

# Fear Hill will lose share of sewer service capacity

By Mary Dawson

Richmond Hill Council served notice on the Region of York and the ministry of the environment Monday night that it does not approve of an attempt to change the sewerage service rules in the middle of the ball game. Deep concern about the apparent lack of allocation of any additional sewerage disposal capacity for Richmond Hill in the proposals by the Region of York engineering committee for the interim servicing by Metro Toronto led to a special planning committee-of-the-whole session for two hours preceding the regular council meeting Monday night. Out of that meeting came a resolution stating the Town of Richmond Hill is strongly opposed to any changes, deviations or alterations from the proposed interim connections between Richmond Hill and Metro. This applies to either design or time table as was consistently proposed by the ministry of the environment, as discussed by the public during meetings of the Environmental Hearing Board and as draft approved by the Regional Municipality of York. It was said at the meeting the region's proposals did not provide for the interim trunk sewer connection of the Pugsley Avenue plant or the North Don (BAIF) plant to the Metro system at Leslie Street. A further resolution stated the town's

position as approving the population of 105,000 for Richmond Hill by the year 2,000 with an additional 6,500 people in the Oak Ridges area.

The 105,000 figure is limited to an area identified as "sewer and water areas" in the draft agreement between the Crown and the Regional Municipalities of York and Durham.

## Want industry

Council also resolved that no less than 2,000 industrial acres in the serviced area should be allocated to the Town of Richmond Hill.

The council decided to take all necessary steps to open a new industrial park on a portion of the Langstaff Jail Farm, which is designated industrial on the governing Official Plan, and zoned agricultural at present.

"We must get servicing in this area," stated Councillor Mike Burnie.

"We need sewage disposal services in the southern area of town, not only for residential development which already exists and is committed, but for the industrial base which we need."

## Birchall opposed

Councillor John Birchall said, "I can't support this resolution. The jail farm is now in public hands and I feel it should remain open space. I also believe this decision is premature, since we haven't yet had the staff report on discussions on retaining it as

open space."

As mover of the resolutions, Regional Councillor Lois Hancey, stated, "It's important Richmond Hill state its position on where we feel an industrial area should be established. Otherwise we will not be dealt with seriously."

"Other municipalities will get the capacity and Richmond Hill will be left out and we will still have to pay for a service we are not receiving. With escalating costs of labor, material and services, it is essential we have offsetting industrial assessment as soon as possible."

"The only way is to indicate where it is to go. This land is already designated industrial by the Official Plan and could be

developed faster than any other location," said Hancey.

"The City of Toronto (owners of the jail farm) have asked us to give them an idea of how we would like that land developed. Hopefully with this indication they could assist this town in reaching our goal."

## Park unrealistic

"I, too, would like to see the farm all park, but must face that realities of life. One of these is that the residential taxpayers cannot bear the continually increased costs of running this municipality indefinitely."

"We can't afford to buy the land, the city needs money and the provincial and federal governments are not prepared to buy it,"

said Hancey.

"This municipality is going to have to get more industrial assessment to be able to afford the services we need," added Councillor Andy Chateauvert who seconded the resolution.

"It's a matter of economics. We can't meet our obligations to our people and have had to make radical cuts this year. We can't develop industrial areas outside the serviced corridor," said Chateauvert.

## Graham in favor

Although agreeing with Birchall that the decision was not the ideal route in deciding what is to happen to the jail farm, Councillor Marylo Graham supported the

resolution in terms of an emergency situation.

"We are committed to a vast population in the BAIF development with only the Hillcrest Mall as offsetting assessment. The rest is all residential," said Graham.

"We do need industrial assessment and need servicing to accommodate that and natural growth."

