

Ontario County Wants In On York-Oshawa Health Unit

A proposal that Ontario County be incorporated in the York-Oshawa District Health Unit met with little enthusiasm at a meeting of York County Council earlier this month.

The resolution to accept Ontario County's application for participation was presented by Markham Township Reeve Stewart Rumble when the health unit brought in its annual report for 1969 and estimated budget for 1970.

The budget, estimated at \$1,318,489.83 for 1970, was presented by Medical Officer of Health Dr. Owen Slingerland, but 75 percent will be taken care of through grants from the Department of Health.

Of the remainder, York County's share is 63.24 percent — \$206,896.48 — and Oshawa's share is 36.76 percent — \$120,264.31.

Mr. Rumble said that, if it is included in the health unit, Ontario County will also be eligible for the 75 percent grant. It now receives only 50 percent from the province. Queen's Park makes a higher grant to regional health units.

Dr. Slingerland said it would also reduce expenses, as less specialized personnel would be required to operate the larger unit.

Deputy Reeve Wallace Donnell of North Gwillimbury pointed out that there was no reason Ontario County should not come in, except that it had the same opportunity as Oshawa to come into the unit when it was set up in 1968. He asked what the advantages would be to York County if there was a larger unit.

Reeve Sam Nasello of Sutton, chairman of the county council finance committee, said there would be no advantages and no disadvantages to York County in his opinion, but there may be advantages to Ontario County in that it will receive higher grants for health services.

In his report, Dr. Slingerland stated that the Department of Health feels that to provide efficient services to a community, a district should include 150,000 to 200,000 people as a minimum for a public health district. The population of

York County is about 150,000, the City of Oshawa about 90,000 and Ontario County about 100,000 for a total of 340,000, which is considered ideal by the province.

In September, 1969, the firm of Stevenson and Kellogg, management consultants, were engaged to recommend streamlining of the administration of the York-Oshawa District Unit, and its recommendations are under consideration.

The county now has three medical officers of health, and Oshawa has one, but under the recommended re-organization two would be enough to serve the entire unit.

"We are going ahead with our own planning. If Ontario comes in it will take several months to integrate", he declared.

Asked if York County would be affected financially or in services provided, Mr. Rumble said "services" and costs would be about the same. The county, he said, should be "good neighbors" and let Ontario come in.

Oshawa Council had agreed to accept Ontario County's application if York County agreed, but when put to a vote the county turned down the application. There should be more direction from the Department of Municipal Affairs, declared Mr. Donnell. "We need a background of knowledge of where we are going."

Since costs for equipment, furniture and other items in the 1969 budget for setting up the unit will offset increased costs in other areas in 1970, the York County share of costs for 1970 is the same as that for 1969—a total of \$206,896.48.

It was reported that community health nurses work as advisors and educators in programs relating to dental and mental health and assist family physicians. The school nursing teams perform immunization procedures, vision and hearing tests.

Asked what the effect would be if there was no Victorian Order of Nurses in the county (the VON had also asked for grants from the county) Nursing Director

Gertrude Tucker replied that if there was no VON, the health unit would have to supply the service. The VON, she said, give bedside care, whereas the function of the public health nurse is chiefly in the area of preventive medicine and education.

The report stated there are 25 licensed nursing homes with about 850 beds in York County, and five more, to supply another 176 beds, are proposed or under construction. In Oshawa two nursing homes are proposed to supply 137 beds.

Dr. Slingerland pointed out that the VON cares for many chronically ill people, as county hospitals do not have room for these patients. If it were not for the VON, he said, "The community would be 100 percent liable for bedside home nursing care."

Richmond Hill Reeve Donald Plaxton questioned "brush-in" program sponsored by the unit.

"I have heard of love-ins, and sit-ins, but not brush-ins", he commented.

Dr. Slingerland explained that children in schools are supplied with a tooth brush, fluoride dentifrice and instructions on how to brush. The program, he said, is limited to a group of about 35 students at a time. "This is a workable group."

