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Richmond Hill

Ontario

The Town Fathers Held Regular Council Meeting

Claim For Damages Will Be Entered As a Result of the Rough Road.

The September meeting of the Richmond Hill council was held in the clerk's office with Reeve Lunau in the chair and all the members present. Mr. George Forrester and Mr. A. E. Jacks of the Ajax Realty Company who have purchased and sub-divided the Reaman property on Richmond St. appeared before the council and presented the plans of the sub-division which were satisfactory and accepted by the municipality. Two new streets are shown on the plan, Forest Avenue and Hall Street which is a continuation of Hall Street which runs just west of the High School. It was decided to commence the grading and necessary work to provide drainage at once. Mr. Forrester also intimated that they were desirous of having sidewalks built. The reeve pointed out however that it would be necessary to have a petition presented and it was doubtful if the walks could be built this year as the council had other petitions which must be considered in the order in which they were presented.

Fire chief H.J. Mills wanted to know who had authority to lend equipment from the fire hall. He wanted the point decided by the council because he felt that he was responsible for it and if it was let out without his permission it made a very awkward situation. He had just discovered fifty feet of good hose which had been taken from the fire hall and when returned was practically ruined. "What would happen if when we wanted to use the equipment at a fire we found that it had been lent by someone?" said the chief. Councillor Baldock stated that he had secured through the town foreman a piece of what he thought was old hose for the use of the Orr-Clark construction Company who did the work on Yonge Street at the south end of the village. "The company agreed to do the work of sacrificing the road at no cost to the town provided we would let them have sufficient water for their work south of the town. It was a good bargain and in order to let them have the water from the hydrant we had to get them the hose. I understood it was an old section and it was well taken care of because it was taken in every night. I do not understand how it was ruined," said councillor Baldock.

On motion of councillors Sloan and Herrington it was decided that no equipment should be taken from the fire hall without the consent of the fire chief.

The discussion on the fire hose led to the introduction of the question of the truck attending fires outside the municipality, it was pointed out that an agreement had been made with the Township of Vaughan whereby the village would be recompensed for the use of the engine when attending fires in Vaughan Township. Markham however had refused to agree to such arrangement. The opinion was expressed that this was a very unfair attitude to take in as much as the taxpayers of the village were called upon to keep up a fire truck for the protection of outsiders who paid nothing towards it. It was hard to refuse to go to the assistance of a man when his buildings were on fire and it would be impossible to barter with him at such a time to ascertain whether or not he was willing to pay for the services. Councillors Baldock and McLean were appointed a committee to interview the Markham council in an effort to come to a satisfactory agreement.

A communication was received from the Board of Health to the effect that there had been complaints about a party in town selling milk contrary to the milk by-law. The matter will be brought to the attention of the offender.

C.B. Graham complained that a man had entered on his property under instructions of the Weed Inspector and had destroyed a quantity of hay for which he would ask compensation from the council. Councillor McLean said that he had inspected the work and he found that any damage to hay was very slight and was necessary in the cutting of the weeds which had been complained of.

L. S. Yoels of Toronto, wrote the council advising that he would make a claim against the town for injuries received by his mother-in-law who was hurt while riding in his car through the village. He pointed out that he was travelling at a very low rate of speed but that in going over the rough stretch of road the lady bumped her head on the top of the car and hurt her head and back. He expressed the opinion that it was nothing short of criminal to leave a road in such condition.

The clerk was instructed to write

the Hydro to have the pole at the corner of Church and Lorne Avenue moved, to a point decided on by the council. This pole has been the subject of contention for a long time and its removal will free the corner from a very objectionable feature.

The question of the request for salary by Constable Sheardown was brought up but was laid over until a special meeting at which Mr. Sheardown will be requested to be present. There was some discussion as to whether or not Mr. Sheardown was a village constable. Councillor McLean pointed out that he was appointed a couple of years ago by the council but he would consider that the appointment was just for the year. "The appointment was not for life" he said. (The reeve stated that he did not want anyone to work for the village for nothing but he thought there should be an agreement and statement from the constable as to work done. The opinion was expressed that as a county constable Mr. Sheardown was paid in accordance with any cases brought before the court. Mr. Sheardown was reported to be of the opinion that he did a great deal of work for the village for which he did not get any pay from the court.)