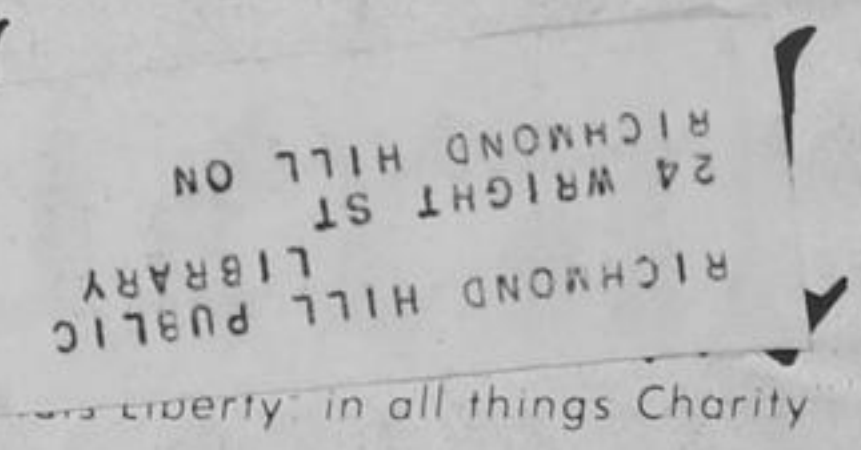
"If these services are not made available to us as well as to our two neighboring municipalities, Richmond Hill cannot grow in any way for the next five years."

"A higher level of government is taking planning of our future out of our hands," she said.

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**Richmond Hill Edition**

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# Storm was worst to hit York Region in 16 years

Southern York Region is now recovering from its worst snow storm since 1958-59.

The storm caught the authorities and the public completely off their guard.

Municipal politicians had been rubbing their hands over fat snow clearing budget surpluses that could be used to hold down this year's taxes. But a still undetermined amount of that money is gone now.

In fact mother nature could not have picked a better time to bring chaos to

the roads, confusion to industry and a real chill to the bone than picking Wednesday, April 2 as storm day.

During the 72-hour blizzard up to nine inches of snow fell — with 40 mile per hour winds bringing 20 foot drifts to many parts of York Region.

Travel by vehicle ranged from very difficult to next to impossible Thursday, Friday and on into Saturday.

Schools shut down

Schools were mostly shut down, or practically so,

Thursday and Friday, although officially open. Super highways, highways, streets and roads were almost all blocked at one time or another Thursday to Saturday.

In its wake the storm left destruction, death and dismay. And a big question: Why were we not prepared?

The '75 Storm, as it's already being called, cost four lives and hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage, lost business and loss of earnings here.

Workers spent many hours

getting home Thursday night, if they were able to get to work at all that day. Friday most stayed home if they had any distance at all to travel.

A heavy, gusty northerly wind continued for days and was still blowing Tuesday, but with no new snow since the weekend.

2 teens dead

On Saturday two teenagers died in snowmobile accidents. A 14-year-old boy died when he struck a parked car at Jackson's Point, and an 18-year-old youth died when his vehicle collided with a

