

Roman - Schiller group didn't bring in \$1,000 councillor pay raise

The recent \$1,000 a year raise for York regional councillors and mayors didn't come forward to regional council through the administrative committee after all. It was pointed out during an administrative committee meeting January 20 in Newmarket that the recommendation for pay raises to the council chairman and members was to go to council by another route.

So regional staff deleted the pay raise recommendations from the administrative committee report that went to council January 23.

This newspaper reported January 22 the pay raise recommendations were to go to council via the administrative committee. This committee is composed of the region's nine mayors, with Markham Mayor

Anthony Roman as chairman and Richmond Hill Mayor David Schiller as vice-chairman.

Closed doors

The pay raise recommendations were prepared by council during a closed door session January 7 after a private swearing in of members. There weren't any members of region staff present at the closed-door caucus.

The January 7 meeting was convened at the request of a group of newly-elected or re-elected councillors. Clerk Robert Vernon sent out the notices to members, but wasn't instructed to notify press or public.

The pay raise recommendation didn't go to council at its first official meeting January 9 because of a procedural problem. It ended up instead at ad-

ministrative committee.

There the recommendations were ordered sent to council as a report from Newmarket Mayor Robert Forhan, chairman of the January 7 caucus meeting. This was what the caucus wished, committee members said. Aurora Mayor Evelyn Buck was secretary of the January 7 caucus.

\$31,250 yearly

Effective January 1 Region Chairman Garfield Wright receives an annual allowance of \$20,833 plus a further allowance of \$10,416 for expenses incidental to the discharge of his duties. This totals \$31,250 a year, which is slightly more than the \$31,200 amount this newspaper January 22 said would be recommended.

The Liberal erred January 22, however,

when it said Chairman Wright's previous salary was about \$29,000, according to Richmond Hill Mayor Schiller.

The mayor said the chairman's new salary is up between 30 and 35 percent from what Wright was paid before by the province as an employee appointed to head the new Region of York for the first four years. Wright hasn't revealed the amount he was being paid by the province last year.

Fringe benefits

This newspaper also erred January 22 when it reported councillors under the recommendation would get fringe benefits and pension plans, besides 15 cents a mile for travel.

The pay raise recommendation just gives them mileage. Only Chairman Wright gets the fringe benefits available to regional

employees under the now-approved recommendation. Councillors previously had pension benefits.

Mayor Schiller considered the chairman's raise much too high and didn't support it.

Schiller also said he opposed proposals for higher raises to regional council members. Raises proposed in caucus January 7 ranged as high as \$10,000.

But the Richmond Hill mayor didn't support any pay raise proposal for councillors until the amount came down to \$1,000. This was in line with the cost of living increase he told voters before the December 2 election he would consider, Schiller said.

Pre-election position

His pre-election position was that the

council salaries were set at the beginning of 1973 and the cost of living went up 23 percent in the past two years. Therefore he would support a 15 percent raise.

The \$1,000 raise brings the salary the region pays its council members to \$8,000 a year. This is in addition to what they are paid by their own local town or township.

One matter relating to council salaries has been put in the hands of the administrative committee, however.

The committee has been asked by council to consider and recommend a policy whereby future salaries beginning in 1976 for members of council might be adjusted on an annual basis having regard to the change in the Consumer Price Index for Canada (all items) as recorded by Statistics Canada.



Conductor Clifford Poole

Leading York Region Symphony this season

York Regional Symphony Orchestra attributes a large part of its success this season to its conductor, Clifford Poole.

Born in Reddish, Lancashire, England, Conductor Poole came to Canada as a boy. He married Alberta-born pianist Margaret Parsons and they formed the Parsons-Poole piano team.

The team was based at Carnegie Hall and toured out of New York for community concerts for many years.

On their return to Canada they played in the Toronto Symphony and wrote much music for teaching. They also made a Capital recording entitled "Music For Two Pianos."

In addition to conducting the YRSO, Poole annually produces a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta, is musical director at St. Anne's Anglican Church in Toronto, and teaches at the Royal Conservatory of Music.

