

East end owners try for official plan change

Owners of land east of Acton, where full development could double the present population of the town, asked Halton Hills planning board Tuesday night to designate the area for residential growth in the official plan.

The land, at Highway 7 and Churchill Road, has been discussed many times, both prior to and after the establishment of Regional government.

A. Wise, planner for Goldfan Holdings, claimed Acton council had looked on the area as the logical place to expand. He said they adopted the Acton East study of 1973.

Recalling events, Mr. Wise said, after the establishment of regional government, the Ministry of Environment stated the sewage plant could only be expanded to handle the equivalent of 10,000 people. He said the MOE

decided to "wait and see" on further plant expansion.

"Goldfan Holdings, in an effort to clarify the situation, had R. B. Anderson Consultants do a study," said Mr. Wise, "which showed the plant expansion now under way, can handle 10,000 and a further expansion could accommodate a population of 15,000 and still have the stream meet MOE requirements."

Mr. Wise said the political decision to determine Acton's future lies with council.

Planner Mario Venditti explained the population figures include industrial sewage allocation, and said that with the present 6,800 people and sewage capacity for industry the plant is close to the equivalent of 10,000 people now.

Councillor Les Duby explained Acton council in 1973

decided since the sewage and water plants were in the east end, it was economically sensible to have future growth in the east end also. He said Acton East should be designated for growth in the official plan.

Councillor Peter Marks

denied the stumbling block to development of this land is the MOE, and contended it is the wishes of most of the people in town that Acton does not grow much beyond the present size. He said people who have moved to Acton have done so because

they like small towns. "15,000 people is a 100 per cent population increase," Marks warned.

He said many people would prefer the sewage allocation to go to industry so the town could derive some revenue.

Councillor Pat McKenzie urged planning board to provide for possible development. He suggested the '73 study was taken seriously "by someone" since the new high school was built to accommodate 1,200 students. "We can't just close the door, there must be growth somewhere."

Chairman Roy Booth asked if Beardmore effluent was included in the present plan capacity. The planner replied, the MOE ruled the effluent must be further refined before it is accepted in

