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Regular Council Meeting Vaughan Seeks Legislation Compel School Boards Pay Own Loan Interest Charges

(By Paul Delmer)

The regular meeting of Vaughan Township Council Monday, scheduled for 9 a.m., was delayed 35 minutes while all other council members waited the arrival of Councilor Jesse Bryson. Towards the close of the council meeting, Councilor Ralph was called to the telephone. He told council he must leave immediately because of an urgent appeal for his presence in Toronto. A case before the courts in which he was legal advisor for one of the parties had been adjourned to enable him to put in an appearance, the magistrate sitting on the case demanding his immediate attendance.

School Board Levy
Council discussed at length subject of interest on loans obtained by the school board. They thought the school board should pay the interest charges. The school board not only had refused to accept this but threatened to issue a warrant on council to compel it to pay. Reeve Perry said that Council had established the school board to separate the school board mill rate from the township rate. Instead the school board, by its attitude in this matter, was creating a situation in which its own mill rate would be decreased while thousands of dollars were being added to the township levy—for education.

Will Seek Government Bill
Council decided to go along with the school board for the time being but instructed the clerk to take action to have a bill brought before the Provincial Government at the next session with the object of requiring school boards to pay their own loan interest charges.

Lawyers Are Criticized
Act of some solicitors in failing to advise clients properly for need of planning board authority for the sale of land in certain cases, came under fire at the council meeting. One lady in the township had recently sold a parcel of her land under ten acres without planning board consent. The clerk, Jim McDonald, in giving the facts stated that fault lies with the solicitor advising the lady. This was only one of an increasing number of such cases. The land deal was registered because the registry office does not require evidence of Planning Board approval.

Liability to Prosecution
However, difficulties would arise at a later date. He suggested some kind of action was required although he did not favor action against often elderly people who did not understand they were infringing a by-law and making themselves liable to prosecution. The lawyers were actually the responsible people but, since they were not the principals, council could not prosecute them.

Lawyers Responsible
Councilor Bruce Ralph, himself a solicitor, said that lawyers are responsible for the damages incurred by clients resulting from negligence on the part of the legal advisors.

Write Bar Association?
The Reeve, John Perry, asked whether a letter to the Bar Association would help. Councilor Ralph replied that he did not think so. "It is the personal responsibility of each lawyer," he said.

Reeve Perry said that he did not wish to have the elderly people prosecuted because in most cases they were innocent of any intent to infringe the by-law. However, he felt with the clerk that this sort of thing had to be stopped.

He said that "this Council was not elected to correct the mistakes of legal men." Councilor Ralph said the recourse was to prosecute under the by-law. Councilor Anstey agreed.

By-Passing Board
The Clerk said that the land was covered under a sub-division agreement. A parcel of land under ten acres being sold required planning board approval and payment of a \$300 fee. These people were by-passing the planning board and saving \$300. He said the by-law was quite specific, and stated clearly that "no person shall convey without consent of the planning board."

Councilor Ralph said, "A lawyer is legally responsible for damages resulting from his negligence. Council can prosecute the person for \$300 and she can recover from her solicitor. The Reeve thought that before prosecuting, Council's solicitor should be instructed to send a letter explaining the position to give those concerned an opportunity to straighten things out. This action was agreed.

Ratepayers Complaints
The Clerk read letters received from The Pine Grove Ratepayers Association complaining of the condition of the road surfaces on Gamble Avenue and Nobleton Road.

They asked that the surface be improved, the roads widened and that school zone markings be set up, with speed reduced to 25 m.p.h. Current speed limit is set at 30 m.p.h. The ratepayers also asked for severe punishment of offending drivers.

They asked the road be re-designed and widened with provision of adequate storm sewers, and construction of a sidewalk. They suggested this was a township responsibility and

should not be classed as local improvement.

Monuments Erected
Councilor Wm. Anstey said that there was not sufficient drainage in the area to justify installation of storm sewers. He agreed the road was narrow. He suggested that a lot of residents have erected monuments at the entrance to their driveways which have not helped matters. Winter conditions were bad but would be difficult to improve. In summer conditions were not bad. Councilor Ralph asked if there was enough use of the roads to justify paving next year. Deputy-reeve Vic Ryder said "Yes, but we should have difficulties with the Department of Highways regarding subsidy."

Bad Roads This Year
Reeve Perry said that the complaints should receive consideration. These people are not unreasonable," he added.

"At the same time" the Reeve continued, "I must go on record as saying that snow clearance has cost the township a lot of money this year. As a result we are going to have bad roads this spring. The gravel roads will be bad and the paved roads will be potholed, and there's nothing we can do about it. We might as well tell the people this now," he continued, "because it will be no good to come crying to us."

Compliments Road Dept.
Councilor Anstey agreed and said, "The winter has been a heavy drain on the budget." He added that the Road Department deserved a pat on the back for its splendid work in keeping the roads clear. Deputy-reeve Ryder concurred.

Kleinburg Sidewalk
The Township School Board requested more information on the subject of a proposed sidewalk southerly of the school property on the Kleinburg subdivision. The Reeve said it was a reasonable request. "What they want is an engineering report," he added. "Let them have it." He said the sidewalk was for the benefit of the school.

