

Seek paving stones from Main to tracks

The Board of Management supervising the refurbishing of downtown Acton wants interlocking sidewalk stones installed on Mill Street from Main Street to the railway tracks, chairman Henry Stachyra told Halton Hills Works Committee Monday. Dave Sweetman, vice-chairman of the body overseeing the Business Improvement

Area program, was also in attendance. Mr. Stachyra told the committee when merchants appeared before council last fall about having interlocking stones installed the new sidewalk was only going to go as far as John Street but since reconstruction of Mill Street new sidewalk can be put in all the way up to Wilbur Street.

He said no one expects there will be work on Mill Street again for another 25 years so suggested this was the time to put in the decorative sidewalk. He said the 20 cents a square foot difference in cost between concrete sidewalk and the interlocking stones would be paid for by the Board of Management.

Engineer Robert Austin said if the interlocking stones are to go in now is certainly the time but noted since the special sidewalk would go all the way to the tracks then it might cost more than just the extra 20 cents a square foot. "It would become a negotiable item in the contract and so could go up quite a bit if the entire sidewalk is interlocking paving stones," Mr. Austin warned. He said he didn't think it would cost the businessmen more than \$4,000 more to have the decorative sidewalk the entire length of downtown.

Mr. Stachyra said the B.I.A. would have to know how much extra it would cost before being committed. He said he couldn't go beyond the

extra 20 cents without checking back with the merchants. Mr. Austin said he thought he could get a figure from the contractor by the end of the week. The cost hitch was based on the fact instead of two blocks of the special sidewalk everyone was now looking at six blocks.

Everyone on the committee was in complete agreement the decorative sidewalk should go in and it was decided Mr. Austin should get the information regarding cost and report back to committee and the B.I.A. Councillor Les Doby said he appreciates what the B.I.A. is trying to do downtown but noted there are some homes in the area and wondered how residents would feel about the

special sidewalks. He asked if it is harder to keep clear of snow for example. Mr. Stachyra said the B.I.A. had heard no complaints from residents and noted the special sidewalk would look better and also raise property values. Councillor Pat McKenzie said some merchants have questions about the recon-

struction such as if they will have a step in front of their store after the work is completed. Mr. Austin said the consultant had been around to every merchant before the work started explaining exactly what they would have after work is completed but added answers can still be given by his department.

The Acton Free Press

One Hundred and Second Year.—No. 37.

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1977

Thirty Pages.—Fifteen Cents.



SPOKESMAN Kathy Sanford and members of the Acton delegation which appeared at Halton Board of Education last Thursday evening discuss the crest they also showed to the board. Left to right Mrs. Sanford, Rene Watson, Bill Sanford with the crest, Gail McHugh and Ena Gibson were five of the 12 person delegation. The board

will decide on a name for the new Acton middle school next week. The Acton delegation presented a petition of 400 names asking the name be McKenzie-Smith Middle School, in honor of two Acton principals with a combined total of over 60 years in Acton schools.

Drainage slows new home work

The developer of the proposed Adams Court subdivision wants Main Street South reconstructed to help solve a drainage problem on the land. John Braden, DM Consultants, told Halton Hills works committee Monday night the land in question is about three acres on the west side of Main Street South of Mill Street and it was originally designated conservation land but later the municipality said homes could be built on it. He noted a draft plan of subdivision has been filed and the rezoning given two readings but it can't be registered as a plan until a serious drainage problem is remedied.

Bradén said the problem has also plagued Beardmore in the past and stated "unless certain remedial work on the lands close to the project is done we will have a lot of water ponding and we know we can't go ahead." He said a sizeable and expensive pipe will be needed to take care of the runoff. He told the councillors it would be a great help if Highway 25 reconstruction in the area went ahead.

Report coming Engineer Robert Austin said a report would be coming about the problem at the next committee meeting. Councillor Les Doby said it was a sizeable problem trying to take the pipe through two hills to the creek. Councillor Pat McKenzie observed reconstruction of Highway 25 hinges on Queen's Park coming up with the needed funds. He said the only way he could see if the problem was to be corrected properly was reconstruction of the road. Austin said there has been no indication from the province money will be available, however there is money in the budget for the engineering work and if the town gets that done, chances of reconstruction are enhanced. He described Main Street South as the worst aligned of three pieces of highway in Acton.

