

# Town could face \$290,000 in payroll cuts

By **ROB KELLY**  
*The Champion*

Proposed provincial legislation aimed at slicing \$2 billion from public sector wages will probably mean a \$290,000 cutback for the Town of Milton, senior municipal officials said Tuesday.

"We will lose \$290,000 in grants," said David Hipgrave, Milton's chief administrative officer. The legislation forces municipalities to make the reductions from their payrolls, so they will be permanent. Money cannot be taken from other projects to fill the void.

Asked what morale was like among Milton's 100 municipal employees, Mr. Hipgrave said they view the situation as "pretty serious. No one wants to have their wages cut or be laid off. These are very serious discussions."

The provincial government has given Ontario's 950,000 public sector

workers until August 1 to trim the \$2 billion, otherwise Queen's Park will do it by unilaterally chopping transfers to municipalities, schools, for health care and by scaling back funding for the provincial civil service.

Under the provincial outline, wages would be frozen for three years and 12 days of unpaid leave would be imposed on employees.

If each of the umbrella bargaining sectors involved in the cutbacks — municipalities for example — can come to an agreement with the provincial government prior to the August 1 deadline, the cutbacks will be lessened by 20 per cent, according to a Toronto Star report.

"If we don't have an agreement, then the provisions will come into place," said Mr. Hipgrave, who sits on

the board of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the group negotiating with the province on behalf of more than 700 municipalities.

Town treasurer Jim McQueen said municipal managers hope to find ways of making the cuts without costing anyone his job, such as not filling existing vacancies. "What we're doing is looking at things that will maintain the (current) employment base."

Milton has no fire chief at present, nor a planning director. Recruitment has been ongoing for both positions, but Harold Penson has been the acting fire chief for months and John Fior the acting planning director for more than a year.

The latest news is the second provincial funding drop to face Milton and all Ontario municipalities in recent

months. The expenditure control plan, the other element in the provincial two-pronged cutback strategy, cost Milton approximately \$75,000.

But that initial \$75,000 could come from capital projects, rather than personnel costs. Milton scrapped some sidewalk repairs and other road work to make budget.

Mr. McQueen warned that not only is the lost funding "never coming back", but "the (provincial) government may take more money next year or the year after that," if deficits continue to loom large.

Milton's overall municipal payroll is roughly \$7 million a year.



David Hipgrave



Jim McQueen

## Howard seeks to gag 'old hens'

By **ROB KELLY**  
*The Champion*

There's too much fooling around in the meetings town councillors hold behind closed doors, says Ward 3 representative Marion Howard.

Portions of meetings closed to the public, called in-camera sessions, "really upset me," Ms Howard told town council's general committee Monday night. "It's like an old hen's picnic."

Councillors should "cut back on the jokes," stop "speaking off topic" and "asking irrelevant questions" of staff members, councillor Howard added. They should also refrain from "duplicating, triplicating, quadruplicating" the remarks of others when they have the floor.

Ms Howard said she felt frustrated over such activities recently while acting as meeting chairperson, a duty that rotates among councillors on a monthly basis. She was reluctant to impose her will then, but "the next time I'm up there I'm going to be setting my own rules" based on "common sense," she warned.

The discussion sprang from a push by Ms Howard, which her colleagues endorsed Monday, to have municipal staff at least examine the possibility of adopting a set of rules and procedures for meetings, called a procedural bylaw.

Councillors informally follow *Roberts Rules of Order*, a universal guidebook to meeting procedure, but often deviate from the text guidelines to, for instance, make impromptu speeches during times set aside for questions.

Ms Howard said a "misconception" has arisen regarding her request for a procedural bylaw in the wake of a public meeting several weeks ago over a controversial housing proposal. It dragged on until well after midnight. But the councillor said she was more concerned about in-camera activities.

Ward 1 councillor Rick Day said he would support councillor Howard's motion, but cautioned against veering toward too much regulation of speakers.

A former Oakville councillor, Mr. Day said a similar push there meant that "people played all kinds of games" that "led to factions" developing on council as those with opposing views attempted to use procedural rules to influence debate.

Mayor Gord Krantz too said councillors should tread softly so as to "not get bogged down in spending half our time talking about procedures and policies."

Additionally, if council imposes a 10:30 p.m. curfew on its Monday meetings, as some jurisdictions have done, it could easily mean meeting again the next night or the next two nights, he warned.

Should council put time limits on presentations, it may prove unwieldy at public meetings, where input from constituents is solicited, Mr. Krantz added. For example, if members of the public are told after speaking for five minutes "to sit down and shut up," then "it will be interesting to see" their reactions, he noted. "Good luck."

Mr. Krantz is also a Halton regional councillor. There is a procedural bylaw at Halton council and yet representatives still "get bogged down for half an hour at a time."

Ward 2 councillor John Challinor was squarely behind Ms Howard. "I commend councillor Howard for bringing this forward. What councillor Howard is asking for is common sense."