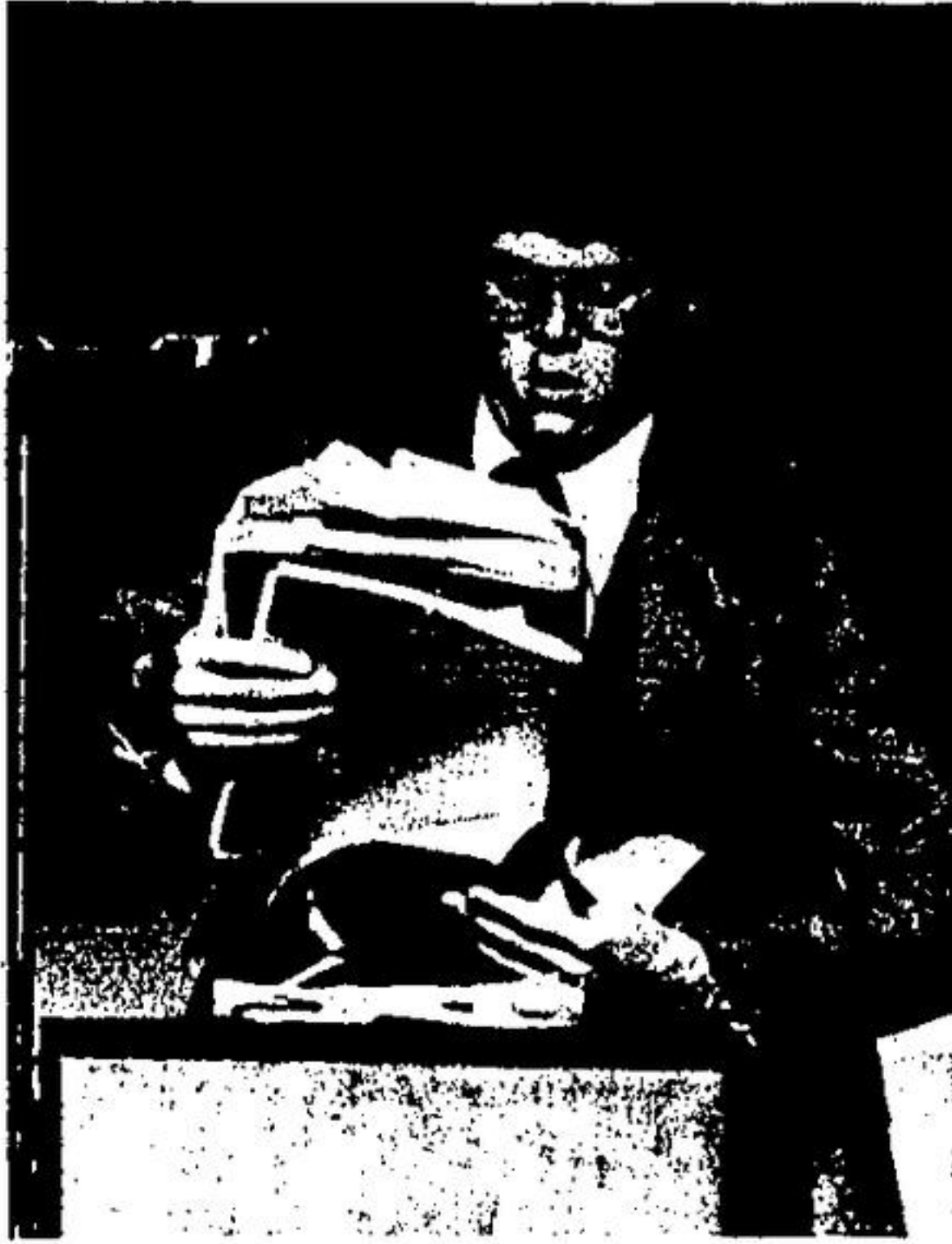
(Continued on Page 2)

Break ground soon sr. citizen building

Ground should be broken for the senior citizen apartments on Elizabeth Dr. by December, according to councillor Peter Marks. The 54-unit building should be completed in the summer or fall of 1978.

The contract for construction has been let and there are no problems. Work will go ahead soon, Mr. Marks reported to the Free Press.

Since there seemed to be no progress at the site, people were beginning to wonder if the whole thing had been shelved. The houses are to be removed before construction begins.



HIGH SCHOOL commencement valedictorian Dan Warren carried to the microphone a briefcase that disgorged a mound of fluttering notes for his speech. When the papers all fell to



the floor, he began to ab lib. The grade 13 grad is now studying at Ontario Bible College. More on commencement on the Youth Pages.

The Acton Free Press

One Hundred and Third Year—No. 17. ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1977. Forty-Two Pages.—Fifteen Cents.

Fair lost money

Fair board members were not too surprised to learn they lost money on this year's fair. Rainy weather cut attendance, especially on the Sunday.

Fair board president Russell Murray said the amount of the loss is not yet known, but it can likely be covered with reserves.

The prize money is going out now. Final financial pictures will be known at the time of the annual meeting, when all the bills have been paid.

In 1976, the board was \$2,500 in the red after the fair. "Maybe we can tighten up our belts," says Mr. Murray. The board will be considering cutting something out, such as the tractor and horse pulls which provided entertainment and little income. The admission charge was increased this year and he didn't think the board would increase it again so soon. Less money was spent this year for bands in the parade. The board will be applying

for Class B status for the fair, which will provide more grants for prize money. Acton fair already pays out as much in prize money as some Class B fairs, he explained. This

will add to the income of the board. It was a terrific fair, Mr. Murray asserted. This is just "one of those things that happen."

parking and several complaints on police enforcement. He wondered about the police's "inconsistent application" and about warnings rather than tickets in some cases. Councillors agreed warnings are sometimes given.

