

Preston tries to block appointment to HRCA

What was expected to be a routine matter of approving recommendations for appointments to a variety of boards and commissions turned into an angry exchange between two councillors at Halton Regional Council Wednesday.

Burlington Alderman Paul Preston set off the exchange when he tried to block the appointment of Burlington Councillor Joan Allingham to Halton Region Conservation Authority.

Preston told council that when a person he was supporting for the job backed out at the Burlington Council meeting he offered his name. Burlington Council favored Allingham over Preston for the job.

Charges conflict
"In order to prevent a minor disaster at the Halton Region Conservation Authority, I put my name forward. The person being nominated has a moral conflict of interest. She has a record of objecting to every form of development that has come along," he said.

At that point Burlington Councillor Jack Raftis jumped to his feet and shouted at Preston. "This is the lowest form I've ever seen. It's politics and it's to be expected. Paul Preston lost an appointment and he'll do anything he can to block this appointment."

"I can't condone this Paul Preston, especially after you called me the other afternoon and asked what the letters MTC stood for after you have been on public works for two years. Sit down and shut up," Raftis shouted.

Joins in
Burlington Councillor May Munro entered the fray before Preston finished. "I object, Mr. Chairman I object," she shouted.

MTC stands for Ministry of Transportation and Communications and is the provincial ministry that a public works committee member most often comes in contact with.

Regional Council appointed Mrs. Allingham in spite of Preston's objection. Brook Harris was also reappointed for a three year term. He is the current chairman of the authority.

Terry Mannell of Oakville and Gordon Krantz and Jim Watson of Milton were also appointed to the authority but without fanfare. Milton Councillor Russ Powadiuk was appointed to the Grand River Conservation Authority.

Halton Hills Mayor Tom Hill upset Burlington Mayor George Harrington in an election for the second seat on the Halton Regional Police Commission. Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett was reappointed to that commission.

Delay merit increase
A motion that would have provided Halton Region employees below the \$13,000 a year bracket with a merit increase was tabled Wednesday, pending further clarification on the federal anti-inflation board guideline.

Several regional councillors felt the merit increase should be granted because council had granted increases to a long list of employees in November.

Personnel manager Dennis Cam had recommended the merit increases be paid.

Eta Phi group

Mayor is speaker

Eta Phi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority held the Christmas meeting at the home of Lesley Wheelihan, Campbellville. The chapter was honored to have as guest speaker for the evening, Mayor Anne MacArthur. Mayor MacArthur answered many questions regarding the Niagara Escarpment Commission housing, quarries, official plan and the coming of the GO train.

Other visiting guests were Linda Allen, a transferee Scarborough and Marna Bedard.

The chapter discussed plans for a craft and antique show by the Campbellville pond in the late spring.

It was agreed that the Sorority would be campaigning for the Cancer Society as it had in previous years.

Santa Claus (Frank Wheelihan) was on hand to give out Christmas gifts to all. On Saturday Dec. 13 members and their husbands enjoyed a Christmas buffet at the home of Brian and Ann Chambers.

Firefighters treat guests to yule feast

Former firefighters, friends and helpers of Milton Fire Department joined the members of the brigade at the annual "thank you" night at the fire hall Friday.

Cards, conversation and a roast beef dinner were enjoyed by over 50 as the firefighters celebrated the end of another year and paid tribute to all who have been of assistance in 1975. Firefighter Harold Penson headed up the

committee in charge of cooking and serving the dinner.

Fire Chief A. E. Clement welcomes the guests and introduced special guests ex-Chief Bill Randell (1943-1951), Legion President Bob Eggleton and brigade physician Dr. R. Edwards.

Draws were held during the evening for a dozen chickens and a dozen "cheers".



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