

Robber to bank teller: Give me all your cash. This is a foul up.
Bank Teller: Don't you mean a stick up?
Robber: - No, it's a foul up. I left my gun at home.

Plan site for national offices

An application to change rural zoning to institutional to permit an administrative complex being built north of Highway 7 on the west end of Georgetown was referred to the planner for a report at last week's planning board meeting.

The Jehovah's Witnesses hope to move their national headquarters from its current location in Toronto to 64.3 acres opposite Moore Park off Halton Road 32.

The headquarters complex would contain a main residence with 136 rooms capable of housing up to 240 people. Since it is to be a permanent residence for Witness employees it would contain kitchen, dining room, complete infirmary, library lounge areas and recreational facilities as well as sleeping quarters.

The administration building will contain offices for the direction of the Witnesses congregations across Canada, as well as teaching facilities, and a writing department for the production of radio and television programs that are distributed from coast to coast.

The printing and distribution centre will hold the printing department computer rooms, translating and proofreading departments, offices, audio and photography rooms and mailing and shipping facilities. Much of the centre will be used to store paper and religious literature.

The three small buildings already existing on the site would be kept for storage facilities and a greenhouse.

In his presentation Witness representative Douglas Fraser noted that all the services needed by the complex are readily available and the town would not be expending money to accommodate the new centre. He also pointed out that the small number of residents involved should not put any undue strain on the town's limited sewage capacity.

Eugen Rosin, a national headquarters director told the board that the complex would have little impact upon the community because the facility will be strictly for adults and thus not affect local schools. Since the workers would also be residents it would not create increased traffic at peak periods. It would only benefit the community, not harm it, because it would be "clean and morally sound" people.

Mr. Rosin says the headquarters are not connected to the property which the Witnesses already own at Norval.



GDHS PLAY IN REHEARSAL

These lovely young ladies are among the cast members of Georgetown district high school's play, "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," which will run on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 1, 2 and 3. These ladies, from left to right, are Michelle Rowe, Melissa Bell, Susan McGowan and Sandy Smith.

Focal denied sewage capacity, allocation is set for infilling

Halton Hills council decided Monday that Focal Properties, won't get any sewage capacity which would allow the firm to build 1,860 homes south of Silver Creek.

Allocation of sewage capacity, upon which all future industrial, commercial and residential development in Georgetown depends was requested last week by the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB).

The expansion of the sewage treatment plant in Georgetown will double the present capacity, but because the plant is overloaded, only 800,000 gallons per day is available for future development.

The plant is rated to process 1.5 million gallons per day but is presently receiving 2.2 million gallons.

Council allocated 322,000 gallons per day for development of all vacant industrial and commercial land within the Georgetown area including the land owned by William Neilson Co. Ltd., 456,000 gallons per day for infilling residential land in the town; and the balance of 22,000 gallons per day for servicing the hamlets of Norval, Glen Williams and Stewarttown or for other residential growth in Georgetown within the built up area.

Sewage allocation studies prepared by the town's planning department show that servicing of all vacant land in Georgetown would require 1.1 million gallons per day more than the expanded plant, which is scheduled to open early in the new year can accommodate.

However, before passing the policy, council heard from two engineers hired by Focal Properties. Paul Thiel studied the hydrogeological capacity of the expanded plant and said it would be capable of processing the sewage from residential, industrial, commercial, the three hamlets and Focal Properties' proposed development, too.

He based his argument on the amount of infiltration of the sewage system by storm water run-off, which he said was greater in the old part of Georgetown than in the new.

Mr. Thiel told council that 90,000 gallons of water infiltrates the sewage system daily from the CNR embankment and Ewing Street and another 146,000 gallons from Princess Anne Drive.

He said an estimated 6,100 persons in the Silver Creek development would use 365,400 gallons per day while infilling in the town would require another 251,520 gallons including industrial development.

Focal Properties' other consulting engineer, Don Barker of Canadian-British Engineering, examined the biological capacity of the plant. Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) is the amount of oxygen needed to treat waste, he said. The expanded plant has the capacity to treat 5,160 pounds of BOD while the ministry of environment limit on Silver Creek is 300 pounds of BOD.

He said the plant is currently processing 2,700 pounds BOD with a reserve of \$2,460. That reserve could accommodate 14,500 persons or the equivalent using an average of 17 pounds BOD per person.

