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J. Harry Naughton, Res. Elgin Mills, Res. Phone 127.2

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Markham Township Council Will Spend \$10,000 on Sixth Concession This Year

Township Rate Struck at 8 Mills the same as Last Year --County Rate Continues To Soar - Weed Inspectors Are Busy.

Markham township council met in regular session on Tuesday afternoon and after long deliberation on the matter of township finances fixed the township rate for the year 1930 at 8 mills the same as last year. The amount required for County purposes is \$48,839.00 for general purposes and \$8,053.62 for secondary education, a total of \$56,892.62. This will require a rate on the township of 10.55 mills which is over one mill increase as compared to last year.

The eight mill rate for township purposes will raise \$41,844. On the assessment of the township which this year \$5,230,527.00. There was a unanimous desire on the part of the members of council to avoid any increase in the rate this year. It was pointed out that prospects were none too promising for the farmers and ere part of the township. The people that if at all possible there should be no increase in the township rate. The County rate which during recent years has steadily risen is up again this year.

opinion is regarding the new construction. We are all agreed on the patching, the oiling, resurfacing and drainage?

Mr. Stiver—Yes.

Reeve Gohn—The cost of scarifying the bad stretches and rolling them and maybe a little stone is between \$1000. and \$1500. whereas we can have those stretches rebuilt for \$3,500. I don't think that scarifying and even the application of a lot of stone would carry the traffic next spring.

Deputy-Reeve Padgett—I'm in favor of the \$3,500. for new construction of those stretches. I would like to see the expenditure kept within the \$10,000. That is the high spot of expenditure as far as I am concerned.

Reeve Gohn—We are hearing more criticism from the sixth than any other part of the township. The people are up in arms. It is a busy road and is in bad shape.

Mr. Stiver—I don't know why it hasn't been patched long ago. The road superintendent was instructed to do it last fall. I've been advocating it every meeting since April. I think it's a mistake that the road should have been in this shape all summer.

It was finally agreed to go ahead with the oiling, resurfacing, patching and drainage and that when the bad stretches concerning which there was a difference of opinion are scarified that the council meet and decide whether or not to go ahead with the reconstruction. When the road is torn up the members will be able to see just how much material is there and decide better as to the advisability of letting it stand for a year or rebuilding it now.

In order to keep the rate from going up it was necessary to pare estimates as fine as possible and some work planned will have to be left over for another year. = This applies particularly to bridges which was a large item of expenditure in 1929 but only the very urgent construction will be tackled this year.

Outstanding among the work yet to be done this year and provided for in the estimates is the repair of the sixth concession which has been a bone of contention since it was handed back to the township by the County. There will be an estimated expenditure of \$10,000, on the sixth and throughout the township there is approximately \$8,000. worth of graveling yet to do.

The council plans by the elimination of some bridge construction, and the practice of strictest economy to be able to make a payment on the debentures issued last year out of the eight mill rate. There will be no special rate to take care of the debentures.

Of all the items in the estimates the sixth concession was the only one to cause any notable contention. Since this road was handed back to the municipality the matter of its upkeep has been a constant worry to the various councils. By virtue of its type of construction repairs and necessary upkeep are necessarily expensive items. Engineer Babcock was present and estimated the cost of the necessary work to be, for oiling and surface treating \$4,200., patching \$1,000, drainage \$1,500, rebuilding certain bad stretches, about one half mile in all \$3,500, making a total of \$10,200.

Deputy-Reeve R. L. Stiver said he did not like the idea of spending \$10,000. on the sixth concession. He thought the council should go easy and see if some more economical way could not be devised of keeping up the road. Instead of new construction of the half mile of road he favored just scarifying the sections and maybe the application of a little stone. The cost of this would be between \$1000. and \$1,500. as compared to \$3,500. for new construction.

Councillor Clark favored new construction at the estimated cost of \$3,500. "If it will cost \$1,500. to repair it and we have to turn around next year and rebuild it I think it is waste of money to spend \$1,500 on this. We might better spend the \$3,500. this year and have a job of it and be through."

Deputy-Reeve Stiver "I'd like to see the sixth fixed with an expenditure of not over \$1,000. per mile."

Reeve Gohn—We must remember we spent practically nothing on it last year.

Mr. Stiver—Is it fair to spend \$100 a mile on other township roads and this much on the sixth concession?

