

Norval Residents Ask For Water Supply

GEORGETOWN HERALD

The Home Newspaper For Georgetown and District

Second Class Mail Registered Number—0943

GEORGETOWN HERALD, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1973

Return Postage Guaranteed \$7.50 per year. Single Copy Price Fifteen Cents

Bid Frustrated To Get Repairs To Private Road

Two residents of Esqueving Township who appeared before council, Monday, to ask municipal aid in improving road access to their homes left the meeting something less than satisfied.

Nick Hunsley and Lou Hogue, residents of 22nd Sideroad, west of Georgetown, had asked if township equipment could be rented, possibly at a cheaper rate than commercial charges, for road repairs.

Council said No, indicating it was not township policy to make equipment available for private hire.

As the two men left the council meeting, they said they felt they had been given short shrift by council. "They said they would get back to us, but they didn't even ask our names," Mr. Hunsley said.

The men were advised to make representation to Halton riding MPP Jim Snow for action and advice. They said they would probably approach North Halton mayorally candidate William Hunter for assistance.

The men live on properties that were prepared under a plan of subdivision that took advantage of a loophole in Ontario regulations, since closed, which allowed private access roads to be developed.

Coun. Richard Howitt explained to the two men that normally a subdivider brings a subdivision road up to standard, and then has the municipality take over.

Their road, he said, is actually a private lane or driveway.

"The township can't go on private property to improve it," he said.

Mr. Hunsley said improvements to the road could amount to several thousands of dollars, to be shared by a handful of residents. The road, he said, is needed to one of the property owners, with access rights for the other residents.

Mr. Hogue said he didn't think he and his fellow residents were getting much in return for their tax dollars.

"There's got to be a lot of people in the township in this situation, and it will come to a boil some day," he warned.

Coun. George Malby, who had been made aware of the road situation earlier in the year, agreed that upgrading costs would be expensive.

One point was settled at the council meeting. A culvert leading to the private road, damaged by a township snowplow, will be repaired, something which had been requested earlier but never acted on, according to Mr. Hunsley.

COUNCIL ACTION

Swimming Pool Location Might Go To Plebiscite

Editor's Note: Georgetown clerk-administrator Douglas Pritchard told The Herald yesterday that a plebiscite on the swimming pool location could not legally be held in conjunction with the Oct. 1 election. Section 282 of the municipal act states that information on such a plebiscite has to be published three times, commencing no later than one month prior to the balloting date.

The question of the location of an indoor swimming pool will be put to a plebiscite on Oct. 1 election day, if it is legally possible to do so.

Near the end of Monday night's Georgetown council meeting, Coun. Harry Levy and Reeve Ric Morrow dropped a bombshell when they introduced a motion to ask the voters whether the pool should be at the high school or the recreation complex.

Reeve Morrow and councillors Harry Levy, Bill Hunter and Phil Siddall have consistently opposed the high school location. This time Mayor Bill Smith, his face red with anger, joined them in voting for the plebiscite, while councillors Roy Booth, Mike Armstrong, Ern Hyde and deputy reeve Ernie Sykes opposed the public poll.

The decision to build the pool at the high school, was made by council, Tuesday, Sept. 4, on a five-to-three vote.

Coun. Ern Hyde termed the move "another stall," and said council made up its mind by a majority vote.

Coun. Harry Levy challenged the charge of procrastination, saying no-one wanted the pool more than those who opposed the school location. He said the people of the town should be given the opportunity to say where the pool should go.

Coun. Phil Siddall said he had no choice but to support the motion. "I'm amazed at the number of people who want to express themselves on this subject," he remarked. "They will have to pay for it," he added.

SEPARATE BALLOT
Reeve Ric Morrow said plebiscite could be an informal one, on a separate ballot, with a separate ballot box. The results would be a guideline for this council and the new council.

Mayor Bill Smith pointed out that there are two other wards in this election, and asked if they were to be included.

Coun. Levy said he intended only to cover the present town of Georgetown. "I think the people within the town are more concerned about this," he said.

The mayor dryly pointed out that there are two other wards in this election, and asked if they were to be included.

Coun. Roy Booth pointed out the ballots would not be allowed in the official boxes. "The people elect us to make decisions. All you are trying to do now is keep the election pot boiling. How much attention will the location get after the election?" he asked.

Coun. Siddall maintained the question should be restricted to Wards 3 and 4 (Georgetown), since they will retire the debt. He claimed the ballots could be put in a separate receptacle, and the town would not be contravening any rules.