As well, the plant is operating at 94 per cent efficiency, he said. An increase of only one per cent would permit more development, more than enough to accommodate all the town's proposed development plus Silver Creek.

When the bylaw came up to a vote after an in camera meeting, Council distributed copies of it to the gallery for any public comment and questions.

One woman asked about the discrepancy between the town's figures of sewage capacity and those of the developer's engineers.

Town planner Mario Venditti said the town's figures are based on ministry of environment calculations. The

OMB will listen to both sets of engineers and decide which has more weight, he said.

Developer Al Pilutti was told that lands now zoned for apartments or other developments in Georgetown have priority over any new applications.

Another citizen expressed his support of council's decision.

The points made in the bylaw by council say that a higher priority be given to infilling vacant, industrial, commercial and residential land in the built up area of Georgetown before expanding the limits of the built up area; that the town's policy is, if possible, to preserve and increase the industrial-residential assessment ratio; that Focal Properties land is isolated from the built up area of Georgetown by the natural barrier of the Silver Creek ravine and should have no servicing or urban development at this time; that it is in the public interest to reserve, if possible, sewage capacity for the three hamlets around Georgetown and that because sewage capacity has become a precious resource, it must be allocated according to the priorities consistent with the policies of council regarding infilling and strengthening the industrial-residential assessment base.

A copy of the bylaw will be forwarded to Halton region for endorsement.

OMB adjourns for town policy

After ignoring it for seven days the issue of sewage capacity allotment was finally admitted to be of such importance that Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) chairman J.A. Wheeler adjourned the Focal Properties hearing until Tuesday (yesterday) to give Halton Hills council time to enact a policy regarding it and give the OMB specific direction on its intentions.

In a surprise move Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Wheeler agreed that the real issue in the hearing is whether Halton Hills intends to pursue a policy of infilling throughout the old town of Georgetown limits or if it wishes to expand development beyond these boundaries.

Since experts say it cannot do both with the sewage capacity available in the Georgetown plant it must formally decide which way it is to go, he said, and asked town solicitor Ray Steele if council had refrained from making a decision on allocating sewage capacity on advice of counsel.

Mr. Steele said that fear of being sued had kept council from passing any formal policy on sewage treatment allocation but its intent was demonstrated by the fact that it consistently approved infilling developments and refused Focal's expansion of development south of Silver Creek.

He offered in evidence a copy of planning board minutes of July 12, 1976, in which a proposed zoning

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No region review, Acton group told

By MAGGIE HANNAH
Herald staff writer

A review of regional government sought by the Actonians for Acton group was denied last week in a letter from provincial treasurer Darcy McKeough partly because it is premature and partly because of insufficient manpower and money to conduct the study.

"I think it is unreasonable to expect that new loyalties and understanding of a new system of government can be fostered in such a short period," Mr. McKeough said in his reply. He added that "the greatest good for the region will be derived by the sincere efforts of Halton citizens and elected representatives to co-operate in making the system run smoothly."

Mr. McKeough said that since the government has recently undertaken reviews in Hamilton-Wentworth and Waterloo, and is in the process of considering the recommendations of the Roberts, Mayo and Archer commissions dealing with Metro Toronto, Ottawa-Carleton, and Niagara respectively it simply doesn't have "either the manpower or the financial resources to undertake another review in the foreseeable future."

The petition from the group came as a disappointment, Mr. McKeough said, because "many municipalities have experienced growing pains of new municipal associations" through regional government.

He declined to intervene in a local decision concerning the proposed building of new municipal buildings and pointed out that this is "properly a local decision" and "the strongest voice belongs to the taxpayers."

He expressed the hope that the committee "will continue its effort to promote a greater awareness and understanding of the region which may lead to

BULLETIN

The Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) is to release its decision today at 1 p.m. on an application by Focal Properties Ltd. for approval of a 1,840 unit housing development south of Silver Creek.

more harmonious relations among member communities."

Ward 1 Coun. G.W. (Pat) McKenzie termed Mr. McKeough's reply as the only logical conclusion that could have been drawn after examining financial matters closely as councillors do.

He said Acton has gained financially through regional government because the town was reaching the stage of not being able to pay its bills without resorting to debentures when it was absorbed into the region in 1974.

Since Halton Hills has been formed \$765,000 has been spent in Acton for such things as rebuilding streets, and improving the arena, the swimming pool, and firehall.