Councillor Les Duby also questioned the police's "spasmodic" approach to ticketing. "The least offenders seem to get the tickets," he mused.

He also mentioned difficulty of parking for residents on Main N. across from the library. Engineer Bob Austin said the appearance of paving on Main N. in Acton is deceiving and there is actually no more width for parking.

Councillor Marks concluded that he was not being critical of the police force.

Warnings or parking tickets?

Open chapel this Sunday

The Buchanan memorial chapel will be dedicated Sunday afternoon at 2.30 p.m. in Fairview cemetery. The Rev. A. H. McKenzie will conduct the short service and Legionnaires will sing.

The building is completed and is all ready for Sunday, according to Joe Hurst, who is on the committee. "Everyone is welcome to attend," he said.

Dr. Allan J. Buchanan and some of his relatives will be there. His wife, the late Bertha Buchanan, was a much-respected member of the community, active in school, church and dramatics. Dr. Buchanan who practised dentistry here for years, is now retired.

The chapel will be available for use by any families wishing it. Committal services may be held here in bad weather.

Indusmin needs sideroad jobs in jeopardy—officials

Objecting to restricting truck traffic on No. 17 Sideroad, Don Murdy and Jim Caylor of Indusmin presented a strongly-worded letter to Halton Hills works committee Monday night. Mr. Murdy is mine manager, construction materials division, and Mr. Caylor is vice president of the construction materials division.

"Indusmin Limited finds it necessary to reiterate the devastating effect that this decision can have on the prosperity of this community. Closure of the 17th Sideroad to truck traffic will result in a direct reduction of jobs for citizens of Halton Hills," the letter stated.

The 17th Sideroad link to Georgetown and Trafalgar Rd. is used to transport over 30 per cent of quarry shipments because it reduces mileage by about three miles. This saving is very important in permitting the product to be competitive.

They said 29 truckers are involved and 54 people work in the quarry.

In 1976 the quarry paid Halton Hills \$36,597.92 in taxes as well as \$32,000 provincial tax and \$25,489.20 in on deposit with the province as a rehabilitation levy.

A 30 per cent reduction in market could jeopardize the whole operation here, they stated.

With a payroll of \$781,765 in 1976 the quarry paid \$1,618,000 for truck transport. "The private truckers who

haul the gravel chose the shortest route as they work on a ton mile basis.

Esquering council felt 17th Sideroad was the best route, they said. George Maltby recalled the residents were always promised that something would be done.

Councillors thought there was no immediate plan to proceed with a regional link with Trafalgar Road, Councillor Mike Armstrong explained council had no intention of closing No. 17 Sideroad to traffic. "We're in the investigation stages of a permit system," he said. It was council's intention to try to take traffic off that road that could use alternate routes, such as Highway 25.

Councillor Pete Pomeroy said there is \$1.5 million in the budget for road updating, and Mr. Caylor commented Indusmin would be approachable on cost sharing.

Councillor Pomeroy felt an Indusmin petition for a regional road would help the cause.

In the letter which he read Mr. Murdy also voiced concern over various statements made recently by spokesmen of residents and by elected officials as well. "These statements dealt with the level of profits earned by the Company as a whole and suggested that the Acton Quarry was a liability to the community. The total Construction Materials Division of Indusmin Limited which includes its Halton Quarry as well as the Acton operation

accounted for only 11 per cent of total corporate sales in 1976 and its contribution to profits was at a level entirely in line with the capital employed in its operations. The economic details listed earlier make it difficult to accept the proposition that the Acton Quarry is a liability to Halton Hills by any interpretation. We can only assume that the comments were based on a

lack of understanding of the true facts.

"It is also a concern that Council has given what appears to be undue recognition to a petition presented to it. We question its merit when we find that some individuals have signed more than once and when some of the signatures were of people who do not reside on the Fourth Line and 17th Sideroad," he said.

Van kills big buck

A large buck was killed in town when it was struck by a van on Churchill Road, just north of Highway 7 Wednesday night.

The van, driven by Christopher Burand, R.R. 2, Acton, sustained about \$500 in damages, police say.



