



JIM FINCH EXAMINES still smoking remains of Sunday's grass fire on Churchill St.

Six from C. of C. on Industrial Committee

Georgetown and Acton Chambers of Commerce are working together to try to attract industry to Halton Hills.

Following up a suggestion by the Georgetown Chamber, Halton Hills planning board accepted three names from each Chamber as members of the newly created Industrial Development Committee and added four councillors and two staff members to fill out the committee.

Appointed from the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce are Rex Heslop, Bill McNally and George Gray, and from the Acton Chamber, Louis Charlebois, John Goy and Paul Nielsen.

Planning board recommended a 10 person committee, with four from council.

Councillor Peter Pomeroy claimed the council appointees should not necessarily be one from each ward, but

rather those deemed most suitable, no matter where they lived. He also suggested a staff member from the planning department and a staff member from the clerk's department be added.

Biehn contended the committee was too large, and would be better to be cut to seven.

The recommendation was passed as a 10 person committee with two staff members as advisors.



Vandalism is down

Vandalism at the Acton Indoor Pool has virtually ceased since the middle of January when the recreation department started keeping an attendant in the change-room, according to pool supervisor Liz Binsfeld.

"We haven't had one broken anything since we put the attendant in," she says. They have only had to discipline one person in that time period.

Police have not been informed of the damage, Sgt. Hilton told the Free Press, so there has been no investigation undertaken by the force. Miss Binsfeld said that they have not reported damage because "we didn't catch them in the act." Vandalism at the pool was reported to council last week.

Smashed

A Churchill Rd. S. resident reported to Halton Regional Police that the left front door window of his car was smashed while parked in his apartment building parking lot, sometime on March 29.

Stolen from the car were an eight track stereo unit, a tape box and tapes, and a tool box.

TENNIS NETS WENT UP on Sunday and Ariel Leal lost little time before trying out the courts. Weather permitting, there will be tennis playing over the Easter weekend. Information on tennis club registration will be available in next week's paper.

Business association meeting at fire hall

A meeting to form a Business Association is planned for tonight (Wednesday) in the fire hall at 7:30 p.m.

Organizers point out that the meeting should be a short one. It will be over in time for people to attend the annual meeting of the Progressive

Conservative Association in the scout hall at 9 p.m.

Henry Stachyra, chairman of the Business Improvement Area board of management, will tell the merchants what's happening so far. A budget is being set.

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FIREFIGHTER ALF DUBY checks a parked car that caught fire on Mill Street last Wednesday. The car was driven by former councillor Joe Hurst. Traffic along the street was blocked for about 10 minutes.

Add planner to town staff

Another planner will be added to Halton Hills planning department, if the budget can stand it.

Planning board recommended the hiring of the additional staff, Tuesday night, subject to budget consideration.

Councillor Walter Biehn wondered if the development control officer, authorized for the engineering department, could be split between the two departments. The planner pointed out there was no similarity in the positions.

Councillor Russ Miller admitted the planning department was one of the most vital, with a heavy workload. He asked if there was any way the work could be cut down.

Planner Mario Venditti said "The work you see here for council and planning board is only about one quarter of what we do."

Miller stated the town had started out three years ago with one planner, and now there are four in the department. "We can't keep adding one staff member a year for the next 20 years. People just can't afford to have their

taxes upped for ever."

Chairman Roy Booth stated Halton Hills has the smallest planning staff in Halton for the largest planning area.

Councillor Peter Marks claimed the costs are high because of the number of applications for building proposals. He maintained the costs did not cover the overhead.

Councillor Pat McKenzie said the actual hiring should be delayed until the budget is set.

Councillor Peter Pomeroy urged any hiring be done from within the town, if a qualified person is available. "I'm really adamant about about putting tax money back into the community."

"Much of the heavy workload in the planning department is imposed by this council," commented Councillor Les Duby.

Groceries

Halton Regional Police are investigating a theft of a bag of groceries and an electric two blade-razor from the trunk of a car parked at the Dominion Hotel last week.

Gary A. Larsen D.P.M.

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\$2.8 million budget approved

Halton Region's Public Works Committee approved a \$2,887,000 roads budget without alteration at its meeting Wednesday.

Of that, area municipalities will pay a levy of \$1,120,000, the province will provide a subsidy of \$1,110,410 and \$656,590 will be recovered from developers or area municipalities on some joint projects.

Major projects included in the budget include the widening and reconstruction of Steeles Ave. in Milton from the provincial building to the Third Line at \$226,000 and vertical alignment on Guelph Line near the residence of Ombudsman Arthur Maloney

north of Mohawk Raceway at a cost of \$43,000.

The budget provides for \$335,770 for the reconstruction of the bridge and approaches on Derry Rd. from Highway 25 to Commercial St.

Intersection improvements on 22 Sideroad and the 10th Line in Halton Hills will cost \$122,000. The budget provides \$60,000 for pre-engineering and property acquisition on Trafalgar Rd. from Ashgove to Stewarttown and \$50,000 on an environmental impact study on the Halton Peel Boundary Rd. in Norval.

