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Stiff Opposition South Thornhill Bylaw "Lowly Citizens" Take On "High-Priced Help" At OMB Hearing

By JIM IRVING

A small group of "lowly citizens" took on the "high-priced" help last week at a hearing before the Ontario Municipal Board in Buttonville, but it will be awhile yet before the winner is decided.

The hearing was called to hear Markham Township's application for approval of its South Thornhill Bylaw, which sets out various zoning classifications in the southwest part of the township.

Five lawyers, including Township Solicitor Paul Mingay, appeared in support of the bylaw, while six members of the community, four of whom opposed the possible high rise apartments which might result if the bylaw were approved, spoke against it.

Also opposed to another section of the bylaw was K. A. Gariepy, representing Mrs. R. M. Pillar, owner of a house at 159 John Street.

Speaking for the bylaw were Herb Solway, representing Flaven Construction Co., Toronto; James Garinkle, Wycliffe of Canada; R. Hicks, Newtonbrook Plaza; and G. Taub, Franka Holdings Ltd., Toronto.

Individual ratepayers speaking against the bylaw were, John MacKay, 167 John Street;

Mrs. Jean Smith, 99 John Street; L. S. Warnica, 10 Paul Street; J. P. Loughran, 213 Henderson Avenue; Dr. John Fotheringham, 127 Elgin Street; and Basil Gain, 144 Henderson Avenue, all of the Thornhill area.

Sitting in for the OMB at the all-day session were Commissioner F. J. Blake, chairman, and Commissioner H. E. Roberts. Mr. Blake reserved his decision until a later date.

Taking up most of the day's hearing was the testimony of the Thornhill witnesses, who, although arguing chiefly against the advent of any apartment blocks, were mostly opposed to any sort of rezoning in the area.

Leading off the protest, Mrs. Smith, who has appeared numerous times before council during the past couple of years to speak against the apartments, produced a map showing the area on Yonge Street between

suites was "grossly exaggerated."

Mrs. Smith said she didn't agree. Her figures, provided by Lakeshore and Richmond Hill Public School Boards, showed the former to have one child per suite for public school only, and two per suite from kindergarten to grade 13, while the latter showed 5 per suite for public school only and 1 per suite for the second category.

"May I suggest the figure in North York is .23?" said Mr. Solway.

Mrs. Smith said she hadn't asked the North York Board, because she thought the other two areas queried were more comparable to Thornhill.

Under further questioning by Mr. Taub, Mrs. Smith said that, even an extra school in this highly-concentrated area would be too much.

Commissioner Roberts of the OMB asked the witness if she didn't realize that, if the community were going to be developed, more apartments would have to be built.

"I hope you're wrong," Mrs. Smith said.

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(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

A few of York Central's new teachers who were entertained at a luncheon May 18 are seen above, chatting with Master French Teacher David Shapiro (standing). They are, left to right, Eric Conroy who will teach industrial arts at Richmond Hill High School; with her back to the camera, Pamela Conrad who will teach commercial subjects at Bayview Secondary; Christine Smith, art and history at Richmond Hill; Donald Boutros, art at Bayview and far right, Barbara Spring, commercial, Bayview.

New Teachers Attend Luncheon

By MARGARET McLEAN

Close to 30 of the new teachers who will be part of York Central District High School system next September were entertained last Thursday at a luncheon at Summit View Gardens Restaurant, Jefferson. The teachers spent the week observing and teaching classes at the schools in which they will be teaching.

The teachers were thanked for spending the week in York Central by Superintendent S. L. G. Chapman who brought greetings from the board. He urged the teachers to help keep the lines of communication with the administration open at all times, that this was absolutely essential for proper morale of the entire system.

York Central's Master Teacher of English, R. P. McDonald made a witty address on the subject "What Will You Profess?"

He prefaced his remarks with the observation that he had probably been asked to make

the address because he was the most venerable of the master teachers and "it's good for you to see evidence that a human being can actually survive nearly 30 years in the classroom." He didn't envy them in their first year of teaching, however, and called it a "kind of special educational purgatory," noting that the first few weeks are usually the worst. He urged the fledgling teachers to "remember Darwin's theory and be determined to survive."

Giving the answer to the question "What will you profess?" "I profess education" was, Mr. McDonald thought, too general and too ambiguous. It is necessary first, he suggested, to define the aims of education, which are often different for different people. His belief was that the fundamental purpose of education is to improve man, to help make it possible for him to become more fully human. "It follows logically then," he continued, "that the individual teacher's purpose is to seek out the ways in which the knowledge of his subject will contribute, along with others, to that improvement and to try to teach his subject in the ways best calculated to bring about that result."

Bomb Scare York Central

It's not only airlines that get bomb scares.

For the second time in the past three months, York Central Hospital has received a report of a bomb on its premises. According to Vaughan Township Police, the latest call was made to the hospital Sunday night about 11.10 pm, when a man called the switchboard and told the operator Mrs. Jean Daly: "Lady, this is a tip-off; there's a bomb planted in your hospital."

Vaughan Richmond Hill Police and the OPP were called, and made a thorough search of the premises, but were unable to find anything.