Coun. Hyde backed up Coun. Booth's statement, adding that if "this farce" went through, all the people in the northern area should vote on it.

Mayor Bill Smith said Ward 2 should be included, because children attend Georgetown high school from that area. His voice rising gradually, the mayor said, "I'm disturbed that council made the decision two weeks ago, and this should come up just before election. We should play the way the rules are laid down."

Reeve Morrow pointed out that at this time Georgetown council has jurisdiction over Georgetown only. He said the result would be a guideline for this council and the following council.

"I strongly object to the result being a guideline," said the mayor. "I'll vote for this, but only if we do what the people say. I won't go for anything that says we'll see what the result is, then start kicking it around all over again."

Reeve Morrow contended that at a 48 per cent vote against a 52 per cent vote would not be binding.

"If I get defeated on a one per cent vote I'm still defeated," retorted the mayor. "What's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander."

Coun. Siddall said he would live with the people's decision.

Coun. Bill Hunter made it clear there was no pre-arrangement in this motion, saying, "I knew nothing about until it was read out here."

The motion to put the question to the people passed on a five-to-four vote, with Mayor Smith, Reeve Morrow, and Councillors Hunter, Levy and Siddall in favor, and deputy reeve Sykes and councillors Booth, Armstrong and Hyde opposed.



There's something about a parade that makes small fry want to be part of it. This very young marcher joined the Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department during their church parade, Sunday. He started out with them just past the firehall and continued as an impromptu parade member all the way to Knox Presbyterian Church. He was following his mother, a member of the Georgetown Girl's Pipe Band.

SURRENDERED TO THE URGE

Where were you when the lights went out? Probably in the dark, like Esqueving Township council was.

Monday's meeting was in progress when the lights conked out, about 7:50 p.m. Seconds later, they were back on, then they blinked, and finally they went out for the duration of the meeting, the next two hours.

For the first 10 minutes of the blackout, the darkness in the council chambers was punctuated by the glow of cigarettes and cigars and the flicker of matches.

A flashlight was produced, then a six-volt battery lantern. About 20 minutes into the power failure, clerk-treasurer Delmar French left, to return with a camper's lantern. The bright mantle produced enough light to illuminate the council and most of the gallery.

Initial minutes of the blackout produced a barrage of humorous comments, from queries about the status of the township's electric bill with Ontario Hydro to comparisons between the township's adamant stand against a new substation and Hydro's efforts to have one okayed in the Ashgrove area of the township.

There was even a parallel drawn between the evening's outage and the 1965 east coast power failure.

Power failures in the district were blamed on the hot, dry weather and the lack of rain. Contaminants accumulated on insulators and during last night's rain, some arcing occurred, which caused some over-dry poles to ignite.

Answer No To Project

Council and planning board said "No" to a proposed 250-unit townhouse development on the triangular piece of land behind Georgetown Market, at Mountainview and Sinclair, Monday night.

Planning board said the area was not considered suitable for this type of development, and council agreed unanimously.

Coun. Roy Booth, a member of planning board, said the Four Seasons Hotels Ltd., would not consider lower density, or a reduction in the number of units, insisting on the 250 townhouses.

Coun. Booth said planning board was concerned about the lack of commercial property in town, and traffic congestion in the area. "We feel the obstacles are insurmountable," he added.

Coun. Booth told council, "In the past this type of application has been kept going for years, causing the applicant to spend a lot of money, and putting an obligation on planning board to finally approve it, so the decision was made."

NEWS IN BRIEF

ESQUEVING TOWNSHIP council is consulting its solicitor about taking legal action against operators of Toronto International Dragway because of complaints about operations exceeding the township curfew.

DEXTER THE MISSING cat belonging to the Ron Martin family of Mississauga is still missing. Mr. Martin picked up a cat that looked like Dexter, and paid a \$50 reward to a Georgetown woman, only to discover that the reclaimed animal was not his. He returned the cat, and got back his reward money. "The resemblance was incredible," he said. Mr. Martin, a teacher at Sheridan College, in Oakville is continuing his search.

POLE-TOP FIRES caused by the long, dry spell, put Georgetown and area, especially Esqueving Township in the dark, Monday. Light drizzle caused arcing on contaminated insulators and started fires on a 44,000-volt line, taking out main feeders going through north Georgetown and Glen Williams. The blackout occurred about 7:54 p.m. Some customers in Glen Williams and Esqueving were without power for more than two hours.