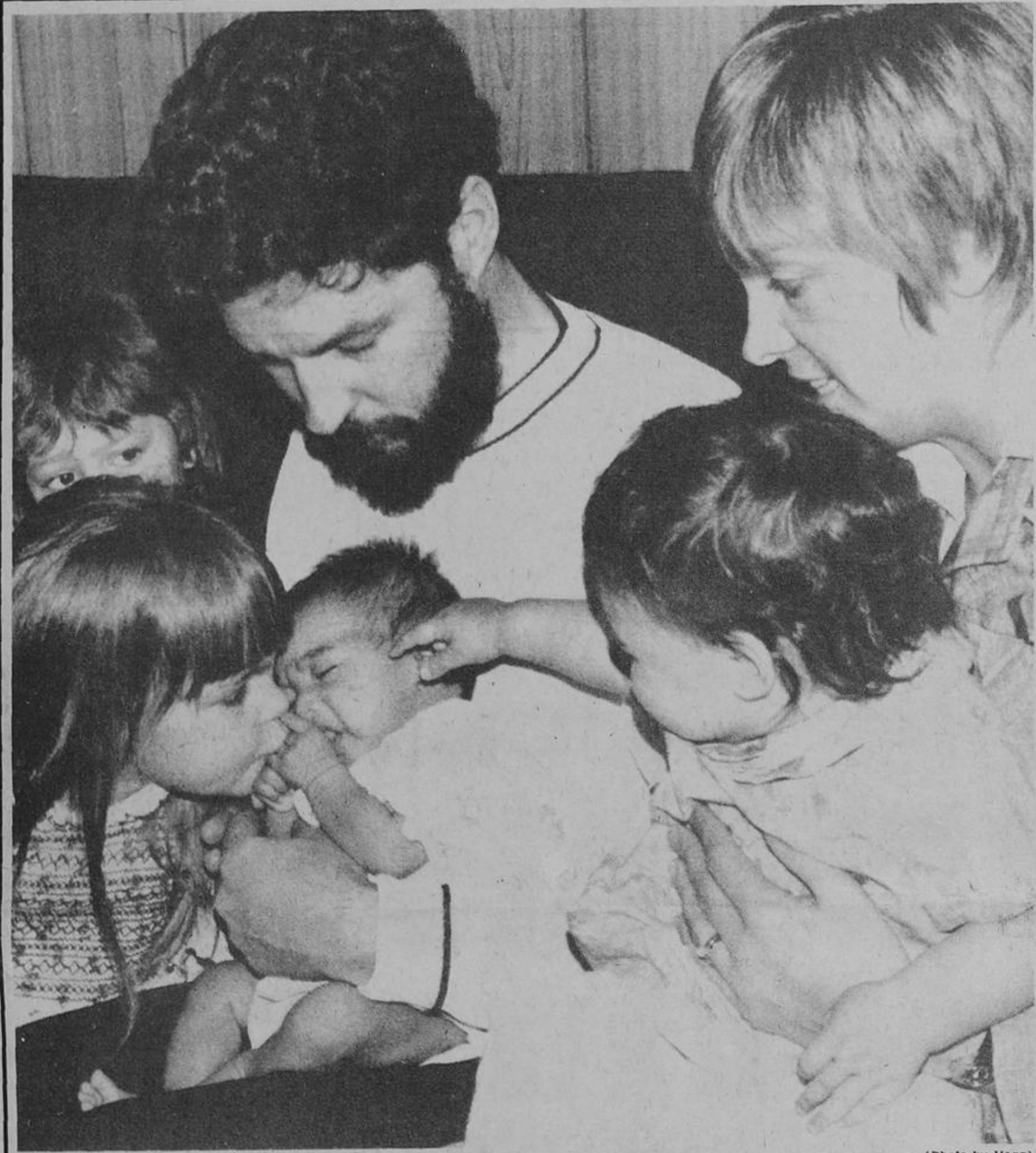
parked truck. Markham barber Henry Harrison, 75, of Petnam Avenue, Toronto died at the height of the storm near Unionville when his car smashed into a truck on Kennedy Road.

On Sunday a man collapsed and died from a heart attack while clearing snow from his driveway. He has been identified as Tom Meddings, 62, of Highway 7, Woodbridge.

Train hits bus

There was a lucky escape for passengers on a Gray Coach bus on Friday. Their vehicle collided with a

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(Photo by Hogg)

Four-year-old Lisa, three-year-old Rachel and year-old Tanya White welcome their new baby sister Peggy from Cambodia above as delighted parents Michael and Patricia admire their new daughter.

## War refugee baby arrives here

By Ian Seymour

Just a few thousand miles away from our doorstep children are dying. Babies just a few months old are being shot, starved and forgotten.

This is daily life in Vietnam and Cambodia. We remember Belsen — we forget Phnom Penh. Correction — we may not forget Phnom Penh, we may not want to talk about it.

It's only human nature that we have to survive where we are put. Fortunately some people do spend long hours thinking, worrying and concerning themselves about others less fortunate.

One such couple lives in Richmond Hill. They are Michael and Patricia White who reside on Jefferson Sideroad.

