

Two new schools despite lack of approval

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students affected, there is no doubt the schools are needed - a situation that in fact, Trustees agreed upon.

"I'm not here to object to building schools... but I am concerned about deficit," said Burlington Trustee Debbie Downs.

Superintendent Gerry Cullen and Jones attempted to clarify where exactly the monies might be found.

It was determined that the board had \$4.5 million in hand from the sale of board property in Oakville and more to come from the sale of property in Burlington.

Additional funds from the \$8 million intended for the wide-area band-width upgrade and from the educational development charges were also to be tossed into the pot.

However, Trustees were unable to

ally concerns about taking money from one envelope and putting it in another and any possible fallout from the Ministry of Education.

"I don't even know how we can entertain building schools without ministry approval," said Ethel Gardiner, Trustee for Halton Hills.

Asked to respond to whether or not the board should undertake the building of the schools, Joudrie expressed some concern.

"There is significant risk here, \$18 million worth of risk," he said.

He added however, that he believes the risk is a temporary one as the board will likely qualify once the Ministry of Education releases the new school funding formula.

Opposing Trustees once again expressed dismay that the board would

proceed without approval from the Ministry of Education, but added that they were in no way opposed to building schools.

Trustee for Oakville, Mary Chapin in fact brought the issue up once again after the motion had been passed.

She pointed out that had discussion continued, she would have suggested an amended motion that would have allowed for one school, that monies were available for, to be built in Milton.

In the end, the five Trustees who were opposed to the motion, Chapin, Gardiner, and Downs along with Janie Hames and Kelly Amos indicated that not only did they oppose, but that they wished to distance themselves from the decision of the board as it was "contrary to their fiduciary interests and responsibilities as Trustees."

Halton Hills backs Region...

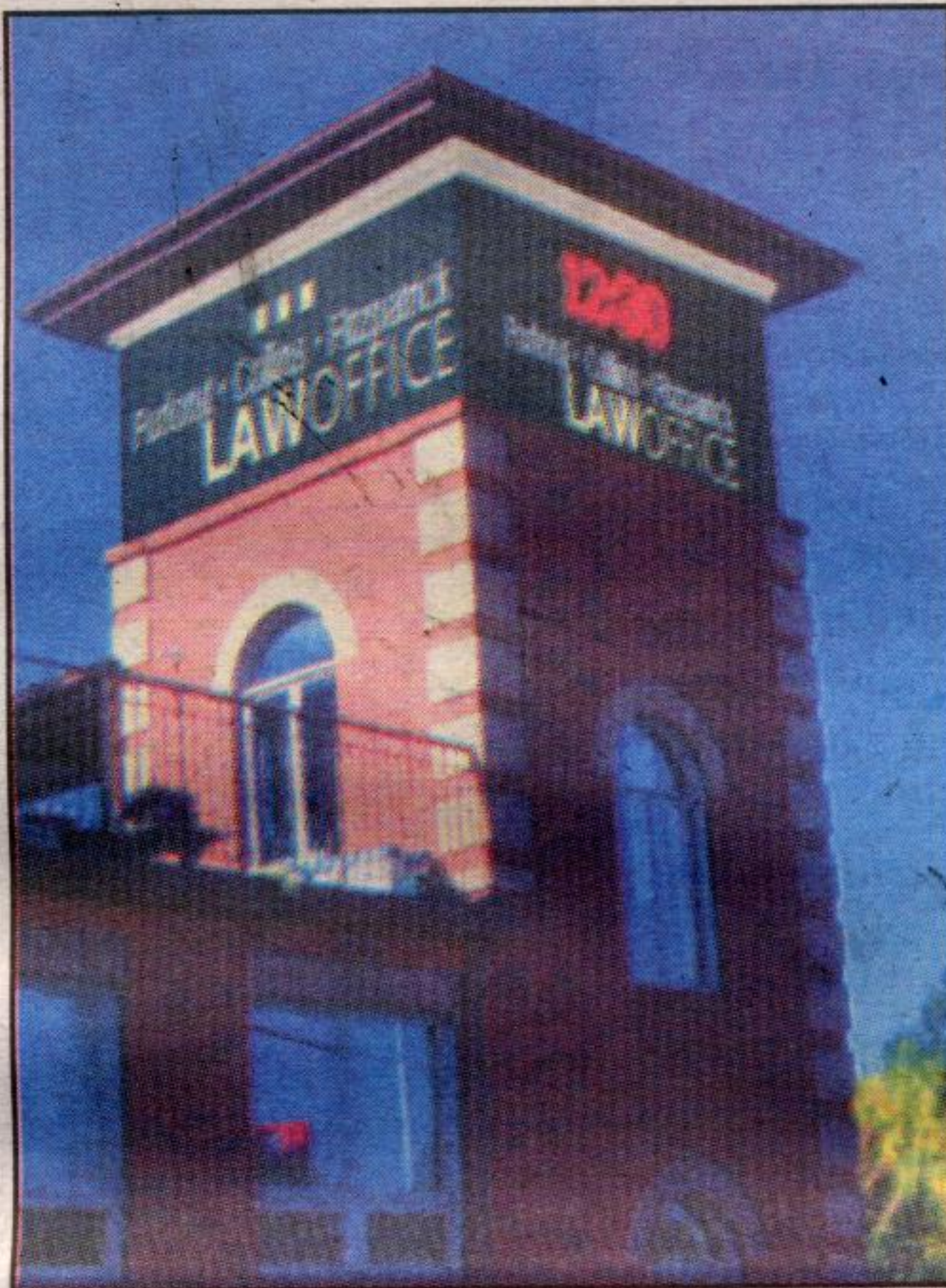
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face," said Jon Hurst, Ward 1 councillor.

This issue is especially galling for those who went through the approvals process to secure the waste management site that Halton currently has.

It was a divisive and acrimonious project that almost saw Milton Mayor Gordon Krantz land in the "Milton Hilton" for defying the Supreme Court.

It also left taxpayers footing a \$60 million bill when part way through the process, Halton ran out of capacity and had to truck their trash all the way to Buffalo since no local municipality would take it.



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