

Halton employs slashing

Cuts totalling \$513,000 were made from the regional budget at the Finance and Administration Committee Wednesday. But it's still not enough.

Treasurer Don Farmer told the committee the cuts bring the percentage increase down to 6.8 per cent.

The committee resolved to reduce the increase to six per cent.

The actual budget increase is 10.8 per cent. Four percentage points of the total consists of

new assessments and does not affect the overall mill rate.

The Public Works committee were told to chop half a million dollars from its budget. The children's Aid Society had \$13,000 cut from its budget.

Public Works committee chairman Ron Planche of Oakville was present at the meeting. He requested the budget cuts be referred back to his committee to decide where the cuts shall be made.

The Administration committee agreed.

Regional Chairman Jack Raftis said he would be willing to sit down with regional staff and hammer out the remaining .8 per cent budget cuts.

He suggested he has a "pretty good idea of where there's fat" since he has attended each committee's deliberations.

Other committee members expressed wariness at this suggestion.

Councillor Bonnie Brown of Oakville said: "Where the chairman feels there's fat may not be the same place as where I or someone else may feel there's fat."

She suggested the Regional Chairman meet with staff and the chairmen of the four regional committees to decide where the budget cuts could be made.

The committee endorsed the suggestion.

The total regional budget now stands at \$36,736,520, compared to

the 1978 budgeted expenditures of \$34,193,200. Of that \$34 million, only \$33,724,438 was actually spent.

The budgeted revenues will come mostly from provincial and federal subsidies. The budget calls for \$19,028,958 to come from subsidies and other revenues.

That leaves \$17,707,562 to be raised through the tax levy.

The proposed budget cuts will reduce the figures further.

High speed chase ends in youths' arrest

A high speed police chase involving a stolen car along Appleby Line early Sunday morning has resulted in the arrests of two London youths.

Halton Regional Police first received an alert call from Milton OPP concerning the stolen car following an accident on Highway 401.

Milton OPP said the car struck a van but failed to stop.

As Halton Regional Police received the information, the car passed a police

cruiser on Bronte St. Milton OPP and a second Halton Regional Police cruiser joined the pursuit of the 1976 Mazda along Derry Rd. to Appleby Line.

Police said the stolen vehicle travelled at speeds up to 120 kilometres an hour.

The driver finally lost control of the car on a curve along Appleby Line and came to rest on the side of the road, but the chase was not over.

Police managed to ar-

rest a 19-year-old passenger in the car, but the driver made a quick exit into the brush.

Police gave chase on foot, but were unable to catch the 17-year-old driver.

Police say they believed the teen hitched a ride back to London. He was later apprehended by London City Police.

He is charged with possession of stolen property, dangerous driving and obstructing police.

\$400 damage in restaurant fire

The Milton Fire Department answered four calls during the last week.

Mar. 28—at 8.30 p.m. a false alarm at Mayfair Apartments on 285 Ontario St.

Mar. 29—at 11.51 a.m. fire fighters responded to a fire in a garbage can at White Oaks Plaza at Anne and Bronte Sts. Fire officials presume the blaze was started by a cigarette butt.

Apr. 1—at 12.20 p.m. the fire department was

called to a blaze at Mountainview Restaurant on Derry Rd. Officials said the fire started in an exhaust duct over the stove. Damage is estimated at \$400.

Apr. 2—at 2 a.m. Halton Regional Police notified the Milton Fire Department after spotting smoke in Brewer's Retail Warehouse on Millside Drive. The smoke was refrigerator gas leaked from a broken refrigerator line.

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