

Market St. extension decision delayed

By **STUART JOHNSTON**
Staff writer

A decision on whether or not Georgetown's Market St. should be extended from Wesleyan through to James St. was put on hold yet again by councillors Monday night.

The decade-long debate over the fate of Market St. was on the verge of being finalized once and for all, when, at the suggestion of mayor Russ Miller, councillors agreed to send the matter back to staff for a report detailing the full costs of the extension.

They were also concerned about

the warning from solicitor Bert Arnold, who argued that his client's condominium proposal would be jeopardized if Market St. was put through to James. Sandy MacKenzie, along with partner Nick Ferraro, hope to build 83 units in four buildings, each four to six storeys high. However, an extension of the road would slice through the middle of their current plans.

Arnold also warned the land and road construction would become a costly venture for the town, estimating it to be upwards of \$500,000.

"The land cannot accommodate the road and still have a develop-

ment on the property that can anywhere near pay for the cost of the project," Arnold said, urging councillors to arrange a public meeting for the condo proposal.

However, several residents argued in favor of the extension, believing it will provide a much needed alternate route downtown, which will be beneficial to businesses in the area.

After the public's presentations, councillor Pam Johnston tried to gain support for keeping the road the way it is, and to get on with a public meeting over the condo proposal.

She also supported Arnold's assumption that the only reason people in the area are supporting the extension is to hinder or kill the proposed development.

Councillor Gail Rutherford supported the residents' assertions that the extension would be beneficial in the long run, adding it will provide another route to reach Princess Anne Drive, the road to the hospital.

However, councillors were unsure what the exact costs of buying the land, and then building the road, would be. Mayor Russ Miller suggested deferring the matter until early January, so planning and engineering staff could outline all of the ramifications.

Chamber plans 'Community Talks'

In the fall of 1991 the federal government launched an extensive consultation on the economy and the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce co-sponsored a Community Talks Program last December 9, 1991 that allowed business people and members of the community to have input on ways to make Canada more competitive.

The recommendations of the steering group have now been released and a meeting has been scheduled for the community to evaluate them.

This meeting will be held December 3 at the Georgetown District High School with registration at 6 p.m. To register or for copies of the "Action Plan for Canada's Prosperity" contact the Chamber office at 877-7119.

The federal government will be making decisions based on this report that could affect our community so plan to attend.

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