

Region passes equalized water rates...

Continued from page 1
In theory, the charge to each ratepayer should be just about equal to the cost required by the region to treat water and send it back into Lake Ontario.

Mrs. Allingham expressed doubts about equality in assessment. She said industrial chemicals and heavy metals takes the bulk of treatment monies.

She said she wanted an assurance of heavy polluters of the sewage system would pay the fair share of water purification. This was included in an amendment on the sewer rates passed by council.

Mr. Farmer said the purpose of the \$1,826,788 grant is to offset the impact of the expected increase to "the losers" in the program which means the ratepayers.

He ended his summation of the equalization plan by calling it, "the most thoroughly researched document to come out of my department since it was formed."

paying a local improvement rate, would have to continue paying when the new billing comes in.

Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett wanted to know what would happen to those people who have paid off their improvements with cash. Would they have to pay for services which they thought they had already paid for?

Oakville Councillor Ron Planche wanted to know if people using septic tanks would be forced to pay sewer rates.

Mrs. Allingham wondered just how equal equalization is when her figures showed Burlington uses about 50 per cent of the region's water but pays 68.7 per cent of the total water bill.

A question drawing much comment was what would happen if 20 or 30 years from now, the north of Halton did not have enough water to serve its population, this necessitating a trench and pumping system from Lake Ontario.

On this, Mr. Farmer said the cost could clearly not be borne by one northern community. It would have to be subsidized by increased rates across the entire region.

One estimate of the cost of such a venture was \$300 million or more depending on inflation.

The voting on in-

stituting equalized water billing passed by 13 to nine but the second vote on equalized sewer billing saw the even split which was broken by Mr. Raftis.

That vote came on a motion to defer equalized sewer billing until all the questions raised in debate, could be solved by an ad hoc committee answerable to the council.

At least each councillor spoke once on this issue. The meeting turned into a cat fight with impassioned pleas from those supporting or opposing deferral.

The for deferral block's opinion was best summed up by Burlington Coun-

cillor Jim Grievie. "They say the difference between rape and rapture is the salesmanship."

"Well, I think if we go ahead on this, we'll remember the rape long after we've forgotten the rapture."

The anti-deferral group found its spokesman in Oakville Councillor Mac Anderson who said, "I have busted my ass and travelled 8,000 miles to get here" in hopes of finding "a regional council that has finally matured."

He said the rejection of equalization on account of home-town thinking was tantamount to deserting

the role of a regional council looking after the best interests of the region as a whole.

A need for passage of the program as a whole was pointed out by Roy Booth of Halton Hills who said deferral could lead to a problem regarding the current sewer surcharge. He said the detailed answers required with a deferral, might not come back before the printing of the old-style sewer bills with tacked-on surcharge.

He said he could not see asking for the surcharge and then, when equalization was passed, ask ratepayers to pay again under a new system.

It was decided the equalization would go through and a committee with a consultant would look into the problems.



Dave and Elly McIntyre were showered with gifts from local merchants and businesses following the birth of their three sons September 8. Two of the triplets were home from hospital last Tuesday evening when members of the Acton chamber of Commerce surprised them with their gifts. The third boy came home from hospital a few days later. Left to right, Bonnie Dunn, Lynda Medland, Dave, and Elly, holding Brian and Phillip, Jake Kulken, Flo Charlebois and Janet Fleming.

Triplets receive gifts gathered by Chamber

Dave and Elly McIntyre, parents of Acton's now famous triplets, were surprised last Tuesday when members of the Chamber of Commerce made an unexpected visit to their Main St. home to shower them with gifts from local merchants.

At the time of the delivery of the goods, only Brian and Phillip were home from the hospital. However, Derek joined his brothers on Saturday.

The boys were born September 8 in McMaster Medical Centre, Hamilton, but were later transferred to Guelph General Hospital where they remained until September 29.

Merchants in town followed the lead of Dave Manes of Acton IGA who, upon news of the triplets arrival, offered six months of free food.

The Chamber gathered cash, gifts, and vouchers for the boys and their parents.

Cash donations were from Scotia Bank, Toronto Dominion Bank, George Gray Station Hotel, Family Cleaners, Paul Bazzard, Thompson Fuels, Profile Beauty Salon, Blue Springs Flower Shop, Gayna Fashions, J. Ridley, Music Stop, Hornby Box, Goy Cartage, Denny Insurance, Acton Jewellery, Yarn Barn, L and L Ford, Robertson's Flower Shoppe, Lavote Knitting, Family Barber and Dr. J. Facey.

