# Budget chopping continues

Committees have agonized over budget estimates before them. As of Friday the \$34,000,000 budget had been cut by about four per cent. In its original form the budget called for an increase of 31 per cent.

At a special meeting of the Community Services Committee Friday at the Halton Centennial Manor the committee approved departmental budgets, all carrying sharp increases. In its original form the

budget represented an in-

#### 4.5 per cent Morrow, when he unemployed society for submitting the budget in that form. The CAS

in Halton While Canada is experiencing unprecedented levels of unemployment

Region is relatively well off in

that regard. Unemployment in Halton stands at 4.5 per cent compared to the provincial average of over seven per cent, according to Halton Social and Family Services Administrator Rennie Vivian.

provinces have higher rates of unemployemnt and in Newfoundland unemployment runs at 17 per

There are over 1,000,000 people unemployed in Canada

creased expenditure of 31 per cent. After dozens of meetings and countless numbers of hours spent on the budget, increase has been whittled to about 27 per cent, according to Treasurer Don Farmer. Figures haven't been officially compiled and the 27 per cent is only an esti-

Abnormal increases at both the Children's Aid Society and the Halton Centennial Manor account for part of the big increases in the regional

The CAS budget called for an increase of 62 per cent Chairman, Ric the annual meeting of the

ever since. Finally after a number of meetings of the Region's Community Service Committee, including some joint meetings with CAS officials, the committee reluctantly approved the budget with an

increase of 39 per cent. CAS officials managed to cut the estimates to 39 per cent by phasing in new programs and taking on new staffers later in the year than

was originally proposed. While the cuts will provide some relief this year the full impact will show up next year. Without introducing

any new programs next year the CAS budget will jump by another 30 per cent. It stands at \$1,385,528 and

## Policy change irks Barrett

Barrett flew into a rage at a meeting of the Region's Administration Committee Wednesday after learning of a policy change concerning the collection of capital

The change would see the region collect its own capital levies and set its own rates

for the levies. Barrett is adamantly opposed to having the region involved in any way with lot levies. He sees that as a responsibility of the local council

levies are fees developers pay for each home they build in order to help offset the demands on the community's services.

Regional Treasurer Don Farmer and some councillors have complained about the current policy. They claim as Eriksen said the approval were charging an under-thelong as area councillors was only in principal. Both he table fee to the parents adoptcontrol those funds the funds and Barrett will seek to halt will be used on area projects the change when the matter and the region will be forced comes before council again.

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debenture more projects than would otherwise be But

doesn't concur. The change in policy came to light during consideration of a plan of subdivision at the Administration Committee many adoptions meeting Wednesday.

Several of the councillors on the committee were surprised to learn that they had unknowingly approved of the change at the previous council meeting.

The matter was put before council at the meeting as later business and some never read the minutes of the

"I'm sick and ried of this are over 100 babies placed The same things that way each year in order to coming back until it slips Barrett charged. checking Councillor Carl

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indications are it will go up to at least \$1,800,000 next year. Unlike most other budgets the Region can not exercise full control of the CAS budget. challenge the budget it has to

review board. The Community Services CAS to lop \$150,000 off the show the committee where per cent, was approved with those cuts would be made and only minor changes what the impact would be.

When the CAS came back Director Ron Coupland prewould seriously retard and grants and fees paid by the

jeopardize the services of the Children's Aid Society to the Region's children.'

moved without sabotaging completely, an already overstressed service delivery

The budget for Halton Centennial Manor presented by Administrator Stan Allen, calling for an increase of 54

The Manor budget calls for an expenditure of \$3,807,406 this year. The Region's share a report showing of that works out to about be \$764,260. The region recovers a large percentage of the but warned that "those cuts operating costs in provincial

A Social and Family Services Budget calling for the expenditure of \$2,644,676 was approved by the Committee escaped any major cutting at Friday's session as

Most of the regional committees have approved or are about to approve budget estimates so they can be forwarded to the council for further cutting or ratification early in May.

BULLETIN—The treas- in fees urer's department reported late Tuesday an error had been found and the Manor levy increase was now nine per cent, not 54 per cent as discussed above. Some additional revenues were located.

# Support for Centre

Halton Regional Council will be asked to provide additional financial support for the Acton Community Services Centre to allow the centre to improve upon the services being offered.

Council's Community Services Committee agreed to provide funds over and above the \$5,687 grant already altional grant would amount to. Acton area councillor Pat

representatives and officials

Mr. McKenzie noted the coordinator at the centre had been forced to resign because her family was moving to Sarnia and he felt it would be a good time to put a regional staffer on duty in a rented

He said the staffer could integrate both statutory and

an increasing number of new

born babies in homes and by-

passing the waiting list of

people who want to adopt

babies, according to the

Mr. Coupland said there

Director of the Children's Aid

short circuit the waiting list

that parents would face if

they went through the CAS.

McKenzie to ask if doctors

That caused councillor Pat

His question drew a sharp

no comment from Mr. Coup-

the

Shack

honey

Society, Ron Coupland.

ing the children.