Since January they have striven to obtain adoption papers for a war-orphaned baby. This week they were rewarded.

But they are only the tip of the iceberg. Forty-two babies, all under a year old, will live thanks to a lot of love — and even more luck.

When they grow up they will not remember two French sisters who braved bullets and bombs to bring them to safety.

They will not remember a U.S. helicopter pilot who risked life and limb to fly them to a neutral zone.

They will not remember their real parents. They are dead. However, the children will grow up in Canada. They will live — they will look forward.

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## Hill council sharing Markham Cabinet appeal

Richmond Hill will join the Town of Markham in its appeal to the Ontario Cabinet to halt the extension of a runway at the Toronto Airports Bultonville Airport, council agreed Monday night.

It also agreed to assume responsibility for 25 percent of the costs of the appeal up to a maximum of \$800.

In presenting the resolution to this effect Regional Councillor Lois Hancey said it would be giving assistance to the

people of Richmond Hill who are affected now and will be affected in the future by noise and harassment from the airport.

She pointed out Richmond Hill is on record as opposing the expansion.

Mayor David Schiller said the Municipal Board decision in favor of the extension appeared to be predicated on a number of legitimate factors mainly concerned with safety.

"There is going to be increased use of the airport

with or without the extension.

"But what concerns me is that Toronto Airways have given no firm commitment as to the type of aircraft which will be handled there."

"I support this resolution with some reluctance," said Mayor Schiller.

"This is one of the largest and busiest airports in Canada and our residents are disturbed. When you get three or four planes a minute over your home, it can be really disturbing," said Councillor John Birchall.

Councillor Mike Burnie and Councillor William Corcoran did not support the resolution.

Two residents disturbed by the noise from the planes, Mrs. Marilyn Watson and Frank Tucker were heard during the question period which preceded the council meeting.

They asked for advice on how they could carry on their battle against the extension.

"I believe the action initiated by Markham is the only thing that can be done now," replied the mayor.

## Hope to open BAIF area RC school by September

Occupancy in time for school opening in September is the target for the construction of St. Charles Garnier Roman Catholic Separate School in the BAIF education-recreation complex, it was reported at the April 1 meeting of York Region Roman Catholic Separate School Board.

However, according to Trustee Ivan St. John of Newmarket, the construction start has run into a road block.

The contractor was unable to get a building permit because the Town of Richmond Hill had not prepared the site plan agreement and didn't have it properly executed by council.

The town staff had promised it would be ready to be presented to council April 7 and an application for a building permit could be made the next day, it was said.

At the March 18 meeting of Richmond Hill Town Council, unanimous approval was given by council to the issuance of a foundation permit to the board, in order that as little time as possible would be lost.

However, the town staff reported a check of the bylaw revealed no building permit could be issued until

the site plan agreement is signed, he said.

"Therefore the contractor will have to make up a week."

The schedule of construction posted in the boardroom indicated work would be completed by August 22, leaving a week for clean up and inspection before school opening September 2.

## Inquest jury wants better safety watch

Stricter enforcement of provincial industrial safety laws to prevent children from entering factories was the recommendation of a coroner's jury investigating the death of 10-year-old Adrian Van Den Brand in a factory July 16.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Hank Van Den Brand of Beechey Drive, Richmond Hill, Adrian was killed when a one-inch wide strip of aluminum flew off a power saw at Builders Glass Ltd., of Millwick Drive, Weston. His stomach was pierced.

He had volunteered to clean up the plant office when he accompanied his

brother Charles to the plant. He had been told by his brother and company officials to stay away from the shop.

Charles was operating the saw at the time of the accident, which occurred when Adrian was standing in the doorway.

The jury also asked for immediate relocation of the saw and suggested the manufacturers develop adequate safeguards.

Another recommendation was legislation making it illegal to install machinery of this nature near exits or entrances.

## Electrocution threat to children

Parents in southwest Richmond Hill (Ward 6 — Hillcrest — BAIF) are warned their children are in real danger of death by electrocution.

