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Lynn's 'state of the union' address reviews past year and outlines goals

Says there must be a moratorium

This is an auspicious evening in several senses. In one sense, it starts the second year of our term and, in essence, is the anniversary of this Council's first meeting of its term; and, as is at most normal Inaugural Meetings, it is appropriate that a statement be made on behalf of the Town by the Mayor.

I would like to take a moment - not to run through a whole Inaugural Address, you will be happy and relieved to learn, but to summarize a few of the things which have taken place during the past year and to also suggest to Council and to the members of the public some of the things which might be taking place in the second year of our

term. First of all, in the past year and every year I have been Mayor, I look forward to the forthcoming year and say 'we seem to have accomplished so much that surely the next year will be less busy and somewhat easier'. Invariably I am proven to be totally unsound of judgement in that respect because each following year seems to be busier and requires more time than the previous one.

This year we did have a number of special projects underway, and one of them with which I had something to do and which required a great deal of devotion and time on behalf of some of our staff, including the Industrial Commissioner, was the project to redevelop the Core of downtown through the Business Improvement Area.

You will recall that as the year progressed that project did receive Council approval, later it received Provincial approval, and is now scheduled for commencemnt very early in 1982 with a completion date prior to the summer of 1982. During the year, and this issue seemed to proceed ad nauseam, we did obtain the approval, the commendation and the encouragement of the Ontario Municipal Board for the acquisition of additional parking in the downtown Core, and this evening, appropriately, placed before you just prior to the meeting was the decision as handed down by Mr. Champan, the Chairman of the Ontario Municipal Board Hearing.

In that particular report I think I would like to draw your attention to the last three pages in which Mr. Champan summarizes and his reasons recommendations with respect to parking.

During the year, as

well, we completed the new Water Pollution Control Plant and it brought into operation. That project was completed with excellent smoothness for such a sticky subject, and went into opration with very, very little difficulty and within budget, which is even more astounding in this day and age, and we are absolutely delighted with that. Following a trial period this fall and trough the winter with the new plant in operation ther will be an Official Opening of the plant in the spring.

In terms of industrial and economic development in the community, is was a mixed bag. 1981, saw, I think, one of the most active tourist seasons and visitor seasons that we have ever had in this area. It also saw a number of rough edges on the industrial horizon, either looming or taking place in terms of layoffs, but it also was encouraged by the completion at the Ernst Leitz Canada Limited plant of a very major addition, with increases in employment in nearly every other industrial sector in the community.

During 1982, thanks to the state of our economy and aided and abetted, I would like to suggest, by senior levels of government, we are facing a year of perhaps hardship but hopefully a year during which we can see the clouds clearing, and some of the economci storms within our own frontiers being lessened. But, during that year that we are about to face, I think it will be absolutely important for this Council and for all of us as residents of the area to accept that there must be a moratorium or a near moratorium on major capital expenditures by this

Municipality. I think it's our responsibility to assist in ensuring that the hardships on the ratepayers of the community are minimized by minimizing expenditures during the coming year and by avoiding anything but absolutely necessary increases in spending.

we will be embarking on the completion, I hope, of a step this Council took last March to advise the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing that it was our interest to annex a portion of a neighbouring municipality, and I would like to stress that, as this process gets underway, this process, I hope, will be an amicable one and one in which all the municipalities of this area will work together

During 1982, as well,

not for selfish interests but for what, in the long term, are the interests of all the ratepayers in the area. In keeping with that we have, some of us, a special meeting tomorrow evening of area municipalities involved in the Tiny-Tay Peninsula Planning Board, and that Planning Board, together with the instrument it has produced, I think, forms a keystone to the direction of planning and development in this

I think it's important for all of us, regardless of our municipality of residence, birth, or taxation base to realize that we do live in a homogenous area and in that sense, we are perhaps unique in this Province in that we do have so many resources in common. We share those resources, but we have to work together legislatively and legalistically sometimes as well within that resource base. But to do this we have to put longterm goals in front of us, and that applies not just to this municipality but I think it has to apply to all municipalities. And if I could, just as an aside, I think nary a meeting goes by of this Council at which we don't deal with some topic around this table that involves an area of land that was annexed in the past by this municipality and are now having problems with it being in our vuvivuqality because previous custodians of those lands did not provide for proper longterm service planning.

I have only to think of Cornell Drive, Ingram Crescent, the Old Penetanguishene Road area, athe High School area, and just about any portion of that land that was annexed back in 1964. And that's our ultimate goal, in my befief, to ensure that there is proper longterm service planning, social planning, and land use planning, and the hard service packages can be designed to accoumpany that type of planning.

In terms of industrial activity, I think 1982 has to be a year in which we set priorities for industrial incentives that we can, as a municipality, encourage, and for commercial development

incentives. Closer to Council's home and staff's home, 1982 will be a year during which we review the administrative process and organization of this municipality and review the procedure and role of Council in relationship with the administrative process. We have an excellent staff, and good Council.