

Use laser beam to lay immense sewer lines

Two sewer lines, which will serve the Wimpey Home project on the east side of Ontario St., are being constructed with the aid of a laser beam, reports the project manager Alex Higgs. Workmen are following the beam to ensure the lines are straight and properly sloped.

Higgs says the laser beam is a great help in constructing the two lines which runs east from the west tributary of the Sixteen Mile Creek near the C.P.R. station.

The sewers are following the Canadian Pacific Railway tracks and will eventually submerge

under Ontario St. to connect with the new homes.

15 foot trench
A trench, 15 feet wide at the bottom, is being dug to house the two lines. One of the lines for sanitary use is connected to the town sewer. The second line is a storm sewer, which will carry excess water from the home project to the creek. The sanitary sewer is about two feet in diameter. However its relative measures an immense eight feet.

Construction workers are working eastwards from the creek to Ontario St. and have completed about 500 feet of the

2,000 foot long project, according to the manager.

Under Ontario St.
Although the two sewer lines are buried only a few feet underground, it has been estimated that the project might have to go eight feet under the Ontario St. creek bed, because the flat grade there makes the flow of water difficult. Ontario St. will have to be closed to traffic for a few days.

Hopefully the undertaking will be finished by the end of April, suggests Higgs. Meanwhile workers continue to follow the laser beam light.

Still trimming town budget as council battles to hold line



A LARGE TRUNK SEWER LINE is working its way across the north-east section of town as workmen from Wimpey Construction prepare for a 400-lot housing development east of Ontario St. Two lines are being laid, a two foot sanitary sewer plus an eight foot storm sewer, pictured here near the Court St. end. The firm is using a laser beam to ensure the line is laid as it was designed. —(Staff Photo)

Attempts to bring in a "hold-the-line" budget for 1972 were delayed Tuesday night when Milton Council, after a six and a half hour marathon budget chopping session, gave up and agreed to tackle it again next Monday.

Council was attempting to trim \$44,428 off proposed 1972 expenditures of \$1,700,000 to keep the mill rate at the same level as last year, but their 7.15 p.m. to 1.45 a.m. chopping session Tuesday only found \$27,982 that could be trimmed. In terms of dollars, a hold-the-line budget would mean an \$8.55 tax increase to the average Milton homeowner because of a discontinued provincial subsidy. But if the budget remains at the level to which it was reduced Monday, an increase of 1.47 mills, it works out to a \$29. increase on the average home in town.

Although they were attempting to finalize the estimates and mill rate at Tuesday's meeting, councillors decided to take another crack at lowering the budget again next Monday evening.

Several conditions compound the setting of the rates this year. The Halton County Board of Education levy of \$496,636 is a general reduction of 4.04 mills while uncontrollable expenditures like the town council levy and the Halton Region Conservation Authority levy are up slightly.

The province has dropped its provincial tax rebates this year, which were worth around \$61.70 to most homeowners in Milton last year. Council was attempting to pass on the lower education rate to the taxpayers, to offset the loss of the provincial tax rebates, at the same time trying to keep the controllable mill rate in line with last year. But it will take another \$16,500 chop from general expenditures to do it and most of the councillors indicated they wanted to continue cutting expenses until that level is reached.

Monday's meeting featured step by step, item by item reviews of all council committee budgets plus the budgets of the various local boards and commissions which draw funds from council. Representatives of several committees sat in on the session to explain their expenses and answer councillor's questions.

Major items in the budget, as it currently stands, include the decisions to go ahead with the hiring of a full time recreation director this year and the purchase of a new garbage packer three ton and half ton trucks for the works department.

Labor costs and staff salaries were up at all levels. Only budgets which remained unscathed after Monday's chopping sessions were those of the Committee of adjustment, Parks Board, Recreation Committee and council's street lighting committee.

Although council attempted to cut all the budgets, increases were approved Monday in the police, property and water committee budgets.

