

IT'S GREEN LIGHT FOR THE DRAGS

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formed to fight the decision, and to seek an injunction to stop the dragstrip.

BIGGEST DEPUTATION

Reeve George Currie termed it "the biggest deputation I've seen in 43 years of politics," as he opened the meeting.

John Sopinka, solicitor for Carl Bristow, dragway owner, claimed this was an application for a building permit, only, not a request for a change of zoning.

Reading from the transcript of Monday's meeting, he quoted Bristow as saying he had complied with all requirements, and deputy-reeve Tom Hill as saying "the only reason you were refused a permit was the waiting for Health Unit approval, now you've got it." Sopinka claimed that the residents could take action if they found the use objectionable. He pointed out that no building permit was necessary for the dragstrip, only for the buildings. "Nothing can prevent the use of the strip, and we have a permit for the storage garage," he commented. "It could be operated without the control tower, I suppose," he added.

Sopinka contended it would be unfair to ask his client to apply for it under the zoning by-law since in his opinion it is not in force until approved by the Municipal Board.

DISAGREED

Robert J. Swayze, retained by Peter Bowman, and other opposing ratepayers disagreed with Sopinka's interpretation, saying, "The by-law takes effect on the day of passing by the municipal council, subject to the approval of the O.M.B." He emphasized "if the approval of the O.M.B. is refused the by-law is invalidated, but it takes effect from the date of passing."

Swayze then presented a petition opposing the dragstrip, signed by 200 people, "residents of the area," he added.

Deputy-reeve Tom Hill challenged him pointing out that many of the names were not residents in Esquesing. "There's 25 from Acton, 7 from Milton, and 1 from Georgetown," he maintained.

"We don't run the town of Acton, or any other place," the reeve remarked, "and I hope they don't want to run us."

NOISE, DUST, TRAFFIC

Swayze pointed out there was an ad in the papers and those opposing signed the coupon and sent it in. "I never said they were all from Esquesing, I said from the area." He went on to cite the noise, dust and increased traffic which would result from the dragstrip. "Mr. Bowman has a hundred year old farmhouse abutting this land, it will depreciate his property, and deny him the right to live the way he wants to," said the lawyer. He claimed the majority of the people in attendance opposed the dragstrip, and suggested the large turnout alone, reflected their feeling. Swayze contended the holding by-law passed November 24, 1969 prohibited the use of the land as a dragstrip. "This application was made after that date," he added.

He suggested council defer the decision until the by-law has been dealt with by the O.M.B. "The people who are here are your ratepayers, and they are only asking you to enforce a by-law you passed," stated R. J. Swayze.

SECRETIVENESS

Defending himself against charges of "secretiveness," Carl Bristow stated, "the first inkling I had that anyone cared what I was doing was when this man called me (pointing to Peter Bowman) and he was so truculent I wouldn't tell him anything." He said the moment he found out from W. Carr, surveyor, that the council wanted to know he came down from Barrie that night.

"No man in business is going around volunteering information," commented Mr. Sopinka.

Swayze pointed out that the permission for a building permit actually meant permission to operate a dragstrip.

Comments came thick and fast from the spectators, ranging from dust, traffic pollution, undesirables, a moral obligation to oppose, and lack of assessment.

A comedy note was added when the Reeve asked "Hands up all who are from Esquesing", then he asked "hands up all who voted for me in the last election." Not as many hands appeared the second time as the first.

FAIR AND SQUARE

"Monday, Bristow answered

all our questions fair and square" began Deputy-reeve Tom Hill, "and the more meetings we have the further we'll get away from a decision." He admitted council had been reluctant when asked for the building permit, "so we came up with putting it in the hands of the Health Unit. We just wanted to put it off for a while," he confessed, "there's no use beating around the bush."

He reminded council the Health Unit had approved, and the owner had complied with all rules and regulations. "I can't find anything that says a drag strip cannot be built in the township, so let's do something," he concluded.

