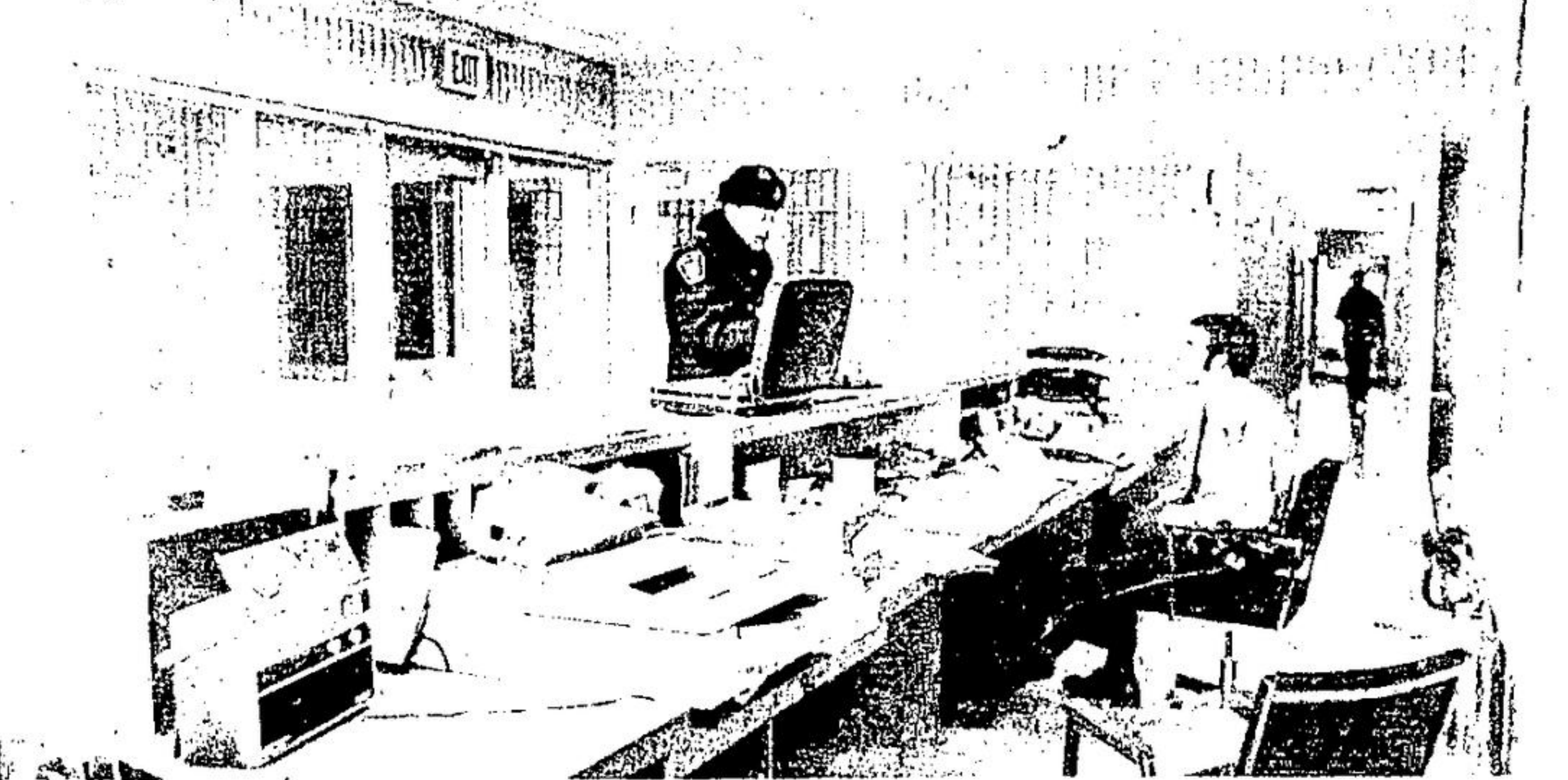


NEW BUILDING TWINKLES IN COPS' EYES



The criminal investigations branch for District 1 has a large office in the new headquarters, including interview rooms and a separate station for Staff Sgt. Ron Southgate. Shown here are receptionist Elma Capperald and Detective Tom Nicholson.



The Halton Hills detachment of the Halton Regional Police force is now happily settled in its new quarters on Guelph Street near Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena. Constable Jack Pool is manning the front desk, where the officer or cadet on duty answers the phone, deals with visitors, and controls access through the only other entrance to the building by use of an electronic door lock which can only be released from the front desk.



Members of the Georgetown detachment of the Halton Regional Police force are enjoying their spacious new headquarters on Guelph Street next to Gordon Alcott Arena since they moved in Jan. 20. The building features expanded office space, including the Criminal Investigation Branch offices, shown here. The detectives (left to right) Tom Nicholson, Bruce Richards and Keith Robertson carry out follow-up investigations of crimes such as burglary, murder, arson and rape.



The new Georgetown police station is more spacious than the old building on Mill Street. This open area behind Constable Jack Pool is reception for the district commander's office to the right. The new building provides individual offices for the safety officer, youth officer, crime prevention officer and staff sergeant in charge of the criminal investigations branch for District 1, as well as the staff sergeant and sergeant in charge of the uniform patrols for Georgetown and Acton.

Business groups concerned over Guelph St. property

Two area business groups have expressed concern about a development proposed for land between Masson Motors and the Shoprite store on Georgetown's Guelph Street.

