

They go hand in hand

Authority favors meters launch off-street program

Parking meters and provision of off-street parking lots must go hand in hand, members of Milton Parking Authority reiterated to members of Milton Council in a letter presented at Monday's council meeting.

The Authority has concluded it will favor installation of parking meters in the downtown core area, provided there is off-street parking provided as an alternative for shoppers. Council looked favorably on the proposal and authorized the Parking Authority to go ahead and take options on four properties on Mary St. where homes would be demolished and the lots turned into parking lots. That's the first step in a \$100,000 off-street parking plan the Authority broached to council in early March.

"Meters can and will continue to be a very controversial issue and our recommendation is based solely on the fact the income from these machines will provide sufficient revenue to allow the town to capitalize the amount required to purchase such off-street parking now," explained the Authority. The meters would be installed when

the off-street lots—estimated to provide 100 parking spaces—are ready to be opened.

The Authority has studied expected revenue from the meters and figures on \$14,000 a year until the meters are paid for, then \$21,000 a year after that. They figure parking fines would cover the salary of a meter maid or meter man.

Earlier proposals to spread the cost of off-street parking over the benefitting merchants have

all fallen through because a majority of merchants would not approve.

Authority members are visiting Orangeville this week to see their meter and parking lot program. "Token meters" (which dispense a token redeemable from a merchant on making a purchase) have been

discussed but the Authority feels there is not sufficient interest in such meters now. They recommend they be kept in mind for the future, however, as a "merchant promotion." Mayor Brian Best said they could be tried on the off-street lots to give legitimate shoppers free parking there.

Milton Council briefs

Crash kills Oakville man

An Oakville man died Tuesday at Milton District Hospital from injuries received in a one-car accident on Highway 401 Wednesday evening of last week.

Elmer W. Cottrell, 47, of Oakville was rushed to hospital with head and chest injuries Wednesday evening and remained in a coma for several days. The car went out of control on Highway 401 east of Campbellville and received \$1,400 damage.

It was a marathon 5½ hour session Milton Council held Monday evening as they attempted to clear up a pile of regular business, pass numerous by-laws and deal with a delegation. Brief highlights of the meeting:

READER REBATES
Milton Council will be refunding \$5,725 in fees to 229 homeowners who purchased remote reading devices when water meters were installed last

year. They paid \$25 each so the meter reader could obtain their bi-monthly readings outside the home, rather than enter the basement to find the meter. The town will start installing remote readers (at no cost) this year in many buildings where it is difficult to get at the meter and read the figures.

WATERWORKS MEET
Water committee chairman Councillor Charles Fay and Works Superintendent Bruce McKerr were authorized to attend the waterworks convention in Toronto April 26 to 29 with their expenses paid.

CRUISER NEEDED
Milton's 1968 Plymouth police cruiser needs replacing. Council agreed to call open tenders on a new 1970 vehicle.

\$20 PER SET
Anyone wanting to obtain a copy of Milton's new official plan can have one—at \$20 per set. Council set the price Monday following numerous requests for copies from developers interested in the town. They're presently in short supply and the document runs to about 75 pages with maps.

POLICE CONVENTION
Milton's Police Chief Ray Andress was authorized to attend the annual convention of Ontario Police Chiefs at Kenora in June, during Monday's Milton Council meeting. Instead of paying him 14 cents a mile for the 2,600-mile trip, Council authorized a flat sum of \$300 to cover the chief's expenses.

ENGINEERING COSTS
Councillor Charles Johnson continued his campaign against the costs of engineering services at Monday's Council meeting. The town got a bill from consultants R. V. Anderson and Associates for \$229.48 for some recent work and the councillor pointed out the account was itemized at \$4.17 an hour plus 17 per cent to cover fringe benefits, plus 100 per cent. He questioned the 100 per cent but it was explained this was the firm's share of fringe benefits. Reeve Ron Harris noted the minimum fee for engineering work today was \$200 a day. The account was paid.

