

Rockwood fire hall to be bigger, better

BY MAGGIE PETRUSHEVSKY
The New Tanner

Plans for Rockwood's new fire hall have been revised as a result of public input.

In a report to Guelph/Eramosa council Monday, the fire hall committee said public concern about volunteers speeding to the hall to answer fire calls has prompted the committee to reverse the original plan and put the public spaces to the front of the building and the fire hall space to the rear. The new plan also increases the building's size to 12,400 square feet from 9,000.

The committee found the bay area to be too short, the men's washroom too small and lacking in facilities, the long narrow training room somewhat small, the turnout gear room too small and lack-

ing access to the hallway, lack of privacy for shared office spaces and too much distance between the training officers storage and offices, and the training room.

The new plan will provide space for fire, police and community uses and even accommodate ambulance service without requiring changes should that become available in the community in future, said committee chair Eric Stern.

The new design would give fire fighters access to the entire building but the police and the public would have access only to limited areas. It was also suggested that a high roof area over the equipment bays could be built with a second storey since the space is already available. That will, of course, depend on the cost, said committee member Gary Martin.

The committee called for MacKenzie Street to be extended north of Gzowski Street to service the site. They also asked council to approach Wellington County about extending the 50 kph lane further north on County Road 27. They asked that public works manager Larry Van Wyck and township staff to begin site preparations for construction next year.

Stern said the committee has completed its original mandate from council and asked for a new mandate to finish the building design.

The committee also asked council to hire two people to get the job done quickly. One will be an experienced construction supervisor to help with developing the design and maximizing cost efficiencies. The second would be an experienced draftsman to document the design for the tendering process.

While the original target date for tendering was set for March 31, Martin said the committee would just have to move that date up if council needs its figures for their 2003 budget in February.

Stern said the committee is aiming to have the hall done by September.

Asked about whether an early tender call would get a lower price, Martin said his experience is just the opposite. Contractors are "getting desperate" for jobs later in the year and prices tend to be lower as a result.

Council approved all the committee's recommendations and asked that the construction supervisor and draftsman positions be advertised immediately for hiring at council's next meeting.

Mayor David Adsett said he wants to see local people have an opportunity to apply for the positions.

The Rockwood MILLER



Council tells developer

Buffers, fencing agreement before rezoning approval

Developers of the Mudge rural industrial subdivision at Lot 1, Con. 6 in the former Township of Eramosa have been told to work out an agreement with their neighbours on how the buffers and fencing will go between the adjacent properties before council will approve their rezoning application.

Coun. Doug Breen grilled the municipality's planning consultant Bernie Hermesen about how Minimum Distance Separation (MDS) requirements will effect the existing farms around the subdivision. He said it was unfair that the County Official Plan should take precedence over the municipal zoning bylaw because it seems zoning land for an industrial subdivision might prevent neighbouring farms from expanding.

And in farming, it could well be a case of expand or die, he said. In effect, just zoning the land could kill an existing business even though no subdivision was ever built.

Hermesen pointed out that the farms around the subdivision site have rural non-farm residences nearby and those homes might already have spoiled expansion possibilities for the farms.

Hermesen said MDS rules might prevent expansion near the subdivision, but allow new buildings, more stock or different storage systems to be added at another site on the neighbouring farms.

He promised to investigate the situation for Breen and report at the next council meeting.

Mudge, his planner and one of the neighbours met after council to discuss the sort of

fencing, which should be erected between the properties.

The neighbours want all traffic and parking to be kept to the front of any buildings erected in the subdivision so that people won't be able to look in all the windows of their home.

They also want restrictions on the sort of buildings which will be put next to their home since a tall building with windows will again allow people to look into their house. A tall building without windows, such as warehouse space, would not pose a problem for them, they said.



PENNY TREE: Elizabeth Johnston adds her ticket to a Christmas tree up for grabs Saturday at the fundraising penny, bake and book sale for Homeward Bound animals. *Maggie Petrushevsky photo*

Wellington bridges collision scene

Wellington OPP investigated several motor vehicle collisions on bridges in Wellington County recently.

Dropping temperatures with cold air movement under bridges has caused several collisions in the


Guelph area.

Highway 6 (Hanlon Expressway) was closed for just under two hours, after four separate collisions occurred between College Ave, and Wellington Street.

Unsuspecting motorists

are encountering black ice on a number of bridges in Wellington County. James McKillop, 37, of Guelph was operating his 1997 Ford van, travelling northbound on Highway 6 on November 17, when he

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Christmas Memorial Service

Within the past year, you and your family have experienced the loss of someone close to you. As Christmas approaches, it is normal to think about your loss and to view the coming months with reluctance and sadness. Emotions and memories can challenge even the strongest members of a family.