Expropriation hearings make citizens unhappy

An expropriation hearing on a section of Ontario Hydro's proposed Bradley-to-Milton power corridor brought opposing sides together last week, but when the hearing ended Friday at Acton they were far apart. For example citizens said they'd expected to hear why Ontario Hydro wanted their lands, the provincial utility refused to reply. A lawyer for citizens said the hearing was perhaps the first in Ontario history in which no evidence was submitted. Ontario Hydro told the hearing officer that he had all the evidence he needed. Citing a recent minister of energy decision on the north section of the same line, lawyers for area citizens maintained that the onus was on Ontario Hydro to demonstrate the need for the corridor. Ontario Hydro said that it had to demonstrate no such need.

Two youths driving a Cadillac gave a feeling of suspicion to two OPP officers, working Sunday night's midnight shift. Corp. Bob Arbour and Const. Elizabeth Bridges saw the expensive car in Acton, checked it out, learned it was stolen and gave chase. They stopped the youths a mile east of Silvercreek and arrested the pair. They were charged with car theft and taken to Milton. Both are from Toronto, where the car was stolen. Metro police picked them up in Milton.

About 140 residents will be affected by the 500,000 kilovolt line near here. Approximately half the number were represented when the hearing started. The number was down to 25 at the end. The other half did not request a hearing. The length of the corridor, from Bruce Nuclear Generating Station on Lake Huron to Milton Station, is split into three sections for expropriation. Each part is at a stage in the expropriation process. The south, from Limehouse to Milton, is yet to receive its final word. Opponents of expropriation are planning to appeal a recent divisional court ruling that blocks wide ranging discussion on alternative routes from that chosen by the provincial utility. Ontario Ministry of Energy James Taylor last Wednesday decided to give a green light to expropriation for the

Answer this week

Want Acton middle school named McKenzie-Smith

Halton Board of Education will make a decision at this week's meeting on their choice of a name for the Acton Middle School. A 12 person delegation from Acton appeared at the Board last Thursday evening bearing a 400 name petition asking the school be named McKenzie-Smith Middle School, after the two principals who spent 65 years out of a total of 92 as teachers and principals in Acton schools. Kathy Sanford, an Acton teacher, acted as spokesman for the delegation. She explained for the board a crest made in 1973 by Kevin Broostad, a grade nine student, was originally designed for the retirement party of the two principals.

Mrs. Sanford said the delegation's intention was to name the school after people whom you would wish children to model themselves. She pointed out although Mr. Smith lived to enjoy his retirement only four months, Mr. McKenzie is still active in municipal politics as regional councillor for Ward One. "While both Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Smith were dedicated teachers and principals they were in addition dedicated teachers who gave unreservedly of their time and talents in service to the community," she said. In the light of the remarkable record of service of Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Smith and in the continuing tradition of

naming schools after former educational leaders, we request the Halton Board of Education name the new Acton Middle School the McKenzie Smith Middle School, she concluded. It is Acton's first middle school and made possible by the building of a new high school. The old high school is to be turned into a middle school under Principal Gary Dawkins in September of this year. Director of Education Em Lavender said Halton has one example of a school named after a person still living and it was board policy to name schools after those who have made a contribution to education.

Trustee Bert Hinton said he received a letter from Acton Rotary Club supporting the name and felt the crest the delegation submitted should be under the jurisdiction of the school in the event they want to make an addition such as another point to the Maple Leaf. Director of Education Em Lavender pointed out facetiously there were only nine points on the crest, instead of 10. He suggested in the interests of national unity and the present separation talk from Quebec, another point might be added. Trustee Florence Meares said she had worked closely with Mr. Smith and Mr. McKenzie and was pleased to see them recognized.

Caddie joyride

Two youths driving a Cadillac gave a feeling of suspicion to two OPP officers, working Sunday night's midnight shift. Corp. Bob Arbour and Const. Elizabeth Bridges saw the expensive car in Acton, checked it out, learned it was stolen and gave chase. They stopped the youths a mile east of Silvercreek and arrested the pair. They were charged with car theft and taken to Milton. Both are from Toronto, where the car was stolen. Metro police picked them up in Milton.



