

Old post office awaiting council's decision

For Rent or Lease

Used Government Building. Formerly a post office. 6,900 square feet. Three-storey brick and wood structure on fully-serviced lot in prime downtown location. Apply in writing to Public Works of Canada.

When the Penetanguishene post office operation moved down Main Street to its new location, it left behind a building in which at least two groups have an active interest.

But the decision by the federal government's public works department on the fate of the three-storey structure will have to wait until after town council's next meeting.

Council decided Monday night to hold off any decision on whether or not the town could make use of the building until its next meeting.

Mayor Vince Moreau said the issue had been discussed at "some length in the past" but recommended that council hold any decision in abeyance.

The two groups interested in the old post office are Glendon College and the Centre d'Activites Francaises.

Gerry Ambridge, of the public works department's Toronto office which covers the Ontario region, said Monday afternoon that the federal government would like to see

"occupancy tomorrow if possible."

"We have a responsibility to make some money out of it," he added.

Ambridge admitted there had already been "negotiations" with the town on the matter but he declined to elaborate.

"If they expressed an interest we'd be more than happy to have them in there," he said.

The mayor pointed out at the council meeting that the town would not be likely to take up the offer since the rent being asked was too high.

"We don't have any uses for it," Moreau said.

It is known that the federal public works department would look favorably on a lessee who had the support of council and therefore the support of the people of Penetanguishene.

Ray Baker, chairman of the Glendon College Implementation Committee, said his group sent a report to public works asking for the building "early in January" but has not received any reply.

The Centre d'Activites Francaises has also been in contact with public works in regards to the post office.

Ambridge said a town resident or private citizen would have to pay rent at the market value but that the use of the building for a university of community centre would bring a "pretty favorable rent".

He said a lack of action on the part of the municipality would force public works to move toward leasing the building without a council response.

"We have to do something with it," he said.

"and if there is no expressed interest by any level of government then we go to the private sector."

The department, working under the federal land management act, tries wherever

possible to retain control under the federal government through a leasing arrangement.

A letter which arrived in the town offices the day of the March meeting of council from William MacKay, the regional manager of

the department's property administration branch, said the town should contact "this office at your earliest convenience" should there be any interest in the leasing of the property.



It's Girl Guide cookie time again!

These happy smiling faces will be touring throughout Penetanguishene on Saturday as the local Girl Guides and Brownies take part in their annual Cookie Blitz. It is going to be

pretty tough to say no to anyone of these pretty little ladies. Besides, you get a box of cookies in the bargain.

Staff photo

The Penetanguishene Citizen

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Close vote on cruiser

It took a tie-breaking vote by Mayor Vince Moreau at town council Monday night to buy a new police cruiser from a Penetanguishene dealer.

The bid by Stoneleigh Motors was \$150 more than another tender from Courtesy Ford, the lowest on the list.

Councillor Hubert Charlebois, chairman of the police committee, told council the higher bid was recommended because that cruiser had a smaller engine (350 cubic inches compared with the Courtesy Ford 400-cubic-inch vehicle).

"With the in-town driving experienced by our cruiser," he explained, "problems might develop with an engine of this size."

The original call for tenders had asked for

a 360 cubic inch engine.

Councillor Ken Tannahill took exception to the procedure.

"Why didn't you ask why Courtesy Ford couldn't supply a 351 or a 350 motor?" he asked.

Councillor Art Stewart said he wasn't sure the acceptance of the higher tender would be "fair to out-of-town bidders for the sake of 50 cubic inches."

Charlebois pointed out that gasoline consumption and servicing were two other factors in the decision.

Tannahill responded, "at that time the original discussion of the tender I said we should stay in town for servicing alone."

The vote passed by a 5-4 margin.

Une réalité pour nous

animatrice: Réjeanne Guay-Galbraith
Épfin, le Conseil de la Radio-Télévision canadienne a fait savoir sa décision en vue de la demande de licence de Radio-Canada afin de retransmettre les émissions télévisées de langue française à Penetanguishene et Barrie.

