

Town-initiated lawsuit finally settled

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Staff Writer

The defamation lawsuit against an Acton citizen initiated by the Town of Halton Hills on behalf of one of its employees has been settled.

Town lawyer John Schaljo said Wednesday the minutes of the settlement had been signed, but the terms had not yet been fulfilled. He said the settlement was reached last week.

The lawsuit against Acton citizen Al Kirouac, who operates a website that purports to be a news organization, stemmed from an "article" that appeared on the site in May 2005 referring to Director of Recreation and Parks Terry Alyman as a "corrupt" civil servant.

Schaljo would not discuss the terms of the settlement, saying they were confidential, except for an apology to Alyman that appeared on the website.

"The defamatory article was removed from

our website once it was brought to our attention," said Kirouac, the administrative contact for the site, in his apology. "We hereby fully retract the defamatory statements that were contained in the article, and sincerely apologize to Mr. Alyman for any damage, injury or embarrassment that this article may have caused to Mr. Alyman or his family."

Ryder Gilliland, the lawyer representing Kirouac, would not comment on the settlement.

Schaljo said he didn't know what his firm's bill would be for the work done on the settlement, but estimated it would be in the \$1,000 to \$2,000 range, significantly less, he said, than the \$20,000 his firm had billed the town for work done on the lawsuit up until the time that information was recently presented at Town council.

"If there are costs to be paid, the Town will cover Terry's costs," said Town CAO Denis Perlin.

Acton man charged with theft of electricity

An Acton man was charged with theft of electricity after Halton Police received a call from Halton Hills Hydro officials concerned that a hydro connection to Manny's Roadhouse on Mill St., Acton had been tampered with.

After a brief investigation Friday, Sept. 13, police said the bar's owner was arrested a short time later at the Acton office of Halton Hills Hydro. Charged is Nicholas Protopapas, 60, of Rosemary Rd.

Tires/rims stolen

Police report that three tires and rims valued at \$1,000 were taken from two trailers parked in an unfenced lot on Main St. N. in

Acton between Friday and Monday.

Cannabis charges laid

Two Georgetown males are facing charges after a police officer saw two males sitting on the steps at St. George's Anglican Church on Guelph St. Tuesday afternoon.

The officer said a quantity of marijuana was found on both of them.

Charged with possession of cannabis for the purpose of trafficking is a 17-year-old Georgetown male. Also charged with possession of cannabis for the purpose of trafficking is Darren Campion, 18. Campion is also charged with two counts of breach of probation.

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