

Council unveils

Eramosa taxes — 8.9 per cent hike

Taxes in Eramosa township are going up 8.9 per cent.

Eramosa Township ratepayers will have to fork over an extra \$35,874 more than last year. The mill rate has jumped 10.615 mills. Council unveiled its 1977 budget recently, showing taxpayers must come up with a total of \$839,830 to keep the township, county, schools, conservation authority, Rockwood and Eden Mills going. Last year's total budget was \$753,965. Taxes for general township purposes total \$110,526, up \$17,904 from last year.

Rockwood's budget totals \$30,094 while Eden Mills will operate with a \$7,226 budget in 1977.

General operation of Rockwood will cost \$24,106. Street lighting is budgeted for \$7,524 and garbage pickup is expected to cost \$8,464.

Eden Mills is expected to spend \$3,700 on general operations. Street lighting of the hamlet will cost \$2,290 while \$1,126 has been budgeted for garbage collection.

Fire protection costs have gone up very little when compared with other hikes. Last year's fire budget totalled \$28,756 and this year's is \$29,841.

from \$6,400 in 1976 to \$21,000 this year.

Wellington County will receive \$143,506 from ratepayers, \$11,276 more than in 1976.

Education takes the biggest chunk of the tax pie, a total of \$477,291. Last year education cost Eramosa ratepayers \$445,778.

Public elementary school levy is up \$11,148 to \$233,517 this year while separate school taxes have jumped \$4,113 to \$18,904 in 1977.

Secondary school costs have jumped from \$208,616 in 1976 to \$224,688 this year. The municipality will receive \$59,783 in grants from Queen's Park.



THE ENTIRE CAST OF the operetta, The Happy Scarecrow, arranges itself on stage at Limehouse school. The spring play went for two performances last week. About 250 people were entertained with songs and dances. The story is about a lonely scarecrow who is cursed by an evil witch. Her spell is broken only after some kindly

words are spoken to him by a doll. A fairy helps cast off the spell with her wand. Farmers and even crows return for a happy ending including the crowning of the scarecrow as king. Teachers Glenda Benton and Kris Hannon shared piano duties while Donna White and Harriet Mitchell directed the rhythm band and speaking parts.

Meet the candidates at Brookville meeting

Nassagaweya Area Ratepayers' Association is sponsoring the first meet-the-candidates meeting in this area, next Wednesday evening, May 25, the executive announced this week.

Organizers report the 7.30 p.m. meeting will be held in Brookville Hall, starting at 7.30 p.m. Candidates George Gray of the PC party, Bill Johnson of the NDP and incumbent Liberal MPP Julian Reed will speak and answer questions from the floor. All are welcome to attend.

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Watson told

The idea is good but you should do it

Members of Halton Region's Public Works Committee agreed that a proposal to exclude tin, paper, and glass from municipal garbage pickups has some merit and could assist in extending the life of existing landfill sites in Halton.

But even with that agreement members were reluctant to call for a feasibility study to see whether or not the idea could be put into effect.

The proposal was advanced by Milton Councillor Jim Watson. He said Milton Council was considering doing that in its own pickups, but he felt the project would be successful only if the other three municipalities joined in.

Committee Chairman Jack Rafilis wondered how the garbage collectors would know if there was glass and tin in a green garbage bag.

Halton Hills Councillor Pat McKenzie wondered if there are markets for the material.

Councillor Watson told the councillors they were trying to build in problems. He and Milton Councillor Jim Kerr told the committee those questions could be answered in a feasibility study.

Burlington Councillors Vern Connell and Jack Rafilis said the collection of garbage was an area responsibility and if Milton wanted to try it as a pilot project, they could do so without asking the region.

"You can do it on your own. You don't have to be here. We are looking at it in Burlington and the idea does have merit but you'll kill it if you don't get something going locally," Mr. Connell said.