"Décision: approuvée"

On peut se réjouir de cette décision. D'autant plus qu'il me peine que la demande de Radio-Canada avait été contestée si non auprès des autorités du CRTC, certainement chez nous, d'une façon mesquine, ignorante et a préjugé. Vous pourriez peut-être me dire "tu aurais dû t'en attendre" et vous auriez raison. Mais, j'aime toujours penser que le temps des préjugés et de l'ignorance est révolu. Tout au moins, j'espère que les gens de chez nous sachent se respecter en respectant les droits de la personne (anciennement, les droits de l'homme). Ces personnes egoïstes et d'esprit étroit ne se sont pas encore rendues compte qu'il y avait ici toute une population qui n'était pas déservie, non seulement par les stations privées et les stations communautaires mais aussi par la station gouvernementale. Si leur argument était si bien fondé sur le bon raisonnement et le respect de la personne, comment se fait-il qu'ils n'étaient pas présents à l'audience publique qui a eu lieu à Montréal? Dans l'énoncé du Barrie Examiner, ils se disaient incapables de s'y rendre et que le Conseil de la Radio-Télévision canadienne le savait très bien et que l'audience publique aurait dû avoir lieu à Toronto. Je leur répondrai qu'il y avait là, pour la plupart, des demandes qui affectaient des régions du Québec mais qu'il y avait aussi des demandes pour le Nouveau-Brunswick et ailleurs et que

tous ceux qui entraînent en ligne de cause se sont rendus. Parce qu'il y avait une demande pour Barrie, ce ne veut pas dire que le CRTC devait démenager tous le reste du Canada à Toronto. Je crois plutôt que la crainte et l'inimitié en plus de leur passion toquée de la télévision américaine était la base de leur argument qu'ils auraient eu du mal à défendre devant les membres du Conseil.

Maintenant, je voudrais passé au plus important. Je remercie la Société Radio-Canada d'avoir formulé cette demande et leur souhaite la bienvenue chez nous, au nom de tous les francophones et autres intéressés. Je remercie vivement M. Warner d'Ottawa qui m'a très bien reçu, qui m'a expliqué tous les détails de ce projet et a patiemment répondu aux mille questions que j'avais apportées comme bagage. Je voudrais cependant remercier tout particulièrement les gens de Penetanguishene, de Lafontaine d'Orillia et d'ailleurs qui ont répondu à mon appel, surtout les jeunes qui m'ont fait parvenir une tonne de lettres écrites de leur main, exprimées en leur propre mot que j'ai pu joindre à notre intervention. Leurs lettres étaient très touchantes. Je crois que c'était la raison la plus importante de notre intervention: la sauvegarde de notre langue et l'aide aux jeunes francophones à qui il est très difficile d'éviter l'assimilation. Avec l'aide de la Société Radio-Canada on est un pas en avant, il ne nous resté plus qu'à continuer. De toute façon, en comparant notre argument à celui des "stoïques" de Barrie, y a une bonne marge de raisonnement. Avec un si bon outil, on peut accomplir un excellent travail n'est-ce-pas?
A la prochaine!

Simcoe Georgian Task Force Report almost approved

The Simcoe Georgian Task Force report, which calls for Midland, Penetanguishene and surrounding area to contain a population of 90,000 by the year 2011, has been accepted in principle by the Ontario government.

Mention of the task force was made in the Toronto-Centred Region (TCR) Program Statement, which was issued recently.

The program statement incorporates eight reports including six government reports and two task force reports.

According to regional planner Hank Gosar in the Ministry of the Treasury and Intergovernmental Affairs, the program statement is "an update on the old TCR plan" that came out in May 1970. Gosar was a technical advisor to the Simcoe Georgian

task force.

In general terms, the report promises special government assistance in fostering major growth in certain regions of Ontario, including the Simcoe Georgian area. The government has recognized the need to encourage growth in centres outside Toronto, "where urban development pressures are high," the report states.

And in view of prevailing economic conditions, "the government will give priority to those measures for carrying out the task force recommendations which are likely to be most effective in creating new employment."

The Simcoe Georgian task force report, submitted to Treasurer Darcy McKeough in March, recommends major growth in the four major urban centres in the county — Barrie, Orillia, Collingwood, and Midland. The plan calls for much less growth in outlying areas. The TCR report notes that any growth there would result from the creation of new employment and would have to conform to government policy regarding the preservation of prime agricultural land and recreational resources.

According to the report, "priorities for development are being reviewed and planning will begin as soon as possible, so that recreational land and land for industrial, commercial, and residential purposes can be serviced and development can start."

At the same time, the government document states that steps will be taken to begin attracting various types of economic activity required.

In the paper, the government states that it "welcomes and supports the task force's recommendations regarding the preservation of the county's prime agricultural land and recreational resources."

According to Midland clerk-treasurer Bill Hack, copies of the TCR report have not been received at the municipal office, although copies of the task force's final report have been received.