Police said they believed the call was made from an 884 number.

The popular idea of the task of a teacher as adjusting his students to life, Mr. McDonald stated "Scares me silly. I have enormous difficulty and only in different success in adjusting myself," he objected. As a teacher of English literature, he conceived of his job as trying to find the best means of helping students to read and discuss the literature so that they would be able to get for themselves from it "the maximum benefits consistent with their intelligence, sensitivity and experience."

A second thing which teachers should profess, Mr. McDonald felt was a belief in the value and dignity of every human individual. "We cannot really believe in the purpose and value of education unless we believe in the potentialities of the person who is being educated," he insisted. Any good teacher recognizes that students have individual differences, he said, and the capacity for thinking and expressing ideas varies with the individual "but that need not prevent us from setting before all of our students a standard of excellence in thought and speech, nor from respecting and encouraging honest striving, in any field, and at any level, in the direction of excellence."

The student-teacher relationship therefore should be, he felt, a partnership in the search for knowledge with teacher and student each contributing what he can and all respecting each other.

Mr. McDonald urged the teachers also to communicate to their students the importance of gaining knowledge. "We should make sure both that we have excised the trivial and irrelevant from what we teach and that we have made clear to our students why we are teaching and why they are required to learn. . . . Our knowledge, experience, perception and skill will, in most cases, determine their attitude to our subjects."

In conclusion, he further stated that it was the teachers' task to "relate our subjects to the whole of knowledge and to the understanding of life itself. This is the way of the great teachers and the standard against which

we must ultimately measure our own performance."

During the balance of the afternoon, the teachers discussed professionalism, in relation to other teachers and to the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation; intervisitation, its purpose, extent and organization in York Central; and motivation and discipline, the purpose of the course, effective classroom procedures, dealing with individual infractions and pupil participation.

Chairman for the day was H. E. Totton, master mathematics teacher.

Committees Suffer At Budget Time As Council Cuts This, Cuts That

The wonderful world of budgets isn't very wonderful.

Just ask the chairman of any board or committee of council. Especially after he receives the revised edition of the original budget sent to council.

Last week it was a story off-told as Richmond Hill Council snipped here, snipped there in frugal housekeeping fashion before coming up with a budget increase of 5.2 mills.

Cuts had to be made, committees expected it, and now it's a matter of deciding where to shift the money to fit the needs.

One example is the Richmond Hill Recreation Committee which submitted a \$15,910 budget and saw it reduced by \$910 ostensibly and by \$1,160 in reality. The committee submitted the original \$15,910 without considering a grant of \$250 to the Richmond Hill Symphony Orchestra which council decided should be done. The \$910 cut and the \$250 added means \$1,160. The seven-member committee consists of five citizens and two council representatives.

Also suffering the slings and necessary cuts of budget reducing was the planning board which had submitted a \$26,500

request only to see it reduced to \$25,000.

The reason? Economics again as council made the cut leaving it to the board to decide what to apply it to and in what way.

Biggest particular item on the board's budget was the \$9,000 including \$2,000 for general planning advice and \$7,000 for shaping of the proposed official plan and zoning bylaw. Next largest is \$8,700 for salaries including planning assistants, etc.

Board representatives number five with an additional two members from council.

Committee of Adjustment members (appointed to make adjustments in regards to minor zoning regulations) submitted a \$7,206 budget and had it cut to \$5,650. A greater portion of the budget is taken up with office supplies, postage, etc. and cost of mailing out notices. There are four members on the committee each receiving \$16 a meeting.

Also receiving the chop was the parks board which saw an original amount of \$56,176 sliced to \$43,500. Council again left it up to members to decide what particular items should be sacrificed. The board's budget in 1966 totalled \$39,000.

Some \$10,000 was removed from Works Commissioner Otto Whalen's Public Works budget leaving some \$369,442 remaining. This amount is lower than 1966 which saw passage of a \$381,691 budget. The \$10,000 would have represented work for non subsidized projects.

Other sundry items tackled in the annual budget debate included:

Recommended that the salary of Recreation Administrator Al White (he's acting on a part time basis) be approved in the amount of \$2,500.

That \$1,500 be allocated for tennis facilities in the parks board budget providing it is actually spent for capital improvements in the tennis court area located in the town park. Okayed the civic improvement budget in the amount of \$5,510 excluding another \$5,000 for town markers.

The above were just some of the examples of a routine happening every year about this time as councillors arm themselves with pencils and rubbers and tackle the various budgets.

The result is quite a few groans from the wounded but they survive . . . to groan all over again next year.



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

220 Blood Donors Make Gift Of Life

Personnel from Texas Instruments, Centre Street East, were among the 220 donors at the May 10 Red Cross Blood Clinic. In the picture above they are registering and receiving a blood check before making their donations.

So far this year, in two clinics 457 donations have been made towards the objective of 1,000 in four clinics for 1967. Each person can spare four units per year, and the 1,000 units is a modest objective for a town with a population of 20,000. Each donor makes the gift of life to a fellow human.

