

Library Fee Rise For Non-Residents

By FRED SIMPSON
Non-resident members of the Richmond Hill Public Library will be required to contribute more money in 1966.

Councillor Walter Scudds, a member of the library board, reported that out-of-town residents who are presently paying \$1.50 a year for a library card will see the sum rise to \$5 per family beginning January 1, 1966.

The library serves a total of 1,326 persons (including children who are serviced free-of-charge) in the townships of Markham and Vaughan.

"The board," Mr. Scudds said, "decided it was unfair to residents of Richmond Hill who are forced to pay about \$5 through taxes for membership during the year."

Chief Librarian Colin Robertson said later that the cost of servicing a library is continuing to increase to a "point where we have no other alternative."

He agreed it was not fair to the ratepayers of Richmond Hill to be forced to bear the brunt of the in-

creases.

"This is certainly not a new trend with Richmond Hill," he said. "Costs have been up for some time for non-resident members of libraries. The fee has been \$5.50 for some time in Port Credit."

Mr. Robertson said the library board would be happy to work out some contract with municipalities from Vaughan and Markham to provide library service for their residents.

Mr. Robertson said an important step in providing library services to outlying residents is now being developed.

"Regional library co-operatives are being considered for townships in Peel, York and Ontario Counties," he said. "The Richmond Hill Library Board will send a representative to the organizational meeting which is set for sometime in November."

The local library, he said, would play a major part in setting up these branch libraries by offering guidance in establishing them.



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

Oak Ridges Spud King

While horticulturists all over are complaining about the poor growing weather this past summer, Elias Bice, 8 Elmgrove Ave., Oak Ridges proudly displays the giant potato he grew in his garden.

The potato measures just over nine inches in length and weighs three and a quarter pounds — enough for the whole family.

Study Student Driver Course

A student driver education course may be included in the 1966 summer school program York Central District High School Board decided Monday night in giving approval in principle to the plan. This decision will permit those in charge of the summer school to go ahead and see what can be arranged.

Superintendent Sam Chapman reported that one of the Metro Boards had conducted a similar course this year with six cars and 36 students. In that case the cars had been loaned by a manufacturer and a fee of \$30 was charged for the three week instruction period. This course had been conducted in conjunction with the Ontario Safety League.

Markham Township Council Shows Little Enthusiasm For Land Swap

A Langstaff real estate man's proposal that Markham Township Council make an even swap on a 3-1 land deal met with little enthusiasm from council at its regular meeting last week.

The proposal was put to council by former council candidate Geoffrey Walker, who appeared for H. Grossman, owner of land in the Johnson-Clark Avenue areas next to the township parkland.

Mr. Walker said his client would like to add a 30-foot strip from the north end of the park to his property in order to divide the lots. He said it had been sold with that understanding. In return for the strip he would convey a 10-foot piece from the front of his

property for use as a walkway.

He said the planning department had backed the suggestion in the event that the township might want access to the park from that end at some time.

Said Councillor Allan Sumner: "The township doesn't even break even, we're losing on it."

Mr. Walker said council was getting \$1,000 worth of land for \$500. The township paid 17 cents a square foot for the land.

Mr. Walker met again with council Monday evening and said he had decided to go back to the original offer, the straight purchase price of the land, plus 6 per cent.

However, after a motion by Councillor Allan Sumner to enter into an agreement to purchase the land, failed to receive a second council moved to further table the matter.

"He's still ending up with an extra lot," said Mr. Sumner.

Mr. Walker said that Mr. Grossman only wanted the extra land, so that he could add to his backyard before somebody built alongside it.

"I thought you said he wanted an extra lot," said Deputy-reeve Stewart Rumble.

Mr. Sumner said that getting the extra 30 feet would boost the value of the property "way over the value of the walkway."

Mr. Walker said a public walkway would lower the value of his client's property. He was also giving up frontage.

Mr. Sumner moved that council trade with Mr. Grossman on a pro rated basis, "without prejudice to the committee of adjustment."

Council will consider the proposal again at its next meeting.

Council also: Agreed to a recommendation by Township Engineer Dusan Miklas that Russell Mills be hired as chief inspector with the engineering department at a salary of \$5,800, commencing November 1.

Approved the appointment of Lloyd Gaman of the roads department to full time help, commencing September 15, at \$1.70 an hour.

Put over a request from a Toronto concern to erect an amusement park on about 25 acres in "one of the finest communities in the Dominion of Canada." The park would be styled as a miniature western and would have about 12 rides.

Received a letter from Paul W. J. Mingay, Markham Village, acknowledging his appointment as township solicitor, succeeding J. D. Lucas, who is retiring as of October 1.

Stouffville Man Dies In Highway Accident

Ronald Warriner, 39, of RR 2, Stouffville, was killed early Monday morning when he was in collision with a transport truck at Highway 48 and Bloomington Sideroad, in Whitchurch Township.

Pond Lake OPP, who investigated the accident, said Mr. Warriner had come out of the sideroad into the path of the truck.

The name of the truck driver was not immediately available.

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