SPRING HAS SPRUNG

Mary McDonald, Leanne Rivers and Tracey Charles were playing "jumpsies" together Sunday as Halton Hills got its first real taste of the warm weather to come. All

over town, people were out enjoying the warm weather in different fashions, lazy and energetic.

must control salaries," he said. "The only way to change the cost of the budget is to (Herald photo) change salaries, or reduce the

OHIP surgery coverage unavailable in Georgetown

Continued from Page one

to spend more time with their patients.

"They could spend as much time as they want with their patients in OHIP", he said.

DIFFERENCE Dr. Landry said there is a

"tremendous" difference between the fee schedule paid by OHIP and the one recommended by the OMA.

"Personally I am very satisfied with the money I make in OHIP. I am not in medicine for the money and I think any doctor who is, is in the profession for the wrong reason.

"I am a doctor because I enjoy trying to make sick people healthy again. Bringing a new baby into the world and seeing the smiling face of a new mother when you present her with her child is a feeling money just cannot buy".

Dr. Landry said that considering the state of the world and the Canadian economy "we would be very greedy to be asking society for more when it is obvious society can't

"I can't see that doctors need more money and think we can all set an example of restraint."

pay it".

VERY CONCERNED Halton MPP Julian Reed told The Herald he is "very concerned about doctors opting out of OHIP, although I have had no calls from consti-

tuents on the matter.' He said, "If the government was looking after doctors properly they wouldn't be opting

out of the plan." Mr. Reed said he would not support removing the opting

out option for doctors. He said OHIP fee schedule has not kept up with inflation, especially to general practitioners and rates must be raised for these doctors.

He said inefficiency of the OHIP bureaucracy which leads to late payments to doctors has also lead to the medical profession's dissastifaction with the program.

NOT A PROBLEM

William Leonard, executive director of the Halton health council told The Herald that the number of ductors in the region out of OHIP is "not a

He said there are a large number of doctors in the region so the percentage out of the plan does not create difficulties.

"I don't think we really want to overreact," he said. Mr. Leonard said the health

council has no plans to discuss the issue of local doctors dropping out of the health care program.

Council approves \$5.5 million budget

Continued from Page one formed council that his committee had trimmed the draft budget from \$5,922,000 which would have represented an increase of approximately 16 per cent over 1978's total of \$5,102,320.

HARD JOB

"It was an exceedingly hard job," he said, "but with the co-operation of town staff, council members and members of the committee. I think we've succeeded in cutting it down fairly well"

Coun. Levy reminded councit that the town's portion of the tax burden to be borne by Halton Hills residents in 1979 amounts to only 30 per cent of the overall total. Beyond council's control, he said, are the annual budgets of the Halton

Continued from Page one

Halton residents realize that

the major part of the budget is

not reflected in controllable

items, where reductions can be

made, but in salaries and

benefits, where the board must

live up to its agreements with

"To control the budget, you

FUTURE TAXPAYERS

"Members of the board and

the public say they care about

the students," trustee Elsie

Hilson said, "I care about the

students as future taxpayers.

We have a declining population

paying increasing taxes, and I

can't support this budget for

Trustee Len Crosier asked if

the secondary school expendi-

tures would have come in

under the provincial ceilings

had the board not agreed

under its collective agreement

with the secondary school tea-

chers to hire an additional 18

teachers for special education.

When trustee Len Auger m-

oved that the board reduce the

budget by the amount neces-

sary to bring the secondary

school level in under the provi-

ncial ceiling, Rev. Morton said

that while he idenfified with

the sentiment the only way to

reduce the budget would be to

cut back on supplies and serv-

ices, or break the law by

withdrawing from existing

PROPER USE

ressed concern that the elmen-

tary school spending levels

Trustee Anne Fairfield exp-

contracts.

Rev. Gary Morton said yes.

staff and teachers.

pupil-leacher ratio",

that reason".

Board of Education and Halton region. He said the town must strive to minimize its budget but warned that the 6.6 per cent increase initially recommended by his committee could be trimmed no further unless municipal services were to suffer.

Coun. Levy suggested afternative methods of collecting revenue that could help minimize the town's budget, including the public sale of town-ow ned land, but the comment drew criticism from other council members and words of caution from town treasurer Ray King.

Mr. King said that capital revenues, such as those derived from the sale of the town's

were \$53 below the provincial

ceiling, and said that this could

indicate the board is not mak-

ing proper use of available

money in the form of grants

from the province. She sugges-

ted that the board consider

using a portion of the differen-

Continued from Page one

said, it was difficult to do any

dynamiting. First of all, the

works people had to wait until

daylight, she said, and since

the ice surface was broken.

dynamiting would do little ex-

"In spite of everything we

can do, the flood plains belong

to the river," Mrs. Rollings

said, "It's a judgement at the

time and on the site (whether

or not to dynamite) and it's

always open to question - you

can't second-guess Mother Na-

For a number of years, the

CVCA has had a project on the

books to attempt to alleviate

the flooding problems in Glen

Williams. The authority has

set aside the money to build a

spillway on the paper mill

dam, and to dredge the river

upstream so that the ice will

float downstream, rather than

piling up to create a jam. The

project will cost about \$65,000.

The design engineering is und-

erway now, Mrs. Rollings said,

and the project will have to be

lendered, approved by the

ministry and so on. She said

the project might be ready to

go by the summer "and that's

n guess".

ture".

cept shift the ice around.

