



JASON FIELD CHECKS the mailbox as construction goes on in the new police offices in the municipal building. A partition will separate the police from the town employees.



HOME SWEET HOME? Old police offices look rather depleted as Cons. Rod Donaldson examines a pile of office equipment during the move out to the municipal building.

Patterson says: \$2 ice rate hike unfair to kid hockey

The two dollar an hour increase in ice rates for the three arenas in Halton Hills is not popular with Councillor Pat Patterson.

The two dollar hike was approved in the budget, when cuts were made at the final budget meeting.

Patterson contended the increase would cost Acton Legion who sponsor minor hockey, an extra \$700. He said the money should come from some place other than kid hockey. "Most of these kids only get six minutes ice time."

Councillor Roy Booth said he tended to agree with Patterson about kid hockey, and pointed out many things are supported over the whole tax base, and suggested they should consider subsidizing kid hockey.

Chairman Russ Miller emphasized everyone is affected not just the minor hockey. "There are kids in figure skating too," he noted.

Councillor Walter Biehn said the mayor had warned against changing their minds

after the budget was set, and had asked if council would stick to their decision.

The discussion ended when Recreation Director Glen Gray said he was bringing down a report on arena costs within two weeks.

Rates at arenas

The proposed two dollar increase in ice rates at all three arenas in Halton Hills, while included in the budget, has not yet been officially passed.

At present all minor sport groups, including minor hockey, support hockey and figure skating, pay \$20 an hour at Georgetown Memorial Arena and Acton arena and \$25 at Gordon Alcott arena.

All other local adult groups pay \$28 an hour at Georgetown Memorial Arena and Acton Arena, and \$32 at Gordon Alcott Arena.

Microwave cooking only course running

All night school courses but one have been cancelled due to poor registration, says course organizer Boris Shean.

Mr. Shean said there were 40 people registered for the various courses, but unfortunately, most applied to different courses. The Microwave cooking course was the only class with sufficient registration. Mr. Shean pointed out there is still plenty of room in this class as 11 are signed up, with room for 20.

The other 29 people registered for the cancelled courses will be notified by high school students over the telephone. They will be given the choice of entering the microwave cooking course, or having their money refunded.

Mr. Shean said this was the first time night courses had been offered in the spring at the high school.

Police approve \$627 for one block move

Halton Region Police Commission approved an expense of \$627 for shifting its Acton office round the corner from the old town hall on Willow Street into the Murray Memorial YMCA building on Mill Street.

Gibson Construction, of Acton, got the contract during the commission's meeting at Oakville Thursday. Gibson will renovate the building with a partition, slab door and other items on a bid of \$497.

Tyler Transport, also of Acton, will move the police furniture for \$130.

"I don't mean to be facetious, but I think \$130 would buy most of the furniture," Oakville Mayor Harry

Barrett told the commission. I say bring a shift of officers on early and let them wheel the furniture round the two blocks.

Police Chief Ken Skerrett told the commission the applicants wanted two days notice.

Gibson and Tyler were the lowest bids. Highest bid for the renovations was \$793.47 and the highest for moving \$412.

Most of the furniture in the town hall was inherited by the regional force when the Ontario Provincial Police detachment moved out in September, 1975.

The Y-building offers the police about 164 more square

feet, 900 square feet, than the town hall.

The police will pay 60 per cent of the \$360 a month rent in a five year lease, the commission learned. Commissioner David Coons, of Burlington, wanted to know if there was an escape clause in the lease. He was told there was not.

Coons also wanted assurances from Chief Skerrett that the Y building was adequate. Questions of suitability would have come up prior from the chief or deputy chief, commission chairman William Hourigan told Coons.

Commissioner Glenn Magnuson advised the meeting that if equalized assessment comes about there will be tax on the Y building. He said the town has accepted that and also asked the commission to pay its share.

Such a tax, Magnuson said, would be 10 per cent or about an extra \$200 a year.

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Donations coming in for March of Dimes

Results have been very satisfactory in the current March of Dimes campaign by mail in Acton and district. It would appear the final total could surpass the final \$628 received in last year's mail campaign.

In case donors are concerned over receiving receipts for donations, most

receipts are being mailed from Toronto headquarters of the disability fund (March of Dimes). Receipts for most cash donations have been mailed from Acton, and for safety's sake, funds transferred to Toronto by money order.

Good results were obtained through the coin boxes placed

in the liquor store and the Brewers Retail Store.

Considering the fact that this has been a very low key campaign, the local chairman Alice Duby is very grateful for the results to this date.

"On behalf of all disabled people who have been assisted by the March of Dimes including Sunnyview Lodge in Toronto, mentioned in the Academy Awards presentation, a sincere thank you to all donors" Mrs. Duby says.

Police Association checking on morale

Halton Regional Police Association (HRPA) is taking an unprecedented step to find the causes of "falling morale" of officers throughout the region.

An HRPA committee will make inquiries as to the causes of low morale on the force, association president Al Ruelens confirmed Monday. About 80 officers voted unanimously to set up the committee during a regular meeting in Trafalgar Hall last Wednesday (March 29).

Ruelens said the association membership discussed the question of morale prior to the meeting, but the membership has never gone this far before.

All three districts in the Halton Regional Police Force were well represented at the meeting.

Ruelens said he was not surprised at the motion.

The morale committee, composed of Ruelens and six association directors, is to report back to the association by mid-April. If the report is not ready, it will be held over for a meeting, Ruelens said.

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May license penny arcades

Halton Hills finance committee will investigate methods of licensing and controlling penny arcades.

The action came in response to a letter from Halton Regional Police, who will work with the committee in discussing penny arcades.

Police charge local folk

Halton Regional Police charged, in separate cases, two Acton people for liquor offences, three for disturbing the peace and two others for obstructing police.

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