# SUMMER PRICE MELTDOWN!

**Portable TV/AM/FM radio**  
2.9" colour screen folds over for protection. Has built-in speaker. 16-8102

save \$100  
**19995**

**Easy-to-use VCR Plus**  
Simple VCR programming. Input the TV listings' PlusCode™ beside the show. 151-8900

save \$20  
**5995**

**Challenge Master**  
For hours of gaming enjoyment. Has 3 different game modes. 60-2451

save \$15  
**1495**

**SPECIAL PURCHASE**  
10-pack of 60-minute Memorex® tapes. Has tape cleaner & case. 441-8102

**1999**

**Digital headphones**  
Swivel earcups adjust for the right fit. 33-8213

save \$20  
**1995**

**Travel shaver**  
Take it on your next business trip or holiday. Has moustache trimmer. 63-8402

save \$5  
**1495**

**Portable stereo system**  
AM/FM-stereo CD and cassette player. Has built-in speakers. CD player features 20-track programming. 14-8002

**14995**

**Mini speakers**  
Two-way speakers. Black (40-2030) or white (40-2045)

save \$40  
**4950**

**Cassette recorder**  
Mini-size is ideal for meetings, lectures. 14-1055

save \$20  
**5995**

**AM/FM dual cassette deck**  
Has 3-band equalizer and high-speed dubbing. Radio has 10 AM and 10 FM memory presets. 14-9233

save \$50  
**9995**

**Compact phone answerer**  
Digital voice announces the time and date each message was received. Cream (43-8921), charcoal (43-8920)

save \$40  
**9995**

**Take a swing at Champion Golf**  
Avid golfers will love this handheld version of their favourite game. 60-2239

save \$5  
**1495**

**Smart Travel shaver**  
Take it on your next business trip or holiday. Has moustache trimmer. 63-8402

save \$8  
**2195**

**Mobile Alert® vehicle alarm**  
Has remote arm and disarm. Remote alerts you to tampering up to 3.2 km. away. 49-875

save \$100  
**17995**

**Cellular phone**  
17-1020

save 25%  
**14995**

Read fares for 1¢ when you buy the above phone. 61-8970

**Compact phone answerer**  
Digital voice announces the time and date each message was received. Cream (43-8921), charcoal (43-8920)

save \$40  
**9995**

**Pocket-size multimeter**  
Features 18-ranges and 20,000 ohms-per-volt DC sensitivity. 22-221

save \$10  
**1795**

Get it for 1¢. Buy the above multimeter and get a 30x microscope (63-8800) for 1¢. A reg. 15.95 value!

**Emergency road flare**  
Package of 3. Has HALF stand. 61-8970

PRICE **1495**

**50% OFF these battery packs**  
AA 8-pk. 23-8852. Reg. 9.49, sale 4.74  
AAA 4-pk. 23-8855. Reg. 5.89, sale 2.94

**A) SAVE 43%**. Alpha-numeric memory. 17-1060  
**B) SAVE 33%**. Technophone has 100-no. memory. 171-8503  
**C) SAVE 27%**. Ultra-compact hand-held cellular. 17-8008

27995  
32995  
39995

**BELL MOBILITY SAVINGS...\$30 OFF**. Purchase any cellular phone activated on the Bell Mobility Network by Radio Shack and receive a fifty dollar credit on your first cellular phone invoice, courtesy of Radio Shack and Bell Mobility.

**CALL HOME FOR FREE!**. Activate on the Bell Mobility Network and get 30 free calls per month for 3 months to your home phone.

**FREE WEEKENDS!**. 3 months of unlimited free calling all weekend long—from Friday at 8 pm until Monday at 7 am. PLUS...3 months of free Message Centre & 3 months of free detailed billing.

Offer ends June 18, 1993

**Bell Mobility**  
Approved Cellular Agent

**CODE-A-PHONE®**  
Digital phone answerer  
Has digital announcement, digital message & call counter. 431-8125

save \$20  
**6995**

**Cordless phone**  
10-no. memory and Sound Commander™ noise reduction. Clearance. 43-8306

save \$50  
**9995**

**AST. Advantage!® Pro**  
• 4 MB RAM • Built-in FAX/modem  
• 1.44 MB and 1.2 MB floppy drive  
• 28mm Super VGA colour monitor  
• 170 MB Hard Drive • With DOS 6.0, Windows 3.1, Works 2.0 and more 251-4007

**199900**

**3 year extended warranty**. Radio Shack gives you 3 worry-free years of coverage.

\*Offers and prices apply with activation on Bell Mobility long-term guarantee plan only. System licensing fees and activation costs, on approved credit. Long Distance and roaming not included.

**APPLY TODAY!**  
Make shopping even easier, with a Radio Shack credit card. It's accepted at all Radio Shack stores and participating dealers across Canada. We accept VISA and MasterCard.

**Radio Shack**  
Canada's Value Leader in Electronics

Batteries/tapes/CDs/accessories/adapters not included unless specified. Except for clearance items, Rain Checks will be issued if an item is sold out. Radio Shack does not accept liability for pictorial or typographical errors. Prices shown are actual retail prices, exclusive of any applicable taxes.

Check the white pages for the Radio Shack store or participating dealer nearest you

Sale ends June 30, 1993