WHAT HALLOWE'EN IS ALL ABOUT: pumpkins and happy children. Heather Trace is just barely bigger than the pumpkin she was going to help carve up at the YMCA Kiddies Club last week.

Council may whittle building expansion

A scaled down version of the same municipal complex plan that toppled politicians in the last election, was discussed at a special council meeting last Tuesday night (October 18).

Now being called an addition to the present Seventh Line building, accommodation needs focussed on the planning and engineering departments more than others.

Architect Don Hallford showed the original plans which would have tripled the size of the present building and showed what could be cut in the first phase. He warned the heating and electrical equipment should be installed to cover the completed building regardless of the ultimate size determined.

Council, with five members absent, decided to have the whole 13 man council as a special building committee with Councillor Pete Pomeroy the chairman.

Planner Mario Venditti said he foresaw a need for 2,000 square feet in his department in the future, serving 50,000 to 60,000 people. At present he said there is 600 square feet.

He said in the original plans: engineering, building

plumbing and planning offices were in the same area so the technical people and the drafting tables and drawing boards could be combined.

Treasurer Ray King said his original problems had pretty well been alleviated, and felt the finance department was not working under a great handicap. "I still feel there's merit in centralizing municipal government," he added.

Fire Chief Mick Holmes said he had no problem, and was considering moving into the fire hall on Maple Avenue.

Engineer Bob Austen explained his department is in the west bay of the works garage, and described it as "psychologically depressing." He said windows had been installed and insulation added,

so hoped it would be warmer than it was last year.

He said it was a hazardous location with the two trucks and equipment in the same place where visitors to the building and engineering department have to cross.

He claimed there should be a separate entrance for trucks and equipment.

Austen said \$20,000 was spent on the temporary quarters and predicted the more that's spent the more permanent the location will become.

Clerk Administrator Doug Pritchard said washroom facilities and storage space are completely inadequate.

After lengthy discussion council generally agreed they were willing to look at an expansion large enough to fill

the needs of the planning and engineering departments.

Councillor Walter Blehn said sooner or later council has to get down to talking money. "I understand the figure was close to a million last year."

He suggested the cost difference between a new library and an addition to the present library could be allocated to the municipal building expansion. He indicated he might favor a \$400,000 to \$500,000 addition.

Architect Hallford said the proposed council chamber and mayor's office could easily be cut from the plans. An amount of \$975,000 was tentatively placed in the capital forecast for 1978 for a municipal complex, in March of this year.

\$5,000 fire damage

Erin deputy fire chief Jim Evans estimates there was \$5,000 damage done in an early morning blaze Tuesday which destroyed part of a house on Highway 25 south of Osprey.

Erin firefighters were first on the scene at 2:45 a.m.,

followed quickly by Acton and Hillsburgh crews.

The house, owned by the Grand River Conservation authority, was being occupied by Brian Clint at the time of the fire.

Overheated pipes caused the blaze, which originated in

the attic. Firemen from the Erin department were on the roof tearing out burning sections in their efforts to control the flames.

The fire was well under control by 4 a.m.

There were no personal injuries resulting from the fire.

Block Parent signs OK'd

Four "Block Parent Community" signs will be located at Acton's outskirts.

Approval was given by works committee to the Community Services Centre to erect the three signs which come under the town's jurisdiction. The fourth location is on Highway 7 at the west end of town, a section of provincial highway not designated as a connecting link. Therefore approval for this sign must come from the Ministry of Transportation and Communications.

The committee, on recommendation from the engineering department, decided that the signs will be erected by the Centre at a height and location specified by the town engineer, and the town will not be responsible for the signs.



WAYNE MASON KILLED his first moose recently on a hunt with family and friends in northern Ontario. Wayne kneels in front beside Jim Croll of Oakville. In the back row on the left are Burt Croll, also of Oakville, Doug Mason, Peter Lawr of Hillsburgh and Pete Cassey of Oakville. The moose weighed about half a ton.