Co-ordinating Committee
No action was taken on a let-

ter received from the Town of Richmond Hill inviting council to participate in one more meeting at least of the Inter-Municipal Co-ordinating Committee. The Reeve stated he never had supported the committee. He had gone along with it because he thought that was council's wish. Then after joining it, council had criticized him. He declared that it was his conviction the committee served no useful purpose and accomplished nothing. He was ready to co-operate at council level with the other municipalities whenever such co-operation was in the mutual interests of the municipalities concerned.

Criticizes Markham Twp.

The Reeve criticized Markham Township council for passing and forwarding bylaws to the TTC in connection with the fare structure without first consulting Richmond Hill.

Councilor Anstey associated himself with all the Reeve's remarks. Councilor Ralph said he would not attend. The Clerk received no instructions in the matter.

Fringe Municipalities

The Reeve advised council that a meeting of the fringe municipalities would be held March 22 (last Tuesday) at Richmond Hill. The local MPP's would be in attendance.

This was the meeting which had been postponed earlier because of weather conditions. He said that Vaughan Council could not attend because the whole council was meeting with Metro officials at the same time in Vaughan Township. During a brief discussion which followed, Councilor Anstey questioned by Deputy-reeve Ryder said he had no quarrel with Metro but that if the Provincial Government set up a planning department comparable to Metro's he would consider Provincial Government planning preferable. He wished to make it clear however that so far as he was personally concerned the present set up was satisfactory and he had no objections to Metro's planning.

Prefers Government Control

Deputy-reeve Vic Ryder said he preferred direct control of planning from the government. The Reeve said that when he talked with Premier Frost on the subject, Mr. Frost had said "Metro is the Province." Mr. Ryder quoted Metro Chairman Fred Gardiner as saying "the time is coming for us to get out of fringe planning." The Deputy-reeve added that in his view "the Provincial Government is just plain lazy."

Council adjourned at 12.30 having cleared 12 items on the agenda.

DONCASTER

Correspondent:
David Barbour
Henderson Ave.
Phone AV. 5-5205

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Middleton, who resided on Morgan Ave. with her parents, have moved to Carville. Her family, the Jordans, left last weekend for their new residence in Thistle town. They plan to leave the house on Morgan Ave. Doncaster extends to them a fond farewell.

Birthday greetings go out to Gary Jordan, Morgan Ave., who celebrated his 4th birthday on Sunday, March 13 with a party on Saturday.

Birthday wishes are in order for Tommie Vollenberg, of Henderson Ave., who celebrated his 4th birthday on Saturday, March 12.

Birthday congratulations are extended to Denice Adkins, 10 Proctor Ave., who celebrated her 9th birthday on Saturday, March 12.

A baby shower was held in honour of Mrs. J. Perrault Jr., at the home of Mrs. H. Scott, of Morgan Ave., on Thursday, March 10. An estimated 15 guests were present.

A number of local guides enjoyed a weekend camping trip at Oshawa, with the 1st Thornhill Guide troop to which they belong. The girls left on Friday and returned on Sunday.

Elect Officers
The Doncaster Community Ladies Club, met at the home of Mrs. Mizen, Sprucewood Dr.

The Marathon sponsored by the Club and the Mothers Auxiliary of the 1st Thornhill Guides and Brownies was most successful. One hundred and fifty dollars and 18 cents was given to finance the 1st Thornhill Troops for the coming year.

It was decided to have Copper Tooling taught as the next three meetings. New members who would be interested, are invited to join. Notice would have to be given in advance to join the copper class. Call AV. 5-5205. The following officers were installed by Mrs. Edgar for the following year:

President; Mrs. J. Barbour; 1st Vice; Mrs. O. Vaxvick; 2nd Vice; Mrs. C. Russel; Treasurer; Mrs. J. Cole Jr. Recording Secretary; Mrs. D. Morrison. Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Edgar. Social Convener; Mrs. J. Angel. Sewing Convener; Mrs. J. Adkins. Welfare Convener; Mrs. Carle. Membership Convener; Mrs. Cole Sr.

After a few games, a delicious buffet luncheon was served, centred by a Birthday Cake, donated 13 years of welfare work carried on by the Club.

LANGSTAFF

Correspondent:
Mrs. E. Lepkey
Phone AV. 5-3489

Sympathy is extended to Mr. M. Roy Sussex Ave., on the death of his father at St. Joseph's Hospital on Monday, March 14, 1960.

Mark-Vaun W.I.
Nine members of the Mark-Vaun Women's Institute and two from the Langstaff Young Women's Institute attended the Thornhill W.I. 58th anniversary celebrations at the Masonic Hall, in Thornhill, on Thursday, March 17.

The Mark-Vaun W.I. took part in the program by singing three Irish songs with Mrs. Heather Morrison at the piano. Mary Jones was the lucky winner of the door prize and before the afternoon was over five other Mark-Vaun ladies had won prizes. In the absence of the President, Mrs. Hick thanked the Thornhill ladies for their invitation and in giving them such a lovely afternoon and in closing, said she hoped there would soon be a community hall in Langstaff in which they could return the compliment.

The second general meeting of the Langstaff Community Association will be held on Wednesday, March 30, at Charles Howitt School. Time will be 8 p.m. The guest speaker will be Mr. J. Eilbeck of Community Programme Branch, Department of Education. Progress reports will be given by various community chairmen. Come and support our new association and keep up to date in progress.

Recently, the ladies of the Evening Mission Circle of the Langstaff Baptist Church went to say Bon Voyage to Mrs. Betty Rollinson who left by plane last week with her husband and two sons, to spend six weeks visiting England and Scotland. Betty was presented with a travelling utility case and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all.

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