The Guelph Line will be widened at the entrance to

Mohawk Raceway north of Highway 401 at a cost of \$161,500. Of that, \$131,600 will be paid for by the Ontario Jockey Club.

Other significant budget items include property acquisition and reconstruction of Campbellville Rd. from the Fifth Line to the Fourth Line in Milton at

\$120,000, engineering and property purchase on Mountainview Rd. at River Rd. in Georgetown, at \$70,000; road base and surface improvements on Tremaine Rd. from Britannia Rd. to Derry Rd. in Milton at \$30,000; and resurfacing of Derry Rd. from the Fifth Line to the Guelph Line at \$61,500.

Area patrolled all evens out

The northern part of the former township of Nassagaweya is now included in the jurisdiction of the Acton detachment of Halton regional police. The officers in the Acton office have added this territory, which extends to Eden Mills, but no longer patrol as much of Esquesing township. Their jurisdiction

now ends at road 15, rather than Steeles Ave. The Milton detachment has taken over part of Acton's former area.

The population now covered is about the same as before, says Sgt. Dick Hilton of the Acton detachment. "It evens out."

Grass fire on Sunday

Fire chief Mick Holmes suspects children playing with matches was the cause of a small grass fire on Sunday.

The fire was confined to a field on the old Sprawl farm, Churchill Rd. S., after volunteer firefighters had to walk across two or three fields to beat out the flames with brooms, according to Mr. Holmes. The fire trucks were unable to be driven right to the fire.

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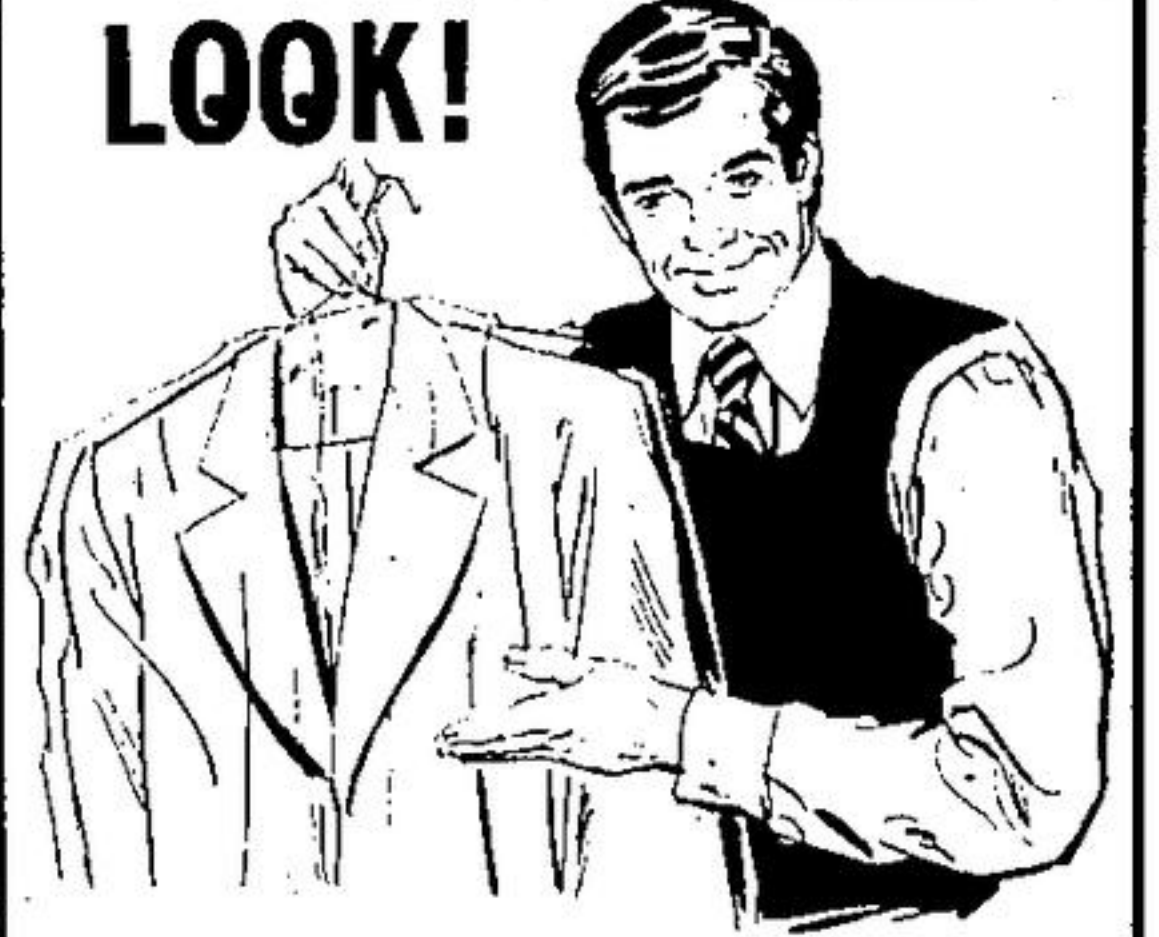
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