

1,000 sign petition to hydro

(Continued from page 1)

Watson said one reason people are stirred up is it seems the commission was making moves behind the citizens' backs.

General Manager Jerry Trudell and Smith said they would have come to the Acton public meeting if they were invited and Watson and Papillon countered they had asked Mason to do just that. Mason said he had made all commissioners aware of the meeting.

Mason noted the only vote taken so far was to use a student in Acton this summer, and Smith said other staff proposed changes weren't voted on.

However, Allison said he opposed the hiring of the four students because commissioners understood the purpose behind the move was to "initiate" the moving of the computer terminal head out of Acton. He said he opposed the hiring because of the "intent" behind the moves, but Smith said the students would have been hired anyway, regardless if the computer stayed in Acton or was moved.

Getting power to the people is the most important job of the commission, and gathering the money is secondary, the delegation was informed.

Watson said he felt the lack of communication between the public and the commission was at the crux of the problem. He pointed out to the men that Acton people want the operations left the way they are, with the computer brought back to Acton, and an employee who was transferred to Georgetown brought back.

"People are feeling as if the rug has been pulled from out from under them," Watson told the commissioners. He said he had not found anyone who does not want things to remain the same, and wanted the commission to come up with an explanation that is going to satisfy everyone as to why procedures should be changed. He also noted for a business supposedly attempting to save money, the location of all the trucks in Acton is costing a lot of money in gas and travelling time. He felt there should be trucks in both towns.

Commissioner Ab Tennant said he remembered when the present building was built, people complained because they did not want to walk to it to pay their bills, but wanted it to go downtown. (The building is located two short blocks from Mill St.) Tennant suggested the citizens worked hard enough probably everyone in town would sign the petition. Tennant pointed out the commission has purchased more land to keep the works and engineering departments in Acton. He explained the long term plan was to have all the administration in Georgetown and all the works in Acton. The proposal to move the computer was just working towards these ends.

Chairman Smith pointed out the retention of the present system will cost about \$15,000 in wages, and another \$6,000 for the computer, not to mention \$90 a month for a special toll line between Acton and Georgetown for the computer.

Jerry Trudell, general manager, pointed out the employee who was moved asked for

the transfer and is happy being in Georgetown. "Maybe she doesn't want to come back."

One hundred per cent of the accounting is done on the computer, Trudell pointed out, and 80 per cent of this person's job is in the accounting system.

The amount of people paying by cash does not justify keeping someone in the office just for bill paying, Tennant said. Any inquiries are usually made over the telephone, and the caller doesn't realize it, but they are talking to Georgetown now, when they think they are speaking to someone in Acton.

Cheques can still be dropped off in a special mail basket and staff will take them to Georgetown, Tennant said. Envelopes will be stamped as to their date of arrival in Acton and accounts will be credited for that date.

Office staff who will be in Acton will be too busy with the works and engineering departments to collect money, the delegation was told.

Watson pointed out to the commission if this same sort of thing was happening in Georgetown, the people there would complain just as much. "We just have no one to talk to," he said.

Trudell noted "if you want something, we would be here in a hurry."

Watson countered if you want a service hooked up, you have to go to Georgetown.

Smith pointed out that the people in Georgetown have never complained that all the trucks have been moved to Acton, and in the case of a breakdown, Acton can get

repairs faster than Georgetown because the equipment is all here.

"Certainly we want your money, but that's secondary," the chairman said. "Power to your home is our first priority."

Watson said another of his concerns is the sending of separate letters to all customers informing them of the changes. He said no business would pay the money to mail the bills, then turn around and purchase the stamps to mail a separate letter. He wanted to know why they couldn't be sent together.

Smith countered that most people don't look at the inserts in their bills, but they read a separate letter. He wanted the customers to notice the announcement, rather than it being tossed in the garbage.

Tennant said he was proud of the commission and the way they have handled money. He noted other commissions debentured for buildings and equipment and owe thousands of dollars. His commission, however, has shown they are responsible with the public's money and handled it well.

Smith said he had been on first Georgetown and later Halton Hills hydro commissions and never done "anything under the table." He said new arrangements were a trail period only and he would do the same kind of thing with his own business. He said he couldn't justify spending \$18,000 a year on a salary and \$6,000 a year on the computer for the kind of cash amounts being paid at the Acton office in the past.

Many years of faithful service of Wally and Edna Gordon were recognized at the Acton Baptist Church Sunday.

