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17 Sideroad issue appears resolved

The dust and noise on 17 Sideroad, an issue which brought residents to Halton Hills council to protest the number of trucks using the road, has almost settled.

Halton Hills council Monday voted to establish a permit system which would control all trucks hauling freight in the town.

As well, a road pattern will be established in conjunction with the north end of Peel Region.

Coun. Mike Armstrong said the 17 Sideroad residents and the truckers met with him earlier, a meeting which "cleared the air," and "came to something logical, something that can be worked out easily."

The residents had complained about the number of trucks daily leaving the Indusmin Quarry on Fourth Line for Toronto and using 17 Sideroad.

In future trucks will go down Highway 25 to Steeles and then to their destination, Coun. Armstrong said.

To establish a road pattern for trucks, talks with Indusmin Ltd. will be necessary, Coun. Armstrong said.

"I feel quite a bit better," said Jim Goodlet, who represented the 17 Sideroad residents. A system of permits would cut truck traffic on the road by about 75 per cent or 300 trucks daily, he told The Herald.

He noted that in the meeting the truckers were helpful and treated the residents fairly.

The truckers were represented by Jim Bessey who was absent.

The details of the permit system have yet to be worked out but councillors greeted the move with enthusiasm.

"It's good that we are taking control," said Coun. Les Duby, "and not just transferring the problem to someplace else."

"I think the idea is super," said Coun. Russ Miller. A permit system would benefit everyone in Halton Hills, especially the taxpayers, "who are the ones paying for the roads."

Coun. Peter Pomeroy noted that it wasn't the first time the town got into the issuing of permits for truck traffic. He said he had copies of minutes of the old Georgetown council wherein was a scheme for permits.

Coun. Pomeroy is expected to be working with town engineer Robert Auslin to prepare the permit system and a bylaw, using as a model a similar bylaw from the town of Caledon.

He said Caledon has a road administrator who is in direct charge of issuing permits but felt that in Halton Hills, it would be the responsibility of the engineering or works department.

However, Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson wanted to know why Indusmin Ltd. was not represented at the meeting of the residents, truckers and Coun. Armstrong. Coun. Armstrong replied that the company did not have a say as it is a matter of controlling the trucks.

Coun. Serjeantson said in her discussions with Indusmin Ltd., she found they were not in favor of using Highway 25 as access and exit to the quarry.

Job study, role viewed

Before Halton Hills council approves in principle the position bylaw enforcement office, it wants to see a job description and know how much money it will cost.

There is a need for restraint, Coun. Garnet (Pat) McKenzie said Monday. The job could end up costing up to \$30,000 a year and likely could be done by staff, he said.

Mayor Hill told council that the town has three inspectors now and wondered what they are doing.

Coun. Mike Armstrong, chairman of the works committee which recommended the position, said he was hopeful the bylaw enforcement officer would recoup his (or her) salary through fines.

Franco-Ontarian series

Sheridan College will be presenting a special five-week series to make Franco-Ontarians more aware of their identity and history. The course will begin on Nov. 8 at the Brampton campus, and will run from 7:30 to 10 p.m. weekly. The series will involve films, guest speakers and discussions to focus attention on the history, education, culture and politics of Franco-Ontarians. For further information and for registration, contact Claire Taylor at the Sheridan College Oakville campus, at 823-9730 or 845-9430.



SHARING

Seven-year-old Robert Abercrombie had a tubfull of stuffed toys, far too many, he decided, so he brought about ten of them to the attic sale held Saturday morning at Knox Presbyterian church hall.



PLAY OPENS TONIGHT

Getting ready for opening night (tonight) are members of Georgetown Little Theatre. At a recent rehearsal while most of the cast were trying to get their lines and movements right, this group were busy collating the programs for the Mumberley Inheritance. Seated is Heather Duff and behind her is her sister Debbie while Pat Joyes in costume lends a helping hand.

Board research projects approved - cost \$177,500

Halton board of education has approved four research projects costing \$177,500 subject to funding by the ministry of education.

The board's administration has already received ministry approval for a \$51,000 grant to study basic thinking skills. Bruce Mather, program superintendent told the board Thursday.

Other projects aimed at evaluating student achievement are the development and field testing of language arts, costing about \$25,000; development of a comprehensive evaluation system for intermediate language arts, costing about \$45,000; and a \$56,000 program to develop a valid set of objectives for Grade 13 mathematics.

Mr. Mather said the research is necessary to fulfill an objective of the board which requires that ways to evaluate its core curriculum programs be established. The four programs are all major in scope, he added.

Emerson Lavender, education director said the ministry funds come from a research and development budget. Halton board can use the money to come up with models of programs that could be used in other parts of the province. There is no way the board can do the projects without support from the ministry, he said.

However, trustees were split on their reaction to the research programs.

Trustee H.H. (Bert) Hinton said the money could be better spent on direct needs of the schools. The testing programs proposed could be done internally.

Mr. Hinton charged that the ministry is falling down on the job. They are the ones to be providing answers to the problems the research programs are directed to.

Trustee William Priestner was opposed to the program on the grounds that even if the funds are coming from Toronto, it still represents an increase in spending.