He has also taught at Pickering College, Newmarket, at the University of Toronto and was head of music at the University of Western Ontario in London.

Mr. and Mrs. Poole have one son who is in the antique business.

Adding 10 rooms to St. Robert's

A relocatable building with 10 classrooms 36 by 24 feet each, separated by a 14 foot wide hall (five to a side), will be built to the north of St. Robert's Roman Catholic Separate School, Leslie Street, Thornhill.

This is to accommodate the junior high school to open there in September this year.

The decision was reached at the York Region Roman Catholic Separate School Board meeting February 4.

At present St. Robert's is used as an elementary school. The existing building contains eight classrooms and a standard room used as a library.

In September it is planned the existing school will be used to house three grade 7 and two grade 8 classes.

One classroom will be converted into a library resource centre, leaving two

classrooms for grade 9 students. Because these two rooms contain running water, it is likely they will be used for art and science.

The standard library area may have to be converted into washrooms for the increased student population. But this is still under study.

300 students

The projected enrolment in grade 9 for September is 300 students.

This means 12 classrooms will have to be set up to accommodate the various options and programs to be offered. Necessary will be 10 extra classrooms.

So far 214 students have indicated they will be attending grade 9 at St. Robert's.

Another 65 have said they would like to attend Metro schools and 170 are not

(Continued on Page 2)

Richmond Hill Edition

The Daily

In Essentials Unity in Non-Essentials

Richmond Hill Public Library

24 WRIGHT ST LIBRARY RICHMOND HILL ONTARIO

Established 1878

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1975

40 pages

Price 15 cents

BAIF day care, community centre favored

Opinion divided on pools, library, but arena a must

By Marg Dawson

In a show of hands taken at the end of a 3½ hour public meeting on the BAIF recreation complex Monday evening, no opposition was expressed to including a day care centre.

And the majority of people appeared to favor inclusion of a community centre.

A pool was also considered a necessity. But those in attendance seemed to be about evenly divided between an indoor and an outdoor facility.

Several people who voted for an indoor pool indicated they would settle for an outdoor one if necessary.

When it came to a library, again the vote seemed to be fairly evenly divided — about half those present desiring one in the BAIF recreational complex.

The other half seemed determined the Pearson Avenue Library, built as a Centennial (1967) project by Vaughan Township, should be preserved.

Reviews history

In opening the meeting held in the cafeteria of Langstaff Secondary School, Richmond Hill Mayor David Schiller read a capsule summary of events so far in the development of the recreation complex.

He said the purpose of the meeting was to arrive at some decision on future plans through an exchange of views with residents of the area. About 175 residents, plus all members of council with the exception of Regional Councillor Gordon Rowe, were present.

Town Treasurer William Rice, Parks and Recreation Director David Hamilton and Planning Director Hesse Rimon also attended. Regional Councillor Rowe was attending a meeting with Minister of the Environment William Newman, on behalf of the region, at Queen's Park.

The mayor pointed out Raymond Moriyama had been engaged as the architect in April of last year. After in-

(Continued on Page 2)

\$10-\$12 million courthouse planned

Local lawyers will be delighted to learn York Region is to become a separate judicial district with its own courthouse, according to John LeClaire of a leading Richmond Hill law firm.

He told The Liberal barristers here have been seeking such a decision ever since the Region of York was created several years ago.

"This will give our people a sense of identity with the region, rather than with Toronto," he said.

Establishment of a separate judicial district for the region would eliminate

the need for jurors, lawyers, witnesses and accused to travel to Toronto for their day in court, he said.

Ancient building

In the meantime Newmarket Provincial Court will continue to be held in the 43-year-old former town hall on Botsford Street. The building has been the target for much criticism in recent years.

The leaking roof is being repaired by the town and the province plans to paint the courtroom.

So it's back to the drawing-board for the new courthouse to be built on the York Manor Farm at Yonge

and Eagle Streets in Newmarket.

It was planned to call for tenders on a new courthouse there next month.

But a decision late last fall to establish York Region as a separate judicial district has necessitated expanding facilities to include county and supreme courts, according to York North MLA William Hodgson.