A GEORGETOWN girl was one of four people charged with causing disturbances at Acton Fall Fair on the weekend. A police spokesman said she shouted and swore at a security guard when he asked for her admittance ticket at the main gates. Three disturbances marred the annual fair.

NEIL KORZACK of Glen Williams, who signed a three-year contract with the Buffalo Sabres of the National Hockey League in his second week of workouts at the team's pre-season camp in St Catharines. He was selected to teams to play exhibition games against Cincinnati and Hershey last week.



TOM CROOKSTON, right, of Norval, is worried about the environmental impact of a proposed county road, and he presented his concern and his objections last week, to Georgetown Coun. Ernie Sykes, left, and Esqueving deputy reeve, Len Cox. Both men have recently been acclaimed to posts as regional councillors, effective Jan. 1. Coun. Sykes is holding a copy of the feasibility study which sets out the Norval route for an Esqueving-Chinguacousy boundary road.

Boundary Road Project Draws Protest

Tom Crookston of Norval is waging a one-man campaign to thwart Halton County plans to develop an Esqueving-Chinguacousy boundary road.

The county has given initial go-ahead for the development of the road, to meet with Highway 7 at the east entrance to Norval. Development of the road would entail fill and a bridge over the Credit River, plus an overpass across Highway 7.

Describing his opposition, Mr. Crookston said "it's a question of preserving a piece of the environment." He contends that construction of the road, somewhere, may be in the interests of progress, but at the site chosen, it is not in the interests of conservation.

Mr. Crookston said construction of the road would result in two big gashes in the Credit River escarpment, as well as destruction of a large number of big and established trees now lining Highway 7.

Last week, the Norval man set out his objections to two newly acclaimed members of the regional government of North Halton, Georgetown councillor Ernie Sykes and

Esqueving deputy reeve Len Cox. Coun. Sykes, who has served on the county council roads committee, will represent Ward 3, and deputy reeve Cox will represent Ward 2.

Also present briefly was Georgetown Mayor Bill Smith, who is one of four candidates seeking the regional post of mayor. He told Mr. Crookston "you've made several good points" but admitted he would want to look at "all sides of the question" before coming to a conclusion.

Coun. Sykes agreed with Mr. Crookston that extensive concrete and earthworks would be required for the overpass, which would be constructed on the existing boundary road, right next to the Crookston property.

The boundary road route is one of three studied. A similar feeder route ran into organized opposition from another area of Norval. Mr. Crookston said he is convinced opposition to this other route was mounted without full explanation being offered of the implications of other construction.

LIKE SKYWAY
Mr. Crookston said the overpass being contemplated for the boundary road would "look like the Burlington skyway." He complained that the province has "wrecked one section of Norval in a new bridge and realignment of Highway 7" and now the county is determined to wreck another.

The proposed boundary road development is seen as a connecting link with Winston Churchill Boulevard in Mississauga, and would filter population traffic northward to recreation areas of the Credit River watershed.

In 1970, a feasibility study was undertaken at the request of Halton County by McCormick, Rankin and Associates. Of the three routes studied, the firm recommended the boundary road route as "the best functional alignment of the three routes considered."

Decision was based on through and unimpeded north-south traffic movement, straight alignment and grade and diversion of traffic from "potentially dangerous intersections with Peel Road 19 and Highway 7."

Based on the 1970 study, cost of the project was placed at \$795,000. It is planned to carry out the project in two stages, the first involving the overpass and road to the north of Highway 7. Crossing of the Credit River would form stage two, which would not come about until traffic warranted.

Cost of construction of the first stage was pegged at \$390,000, including \$280,000 for actual construction of the grade separation and road.

Of this amount, Halton County share would be \$80,000, with an equal amount borne by Peel County and the remainder by the province. Provincial approval has yet to be obtained for the project.

Deputy reeve Cox said the project can be expected to be held in abeyance until the advent of regional government. North Halton officially becomes a regional administration in January.