Cr. Ken Marshall contended many people enjoy dragstrips, and comparatively few were objecting. "If a man wants to put up a buck to do something he should be given the opportunity." He pointed out there were only 4 or 5 householders on the 6th Line and the rest of the area isolated. He claimed the finish line is 1/2 mile away from any neighbour. "These cars only run for six seconds then cut their engines," said Cr. Marshall.

CONTRARY

Cr. Russell Miller stated he understood the by-law was in effect on the date of passing, and anything contrary to the by-law would have to be done through an amendment to the by-law. "If we want to give this man a building permit, we will have to amend the building by-law," he argued.

"You got my vote next year," said a voice from the audience.

In one sentence Cr. Wilfrid Leslie gave his opinion "I think Bristow bought the land and started before any by-laws and he should be given a permit," he commented.

SEAT 5,000

The reeve pointed out it was not necessary to come to council seeking permission to run a bulldozer over your land.

Finally the vote was taken, with four to one favouring the issuance of the building permit.

According to Carl Bristow, the dragstrip should be in operation by mid-May or the first of June, with an eventual seating capacity of 5,000. "I'll be happy with 2,000 for a while," admitted Mr. Bristow.

CHAIRMAN FOR SECOND TERM

Peter A. Watters of Oakville is serving as chairman of the Halton County Separate School Board for a second year.

The board, which held its first meeting of the year last week made no changes in its key posts.

Others serving a second term: James Hourigan of Burlington, vice chairman; John Visser, of Burlington, property committee chairman; Michael P. Noonan of Oakville, finance committee chairman, and Donald Hill of Burlington, education committee chairman.

Mr. Watters said Tuesday teacher salary talks should begin within two weeks.



WM. 'BEN' BOYLE
On Negotiating Team

Board negotiators will be Dr. L. Braida of Oakville, W. A. Boyle of Georgetown and Mr. Hourigan.

Board committers are at work on the 1970 budget, but Mr. Watters said it is too early to predict when the job will be done.

FIVE WILL GET MURPHY THE MOLAR

Five Georgetown elementary school children in grades from kindergarten to four will receive Murphy the Molar awards for dental health posters when judging is completed this week.

The posters competition is being held in conjunction with Dental Health Week which starts February 1st.

Murphy the Molar is a cartoon character introduced to Ontario school children this year to help increase their interest in dental health.



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VERSATILE CUPBOARDS

<p>HEAVY 5/16 ASPENITE 4x8 — \$4.65 / Sheet</p>	<p>FIRLOK 3/4" — 4x8 — \$5.25 / Sheet</p>	<p>CEDAR K 3 1 1/2" — 4x8 — \$8.64 / Sheet</p>
<p>STRAPPING SPRUCE — 1x3 — 3¢ / L.F.</p>	<p>SORRENTO OAK 4x8 PANELS — \$5.95 / EA.</p>	<p>MAHOGANY PANELS \$3.45 / EA.</p>

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Here Are A Few Examples

<p style="font-size: x-small;">FLANNELETTE</p> <h2 style="margin: 0;">DIAPERS</h2> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Large Size, Canadian made</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$3.98 DOZ</p> <p>Limited Quantity Only At</p> <h1 style="margin: 0;">\$1.99 Doz.</h1>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">BOYS' LINED</p> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Corduroy Pants</h2> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Sizes 7 to 12 in assorted colours</p> <p>COMPARE AT \$3.88 PR.</p> <p>Hurry for this one</p> <h1 style="margin: 0;">\$1.88 Pr.</h1>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">MEN'S NYLON STRETCH</p> <h2 style="margin: 0;">DRESS SOCKS</h2> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Stretch size 10 to 12 — assorted colours — REG. \$1.50 PR.</p> <h1 style="margin: 0;">38¢ Pr.</h1> <p style="font-size: x-small;">QUANTITY PRICE — 3 pair</p> <h1 style="margin: 0;">\$1.00</h1>
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Dragway owner Carl Bristow, left, and his solicitor John Sopinka discuss council's decision after Friday's meeting adjourned.



Objectors to dragway wore badges urging Esquesing council to vote 'No.'