

Markham Twp. Council Property, Finance, Roads Committees Make Reports

Markham Township has received its first application (since 1940) to establish a corporation cemetery, Clerk Harry Crisp informed Council at its meeting Monday night. The Toronto General Burying Grounds has applied for approximately 200 acres of land, Lots 14 and 15, Concession 6, Markham Township at No. 7 and 16th Avenue. Council deferred taking any action on the application until "every angle is gone into, and such things as roads around the cemetery and through the cemetery are determined".

A permit for Holy Cross cemetery, Yonge Street was issued 20 years before it was officially used.

Reeve W. L. Clark said he thought council should also arrange that the corporation take over an abandoned cemetery in that area too, so that it could be restored and maintained.

Deputy-reeve Dean: "If we approve, we should map in the road allowances." The reeve concurred stating, "We must give some thought to this for once we have given approval, that's it."

Councillor J. MacNeil asked about payment of taxes on land for cemeteries and was informed by the clerk that as soon as it came into use as a burying ground it would be tax free, under the present system. However it was pointed out that it might not be in use for 10 or 20 years, and that Mr. J. R. McAlister, Director of Cemeteries had forecast just such a possibility as this land purchase for future use when he appeared before Council last year. (Legislative action is also forecast to make cemeteries taxable.)

Community Centre Grants
In reply to a request from the Council of Tilbury that Markham Township give its support to a resolution for a change in grants to community centres, Markham Council voted unanimously on its own resolution that "The Department of Agriculture give consideration to increasing grants for community centres and arenas."

Finance Report
The Finance Committee report presented by Chairman Dean was received by Council and after further consideration will be dealt with at a later date before it is passed.

Several changes in township procedure were recommended by the committee such as Retirement Age; age of retirement for police and female employees was recommended for 60 years of age; for other male help 65 years; with the provision that male help can remain on staff after that age at the special request of Council.

\$150.00 a year car allowance. Instead of a mileage account was suggested for township assessors. Stating that "at \$15. per diem, Markham Township Council will still be the lowest paid council north of Metro," Chairman Dean requested the \$10 per diem pay be raised five dollars for 1960. Under the Municipal Act councillors may receive up to \$20 per diem, or \$1,000 a year.

Property Committee
Many comments have been made in the council chambers and in the press regarding the "frigid" atmosphere on the second floor of the municipal building this winter. Following action by council to have the engineer investigate the heating system, an airlock has been removed — and council and the press sat in warm comfort at Monday night's meeting.

Deputy-reeve Dean said something must now be done to obtain storage space for such things as impounded bicycles etc. which are presently cluttering up the boiler room of the building and creating a fire hazard.

In adopting the Property Committee's report Council also adopted Chairman Dean's "Standard Procedure" in the matter of subdivision land grants. Subdividers will give to the township 5% of lands or cash in lieu thereof.

(a) Where a park site is required — 5% of the total acreage of the plan be taken.
(b) Where cash in lieu of land is taken 5% of acreage plus purchase price per acre plus selling price per acre — divided in half, of which the township would receive 5%.

Chairman Dean pointed out that this would give Council a standard to work on.
The Property Committee is

now authorized to prepare a brief naming possible conservation areas in Markham Township, which the Conservation Authority might purchase and develop.

Road Report
Councillor Lawson Mumber-so, Chairman of the Roads Committee, recommended the paving of Carville Road West to Bayview Avenue, the paving of Kirk Drive, and Henderson Avenue "to its entire length" this year. Council adopted the recommendations of the Roads Committee subject to approval of township engineers and the Finance Committee.

Other Business
Bylaw to authorize the borrowing of \$25,000 for S. S. No. 13, Melville School on the 6th concession was given two readings.

There will be no more "free loading" of snow by the roads department for township residents who hitherto have requested the township to plough out their snow-bound driveways. The clerk was requested to obtain a list of township residents who contract for private snow removal and to make it accessible to the road department.

Township assessors will now change their territories so they may be familiar with the assessment picture in all sections of the township. Mr. Thompson will assess in Concession 1 this year and Mr. McLean will assess the balance of the township, council ruled.