Regional Chairman Ric Morrow said the idea is a good one and the staff at the region should look at it.

But no action was taken and the staff was not instructed to conduct a study.

There was some confusion because Councillor Watson's

request didn't seem to follow the same line of thinking that was conveyed in a letter from Milton Clerk Campbell Thompson.

The clerk's letter dealt with inclusion of funds in the capital budget for resource recovery.

Watson said his intention was for Milton Council to circulate the request to consider a controlled collection to the area councils.

He said if they went along with the idea, the region would be involved because it controls landfill sites and it would be necessary for personnel at the sites to restrict the use of the sites.

Councillor Watson said he would clarify the wording of the resolution at the local level and try once again to gain regional support for his proposal.

"The clerk did a poor job of recording the motion," he said.

HRCA gives jobs to 54 students

Again this year, the Halton Region Conservation Authority will be actively involved in the Ontario Government's student employment program, Experience '77. Under this program the Authority will be hiring in 54 high school and university students who will take part in a number of varied projects.

The work agenda will include

such tasks as rehabilitation work on the Grindstone Creek, stream and roadside cleanup within the watershed, the continuing construction of a boardwalk at Crawford Lake and general maintenance within the Authority-owned parks.

In addition a number of students will be given specific studies and projects to work on. These projects will include

a management study of beaver at Hilton Falls, a study of the water quality in the Authority's reservoirs, floodplain mapping, waterfowl banding and the surveying of all the Authority's roads, trails and parking lots.

In all, the Authority is intending to provide an enjoyable and productive summer for the students while helping them gain an insight into the operations of a Conservation Authority in the field of resource management.

Can't move Credit River

Thou shalt not move the river, sayeth the Credit Valley Conservation Authority. Eric Leslie of R.R. 4, Georgetown, made application recently to the Authority to relocate a watercourse on his Sixth Line property south of Terra Cotta.

CVCA executive turned down the application on the grounds the land has always been floodprone and no building would be allowed to go within the floodplain.

Mr. Leslie has been applying for severance of the land according to Authority planners, but the severance was originally disapproved by CVCA. Severance was granted, however, subject to CVCA approval. In order to make a building lot of the swamp land it is necessary to excavate a new creek route and add four feet of fill, engineers explained.

Application was turned down by the executive and will go before the full Authority in June.

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Region budget

Town share \$1,188,005

Milton's share of the \$14,680,704 Region of Halton tax levy this year will be \$1,188,005, members of Milton Council learned Monday.

The figures worried Councillor Gordon Krantz, who noticed the Halton Hills regional levy is just \$1,289,376. "Why do we only pay \$100,000 less than Halton Hills?" he wondered, noting Milton has just 20,000 population in relation to 33,000 in Halton Hills. Treasurer Don Laughed explained the levy is based on assessment only.

"It's time we did something about equalized assessment," said Councillor Russell

Powadiuk. It has been promised for years but keeps getting delayed, he said.

Councillor Rick Day wondered if council should appeal to the treasurer of Ontario, to get equalized assessment implemented soon. He said in his ward (rural north Oakville) there are big tax increases this year. "Bill Davis buys farms for the people of Toronto and Hamilton to run barefoot through," while the town loses the taxes off those properties.

He reminded councillors any land "frozen" by escarpment commission or parkway belt legislation also

loses its value. It was pointed out Milton pays just nine per cent of the regional levy. Burlington pays 43 per cent, Halton Hills 13 per cent and Oakville 34 per cent.

Treasurer Laughed submitted a report showing how the regional levy has increased since regional government was launched in 1974. Increases from 1974 to 1977 range from a low of 33 per cent in the former Esquesing area to a high of 54 per cent in former Burlington, he pointed out. The Milton urban residential taxpayer has had a 51.85 per cent increase in the regional levy in the four year period.



LUCILLE COOKSLEY was one of the conveners for the Queen's Silver Jubilee tea held last Wednesday.



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