



THE NEW HALTON COUNCIL posed for an official group photo following the inaugural meeting. They are in the front row seated, Chief Administrative Officer Ernie Reid, Chairman Ric Morrow and Regional Clerk Garfield Brown. Second row: Mary Munro, Tom Sutherland, Jack Raftis, Ben Ciprietti, Laurie Mannell, Roy Booth, Russ Miller, Archie

Donaghey, Tom Hill and Mac Anderson. Back row: David Coons, Walter Mulkewich, Gord Reade, Pat McLaughlin, Ron Planche, Jim Kerr, Don Carter, Don Gordon, Pat McKenzie, Harry Barrett, Carl Eriksen, Jim Watson and Vern Connell.

Morrow speech

Change region to suit citizens

In his nomination speech Ric Morrow told council that if elected regional chairman he would take on a low profile, would reduce some of the status and authority in the chairman's office and the region itself. The following is the complete text of the remarks he made before being elected Wednesday.

I am sure that as elected representatives of the citizens of Halton we are all aware of the serious nature of the business before us this afternoon.

When you finally select your chairman you will, at the same time, be making a major determination of the office itself. As a result of the recent election, there appears to be a major change of attitude within this council, and it reflects our citizens' concern about the rapid growth and the powers of regional government and of the office of chairman itself.

If council wishes to embark on a program of redefining regional government to suit the needs of our citizens and not necessarily the needs of the province, then, on this basis, I offer myself as a candidate for regional chairman.

As your chairman it will be my responsibility to provide an informed and civilized environment in which to make your decisions. I do not intend to preside over a three-ring circus as so many of us have witnessed during the last three years. I do not believe the chairman should have a vote in committee and should have a vote in council only to break a tie. It is the representatives directly elected by the people who should have decision-making powers.

If required to cast a deciding vote, I would vote to maintain the present status on the question as new policies should only be implemented by a majority of directly elected councillors. On council procedure, I would appoint, subject to council's approval, a permanent chairman of the committee of the whole to provide continuity in the application of the role. In future, at all times within the council chambers, the four mayors will at all times be addressed by their appropriate title and not as regional councillors.

In an effort to remove any vestiges of parochialism and to broaden each member's understanding of this region, I would ask that councillors consider sitting on

more than one committee or alternately changing committees at some point during their term of office.

Staff, council seminars would be conducted on a regular basis in order to increase communications and understanding. To improve these areas, I would further suggest that the first 15 minutes of each council meeting be allotted to department heads on a rotational basis, to detail the operation and role of their department as it affects the region.

As your chairman, I would have a very low public profile and would rarely attend public functions unless they happen to be of a specific regional nature.

If you want the regional chairman's office to be that of a super-mayor, then I urge you not to vote for me. My major responsibility, in addition to effecting a sense of sanity in the conduct of our meetings, would be to act as your main liaison with staff and assist you as individuals with fulfilling the demands of your respective offices. There have been mistakes made during the first three years and now that the citizens have spoken, we should reflect on what has taken place and make sure changes are made where they are warranted.

As I stated in my letter our citizens are concerned by the centralization of former local government powers at the regional level, and that the duplication of some of these areas can be eliminated.

First, I would have council investigate the possibility of disbanding the regional roads department and as an alternative

have the area municipalities maintain the regional roads within their boundaries on a chargeback basis. It does not make any practical sense to have a sander or snow-plow travel substantial distances to maintain a single regional road where area works departments are maintaining roads on either side.

Secondly, because we already know the province will not return authority for sanitary sewers to the local level, I would ask the area mayors to consider transferring storm sewer responsibility to the regional level. Since so often both services are placed in the same trench, it seems only logical that control should be placed under one authority. In reflecting this new approach to the region we would in the future meet with area councils and staff as equal partners on behalf of our local government. It would be my responsibility to ensure that regional staff reflects this attitude.

You are aware, as individuals, that I have not asked for your vote because in return I offer nothing to you as individuals—but rather a promise to abide by and have respect for your majority views expressed in council.

Finally, you are the elected people who must decide the future role of this region. Consider the option that is before you now and if you feel it would better reflect the needs and desires of the people you represent, then I would be most pleased to accept the challenge of being your chairman. Thank you.

Ask sewer, water service to Frankel

Milton Council will ask Halton Region to run sewer and water services under Highway 401 up the Third Line to the southerly limit of the proposed Hydro right-of-way, and from that point along an easement to be obtained by the town from Bay River Developments to Frankel Steel.

Frankel Steel announced plans several weeks ago to move its Toronto operation to Milton and expand the Milton plant.

The council is anxious to do what it can to facilitate the expansion at Frankel and bring the additional assessment and employment to the community.