Midland Mayor Harold Boyd is a member of the political committee of the Simcoe Georgian Task Force.

Innisfil Township has been hard hit by the TCR report that contends that urban development along the shore of Lake Simcoe, except in Barrie, should not proceed. Significant growth at Alcona Beach is called for in that township's official plan.

The Simcoe Georgian Task Force, conceived by the provincial government two years ago, was charged with designing a growth strategy for the area for the next 30 to 40 years.

Man drowns

A former Penetanguishene man drowned in Goderich harbor recently when he and a fellow Great Lakes freighter crew member plunged 30 feet off the ship.

Rosaire Desroches, 46, a father of four, was pronounced dead at the scene after a 15-minute dragging operation recovered the body from the murky 40-degree water.

Police said the accident occurred when the men were testing the safety of the lifeboat at the port quarter of the 569-foot grain carrier Westdale.

The aft line supporting the boat broke and dropped the men into water about 20 feet deep.

The other crew member was unhurt in the accident.

Desroches was born in Penetanguishene and had lived in Port Colborne for several years up to the time of the accident.

He served the Underwater Gas Company for seven years as captain of a tug and also was captain of a tug for Shell Oil Company of Hamilton. He was third mate on the Westdale.



Change on Church Street

This new stop sign on Church Street at Burke shocked a few people the first day it arrived but travellers on Church are getting used to it. Councillor Hubert Charlebois, chairman of

the police committee, said "the boys in blue" are handing out warnings to first offenders but tickets the second time through.

Staff photo

County battling familiar pesky insect

Simcoe County has begun a public education program advising residents how to combat that familiar summer pest — the mosquito.

The program takes the form of a pamphlet put out by the provincial ministry of health which outlines steps people can take to eradicate mosquito breeding spots as well as common sense measures for personal protection. The pamphlet called Beat Those Bites will be placed in supermarkets, laundromats and public places throughout the county.

It is expected the pamphlet will be available by the end of this week. There are no plans to mail the pamphlet to householders, such as has been done in Metro Toronto.

The education program has come about partially as a result of concern about encephalitis — brain fever — which can be transmitted by the mosquito.

The medical officer of health for Simcoe County, Nancy Armbrust, says the move is a second measure to back up a notice already released by the Simcoe County District Health Unit in Midhurst.

Dr. Armbrust said the danger of en-

cephalitis in Simcoe County was "completely minimal" but that county health officials were "mindful of the possibilities" and would keep a close watch this summer. Dr. Armbrust admitted, however, a large number of enquiries about the disease had come to her office.

Encephalitis, sometimes called sleeping sickness and properly named St. Louis encephalitis, is spread from infected birds to humans by the culex pipiens mosquito. There is no cure for the disease which in severe cases can cause brain damage or death. Symptoms include headaches, dizziness, nausea, high fever and drowsiness.

Conditions for an outbreak of the disease require a long, hot, wet summer to produce an abundance of mosquitos. Late July or August are prime danger times.

There has never been a case of St. Louis encephalitis in the county although about 100 cases of the disease were reported in the most southerly sections of the province last summer. Hardest hit was the Windsor area with 55 cases and five deaths. In the United States, a total of 1,900 cases were reported last summer causing about 100 deaths.

Dr. Armbrust said Simcoe County is

protected against the disease by climate which is generally too cool for late summer mosquito problems. She said the large numbers of mosquitos to be found in some swamps in the county are not regarded as a threat as they are mostly the harmless spring type.

Spraying is not being recommended by the province north of Metro Toronto. Orillia City and Rama Townships have had spraying programs for mosquitos for two years, but this has been done purely because of the great nuisance the pests pose.

In Simcoe County, the emphasis will be on mosquito prevention. An important preventative measure is to empty receptacles which would be used as a mosquito breeding ground. In this regard, old containers and tires, tin cans, etc. should be removed from yards, depressions in the ground filled, and bird baths changed at least once weekly. Ditches should be kept open.

These and other recommendations on how to muzzle the mosquito are to be found in the new provincial government mosquito handbook.

Police silent

The police remain silent about the continuing investigation into the murder of a 68-year-old Penetanguishene woman more than three weeks ago.

Emily Dorsey was found in an upstairs hallway of her Don Street home where she lived alone on April 4.

Detective Inspector Tom Hill, of the Ontario Provincial Police Criminal Investigation Branch in Toronto, is heading the investigation.

There have been only three press releases about the murder since the start of the investigation.

The police suspect robbery as the motive.