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Mill Rate Increased

Richmond Hill 1951 Tax Rate Set At 50 Mills ; Project For Park Community Hall Turned Down

Not In Best Interest Of Village For Hall To Be Built, Councillors Hold

Richmond Hill tax rate will be 50 mills for 1951, it was voted by the council after consideration of the budget on Monday night. It is an increase of six mills over last year.

The increase was necessitated by rising costs all along the line with school costs showing the biggest increase, 3.56 mills, and both the village and county rates recording increases.

In presenting a report on which the tax rate is based, Clerk Russell Lynett showed estimated expenditures of \$99,798.89 with receipts \$22,512.90, leaving a total of \$77,471.50 to be raised by a general tax levy.

A breakdown of the tax rate as compared with that of 1950 is as follows:

Table with columns for 1951 and 1950, rows for Schools (debtenture & maintenance), County, Village, and Gen. debtenture.

Cement Arrives For Streets Repair

Just as soon as weather conditions are favourable Richmond Hill council will get busy on much-needed repairs to sidewalks in the municipality.

Councillor Wes. Middleton, chairman of the streets committee, reported at the meeting Monday night that a full carload of cement had arrived here in preparation for the job.

It was also stated that repairs had been effected on the town cement mixer at a cost of \$222.

practical than hiring someone part time.

A delegation of property owners from the foot of Arnold Crescent waited on the council to see if something could be done about controlling water in that area, fields, undermining roads and weakening culverts.

The police commission will confer with Inspector Hand of the Ontario Provincial Police at Aurora. A letter to the council suggested that a night constable might be necessary to relieve the pressure on the present incumbent, Constable Frank Moore.

The mayor was instructed to make arrangements for the appointment of a Civil Defense Coordinator for the district.

Councillor Tomlin was named Richmond Hill representative on the four-community group being set up to combat the dog nuisance while appointment on a similar group to investigate a mncerator project fell to Councillor Middleton.

Police Will Enforce By-law

Determined to put teeth in their bylaw regulating the operation of tourist camps in the municipality, Vaughan Township council at a recent meeting decided to put enforcement in the hands of the police department.

The council also voted to pay \$20.00 to the benevolent fund of the Maple Fire Brigade for each fire it attends.

Veto Lions Project

The council after a brief discussion, decided to turn down the request of the Richmond Hill Lions Club for lease of property in the village park for erection of a community hall.

Final action was endorsement of a resolution sponsored by Councillors Middleton and Tomlin telling the Clerk to advise the secretary of the Lions Club that in the opinion of the council, it was not in the best interests of the village to allow a hall to be built in the park.

Advertise This Week

The clerk told council he had been advised that the engineers would be advertising for bids for the new sewage system this week and that it should be possible to award tenders within a couple of weeks.

The council discussed the financing of the sewer system and the possibility of getting a good price for the debentures to be issued covering the financing. It was suggested that if a higher interest rate than 3 1/2 per cent. was offered, it might be possible to get par for the issue.

Inasmuch as the Ontario government will loan money to municipalities for public works under certain conditions at the rate of 2 1/2 per cent, Deputy Reeve Taylor and Councillor Tomlin were named a committee to interview proper government officials and explore the possibility of securing a low rate loan here.

Will Engage Assistant

In view of constantly expanding pressure of duties which are to increase as work starts on the sewage project, council authorized Clerk Lynett to advertise or an assistant, applications to be in by April 11. It was felt that a full-time incumbent would be more more

"Know Your Neighbour"



A. R. W. (Art) Uren is the newly-elected President of the Richmond Hill Business Men's Association and has taken an active part in its affairs since it was organized last year.

Vern. Griffin Is President Of Thornhill Business Men

Organization of the Thornhill and District Business Men's Association was completed on Tuesday evening with a dinner at the New Uplands Golf and Country Club and election of officers for the organization.

President of the group is Vern Griffin with the following executive: vice-president, Bart Edwards; secretary, Ron Fenn; treasurer, H. Frye; directors, George Jackson, Lou Reid and William Anstey.

The Association has been in the process of organization for the past several weeks during which an interim group of officers have been functioning. It takes in the area from Langstaff south to Steele's Corners and from Bathurst to Bayview.

The election was the major business activity of the session and the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 23, when further organizational details will be worked out.