Murray Henley, secretary of the Georgetown Business Improvement Area board of management and Murray Lawton of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce last Tuesday warned the town planning board against using the land now zoned industrial for commercial purposes.

Cherrytree Developments Ltd. has already been given permission to use part of the

nine acres of property for a private health club and has submitted a number of other use proposals, including restaurants, private or fraternal clubs, banks and office space for an industrial complex.

Last Tuesday's public board meeting heard an additional proposal by the developer calling for a 100-foot wide strip of the property to be deleted from the original application. The developers, according to the planning department, have received an offer for the piece of land.

Recalling that Georgetown's recently released Highway 7 Corridor Study states that the community already has more than enough per-resident retail space, Mr. Henley said "planning board and council have a definite obligation to the town" before seriously considering rezoning the area.

According to the study, Cherrytree's property could accommodate retail warehousing. Although commercial in nature, retail warehouses such as Beaver Lumber do some of their own manufacturing or act as a factory outlet for a more distant manufacturing plant.

Mr. Lawton recommended that no further development should be undertaken in the area without a feasibility study to see if Georgetown "can afford the luxury" of supporting more commercial space than is already available.

Another public meeting will be held later to discuss the developer's application to separate part of the land.

Public eye for property regulations

A draft bylaw regulating property standards in the Acton and Georgetown downtown cores has been released to the public.

Dealing largely with structural and sanitary conditions of buildings and surrounding yards, the bylaw is part of the town's preparations for provincial assistance to beef up its two downtown business improvement areas.

The bylaw's incorporation into the town's official plan has already been studied by town council. A special council session last Thursday ironed out a number of minor changes to the new regulations.

Council Monday called for a public meeting Feb. 17 to discuss the proposed bylaw and official plan amendments.

Endorsing the bylaw makes the town eligible for provincial loans under the main street revitalization program, designed to make downtown cores physically more attractive places to shop.

Planning department officials cited some urgency in getting the bylaw approved. Setting a target date for the end of the month, the department notes that the province's fiscal year, under which the money is currently available, ends in March.

Before the town becomes eligible for provincial funding, downtown core studies are needed for Acton and Georgetown. The study will identify problems within the two downtown business improvement areas, establishing their potential to grow and attract customers.

Meanwhile, copies of the proposed property standards bylaw and official plan amendments can be picked up by anyone interested at the town office on Trafalgar Road.

Bi-monthly pay may ease region's payroll problems

Problems which recently appeared in the Halton regional police budget might be avoided in the future if the

region switches to a bi-monthly pay scheme, Halton's administration and finance committee learned Wednesday.

Commenting on a recent police payroll error in which constables received an extra two weeks' pay in 1980 (possibly costing the region's force \$300,000) chief administration officer Dennis Perlin stressed that no one was overpaid. But, he warned, any attempt to recoup the loss would be seen as "unfair" by the affected employees.

While the error does not affect hourly wage earners employed at the region, Halton police were paid 27 times instead of 26 last year. A clerical error dated the paychecks Dec. 31, 1980 - a day earlier than the payroll was supposed to go through - adding the extra pay period to the 1980 police budget.

The 27th payment should appear every eleven years, Mr. Perlin said. Two weeks ago a police spokesman told members of the Halton Police Commission that constables have actually been giving one day of work free each year, two days during leap years. The eleventh year, 27 pay period makes up for the imbalance continued throughout the decade.

A 24-paycheck, or bi-monthly scheme is strongly recommended by regional treasury staff. Mr. Perlin said that a report on changing the payroll schedule at the region should be presented to the committee in March.

Council supports liquid waste dumpsite

South Cayugans will get little official support from the town of Halton Hills in their bid to stop the province from building a liquid waste dump in their area.

A resolution from the town of Dunnville sharply criticizing the province's Nov. 25 decision to establish a liquid waste disposal plant in South Cayuga was received and filed by town council Monday night.

Despite the fact that the decision was made without an environmental assessment hearing into the dumpsite proposal, Coun. Russ Miller, chairman of the Halton region's own solid waste management committee, said he supported the province's position.

"I can sympathize with the people (of South Cayuga)," Coun. Miller said, "but the need for such a facility has been established."

In a Jan. 20 letter to Mayor Pete Pomeroy, environment minister Harry Parrott explained that untreated liquid waste from industry often winds up in landfill sites or the province's river system.

"Let us never lose sight," Mr. Parrott writes, "of the fact that, without a treatment facility in this province, every municipality must face the dilemma of how to treat the liquid industrial waste generated in their own community."

Landscaper to meet council

Despite additional opposition, town councillors voted themselves a pay raise for 1981 Monday night and approved an indexing scheme to keep their remuneration up to the cost of living in the future. Absent from last week's general committee meeting, Coun. Harry Levy maintained that he was steadfastly opposed to the raise. Meanwhile, Coun. Ross Knechtel, who voted against the raise during the committee meeting, changed his vote in council. In 1981, the Mayor's salary will rise from \$15,000 to \$18,500, while councillors will see an increase from \$5,940 to \$6,530.

Reps get raise

Nick Van Vliet, president of the Ontario Association of Landscape Architects, has been invited to attend a town general committee meeting. Mr. Van Vliet, along with Canadian Society of Landscape Architects president and local resident John Day, recently expressed concern over the town's plans to hire a New York landscape consulting firm to assist in a planning study at Acton's Fairview Cemetery. Mr. Day and Mr. Van Vliet have argued in letters to the engineering department and council that there are already a number of equally-qualified firms in Ontario to do the work.

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