

North Richvale Ratepayers Seeking Sewage Disposal

The petition from North Richvale ratepayers for sewage disposal, presented at the November 12 meeting of Richmond Hill Council, was referred to the Commissioner of Works for an engineering study by council at its Monday meeting.

On behalf of the ratepayers Deryck Evelyn stated that the feeling was that before considering any residential subdivision growth outside the boundaries of the former town that existing residential areas, especially those which lack sewage facilities be given priority on any excess sewage disposal capacity.

NORTH DON PLANT
He recalled that the Ontario Order in Council which approved the North Don Sewage Disposal Plant had stated that it was to serve the BAIF development, the hospital, Don Head School and 4,200 residents of the west side of Richmond Hill. "This did not include any further developments of Pleasantville, where 405 lots will require sewage connections. This is not acceptable to the present owners who

are most desirous to have sewage disposal at the earliest possible time." Mr. Evelyn also stated that the Pugsley plant is not used to its maximum capacity at present and could provide for growth if used to capacity.

Mayor William Lazenby recalled that Ward 6 Councillor Lou Wainwright, who represents the Richvale area at the council table, has consistently struggled to have sewage disposal services extended to the existing homes in that area. "I can assure you that we will do our best in any future agreements with BAIF to have you included," promised the mayor, "when the BAIF plant is enlarged." He also recalled that in the past the engineering department had been asked for costs, that information is being gathered and "we will get the answers for you". He complimented the association for its coverage of the area and the very thorough job done in preparing the petition.

\$2 MILLION IN FORECAST
Councillor Wainwright reported that in the capital

works forecast the amount of \$2 million has been earmarked for sewers in that area. He pointed out that the amount of sewerage from the homes in the extension of Pleasantville would not take care of the north end of Richvale. "There was never any intention in Vaughan that our area would get sewers from the Don plant. But if the people in Richvale were ever to get sewers it had to be from that plant, since we can't pump the sewage up the hill into Richmond Hill's plant. It was my feeling that if we had a plant we had a start and could negotiate from there."

INTENT OF ORDER
"I have to agree these people have a problem," said Ward 1 Councillor Andy Chateaubert. "Every attempt should be made to provide sewage disposal when circumstances permit. I don't know the intent of the Order in Council, whether inside the old Richmond Hill was meant or not."
"I don't think the politicians at Queen's Park know either," said Mayor Lazenby.

"At first they agreed it was within the confines of old Richmond Hill, but they have changed their thinking since then," reported Councillor Wainwright.

NOT ENOUGH
"Several points have been raised and each should be answered," said Regional Councillor Lois Hancey. "Storm drainage is something different. It means also considering curbs and road construction and has to be looked at closely by the engineer. The question of the sanitary system relating to 4,200 people on the west side of Richmond Hill, is complex. If the boundaries had not been changed and if the capacity had been in the plant I don't know if Vaughan could have approved the application. However, the official plan, approved by the provincial government, showed residential over to Bathurst. Figures I have obtained indicate there are 1,800 people in North Richvale and in the Pleasantville extension only 340. What is available to Richmond Hill would not have accommodat-

ed north of Weldrick but would accommodate the Pleasantville extension." **65¢ PER 1000 GALS.**

Mrs. Hancey went on to report that there is a McLaren Report in the York Central Sewage Scheme, which she has not been able to acquire yet. "I don't know what is being negotiated as to costs, but the provincial policy is for no more upstream disposal plants. A former estimate of costs was 65¢ per 1,000 gals. of sewage treatment plus frontage charges of about \$2 per foot, which would mean an additional annual charge on a 100 foot lot of about \$230. Are you willing to pay these additional costs? The BAIF plant is not going to be allowed to expand. They are also talking about 80¢ per 1,000 gallons for water, but they are going to have to project those figures again. If there is an interim agreement with Metro I don't believe the provincial government will let us pay any less than these rates. I want to know how the people of Richmond Hill want me to vote when this

question comes up at regional council. That's a lot of money."

"I'm not anticipating any expansion of the BAIF plant, but the province has had a change of heart and has allowed both Aurora and Newmarket to expand their sewage treatment plants," Regional Councillor Gordon Rowe noted. "We know nothing of costs yet at the regional engineering level, although the figure of \$92 million has been quoted for the pipe. I will want all details before deciding. Within

a week, hearings will be held into the availability of the site suggested for the master disposal plant in Pickering Township—so we are a long way from the final product there. I will work with your association and this council to solve your problem," he told the ratepayers.

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