

Business tax crackdown?

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
Halton Hills finance staff want permission to get tough with businesses who don't pay their taxes.

Before the end of the month, Council will deal with a report to give the Town the power to seize assets for unpaid business

taxes. Unlike property taxes, business taxes are due on demand, and currently the Town does use bailiffs to collect owed taxes, but not actually seize assets.

Unpaid business taxes account for \$302,000 of the total \$4.1 million in unpaid taxes.

Water woes won't go away

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
Alarmed Acton politicians want a special high-level meeting to deal with what they call Acton's water crisis.

New restrictions from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Ministries of Environment and Natural Resources place severe

restrictions on the amount of water the Town can take from Fairy Lake for new development, and the quality and quantity of water it can discharge into the Black Creek.

Acton Councillors want to meet with the agencies involved to work out a solution that will allow the Town to grow by 2,500 people to a population of 10,000.

Counc. Norm Elliott said everyone is frustrated with the delays and setbacks.

"We've been hearing the same story about no water for 20 years," Elliott said.

"We have to focus on this prob-

lem and get some growth because no change is death."

Outstanding taxes concern Town

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
Town officials are "concerned" with a steady increase in unpaid property taxes.

Of the \$44.4 million the Town requested from taxpayers last year, and was owed from previous years, \$4.1 million is still outstanding.

That's 9.9 per cent, or almost \$1 million more than the year before.

The Town collects taxes for the school boards, Region and itself.

Deputy treasurer Grant Usher said the increase in unpaid taxes is a sign of the times.

"With all the unemployment, it's hard to collect the taxes, but you've got to use some compassion," Usher said in an interview last Wednesday.

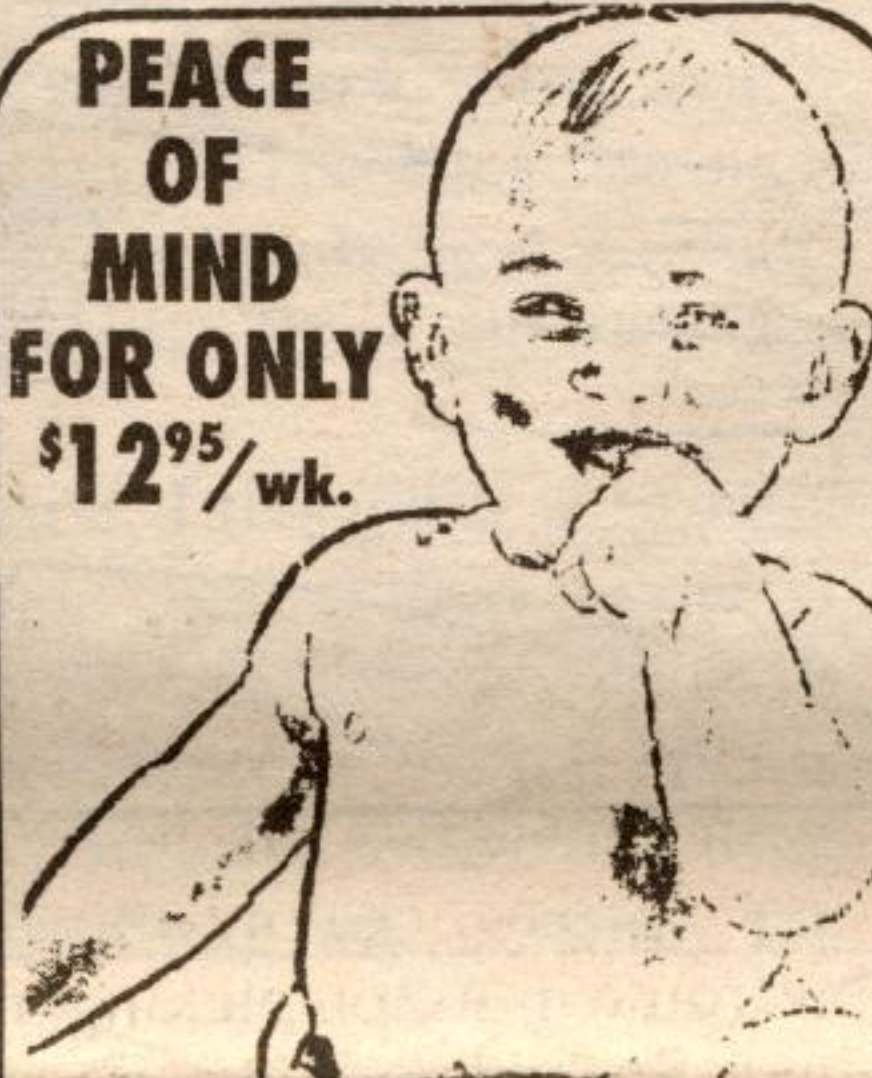
The Town charges a 1.25 monthly interest rate penalty, and after three years, if taxes are not paid, the Town can sell residential properties to recover the money.

Usher said that has happened only four times in the past 25 years because in almost all cases owners paid the arrears when warned that the Town was taking action to claim owed taxes.



50 YEARS OF MUSIC: Anne Moore, a 30-year member of the Knox Presbyterian Church choir, pins a flower on Ted Hansen. Hansen was honoured on Sunday after the church service for his 50 years of service at the church's organ. (Lori Frechette photo)

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Town of Halton Hills
PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 297 (1) (B) of the Municipal Act, being Chapter M.45 of the Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1990, that the Council of the Town of Halton Hills, at its meeting to be held in the Civic Centre at 7 pm Monday, April 26, 1993, will consider the passing of a by-law for the Road and Storm Sewer Construction Project as set out below:

(Glen Lea Phase 5)
Orville Road & Wynford Place
Churchill Road Storm Sewer (Orville to Longfield)

Plans detailing this project and the proposed by-law are available for viewing during normal business hours at the Engineering Department office. Any inquiries should be directed to Mr. R. A. Goddard, C.E.T., Engineering Department at 873-2600, extension 310.

The Council will hear, in person, or by their counsel, any person who claims that their lands will be prejudicially affected by the said by-law, and who applies to be heard. Persons wishing to be heard should notify the Clerk's Department no later than noon, Thursday, April 22, 1993.

R.C. Austin, P. Eng.
Town Engineer
The Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills
1 Halton Hills Drive
P.O. Box 128
Halton Hills (Georgetown), Ontario
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