### Region planner meeting Hillers

Regional Planner Murray Pound will speak to the Richmond Hill Citizens Advisory Group tomorrow evening (Thursday) in the Blue Flame Room of the Consumers Gas Building, Elgin Mills Road East. The meeting is called for 7:45 pm.

Manager Stan Greenwood of Vaughan Hydro told "The Liberal" Tuesday someone (believed to be a school child) has acquired a set of keys which will unlock the padlocks on the hydro boxes or poles.

He unlocks and removes the padlocks and leaves the doors loose.

The fear is some child's curiosity will prompt him or her to look inside and touch the electric devices, causing instant death. Greenwood says the in-

cidents seem to centre on the Weldrick Road area in Richvale.

### Crooks drop in

Thieves broke into the Leather Attic in Hillcrest Mall, Richmond Hill, last week and stole three leather coats worth \$385.

They gained entry by breaking through the ceiling of the shop.

warning children against this hazard. The police have already been alerted and the children will be warned through the schools.

He also asks anybody seeing anyone other than hydro personnel lingering in the area of these devices to telephone Vaughan Hydro at 889-9211 or the police.

Stressing there is a real risk of death to a small, curious child, he also asks that the holder of these keys leave them on his teacher's desk before a tragedy occurs.

# As region budget stands it's 47 percent higher

By Jim Irving

After some 13 hours, 15 assorted cuts — and time off for lunch and supper — York Regional Council came up with a 47½ percent 1975 expenditure increase last week.

But that figure, as they say, is subject to change.

For despite its all-day dedication, council was still unsatisfied with its final net figure — after subsidies and revenue — of \$15,248,000,

down \$895,300 from its estimated budget figure of \$16,143,300 of the morning.

Councillors turned it all back to the staff to bring in an updated version, reflecting the changes made and new grant structures.

The new grants were handed down by the provincial government during the week.

Last year, council estimated \$12,442,000 and spent \$11,289,400.

Net regional levy will not be known until the equalized assessment figures are released sometime in May.

Although it started out with a vengeance, killing its staff newspaper — \$2,500 — and its own mileage allowances, by the time the meeting was on its last weary legs around 11 pm, the councillors decided their good intentions had made little dent in the over-all budget, but had the prospect

of antagonizing a lot of people. So they restored the cuts.

In the meantime, they had hit the police commission with the biggest cut of all — half a million dollars — and also had lopped \$63,300 off the land division committee's budget of \$128,300.

Richmond Hill Councillor Gordon Rowe, who moved the land division cut, also suggested the nine-man committee be reduced to

three for the rest of the year.

Apologetic

He said he had been "apologetic about this committee," making excuses for its tardiness. The day before, for example, it had upped the engineering committee by not showing up for a scheduled meeting.

Fellow Richmond Hill Councillor Lois Hancey said the region couldn't afford the committee. Legislation should be enacted to give the

power back to the municipalities.

Councillor Erik Larsen of Georgina Township said applications for the committee had been piling up.

"I don't want to be snubbed by this committee, or anyone else," he said.

The police commission, with Chairman Judge William Lyon and Police Chief Bruce Crawford making the presentation, was hoping to add another 18

men to the force.

However, the \$500,000 cut should rule that out, as well as bring on some tightening in several other areas.

Present estimates

The commission can appeal the reduction to the Ontario Police Commission. At present, net regional costs for the various departments are as follows: general government and administration, (Continued on Page 2)

## Inside The Liberal

### Midget hockey excitement

Richmond Hill Legion Midgets win the York Simcoe Championship by edging Thornhill 3-2. Oak Ridges Alex Brockton Midgets hold two-game-to-none lead in the best-of-seven finals for the OMHA Championship against Waterford. See stories in the Sports Section Page 15.

The inside story on the recent bonus the school board gave secondary teachers involves a hitherto secret letter. See the regional Viewpoint column on Page 4.

For the regular news and advertising features on the inside, turn to the pages indicated below:

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