

Embrun public approves new water system

Two hundred people recently attended a public meeting in Embrun to discuss their need for a water system and give approval to the Township's plans. The public meeting was called after the Ontario Municipal Board refused to continue studying the question saying that people in Embrun hadn't been given enough information about the project.

Confusion about the Township's plans developed because Council had originally proposed to build a water and a sewage system but cancelled the sewage project last January. The OMB ordered the Township to give the public all engineering and financial facts on the proposal at a public meeting.

Most of the people attending the meeting approved the project as planned saying they are tired of living with water polluted by excessive amounts of chloride, sodium and iron. A 1969 survey conducted by the province's Eastern Ontario Health Unit showed that 78 per cent of the village's homes on the north side of the Castor river had polluted drinking water.

Reeve Gaston Patenaude told the meeting he had urged the OMB to approve the project because "we urgently need this new water system because I fear for the health of the people". He still expects opposition at an April 5 OMB hearing because of the

cost of the project for taxpayers.

The new water system is estimated to cost \$5.1 million of which the province will pick up 74.8 per cent or \$3.8 million. The municipality would pay the remaining \$1.3 million. The average village property owner with a 75-foot frontage will have a choice of paying a lump sum of \$1,666 or an annual levy of \$237 for 30 years.

The search for suitable water for Embrun started in 1969 but it wasn't until 1980 that a location providing the correct quantity and quality was found about eight kilometres south of the village. The proposed system is capable of supplying water for up to 3,500 people.

The Township had originally proposed a project that would provide sewage facilities for Russell and both a sewage system and a water system for Embrun. But because of financial restraints the Council decided to proceed with the Russell project first, and then it found that it couldn't afford the sewage system for Embrun.

A sewage system for Embrun would cost an additional \$5.8 million but no provincial funds have been allocated for the project. Reeve Patenaude doubts the OMB would allow the Township to go into debt by over \$2 million to provide both water and sewage systems for the village.

Russell petitions for ward system

For the past six months a group of people in Russell have been lobbying for the establishment of a ward system in Russell Township. A petition they have been circulating asks the Township Council to apply to the Ontario Municipal Board to establish four wards inside the Township boundaries.

The four wards would be: Embrun, Russell, the Four Concessions and the Six Concessions. One alderman from each ward would be elected to sit on the Township Council. A Reeve would be elected by all the people in the Township. A Deputy-Reeve would be elected by the council

from its own ranks.

In an interview, Angela Burgess, one of the people organizing the lobby for wards in the Township, said: "A ward system would allow people in all areas of the Township to have somebody specific to criticize, or thank or hold accountable. Everybody would at least have a contact on the Council.

"There would be no increase in taxes involved," said Mrs. Burgess, "because we wouldn't be increasing the number of representatives on the Council. But there would be an increase in the efficiency of Township services because people would have



Tiny trucker Andre Cote, of Embrun, tests out the seats in a large piece of farm machinery at the recent Embrun Feed Show at the Arena.

Dennis McGann photo

somebody specific in their area to discuss their problems with."

The petition, which has been circulating in all parts of the Township, asks the Council to apply for the ward system itself but Council approval of the scheme is not necessary. The Ontario Municipal Board will discuss the question as long as there are at least 75 names on the petition.

"I've talked to officials at the OMB about the proposal," said Mrs. Burgess. "And they say we could have the ward system approved and in place in time for the municipal elections in November.

"We're hoping the Township Council will recognize the merits of the plan and use its facilities and staff to help process the application. But we're prepared to go to the OMB by ourselves if

necessary."

If the OMB did decide to allow the Township to pass a by-law establishing the four wards a public hearing would be held to get citizen input and then the plan could be implemented.

Mrs. Burgess expects about 300 names will be on the petition before their meeting with Council on March 28th. Petitions are available to different locations throughout the Township including Jack Tyo's Red and White store, Maria-Bianca's variety store and Norm Inglis, Russell's Fire Department Chief.

Just recently, the City of Nepean won approval from the OMB for a ward system — ending the practice of electing all representatives at large.

Tussle over fair game erupts

Charging the Russell Fish and Game Club is "chauvinist oriented", a local woman wants to start a rival club open to both sexes.

Riding stable operator Lola Wood says she was turned down when she asked an executive member of the all-male fish and game club if she could start attending meetings.

She said the impression was left with her that she might sometime in the future be invited to take part in club activities if she could "cook pies".

"I'm sick and tired of hunting by myself," Lola said. "I'm a better shot than most men so I always get left at home."

The frustrated owner of Pinetree Stables placed a notice in this issue of the Castor Review inviting those who have been "refused admission to" or "do not wish to be admitted to" the Russell Fish and Game Club to contact her about establishing a new organization.

Club treasurer Jack Tyo said the 20-member group has long-range plans to open a section for women as well as one for junior enthusiasts under 16.

"Setting up the organization is taking longer than we expected," said Jack, denying the club is wilfully discriminating against women.

Another problem, he said, is the club's twice-monthly meetings are held in hotels because, as yet, there's no club meeting room.

"We want to start holding them somewhere where the women and juniors can come too."

Lola insists that women are just as talented when it comes to outdoor sports once considered exclusive male territory.

She noted that two of the top four winners in the winter carnival ice fishing derby were women, including first prize which went to Loretta Rombough for her huge pickerel. The derby was sponsored by the Russell Fish and Game Club.

If there's enough interest in a new club, she plans to open her property to members for trap and target shooting as well as her trout-stocked quarry for occasional fishing.

"I'm only interested in serious hunters and fishermen."

"The men will have to cook the pies."

\$ 1600.

Sponsor Needed

Approval has been received for Wintario funding toward plexiglass panels to replace screens in the Russell Arena. Community share \$1,600 must be raised to proceed. Clubs, groups interested in sponsoring this project please contact the Arena Manager.

Russell
RECREATION ASSOCIATION

L'Association Récréatif de Russell

invite des demandes pour combler le poste

GERANT D'ARENA ET LES AFFAIRES DES LOISIS

Endroit: Russell, Ontario
Date limite: Le 10 avril, 1982

Communiquez avec le président de l'association, M. Baird McNeill, 445-2018 pour obtenir une copie des fonctions du poste. Envoyez votre demande ainsi que votre résumé à:

M. Baird McNeill
C.P. 161
Russell, Ontario
K0A 3B0

Russell
RECREATION ASSOCIATION

The Russell Recreation Association

invites applications to fill the position of

ARENA AND FACILITIES MANAGER

Location: Russell, Ontario
Application deadline: April 10, 1982

Contact the Chairman of the Association, Mr. Baird McNeill, at 445-2018 to obtain a copy of the detailed job description. Send your application along with your résumé to:

Mr. Baird McNeill
Box 161
Russell, Ontario
K0A 3B0

Russell
RECREATION ASSOCIATION