill Link Sausage 93¢</p> <p>Swifts Premium Polish Coil 115¢</p> <p>SUNKIST VALENCIA ORANGES 99¢</p> <p>GRAPEFRUIT 5/89¢</p> <p>POTATOES 65¢</p> <p>CARROTS 49¢</p>
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ASST. KLEENEX FACIAL TISSUE 59¢

8 FLAVOURS ALLENS FRUIT DRINKS 48¢

9 VARIETIES NINE LIVES CAT FOOD 489¢

DUNCAN MOIST & EASY CAKE MIX 79¢

CRUSHED PALANDA PINEAPPLE 49¢

<p>WEETABIX 85¢</p> <p>Toilet Tissue 55¢</p> <p>Salada Hot Choc. 55¢</p> <p>Club House Mixes 29¢</p> <p>Strained Foods 5/100¢</p> <p>Alleens Crystals 85¢</p> <p>Miniature Raisins 55¢</p> <p>Pam 55¢</p> <p>Fluffo 55¢</p>	<p>Pledge 199¢</p> <p>Vacuum Help 200¢</p> <p>Carnival Peas 389¢</p> <p>Carnival Tomatoes 289¢</p> <p>Habitant Soup 49¢</p> <p>Crest Toothpaste 109¢</p> <p>Dry Look Hair Spray 133¢</p> <p>Right Guard 145¢</p> <p>Kotex 79¢</p> <p>Mint Sandwich 99¢</p> <p>Social Tea 75¢</p>
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48oz. MINUTE RICE 198¢

7lb. FLOUR 119¢

Evaporated CARNATION CANNED MILK 16 fl.oz. 269¢

Westons White Sandwich Loaf 2/79¢

Westons Swiss Raspberry Rolls 59¢

Westons Apple or Raisin Pie 79¢

FOODLAND 24oz. LOAF WHITE SLICED BREAD 29¢

2% PARTLY SKIMMED MILK 3QT. JUG. (PLUS DELIV.) 119¢

GRANULATED WHITE SUGAR 59¢

CAMPBELLS TOMATO SOUP 10 fl.oz. tin 18¢