

Call tenders for new regional headquarters

Tenders will be called immediately for the construction of the new headquarters for Halton Region. Halton Regional Council approved preliminary reports on the design at a special meeting of council Wednesday morning.

Council approved an additional expenditure of \$220,000 to allow Health Unit offices in Milton, Oakville and Burlington to move into the headquarters and to include a half basement under the building for storage purposes. That \$220,000 is over and above the \$2,000,000 allocation previously approved.

It was originally thought that only the senior health administration would be situated in the new building, but council agreed to move the entire region to headquarters, leaving only small offices in the municipalities. Director of Nursing for the Health Unit, Dorothy Craig told council she favored the move to headquarters and indicated that the clinics, classes and other programs that are being held now in the municipalities will continue. She suggested that by having satellite offices for the Health Unit, Social and Family Services and Children's Aid Society in each community the agencies would be more readily recognized by the community. The proposal is to have one small office in each community shared by the agencies.

There was no consideration given to the fate of the existing Health Unit Office on King St. in Milton. Halton Hills Health Unit operation will continue as it has in the past.

Council has been discussing a permanent headquarters on and off, ever since regional government was first introduced. The building will be built on a 10 acre parcel of land the region purchased from the province at the north-east corner of Bronte Rd. and the Queen Elizabeth Highway.



HALTON REGION'S proposed administration building to be located south of Palermo on Highway 25 is shown in the architect's model. Estimated cost is \$2,220,000. The building has been designed in a module pattern to provide for future additions. It is estimated there will be 200 working from the building. Architects are Shore, Tilbe, Hensdel Irwin of Toronto.

Several councillors were alarmed when they learned there would only be two private offices in the entire building, one for the Chief Administrative Officer and one for the Chairman. Councillor Archie Donaghey said he felt the department heads should have private offices to allow confidential discussions with employees.

"As an employee, I wouldn't want to be reprimanded in an open concept office. Where do you have private discussions, in the open or do you go out to lunch?" Building Committee Chairman David Coons said the building committee had visited open concept offices and felt if they were done right, there was no risk of losing confidentiality.

But Milton Mayor Don Gordon said he has worked in an open concept office and after six months, the office was found unacceptable and was converted. "I think an employee should be able to go to a private office and discuss con-

fidential matters with his manager."

Mr. Coons said there would be two conference rooms on each of the two floors in the building. Chief Administrative Officer Ernie Reid said the staff and department heads were enthusiastic about the plans.

Councillor Ron Planche was concerned about the need for work stations for councillors and possibly a secretary to care for the needs of the councillors.

The building design shows three committee rooms off the council chamber, one of which will be furnished as a councillors' lounge.

Surprisingly enough, there were no moves to have the entire project aborted. During the past three years there was serious opposition voiced at every step along the way.

The approving vote wasn't unanimous but there were only a few dissenters. But councillors expressed reserva-

outside the chambers after the meeting several council members in view of the uncertainty of future restructuring that may take place in local government.

Milton Mayor Gordon did raise questions about the economic advantages of building as opposed to leasing. He said he felt the staff report was an obvious effort to build a case in favor of building, as opposed to renting.

Plans presented call for a reflecting pond to be built outside the council chambers. The building has been designed in a module fashion to accommodate future additions.

Architects from Shore Tilbe and Hensdel presented plans at the meeting. The reflecting pond is still being considered an option and could be deleted after tenders come in.

In all there will be about 200 people working from the new building.

Erin council

Appointment, budget on agenda

Erin Township Council passed a by-law at their meeting on Tuesday, appointing a member of the Committee of Adjustment for three years. Betty Sutton was appointed again for a three year term. This was done following a discussion on the method of getting members. Council felt it was their job to appoint the best people possible who were interested in the position.

A motion was passed to allow one member of council to attend a seminar on Feb. 25, at Wellington Place. This is a planning seminar put on by Professor George Rich of Waterloo, and sponsored by

the county. Someone had overpaid part of their taxes, and a motion was made to authorize the treasurer to refund the amount.

OMB hearing Another motion was passed authorizing the solicitor, Mr. Hungerford, to act for Erin Township in regard to an OMB hearing, to be held Feb. 24.

Frank Gray had six sheep and one nanny goat killed by dogs, and will receive payment for same.

Bob Miller from Phillip's Planning Board brought a request for a plan of a subdivision proposal, on 100 acres owned by Robert

McNair on Con. 4, lot 5. He wishes to establish a small number of estate homes. A general discussion followed to get the feeling of council. There are two major obstacles to overcome, an official plan change, and a zoning by-law change. Council indicated it was premature at this time, since there were several subdivision proposals ahead of them, and several hundred lots established that could be built on.

Five year forecast Bob Cheyne and Wayne Cunningham, from the Hillsburgh Fire Department, were there to inform council they would like to establish their own budget eventually, and were discussing methods of how to do it. They also informed council of future planning within the fire department for the next five years. They recommended council establish a capital five-year forecast for fire department needs.