Council left over until a later date, and until more details are furnished, a draft of an agreement drawn up by the T. T. C. regarding the Yonge St. bus service. One important detail which has to be settled between the three municipalities concerned, Richmond Hill, Markham and Vaughan is the setting of the percentage basis. This governs not only profits but also losses, since there is a clause in the agreement that the municipalities must cover all deficits occurring in the first three months of the new contract.

It was predicted at Monday night's meeting that the T.T.C. might eventually run down Bayview, with a branch line. It is expected that the service will commence at Elgin Mills side-road.

The Alaskan was brought into court to answer a charge of bigamy. It seemed he had a wife in Fairbanks and another in Juneau. The judge glared at the wrongdoer and demanded, "How could you do such a thing?" Replied the bigamist: "Fast team."



REEVE JAMES HAGGART

Richmond Hill, who at the opening session of York County Council was elected Chairman of the important Property Committee for the coming year.

NORTH YORK — The Parks Committee of North York Council is investigating a request by the Board of Education regarding the development of 10 acres of land in the township for a community arena.

Annual Vestry Meeting At St. Mary's Anglican

Another year of advance and progress was the keynote of the reports presented at the annual vestry meeting of St. Mary's Anglican Church, on Tuesday evening, January 26, in Wrixon Hall. The Rector, the Rev. J. F. O'Neil, was chairman of the meeting.

The Churchwarden's Report and Financial Statement revealed to the well-attended meeting that the parish continued to show healthy growth and that all financial obligations were met in the current year. One of the highlights of the year was the Every Member Visitation last fall which raised the level of stewardship in the life of the parish. The debt on the parish hall and land purchases has been reduced considerably over the past year and it is hoped another year will see it cleared away completely. The Rector in his report encouraged the congregation to go forward in faith and make 1960 a year of planning for the future. The need for an overall plan of expansion of present church facilities is urgent as well as the need for further assistance which is now under consideration. The following officers were elected for the coming year: Rector's Warden: Mr. L. T. Wainwright; People's Warden: Mr. G. L. Lewis; Warden Emeritus: Mr. Harry Stamford; Deputy Wardens: Mr. H. C. Peacock and Mr. M. Ashkanase; Lay Delegates to Synod Mrs. A. M. Loughridge, Mr. J. Y. Lepper, Mr. F. C. Jackson; Substitutes: Mr. D. C. Smith and Mr. D. Crampton; Envelope Secretary: Mr. G. McLaren; Treasurer: Mr. J. Brodick; Vestry Clerk: Mr. A. Grant Farwell; Advisory Council Representatives: Mr. J. Munroe, Mr. W. Leishman, Mr. R. D. Little, Mr. A. Rollinson, Mr. D. Fettes, Mr. J. M. Langton; Auditors: Mr. R. Britnell and Mr. D. Ross; Great Chapter representatives: Mr. E. P. Morley, Mr. R. T. Hutchison, Mr. W. Lennox, Mr. S. Appleby, and Mr. H. C. Montgomery. The Sector filmstrip taken at St. Mary's was shown by Mr. L. T. Wainwright and the Evening Guild served refreshments at the conclusion of the meeting.

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President Al Harley Throws Perfect Rock To Officially Open Fine New Curling Rink

(By Ron Crane)

Robbie Burns Day came to Richmond Hill on January 25th as it inevitably does but this year, the day set aside to do honour to Scotland's famous bard heralded the official opening of the Richmond Hill Curling Club — a "bra" day it was too.

Ceremonies got under way at 5:00 p.m. with members of the executive and invited guests enjoying a mixer hour and cementing old friendships and making new. At 6:15 p.m., Doug Maxwell, sports commentator for C. J. B. C. broadcast his nightly curling report from the Richmond Hill Curling Club and interviewed Club president, Al Harley.

Mr. Maxwell got his aspirates and consonants sadly scrambled and there must be quite a few people convinced that Al Harley is president of the local curling club. It just isn't so and Al refuses to change his name no matter what people think.