One of the mayor's proposed reductions—a \$1,000 decrease in

his own salary—was not accepted by the councillors. They were able to trim \$1,200 off the proposed \$14,000 total for councillors' salaries when Councillor Mrs. Marjorie Powys indicated she would not accept any payment for her work on council. Councillors receive \$20 per meeting for up to 60 meetings in a year. Mrs. Powys said she had informed the treasurer when she was first elected that she would not take any remunerations.

Largest cut made Monday was \$10,000 from the industrial and planning committee's estimates, for a planning study of the central core of the town. Councillor Ivan Hunter claimed the economics of the area will dictate core development, while Councillor Colin Smillie felt the town staff should do the study, not outside consultants. A further \$300 was cut from that committee's budget leaving a net total of \$18,832.

Planning Board's budget of \$6,900 was cut \$200. Main expense there is \$6,000 for salaries.

Town employees' Christmas bonuses totalling \$1,100 were cut from the general administration committee estimates, on a 5-4 vote, in which the mayor cast the deciding vote.

An air conditioning system for the council chambers was eliminated from the property budget. It was estimated at \$2,500.

The arena board's budget of \$61,000 was reduced by a flat \$1000 and the board was instructed to use money from its reserve fund to carry out some renovations to the arena which were listed in the budget. Council will raise \$20,275 towards the arena operation this year.

The Milton Public Library Board's budget of \$34,445, of which council is responsible for raising \$30,479, was cut by \$1,000 and the board was told to use \$1,000 from its \$6,000 reserve fund to make up the difference.

Milton Parking Authority's budget estimate of \$5,100 was cut to less than half that figure—\$2,300—but MPA chairman Mike Ledwith did not object to the cuts. Costs of snow removal, sanding and supervision of the new Mary St. lot were cut drastically.

Engaging a recreation director, on or after May 1 was approved when the Recreation Committee's \$34,372 budget was approved without change. Council will raise \$25,500 of that figure. The board has \$6,000 in the budget for part of a year's salary for a recreation director.

Milton Police Department turned in a record budget totalling \$160,145 but the figure did not include the hiring of two new constables this year. When the costs of their salaries was added and four minor deletions plus the compensation payments to Sgt. William Patterson were taken into account, the budget ended up at \$167,623 or \$7,828 over the original request. Councillors decided to purchase a new cruiser right away rather than wait until December and cut a \$1,000 expense for auxiliary policemen's uniforms plus a \$650 movie projector from the estimates. In a separate vote council endorsed hiring a probationary constable on or about July 1.

Streets and walks budget was whittled by \$7,250 but despite attempts to reduce the \$4,000 figure for sidewalk repair, the item was left in. "The sidewalks in this town are in one heckuva mess," declared Councillor Smillie. Several agreed with him. The budget now totals \$123,890.

Sewers and sanitation budget was reduced \$2,300 to \$55,395; garbage was cut \$1,000 to \$57,375; and waterworks was set at \$167,840. The dog control estimate of \$6,500 was cut to \$5,000. Funds were left in the totals for the annual civic banquet this year. Members noted the water account has an \$80,000 cash surplus, \$52,000 of which will go for a Main St. watermain this year.

Budgets left intact were parks board at \$9635; street lighting at \$25,000 and Committee of Adjustment at \$2,000.

Councillor Hunter was adamant the town keep chopping the estimates until a reduction in taxes could be given the taxpayers. "I think these people are paying enough taxes now, for what they get," he declared.

Snow suggests Bruce St. site for senior citizens housing

The Bruce St. school property would be "an ideal site" for a new senior citizens housing unit, Halton East MPP Jim Snow, Ontario's Minister of Public Works, told The Champion this week. He plans to ask Ontario Housing Corporation to try to purchase all or part of the school site, if the Halton County Board of Education will sell it after the school closes its 118-year career this June.

"OHC has had a very difficult time finding a site for senior citizens housing in Milton," he

said. Proposals for a 22-unit building were called and only one was received, but it was not acceptable. "They are back to stage one again," he said.

Great location
"They wouldn't need the whole site, just a portion of it," Snow indicated. The school's location close to the plaza and the downtown area makes it ideal for that type of use.

