

School Area Financial Report Shows Balance

The Board of Trustees of Township School Area 1 Markham and Vaughan received the \$400,069-35 financial report for 1956 at their regular meeting on Tuesday night in the Thornhill Public School. Treasurer A. W. R. Doan presented the report which showed the Board had a balance of \$18,753.14 in current funds and a balance of \$1,750.27 in the building fund on January 1. Dr. Doan commented on the budget, "In viewing the current balance we should take into consideration the approximate 1,767 students in the area, the balance will then be on a per per student with that in rural areas."

Dr. Doan said further, "For the first time we received a bill from Markham Township for the municipal auditors' report, it is \$150. We also have a bill for \$200. from Vaughan Township for the municipal auditor's report, as usual." Dr. Doan said two auditors worked for two days at the school on the books, and one auditor for five days, and the final reports were compiled in the auditor's own offices.

Teachers' salaries amounted to \$229,003.49 last year, plant operation and maintenance \$64,433.61; administration \$13,763.00; transportation \$7,623.00; bank interest \$2,449.24. From the building fund payments on the proposed new school on Mill Rd. were \$20,237.86, other buildings accounted for \$11,905.72. Receipts for the year in the building fund were \$39,434.27.

New construction during the year for the area schools included new blackboards in two rooms in Thornhill Public School and

two in Langstaff Public School. New Committees

Five committees will function for the Board this year. Trustee Nathan Hicks will head the Property and Planning; Trustee Roy Bick, Finance; Chairman W. A. Ladell, Education; Trustee Jackson Taylor, Public Relations; Trustee Allan Parker, Health, Recreation and Safety. The entire board will serve on each committee with three members forming a quorum at any one time. The chairman is an ex-officio member of all committees.

Following the Tuesday night meeting Chairman Ladell called an education committee meeting to begin discussion on salary negotiations with the teaching staff for 1957.

Trustee Taylor also announced a Public Relations committee meeting for next Monday evening.

Supervising Principal Reports

Supervising Principal E. T. Sand was present and announced the spelling contest on the Insuperior level will be held on Thursday evening at 7:30 in the Thornhill Public School.

Principal Sand also asked the Board to add \$23.51 to the fire insurance program of the area for this year to cover the personal property of the teaching staff. On motion of Trustee Hicks, seconded by Trustee Bick this was done.

Music instructor John Martin will receive financial assistance to attend a music convention in Atlantic City, N.J., this spring.

As previously agreed by the Board, Mr. Martin receives assistance towards his convention expenses every other year, paying them himself otherwise.

Maintenance Supervisor Present

Maintenance Supervisor W. Downing was present and asked the Board to please come to some agreement regarding the pension plan for the custodial staff as soon as possible.

He also presented the cost of a new drinking fountain for the Powell Road School, at \$85.00. This item was approved by the Board.

The maintenance supervisor mentioned all necessary repairs to the pipes at Thornhill Public School had been attended to. These occurred during the extremely cold weather. The motor at Powell Road School also failed during the very cold weather but it happened at 2:30 p.m. on a Friday and was repaired by Monday so no school time was lost.

A point regarding whether Workmen's Compensation covered the custodial staff of the area while they were acting as traffic guards was discussed and it was decided that it did, as they were on official school business. Trustee Taylor asked that the guards be requested always to wear their special garments in order to be highly visible to motorists.

Mr. Downing also mentioned that the police from both townships were carrying out spot checks on the traffic crossings more frequently, as requested by Mr. Sand.

Meredith Subdivision

It is understood the Board is planning no new building in regard to the Meredith subdivision recently approved by Vaughan Township. According to Chairman Ladell, it is felt, from the size of subdivision planned, the Charles Howitt school can accommodate any children from the subdivision.

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Hydro Commission Discusses Set-Up

At the Richmond Hill Hydro Commission meeting held Thursday of last week, members decided to delay the final decision on a proposed job classification form prepared by the Personnel Committee of the Town Council. The new form if sanctioned by the Town Council will be put in force for all town employees. The Personnel Committee had queried the Hydro Commission on the possibility of the Commission using a similar form for hydro employees.

The members took the preliminary steps in preparing a by-law which will outline the terms of employment for Commission employees. Such matters as working conditions, rate of remuneration, sick leave and annual leave were discussed. A list of equipment owned by the Commission was also compiled. Available office space to be rented by the Commission in the new municipal building was inspected by the members. The actual amount of rent to be paid to the municipality has yet to be set. Indications are that the Hydro will occupy office space on the ground floor of the new building.