Speaker at the dinner was Harvey M. Dagg of Toronto, supervisor of the business development for the Bank of Nova Scotia who gave an interesting talk on banking with a history of its development and a detailed analysis of how the Canadian banking system operates.

Coming Events

- APRIL 6—Friday. Y. P. U. Drama Festival in Newmarket Town Hall. Plays will be between Toronto Centre North and Toronto East Rural Presbyteries at 8.15 p.m. c1w40

Approve Plans For New School At Pine Grove

Vaughan township has been given the green light on construction of a new four-room school at Pine Grove. The council was advised at its meeting on Monday that the Ontario Municipal Board had given permission to issue debentures to finance the new building.

Council decided to ask Lory Roy of the Ontario Hydro Commission to provide an estimate on the cost of placing three lights at the corner of Yonge St. and Garden Ave. Request for such lights was made by the West Langstaff Ratepayers' Association.

Council felt that such services should be paid for by the areas involved rather than by the whole township and will endeavor to work out some method of doing this.

Council will deal similarly with a request for a light at Jackes Avenue and Yonge Street. A light was formerly maintained here by the township.

Get Good Prices At Auction Sales

The public is in a buying mood and has the cash to satisfy that mood, it is indicated in the returns at some of the auction sales in the Richmond Hill vicinity lately.

Ken Prentice, well-known auctioneer, reports a gross of \$14,500 in a sale on the farm of Murray McLean at Elgin Mills last Wednesday. At the sale, grade cows brought around \$300, a threshing machine went at \$1,665 while a tractor brought \$975.

At a sale on the farm of James Brownlee, 6th concession, Vaughan township, March 24, cattle brought an even better price, averaging \$411 a head, Mr. Prentice states.

New School Contract For Toronto Firm

Hughes-Richards, Ltd., of Toronto were awarded the contract for a new five room school in the Richvale area at a meeting of the board of trustees of School Area No. 1 of Vaughan and Markham townships held in Thornhill school last Friday night.

The Hughes-Richards tender of \$151,069 was low among seven bids submitted with prices ranging up to \$168,000.

The school is scheduled to be completed by September 1 and is expected to alleviate the congestion now existing in the area. P. Alan Deacon, Toronto architect who designed the school, said that steel has already been allocated for the building, removing one of the possible bottlenecks against early completion.

Construction is subject to the approval of the Ontario Municipal Board and Inspector Charles Howitt asked for an estimated overall cost in order that application can be made for authority to issue the necessary debentures. The figure was tentatively set at \$166,000.

The board is also planning another school in the Thornlea area and a committee was named to investigate possible sites.

The meeting devoted some time to discussing the budget for the coming year and this will be finally set up at an early date.

There was some discussion with the architect on the matter of installing a new heating system in Thornhill school and this will be further considered at a later date. On motion of Trustees Jackson Taylor and Nathan Hicks, the board extended a vote of thanks to Colonel F. J. Picking, retiring managing editor of the Liberal for his splendid co-operation with them.

Colonel Picking, in reply declared that education was something in which he was deeply interested and that he believed the area school plan was the solution to the educational needs of the district.

Splendid Minstrel Programme Is Produced In Aid Of Richvale Boy Scouts And Cubs

Appreciative audiences turned out Friday and Saturday evenings to enjoy the first minstrel show to be put on by Richvale in years. Sponsored by Group Committee, it was held in Richmond Hill Public School Auditorium, the net proceeds to go to the Camping Fund for the lads of First Richvale Troop and Pack Boy Scouts.

Under the able direction of Harold Ince and Cyril Baker, who emceed the show, the thirty members of the cast presented two hours of rollicking entertainment. The sensitive accompaniment of Mrs. M. F. Fenner, at the piano, carried the show along as the members sang number after number of old Southern songs and others. Lyrics for two of the numbers were composed by Mrs. John Kirk. The end-men were the clowns of the performance, and their spontaneous ad-libbing punched holes in the script but nobody seemed to care. A pestiferous picaninny added to the merriment, and the antics of a little puppet captivated the junior members of the audience.

Starting Water System Soon

Markham Gives Contract To Malvern Company For Elmwood Pk. Watermains

Markham Township council at its regular meeting on Tuesday awarded the contract for new water mains in Elmwood Park subdivision to Malvern Construction Co of Markham at their figure of \$6,406.90.

