Council hedges on \$300,000 for meeting hall

Department),

A plan to spend \$300,000 - six times the purchase price - to upgrade the town's meeting hall in Victoria Park Square drew unfavourable reaction from some councillors Monday night. Councillors Rose Harrison and

Brian Penman both cautioned their fellow councillors against the major expenditure, saying other projects were more important. "I really question the standing of

\$300,000," said Mrs. Harrison, "when we don't have enough money for rural roads and other services the people could use.

Really, the meeting hall is going to be used by just a few groups who want to use this (the town hall) building

"That building is a nice castle for the town's administration, and I don't mean that as a personal attack."

Town administrator Roy Main said the meeting hall, formerly the registry office which had been used by the region's health department for the past several years, would not be used by the town's staff. He said it would be used by community groups

Mr. Penman threw some lighthearted remarks into the discussion. He noted that the town paid only \$1 for the former courthquise (which it made into the town hall) and \$50,000 for the former registry office.

"Having spent \$1 on this building and \$3.1 million to bring it into shape," he said, "one can imagine how much we'd spend on that building when we bought it for The number is \$50,000. astronomical.

Mr. Main said only \$20,000 from current taxes would be needed to make up the \$300,000 total. The rest was designated from the capital budget including building reserve (\$100,000); capital levies (\$100,000); and capital works reserves (\$80,000).

The general plan calls for a small kitchenette, two small offices for town staff and one large meeting

New home for bell proposed

The Milton Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion will ask Milton council to come up with a plan to find a new home for the town hall bell.

The legion decision was reached last week and follows two detailed drawings submitted to the town council by Legion member Reg Griffin. The bell now sits at the public works garage on Nipissing Rd.

Mr. Griffin said he is convinced that Milton, with a town hall which is the envy of the rest of Canada, must have the bell brought back to Victoria Park Square to complete the full restoration of the old jail and cour-

The drawings propose a bell tower to be constructed on the northwest corner of the building, where the flag poles are located, and adjacent to the cenotaph.

"I'm looking 50 to 100 years down the line when we should leave this as a part of history," he said.

"The council should come up with a plan for the bell and then let the public make a decision."

Bail for trucker

Arthur J. Jeffery, the 37-year-old man charged with impaired operation causing death and other alcohol-related offences in connection with the fiery accident in the eastbound lanes of Highway 401 Monday March 24, has been released on \$5,000 bail.

That accident claimed the life of one man, severely damaged the James Snow Parkway overpass, and crippled traffic along the highway for days.

Mr. Jeffery, a Burks Falls resident, is scheduled to appear in Milton court on Wednesday July 9.



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A 13-member committee has been appointed to improve tourism in

A meeting in February produced 27 individuals interested in improving tourism in the town. From that meeting, the 13-member committee was formed. The committee plans several further meetings, all of which will be opened to the public.

Plans call for the committee to make decisions as opposed to recommendations to council. It's first task will be to produce a

brochure. Members of the committee are: Ann Harrison (Milton Arts Commerce); Gary Hutton (Halton

Region Conservation Authority);

Michele Anderson (Milton LACAC); Dorene Collins (Ontario Agricultural Museum); Thomas Thekan (Campbellville Business Association); Barnamed council representative; Roy Main (town administrator); Bonnie Ward (Department of Leisure Ser-

An automatic warning devise for the railway crossing on No. Sideroad between First Line and Second Line, will be the next one con-

structed in Milton. That was the request of John Matthews, director of public works, who Council); Sandy Martin (Milton said the sight lines leading to the lines. DBIA); John Lawrence (Chamber of crossing were poor and dangerous. He said a fatal accident in 1983 led the Canadian Transport Commission to

look into the situation. However, he said the CTC felt improved protection

wasn't warranted. However, he disagreed and asked bara Cooper (KOA Campground); council to request from CTC the im-Lynda Hayes (member at large); proved protection. He said a cost Gord Krantz; a yet-to-be- estimate must be prepared before any action can be taken.

Councillor Colin Best said he felt there were other crossings in the vices); and Robin Kitchen (Planning town as poor as this one. Mr. Matthews said this was the worst, primarly because of poor sight lines.