Secretary B. Ellis was instructed to secure prices from the Bell Telephone Company for the cost of setting up an emergency phone service, connected with the homes of the after-hours linemen for emergency service. At present all emergency calls received after hours are handled by the Ontario Hydro. It was the unanimous feeling of the Commission that this emergency system should be set up as quickly as possible.

The members are in full contact with town officials regarding the sale of the outstanding \$125,000 hydro debenture issue. It is hoped the municipality very shortly will be successful in its efforts to sell this outstanding debenture issue. The Commission are holding meetings in preparation to tabling the 1957 hydro budget some time in February.

Representatives of the Ontario Hydro will meet with the Commission on February 14 in order to discuss problems associated with the operation of a local Hydro-Electric Commission. All the members were in attendance for the meeting which included Chairman Douglas Dingwall, and Commission members, Mr. Sam Cook and Mayor William Neal. Secretary-treasurer Brydon Ellis was also in attendance.

Town Requests A New Report

When the Personnel Committee presented its report at a special session Wednesday morning, Richmond Hill Town Council declined to accept the proposals and called for a new report. The report dealt with the drawing up of a job classification form, describing positions in the various town departments and would be allied with the salary schedule.

After considerable discussion, it was the majority opinion that the form was too complicated for the present administration and it was agreed that a new form should be presented for council's consideration.

The committee consists of Councilors Stanley Tinker, chairman; Councilors Harold Jones and James Haggart and Mayor William Neal, ex-officio.

Several ratepayers expressed objection to the proposed location of duplexes in Richmond Acres. Council referred the matter to the Planning Board.

School Debentures Sold

Mayor William Neal reported to council Monday night that the Town had been successful in its application to the Ontario Municipal Investment Corporation for the sale of \$280,000 debentures for the Beverley Acres Public School. The debentures for twenty years will bear interest at 6 per cent.

Robert Ross, Public School chairman, who attended the meeting expressed satisfaction with the announcement and said the sale would prevent any hold-up on the construction work which is being rushed to completion. Chairman Ross thanked council for co-operation.

NEWARKET: Council voted five to four in favor of holding a plebiscite on a liquor store and brewers' warehouse this week. Strong opposition against any action that might lead to liquor and beer being made available here was voiced by nine delegations.

MARKHAM: The newly installed pipe organ has been dedicated at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

Difference Between Mistake & Omission Says Architect

In an informative session last Monday, members of Vaughan Council learned the differentiation of the terms "mistake" and "omission" when used in regard to architects and their plans. A representative of the firm of Shore and Moffat, architects for the new township office at Maple, met with council to "clarify" the architects' stand on the question of extras.

Mr. D. Blenkhorn stated that an omission was something which the customer has not paid for and which has been missed in the plans. A mistake, on the other hand, is something which has been paid for and missed on the plan, he explained. He explained that the contingency clause allows for such things as might be overlooked in the plan but added that the previous council had eliminated this clause to save money.

At a previous meeting at which the architect was strongly criticized by council, it was felt that things like doors should not be forgotten in the plans. Council was fully aware that the changes that they made were naturally chargeable. Mr. Blenkhorn cited a number of examples where things might be overlooked on the drawing board and had to be added as extras later on.

Lay Plans Coming Year R. H. United Church

The Annual Congregational Meeting of the Richmond Hill United Church, was held on January 30th, with a record attendance by the members.

After partaking of the dinner prepared and served by ladies of the Evening Group of the W.A. — a vote of thanks to the ladies was proposed by Mr. Dickson Miller on behalf of those present.

Following the Doxology—and Prayer by Mr. Ralph Kerslake, the election of Recording Stewards, resulted in the appointment of Mr. Ralph Wood, Mr. P. Schell introduced the guest speaker, the Rev. J. Arnold, of the Fairbank United Church, who was thanked for his enlightening address, by Dr. J. P. Wilson.

For the musical interlude, two solos were contributed by Mrs. R. P. Robbins, with Mr. H. Fowler as accompanist.

Proceeding with the year's business, the Minutes were adopted as read.

In Memoriam was observed by two minutes of silence and prayer with the Rev. C. G. Higginson reading the names of the 26 members that had passed on to their final reward during 1956.