Church honors Gordon

Not even Wally Gordon himself is certain how long he has been working for Acton Baptist Church.

The church, however, held a recognition luncheon Sunday for Wally and Edna Gordon, who are lifelong residents of the Acton area and have devoted a great deal of time to the church.

Edna is a lifelong member of the church and has served as Sunday School teacher, chairman of the Social Committee and member of the Mission Circle.

In 1948 she and Wally Gordon were married. He was employed at Douglas Aircraft and DeHavilland Aircraft in Malton until his retirement about three years ago. During this time, however, he has been part-time caretaker and handyman for the church. The Gordons have three daughters, all married and living in the area.

Wally estimates his service to be "about 15 years, off and on." He retired from his caretaker duties in February.

Clergy Comment

by Captain Wilson Perrin

Reader's Digest for February, 1983, carries an article entitled, "Loneliness: A Growing Disease". Upon reading it my own mind seems to go out to the many I personally know that are lonely.

To be in that place of despair is indeed very painful: the feeling of emptiness that grips you right to the heart.

To some loneliness comes as a result of death; to others it may be divorce; a teenager trying to feel part of a group; an older person finding that all of their family and friends are no longer living; a person moving into a new neighborhood. The list does not stop here, but continues for others who are deeply affected by this strange and soul crying pain called loneliness.

In Psalm 142, we see a man standing alone. Crying out to God for a place of refuge. The loneliness and isolation of the soul from all human love often makes it turn the more urgently to God, who can be loved and whose love is unchangeable, unselfish, and eternal.

The first book of the Bible, Genesis, reminds us that "God saw that it wasn't good for man to be alone". (Genesis 2:18) The need of companionship, someone to identify with us, to share our joys and sorrows has been with us from the beginning of human history.

In 1933, the World's Fair in Chicago had on display a model city of the future. There were no churches. The reason given was that in the future there would be no need for churches. I understand that in these latter years a "Century City", as it is called, is being built in the U.S.A. and there are no churches anywhere in it. Is it possible that we are trying to develop a society that says no to the quality of human life and yes to the dollars we can make at the expense of humanity.

Are we then just a number, a hole in a computer card, a social security number? Does it not matter that I have needs, personal needs? Can we not hear people crying out to be heard or is it just a cry we like to forget?

No, my friends, this cry will not go away until we listen and show love and understanding. That is why God's Son Jesus Christ came to the earth in human form almost 2,000 years ago, because he heard the cry of the human soul. Mankind could not fill the emptiness that was crying out to be fed.

God's answer to this cry of loneliness and need can be seen in the Bible (St. John 3:16), "For God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son so that anyone who believes in him shall not perish but have Eternal life." (Living Bible). The hand of God reaching down to grasp the hand of man reaching up for that eternal support.

Wherever Jesus went during His earthly ministry He demonstrated this love to all. For example, He healed the leper (who by the way was alone because of his physical condition) (St. Mark 1:40). He brought comfort to the bereaved (St. Luke 7:13), who was now going through the feelings of loneliness and sorrow. There are many more examples, but these will show you that God's Son Jesus Christ had compassion for them all and cared to share.

Yes, loneliness affects all of us sometime or another. If you are privileged not to feel this way, go out and give of yourself to someone who needs a friend right now. For when we give we receive.

I would like to leave this story with you of a man who approached his doctor timidly and whispered, "Doctor, could you split my personality for me?"

"Split your personality. What on earth for?", the doctor asked.

The little man squirmed and said, "Oh, doctor, I'm so lonesome."

Loneliness may be a way of life for many. Let's help to change it for them.

Grease fire causes \$3,000 damage

Deputy Fire Chief Bob Hyde estimates damage to be between \$2,000 and \$3,000 in a grease fire in a Third Line home, north of 22 Sideroad Sunday afternoon. Hyde said the fire was started by an unattended pot of grease on the stove. The homeowner extinguished the blaze before firefighters arrived.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS



1982 FINANCIAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

TO THE RATEPAYERS OF HALTON HILLS

On behalf of Council, I am pleased to provide some of the highlights of the Town of Halton Hills financial operations for 1982.