Trustee Fred Armitage was also opposed. He said there is much duplication of research in the province already and felt that he could find similar research in the files of the Ontario Institutes of Studies in Education (OISE). He hoped that the executive committee

Traffic study for hearing

Halton Hills council has approved a traffic study east of Eighth Line, south of Silver Creek - the area which Focal Properties wants to develop - for use as evidence in the upcoming Ontario Municipal Board hearings.

The study would cost an estimated \$4,200, Mayor Tom Hill told council Monday.

But the traffic study would not be used solely for the OMB hearing. It was planner Mario Vaiditti said: it would contain valuable input for the future for the town's engineering department and the region as well, which has been asked to share the cost.

Council rejects cut in size in regional review proposals

Halton Hills councillors have rejected the notion of cutting their numbers to eight, from 12.

At present there are two local councillors and one regional councillor from each of Halton Hills four wards, Coun. Peter Pomeroy said Monday. Chairman of the town's committee to review Bill 151, which created Halton region, he was presenting 10 recommendations for council to endorse.

Pulling one local councillor out of each ward would not change the status quo, he said, but would put more onus on the voters to select the best candidate. "I probably talked myself out of a job."

A council numbering 13, including the mayor, is "cumbersome and unwieldy if eight or nine can do the job," Coun. Pomeroy said. There would be a reduction in the size of committees but no change in council's monitoring powers.

But none of the council would by Coun. Pomeroy's recommendation.

"It would be a step backward," said Coun. Garnet (Pat) McKenzie, Ward 1's regional councillor. Local residents would then have only one councillor to contact on a local issue. As a regional councillor, he has a heavy workload, Coun. McKenzie said. "I couldn't do it if I was working full-time."

"It's one step closer to single tier government," said Coun. Mike Armstrong. "Call a spade a spade." He became a regional councillor in Ward 3 when Ric Morrow was elected to be regional chairman in January of this year and gave up his local seat.

If the people don't like the way one of their local representatives handled a problem for them, they could try the other, Coun. Armstrong said.

However, Coun. Armstrong saved his strongest remark for an attack on regional councillors. If a cut in the number of councillors is intended to cut costs, better to cut the regional councillors because they don't earn their money as local

councillors do, Coun. Armstrong said.

Coun. McKenzie then took exception to Coun. Armstrong's remark "... to say a regional councillor doesn't earn his pay." Mr. McKenzie countered, "he's speaking for Mike Armstrong."

Coun. Les Duby predicted the "strongest objection" from the public if the number of councillors were reduced. Besides which, the workload on the regional councillor would become so heavy, the job would become full-time and thus out of the reach of many citizens, the Ward 1 councillor said.

"While there's merit to discussing the idea," he said, "we do manage with 13 and there's still plenty of contact."

The responsibilities of a regional councillor are to the region, said Ward 3 councillor Marilyn Serjeantson. Cutting the numbers would be "taking more feeling and responsibility away from the area."

Council also turned down a recommendation to change the town's name to either Town of North Halton or Towns of Halton Hills.

Council amended one recommendation which called for control of water and sewage "... to ultimately realize a return to the area municipality," by substituting the words "thoroughly investigate."

"We may not want it back," Coun. Peter Marks observed with support from councillors Serjeantson, McKenzie and Duby.

Council did endorse a recommendation that the four mayors in Halton not sit at regional council, which would reduce regional council to 20 seats. That would save the region \$4,000 for chairs, Mayor Hill remarked, to the amusement of council.

Also endorsed was the recommendation that the four mayors in the region sit on the Halton Police Commission.

Mayors Hill and Harry Barrett of Oakville are the only elected representatives on the police commission. A

Roof consultant hired for library

By LORI J. TAYLOR
Herald staff writer

Halton Hills library board will hire a roofing consultant to determine the extent of renovations necessary for the roof of the Georgetown library building.

Betsy Cornwell, chief librarian said it would be at least two years before the library moved out of its present quarters to a new building and the board has received authorization to proceed with any necessary repairs.

Contractors will be decided by tender.

Mrs. Cornwell said she had already contacted three firms in Brampton about the roof.

"One didn't call back, one refused to come and one firm said it would come, but didn't show up," she said.

Mrs. Cornwell said it had been suggested that a roofing consultant be hired. For a minimum fee, the consultant would investigate conditions in the roof, prepare specifications and suggestions as to what needed to be done, and possibly recommend a number of contractors who would then be asked to submit tenders.

If the board chose it could retain the consultant to supervise the renovations.

"We can decide about that later, although I don't think the board has the time or the competence to supervise the project unaided," Mrs. Cornwell said.

The amount of work necessary on the roof has not been established. It is thought the bottom four feet of the roof will have to be taken out and replaced. Since the roof is asphalt over cedar, it hasn't been determined what condition the cedar is in.

"The roof does leak occasionally under certain conditions," Mrs. Cornwell said. "There are several intervening layers between us and the roof, and what is likely happening is that the water is running down between the walls."

Visitors

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Jamieson with their friends Rev. and Mrs. Kevin Johnston spent Thanksgiving Monday with son Alan and family in Cornwall then going on to Quebec where they spent a couple of days before returning home later in the week.

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