

Twp. brass sworn before 50 ratepayers

by Carol Dimock

The Inaugural meeting of the Township of Tiny Council on Monday afternoon was well attended. About fifty relatives, friends and well-wishers joined council and township staff at the Municipal office for the ceremony.

Clerk-Administrator Guy Maurice performed the swearing-in ceremony, which was followed by a devotional service given by Father Laurin of Perkinsfield and Rev. Locke of Wyevale and Waverley United Churches.

Councillor Ralph Mertz thanked the council for appointing him last term and the electors for their support in the November election. He promised to do his best to serve the Township in the next three years.

Councillor Gabe Brunelle introduced his wife and parents, who were in the audience, and spoke of the importance of family. He said that the council of Tiny operates as a family, which is the secret of its success.

Councillor Ron Hamelin thanked the voters for their confidence, observing that the numbers of votes grow every year.

"Such a reward is not taken lightly," he said. "I am confident that I can handle the affairs of the township in a just and honest way."

Councillor Hamelin spoke of the united, co-operative approach of the council. He said such teamwork is hard to find in elected bodies. He mentioned his "sincere appreciation for Council's understanding during the unpleasant incident in the last few weeks" referring to the charge of alleged conflict of interest brought forward at the last Council meeting, and also thanked the township staff for their "unfailing courtesy and co-operation."

Deputy-reeve John Lackie spoke of the challenge of solving the problems of the Township. He said he is committed to resolving the difficulties with the town of Midland over their annexation bid. He is eager to solve the landfill problem, dealing with the existing problem at the Paule site in Perkinsfield and the long-term requirements for a landfill site for the Township.

Deputy-reeve Lackie is looking forward with excitement to the recreation master plan and plans for senior citizen housing. He called the council "a great bunch of guys to work with—we have a great staff—it's a great team to be on."

Reeve Morris Darby spoke of his pride in this municipality. "It's my 15 year as a member of this council. This municipality has been kind to me, awarding me three acclamations."

"Only a dedicated group can propose to accomplish the work ahead," said Reeve



Darby.

The Reeve called for a minute of silence in honour of those who have served the township in past years and are now deceased.

Reeve Darby went on to speak of the lack of respect in today's society for our superiors. "We need respect in dealing with our neighbours and all levels of government," he said. He spoke of the very strained relations between the township and the town of Midland over the annexation issue, and between the township and the provincial government over the landfill problem.

"We must work together for the welfare of all," said Reeve Darby.

The Reeve went on to discuss the challenges facing the township in this unfavorable

economic climate. With reductions in grants coming from the Provincial government, the council will have to "sharpen their pencils" if it is to continue to provide a high standard of service for the ratepayers.

Reeve Darby introduced the township staff and a number of guests in the audience, some of whom addressed the gathering.

One of the guests was Doug Lewis, MP for Simcoe North. Mr. Lewis spoke of the

teamwork that several of the councillors had mentioned, and said, "Whenever you call on me, I'll be pleased to get on the team and help you." Mr. Lewis also spoke of having watched Mr. Darby in action at various meetings and conferences he has attended.

"Reeve Darby has brought a lot of honour to the Township of

Tiny," he said.

Among the other guests in the audience who spoke briefly at the inaugural meeting were Mayor elect Al Roach of Midland, newly elected Tay Reeve Bruce Tinney, Tay Deputy Reeve Gibson, Public School Board member Joan Jensen, R.C. Separate School Board member Art Beausoleil, Chairman of the Committee of Adjust-

ment Eric Simpson, and representatives from Ainley and Associates and Teskey Heacock and Ferguson.

The guests all spoke of their willingness to work with the new council, and extended season's greetings to everyone.

The meeting was followed by a reception with refreshments, served in the council chambers.

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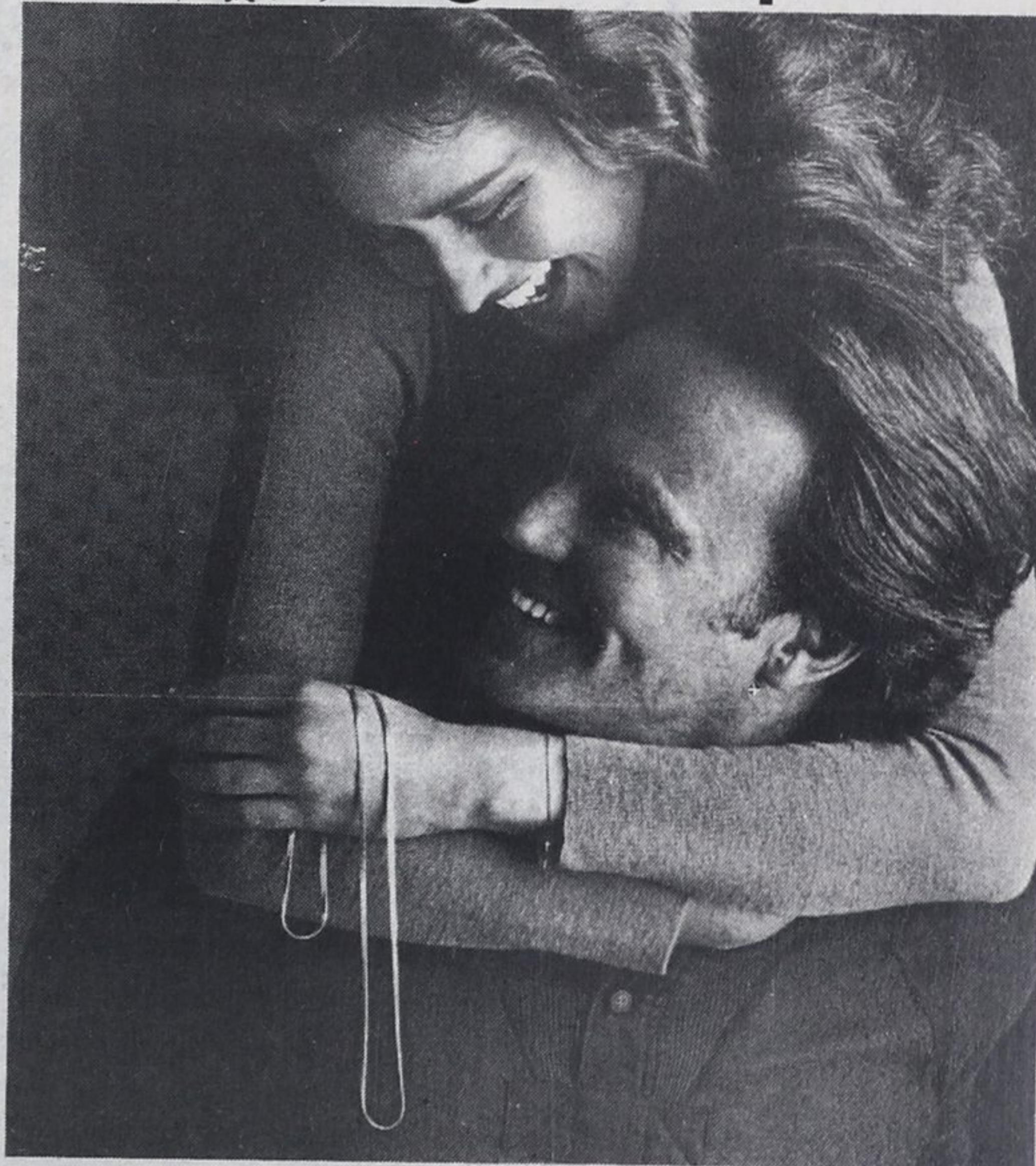


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