

Annexation bid costly!

\$94,878.72 in costs

You can add another \$100 to the long list of expenditures Township of Tiny has spent fighting Midland's bid to annex 2,600 acres of prime real estate from the township.

As of this morning Tiny has spent a total of \$94,878.72, reports Clerk Guy Maurice.

As was reported Wednesday the town-

ship is hopeful most if not all of the above costs will be awarded Tiny during an OMB hearing called for Dec. 7 to discuss the matter.

Tiny was assured in a letter dated June 11 from Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing that it could apply for costs.

Initially Midland, in 1981, announced plans to annex the lands in

question via an OMB hearing. Since then the municipality has withdrawn its first application choosing instead to negotiate annexation under new legislation set out in Bill 62. An Act which amends the Municipal Boundary Negotiations Act.

The amended Act allows the OMB to assess costs incurred by a municipality whose territory was the subject of an application under Section 14 of the Municipal Act, against the applicant municipality.

As for the \$94,878.72 being out of whack, Tiny's Deputy-reeve John Lackie was quick to point out yesterday, "There's no bloody way

that we can inflate these figures. They have to be sent to the OMB. We weren't going to the OMB unprepared.

"I can assure you the above figure comprises the bulk of Tiny's preparation."

Where did the \$94,878.72 Tiny spent go? According to Clerk Maurice, local legal fees to date have amounted to \$5,638.93.

Fees from Toronto lawyers have amounted to \$22,349.59. One consulting firm in Metro has charged the township \$2,977.25 while engineering and planning costs to date are \$14,796.59.

A marketing study the township ordered cost \$34,218.35 while an environmental impact

study pertaining to Midland's Little Lake cost Tiny \$14,892.01.

Midland council budgeted \$35,000 for paperwork connected

with the town's plan to annex 2,600 acres from Tiny.

Platt is not worried

Councillor Richard Platt isn't worried, as are other candidates for the mayoralty of Midland, that annexation of a part of Tiny Township will cost the town about \$100,000.

Mayoralty candidate Al Roach raised the prospect at the Wednesday meeting of the Midland Rotary Club, at which all three candidates for mayor of Midland, Platt, Roach, and Art Argue, spoke.

Tiny Township has asked the Ontario Municipal Board to order Midland to pay Tiny Township \$94,000, the amount of money Tiny Township calculates it has spent fighting an annexation action by Midland. The matter is now to be

negotiated.

Platt told the Rotarians that research by the town solicitor showed that not once in the past 20 years has the OMB awarded any costs of one municipality to another municipality when both municipalities were involved in an annexation dispute.

And the town has paid to date about \$3,000, not \$7,000, to Tiny in connection with the annexation, he said. Platt said the \$94,000 is "an imaginary figure. There's no likelihood of this figure ever being awarded to Tiny Township."

The OMB will consider the township's application on Dec. 4.

Argue argues his case

Mayoralty candidate Art Argue apologised yesterday to the senior students at Midland Secondary School for the fiscal policy of the past council.

In 1982, Argue said, the town took out \$1.9 million in debentures, when interest rates were at or near their historic peak, despite advice that the rates would soon drop.

"I won't be around to pay this debt. Al Roach won't be around to pay this debt. Richard Platt won't be around to pay this debt. On behalf of the generation which created this debt, I apologise to you. It is not right."

Argue said he opposed annexation in any form at any time, the town's policy on damaged connections between residents' homes and the main sewer in the streets, and caucus meetings. "Caucus means drinking. Maybe some of that goes on." Caucus meetings are both an unwarranted expense and the op-

posite of open government, Argue said.

The town is attempting to annex a portion of Tiny Township to the west for the same reason it successfully annexed land in Tay Township to the south, Argue said: to stop development.

Argue supports open council meetings and open caucus meetings. He would repeal any bylaws prejudicial to the best interests of the taxpayer, he said.

The money spent to sent a delegation representing the Midland Chamber of Commerce to a trade fair in Germany earlier this year was a waste of money, producing one visit here, and no jobs, he said.

The "ruling establishment" of Midland drove Algoma Steel to Sault Ste. Marie, he said, and and closed the shipyards here with their cheap wage policy rates.

This adversarial position has to change, he said.

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VOTE

AI ROACH X
MAYOR OF MIDLAND

Annexation Costly?

YOU BET!

Look at the facts



- Tiny's cost to fight Midland to date- **\$94,000.-plus**
- Midland's costs? The Town has budgeted **\$35,000.**
- OMB could award most, **if not all**, Tiny's costs.

WHO WILL PAY?

YOU WILL!

if you live in Midland

'Vote Roach for a new Approach!'
TOTALLY OPPOSED TO ANNEXATION

Will work for **YOU** as Mayor of Midland

Richard Platt
Mayor
Leadership