After a sumptuous buffet, presided over by lady members of the curling club, opening ceremonies were carried out with Doug Maxwell as M.C. Mayor Ken Tomlin kicked off the speeches and the text of his remarks conveyed the universally accepted idea that the Curling Club is something in which all Richmond Hill can take pride.

Mr. Tomlin is so right and his remarks were elaborated on by Mr. Neil Gregory of the O. C. A. who said that the recognition and prestige of the town of Richmond Hill would be immeasurably enhanced by the activities of the club.

President Al Harley gave a brief history of the origin and formation of the club and introduced his executive. He gave praise and tribute to those whose hard and unstinting work have made the club an actual fact and not just an idea scratched on a piece of paper.

Rev. J. F. O'Neil of St. Mary's Anglican Church, this season's club chaplain, amused all those present by stating that the 9:30 a.m. service on Sunday morning seemed to be gaining in attendance now that the club was open. Mr. O'Neil was in complete accord with the other speakers and agreed that this was a very fine example of community spirit in action.

Mr. Hubert Allan, manager of the club, came in for his share of praise, and rightly so. Mr. Allan, or "Hu," as he is most often called, is working like a beaver to make the club a success and is succeeding mightily. The local club was fortunate indeed to obtain the services of Mr. Allan. May the association be a long and a happy one.

After the brief speeches the curlers took their places on the ice and were led around the rink by the traditional piper. President Al Harley cast the first stone and the man must lead a very pure life as the gods were on his side and he threw a flawless stone. An exhibition of curling was then given with 12 rinks taking part.

The Burns Day opening was pure coincidence, but it seemed appropriate that the local shrine of the "roaring game" should officially open on a traditional Scottish day. If you are interested in curling drop up to the club, about 300 yds. east of Yonge St. on the south side of the Elgin Mills side road. You will certainly be pleasantly surprised.

Richmond Hill Curtain Club Plans Thirteenth Production Next Month

If you want to impress your friends, just take a notebook along with you when you go to see the Curtain Club's production of "The Chalk Garden" next month. There are enough witty epigrams and trenchant observations to make your conversation sparkle for months.

How about a line like — "A garden is a good lesson, so much dies in it — and so often." Or then there's — "Love can be had any day. Success is far harder!" Then again, you may like — "I never listen to what one woman says of another" or "When you are old everyone sees your faults — except yourself." And we could go on.

However, it's not fair to give the whole plot away (not to mention the laugh-lines) — far better go along and thoroughly enjoy a play that will amuse, surprise — and give you plenty to think about as well.

"The Chalk Garden" is the Curtain Club's thirteenth production (speaking of full-length plays) but there's little superstitious in the Club. Members are looking forward to this play with the knowledge that it's "one of the best" and should help to enhance the reputation the club has for putting on "good shows".

Regular patrons will remember "Rebecca", "Gaslight", "The Marriage", "The Remarkable Mr. Pennypacker", "Harvey", "High Ground", "The Happiest Days of Your Life" and "Blithe Spirit" — to mention a few.

In addition the club has presented many one-act plays and has also staged productions for the Canadian Cancer Society and the Ontario Mental Health Association.

Last December they started out on a new venture — an English pantomime "Cinderella" — which was such an outstanding success that it will, in all probability, become an annual event.

And the Curtain Club of Richmond Hill is making a name for itself outside the confines of the town. Two years ago Rex Sevenoaks, in the Club's production of "The Marriage" in the Central Ontario Drama Festival won an award for the best supporting actor in the Festival. Last year the Club won the Calvert Trophy for the best presentation in the Festival with their production of "Clerembar" (directed by Mr. Sevenoaks) which also topped the "best actor" (for Robert Peace) and "best actress" (for Sheila Siegeman) awards.

"The Chalk Garden" is being entered in this year's Festival but Richmond Hill audiences will have a chance to see it first. It is playing for three nights at the Lions Hall on Centre Street, on February 11, 12 and 13.

In the light of past achievements and local acclaim, we think it safe to say you won't be sorry if you buy a ticket and help support this local club by being a member of the audience.

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