Contributing to the success of the day were two chapters of the IODE and members of the CWL who looked after the donors during the resting period; the ladies who registered the donors and Mrs. J. Dewsbury and her committee who keep the tea and coffee pots filled at all times, as well as Rev. C. G. Higginson and officials of the United Church who permit the clinics to use the church's facilities.

\$87,000 Reconstruction Program Set For Portions Of Four Richmond Hill Side Streets

By FRED SIMPSON

An estimated \$87,000 construction program on portions of four Richmond Hill streets — Arnold, Centre, Richmond, and Wright — has been recommended in a report by Proctor and Redfern Consulting Engineers.

The project would supplement the Yonge Street construction slated to start in the fall and which was reviewed in last week's issue of "The Liberal".

The work would be concentrated on Arnold between Yonge to Elizabeth Streets; Centre from Yonge to Elizabeth Streets; Richmond from Yonge to Elizabeth Streets; and Wright from Yonge to Hall Streets.

In a preamble, the report terms the existing conditions of the named streets as

"generally poor with respect to their ability to accommodate two-way traffic with parallel parking. The road surfaces are a mixture of surface treatment and hot laid asphalt."

"The limited right-of-way which varies from 33 feet wide to 45 feet wide together with the lack of storm sewers, makes the development and maintenance of ditches, sidewalks and other utilities extremely difficult."

The report adds that large trees existing in the limited street rights-of-way further compound the problem.

"In fact," it states, "these trees are often mutilated and partly destroyed where they have to be cut to provide clearance for telephone and electric transmission lines as well as having their

surface roots removed where required for the maintenance of roadways and sidewalks."



ARNOLD STREET

The report notes that Arnold between Yonge and Elizabeth Streets provides an existing pavement width of about 22 feet with sidewalks on both sides of the road.

"This pavement provides the minimum pavement width for two lanes of traffic if there is no stopping or parking on the road. But with the existence of the post office in the centre of this block the roadway is

used for short term parking which causes a traffic congestion on this street."

"The post office has its own large parking lot so there should be no waiting on the street for a parking spot causing delays to the traffic."

The report recommends that the roadway be constructed to provide a 28-foot wide pavement with curbs and sidewalks on both sides.

"In all likelihood it will be necessary to replace the existing sidewalks on both sides of the street due to grade changes created by the widening of the road and the elimination of the swale or ditch at the edge of the pavement."

It appears, the report points out, that additional property "along the length

of this block will be required to permit the construction of the roadway with sidewalks and the location of other utilities in the boulevard."

The report goes on to recommend that 28-feet of additional property be acquired along the existing right-of-way to provide the required width of 66-feet.

"It may not be to the town's best financial interest to acquire all of the property immediately but steps should be taken to reserve this property so that it may be acquired at the most advantageous time to all parties."

"It will be necessary to procure a four-foot width of property, as a minimum, on each side of the right-of-way prior to the road reconstruction

to provide room for the establishment of poles and hydrants and the reshaping of driveways and lawns that require adjustments to the new road grade."



CENTRE STREET

The report notes that Centre Street between Yonge and Elizabeth Streets has an existing pavement width of about 18-feet with a throat widening at Yonge Street of an additional five feet.

"There is a concrete sidewalk on both sides of the street with trees and utility poles located in the north boulevard between the edge of the pavement and the sidewalk. With an existing right-of-way of only about 33-feet wide in this block it is not possible to construct even a 28-foot wide roadway with sidewalks."

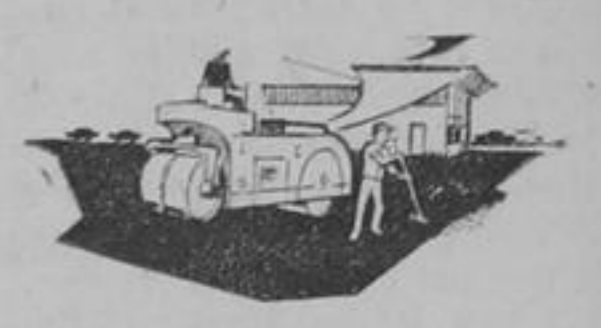
Pointing out that the Department of Highways considers a 66-foot wide right-of-way as the minimum width required for any residential street, the report suggests an additional 33-feet of right-of-way be acquired as soon as the land can be obtained.

"If any high density development of major traffic generating development is constructed in this block it is recommended that a road-way in excess of 28-feet in width be provided."

The report concludes that because of the road's alignment with Centre East and the proposed extension to Trench Street it will become more "heavily used than other residential streets whether it receives a special designation or not."

"For this reason it seems reasonable that at this time a 32-foot wide road with curbs be constructed on this street if the property can be acquired."

"Where the 66-foot right-of-way is not immediately available it is recommended that a minimum width of property seven-feet wide be acquired on the north side of the road and six feet wide on the south side."



RICHMOND STREET

The report recommends that Richmond Street between Yonge and Hall Street have its present 18-foot pavement width increased to 28 feet; its 45 foot right-of-way to 66 feet if possible.

"This size of road is the minimum width recommended and may require widening from 28 feet when the adjacent property is redeveloped. It is felt that the sidewalk and curbs should be extended westerly on the north side to Hall Street so

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