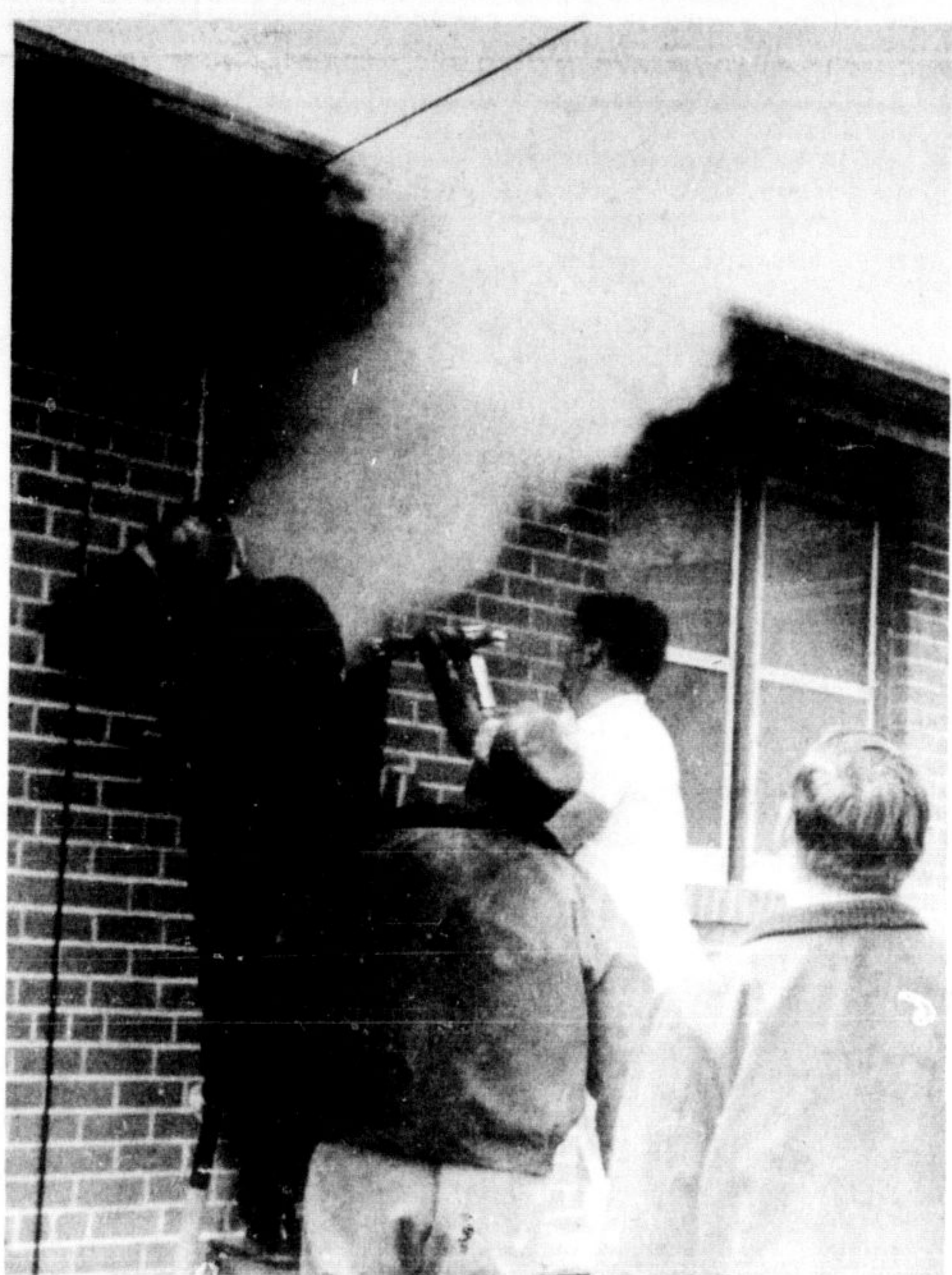
WORST SURFACE

Mary St. has "the worst surface in town" according to Milton Chamber of Commerce whose secretary Bob McCuaj sent council a letter this week objecting to both the surface of the street and the indiscriminate parking. The streets and walks committee was asked to look at the road and the police were to be asked to enforce the two-hour parking limit.

DRAINAGE AREA
Ontario Steel Products Co. Ltd., plant manager J. S. Edgar replied this week to an earlier letter from town council concerning a flooding complaint at the east side of the company's property. Homeowners claimed runoff water from the plant property was flooding their yards but Mr. Edgar pointed out the firm has dug a three foot ditch to drain water to the west of their property. He added there is a storm sewer at the rear of one of the properties that has been covered over by one owner.



