

Collision of views

Removing parking meter sparks debate

A letter Midland Public Safety Committee received that was forwarded to local policy-makers from the Midland BIA sparked a confrontation of philosophies between Reeve Bev Day and Alderman Nancy Keefe when the matter was brought before council this week.

The BIA pointed out a concern it has that the parking spot on Hugel Avenue East immediately before the east service lane to the rear of the Dominion Store constitutes a hazard as vision is somewhat impaired by those turning onto Hugel.

Chief Ernest Bates, following his own observation of the situation, is reported to have told the Public Safety Committee, there indeed is a problem notably compounded by the traffic of delivery trucks at the rear of the Dominion Store.

The committee recommended the parking spot be eliminated, a No Parking sign be installed and that the Parking Authority take immediate steps to rectify the situation.

Reeve Day was quick to point out, "This will be one more parking meter that is taken out (in the town)"

He said, "It's tough to come up with the money to pay for parking lots" when something like this happens. He suggested the BIA cover the cost of the loss of revenue the meter would generate.

However, Alderman Keefe would have nothing of this. She stressed Midland's number one concern "should be safety".

In endorsing removal of the parking meter, Mrs. Keefe observed, "They (the BIA) are saying it is an unsafe thing."

New staff at Life services centre

North Simcoe Catholic Family Life Services, a Midland family help group, is breaking in a couple of newcomers to the area.

Albert Leering is the new director and John Dowling is the new counsellor. Both men have been in the Huronia district since mid-December.

Leering and Dowling have spent the time getting acquainted with the area and the inhabitants. Both have been busy attending

public meetings and civic functions in an effort to better understand the region's needs and how they might best respond to those needs.

The role of the group, as seen by the two men, is to meet the community's needs, and the only limitations set on the possible aid are time and personal skills.

Some of the services provided now include family counselling, as regarding problem relationships, budget

problems, and child rearing difficulties.

They also can be beneficial in helping people cope with everyday pressures, and to facilitate dealing with government bureaucratic agencies.

They provide a service badly needed by this area, in the face of rising unemployment, and the two gentlemen should be accorded this area's warmest reception.

Mooney named to committee

Paul Mooney has been appointed by Midland council to sit on the town's harbour committee.

His name was moved by Alderman Miles Blackhurst at this week's council meeting.

Mooney was acclaimed to the position after no other nominations were forthcoming.

The harbour committee, according to Blackhurst, had recommended Mooney for the position.

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