

About the Hills

Town may sell land

Two vacant town-owned lots at the corner of Main and Henry Streets in Georgetown will be sold as suitable sites for a home if a general committee recommendation is accepted next week by town council.

The committee recommended Monday night that clerk-administrator Ken Richardson should be authorized to sell the lands by tender after ensuring that adequate portions of the property have been retained for use as a public roadway, a storm sewer easement and roadside reserves.

"The clerk's office has been advised by the chief building inspector that these properties are zoned R3 and that a building permit could be issued for a detached single family dwelling complying with the bylaw requirements," Mr. Richardson reported.

New industry coming?

A new industry is looking with interest to Georgetown as a possible location for its operations, according to the town's clerk-administrator Ken Richardson.

The possibility of accommodating the industry's need "is being pursued", Mr. Richardson told the general committee Monday night, but details of the deal cannot be disclosed as yet.

Mr. Richardson made the revelation in response to an out-of-the-blue question from Coun. Pat Patterson, who inquired whether anything is being done to attract new industrial assessment to Halton Hills.

Grant for libraries

The Halton Hills Libraries have received a grant of \$1,541 from the Wintario Lottery. The grant will be used toward the purchase of audio-visual equipment for the libraries. It is one of 21 given out for projects in the Region of Halton, with a total of \$58,328.

Here's good news

A Brampton housewife is glad that some people are still honest these days and rewarded a Georgetown man for his high morals in returning her wallet complete with cash last week.

Ronald Corbett found Monica Cleave's wallet lying beside the road at the Monora Conservation Area entrance to highway 10 near Orangeville last week. He checked for an address then called Mrs. Cleave to see about returning her lost property. She didn't even know that she had lost her wallet containing over \$100 and assumes that one of her children must have thrown it out the window as they left the park. Mr. Corbett said.

Main Street projects

Town council last week awarded contracts to two area firms for the reconstruction of portions of main thoroughfares in both Acton and Georgetown. A \$1,072,984 bid by Lamco Construction Ltd. of Markham was selected as the lowest of four tenders submitted for the reconstruction of Main Street South in Acton. The town will contribute \$483,348.84 towards the project's cost, with Halton region providing the balance. G.W. Barr Construction and Engineering Ltd. of R.R.1 Bolton will reconstruct a section of Main Street South in Georgetown for \$320,242, the lowest of seven bids received, of which the town will pay \$258,227. Both contracts are subject to final approval by the provincial ministry of transportation and communications.

Bridge results

Snelgrove Bridge Club results of June 13 are 1. Elaine and Ron Smith, 2. Ilsa and Joe Volasko, 3. Mary Lovatt and Marie Sharpe (tied).

Caledon Bridge Club results of June 14 are 1. Diane Everingham and Gord Burbidge, 2. Carole Eddy and Pat Burbidge, 3. Barb and Bruce Witcox (tied).

Operations at pit approved for reconstruction project

Continued from Page one to try and reduce mining and hauling noise.

The conditions of approval imposed by council meet Mr. Snider's concerns regarding time limitations for hauling and crushing operations and require the company's adherence to safety standards, road maintenance stipulations and directions to use only the Sixth Line and Sideroad 17.

Mr. Snider expressed concern about truck circulating out of the Indusmin quarry, citing the "horrendous noise level" of their movements and their tendency to "shower rocks on us".

"Are you going to do something about it now or wait until somebody gets killed?" he asked.

Mr. Snider complained that he has clocked gravel trucks at better than 60 miles an hour

along the rural roads, but found local police have insufficient personnel to handle the problem.

DROPPED BALL
"I really think the police have dropped the ball in this area," Coun. Booth agreed. "I would suggest that this council pass a resolution to the police commission to get them off their butts."

Coun. Booth expressed sympathy for the residents of the area traversed by the gravel trucks but pointed out Halton Hills has been designated for excessive extraction operations because of its abundance of resources. The Odorico pit and others, he noted, are "almost cleaned up" as far as available aggregate is concerned, forecasting an end to area mining operations in the near future.

Another longtime R.R.1

Limehouse resident told council and he and his neighbours, some of whom work in Toronto, "are entitled to some relaxation and peace" when they get home.

"But here, the council hasn't got the guts to stop (extraction operations)," he said. "I say, for that little bit of gravel, let's leave it."

Bob Gray, a spokesman for the company which has been awarded the Trafalgar Road reconstruction contract, King Paving and Materials of Oakville, confirmed that the company hopes to extract some 120,000 tons of gravel from the Pillutti pit. Another 250,000 tons is to be mined at the Odorico pit for use in the provincial government's Highway 401 reconstruction project. According to Mr. Gray, mining and hauling operations for both pits should be completed by October.

DON'T ASK
"The province doesn't ask (the town) if they can use our wayside pits, they tell us as a courtesy," Mayor Pomeroy told residents who asked why more municipal control could not be exercised over the operations.

"There's very little time for council to react to the province's notifications, let alone let the residents know what's happening," Coun. Levy added, contending that the town

would have to create a separate department just to keep its residents fully informed of ongoing developments in all areas of concern.