- The Town's audited 1982 Financial Statement indicates a year-end surplus of \$397,833.
- Capital Projects with gross expenditures amounting to \$3,086,683 were carried out during the year. The projects included road construction, erosion control projects, purchase of public works equipment, improvement in street lighting, and parks and recreation facility improvements.
- The Town's Reserves and Reserve Funds amount to \$2,026,215 as of December 31, 1982, which represents an increase of \$87,833 over 1981. The majority of these funds have been allocated for future capital projects.
- The Town's long-term debt position remains very sound as no long-term debt was incurred during the year with the exception of \$200,000 under the Main Street Revitalization Program for Downtown Acton and Georgetown. The repayment of debt under this program is the responsibility of the Businesses in both Downtown Areas rather than a charge against all ratepayers.

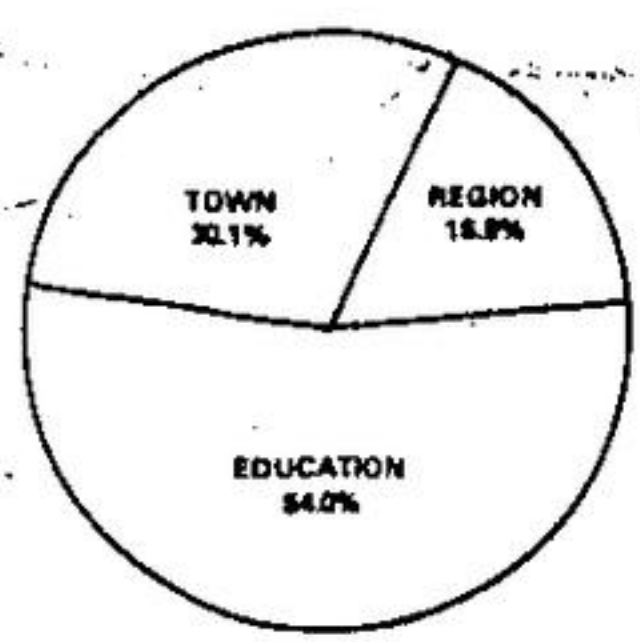
Peter D. Pomeroy Mayor

REVENUE FUND OPERATIONS

	1982 Budget	1982 Actual	1981 Actual
Accumulated net revenue (deficit) at the beginning of the year	658,582	758,183	611,275
Revenue by purpose			
Municipal purposes			
Taxation	4,472,498	4,478,636	4,024,597
Payments in lieu of taxes	129,850	153,850	116,300
Ontario grants	1,568,900	1,783,386	1,813,842
Other grants	—	29,345	19,499
Fees and service charges	650,283	781,110	695,588
Other	817,786	700,058	784,643
Revenue to pay for municipal purposes	7,639,317	7,926,385	7,864,469
Region or county requisition			
Taxation	2,365,288	2,390,280	1,803,789
Payments in lieu of taxes	18,955	21,625	16,704
Ontario grants	283,227	283,196	—
Other	—	5,049	26,780
Revenue to pay the region or county requisition	2,647,470	2,700,150	1,847,273
School board requisition			
Taxation	8,028,704	8,030,149	6,461,035
Payments in lieu of taxes	50,828	54,703	45,382
Revenue to pay the school board requisition	8,079,532	8,084,852	6,506,417
Total revenue	18,384,999	18,647,236	15,688,325
Expenditures and transfers			
Municipal expenditures			
General government	1,310,020	1,490,648	1,176,222
Protection to persons and property	719,069	692,614	656,500
Transportation services	2,917,753	2,818,100	2,394,556
Environmental services	469,645	456,409	499,579
Health services	83,590	87,591	72,810
Social and family services	62,500	62,233	34,142
Recreation and cultural services	2,391,338	2,178,000	1,845,422
Planning and development	330,646	336,213	300,757
Total expenditures	8,264,761	8,122,811	6,988,828
Transfers			
Transfers to region or county	2,696,212	2,692,803	1,799,534
Transfers to school boards	5,082,708	5,088,728	4,692,825
Total transfers	7,778,920	7,781,531	6,492,359
Total expenditures and transfers	16,043,681	15,904,342	13,481,187
Accumulated net revenue (deficit) at the end of the year	0	522,152	750,103
Analyzed as follows:			
Halton Hills			
—General Revenue	397,833	651,404	
—Special Urban Areas	49,825	31,748	
—Business Improvement	(5,246)	(2,684)	
—Special Lighting	1,248	704	
—Library	355	5,878	
—Other Boards	53,300	39,117	
Halton Region			
—General	2,500	(1,106)	
—Conservation	33,952	29,848	
School Boards			
—Elementary Public	(1,001)	2,714	
—Secondary	2,304	2,482	
	533,152	750,103	

