

Town struggles to find more budget cash

Continued from pg. 1

Bonnette said funding could be found from other sources, such as the gas tax, to make up the \$100,000 for the planned work and if not, then \$1.3 million would still be spent on street resurfacing this year.

Chief Administrative Officer Dennis Perlin said the full amount would be spent on pavement management, even if that half per cent has to be made up in 2009— 2008 is the last year of 2 per cent dedicated tax.

“Because council controls the budget process for the next four years, and by managing that program, we can still proceed to complete the work that was intended to be completed,” Perlin said. “The work can be scheduled in such a way that invoices that come in from the program will arrive in 2008 and will be paid out of the 2008 pavement management program. So even if you do nothing with the gas tax, you can still achieve it... council controls that.”

Finance Director Ed DeSousa noted that a recent report revealed that \$30 million is needed for repairing local roads and related works.

Manager of Public Works Ted Drewlo added losing the half per cent will impact projects now and in the

‘I would look it as being a little unfair if we cut something out of Ward 4 in the pavement management plan, when it’s affected all the other wards in previous years.’



BOB INGLIS

future, and that immediately alarmed Ward 4 Councillor Bob Inglis, who said his constituents have waiting patiently, and some impatiently, for road repairs for years.

“I would look it as being a little unfair if we cut something out of Ward 4 in the pavement management plan, when it’s affected all the other wards in previous years,” Inglis said.

He proposed a solution: since the four new firefighters will not be hired until November, then use unspent \$200,000 in salaries in 2007 to reduce the taxes. But DeSousa explained that money would go into the surplus, which funds the reserves. The taxpayers may get a tax break this year, but there may not be enough surplus left— at least

\$325,000 is needed— to top up depleting reserves. Inglis’ suggestion went no further.

Ward 3 Councillor Moya Johnson said the difference whether the half percent is there or not is \$4 a year on tax bills— at that time in the budget debate the difference between a \$48 tax increase and a \$52 tax increase.

“I think \$52 is a \$1 a week for the average family,” she said, “and to save them a few cents off that dollar to put at risk the pavement management program would not be a good decision.”

The budget committee then decided to stick to the current pavement management program.

...

Rookie Ward 4 Councillor John Duncan motioned to hire only two of the four full-time firefighters (\$266,700) included in the budget, questioning whether all four are needed now.

“I want a safe community as does everyone in this room,” said Duncan, who admitted he had not read the Town’s fire master plan report. “but I’m a little concerned about the increases being proposed.

Last year, Town council made the decision to hire four firefighters per

See COUNCILLORS, pg. 4

WHY PAY RETAIL? PATRICIA'S CARPET AND FLOORING

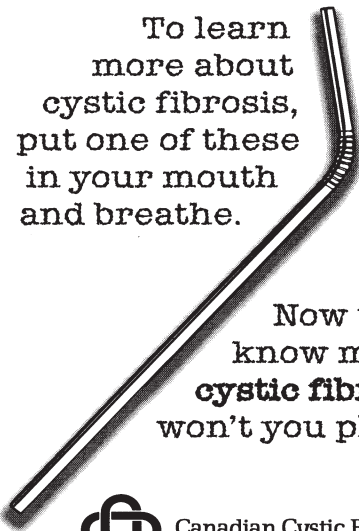


Patricia Zawadowski
416-938-4045

SHOP AT HOME SERVICE

Sales and Installation

- Residential/Commercial Carpet • Vinyl/VCT Tiles
- Hardwood/Laminate • Ceramic



To learn more about cystic fibrosis, put one of these in your mouth and breathe.

Now that you know more about cystic fibrosis, won't you please help?



Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
1-800-378-CCFF
www.cysticfibrosis.ca



BAD TIMING for VEHICLE PROBLEMS we understand... NO PAYMENTS NO INTEREST for 90 DAYS! O.A.C.
*See dealer for details.

Check out our **2007 VALUED CLIENT PACKAGE**

Let us take care of your oil change and preventative maintenance needs for the year.

YOUR 4 VISITS INCLUDE:

- Up to 5 litres of oil
- New oil filter
- Check and top up all fluids including brake fluid, transmission fluid, power steering fluid, radiator antifreeze
- Visual inspection of belts, hoses, cooling system and electrical systems

PLUS RECEIVE

- 2 FREE tire rotations
- 2 FREE tire balances
- 4 FREE front end suspension checks
- 4 FREE anti-freeze tests
- 4 FREE brake inspections

FOR ONLY \$99⁰⁰ + TAX for most vehicles (\$180 value)

20 Armstrong Ave., Georgetown (near Mountainview Rd. N)
905-877-8731 email: tservice@on.aibn.com

WWW.TURNERAUTOMOTIVECARE.com

RELAX • REFRESH • REVITALIZE

PEEL LASER

Dare to Bare! Your solution to unwanted hair and skin imperfections

FREE CONSULTATION!

- Leg and Facial Vein Removal
- Laser Hair Removal
- Botox, Restylane and Perlane
- Sclerotherapy and Vein Surgery
- Photofacials, Microdermabrasion and Skin Rejuvenation
- Offering the latest in skin tightening & wrinkle removal technology

BEFORE AFTER

Dr. A. Malik and his qualified staff use the most advanced technology and state of the art laser systems

Located at 36 Vodden St. E Suite 305, Brampton
www.peellaser.com Call us at 905-456-9309

YOU'RE TOO YOUNG TO RETIRE.

But not too young to plan.

Make sure your retirement savings always keep working for you. We can help with RRSPs and more. Get started now by giving one of us a call today.

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR STATE FARM IS THERE.®

Providing Insurance and Financial Services

statefarm.ca™ • State Farm • Canadian Home Office: Aurora, Ontario
P046167CN 12/05 Consult your tax or legal advisor for specific advice.



Mike Francis, Agent
123 Main Street South
Georgetown
905-877-9652



Lora Greene, Agent
211 Guelph Street
Georgetown
905-873-1615



Phil Karda Ins Agcy Ltd
Phil Karda, Agent
174 Guelph Street
Georgetown
905-873-1833