

Letters

Finance commissioner disputes figures...

It is not often that a member of the Municipal Administration responds to items in the press. Generally, this is because reporters and editors research the subject of their articles and verify the accuracy of the contents.

However, I feel that I must respond to Mr. R. Marquis' comments in the "letters" section of last week's edition of your paper. His letter contains a number of inaccurate figures and a false impression is given by an overall lack of proper analysis.

The statement that the Municipality's total budgeted expenditures have gone up by 25.5 per cent since 1975 is correct; however, a large portion of this increase was offset by additional provincial grants and user fees.

The Municipality grew in terms of taxable assessment by 6.1 per cent in the period and this also must be considered in any analysis. In fact, the cost to the individual ratepayer increased 10.9 per cent in this same two year period.

The figures for increased Parks and Recreation budget (42.6 per cent and 73.5 per cent) are also correct but these are expenditures only and Mr. Marquis has not considered the user fees and other revenues which offset in part these increases.

The most glaring error occurs when he states "In fact, the Parks and Recreation budget was overspent by about \$160,000 in 1975 and by about \$120,000 in 1976."

...and Schiller states town in good shape

I write two letters to the editor in your paper last week dealing with Town Taxes.

In these times of rising costs it is understandable that the matter should be of interest.

The Town has endeavoured to provide more detailed and more accessible information to residents over the last few years and I hope that process is contributing to discussion of the matter.

Every analysis of Town taxes (and Council's fiscal performance) must keep in mind that the Town only receives about 35 per cent of the local tax dollar.

This year for instance about 52.5 per cent went to School boards and about 12.5 per cent went to the Region.

By law the Town is required to collect School Board and Region taxes but is not permitted to vary the amounts levied by those authorities.

In short the Town Council only has direct control over 35 per cent of the total.

Perhaps the best yardstick by which to measure Council's performance is by looking at the change in one year's taxes (Town portion) from the preceding year, as measured against the preceding year's change in the Consumer Price Index.

An analysis of taxation years of 1972 through 1977 follows.

The first figure following the year is the per cent tax increase.

The figure in the first bracket is the increase in the Consumer Price Index for Canada during the previous year.

The figure in the second bracket is the increase in the Consumer Price Index for Canada during the previous year.

The figure in the last bracket is the amount by which the tax exceeded (+) or was less than (-) the previous year's Consumer Price Index.

The analysis shows that Council has performed quite well in the past couple of years in responding to higher costs and the quite natural urgings to keep taxes in line.

It might be of interest to do a similar analysis on the performance of other taxing authorities.

The challenge is far from over. It would appear that this year's Consumer Price Index increase will be about 8.0 per cent.

I feel confident that the Town can keep its 1978 share of the local tax bill well below that level and so do its part to moderate inflation rather than contribute to it.

H. David Schiller
Mayor

for information call toll free
Area 416 - Dial - 1-800-261-0505

Area 519 - Dial - 1-800-261-0550

MIRACLE FEEDS - Woodbridge, Ont.

FEED for Dairy & Beef Cattle

Corn Distillers Grains
Brewers Grains
Brewers liquid yeast
Apply Pommace

for information call toll free
Area 416 - Dial - 1-800-261-0505
Area 519 - Dial - 1-800-261-0550

MIRACLE FEEDS - Woodbridge, Ont.

The budget and actual for the two years are provided below.

	Budget	Actual	Difference
1975	599,345	626,481	27,136 (+4.5 Pct.)
1976	741,701	724,121	17,581 (-2.4 Pct.)

The major reason for the 1975 overexpenditure was that repairs at the Centennial Swimming Pool had to be carried out in December of 1975 at the time of the annual pool closing.

These were necessary repairs discovered late in the year and were necessary to ensure a continuing operation without a loss of user fee revenue.

I take strong exception to Mr. Marquis' suggestion that there is a "serious lack of control".

The Town of Richmond Hill developed and implemented a Program Budget System in 1974 and in the first three fiscal years has controlled overall municipal expenditures within one per cent of the budgeted amount.

I appreciate Mr. Marquis' interest in the financial administration of our Municipality and share his concern regarding the major issues which are facing the Canadian economy.