EXTENSIVE DAMAGE WAS DONE to a house owned by Charles Menefy on Bell Street Thursday. Here masked firefighters try to gain entry into the smoke-filled house. Fire burned through the main floor of the building. It was one of several calls Milton Fire Department attended on a busy day.—(Staff Photo)



GAINING ENTRANCE to the fire, Deputy Chief George Bundy breaks a window while firefighter Bob Kerr is ready with the hose. Cause of the fire at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Menefy, Bell Street is not yet known.—(Staff Photo)

Focus on pollution

Promote Arbor Day

The focus was on pollution at Nassagaweya Council as members approved a motion calling for a ban on non-returnable soft drink bottles, received a resolution proposing reinstatement of Arbor Day in the schools of the province to clean up yards and roads and Reeve A. MacArthur criticized printed statements concerning garbage along a township road.

Councillor A. Ackman defended the resolution calling for the province to push legislation banning non-returnable soft drink bottles. He maintained the bottles were a source of pollution. "I won't accept the theory the public wants non-returnable bottles", the Councillor declared after Councillor Gibson suggested the soft drink companies would support the returnable bottle principle.

Possibilities of a 10 mill tax rise for Nassagaweya Township residents loomed Monday as members of Nassagaweya Council approved estimates for 1970 spending. Mill rates will be formally set for approval at the May 4 meeting.

The amount to be raised by taxation for general purposes rose from \$18,400 last year to \$45,061 this year. Last year the Department of Municipal Affairs had granted approval to reduce working capital by \$17,000. Similar approval was not available this year, official explained.

Total spending for general purposes is estimated at \$78,270 with revenue of \$33,209 in grants, licenses, permits and \$6,000 from the capital reserve fund decreasing the amount to be levied by taxation.

Expenditures for roads are estimated at \$129,500 and this amount is reduced through grants to the township's share at \$64,000. Last year the township's share was \$52,500.

The county rate will require \$48,372, from the township compared with last year's \$40,200.

Education costs of \$333,067 this year show a major increase over last year's \$278,131. It was the only part of the Finance Committee report, submitted to Council Monday, to come under attack.

Deputy Reeve Gordon Agnew emphasized he could not support the Board of Education levy. He pointed to a county increase of \$4,000,000, which he maintained he could not conscientiously support. He suggested as long as the municipalities keep collecting the education rate, it would keep rising.

Reeve A. MacArthur, just back from discussions with the Minister of Education, told members the Minister had indicated he felt the Halton Board had done a good job.

Councillor A. Ackman pointed out the Board was bound by provincial legislation. He noted the province sets the provincial equalization factor, used in calculating the percentage each municipality pays of the total cost. Mr. Ackman maintained costs should be levied on the basis of per pupil cost rather than assessment.

Deputy Reeve Agnew argued that if the province can give forgivable loans to industries they can come up with the money to assist municipalities like Nassagaweya.

The spending for the Eden Mills Police Village will be comparable to last year but the Campbellville estimate goes from \$3,100 last year to an estimated \$6,650 this year as a result of the resurveying project approved earlier by residents.

Acton Fire Area contributions will go from \$4,700 to \$4,415 this year while Milton Fire Area rises from \$4,500 to \$6,722.

"We've cut and sliced everywhere we could", Reeve A. MacArthur suggested as she referred to the report of the finance committee.