Much larger

He said the facility to accommodate a separate district would cost \$10 to \$12 million for a minimum of 20 courtrooms, a sheriff's office and bailiff's office.

The original plan was for a \$3 million building. When the plans for the expanded building will be ready is not yet known.

The construction date will depend on priorities set by the provincial government.

Plans for a \$12 million courthouse on the York Manor Farm at Yonge and Eagle Sts. have been given "one of the highest priorities," Minister of Government Services James Snow said in an interview Monday of last week.

But the decision is still subject to the provincial budget priorities which will be set this spring.

"We are aware of the need for a new building in York and other new buildings in the province," Snow said. "But not all projects can go."

10-acre site

The province purchased 10 acres of the York Manor

(Continued on Page 2)

RC trustees require space

Inadequate space for the administrative functions of the York Region Roman Catholic Separate School Board, has prompted the trustees to give approval to hire an architect.

William Saccoccio of Toronto, is to investigate the feasibility of adding 8,000 square feet to the present board headquarters located at 21 Dunlop Street, Richmond Hill.

The board has \$127,303.76 from the sale of surplus school sites in the capital reserve fund.

It is realized this money will not be sufficient to cover the entire cost of the project.

The board's facilities committee chaired by Trustee Ivan St. John of Newmarket suggested February 4 that these

monies be used to erect a building shell (either one or two-stories) containing 8,000 square feet.

The addition would be carpeted, equipped with central heating and air conditioning (if the available money allows).

Then \$50,000 would be included in the budget annually to complete the addition and make improvements to the old building, spreading the cost over several years.

The present building contains only 3,590 square feet plus a portable of 900 square feet, every inch of which (even the hallways) is in use.

The board's educational consultants are at present located at Our Lady Help of Christians School on Bayview Avenue in Richmond Hill.

RC parents seek junior kindergarten

A delegation of concerned parents plan to present a brief and speak on behalf of junior kindergarten classes to York Region Roman Catholic Separate School Board at its meeting February 18, at 8:30 pm.

The board meets at its offices on Dunlop Street, Richmond Hill, (just behind St. Mary Immaculate Church), and plans to discuss junior kindergartens at that regular meeting.

The delegation has invited all interested parents to join in attendance at the meeting.

French at an early age, junior kindergartens and more money for the teachers are among the main items York County Board of Education will have to consider when it makes up its 1975 budget.

That was the consensus last week at a special meeting of the board to consider its budget priorities and to hear submissions from interested groups.

A total of 14 delegations — parents' groups, teachers' group and home and school association — were represented, either personally or through briefs and petitions.

When it was all over the board agreed to refer all the suggestions to the proper committees for recommendations and presentation back as soon as possible.

The recommendations will also include costs for the various items.



Joyous moment for 1975 Hill Snow Queen

Lovely Gail Amodeo of Maple was chosen by a panel of six judges to be Richmond Hill's Snow Queen for 1975 at last week's Winter Carnival. This is the second time the Snow Queen has come from Maple and the third time from Langstaff Secondary School.

She is seen above with Ed Banks, member of the volunteer carnival committee, who was in charge of the Snow Queen contest, as he made the announcement of her selection at the Mill Pond Friday evening. (For a full 18 columns of pictures and stories on the Carnival turn to Pages 10 and 11.)

Crime charges against YRP suggested

A suggestion of possible, but unspecified, criminal charges against York Regional Police officials was made last week by the lawyer for a former constable.

But he didn't name the person or persons, who might be charged.

Toronto lawyer Jeffrey Lyons also said former constable Glenn Percival of Bolton hopes for a full inquiry into his dismissal from the YRP.

Lyons was speaking to the press after a session Wednesday of last week with the members of the York Regional Police Commission.

Mr. Lyons first sat with the board at an open meeting.

But following an hour or so of trying to establish whether the board had the right to hold an informal inquiry, the press and public

were dismissed. The participants continued behind closed doors.

Mr. Lyons said he had had a "good, frank and open discussion" with the board and was hopeful of getting a "favorable reply" to his

request for a full inquiry.

