

Norman Pearce returned Planning Board chairman



MILTON PLANNING BOARD members held their inaugural meeting Wednesday and named Norm Pearce, seated at left, as chairman for 1973. With him are vice-chairman Don Hayward and secretary E. R. Pearen (centre). (Photo by R. Downs)

Norman S. Pearce was returned as chairman of Milton Planning Board for 1973, at the board's inaugural meeting Wednesday. Members named Don Hayward vice-chairman. Both held the same positions last year.

New members this year are Councillors Jim Kerr and Mrs. Hazel Porter. Others on the board are council delegates Mayor Brian Best and Councillor Syd Childs, and citizen appointees Fred Rigo, Ed Gawronski and Percy Barr, plus the chairman and vice-chairman.

The board is inaugurating a new policy of meetings this year. Deputations will only be heard at a meeting on the first Wednesday of each month and no decisions will be given on applications at that time. The regular board business meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of the month, at which time no delegations will be received and the decisions on applications will be made. Deputations must notify the secretary Ross Pearen by 12 noon on the Monday prior to the board meeting, if they wish to be heard by the board.

This new policy will be advertised and letters will be sent to all development organizations with proposals presently before the board. Members agreed to cancel the meeting on the first Wednesday, if there are no delegations to be heard.

Says 45 foot roads inadequate for Bell

A 45 foot road may help lower the cost of housing in new subdivisions, but Bell Canada prefers to stick with the standard 66 foot roads.

Milton Planning Board has been asked to approve 45 foot roads in new subdivisions here, but the board last month refused to change the rules until a thorough study has been made. Company A Investments, a firm proposing a subdivision of over 300 homes in the south-west corner of Milton, had asked for the narrower roads and told the board the narrow width left plenty of room for necessary services such as gas, telephone and hydro.

"Inadequate"

But Bell Canada's area engineering manager says it isn't so. W. J. Shaughnessy, in a letter to consulting engineers McCormick, Rankin and Associates, calls a 45 foot road "completely

inadequate" as far as space allocation for Bell's buried plant is concerned. He said it would leave insufficient space for maintenance work if the boulevards are reduced to 34 inches on each side of the road.

"Experience has proven that should Bell-Hydro plant be installed prior to lighting poles, damage will occur during the placing of street lighting poles to the Bell-Hydro buried plant, unless hand digging methods are employed to uncover the exact location of the buried plant," he said. The Planning Board noted, and filed the letter at their Wednesday meeting.

Another letter about narrow roads came to the board from the Metropolitan Public Utilities Coordinating Committee. This group recommended against 45 foot roads, as there are many difficulties in servicing such areas.

Development proximity to fireworks storage worries planning man

After concern about developments near an industrial plant which stores fireworks was expressed by a member, Milton Planning Board decided to seek an opinion from Milton Fire Chief A. E. Clement.

Member Fred Rigo said he didn't think any development should be allowed closer than 1,000 feet from a cement block building at Hand Chemical Industries on Nipissing Rd., where he said large quantities of fireworks are being stored. He said he heard of another fireworks storage building blowing up recently in another community, and glass was shattered in homes 1,000 feet away.

No more dangerous

Mayor Brian Best, also a member of the Planning Board, said he didn't think the Hand firm's buildings were any more dangerous than a gasoline station or a freight train carrying explosive materials which travels right through the centre of the town.

Members asked the secretary to seek an opinion from the fire chief. They have some proposals

before them for group housing in the area south of Hand Chemical's plant.

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Set up committee on agriculture

Halton County Council's Administration Committee departed from the policy brought in last year in re-organizing the county committee structure Wednesday when they agreed an agriculture committee should be set up as a sub-committee of the administration committee. The recommendation will go to the county council later this month.

Burlington Deputy Reeve Dave Coons suggested the committee was necessary and felt it would have a fundamental role in making recommendations that would put a halt to the urban sprawl and the erosion of rural Halton. "It is mandatory that these people have a body to go to and they must feel that they are being heard and understood," Coons noted.

Plowing match

One of the roles of the sub-committee would be to work closely with the 1973 and 1974 plowing match. The 1974 match will be held in Halton.

Georgetown Reeve Ric Morrow objected to the formation of the sub-committee because he felt it would mark the beginning of a

reversion to the old committee structure where there were 14 county committees. Only five exist now.

Warden Mrs. A. MacArthur challenged Morrow's statement that the agricultural people weren't being shortchanged under the current system and no change should take place.

Foul up

The Warden recalled the foul-up at the county tent at the 1972

plowing match and noted that may have been avoided if a committee for that purpose existed.

After the meeting Henry Stanley, agricultural representative for the County said he was pleased that the committee had chosen to develop the sub-committee. He noted the county still had a lot of rural acreage and assessment and over 1,000 farmers.

Prior to re-organization of the county structure, a separate committee existed for agriculture.

—January is the month of inaugural meetings in Milton.

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MILTON PLANNING BOARD members held their inaugural meeting for 1973 Wednesday and got right down to business. They named Norm Pearce chairman and Don Hayward vice-chairman. Pictured during their deliberations are Mayor Brian Best (back to camera

in foreground), Ed Gawronski, Fred Rigo (hidden behind Mr. Gawronski), Jim Kerr, Syd Childs, chairman Pearce, secretary Ross Pearen, vice-chairman Hayward and Mrs. Hazel Porter. Another member, Percy Barr was absent. (Photo by R. Downs)

102-home subdivision approved by planners

A plan of subdivision for 102 single family homes and 13 acres of medium density development at the north-west corner of Ontario St. and Derry Rd. was given draft approval by Milton Planning Board on Wednesday.

The Risenberg firm owns 73 acres and is developing 28 of those acres into single family homes. Although the official plan would permit 203 homes in the area, only 102 are planned. And although the town's by-laws call for 3.69 acres of parkland, the developer is providing 7.40 acres.

Stores, school

A five acre commercial block and a 3.74 acre school site are included in the plans. Lot frontages will average 61 feet and range from 50 to 110 feet in size. An average of 55 feet is required. About the only problem the

board encountered was that a number of the developer's 50 foot lots in the draft plan are smaller than the 6,000 square feet minimum allowable size. These will have to be adjusted.

Wrong title for Masons

The caption beneath the St. Clair Masonic Lodge photo in last week's Champion was partly in error.

William T. Randell should have been identified as the Lodge's chaplain; James Cunningham as the historian. The Champion regrets this error.

Three fires on Saturday

Four minor fire alarms were answered by Milton Area Fire Department during the past week. Three came Saturday.

A chimney fire at the Steeles Ave., Hornby home of Frank Chisholm and a car fire on Highway 401 were answered by the brigade. The car, owned by Russell Rozell of Galt, received

little damage. Firefighters also checked out a gas spill at the I.O.O.F. parking lot on Main St.

Sunday morning a false alarm was reported at the senior girls' building at Ontario School for the Deaf.

—Give blood at Thursday's Red Cross clinic at the Legion.

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