Meanwhile Milton Council has expressed an interest in obtaining the block of land on which the school sits, possibly for use as

an arena, community centre and swimming pool site. Chairman Dave Brush of Milton Community Service Clubs suggested the site two weeks ago and council wrote the school board to see if the land was for sale.

A reply received this week indicates the board hasn't yet reached any conclusions on the disposal of the property. But the board's superintendent of business and finance Bruce T. Lindley promised the letter would be placed "on file for future reference when the matter is under consideration."

Chaingate project

Ratepayers continue condominium protests

Fallingbrooke Ratepayers Association spokesmen carried their battle to halt a condominium development on Bronte St. to the Milton council chambers Monday evening.

Spokesman Ed Loerich urged councillors to restrict the height and density of any development in three vacant Bronte St. fields to the same height and density as the surrounding properties—all single family, one storey dwellings. He also suggested

there were drainage problems in the neighborhood now and warned against allowing any development which might compound that problem.

Hearing closes
Chaingate Developments Ltd. went before the Ontario Municipal Board at a hearing March 17, seeking permission to build 254 three-storey condominium units on the three vacant blocks of land north and south of Heslop Rd. and Anne Blvd. on the east

side of Bronte St. The application was withdrawn by the town when Chaingate refused to sign a last-minute agreement the council demanded, which would call for staging of the development and the supporting storm sewer line. Council's share of the \$145,000 line was to be \$60,000.

The ratepayers' association, formed just prior to the hearing, had engaged a lawyer to carry the protests of over 40 families to the OMB hearing didn't progress very far before it was called off

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Fuel oil spilled CN cars derail

Canadian National Railway crews are investigating the cause of an accident that derailed two tank cars loaded with fuel oil near Milton Saturday morning. The cars were derailed when four diesel engines backed into the tank cars, intending to hook them up and take them to Toronto marshalling yards.

Crews worked all weekend and Monday siphoning oil from the ground. Hundreds of gallons of the fuel poured out on the ground after the cars were punctured.

CN public relations officer M.

Lawson said the accident happened at 9:45 a.m. Saturday. He said damage was confined to the two cars and no people were injured.

CN Police kept observers out of the way while crews worked to remove the derailed cars. It was early evening before the cars were finally freed from the track.

The accident occurred north of Highway 401 and east of Highway 25. Lawson indicated no cause has been determined for the derailling but said the matter was being investigated by CN officials.

Youth Council asks \$800 to heat new coffee house

Milton Youth Council executive members appeared before Milton Council Monday evening to ask for \$800 to install a heating system at their Nipissing Rd. coffee house.

The coffee house is not "belly up" as one councillor stated at council's meeting two weeks ago, but it can't progress any further until the heating system is installed and working, spokes-

men Brian Green and Paul Perrott told the councillors. The cost is estimated at between \$800 and \$1,000 and the Youth Council only has \$131 left in its bank account, he said.

Gave \$450
Town council had earlier granted the Youth Council \$450 to pay the first three months' rent on the coffee house project, an old furniture warehouse. But

renovations were more extensive—and expensive—than the Youth Council had estimated. Green said because it was so cold, the youths of the town were refusing to turn out for work parties to get the coffee house in shape.

Attempts to sell memberships to the young people have also failed, he said, because they won't invest \$3 in a three-month

membership until the place opens. To date the group has sold \$88 in memberships but most of those went to Rotary Club of Milton members, not to young people.

Although service clubs donated \$300, most of that has been spent on lumber, materials, telephone, gas and hydro services. "We don't have enough money left to buy materials to work with,"

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"We're rebounding"