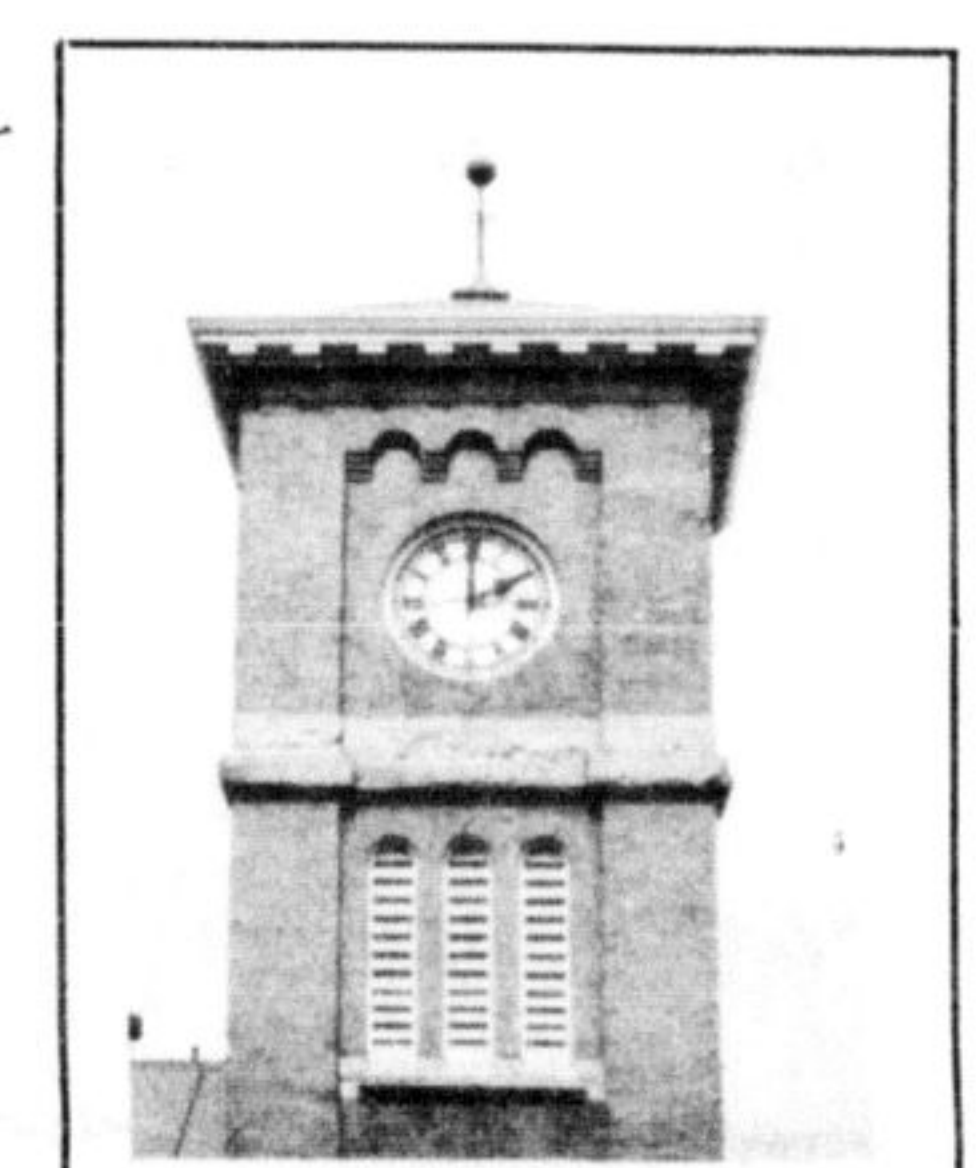
A request from the Milton Recreation Committee for consideration of a grant, since township residents were among the participants in programs, was denied. It was noted similar requests had been received from Acton.

Councillor Alan Ackman suggested the groups be thanked and it might be noted the township would be interested in discussing the proposal next year.

"We have to be pretty careful this year", the reeve concluded.

Study parking

Pat Gravili of Gravili Family Billiards, Mill St., sent a complaint about the parking situation around his shop to Milton Council this week. Cars parking on the north side of Mill St. prevent traffic from entering the billiard hall's own parking area and he asked council to ban parking on that side of the street. Council asked streets and walks committee chairman Percy Barr, the police chief and town superintendent to view the area and bring back a decision at the next meeting of council Wednesday night.



Clocks go forward

Sunday morning

Daylight Saving Time begins in Milton at 2 a.m. this Sunday, April 26. Everyone should turn their clocks AHEAD one hour when they retire Saturday night.

You'll lose one hour of sleep but you should get that hour back in the fall when Milton and district go back on Standard Time at 2 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 25.

Will finalize budget tonight

The 1970 budget for the town of Milton is expected to be finalized on Wednesday evening.

Councillors poured over the waterworks committee's estimates during their regular meeting Monday and approved the figures at a total of \$107,785.78. Last year the committee spent \$104,814.46 plus \$43,093.84 on the new

water meter program. It ended the year with an \$18,775 surplus.

While the estimates were being discussed, Councillor Charles Johnson wondered why the minimum bill of \$2.50 could not be reduced for some elderly people who live alone and never use enough to warrant the minimum bill. It was a hardship on old age pensioners, he suggested.

Mayor Brian Best said the idea had merits but it was hard to lay down guidelines on which homes get special consideration. What do you do with a widow trying to raise three or four children, he wondered.

