

**Useless pipes . . . . . at the crux**  
**Residents must now wait for water service word**

Two Bronte St. residents will have to wait for a report from the Region before learning if the Town will contribute towards the cost of new water service laterals on their respective properties.

The issue was raised during the reconstruction of Bronte St. when it was discovered the water pipes were corroded to the point where replacement was necessary. According to a staff report the services are approximately 20-years-old and the eroded section was found approximately five to 12 feet inside of the property line and not at the watermain.

In a report to councillors, Town Administrator Roy Main said the issue of compensation was discussed with the contractor, Halton Region (who are responsible for the water system) and the Town's insurance company for any legal obligations.

Though Mr. Main emphasized the obligation of replacing the water service rests completely with the affected property owner, he did suggest Council consider providing a "one-time" grant to assist with the cost, estimated to be approximately \$500 each.

Councillors however voted not to assist. On Monday evening the situation was

again reviewed following a request by property owners Lawrence Hilson of 84 Bronte St. and Russ Arnold of 98 Bronte St. who expressed their dissatisfaction with the recent decision.

"I feel I'm being imposed upon with a responsibility that is not justified. . . it being a Town project, the responsibility should lie with the Town," said Mr. Hilson.

"These people have paid taxes forever and a day. I think we could compromise," said Councillor Rose Harrison who had previously supported the idea to help out the two homeowners.

She added the Town should consider assessing the two at \$300 each and picking up the remainder of the bill.

However, Councillor Bill Johnson felt such a move might set a precedent for future projects.

"I'm very concerned. If we set this kind of a precedent we may have to reimburse several thousand people who have this type of galvanized metal."

He then recommended the discussion be tabled pending investigation with the Region.

That recommendation was carried and it is expected the two residents will have an answer next month.



**Protecting Children**

The Oakville Civitan Club once again was at Milton Mall finger printing and photographing children for their parents. The program is part of a Civitan project to aid parents should a child go missing. Here Brian Livingstone, 10, is printed by Hugh Cass.



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**Councillor raps 'illegal' tax**

Regional councillors will today debate what one of their numbers has already termed an "illegal tax."

At issue is recommendations in a review of the water and sewer utility policy.

One section calls for landowners abutting, but not currently connected to the sanitary sewer system, be charged a fixed monthly tax "in recognition of the property value benefit of the availability of the system, and capital costs of the system presently being incurred by everyone else without support from the benefitting ratepayers."

Burlington councillor Walter Mulkewich, a member of the regional administration and finance committee

discussing the policy review, is a landowner who uses a septic tank but has a sewer line running along his property line.

"Why should someone be taxed for something they may not want?"

"I have a gas line outside my house but

I'm not forced to use gas.

"I have a telephone line in front of my house but Bell isn't forcing me to use the line."

"What this is is an illegal tax," he said.

Oakville councillor Keith Bird, chairman of the com-

mittee and also a septic tank user did not take part in the debate fearing a conflict of interest.

Despite Mr. Mulkewich's protests, the section on connection was recommended by the committee to council for adoption.

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