Mr. Snider told Coun. Miller that he has noticed an improvement in the situation since the week previous, when Coun. Miller and the mayor met with King Paving representatives to discuss the problem. He nevertheless remained unimpressed by the assurances he received.

"You've got your views and we've got ours," Mr. Snider said. "It doesn't look like we're ever going to meet, but we're going to keep hugging you until you do something about it."

Jm BOOKS LIMITED
CHRISTIAN BOOKS RECORDS & GIFTS
41 George St. S., Brampton, Ont.
Phone 457-9922

Special closed-door meetings fail to answer ice rate concern

Continued from page one that a gift horse."

Mr. Cargill was referring to the arena's annual operating deficit, estimated at \$70,000.

"The increased rates are going to put a tremendous strain on certain amateur hockey groups and figure skating clubs," Mr. Hooper said. "They're going to do some damage to the finest hockey clubs in town, probably in Ontario."

Mr. Hooper outlined the chief concern shared by all affected groups, the suddenness and scale of the increase. He suggested that the groups would find it much easier to cope with their respective financial situations if the 33 per cent increase was phased over a two-year period.

"I can't see that it's going to harm a corporation the size of (Halton Hills) that much," he said.

ANOTHER SEASON
Mr. Hooper estimated that residents who register for membership in the Georgetown Figure Skating Club next year will have to pay \$25 to \$35 more for the season than they did this year. Minor hockey players, meanwhile, will have to pay \$80 to \$90 to carry on their involvement another season, he said.

"We're not at all happy with the recommendation," Mr. Davis agreed. "We're really

disappointed that there were no means found to lessen or spread the increase over two years. We can only conclude that the main ice users in town are being used so the (special) committee can pick up a little extra."

Mr. Davis told the committee that adoption of the increased rate schedule should oblige the town to launch an investigation into both expenditures and revenues in its \$1.2 million annual recreation and parks budget. He asked for, but did not receive, assurance that the town will continue to allocate some of the minor hockey clubs a \$1 per member grant.

Mr. Davis related the anticipated effects of the increased rates upon his Association's registration fees, which are expected to be approved by the group's executive tonight (Wednesday). For single membership, he said, the group will have to charge \$35 a season, up from \$25. Double memberships will cost \$55 and possibly \$60 instead of \$37, and family memberships will cost from \$75 to \$80 instead of \$50.

Mr. Cargill accused council's special committee of having made up its mind about the increase even before its confrontations with the sports groups.

"We could've had 15 meetings and it still wouldn't have

made any difference," he commented later.

LEGALITY QUESTIONED
Several general committee members questioned the legality of the Acton groups' proposal to take over the arena's operation for a year. The legislation which set up regional government in Halton requires the municipality to operate its own arenas, Coun. Booth pointed out. Coun. Levy similarly doubted the feasibility of the suggestion, although he "appreciated and applauded" its intent.

Coun. Levy started colleagues by offering to support the groups' request for a two-year phasing of the increase, a concession which he said had resulted from "a great deal of soul-searching over the past few days".

Coun. Levy noted that his request last April for a recreation department report on arena financing and the effects of an ice rate increase upon the town's mill rate probably started the whole controversy. He said he finds it "greatly disturbing", though, that another budget committee request for a report on the possibility of changing rental fees for other sports facilities has yet to be answered.

TWO YEARS
"It's a hell of a jump," Coun. Levy said in reference to the sudden increase in ice rental rates. "I believe it may well be possible to make the increase over two years instead, or else put the rate hike in abeyance until all the reports are fully discussed. In any event, we have acted unfairly toward a particular group of residents; we've rushed them. I think we need a good look at all aspects of recreation in this town."

Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson agreed that a two-year phasing of the increase would be "worth it" in terms of encouraging public participation in the arena sports.

Coun. Patterson argued, however, that the "consider-

able amount of professionalism" which accompanies modern minor hockey has seen the sport become increasingly sophisticated and correspondingly more expensive.

"You're going to have to pay the penalty," he told the sports groups' representatives. "You're going to have to go out of town for your ice. I've known Mr. Hooper a long time; he runs a hell of a business and he's not broke. This situation's been created by the people, certainly not by the town."

"In the fall of 1977, we agreed to hike the rates, but an eleventh hour petition made us back off because someone wasn't properly advised or something," Coun. George Maltby recalled. "So we ate the deficit then, too."

Coun. Maltby opposed the suggestion that the increase should be phased, claiming that the sports groups have enjoyed "discounts" in recent years which the town is now "reclaiming".

"I'd rather be called all the names now than in another year," he said.

SPORTS GROUPS
Coun. Booth admitted he was "somewhat surprised" by Coun. Levy's concessions to the sports groups. He suggested that his colleague's support might have been demonstrated earlier had the special committee's meetings not been held behind closed doors. The possibility of making up half of the overall revenues from the increase from other areas of the town's budget was not even discussed, he said.

The request for a feasibility study of the Acton group's offer was opposed only by Coun. Walter Biehn, who challenged the offer's legality and called the study a waste of staff time. Councillors Levy and Serjeantson were the sole proponents of a two-year phasing of the increase.