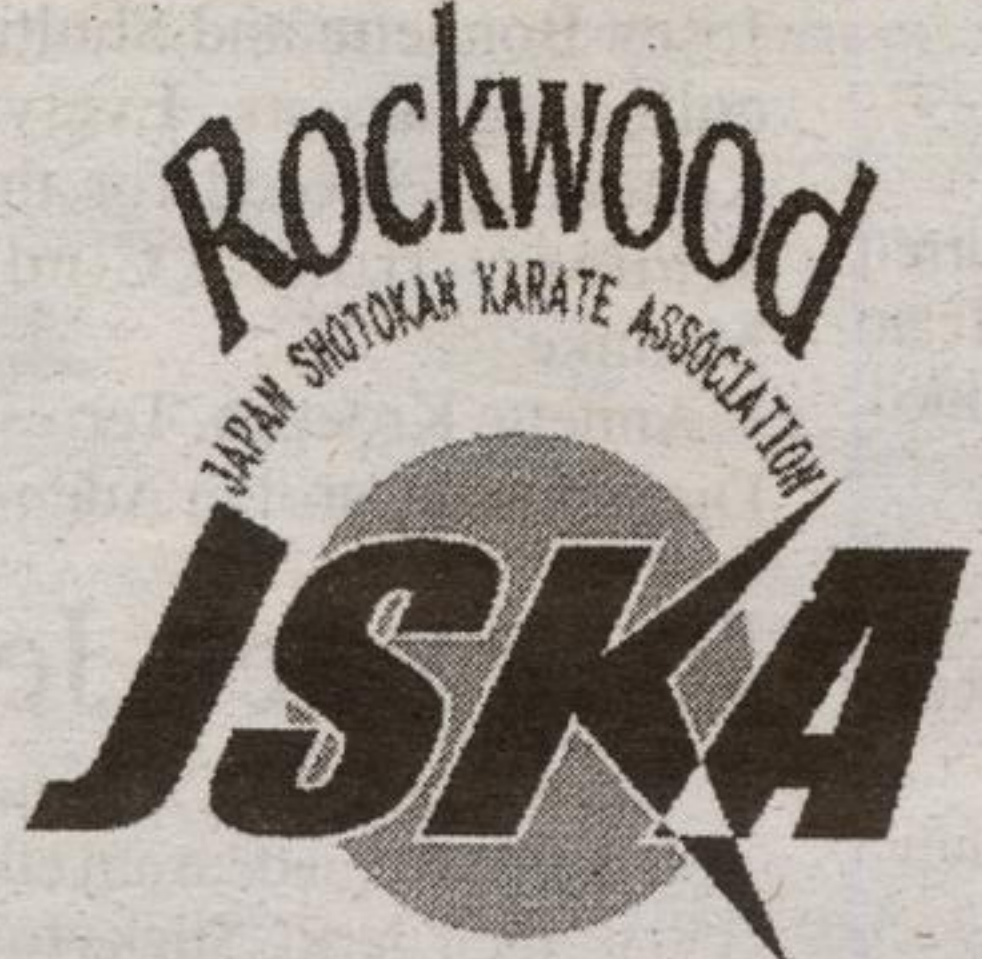
With this in mind, Gilbert MacIntyre and Son Funeral Home and Chapel invite you and your family to an ecumenical Memorial Service of Remembrance. Attending this gathering may help support you and your family in understanding personal grief

The service will be held at
Church of Our Lady, 28 Norfolk St., Guelph
On Sunday, December 8, 2002 at 2:30 p.m.

The service will be conducted by:
Rev. Ted Huges of Church of Our Lady
Archdeacon Thomas Greene of St. George's Anglican Church
Rev. Dr. Ronald Smeaton of United Church of Canada
Rev. Nancy Collett, Chaplain, of Guelph General Hospital
A reception will follow in the church hall
Please accept this as our invitation to you or anyone you feel may benefit from this prayerful support during the Christmas Season.

Sincerely,
**Michael MacIntyre Sr., Michael MacIntyre Jr., Michael Daly,
 Debbie Livingstone, Norman Moore, Peter Irving and the
 entire staff at Gilbert MacIntyre and Son Funeral Home**


To confirm your attendance please contact
Gilbert MacIntyre & Son Funeral Home and Chapel
 252 Dublin Street North, Guelph, 519-822-4731
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