Those who donated vouchers were Sweetman Shoes, Grant's Motors, William Stuckey Photography, Olympia Drive-In, Royal Variety, Acton Chicken and Pizza Spot, Family Restaurant,

Town shocked to hear of death

Residents of Acton and Georgetown were shocked and saddened last week to hear of the tragic death of Michael Vukovich, 7, son of former Acton doctor Joe Vukovich and wife Gail.

The family had moved to Cedar Falls, Iowa in August, where Dr. Vukovich had accepted a position on the staff of the hospital. He started his new job the same day as the tragedy.

Sons Matthew, 5, and Jonathan, four months, are resting comfortably in a Cedar Falls hospital, after spending several days in intensive care. Mrs. Vukovich has also been admitted to hospital.

Funeral services were held yesterday, (Tuesday) for Michael at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Port Credit.

Former neighbors of the Vukovichs have set up a fund at the Bank of Nova Scotia, Acton for anyone who wishes to show their support and sympathy to the family. Cheques may be made out to "The Vukovich Fund" until December 30. Names of all donors will be forwarded to the family. The money will be used for assisting the family in their time of need.

Beavers trapped in Erin township

Beavers which have presented a problem to Erin Township road conditions recently had better beware. Trappers in Erin Township are now able to obtain permission for catching the animals for an indefinite period of time.

The animal which clogs up marshes and builds dams which have been flooding roads have been causing a serious problem which brought about the regulation change. Clive Beardwood, Erin Township clerk, has been given the authority to issue permits which are pre-printed forms from the Ministry of Natural Resources.

The permit does not mean trappers can go anywhere and look for the animal. They must have permission of private property owners

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Evidence from the scene of the weekend mail box fire at the Acton post office has been sent for testing to the Forensic Science Laboratory at Toronto. Post office officials estimate to damage to be \$5,000. Assistant Postmaster Chris McMillan stands beside the interior chute which sustained damage.

Weekend fire singes mail

Halton Regional Police are continuing the investigation into the weekend fire at the Acton Post Office where about \$5,000 damage was sustained.

Sergeant Keith Robertson indicated Tuesday the case appears to be one of malicious damage rather than arson. Police are waiting for a report from the Forensic Science Laboratory at Toronto where some evidence was sent for testing.

Acton Postmaster Bob Hammond said in an interview Tuesday he has no idea on the value of the mail damaged in the fire.

The fire was reported about 9:30 Sunday morning. Police contacted assistant postmaster Chris McMillan.

Damage was confined to the chute and the contents of the box in the lobby, according to Mr. Hammond. No damage was sustained to the chute which opens outside the building or to the outside mail box.

The chutes are protected against fires by about a quarter-inch of asbestos panel.

Citizens to combat vandalism

The war on vandalism is heating up in Halton region.

In a two-part development, Halton Regional Police has appointed three of its officers to work with citizens' committees to curb vandalism; and Bev Paddock of the Youth Services Network has been seconded to the area on a time basis to assist groups.

A meeting was held recently between police and representatives of an Oakville-based citizens committee on the subject of tighter police control.

Basil Markow, chairman of the group, said he was pleased with the meeting which he feels augurs well for the future.

The officers have been appointed (one for Oakville, one for Burlington and one for north

What's going on?

Ballinfad night
Anecdotes of Ballinfad history given by long time residents of the community will be the theme of the Esqueving Historical society meeting Monday October 15. All are welcome to attend this "Ballinfad night" at the Ballinfad community hall beginning at 8 p.m.

Curtain rises tonight
Georgetown Little Theatre is opening tonight with their first play of the season, There Goes The Bride. The benefit wine and cheese night is tonight and tickets are still available. The play will run Friday and Saturday evenings October 12 and 13 and the following weekend as well.

Scout apple day
Scouting members will be out this Saturday, October 13, for the traditional fund-raising apple day. Boys will be on the streets and knocking on doors for the once-a-year event. Funds raised go towards local Scouting programs.

Forge studio gallery
Forge Studio Gallery in Terra Cotta will be holding their October opening beginning with a meet the artists afternoon, Sunday October 14 from 1 to 6 p.m. through to November 5.

Guest artists will be jeweller and silversmith Louis Tortell and functional potter Bruce Cochrane. Permanent artists, painter Joe Watterson and Raku and porcelain artist Agnes Olive will also be on hand. The studio gallery will be open every Saturday and Sunday from 1 until 6 p.m. and weekdays by appointment at 877-9269 or 877-5872.

Harvest Festival
Mountaberg Wildlife Centre is presenting Harvest Festival 1979, from October 6 to 28 Saturdays and Sundays including Thanksgiving Day, Oct. 8, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The program features a pioneer apple festival, horse drawn wagon rides, saw mill demonstrations, country education demonstrations and an interpretive program of displays, slides, films and brochures.

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