Water committee chairman Councillor C. Fay said it might be a hardship but how could the town get around the problem. He said it would take half a mill or a mill of general taxes to pay for oversized watermains in many areas of town, fire hydrants and other items covered by these minimum bills. In the end it was left with the water committee for study and a report.

During the same meeting council approved the Oakville Humane Society's budget for dog control in Milton at \$4,200, an increase of \$450 over last year. OHS president Harry McKendrick was present to discuss the budget and promised Milton a full 400 hours of dog patrols this year. The increase is mainly due to salary increases and added operating costs, he said.

Seniors object to apartment site

"no other alternative" says council

Although Milton's Senior Citizens Club is unhappy about the Ontario St. site for the new 36-unit senior citizens apartment building, it appears the site was the only suitable choice. That's the message they got when they carried their protest to Council's meeting Monday.

Last week 75 members of the club voted unanimously to protest the site on Ontario St. opposite George St.—and those voting included 15 who signed

applications for apartments there. They felt the area was too far from the downtown and too close to the CPR crossing, and noted there was no sidewalk on Ontario St. to get them to the plaza or Main St.

Monday night club president William Woods, vice-president R. M. Clements and member G. F. Thompson appeared before council to hear their letter read and hear council's comments. After Mayor Brian Best outlined

the background and all the work the council had put into the project, it became evident the Ontario Housing Corporation was responsible for the site location, and the club executive has decided to invite a representative from OHC to attend their next meeting May 20.

Mayor Best said it was unfortunate that people were taking a negative attitude and criticizing the project, as council has spent 18 months getting the project this far. He and clerk J. McGeachie had earlier explored all the possible sites for such a building in town but the OHC requirements are quite stiff and no sites were suitable. When OHC went to several builders and asked them to assemble lands and submit a tender proposal for a building, just three came in.

The accepted tender came from Wimpey Homes for the Ontario St. site. Land costs were too high on the other two proposals and the one the senior citizens favored, in the Maiden Lane-Pine St. area, did not meet OHC specifications, the Mayor explained. Although council owns some land off Charles St. it was impossible to assemble enough for the apartment project, he added.

Reeve Ron Harris pointed out one suggested site near the Denyes school was three-quarters of a mile from downtown. The Ontario St. land was much closer to Milton Plaza than that, he noted. Reeve Harris promised the seniors the town would build a sidewalk on Ontario St. "I am sure if the apartment goes ahead we will provide a sidewalk somehow," added streets and walks chairman Councillor P. Barr.

"I feel we did the right thing," added Councillor Charles Fay, "we hadn't any other alternatives". He warned he would hate to see the apartment project dropped altogether because of the opposition expressed to date.

Mayor Best added people were "desperate" for this type of accommodation and the whole thing could be lost or delayed if people persist in their negative approach. He suggested the town would have no trouble filling the building with tenants. The Mayor said he knew of one lady who now pays \$87 a month rent who could move into this apartment at \$33 a month on the geared-to-income rental schedule. With the money she saved on rent she could afford to take a taxi downtown, he felt.

Asked if they had any (Continued on Page 8)



FISHERMEN WILL THROG to Milton Centennial Pond this Saturday to try their luck with some Rainbow Trout. Their luck should be good as the pond was recently blessed with 100 Rainbow Trout at an average length of about 12 inches. Ivan Cryderman of Rainbow Ranch and representatives from the Halton Sportsmen's Association set the trout free.—(Staff Photo)

Bingos, bazaars, draws require town licence

You'll need a licence to run a bingo, bazaar or raffle in Milton in future.

New provincial legislation makes a permit necessary for such functions and Milton Council Monday rather reluctantly complied with the new rules by naming Police Chief Ray Andress licensing officer and setting out the fees. Bingos with prizes of \$25 and under will require a \$1 permit; bingos with prizes of \$25 to \$50 a \$2 permit; with prizes of \$50 to

\$3,500 a permit costing two per cent of the total value of prizes offered. A series of bingos will require a licence (and fee) for each time they operate.

Straight fee for bazaar licences was set at \$1 although legislation suggested a maximum \$10 fee. Council was considering the \$10 fee but Councillor Charles Johnson pointed out any local bazaars are charity affairs.

Any lottery will require a licence fee of two per cent of the total value of the prize.