William A. Rice
Finance Commissioner
and Treasurer
The Town of Richmond Hill

Transit company seeking passenger assistance

The Town of Markham, for the past few months, has been studying the feasibility of implementing an exact fare system to the Transit operations.

However before approving such a system they are requesting assistance from the Transit riders to co-operate in eliminating problems that now exist, by having the correct fare — if possible — when boarding the buses.

If the Town received this co-operation it may not be necessary to institute an exact fare.

Harvey Cox
Co-ordinator
Markham Transit

Group concerned about fast rising pregnancy rate

Our organization with interest, your article in The Liberal (Oct. 26) that the York County Board of Education has formed a sub-committee concerning sex education in our schools.

We are also deeply concerned about the spiralling rate of unplanned pregnancies in our area.

It is our opinion, however, that simple mechanical knowledge of conception control techniques is not alone sufficient to stop these unplanned pregnancies unless the motivation to apply such knowledge is also passed along to the students.

We would suggest, therefore, that a major way of instilling such motivation in young people is to teach them

Recent newspaper coverage of the Oak Ridges Lions Club community involvement has been quite evident. We would like to mention sincere appreciation for the interest shown.

Thank you for sharing our concerns in active community participation.

Doug Cook
Secretary
Oak Ridges
Lions Club

Lions Club coverage

respect for human life, and their responsibilities to themselves and to the unborn child that may possibly result through sexual intercourse.

Our position seems to be supported by the recently released findings of the committee on the operation of the abortion law (Badgley Committee), in which it was stated that the committee learned that 84.8 per cent of women seeking abortions were contraceptively experienced and that factors other than the lack of knowledge or exposure to contraceptives accounted for their unwanted pregnancies.

Further, and very importantly, for the Board of Education, the report stated that sex education in the schools appeared to have no impact on the practice of conception control.

It states in Page 376 and 377 "The findings... do not lend support for the usefulness of current contraceptive and family life education programs undertaken at schools across Canada."

(Rev.) Bob Quick, Chairman
Right To Life
of Richmond Hill

This neighborhood has in the past been one

where young children could spend Halloween having fun with their friends by going door to door.

They have never had to worry about "who might be out there".

Sadly, things have changed now and it will be necessary to accompany small children on their rounds to 'protect' them from these cowardly bullies.

A concerned mother
Elm Ridge Acres Road,
Thornhill

Trustees oppose giving school away

Questions have been asked about the possible disposal of a Newmarket school site for \$10.

Our answer is simple: agree on a policy for all before acting on one.

Since our County Board of Education was formed it has sold about 20 sites — mostly small — according to a market value policy.

The site in question is valuable and, interestingly, was named for the composer of the 'Maple Leaf'.

When the 'gift' was proposed on May 9, action was deferred until a committee could review policy.

That committee met twice and produced both a majority report (against gifts) and a minority report permitting a gift.

However on May 24, before considering either

report, a majority of trustees' meeting in Committee of the Whole recommended giving the old Newmarket site to that municipality.

Some of those trustees later acknowledged they had insufficient information and in full Board of June 13, merely voted to receive — not approve — the gift proposal.

Summer went by awaiting clarification of value and legal and Ministry advice.

With that advice the policy committee met again on October 26 — this time agreeing on a unanimous report.

That report proposes that surplus school sites may be sold to the local municipality at a moderate discount from

the appraised value if retained in beneficial public use.

The proceeds would, of course, be applied to benefit students and reduce school taxes.

The report is ready but cannot come to the Board until its meeting on November 14.

Meanwhile some trustees again moved to approve the gift without waiting for the report and it was only after difficult discussion that the matter was deferred.

Though the outcome is still uncertain, your readers may be interested in knowing that all three Richmond Hill trustees oppose giving away our assets.

Eric W. Baker
Robert G. Houghton
William R. Monroe

Association appreciated the publicity

The Women's Association of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, King City, wish to thank you for publishing the item for their Annual Bazaar of today in The Liberal.

We had a very good response from those who came to publicity, and we feel that publicity such as you gave us was one of the factors that brought us success.

Elsie McKague
Secretary
King City

What this means is that somewhere there is a lack of communication among all the community organizations.

Granted, all the organizations think their dance is the most important, and that's fine, but they are defeating their own purpose.