Dance, open house to aid coffee house

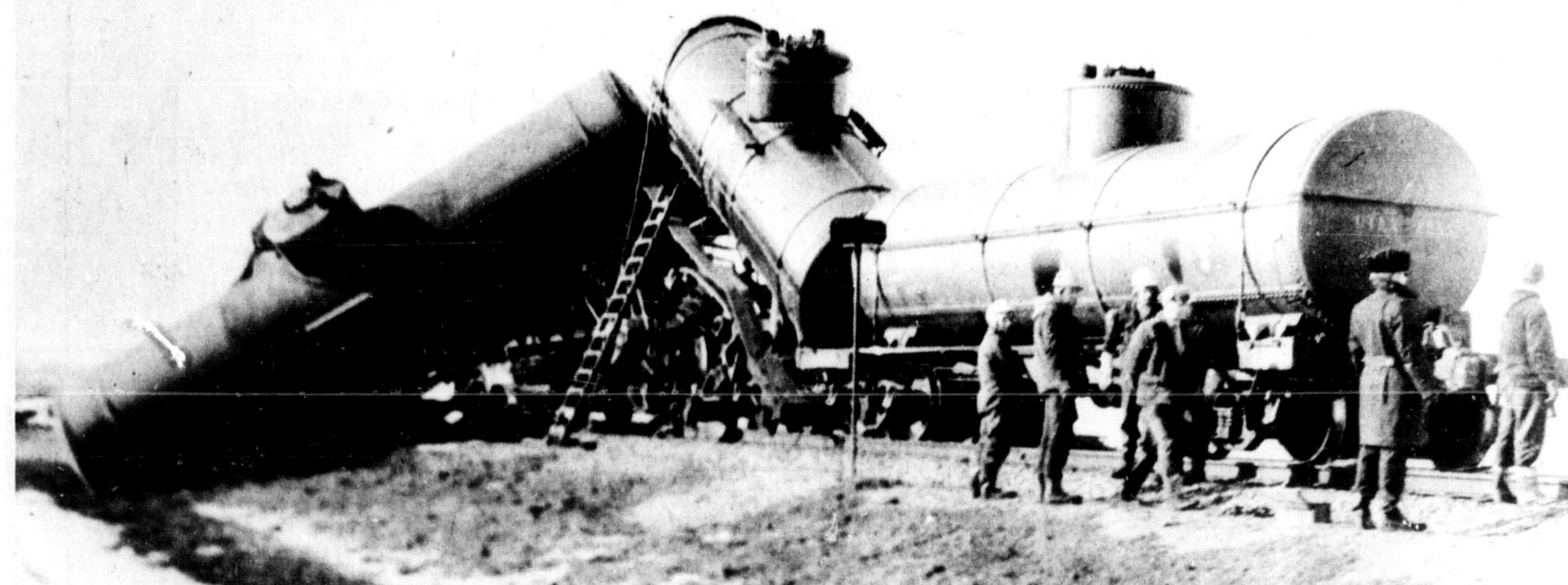
"We are rebounding," executive members of Milton Youth Council told The Champion Tuesday. MYC leaders Paul Perrott and Brian Green said it didn't appear, from Monday's comments and questions by Milton councillors, that they would receive the \$800 grant they requested to heat their coffee house project. So they have made other plans.

First part of the plan involves a boost in the membership roster—they plan to present a free membership card to every resident of Halton Centennial Manor some time this week. "We are emphasizing the coffee house is for young and old alike," said Perrott, "so we're giving all the folks at the Manor a free pass so they can visit the coffee house any time they want."

Second part of the plan is an open house and ribbon-cutting

ceremony, at the yet-to-be-opened coffee house on Nipissing Rd., on Saturday afternoon, April 8 at 2 p.m. Members of Milton council, MP Rud Whiting, MPP Jim Snow, the Manories, Milton Senior Citizens Club and the general public are invited to come see the project and enjoy coffee and donuts. The MYC members said they want people to see the building as it stands, to encourage more support in their attempt to get it renovated and opened. Entertainment will tentatively include a live band plus folk singers from town.

Third part of their plan, with final details yet to be announced, is a dance scheduled for Friday evening, April 7. MYC hopes to make a small profit from the dance which will go toward another month's rental of the building. More details will be announced next week.



TWO TANK CARS carrying fuel oil were derailed and punctured on the CNR line Saturday morning. No one was injured in the

crash. The accident occurred while four diesel engines backed up to hook on to the cars. The cars were en route to a Canadian National

stockyard in Toronto when the accident happened north of Highway 401 and east of Highway 25.—(Staff Photo)