TAX DOLLAR DISTRIBUTION

THIS IS WHERE YOUR TAX DOLLAR WAS SPENT



RESIDENTIAL MILL RATES

	Georgetown 1982 1981	Acton 1982 1981	Essexburg 1982 1981	Oakville 1982 1981
General Services				
Town of Halton Hills	38.49 35.93	48.26 45.02	46.80 43.67	38.98 36.52
Region of Halton	33.77 18.52	29.81 23.21	28.90 22.51	24.07 18.82
Education				
—Public and Separate	43.84 36.57	55.22 45.78	53.91 45.99	44.80 37.65
—Secondary	36.14 29.10	45.52 36.34	44.44 35.75	36.98 29.66
	140.24 120.12	178.81 150.35	174.05 147.02	144.81 122.65
Urban Area Charges				
Crossing Guards, Garbage and Street Lighting	6.05 6.59	10.09 8.26		
Town of Halton Hills				
TOTAL	150.29 126.71	188.90 158.61	174.05 147.02	144.81 122.65
AVERAGES				
ASSESSMENT	5610	4470	4615	5550
TAXES	843.15 710.84	845.52 709.94	803.24 678.50	803.70 680.71

CAPITAL FUND OPERATIONS

	1982 Actual	1981 Actual
Unfinanced capital outlay (Unexpended capital financing) at the beginning of the year	654,978	(828,859)
Capital financing		
Contributions from the revenue fund	1,201,458	1,219,089
Contributions from reserves and reserve funds	594,833	353,828
Long term liabilities incurred	202,500	27,300
Ontario grants	1,523,191	1,122,462
Other	318,777	336,510
Total capital financing	5,841,558	3,049,289
Capital expenditure		
General government	40,554	146,555
Protection to persons and property	122,019	252,734
Transportation services	2,018,711	2,068,033
Environmental services	285,827	282,743
Social and Family Services	—	26,280
Recreation and cultural services	313,251	1,431,095
Planning and development	299,421	33,698
Other	—	10,000
Total expenditure	3,089,983	4,327,138
Unfinanced capital outlay (Unexpended capital financing) at the beginning of the year	654,978	(828,859)

RESERVE AND RESERVE FUND OPERATIONS

	1982 Actual	1981 Actual
Available at the beginning of the year for future municipal purposes	1,828,456	1,967,823
Revenue		
Contributions from the revenue fund	277,782	60,466
Contributions from developers	—	—
—Lot Levies	—	4,754
—Severance Fees	—	12,733
—Cash in Lieu of Parkland	—	28,925
—Sale of Lands	—	18,637
C.M.H.C.	—	189,000
Contribution from Capital Fund	—	10,000
Capital Contributions	252,243	—
Interest Earned	188,538	218,303
	744,976	711,625
Expenditure		
Transfers to the capital fund	594,833	353,828
Transfers to the revenue fund	47,742	36,780
Ontario Home Renewal—Loan Forgiveness	12,218	—
Administration Charges	1,548	—
Halton Board of Education—Awards	1,000	—
	647,141	390,708
Available at the year end for future municipal purposes	2,938,235	1,936,456

BALANCE SHEET

(AS AT DECEMBER 31)

	1982 Actual	1981 Actual
ASSETS		
Cash	1,302,819	1,017,054
Taxes receivable	980,228	897,989
Accounts receivable	1,088,880	1,389,706
Other current assets	131,484	140,250
Capital outlay to be recovered in future years	—	554,878
Other long term assets	1,690,567	1,786,671
	5,152,967	5,188,648
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	863,848	1,125,015
Net long term liabilities	1,629,712	1,368,871
Reserves and reserve funds	2,828,285	1,928,652
Accumulated net revenue (deficit) and unapplied capital receipts	733,641	730,103
	5,152,967	5,188,648

STATISTICAL DATA

	1982	1981
Population at the end of the Year	53,705	54,297
Number of Households	11,086	10,989
Full Time Town Employees	114	111
Area in Acres	88,350.4	88,350.4
Taxable Assessment		
—Residential & Farm	864,318,854	863,324,145
—Commercial/Industrial	15,803,885	13,778,842
—Business	6,513,215	6,294,029
—Payment in Lieu	1,269,450	1,222,115
Total	888,905,404	884,629,131
Tax Arrears per Capita	\$ 28	\$ 26
Tax Arrears — % of Tax Levy		