Maybe if all the committees involved put their heads together at planning time, they could choose dates for the different functions that will not conflict.

There are many weeks when there is nothing happening, and people are looking for a dance to go to.

I am writing this as a concerned citizen who would like to see all the organizations prosper in their ventures.

Don Cook
Box 81
Oak Ridges

Sid Britton
84 Hillview Road
Aurora, Ont.

Producing little else but committees and commissions, strikes and layoffs?

None of these things fetch much of a premium on world markets.

If you value your health write to Health Minister Dennis Timbrell and Premier William Davis. They are pulling the strings. Tell them "NO".

Dances conflict, committees should put heads together

Just recently in Oak Ridges, there were three adult dances and one for teens all held on the same night.

This is fine, in that it gives the people a choice of where to go when they feel like dancing, but it can't do much good for the organizations involved.

Surely, the purpose in holding a dance in the first place, is to raise money.

And surely, the money raised will be more if that dance or whatever is the only function held on a certain date.

A committee is a man-made thing calculated to do very little that's any good in the most expensive way possible.

A politician is phony. A bureaucrat is stoney. A doctor is human. We deal with him on the level, mind to mind, flesh to flesh.

I'd like no bureaucracy to meddle further in my relationship to health services, with my doctor. As to what we pay our doctors, I think they earn every cent. Often we owe them our very lives.

The politicians and bureaucrats have it that we owe them something, too — our last red cent in taxes.

It is reported, that doctors are leaving Canada for the U.S. in considerable numbers. Many came here from Britain to escape that country's socialistic demise.

Are we to lose them and finish up a country

where young children could spend Halloween having fun with their friends by going door to door.

They have never had to worry about "who might be out there".

Sadly, things have changed now and it will be necessary to accompany small children on their rounds to 'protect' them from these cowardly bullies.

A concerned mother
Elm Ridge Acres Road,
Thornhill

Producing little else but committees and commissions, strikes and layoffs?

None of these things fetch much of a premium on world markets.

If you value your health write to Health Minister Dennis Timbrell and Premier William Davis. They are pulling the strings. Tell them "NO".

Sid Britton
84 Hillview Road
Aurora, Ont.

Producing little else but committees and commissions, strikes and layoffs?

None of these things fetch much of a premium on world markets.

If you value your health write to Health Minister Dennis Timbrell and Premier William Davis. They are pulling the strings. Tell them "NO".

Sid Britton
84 Hillview Road
Aurora, Ont.

Producing little else but committees and commissions, strikes and layoffs?

None of these things fetch much of a premium on world markets.

If you value your health write to Health Minister Dennis Timbrell and Premier William Davis. They are pulling the strings. Tell them "NO".

Sid Britton
84 Hillview Road
Aurora, Ont.

Producing little else but committees and commissions, strikes and layoffs?

Yet another committee joins the conglomerate

People speak of the banana republics.

Canada will surely soon be known as the committee conglomerate.

Yeah, there's another one in the cards — a York Regional health committee.

It's to be a permanent thing, with a director, secretary(s), and anybody else they can work in.

It's a further parasitic spread of our fourth form of government — regional government — aiming to politicize the medical profession and increase the number of fat cats.

There's a four-page printed newsletter all about it, available from York Region health services in Newmarket.

It's full of bureaucratise — yards of it; and studded with names of many well-known York Region meddlers and spenders, with a sprinkling of innocents, to allay suspicions.

Public input is invited — if the public ever hears about it. And public

'Bullies' stole the treat bags from children

where young children could spend Halloween having fun with their friends by going door to door.

They have never had to worry about "who might be out there".

Sadly, things have changed now and it will be necessary to accompany small children on their rounds to 'protect' them from these cowardly bullies.

A concerned mother
Elm Ridge Acres Road,
Thornhill

Producing little else but committees and commissions, strikes and layoffs?

None of these things fetch much of a premium on world markets.

If you value your health write to Health Minister Dennis Timbrell and Premier William Davis. They are pulling the strings. Tell them "NO".

Sid Britton
84 Hillview Road
Aurora, Ont.

Producing little else but committees and commissions, strikes and layoffs?

None of these things fetch much of a premium on world markets.

