

Midland's bid to annex 2,600 acres from Tiny stalled

A long-standing bid by Town of Midland to annex 2,600 acres of prime real estate, much of it commercial lands, from Township of Tiny has been put on hold until after the Nov. 12 municipal elections.

In a letter dated Sept. 27 to Reeve Morris Darby of Tiny with a carbon copy going to Alderman Ian Ross, chairman of Midland Boundary Negotiating Committee, Bernard Grandmaitre, minister of municipal affairs noted:

"On Aug. 8, I wrote you and promised to respond to your concerns about the timing of

boundary discussions between the Township of Tiny and the Town of Midland. You can appreciate that I have had to consider the views of the Town of Midland as well as those of the Township of Tiny.

"The town's view is that boundary negotiations have been ordered and that discussions should get underway and continue until mid-October when they be adjourned until after the Municipal election. The township on the other hand, is not advocating an unreasonable delay, but have serious concerns that to involve themselves in

negotiations on sensitive and emotional issues between now the the municipal election could have grave consequences for their councillors in terms of time demands and publicity.

"On weighing the two views, I am inclined to concur with the township particularly since negotiations have not commenced on substantive issues. A short adjournment to December, 1985, should make negotiations more productive and responsive to the priorities of the new councils.

"I do, however, expect that negotiations be restarted in December, 1985, and have

instructed the Municipal Boundaries Branch, to do what is necessary to effect this.

"I stated my support for the process outlined in the Municipal Boundary Negotiations Act in my speech to the delegates at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. I have the highest hopes that when negotiations are resumed, both municipalities will be able to use the process to arrive at a mutually agreeable solution to the issues identified in the Report of the fact finding inquiry of Jan. 17, 1985."

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Taking a bite out of crime in Tiny

by PETER SPOHN

Participants in Tiny Township's crime prevention program gathered Wednesday morning in front of the township offices to unveil the first of dozens of signs that will be posted throughout the township proclaiming the Tiny community as a "Crime Watch Community."

The Tiny Township program joins community volunteers and police, with the full support of township council, in an effort to drastically cut the number of residence break-ins, particularly at summer residences, in the township.

Midland OPP Const. Murray Cooper described the Tiny Crime Watch program as a pilot project, unique in that it is the provincial police force's most comprehensive prevention program aimed at a large cottage community.

And, success of the program looks promising.

Crime Watch signs are to be posted in the next two or three weeks on roads leading into Woodland Beach, Balm Beach, Nottawaga Beach and Thunder Bay

Beach. In these, the first of several Tiny communities that are earmarked for Crime Watch, community steering committees have been set up to join community volunteers and police.

Permanent residents in the area, such as Balm Beach's Jim McIntosh, watch over neighbours' property when it is unattended and act as the community's "eyes and ears" in reporting suspicious activity to police. The key to the program's success, noted Const. Cooper and Provincial Constable Bob Covey, lies in close communication between citizens and police.

Seasonal residents are asked to take steps to improve home security and to mark property items for easy police identification.

Would-be burglars are served notice by Crime Watch signs which include the slogan, "If I don't call the police, my neighbour will." The signs serve as a psychological deterrent, Const. Covey said, informing transients they are passing through an alert community.

Both constables

emphasized that Crime Watch is not intended to convey a negative message but that citizens in the Tiny communities have expressed concerns about the number of break-ins - and have conveyed a willingness to get involved in a prevention program.

The council has also lent its full support, and Reeve Morris Darby was on hand Wednesday for the sign unveiling. (So, too, was his opponent in the upcoming municipal election campaign, Anthony Lancia, head of the township ratepayers' association. Lancia said he has a vested interest in the program's success since he has had four break-ins in the last 20 years at his Georgian Sands home.)

Crime Watch participants are looking for donations from residents, as the cost of signs is borne by the community. They are also looking for more volunteers.

A meeting of volunteers and police officials for anyone interested in joining is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 12 at 10 a.m. at The Place, in Balm Beach.



Santa attends Toy Ride '85

One of the people least expected to attend Toy Ride '85 on Saturday did. As the photo above shows, there is no doubt as to his identity. With the mild

temperatures, we suspect he was a little warm. One other question was also answered. He does know how to ride a Harley. -Photo by Bob Murray

Request for crossing guard goes for study

A committee comprised of school officials, police and a representative from town council, will study a request for an adult crossing guard for St. Joseph's school students using the busy Owen Street-Robert Street West intersection in Penetanguishene.

The request is to be handled by the Pedestrian Safety committee. Clerk Yvon Gagne said yesterday that a member of the police department sitting on the committee is studying guidelines by which the St. Joseph's request and other requests for crossing guards are dealt with in future. He noted that establishing guidelines for crossing guards should eliminate "judgment calls" that face municipal officials when dealing with such requests.

Gagne noted that the municipality's Public Safety committee may also become involved, and that at some point town council will decide about hiring of a guard after receiving committee recommendations.

Program to have life of five years

list of names for LEAD prepared for approval

by MURRAY MOORE

Midland-Penetanguishene Joint Economic Development Committee has prepared a list of names of nine area people to form a board of directors to run an area federal Local Employment Assistance and Development Program (LEAD).

If the federal government accepts the nominees, made by council members in each represented municipality, Tiny Township and

Tay Township, Matchedash, Port McNicoll and Victoria Harbour each will have one representative. Midland and Penetanguishene each will have two representatives.

A small portion of Georgian Bay Township is inside the area covered by the area's federal employment and immigration office. This area is also the area covered by the

LEAD program. However Georgian Bay will be advertised in the near future. The Township has not shown interest in taking part.

Through LEAD, as much as \$1.5 million could be available in the form of grants administered by the board of area people, to people and companies with proposals that will result in the creation of jobs.

The position of manager for the program

and one of the six members of the economic development commission, said that, at the introductory meeting for the affected municipalities, the smaller municipalities were pleased to learn that their residents will be eligible for grants while the municipality will not have to be involved.