The report referred to the co-operation it is getting from the Addiction Research Foundation in working with community health nurses and supplying services to alcoholics and young people with drug problems.

The unit is also studying feasibility of a home care program, a family planning clinic and a family counseling clinic.

After the meeting Councilor Garfield Wright of East Gwillimbury, a former warden and chairman of the health unit board of directors commented that Metro gets only 2 percent of its budget from the province. He said that, if Metro boundaries are extended north to include part of York County "It will put the province on the spot, as they would get only 25 percent."

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King Hassle Explodes Over Terminal Site 2 Comm. Of Adjustment Members Resign

A "conflict of interest" charge was hurled at King Township Deputy Reeve Ken MacTaggart February 16 in the wake of an explosive court battle over a proposed 12 acre bus site in the township.

Hurling the charge was chairman of the suddenly-embattled township's committee of adjustment, Alf Lemasiur.

Mr. Lemasiur fired what amounted to a parting salvo at council as he angrily resigned from the committee along with an equally upset member Kenneth Holychuk.

Both men denounced what they termed "political interference" from council in regard to attempts by Langdon Coach Lines Co., Ltd. to purchase 12 acres for a new bus terminal near the Concession 5 and Aurora Sideroad.

Reeve Gordon Cook was taken aback by the sudden resignations but recovered to flatly refuse to accept them. He indicated that a "cooling-off" period was required.

But the battle-lines in the bus-line debate have been drawn.

The committee of adjustment earlier rejected an application by the owner of the land, William Cutting, to sever the 12 acres for the purpose of selling to Langdon's because it felt such an operation would not be compatible with the area.

Mr. Cutting has appealed the committee's decision to the Ontario Municipal Board which will hold a hearing.

Result:
Members of the committee

of adjustment will likely appear in opposition to the appeal and council will appear in favor of it.

Mr. Lemasiur's ire was particularly roused Monday night when four of the five councillors re-iterated their intentions of backing the Langdon efforts to locate in the township.

Favoring the move are Councillors Lorne Goodfellow, Gordon Rowe, Reeve Gordon Cook and Deputy Reeve Ken MacTaggart. Opposed is Councillor Margaret Britnell.

It was Mr. MacTaggart's espousal of the Langdon proposal that brought Mr. Lemasiur jumping to his feet.

He accused the deputy Reeve of a "conflict of interest" in the matter because Mr. MacTaggart is an employee of the Langdon Coach Lines.

"You have no right to participate in any voting for or against the bus line," he said. "Take a look at the Municipal Act. You work for Langdon's and therefore you have a conflict of interest and are obviously not eligible to participate in any decisions."

Deputy Reeve MacTaggart refused the charge stating he couldn't see any conflict of interest, pointing out that he only drove bus for Langdon's in Vaughan Township.

"I continue to challenge your right to vote on any resolution pertaining to this matter," pursued the flushed Mr. Lemasiur. "Read your

Municipal Act. It's right in there."

Mr. MacTaggart defended his position stating he was acting in good faith because such an operation would bring "a lot of benefit to the township and the taxpayers. I'm a ratepayer for myself. I represent our ratepayers and I don't see any conflict of interest."

Area residents are opposed to the bus terminal's proposed location due to a possible traffic hazard because of the necessity to upgrade a portion of Concession 5 and daylight the corner where it meets the Aurora Sideroad.

A question of who would pay the cost of the daylighting is also involved.

But Mr. Lemasiur was not through yet.

He flogged Deputy Reeve MacTaggart for "wearing two hats" pointing to the fact that both Mr. MacTaggart and Reeve Cook were members of the township's planning board responsible for approving the Official Plan "which designates the area in question as residential and not commercial which the Langdon proposal would result in it becoming."

Mr. Lemasiur is himself a member of the planning board as well as the committee of adjustment.

Mr. MacTaggart, he said, favored leaving the land residential in planning board but their appeared before the committee of adjustment "attempting to influence our committee to change the very designation that planning board has put on it from residential to commercial."

Deputy Reeve MacTaggart objected to Mr. Lemasiur's accusation pointing out that the Official Plan has not been officially accepted yet.