School board budget

land, are not used for projects within the council's operating budget, a practice that is governed to a large extent by existing municipal legislation. Mayor Pomeroy suggested that the council may be able to "circumvent" the pertinent byław to accommodate specifie projects through the sale of

municipal property. Coun. Roy Booth questioned the lugic of such a move, asking what would happen once all of the town's surplus land is sold. Council would be merely postponing the inevitable confrontation with higher taxes, he said.

COMMITTEE CUTS Cut from the steering committee's recommended budget for 1979 was the provision for a five-month staff position in the

ce of \$53 per pupil, to hire a

full-time secretary for each

Both the elementary and

secondary school budgets pas-

sed with only trustees Elsie

Hilson and Len Crosier oppos-

The original report by the

CVCA on the flooding in Glen

Williams was issued in 1965,

and recommended the straigh-

tening of the bend in the river,

performing some channelizat-

ion work and constructing one

or two small dikes further

downstream to ease the flow of

the ice. However the Township

of Esquesing objected to the

cost of the proposal, which for

the township's share was

\$14,400.

Page 11.

ing the budgets.

school

Flood problem

planning department. Hired for a two-year period on a contractural basis, the town's intermediate planner. Jim Shewchuk, resigned his post carlier this year and was to have been replaced temporarily during 1979 at a cost to the town of \$16,700.

Despite Coun. Ross Knechtel's warning that the position may be needed during 1979 if Mayor Pomeroy's prediction that development is to be encouraged is correct, council voted to delete the item from the budget.

Also deleted was a \$25,000 reserve contingency fund slated for use as working capital, a figure that had already been reduced from \$50,000 by the budget steering committee. Mayor Pomerey initially suggested its deletion under the mistaken impression that its intended use was in the replacement of the town's computer system, scheduled to take place several years from now. When corrected by Mr. King, the mayor maintained that the \$25,000 should still be removed.

A third item was deleted from the recreation and parks department budget in the form o \$15,000 worth of construction at Yodder Field, a proposed soccer pitch to have been developed this year behind Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena. Coun. Russ Miller recommended its deletion after Mayor Pomeroy requested council members to start trimming the budget.

FINAL PHASE Much of the discussion Mon-

day night centered on a \$132,000 hudget item under transportation services for the final phase of post-construction work in the Bard Lane, Churchill Crescent and Charles Street area of Georgetown. Representing a gross cost to the town of \$71,000 the project was deleted from the budget

by the steering committee despite the promise of a provincial government subsidy that would have seen local taxpayers contributing only \$10,000 of

the final cost. While commending the budget steering committee for having done "an excellent job" overall, Coun. Mike Armstrong complained that council would be "penny-wise and pound-foolish" to decline provincial subsidies and shelve the project until another year. Failure to take advantage of the subsidies, he pointed out, would probably mean that that province will not offer Halton Hills similar subsidies next

Coun. John McDonald said he understood it is a tradition in Halton Hills to take advantage of such subsidies and suggested that the Bard Lane project deserves further consideration.

ENDORSED CONCEPT Mayor Pomeroy endorsed the concept of utilizing subsidies but refused to support the

project's reintroduction into the budget unless the \$60,000 gross cost to the town could be recovered by making deletions elsewhere,

Another suggestion by Coun, Miller that park maintenance funds should be depleted was strongly opposed by Coun.

"No more, please," he urged council. "This budget item is way up this year only because it was cut so many times in previous years. It's work that has to be done now, as a result".

When a resolution to approve the 1979 working budget of \$5,525,003 gained council's approval, Mayor Pomeroy commended Coun. Levy and his sleering committee.

"I really don't see how it could have been done any better," he said.

SUMMARY OF HALTON HILLS TAX INCREASES

Stemming from council's 1979 operating budget, approved Monday night (see story

AREA	COMPARATIVE ASSESSMENT VALUE	1978 FAXES	1979 TAXES	DOLLAR INCREASE	PERCENTAGE INCREASE	1979 MILL RATE
Acton	\$4,498	\$195.84	\$209.20	\$13,36	G.8	46.51
Georgetown	\$5,638	\$195.86	\$209.17	\$13.31	6.8	37.10
Esquesing	\$4,638	\$165.11	\$181.62	\$16.51	9.9	39.16

The Comparative Assessment figures shown represent the average assessment per residential unit of all housing types excluding farms and Ontario Housing Corporation units in each ward. Equalization factors are used so that the different assessment figures represent the same values from area to area.

Tax dollar and increase figures shown represent the total impact for town purposes, a combination of taxes for general town purposes plus those for the urban service areas. The percentage increase for Esquesing in 1979 is substantially higher than in the urban areas largely as a result of the discontinuation of transitional grants in 1978.

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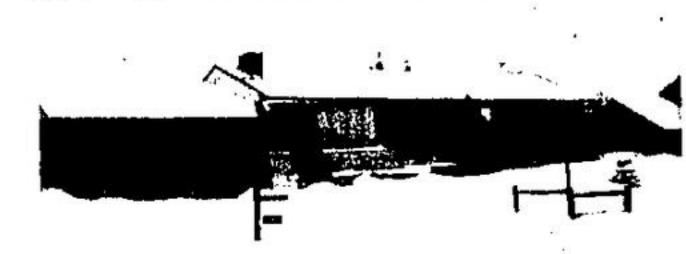
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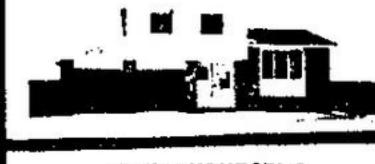
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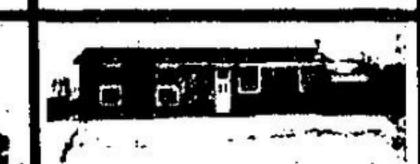
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