Vote reversal angers residents

Town council has been accused of letting an "alleged conflict of personalities" prevent it from taking a "fair and impartial vote" on the subject of opening new gravel pits along the Sixth Line.

A letter from Peter Snider, who challenged council on behalf of his Sixth Line and 17 Sideroad neighbors last week to "have the guts to stand up with us", questioned the fairness of council's reversal vote on the wayside pit opening. (see story Page One).

The letter had no effect upon the town's general committee Monday night, however, with both members who had switched their vote last week defending their actions.

"Due to an alleged conflict of personalities among the members of committee and council, the resident... wish to let said members know that (the ratpayers) feel they have not been given a fair and impartial vote," Mr. Snider wrote. "If this is the case, then it would be only fair to have a further vote after the matter has been brought before committee and council a second time."

RIGHT THING
"I'm satisfied I did the right thing when I changed my vote," Coun. Ross Knechtel commented.

Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson, who along with Coun. Knechtel had changed her mind about the application to use a Sixth Line pit between last week's committee of the whole and council votes, said she had switched stands because of a late remark made by a colleague about the nearly-diminished supply of material in the pit. She asked town engineer Bob Austin whether mining operations will cease in the area once another 150,000 tons has been extracted, as had been stated, but got assurances only from Coun. Roy Booth, who cited the contractor, King Paving and Materials, as his source for the information.

Coun. Booth said one of the concerned residents has accused him of turning the vote in the gravel pit's favor by giving council erroneous information. A subsequent check with the Halton region authorities, whose Trafalgar Road reconstruction project has necessitated the gravel pit operation, confirms that information, he said.

Coun. Booth quoted from a report on tendering for the project from which the \$714,000 bid submitted by King Paving was selected as the lowest of several received. If the town's denial of the mining operation application forces the region to re-negotiate the contract, he said, the second lowest bidder would cost the region an extra \$36,000 and the third lowest another \$15,000.

"I feel the members (of the public) did have a good hearing," Coun. Booth commented. "They were allowed to make their points."

"It's just the price they have to pay for progress," Coun. George Maltby said.

LAND BARGAINS

—Each year throughout Ontario, municipal and county treasurers sell properties that have been seized for non-payment of taxes.

—For the informed there are literally thousands of opportunities to buy hunting, fishing, home, investment and farm properties.

—These often sell for little more than the taxes owed, which is generally in the \$200 to \$800 range. Of course the properties are worth far more.

—Our service provides the lists along with complete purchase details.

—Cost for one year subscription is \$12 payable to

TAX SALE PROPERTIES
Dept. 3GHW, P.O. Box 5380, Stn. F,
Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3J1

Advisory group still possible

Continued from page one led proposal.

The town's objections to the LACAC proposal primarily involve the formalized bylaw by which council would create the advisory group. Coun. Booth explained. Because the LACAC is set up as a permanent committee complete with an annual operating budget, he said, it becomes just another link in the long chain of municipal and provincial agencies which must be consulted before town council can approve a development project.

SUPPORT COMMITTEE
Instead, Coun. Booth said, the town may be willing to support the formation of an advisory committee which would carry out the preliminary duties of the LACAC, such as taking inventory of local buildings which are of historical or architectural significance. From the resulting list, council could select appropriate sites for designation under the Ontario Heritage Foundation standards, thus qualifying the buildings for Foundation grants intended for their preservation or restoration.

Coun. Booth pointed out that council similarly designated both the Georgetown Public Library and the Gray residence on Church Street last week as significant sites in the first step toward transforming the two buildings and their grounds into a major cultural library complex.

If the LACAC proposal can be modified, he said, council would have the benefit of citizens' advice in an area which requires some expertise but would not be confined to consulting the committee whenever alterations or sales are being considered for designated buildings. Such modifications would greatly reduce the amount of municipal funding and staff time required, Coun. Booth said.

The LACAC is a provincial

government concept enabling municipalities to preserve significant buildings or portions of buildings through a special funding program. Reverend Ric Ruggie, president of the Resqueing Historical Society, told the general committee earlier that the bulk of the LACAC's operating budget would be spent advertising proposed designations, a requirement of the LACAC legislation which allows neighbors of the site in question or other interested parties, to make their opinions known to council about the designation.

THE OLD BANK
The Ladies' Fashion Centre in Downtown Georgetown 877-0822

Let us put your wedding in bloom.

SUMMER 25% Off Reg.
Summer Terry Separates by Shirley Ann
Jackets, Shirts, Shorts... in blue
Small, Medium, Large
Teller's Cage Ladies' Casual Wear

SAVINGS 25% Off Reg.
Patio & Eveningwear
Gowns, two-piece pant outfits... a large collection of summer fashions suitable for entertaining
Femme Lingerie

SALE 25% Off Reg.
Selection of summer hand luggage and totes made of durable nylon
Handbags... and fashion things

Family FLORISTS 82 Mill Street, Halton Hills 877-6901 The Greenhouse Florist

CHARGE X MASTER CHARGE VISA