Councillors Herrington and Sloan complained of the inconvenience which had been caused in the town by the order of the reeve changing the clocks to standard time on September 4 instead of waiting until the change was made in Toronto and throughout this district. Mr. William Davies asked the reeve if the question of daylight saving as voted on by the people did not call to have the time coincide with the city of Toronto. He said that this was his recollection of the question and he did not think Reeve Lunau had any right to throw the whole town out of gear by reverting to standard time before Toronto. The reeve stated that he was unable to answer the question definitely but he was of the opinion that it was always understood that it should change back before the commencement of school. Councillor Baldock stated that it should be settled clearly one way or the other for all time and save this misunderstanding every year. Mr. J.A. Greene who was present also voiced his objections to the change and pointed out several cases of inconvenience which resulted from it. Reeve Lunau explained that he had first secured the opinion of the two school principals and all the members of the council individually and was of the opinion that he was acting wisely in the interests of the greatest number. Councillor Herrington was of the opinion that such a matter was of sufficient importance to call a meeting of the council when the subject could be discussed. There had been too much of this ringing up over the telephone he said.

Operations will be commenced in the near future on the construction work at the waterworks where a pipe line will be laid to the head of the pond from the pumping station. Land has been expropriated and a special meeting will be held this week when arrangements will be made for letting the contracts.

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LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

THE VILLAGE COUNCIL
How The Reeve Gets a Majority

September 14, 1927

Editor Liberal

Sir:—
In your last issue "Civis" commented on the methods of council in regard to Daylight Saving Time. Having interviewed every member of the council the following is the procedure by which the Reeve arrived at his decision.

Reeve Lunau to Councillor Herrington—"The children return to school next Tuesday morning, what do you think about changing back to old time on Sunday night?"

Councillor Herrington—I am absolutely opposed to changing the time before the City of Toronto, it causes much confusion and my answer is decidedly no.

Reeve Lunau to Councillor Sloan—Same Question.

Councillor Sloan—I am not in favor of reverting to old time until the general change is made three weeks hence—certainly not.

Reeve Lunau to Councillor Baldock—Same Question.

Councillor Baldock—"Do what you like; I don't care what you do," or words to this effect, (No decisive answer).

Reeve Lunau to Councillor McLean—Same Question.

Councillor McLean—"It doesn't effect me any; it makes no difference to me, whatever the others think, I'm satisfied," or words to this effect. No decisive answer.

Reeve Lunau—All right gentlemen, there are two strongly opposed to the change, and two don't care which way it goes, so I will issue a proclamation that the village revert to old time on Sunday night in accordance with the opinion of the majority of the council.

To say the least this is slipshod procedure, and it is about time business like methods were used in conducting the affairs pertaining to the village interests.

WILLIAM DAVIES

NOT SATISFIED WITH GOVERNMENT CONTROL

Thornhill, September 13, 1927

Editor Liberal

Sir:—

I would like to draw attention through the columns of your valuable paper to conditions at present prevailing in this district under so called Government Control. Those of us who opposed it hoped for the best but it seems that our worst fears were justified as we witness the flagrant abuse of regulations and the awful results of the sale of liquor.

The new act was to abolish the boot-logger and do away with drinking by the young people. We have evidence that it has succeeded in doing neither. Young men, too young to legally purchase liquor are seen under its awful influence and it is apparent that they are getting it from illicit sources. No later than last week several young men, well under twenty I would judge caused a disturbance on the streets of Thornhill which was an utter disgrace. We see men who under the O.T.A. making a determined and at least partially successful fight against the demon of drink once again thrown a-mind the temptation of easy sale. The results may easily be seen in unhappy homes and wrecked lives.

I think it behoves those who advocated Government control to see that a serious and determined effort is made to enforce it. If it must continue as we have seen it is time temperance people awoke in an effort to have this legislation wiped off the books.

We do not have to go far afield to see the effects of the liquor evil under so called Government Control. A leopard cannot change its spots and by taking whiskey from the bar room to the Government store cannot rid it of its curse. Whether it comes from the government warehouse or from the illicit operator's dive it still wrecks lives ruins good happy homes and drives men away from all that is good noble and upright in life.

From what we have seen of Government Control in Thornhill it has not been a success and I hope that all lovers of Temperance will align themselves against the liquor traffic which apparently is gaining such ground in this great province of Ontario.

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