

Year of growth for Acton fair executive

To many people Acton Fall Fair is the three action-packed days of fair which occur on the second weekend in September every year without fail. But to the members of the Acton Agricultural Society the actual fair is the climatic realization of an entire year of planning, discarding of old ideas, implementing of new, arguing, agreeing, budgeting and persuading, to make those three days the best they possibly can for the residents and guests of the Acton area.

Meetings occur the second Tuesday of each month at Knox Presbyterian Church. This year is to be a year of growth. After three years of providing the required amount of prize monies, they have been elevated from Class C to a Class B fair. A Class B fair entitles them to federal grants in addition to the provincial grants received as a Class C fair, to assist in the fair being able to provide attractive prize money to attract class exhibitors. As a Class B fair they are also eligible for grants for up to 50 per cent of costs for any permanent structural improvements and 50 per cent costs of any commercial class up to a maximum of \$200 for each class if it meets with Ministry approval.

However, after three years the amount of grant received for prize monies will be frozen and that will be the grant for the remainder of their years as a Class B fair. Therefore, the next three years are going to be hectic as they drive to establish respectable prize monies in order to establish the grant. It will take a lot of work and effort, but the more people they have to help the easier it will be. Executive members urge all members, associate directors and regular directors to give support all year round.

Town-Hydro meet Mar. 29

A special meeting of Halton Hills council will be held March 29 at the Seventh Line municipal building so council and public can hear from Ontario Hydro.

David Patriquin, Hydro's Community Relations Officer, along with other officials will speak to council regarding the Bruce to Georgetown 500kV power corridor, land acquisition policies, construction policies and practices and forest protection will be topics for the meeting.

Councillor George Maltby thought the meeting should be on a Saturday afternoon so residents could attend. His suggestion of March 25 or April 1 were rejected.

Mayor Tom Hill said Hydro wanted to talk just to council but the town is going to hold the meeting in public.

Councillor Pat Patterson said the town should sell tickets to the meeting since it will attract a lot of people and it will be a "great show".

Hill and Councillor Roy Booth noted only residents who are on the agenda will be allowed to speak at the meeting.

The March 29 meeting will begin at 7.30 p.m. in council chambers.

Lot levies upped 8.25%

Concern for escalating housing prices didn't stop Halton Hills council from raising lot levies Monday.

Since the construction cost index has increased 8.25 per cent in the last year the town raised its lot levies correspondingly.

Council retains all 24 members

Halton Regional Council defeated a move by Oakville Councillor Carl Eriksen to have the number of councillors serving at the regional level reduced.

Eriksen said if the number was reduced the council would make better decisions, it would be less awkward and could act on matters more expeditiously. He said anyone opposing his resolution would do so only because they didn't want to reduce chances of getting elected.

Oakville Councillor Archie Donaghy charged Eriksen was being irresponsible.

Burlington Councillor Pat McLaughlin said it would be a waste of time and Halton Hills Councillor Russ Miller said it is a matter of grave concern for northern communities which have only a few councillors now.

All Northern councillors voted against the move. Burlington Mayor Mary Munro, and Councillors Mac Anderson, Carl Eriksen, Laurie Mannell, Ron Planche, Ben Ciprietti and Tom Sutherland supported the motion.

Ciprietti, Munro and Sutherland are from Burlington and the others are from Oakville.

do it Armstrong declared. Councillor Roy Booth said he also doesn't agree with raising lot levies whenever construction cost index shows an increase when there has been no study done to prove town servicing costs have gone up.

Armstrong said the construction index shouldn't be used to set lot levies noting lot levy costs are "out of hand."

He said no efforts are being made in Ontario or in Halton Hills to reduce housing costs.

Hill noted a court case in progress in Mississauga could result in lot levies being declared illegal.

As costs go up the town must collect a little more in lot levies so existing residents don't have to pay the freight for development Councillor Walter Blehn reasoned.

Councillor Peter Marks said a reduction in lot levies wouldn't lower housing prices and thought the town's levies were still too low.

He said housing prices are set by the price the market will pay and declared that was free enterprise at work. Marks said there are no studies showing lot levies, just 10 per cent of housing costs, effect selling price.

Councillor Peter Morris said if lot levies go too high developers will quit building until prices rise enough for them to make money again.

Booth noted the way things

are going in Halton Hills these days it won't matter what lot levies are since there won't be any development anyway.

Booth, Morris, Pat Patterson, Armstrong and Hill all opposed the lot levy hike.

