

Dog masters to pay for livestock pets slay?

Halton Hills general administration committee wants to put the bite on dog owners for damages caused by their pets.

The committee recommended the money the town pays out in one hand to farmers, whose herds have suffered dog attacks, should be collected with the other hand from dog owners.

Provincial law lets council hold an inquiry to find out for sure the dog owner's identity. The Dog Licensing and Live Stock and Poultry Protection Act allows a council to ascertain owners of a dog that has

killed or injured livestock or poultry. The act also permits council to recover its money.

Inquiries would be held under the Public Inquiries Act.

The committee's motion last week was prompted by the reaction of livestock owners to two recent attacks.

An ewe belonging to Eleanor Branch was killed in one attack and 78 chickens belonging to another farmer were the victims of separate attacks.

The town paid Branch \$90, based on the live stock evaluator's report, for the

ewe. Last month the town paid \$1,227.30 farmers whose livestock have been attacked by dogs.

Peter Branch told committee of a night of broken sleep and shooting when a dog killed one of his wife's sheep. He wounded the dog with gun fire on his second check of the yard. He had another alarm hours later.

In addition to the killing and injuries suffered by the flock, Branch said the sheep are getting agitated during the peak of the breeding season.

The attacks also have

social affects. Mrs. Branch said the experience is terrible. Neighbors are not speaking now, she told the committee.

The cases are the first in a decade where the name of the dogs' owners are known, deputy clerk Delmar French said.

A town official told committee he heard one dog owner admit the guilt of his animal. The owner was said

to be also willing to pay.

The committee didn't go as far as Branch would like.

He argued for the town to take dog owners to court to collect damages. He also wanted the municipality to force dog owners to have guilty animals put down.

Under provincial legislation a dog owner, upon finding out his animal has killed, is to have the dog destroyed within 48 hours, deputy-clerk French

No fire calls during fire prevention week

There were no fire alarms in Acton or district during fire prevention week, says fire chief Mick Holmes. Deputy chief Bob Hyde and fire prevention officer Larry Brasard conducted fire alarms at

all the schools in town and at Speyside school during the

special period. Firefighters were called out Monday night with their rescuator but the alarm did not sound. A woman with breathing distress recovered after being given oxygen and was not taken to hospital.

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Police tower being tested

The police communications tower at Speyside is currently undergoing tests and will hopefully be in full operation within two weeks, according to Inspector W. Southward, of the Halton Regional Police.

The inspector explained that most of the work is completed. Telephone land wires are also being tested.

Dump truck flips over

A dump truck driven by an Acton man, flipped over after he tried to make room for other vehicles on the First Line Tuesday (Oct. 11).

Paul Forbes, 269 Arthur St., was at the wheel of the truck which was travelling north. Police say he saw a couple of vehicles heading towards him, and Forbes, pulled over.

Police estimate \$200 in damages to the truck.

Dusty trucks

The fire truck was driven down No. 7 Highway Monday night, but there was no fire alarm. The truck was out in an effort to blow off some of the dust accumulated during the construction of the fire hall addition.

Replace posts with beams in new Acton fire hall

Posts included in the plans for the new Acton fire hall could cut the space so that a rescue van cannot be accommodated, Councillor Russ Miller told Halton Hills council, Monday night.

He said he had been asked by the firefighters to seek council's approval to have beams installed instead, at an increased cost in excess of \$3,000.

Councillor Pete Pomeroy said he was not trying to blame anyone, but felt this should have been foreseen when the plans were drawn. "Didn't Mr. Zeegan see this?"

Miller claimed this was requested by the firefighters originally but when council insisted the cost would have to come down, he understood it was changed.

Councillor Pat McKenzie pointed out they were building for 25 years ahead, and felt it would be worth the added expense.

Pomeroy pointed out every extra cost is added to the supervising engineer's share of the total, since he gets a 10 per cent fee.

Council agreed to the placing of beams rather than the posts.



ACTON RESIDENT Nan Hurst pushed one of the buttons at the Wintario program in Milton last Thursday. She teaches at Milton high school, where the draws were made.

Block Parent town will have signs soon

Acton is a Block Parent town and strangers who might have warped ideas will likely be warned to stay away.

Subject to engineering department approval of locations, signs will be going up soon at entrances to Acton warning there is a block parent organization.

Councillor Pat McKenzie said other towns which have block parents organizations are announcing the fact with big signs. He explained it is an excellent way of telling potential child molesters the town has a system to work against them.

Town council against 'porn'

Halton Hills council came out against pornography and salacious publications, Monday night, when they endorsed a resolution passed by the Ontario Trustees Council.

In the lengthy letter the Ontario Trustees council said "As educators we must be concerned at the pouring of millions of dollars into publications for marketing, which give a distorted impression of the social acceptability and normalcy of sexual deviation. It is obvious that the market is being exploited without restraint, even to the extent of child porn, and freedom is being abused to the detriment of public morals."

The letter was forwarded to Halton Hills council by Halton Separate School Board which asked for its endorsement.

Councillor Pat McKenzie, a former school principal, said council should do everything it can to battle the problem.

Fire hall funds if any snag

Halton Hills general administration committee last week hammered out a funding formula to keep work on Acton's fire hall going, if a snag appears.

Committee put a lid of \$3,000 on contingencies not covered in the contract. Al Zeegan, consulting engineer, is to get agreement from fire chief Mick Holmes and committee chairman Russ Miller for additional work. All expenditures are to come before the committee later.

Zeegan said there is a fixed contract price, but added that it'd be unusual if there aren't extras.

For example, he told committee, we found things we didn't know existed in Cedarvale.

Zeegan said he was speaking of fairly large items, such as one or two thousand dollars. "I'm worried about holding up the job," he said.

Construction on the hall's second storey is underway. Just because the money is there, doesn't mean it should be spent, committee chairman Russ Miller told Zeegan.

Town treasurer Ray King said it's been his experience for the operating department head to have a leeway of a percentage.

signs are Highway 25 and Wallace Street, Highway 25 at Kingham Road, Highway 7 at Churchill Road and Highway 7 in the vicinity of Lakeview subdivision.

Deputy engineer Ted Ballinger said the Block Par-

ents in Acton should be informed signs in the north end of town can't go up until after road construction is finished.

Committee decided since this proposal is a precedent in Halton Hills a report is needed from engineering.

Halton police at officer's funeral

Three North Halton police officers travelled to Collingwood on Saturday to attend the funeral of Sgt. Ron McKean, 32, of that town's police force. The three joined 12 other Halton police from the south.

Sgt. Ron McKean was gunned down outside a Collingwood hotel last Wednesday evening while working on a tip there were two escaped convicts on the premises. Police chief Carl Johnson says the sergeant was shot at point-blank range by a sawed-off shotgun.

A massive manhunt in the town resulted in three men being brought into police headquarters for questioning. Two 21-year-olds were charged with first degree murder.

Sgt. D. Eadie and Constables M. Michalski and T. Nicholson of North Halton were just three of the more than 600 reported policemen from across Canada and the United States to form an honor guard at the dead man's funeral.

Sgt. McKean is survived by his wife and three children.

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