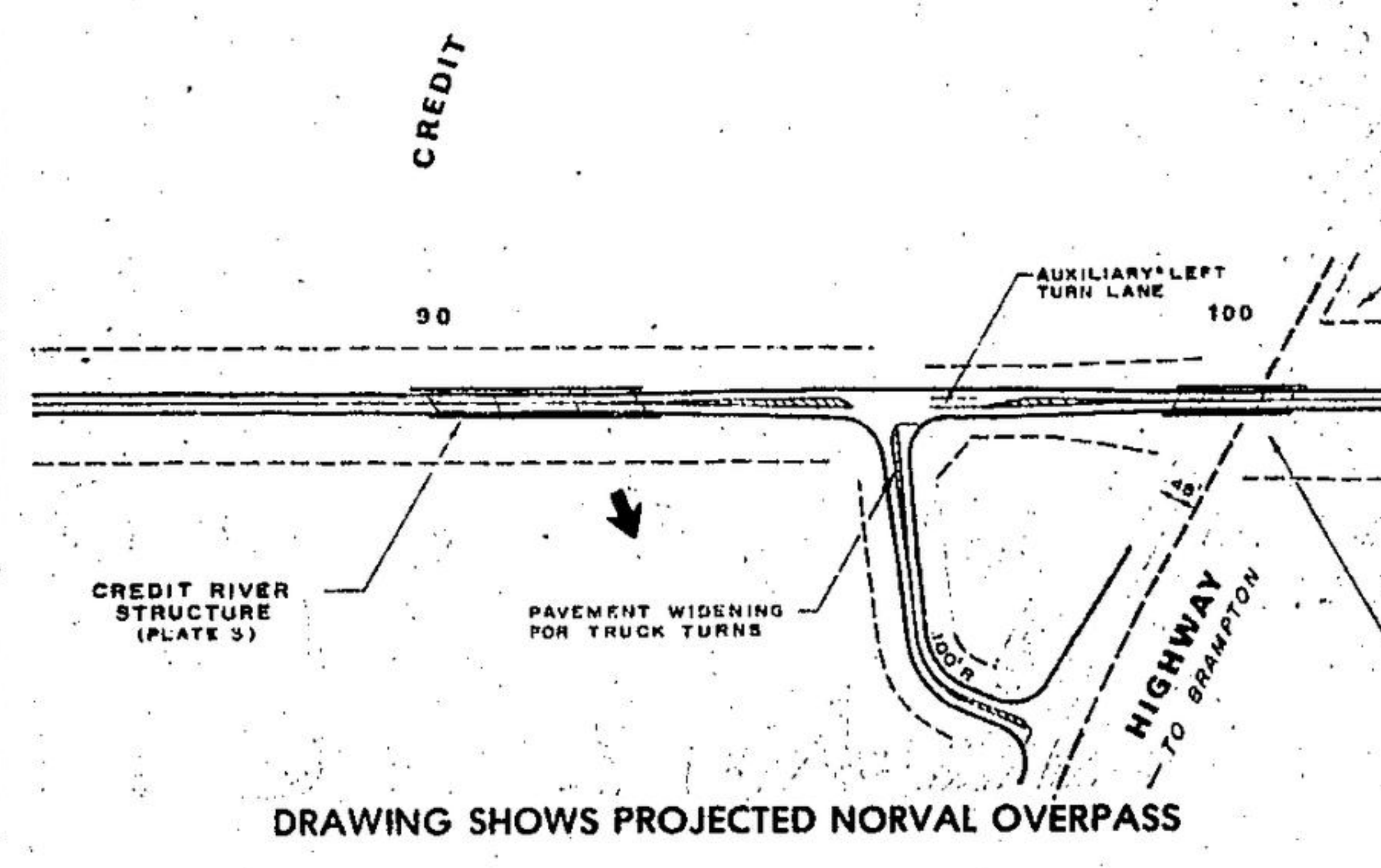
SCHEME OF THINGS
But Coun. Sykes said the project "fits in with the provincial scheme of things" for development of north-south collector routes. Within a 20-

year planning period, it is predicted that Winston Churchill Boulevard will be developed into a six-lane divided urban arterial within the West Credit Development Area. Ultimate population forecast for the area is put at 250,000 persons.

Connection with Highway 401 would make the boundary road a route for traffic travelling between Georgetown and Metropolitan Toronto, according to the feasibility report. Connection with Highway 401 depends upon residential development in the area.

Mr. Crookston has indicated he is prepared to continue his opposition to boundary road development at the regional council level.

IN THE DARK
When the lights flickered out in the Esqueving Township council chambers, Monday night, and left the township fathers in the dark, deputy reeve Len Cox was quick to observe that some folk would say the situation was nothing new, with or without light.



DRAWING SHOWS PROJECTED NORVAL OVERPASS