Wonders Mayor Don Gordon wondered if the town might leave itself open to charges of bad faith by running services up the Third Line in the area of

the proposed future industrial plaza. He suggested the minister might become annoyed if he felt the town was second guessing his decisions on amendment seven, the amendment establishing a large industrial park north of 401.

A majority of councillors however, felt it was only good planning to go ahead with the oversizing now as opposed to

providing a smaller service for Frankel now and another service later.

Councillor Rick Day said the town of Milton wants it. "I'm tired of pussyfooting around with what the region wants or what the minister wants. If having the service there would help our case, I say let's do it. If the region wants to get into it, they had better look out or know what they are talking about."

Housekeeping is important

To be one-up on safety, the Industrial Accident Prevention Association suggests you pick up, clean up, wipe up, sweep up, and straighten up! Good housekeeping is a vital part of safe working methods of almost any job in industry, says the IAPA.

Housekeeping is an important part of efficient work on almost any job. IAPA urges you to check your housekeeping, and be one-up on safety.

—Kelso Park and Glen Eden Ski Club were busy all weekend.

Taxis ask 25% hike in rates

Two Milton taxi firms have asked Milton Council to permit a 25 to 33 per cent increase in taxi rates, but the councillors want to compare the proposal with rates in surrounding towns before they give final approval.

Owners of Blue Cab Co. Ltd. and Crowe Taxi Service sent the letter, which came up on council's committee-of-the-whole meeting agenda Monday.

They asked new rates of \$1 drop or starting rate and 10 cents for every one-eighth of a mile, with a waiting time fee of \$8 per hour. Old rates, which have not been adjusted since November of 1974, were 80 cents drop, 10 cents per one-sixth of a mile and a \$6 per hour waiting rate.

Council, at the urging of Councillor Rick Day, decided to get comparative rates from Halton Hills, Oakville and Burlington.

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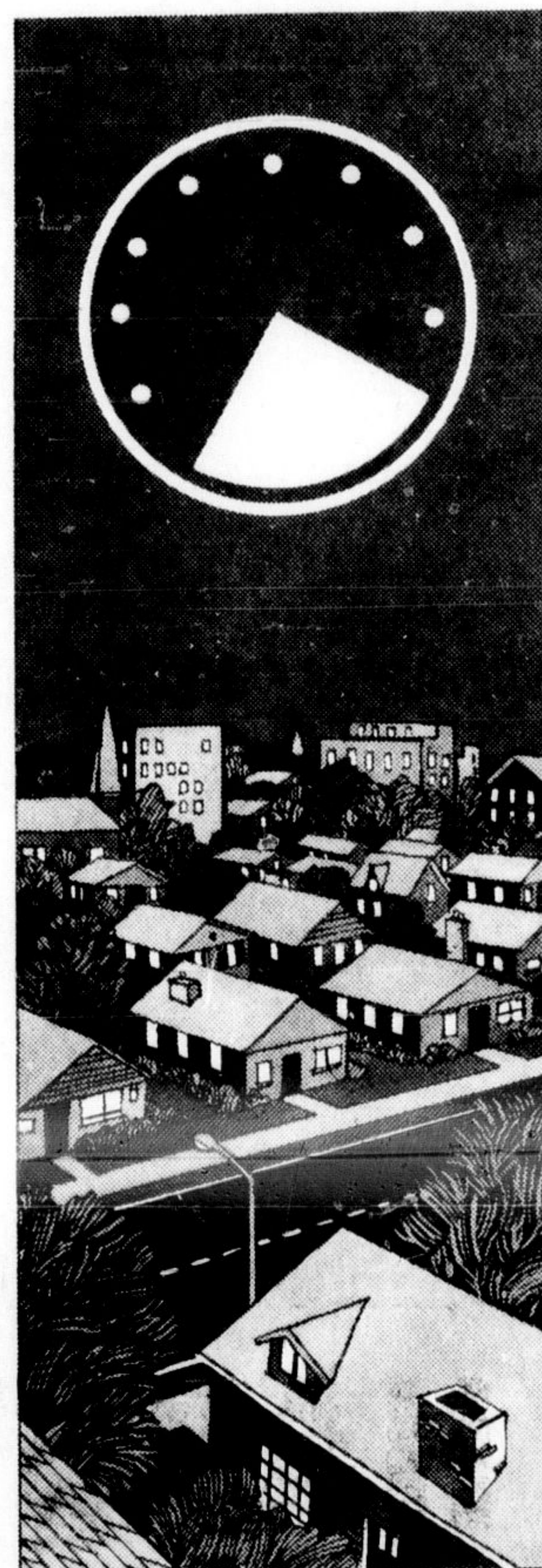
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Demands for electricity have been increasing at a pace that can no longer be met. The rate of growth must be reduced.

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