

EMO requests tests

By Conrad Felber

The Thunder Bay Area Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) has told Terrace Bay Council that it would like to schedule an exercise to test the evacuation of two schools in the township under the scenario of a chlorine accident at the local Kimberly-Clark pulp mill.

In a letter read at the regular meeting of Terrace Bay Council held on August 25, Emergency Planning Officer W.M. Wolfe of the EMO said such a test is in the EMO's list of objectives for 1986.

"Additionally, you will no doubt recall...it was decided to conduct a training session with the Emergency Operating Control Group, Council, and other key people you would consider necessary," Wolfe added in the letter, sent on August 11.

"It was hoped to complete these activities before the end of 1986," Wolfe reminded Council.

"First of all, one mistake is that we have three schools here, not two," Councillor Peter Romanuk said after the letter was read. Romanuk also serves as the township's Emergency Measures Coordinator, and the letter was addressed to him.

"We should write a reply and tell them we will proceed with this after school opens," he added. Most schools in the town were scheduled to open for classes on September 3.

"It may be the third week of September before we can (do this)," Romanuk informed Council.

Reeve Ollie Chapman agreed. "There is a lot of ground work to be done," she said. A firm date for the exercise will be discussed later, she added.

There are 18 members in the Thunder Bay Area EMO besides Terrace Bay, including Schreiber, Longlac, Manitouwadge, Nipigon, Nakina, Red Rock, Geraldton, and Thunder Bay, which is where the EMO office is located.

Later in the meeting, Council was told that Lake Nipigon MPP Gilles Pouliot has decided to back them up on their recent requests to the Ministry of Transportation and Communications to look at the possibility of a putting in a second access route for the township's Terrace Heights subdivision.

Reeve Chapman said a copy of Pouliot's letter should be sent to the District MTC office.

"That should rattle their chains," she added. Town engineer Doug Baker told Council that a reply from the Ministry regarding the access request is now two weeks overdue.

Councillor Chris Joubert said that the Recreation Office has volunteered to assist at his Teen Dance, to be held at the arena on September 12. Admission will be \$2 per person.

Council was also told that the Terrace Bay Police Force will be increased next week with the addition of a replacement officer.

Romanuk said Constable Bernard Chasse will be starting on September 8.

Reeve Chapman spoke about the "very informative" meeting Council had recently with representatives from the Winston Lake zinc mine project

located near Schreiber.

The mine is now going into production and is expected to actually start up at the end of next year or the start of 1988, with up to 140 workers to be hired before then.

"Their people will be able to live where they want," Reeve Chapman said. "Their hiring will start in May of 1987, and if possible, they will hire locally."

One estimate that has been mentioned is that up to 25 per cent of the workforce at the site will be local residents, hired as administrators and skilled tradesmen.

"They will be meeting with us again from time to time," she added. "They may build apartments, but they are not starting to build yet."

"There are going to be lots of houses available in Terrace Bay for them," Councillor Jim Ziegler said ruefully, referring to the recent lay-offs of 355 employees at the Kimberly-Clark pulp mill in town.

Also on Council's agenda at the meeting was the matter of a request regarding the possibility of tape recording future open sessions of Council.

"The lady who requested this has not been to a meeting since sending this in," Reeve Chapman noted, referring to Thunder Bay Times-News correspondent Cheryl Hodgins.

"I still feel the same way," Ziegler responded. "I see no problem with this request." The matter had been brought up at a previous Council meeting and was tabled at that time until the township's lawyer could be consulted.

"All the lawyer said is you can do whatever you wish," Romanuk noted.

"Permission can be given and then revoked later," Reeve Chapman said.

"If there's five of us, does it have to be unanimous before they can tape the meeting?" Councillor

George Ramsay asked.

"It has been that way at other meetings I've been to," Chapman replied.

Romanuk told Council that he was against the request at the last meeting and is still against it. "If the press are interested in getting comments, they should show up at the meetings," he added.

Clerk-treasurer Larry Simons clarified Romanuk's earlier statement by

saying the township's lawyer said that the request is a matter of procedure.

"It is really up to you to decide," Simons explained. "You should say in advance if you allow taping."

Reeve Chapman then put a motion on the table to approve the use of tape recorders by accredited

members of the media for a trial period, but there was no mover for it.

"I would like to move that we accept tape recorders by anybody," Joubert then suggested.

"No way," Romanuk said in return. Joubert's motion was then put to a vote, and it was defeated by a 3-2 vote.

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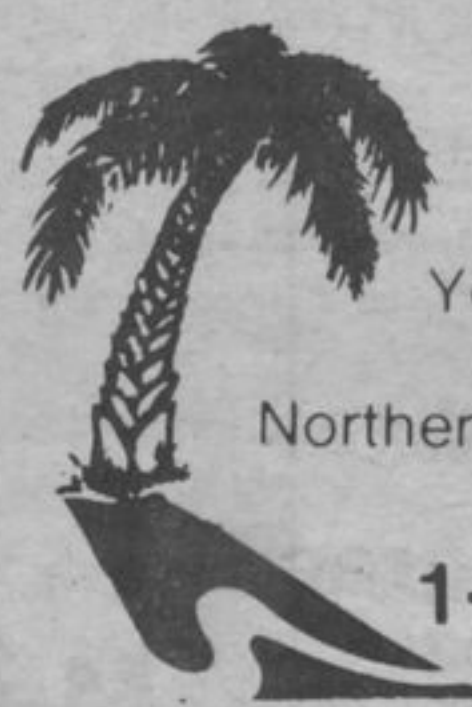
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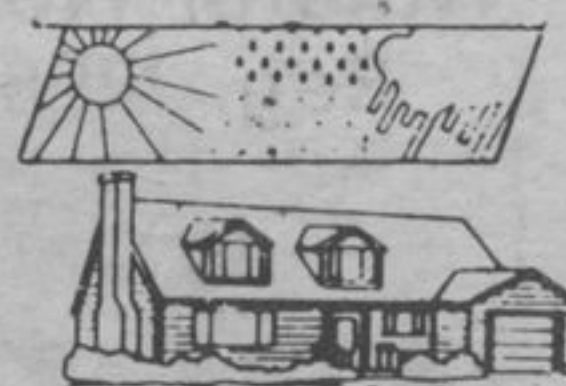
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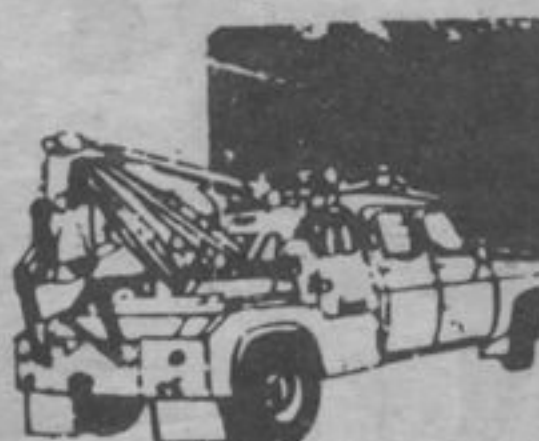
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