He said he would be submitting more evidence on behalf of his client, but wouldn't elaborate. Right now, they were "trying to work out certain ground rules."

It was his hope the board would "understand our point of view and join us in approaching the Ontario Police Commission" for a hearing.

(continued on page 3)

60-foot building limit studied

In a session which lasted more than four hours the night of February 5, Richmond Hill Town Council's planning committee dealt with 89 amendments to Bylaw 66-71 (the zoning bylaw which controls the "old" Richmond Hill).

A new amendment to the bylaw will limit heights of buildings in the historic core to 60 feet. It will be considered separately.

The Municipal Board indicated last year it would approve Bylaw 66-71 without further public hearings if certain changes were made.

So the committee will recommend to council the 89 amendments be given three readings at the earliest possible date and then forwarded to the OMB.

The committee recommendation to council on the 90th amendment on building heights will be that it be given one or two readings and then a public meeting be held.

The majority of the 89 smaller amendments dealt with definitions of terms used in the bylaw — some of which had not been defined in the original bylaw.

Others which were added because the need was realized as staff and the public worked with the bylaw, Planning Director Hesse Rimon said.

"This is a matter of considerable urgency in order to give legal status to Bylaw 66-71," he added.

Junior kindergarten, early French sought

Probably the most spirited presentation was from the parents of Roy H. Crosby Public School, Markham, who would like to see the teaching of French, from kindergarten on, implemented "tout suite".

And to back their enthusiasm, all those on hand at the meeting said they would be available in a voluntary capacity, or to serve on a liaison committee should a French immersion program be instituted.

It was a matter of the old adage: which came first, the chicken or the egg? said Mrs. Carol Attridge, spokeswoman for the group. "If children don't learn French at an early age, they're going to be at a disadvantage when they become adults."

John E. Kean, president of the Kleinburg Home and School, said the association in a letter to the board stressed its highest priority was for "special services to im-

prove pupil performance in reading and arithmetic."

"To this I would add the comment that it is our desire to see this matter pursued in both Canada's official languages," Kean wrote.

Bilingual bent

The importance of French being taught at an early age because of Canada's bilingual bent, was also one of the main planks in the platforms of the other groups proposing French.

In the matter of junior kindergartens, Mrs. Reisa Gula, speaking for parents from Thornhill, Kleinburg, Aurora, Oak Ridges and East Gwillimbury, stressed the fact the ministry of education provided specific grants for the establishment of junior kindergarten programs.

With each new child enrolled, ceiling limitations went up by one per pupil amount. This covered the cost of expanding the program to four-year olds.

"If we do not enroll them we do not receive the additional ceiling allowance," she said.

Mrs. Gula said there was space both in elementary and secondary schools and the parents would like to see establishment of some junior kindergartens by September of this year.

Need kindergartens

Kean sent another letter to the board stressing the need for junior kindergartens "and a better wage schedule for teachers to make the salaries paid in the York Region competitive with other areas."

(continued on page 29)

Inside The Liberal

New column of reader opinion

Guest Spot, a new topical column of opinion by our readers starts this week. Aurora Mayor Evelyn Buck of Aurora asks some tough questions about the family life centre issues. See Page 5.

The Rams opened the Junior 'A' hockey playoffs last night against Toronto Nats at Richmond Hill Arena. Also both Thornhill Fisher Bros. and Richmond Hill Lions lost in the Quebec PeeWee Tournament. See the game results in the Sports Section, Page 21.

The index for the regular news and advertising features on the inside pages is as follows:

Classified	35-38	Scheduled events	14
Sport	21-23, 26, 27	Carville-Hillcrest	6
Hill social	14-15	Business-professional	39
King-Oak Ridges	24-25	Real estate	34-35
Richvale Record	25	Churches	33
Buttonville news	9	Bayview Buzz	5
Gormley news	6	LSS Scoop	39
Editorial	4	Girl Guide news	32
Letters	5	Legion news	13
Births - Deaths	33	Victoria Square news	8
Maple news	18		