If you value your health write to Health Minister Dennis Timbrell and Premier William Davis. They are pulling the strings. Tell them "NO".

Sid Britton
84 Hillview Road
Aurora, Ont.

Producing little else but committees and commissions, strikes and layoffs?

None of these things fetch much of a premium on world markets.

If you value your health write to Health Minister Dennis Timbrell and Premier William Davis. They are pulling the strings. Tell them "NO".

Sid Britton
84 Hillview Road
Aurora, Ont.

Producing little else but committees and commissions, strikes and layoffs?

None of these things fetch much of a premium on world markets.

Garage Auction

OF
EVERTUNE GARAGE
35 Cedar Ave. - Thornhill, Ont.
(No. 7 Hwy. & Yonge St.)
1 Block East of Yonge St. - 1 Block South of No. 7 Hwy.

Property sold - Business closing out completely
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1977 - 7:00 P.M.
NO RESERVE

TERMS - Cash or make arrangements before sale
REMOVAL - Sale night and Friday
Equipment in good condition with some being quite new
VEHICLES - 7:00 p.m. - 1953 Willys Jeep c/w plow. 1967 Chev. Good running

Antiques with moderate reserve 1940 Chev. - 1950 Plym. in excellent condition.

OFFICE EQUIPMENT -
Double pedestal desk - chairs - electric adder - typewriter - cash register - refrigerator - 19" portable TV - cast iron water heater - bevel edged mirror

SHOP PARTS & EQUIPMENT -
Big four air tire changer, Bushman air & electric tire changer, Van Norman brake drum lathe, 2 hydraulic engine cranes, air conditioner testing & charging equipment, alumite wheel balancer, Victor acetylene welding set & cart, Black & Decker valve grinding machine, snap on valve reseater, 3 ton hydraulic jack, engine holder, 3 ton chain hoist, 3 ton Joyce hydraulic, Race front end aligner, Champion spark plug cleaner, Ball joint tester, Dill vulcanizer, compression tester, Herbrand coil tester, Wilbac battery load tester, creeper, AC spark plug cleaner, Growler, brake bleeder, mobile oil drum pan, assortment axle stands, 2 gear lube dispensers with carts, 2 axle pullers, 2 drain pumps, air & water cleaning gun, undercoater gun, wooden bench, vacuum cleaner, ignition cabinet & parts, cabinet oil seals & inserters, 18 drawer hardware cabinet, assortment fan belts, assortment outlet gaskets, assortment hose clamps, assortment grease fittings, assortment steel brake lines, assortment rocker cover gaskets on peg board, wooden parts shelves, fire extinguisher, air hose, steel shelf, assortment used tires on rims, assortment rims, used slant 6 Dodge engine (good runner) - 4 steel parts bins - 3 wood parts bins c/w parts.

SALE CONDUCTED BY
GREATER TORONTO AUCTIONS
MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO 416-275-3000

WOOD STOVES
* FRANKLIN
* PARLOR
* POT BELLY
* SUNBEAM

10% OFF

FIREPLACE ACCESSORIES
* SCREENS
* FIRESETS
* LOG HOLDERS
* ANTIQUE COPPER POTS & PANS

FIREWOOD
\$35⁰⁰ Single cord

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS

The
Fireplace Centre
8021 Kennedy Rd. N., Unionville 297-2222
LOCATION AT POOL WORLD 1/2 MILE S. #7 HIGHWAY
OPEN SUNDAY

SHOP 'N SAVE AT IGA

SPECIALS EFFECTIVE 'TIL SATURDAY, NOV. 5/77

IGA FANCY
TOMATO JUICE

10 OZ. TINS

6 FOR \$1

IGA CHOICE
PEAS

24 OZ. TINS

EA. **25¢**

HEINZ CREAM OF
MUSHROOM SOUP

10 OZ. TIN

22¢

POWDERED DETERGENT
TIDE

5 LB. BOX

2²⁹

DUNCAN HINES MOIST 'N EASY
CAKE MIXES

13 OZ. BOX

75¢

IGA RIPPLE, VINEGAR OR REG.
POTATO CHIPS

225 GRAMS

59¢

AVAILABLE ONLY AT

ALLEN COURT
Bayview & Markham Rd., Richmond Hill
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES

IGA