The Malvern bid was accepted on recommendation of the township engineers, Margison & Babcock, from a total of eight tenders submitted for the work. It is expected that construction work will be started in about a week.

The contract provides for laying mains from Church street east to Lennox Avenue and from Markham road south to Palmer road. The area from Yonge to Church has already been serviced. Richmond Hill has agreed to provide the water for the area.

The council also decided to ask for tenders for garbage collection in Elmwood Park among other sections. Specific bids will be for the following areas:

Lots 26 to 35 inclusive in Concession 1 — from Highway No. 7 to Steele's Avenue. Hunt, Teetzell and Elmwood Park subdivisions.

Wants Increased Salary

Claiming that his work is out of all proportion to the remuneration he receives, Ross Norton, building inspector, asked to be relieved of some of his duties and also that his pay be increased from \$1,600 to \$2,600 a year.

Mr. Norton claimed that he had taken up the matter of salary with the council last year and had been given to understand that the figure would be \$1,800 a year where as when the necessary by-law was adopted, the figure stood at \$1,600.

The inspector traced the development of the building industry in the township during the past decade and pointed out that value of new buildings reached an aggregate of two and a half million dollars in Markham last year with a proportionate revenue to the township based on the value of each permit issued. He claimed that over in Vaughan township, the figure reached only a million and a half and the inspector was drawing a salary of \$2,800 as against his \$1,600.

On top of that, the Vaughan inspector was not called upon to issue permits for septic tanks as was the case in Markham. Last year, there had been permits issued for 247 such tanks, approximately one for each working day and they had consumed a tremendous amount of his time.

He also claimed that under the by-law, it was not necessary to secure a permit to build a septic tank and the township couldn't force anyone to do so.

The property committee was instructed to confer with the building inspector on the matter.

Consider Kindergarten

The question of providing kindergarten classes in School Area No. 1 of Markham and Vaughan townships will be given consideration by the school board, that body indicated to a delegation of six women who waited on them Tuesday night asking for such accommodation.

Members of the Board pointed out that a survey showed 153 children eligible for kindergarten in the area but they were spread out all over the district and transportation would have to be provided for them. However the Board promised to give a definite decision on the matter at their meeting on May 11.

Maple Church W.M.S. Marks 60th Birthday

Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the inception of the organization, members of the Women's Missionary Society of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Maple, gathered at the church Wednesday afternoon of this week, with ladies of other neighbouring societies to honor the occasion. Miss Freda Matthews, National Mission Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, was guest speaker.

Founded on April 2, 1891, the organization, formerly called the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, had as its first president Mrs. John MacNaughton. First vice-president was Mrs. Noble, grandmother of Lord Beaverbrook, second vice-president Mrs. John McDonald, secretary Miss Kate Noble and treasurer, Miss Annie Wainwright who held this office for thirty-one years. During the first ten years, no allocation was set for the society so members automatically contributed twenty-five dollars a year to Presbytery. The amount sent in now has been increased to one hundred and seventy dollars a year.

The W.M.S. organized the Busy Bees Mission Band in 1917 under the leadership of Mrs. S. R. Robinson and the Band is still flourishing with Mrs. C. H. Bowman as leader, and Mrs. Cal. Miller as assistant.

Charter members living yet are Mrs. Chritsena Malloy, Aurora, Mrs. John Ness, Montreal, and Mrs. Churchill of Beeton.

Small decorated tables were set in the church for the serving of refreshments during the afternoon's festivities. Presiding at the table were the four members who have been associated with the society the greatest number of years, Mrs. Tilford Witherspoon, Mrs. Charles Snider, Mrs. Arthur Rumble and Mrs. Milton McDonald. Guest soloists were Mrs. Austin Robinson of Guelph and Miss Ann Lawrie of Maple. Congratulatory messages were brought to the Maple group from Toronto West Presbyterial by Mrs. Carr of Toronto and Mrs. T. L. Williams of King vice-president of section three, Toronto West Presbyterial.

Heading the present executive of the W.M.S. is Mrs. C. H. Bowman, as president. First vice-president is Mrs. George Matheson, second vice-president Mrs. Milton McDonald, secretary Mrs. Eric Bice whose assistant is Mrs. Reg. Bice, treasurer Mrs. R. D. MacNaughton.