Speeding A letter from David McMullen, a taxpayer in Crewe's Corners, requested council consider speed signs of 30 miles per hour in Crewe's Corners, because traffic tends to speed through there endangering the lives of children. Both roads going through are town lines, involving Halton Hills and Eramosa. The municipalities would have to pass the same by-law for it to be effective.

Balfin Community Centre has a deficit, and would like council to consider aid. Erin Township has an agreement with Halton Hills to pay part of it.

Dog control Since Alex Duncan's resignation as dog control officer, advertisements have been placed for a dog tax collector. Clive Beardwood was directed to prepare a by-law to be read at the next meeting establishing Halton Hills animal control to pick up stray dogs in Erin Township.

A letter was read from the county library board,

requesting a joint meeting with council and the township library board. This is to be arranged sometime in March.

A request was received from Orton Community rink for a donation. The recreation committee was directed to look after that.

Triton Engineering will reply to the gas company regarding installations of gas service to the Gle Devon subdivisions.

About asterisk A letter was received from the secretary of the Guelph and Suburban Planning Board regarding a request to have an asterisk removed from the map, which indicates a gravel pit exists on the Robertson farm. The secretary stated the information they have from a provincial geologist, indicates there is insufficient gravel to warrant a commercial

license, but that to remove the asterisk would be to deny residents the knowledge of an existing gravel resource. They recommended that the asterisk could not be removed. Council decided to do nothing.

Don MacKenzie, lot 19, con. 7, wrote a letter requesting the refund of his \$100 permit fee deposit, which was a holding payment, to be returned when the house was completed. Since this was in excess of 18 months, it was decided to refer it to Glen Creba when he returns from holidays.

Don't join The A.M.O. were requesting membership fees. Council has never belonged to the Association of Municipalities Organization, and after a short discussion they decided to still not belong to it.

Council adjourned, to meet again Tues., Mar. 1 at 10 a.m.

Region approves appointments

Halton Regional Council made annual appointments to various boards and commissions during its meeting Wednesday.

Tom Hill and Les Duby were named as Halton Hills representatives to the Credit Valley Conservation Authority.

Halton Hills Councillors Russ Miller and Pat McKenzie are Halton Hills representatives to the Halton Region Conservation Authority.

Desmond Morrow was appointed to serve as the regional representative from Halton Hills on the Land Division Committee. W. Coates will serve the second year of his three year appointment to the board this year.

Mayor Tom Hill was appointed to Georgetown District Hospital Board and the Halton Regional Board of Commissioners of Police. He

and Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett were reappointed as the two regional representatives on the police commission.

Former Burlington Mayor George Harrington was appointed to the Land Division Committee. There was a move sponsored by some Burlington Councillors to veto that appointment. Former regional councillor Ted Ralfe and chartered accountant R.V. Fast also applied for the job.

Council deferred a decision on its appointment to the Sheridan Board of Governors. Councillors Ron Planche of Oakville and Don Carter of Burlington both expressed interest.

Reford Gardhouse was considered but Halton Hills Mayor Tom Hill said Mr. Gardhouse had asked to have his name withdrawn.



HANS KUECHLER, Acton, added a bit more wood on the fire Sunday afternoon at the Acton Snowmobile Club Sports Day, to build up the heat to make some chili for cold contestants.

Recreation news and views

This week's column will spend some time looking at the purposes of a recreation and parks department and the ensuing benefits, to our community.

In this day of rapid change, people participation, government cutbacks, inflation, high spending, high profits, justifications of goals and objectives, it is no wonder that knowing where you are, where you are going, how you will get there, who can help, and what road blocks you might run into, is vital to success.

With this situation in mind, then, your staff has met both formally and informally over the past year or so with a variety of community groups, members of council and others to discuss, clarify and reach some consensus on what your recreation and parks departments' roles and purposes were and should be. This column does not permit enough space to go into any amount of detail. However, generally speaking, the purpose that was

identified can be stated as follows:

"To assure adequate opportunity for every person to engage in satisfying and constructive activities for the benefit of the individual and the total community through:

- 1—providing and assisting in the provision of effective leadership, facilities, activities and information, to enable each person to enjoy meaningful leisure.
- 2—providing recreation services that will make everyday life more enjoyable, and that will assist people to develop a feeling of pride in their community.
- 3—encouraging other agencies and groups to provide recreation services.
- 4—functioning with total

awareness of recreation opportunities and services, thus providing community guidance from the department services.

5—assisting the total community to be cognizant of services available and encouraging their pursuit of recreation activities to enhance their way of life.

6—involving the community in the development of recreation services.

7—establishing and maintaining a good rapport with community groups.

The recreation and parks department, on behalf of the community, is continuing its efforts to wrestle with the obstacles before them in accomplishing their objectives and satisfying their purposes.

They welcome your comments, reflections, reactions, to their news and views.

Give us a call, drop us a line, do drop in!!!

For further information and suggestions regarding this column, contact Anne Pickering, recreation coordinator at 877-5185, ext. 19.

Next week—Introduction of recreation co-ordinators and winter use of parks.

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Continue investigation
Police are still investigating the incident in which Mrs. Doris Browne was struck on the head by a youth in her store.

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