MEET ME at the Casbah, darling, Acton is going middle eastern. See inside for story and more pictures.

Urge seniors fill in forms

Acton councillors would like to urge senior citizens interested in accommodation in the new units to fill out report forms. Filling out the form does not create a binding commitment, councillor Pat McKenzie reminds the district's seniors. "It just expresses an interest." He suggested that anyone with questions about the building could call one of the councillors—himself, Les Doby, or Peter Marks. Anyone who wishes help in filling out the form may get in touch with Terry Grubbe in the Community Centre. The forms are available in the town office.

Seniors applying

Since the meeting in Acton last week concerning senior citizen housing, "quite a number" of people have picked up applications in the town office, according to Lorna Clark. Several of these people are getting assistance from the Community Services Centre co-ordinator Terry Grubbe. An ad appears in this week's Free Press concerning the subsidized accommodations. The apartments will be located on Elizabeth Dr.

Bad weather good council?

Stormy cold weather before an election, results in a better type of elected officials, was the theory voiced by Councillor Peter Marks, at Halton Hills finance administration committee, Monday night. The remark was made during a brief discussion of moving municipal elections to a time when the weather is better. According to Marks, it takes more internal fortitude to knock on doors in bad weather than in sunny warm times.

After his theorizing, a voice asked, "Can anyone remember what the weather was like before last year's elections?"

Extension

Tenders for the construction of the pollution control plant extension for Acton were opened on the due date, Tuesday. Eleven bids were received, ranging from a low of \$977,900 to a high of \$1,190,000.



THE REV. V. J. Morgan died in Guelph General Hospital on Thursday. He was priest in Acton for over 30 years. For story see page B10.

Condominium flooding woes may be due to construction

Residents of the Kingham Hill Estates, properly known as Halton Condominium Corporation No. 24, are claiming that the flooding of their homes this winter is due to the construction of new semi-detached units directly behind them. They point to crevasses carved by the water as it flows down the hill towards their houses as evidence of their claims, as well as the construction debris littering their yards. "It's a debatable point," said Alf Berry, secretary of Alteo Construction. He admitted "some of it could be ours. I'll have to get an engineer to go over it." Alteo is doing some of the work on the semis. Flooding has occurred all over town this winter, including homes unaffected by the

construction. Mrs. Harry Noseworthy, who lives in a similar building across the parking lot and away from the new buildings, said her basement started to leak March 10. She spent the day shovelling snow out of the yard to try to stop the flooding. The company dug a ditch to direct the runoff from the site towards the swamp which lies just south of the buildings. As the ground dries out this ditch becomes more apparent because the water collects there. Reg Ford, construction superintendent of the new semis, said ice may have formed over the ditch and allowed the water to run past it into the yards. Mud from this runoff extends no more than four feet into the yards at its greatest reach, and according to Mr. Ford this

proves that the water from the site never reached the condominiums. He puts the blame on the snow drifts which reached over four feet high next to the houses, saying "the snow is right up against the houses and when it melts, where's it going to go?" Mr. Ford and Mr. Berry both blamed the poor grading of the condominiums' lots for much of the trouble. At the first condominium, according to Mr. Berry, the land is about an inch and a half above the window. Mr. Ford says this is caused by previous owners raising the level of the ground with gardens or trying to bring property up level with patios. "The grade has to go away from the window," said Mr. Berry. Landscape inspectors had to approve the site before

building could commence, and grading is one criterion for them. One owner has an extra complaint. Lloyd Sheppard feels that a crack which appeared in his cellar was caused by heavy equipment at the construction site. Mr. Ford disagrees, saying that the crack is caused by settling of the dwelling. He pointed out that many houses get settling cracks. The Noseworthys, across the street, have a crack in their basement as well. Even though Alteo does not feel responsible for the crack, according to Mr. Ford "for public relations purposes" they plan to repair it when the frost breaks in spring. Evidence to support some of the residents' claims was shown to the Free Press. (Continued on page two)



WATER FLOWS DOWN THROUGH the fissure here and on into the yards behind the Kingham Hill Estates, according to Halton Condominium Corporation president G. R. Cornelisse.



LLOYD SHEPPARD THINKS that this crack in his cellar wall was caused by the activities of the heavy equipment in the construction site behind the condominium where he lives.