Mr. Lemasiur ended his harangue accusing the council of "political interference" in the committee of adjustment which he said was meant to operate independent of council.

Councillors denied this stating that they had a right to their opinion on a given matter. They also pointed out that the Langdon application was the first time council had opposed a committee of adjustment decision.

Reeve Cook ended the matter temporarily when he noted the upcoming Municipal Board hearing would be the proper place to "do the talking."

ELGIN MILLS - JEFFERSON

CORRESPONDENT: LEONARD LOMAS
Telephone 884-3000

Neighborhood Notes

A meeting of the mothers' auxiliary to 1st Jefferson Scouts, Cubs, Guides and Brownies will be held at the home of Mrs. Don Workman, Gamble Avenue, on March 2 at 8:30 pm.

The bake sale and hobby show was held on Tuesday and details of this event will appear in next week's column.

Birthday greetings are extended to Shelley Wort, and Michael O'Donnell, both February 27. Jane Hall, February 28, David McPhee, March 1, Mark Weyman, March 2 and to Jamie Clements on March 4.

The regular monthly meeting of the community club has been postponed until early March because of the Guide and Brownie bake sale which was held Tuesday. A firm date will be announced next week.

An all color movie show has been arranged by the community club in aid of the Jamaica trip for the grade 6 Jefferson School students, to be held March 6 and 7 at St. John's Anglican Parish Hall. The Friday program will commence at 8 pm and the Saturday showing at 2 pm.

Six films have been booked and a different set will be shown at each performance — "Pitcairn and His People," the story of the South Pacific island and the descendants of the "Mutiny on the Bounty"; "Test Flight," the story of testing high speed aircraft; "Power to Fly," the history of aviation; "Moving Spirit," which traces the story of the automobile from the 1880's to the present day; "Explore Expo," a travelogue on the 1967 World Fair; and finally "They Chose the Sea," the tale of an oil tanker crew on their journey from Scotland to Kuwait (Persian Gulf) and back.

Sympathy is extended to Graham and Bethy Carson of Yonge Street and Maple Avenue, in the death of Mrs. Helen Carson last Thursday evening. Funeral service was held Monday afternoon with interment at Glendale Memorial Cemetery.

Church News

The annual parade to mark Scout-Guide Week was held at St. John's Anglican Church on Sunday and was attended by 1st Jefferson Scouts and Cubs, Guides and Brownies and by 1st Lake Wilcox Guides and Brownies.

Rev. Earl Gerber conducted the service and the lessons were read by Guide Captain Dorothy Wilton and Scoutmaster Stewart Bell. The choir sang the anthem "Seek Ye The

Lord" with Brenda Ash as soloist. The service included the blessing of new flags for the Guide company. The color party for the Canadian flag was Cindy Wilton, Dagmar Peitry and Caroline Lomas and for the Guide flag, Karen Fullman, Debbie Silver and Heather Gerber. Scout flag bearers were Gary Peeney and Bob Bevan.

The service on Sunday at 11 am will be the final one. There will also be a Fireside at 7:30 pm at St. Mark's Chapel, Oak Ridges.

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New Constable Three Cruisers

King City Township Police have added a new addition to their force.

Bernard Harris, 40, who has been serving as police chief of Penetang, will join the force as a first class constable at a salary of \$3,200.

Mr. Harris served 13 years on the Woodstock, Ontario, police force and has been police chief at Penetang for two years. He was also employed with the Simcoe Emergency Measures Organization as police deputy co-ordinator.

He is married and has grade 13 education.

The addition of Mr. Harris brings the King Township Force up to 17 men including Chief Les Pengelly.

It was also announced that the force will purchase three 1970 police cruisers. The low tender of Don Coffey Motors, Schomberg, was accepted by members of the King Township Council. Price of the three new cars including a trade-in of the three present 1969 cruisers will be \$6,426.74 including sales tax.

A second tender by Leslie Motors of King City for the same deal totalled \$7,980.

KRESGE

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