Doctors arrange

Halton doctors are placing land. Questioned by reporters

voluntary social agencies in the community.

He noted that the region had provided similar services in all of the other urban centres in the region.

Officer Mr. Reid told the committee he felt the centre was a worthwhile organization but felt the region would be wiser to encourage the centre to continue with volun-

service teer help as opposed to a full time staffer.

Gail Maltby, chairperson for the Centre told Mr. Reid that while the committee had hoped a full time person would be hired on regional staff she was pleased with the

Maltby suggested \$6,000 would be suitable as an additional grant. No decision has yet been made on the

# Acton area councillor Pat McKenzie had arranged a meeting between Centre between Centre descriptions and officials Chief Administrative Officer Ernie Reid. Mr. McKenzie noted the co-

Milton's Public Works Department may have to haul garbage to Burlington instead of Halton Hills if a motion going to Regional Council is eventually approved.

Halton Hills Councillor Russ Miller told the Regional Public Works Committee sive.

later Mr. Coupland said the

prospect of doctors charging

fees for providing children is

something that always exists

but he said he had no concrete

Wednesday that he feared the Georgetown dump would fill up before a new landfill site is acquired and Halton Hills would end up hauling from one end of the region to the other. He said the haulage costs would be very expen-

if Milton garbage was diverted. He said it was a 70 mile round trip from Georgetown to Burlington. There is only one year left in the Georgetown landfill

Councillor Miller said

Halton Hills could buy some

time in the Georgetown dump

site now according to engineer Don Morrier. The committee agreed to make the change pending a

report from staff. The change will result in greater haulage costs for

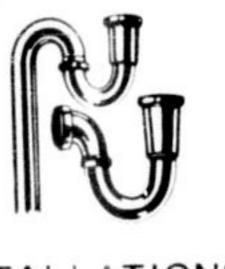
#### information on which those charges could be supported. J. D. CURRIE

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# Gordon wants more control

Milton Mayor Don Gordon wants better control over accounts paid through the Trea-Department, he told Region's Administration Committee

Vednesday. Gordon said each committee should approve its own accounts, each councillor should receive a monthly list showing how much had been paid on any given account and the various departments

should be forecasting their

People applying to the Division Land Regional severances could end up paying \$150 for each application, instead of the \$50 they now pay.

Halton Region's Administration Committee passed a resolution asking that the Land Division Committee be allowed to charge the higher fee, during the budget deliberations last week.

legislation Provincial controls the amount that can be charged. Mrs. P. Bihune, secretary manager, for the committee said members of the committee favor an increase in the rates but haven't been authorized to make the change.

needs a year ahead. Gordon said he wanted to

see forecasts for 1978 when he deals with a 1977 budget for example. "This way it won't take as long to approve a budget," he told the com-

Gordon's plan received a hardy endorsement from Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett. He said there was a real need to tighten up on the approving procedure for

"We're responsible. know where the dollars are going. Knowledge

# Council

May 2-7 as Chamber of Commerce Week.

Nassagaweya Township office building for rent. Funk Seeds had rented the building but was moving out and correspondence inthe board of education, Halton Region Authority, Conservation Halton Police and Halton Region were not interested in using the building.

briefs

Milton Council Monday;

-Proclaimed the week of

—Decided to advertise the

—Authorized the clerk and treasurer to attend the Clerks Treasurers of Ontario conference June 19-22 in North





#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

7:00—"The Rud Whiting Show" guest: John Jensen, Milton Skydiver

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of the accounts is knowledge the operation," Barrett

Administrative Officer Ernie Reid and Trea-

Gordon's plan could be a lot of extra paper work.

carried out but it would mean The committee will recom-

mend Council adopt Gordon's







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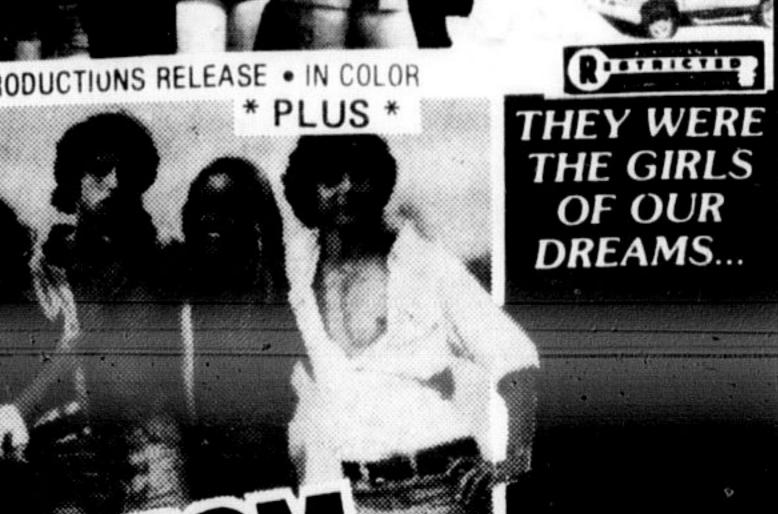
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