Elders to serve a term of three years comprised: Mr. P. E. Angle, Mr. J. R. Herrington, Mr. F. W. Morrow, Mr. A. R. Phipps, Mr. W. Rombough, Mr. C. H.

Ontario Defines School Age Minimum

The minimum legal age limit for a child starting school will be defined in Ontario for the first time under a bill introduced this week in the Provincial legislature.

The problem, nearly always good for a tug-of-war between parents and school, will be met by government-sponsored legislation which would enable a child who had not yet turned five before December 31 to enroll in school the following September.

One of the healthiest, happiest, biggest and most active clubs in the community is the Richmond Hill Figure Skating Club. It all began when artificial ice was installed in the Richmond Hill Arena and as the hockey leagues were formed one by one for the boys and the schools were allotted time for free skating, a small group of interested mothers met at the home of Mrs. Hugh MacKay. The leadership of the group was given to Mrs. D. H. Featherstonhaugh, who comes of a family well versed in the arts and intricacies of the Figure Skating World.

Starting from scratch, the first thing to do was to gather together a sufficient membership to warrant the hiring of a competent instructor. Within a few weeks these two things were accomplished. A membership of over 100 was enrolled and a very competent Church Kiel was hired to instruct an assortment of beginners and near-beginners ranging in age from five years to 25 years.

That first group of mothers was augmented as the months went by and the need grew, but due to the success of the club as a result of the persistence and work of the President, Mrs. D. H. Featherstonhaugh; Vice - Pres. Mrs. Walter Smith; Secretary, Mrs. Wm. Hall; Corres. Sec., Mrs. Wm. Wilson; Treasurer, Mrs. Duncan Gillard; Membership Secretary, Mrs. Norman Gibson; Publicity, Mrs. MacGregor; Mrs. John Anderson and appointed Head Supervisor Mrs. N. Dean.

Many Problems

The first year, as with any first year, was not without its problems.

Following his review of the "Year's Work" Chairman and Treasurer, Harold Sanderson in his theme "Passing Years, traced the growth of the Church and its congregation from the first church meeting held in the house "of one, John Sanderson in 1803", the speaker quoting from the original document, wherein it states "Special permission is granted by the Archbishop of York, to his Majesty's Protestant dissenting subjects called Methodists, to hold Church in the house of one, John Sanderson, County of York" believed to be in the vicinity of Richmond Hill.

Thornhill Residents Object To Car Agency

A petition objecting to the establishment of a new car dealership at the corner of Kirk Drive and Yonge Street, Thornhill, was tabled with Markham Township Council at its regular meeting held Monday. The petition which contains some 41 names was presented by Mrs. Wesley Thompson and Miss Alma Hoopengartner, both residents of Yonge Street. The petition represented the feelings of residents living on both Yonge St and Kirk Drive, close to the proposed establishment. A similar petition is to be forwarded to the Township Planning Board. Miss Hoopengartner who acted as spokesman stated it was understood that the proprietors of Thornhill Motor Sales who are dealers for one of the big three in the automotive field plan to erect a garage, showroom and body shop. At present the business is being operated from a service station located at the corner of Yonge St. and Kirk Drive. The property in question is located in the Selkirk Subdivision.

Zoned Residential

The area in question is presently zoned as residential. The Planning Director, R. Forrest stated that the Planning Board has had requests from number of Yonge St. residents to rezone the area extending from Heintzman's Lane north to the Selkirk property, as highway commercial. Miss Hoopengartner stated Vaughan Township had turned down a similar request to locate the business in the Scott subdivision.

Miss Hoopengartner maintained Council should have an obligation to the residents of the area who have spent a great deal of money on their property. "We certainly don't want this area turned into a junk yard," stated the speaker. Mr. Forrest said Council could insist on a 20-foot buffer strip between the garage property and the adjoining residential area. The protective strip could be planted with trees and shrubs to cut off the rear view of the premises. Miss Hoopengartner felt Council should recommend that the business locate in the Richvale area of Yonge Street where several garages are already in operation.

Councillor L. Mumberson said he would oppose a body shop, "as the first thing you know, they will want to put on night shifts and other residents with their noise." Mr. Mumberson felt this was one of the main problems associated with the operation of body shops in the city. Reeve W. L. Clark echoed the unanimous sentiments of Council when he stated that Council would take no steps which would in any way depreciate the property values of the present owners.

Thornhill Trustees

A letter was read from the

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