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Rural garbage collection study rejected by council

Town funded garbage pick-up for hamlet and rural residents went down the drain Monday at Halton Hills council before the engineering department even had a chance to study Mayor Tom Hill's proposal.

contractors to pick up garbage or just Esqueusing residents.

Hill, who thought rural residents are paying enough in taxes without having to pay for garbage collection on top of that, said the urban areas pay for their own garbage collection so the rural area would have to pay for its own.

four small businesses picking up garbage in Esqueusing now. He wondered what would happen to three of the contractors after the town gave the entire township to one firm.

Hill said he didn't know but thought that could be part of the study from engineering.

Councillor Marilyn Sejeantson said she had received calls from many people opposed to the idea of rural garbage pick up. She said people were happy with the service they receive from contractors since they come up their lane to garage doors to get the refuse. She said the cost doesn't seem to bother people in Esqueusing and claimed private collection costs only went up because of increased dumping charges at the region operated dump.

Councillor George Maltby echoed Sejeantson's comments noting he hasn't heard from the public as much on any other issues. He said rural residents are happy with the garbage collection service they receive now and will be upset with any change.

Hill said possibly rural collection should be rejected but thought collection in the hamlets should be examined.

Councillor Pat Patterson said some people want things left the way they are now but there are a "heck" of a lot of people who want a change.

He said whose names are close to the road would like town garbage collection. Patterson didn't think there was anything wrong with getting a study done on the subject.

Council overwhelmingly rejected a study of rural or hamlet garbage collection.

Discussion of the plan began with Councillor Peter Pomeroy asking if the whole town would foot the bill for

Police beef up for storms

Halton Regional Police Chief Ken Skerrett is taking steps to pull together organizations that help people during spells of bad weather such as the storm of Thursday January 26.

each town and city for police use in freeing stranded residents.

A thousand blankets, total cost \$275, is also on the bill chief Skerrett would like to see filled.

"Several organizations and just plain citizens gave of their time and resources to assist us and the stranded public without question", Skerrett wrote.

Skerrett told the commission that an agreement has to be made with the region for the military vehicle. Insurance problems cropped up years ago when a military vehicle rolled over and injured several civilians it was carrying. The civilians were helping police in a search operation, Skerrett said.

Skerrett is asking for regional co-operation in getting an agreement with the Lorne Scots militia unit to loan out six-wheel vehicles and men who would search for stranded people.

Also in the chief's mind is a request for snow plows. He would like one stationed in

Police estimate there is \$80 damage to the car parked in Glenlea parking lot when it was struck by another auto which left the scene Saturday at noon.

The damaged auto is owned by John Kavanagh of 77 Nelson Cr. The left side door was hit.

Details about the other vehicle are not known to police.

Emergency fund for fire victims

Acton Lions Emergency Fund has raised \$650 so far for the families of Cory Van Merkestein and Gorko Covic. Both families were victims of separate fires which left them homeless.

Eight groups of people contributed including the Lions donation of \$500, according to Bank of Montreal administration manager Ian Nunnes. Cash donations can still be made at the bank by asking any teller to deposit it in the Acton Lions Emergency Fund bank account.

Any other donations of furniture or clothing can be given to Vic Bristow. Mr. Bristow can be reached at 853-2237. The items will be given to which ever family needs them.

Truck hits phone booth

The telephone box at the corner of Mill and Willow Streets was struck by an auto in a Saturday mishap.

According to Halton Regional Police the driver William Black of R.R. 4, Guelph turned too wide when rounding the corner.

Damage to the Black pick-up truck is about \$150. Damage to the booth is \$500, police state.

The Pine Shop is moving into the former Gift Cupboard premises, and a book store will open soon in the former Pine Shop location.

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Balance KWH per month at	2.35¢
GENERAL SERVICE RATE	
1st 50 KWH per month at	7.0¢
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Balance KWH per month at	1.65¢

Service charge \$2.40 per KW of billing demand per month.

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Over the past four years the cost of power purchased from Ontario Hydro has increased annually. During that inflationary period operating cost and general overheads have also escalated.

Because of the impact of the favourable financial position of Acton Hydro in 1975, the proposed rate schedule (effective with 1978 Billing) represents only the second rate increase passed on to our customers in that same four year period.

An anti-inflation discount of 4.7% received from Ontario Hydro on bulk power purchased will be reflected in the calculation of customer accounts in 1978.

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Acton Hydro - Electric Commission.

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