All of these things have been paid in cash, eliminating debenture costs which usually result in doubling the original cost of the item, he said.

Deputy-chairman of the Actonians for Acton, Norm Elliott, had not yet seen Mr. McKeough's reply at the time he spoke to The Herald. He had seen the report carried in another paper, however, and from it he said his reaction was one of disappointment.

"I wouldn't say the fight's over just because we got a negative response from Mr. McKeough," he said. "We weren't optimistic enough to think he couldn't refuse us. We

just hoped that the province would take into consideration the 2,000 signatures on the petition and realize that this wasn't just a frivolous request."

Mr. Elliott also expressed disappointment with the length of time it has taken to get this answer. He said that George Ashe, Mr. McKeough's parliamentary assistant who heard the Acton brief, said

TO UNEMPLOYED

United Way donates \$8,000

Brampton and district labor council full employment committee received an \$8,000 cheque Monday from the Peel Region United Way.

The cheque, which represents interim funding for a three-month period, will be put toward recruiting new staff or the FEC to help its members pursue claims with government agencies, said committee official Buzz Hargrove.

Since the committee was formed early last summer, 1,500 unemployed people in the

Cold shoulder for early starts

Developers hoping to beat the frost in Halton Hills to get an early start on construction before the town's freeze bylaw on building expires are going to get the cold shoulder from Halton Hills council.

Council told Al Pilutti Monday that the freeze bylaw runs out Dec. 31 and to amend the bylaw so that he could get an early start on a 24-unit apartment building on Hall Road would require approval by Ontario Municipal Board.

Mr. Pilutti said that if he received a partial building permit, he could install the foundations before the end of the year, then construct the building during the winter months.

Coun. Roy Both moved that the matter be referred to the building inspector for a report in two weeks, but council rejected the motion.

NORVAL WATER CONTRACT APPROVED

The contract for water mains in Norval has been awarded to a Thornhill firm, Accucon Ltd., the lowest of 11 bidders.

Halton region Wednesday approved the firm's tender in the amount of \$128,416.50 but subject to the work being done in 100 working days and receipt of the necessary approvals from the ministry of environment, Halton Hills and the ministry of transportation and com-

munication.

Part of the capital cost of the water mains will be recovered by way of frontage charge and part will be included in the water rates, although a substantial portion, about 66.4 per cent, will be covered from a ministry of environment grant. The balance will be funded on a 15-year debenture.

The high bid for the job was \$186,146.

Artisans receive Wintario grant

The Credit Valley Artisans have received an \$800 match grant from Wintario, which will go toward new equipment and new courses.

The group has already spent \$1,064 on equipment required for the courses offered. The remainder will be spent on up-and-coming courses.

Outdoor rinks reviewed

Halton Hills' finance-administration committee is going to make another attempt at seeing if outdoor skating rinks will be provided.

Halton Hills council Monday directed the committee to reconsider.

Committee chairman Russ Miller said that if recreation director Glen Gray can find some money in the budget, the rinks could be provided. He said that people are needed who will maintain the rinks which the town will fund.

Connie Carlson, who is an instructor of the Credit Valley Artisans, said the aim of the CVA is to promote arts and crafts, and to develop, stimulate and improve knowledge and appreciation of local arts.

"So far, it has lived up to its aim," she said.

The membership fee to join the CVA is \$7. For that fee, students will receive instruction from qualified people in a wide number of crafts. Among the courses which have been taught at the CVA are silversmithing, macrame, photography and batik.

Membership is open to everyone.

Courses will be offered in the afternoons and evenings. The only course which will definitely be run next year is children's pottery. The other courses are still in the planning stages.

The CVA will be holding its Christmas show and sale on Nov. 26 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the cottage at Cedarvale Community Centre.



SKATE-A-THON HELD

These students were among the 250 skaters who took part in the annual Georgetown Rotary Club Skate-a-thon Sunday. The skaters raised almost \$9,500, which will be donated to local organizations. Among the celebrities present were Toronto Argonaut tight end Peter Mueller, NHL referee Brian

Lewis, and seven famous cartoon characters were on hand to help out the less confident skaters. Coun. Pat Patterson, who was involved in minor hockey in Georgetown for a number of years, took his turn on the ice, as did Acton Coun. Les Duby. See page 17.