Reeve Gohn—The sixth is a different road altogether. It carries a very heavy traffic.

Mr. Stiver—The taxes are going up every year and if we start making expenditures of this size on township roads, where are we going to land?

Reeve Gohn—The only difference in

A communication was read from the residents of Helen Avenue complaining of the condition of the roadway built on that street as a local improvement two years ago. "We are nearly riding on the dirt" said the communication which asked that the council give the matter immediate attention. It was pointed out that the culverts were in very bad shape.

The Unionville police village tax rate was not inserted in the by-law as the trustees had not made the annual requisition.

The township will probably expend some money in patching the main street through Unionville which is now in bad shape.

W. F. Nichols was appointed tax collector for the west half of the township and A. Summerfeldt was appointed for the east half. The salary will be the same as in former years.

Weed Inspectors Stiver and Gowland reported to the council and it is apparent that these officials have had a busy time during recent weeks. Some very bad cases were reported both from the east and west sides of the municipality and in many cases the inspectors have put in men to cut down the weeds the expense of which will in turn be charged up to the property owners with their taxes. Inspector Stiver has had an especially difficult time in some of the sub-divisions along Yonge Street, but Mr. Stiver pointed out the law quite clear & was equally insistent that all weeds be cut and that if property owners did not look after the cutting he had no alternative but to put a man in to do the work.

Both inspectors reported that the township roadways had been kept well cut during the year. Chief Inspector Smith recently visited the township and made an inspection along with the local weed inspectors.

Robert Clark of Thornhill complained of the blocking of a natural water course and asked that the council take action. A meeting of interested parties will be called by the council.

The tender of the Patterson Construction Company for the bridge between lots 15 and 16 on concession 3 was accepted at a price of \$2,425.

The following accounts were ordered to be paid:

Robert Agar, R. R. 2 Gormley \$937.17; Wm. Allchurch, Locust Hill \$141.15; G. H. Bennett, R. R. Markham \$131.15; David Boyd, Stouffville \$81.75; R. J. Cunningham, R. R. 2, Gormley

\$291.75; Alex. Duncan, R. R. Unionville \$242.40; Phillip Forsyth, Markham \$1605.75; Amos Grove, Markham \$107.95; David Shadlock, Milliken \$92.55; J. G. Wideman, Stouffville \$685.55; Harvey Reesor, Markham, gravel \$8.50; David Hare, gravel \$1.00 Wm. Armstrong, Locust Hill 50c; Wm. Armstrong, Locust Hill \$1.00; Fred Bell, Gormley \$145.08; Kirkfield Crushed Stone, 1 car stone \$62.86; Wilfred A. Reesor, R. R. 2 Pickering \$34.75; Asa Pearse, Pickering \$158.75; G. Patterson, Markham \$3.50; Canada Ingot Co., 1050 ft. highway guard \$241.50.

J. R. McKenzie, Stouffville, gas 9.81 G. A. M. Davison, Unionville, gas, grader repairs, etc. \$2.32; Barkey Bros., Stouffville 50c; Clark Bunker, R. R. 1 Stouffville, operating grader \$58.00; Metallic Roofing Co., culverts \$693.45; Geo. Weatheral, labor \$3.00; John Snowball, labor \$3.00; E. A. Dukes, Unionville, trucking \$12.50; W. Walker, Markham, trucking \$12.50; Wm. McDonald, Thornhill, trucking \$152.25; H. L. Conlin, sand and gravel \$73.95; John Tully, fixing drain \$2.00; Robert Woodcock, Markham, gas \$46.25 W. G. Maxwell, salary for July \$125.00 Federal People, Ltd., culverts \$123.70 S. L. Murray, Lansing, work on York Townline \$2,257.95.

General Accounts
Hydro Electric, light for township hall \$10.79; G. F. Pollard, express 67c; Jas. Walker, constable salary and mileage for July \$77.10; John Gowland, weed inspector 45 hours @ 30c, 99 miles @ 5c \$18.60; D. J. McDonald, Municipal relief \$79.00; T. Holden, valuing sheep and mileage \$4.00; The Liberal, advertising \$9.60; G. A. M. Davison, stamps \$4.00; J. S. Baird, 2 sheep killed \$25.00; Mrs. R. Rae, work

on local improvements \$50.00; Robt. Stiver, weed inspector \$70.05; Fred Hemingway, cutting weeds \$16.50.



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