He said various obstructions such as natural ungraded land, fences, hedges, and trees were the determining factors. He said the obstructions were on private land and the Town could not ask private landowners to prune their land to facilitate the sight

The \$25,000 job of landscaping Vic-

Council briefs

toria Park Square will get more in-

Council appointed three councillors to oversee the needs for the park, which abuts Town Hall to the west. Those councillors named are Art Melanson, Les Laughren and Brian Penman.

The councillors were instructed to work with Reg Griffin, from Milton Legion, and members of Local Arhitectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) with their

Town Administrator Roy Main said landscape architects would meet with the committee in May with tenders going out in the summer.



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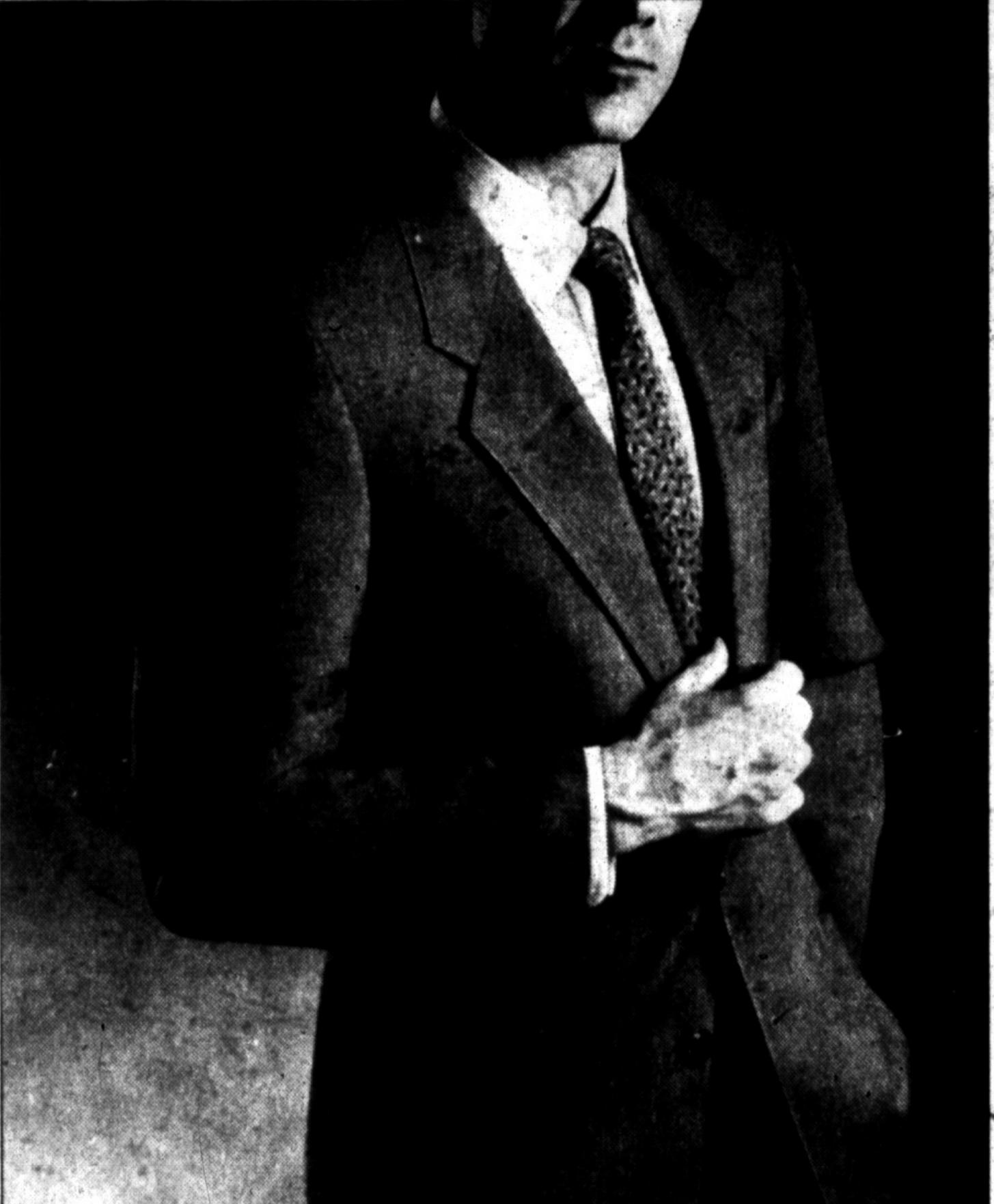
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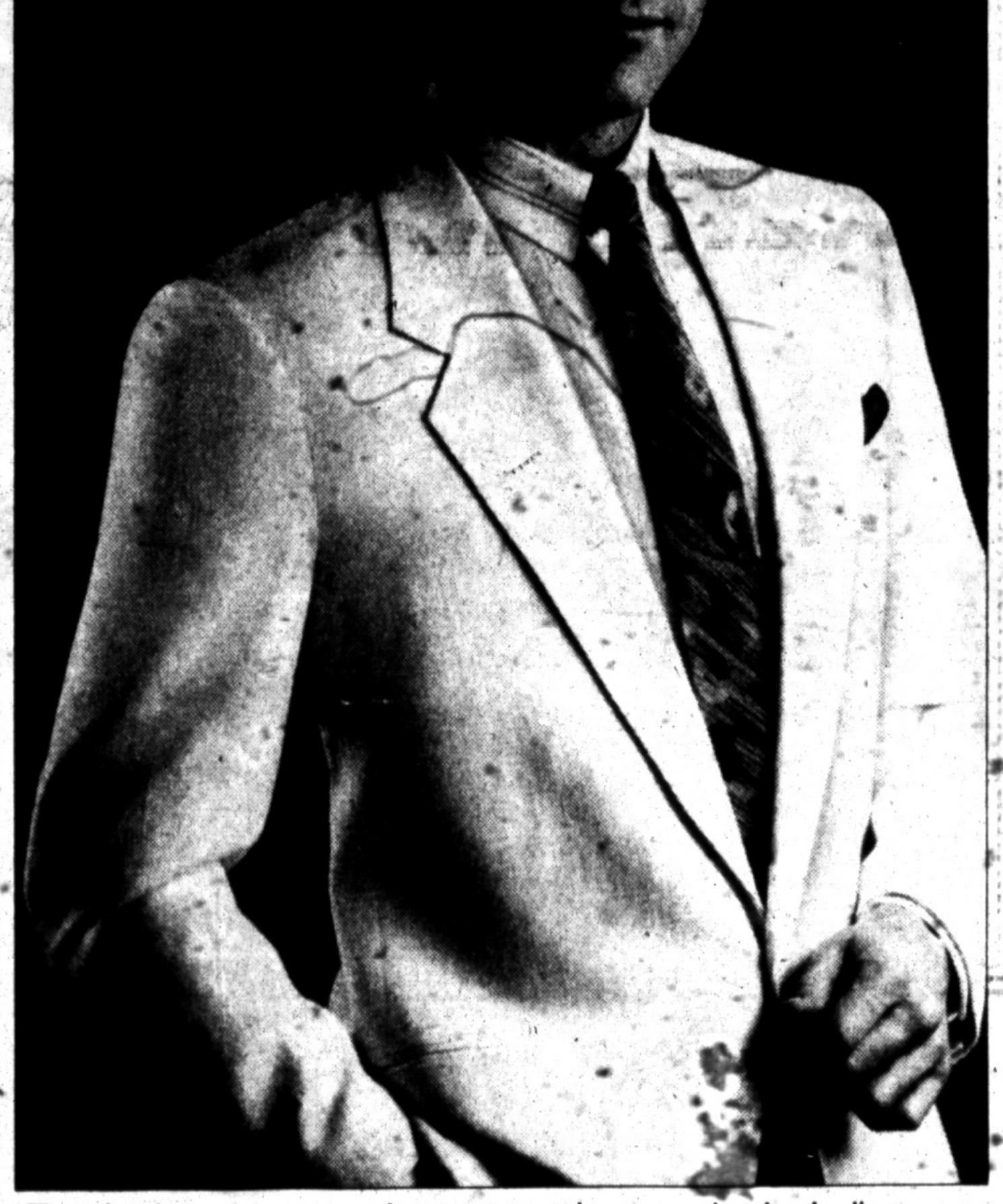
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