

# The Stouffville Tribune

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## Municipalities May Get Some County Tax Relief

In common with the other York County municipalities, Markham township council Monday received word from county clerk J.L. Smith that the county is not in a position to notify the municipalities yet as to the size of the county levy to be imposed for 1954.

In his letter of explanation tabled with Markham, Mr. Smith stated "We regret it is not possible yet to notify the municipalities of the size of the county levy to be imposed for 1954."

In accord with section 221 (2) of Bill 80 the Municipal Board is empowered to direct the Metropolitan Corporation to pay to York county in a lump sum, or in its discretion over a period of years from January 1, 1954 on a progressively reduced basis, an amount deemed to be just and equitable to relieve the county from any undue burden caused by the separation from the county of the 12 suburban municipalities.

An estimated budget for 1954 has been passed by County council which clearly shows that such undue burden has been placed upon the county, and application is being made to the Municipal Board for a ruling under section 221 as stated above.

It is possible that the Municipal Board will not give its final decision until May or June next and until such decision is received, the necessary by-law cannot be passed by County Council.

It is appreciated that the delay could cause hardships to those municipalities who set their levy during the early part of the year but no doubt it would be possible for a municipality to estimate the county taxes if necessary, bearing in mind that it must be in excess of the 1953 levy.

Referring to the matter of this year's increased county levy Reeve A. LeMasurier who with Deputy Reeve W. Clark are Markham's two representatives on the county council, remarked that in the case of Markham its levy may reach the \$100,000 figure for 1954. This is a sizeable jump over last year's \$27,000 levy.

In return for this sum Markham receives the use of only one county road (4th concession) and two townlines, plus the Magistrates' Court, the Home for the Aged and Children's Aid Society.

There already have been rumblings by some municipalities regarding possible secession from the county.

## ELMER DANIELS TO RECREATIONAL ASSOC.

At the second regular meeting of the Stouffville and District Recreational Association on Wednesday night, Elmer Daniels was elected to represent the Stouffville Council as a governor on the Board. Each organization will make one appointment on the finance committee and two on the Summer Recreation Committee. These appointments will be completed within two weeks.

## Mrs. John Morgason Dies in 75th Year

On Sunday, March 7th Mrs. John Morgason passed away in a Toronto Hospital where she had been confined for the past thirteen years. Born on the 3rd concession of Uxbridge the deceased moved with her husband to Stouffville in 1917. She was in her 75th year.

Besides her husband, the late Mrs. Morgason is survived by two brothers John Elson of Uxbridge, Albert Elson of Toronto and two sisters Mrs. N. Summers of Toronto and Mrs. Robt. Davis of Pine Grove.

Funeral service was held on Wednesday afternoon at the L.E. O'Neill funeral parlors conducted by Rev. F.G. Huson of the Stouffville United Missionary Church with interment in the Stouffville Cemetery. The pallbearers were Walter Percy and Edgar Hardy, John Elson, Harold Elson and Walter Pearson.

Grade 11 of the Stouffville High School made their annual trip to the Ontario Museum in Toronto on Tuesday under the guidance of Mr. Jerry Walte, history teacher.

## U.N. CHIEF RECEIVES L.L.D.



On a brief visit to Ottawa, Dag Hammarskjold, U.N. secretary-general is shown signing the register at Carleton College, where he became the first person ever to receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. Dr. M.M. MacOdrum, president of the 12-

year old university looks on. The U.N. chief, warned the western world not to try to speed up too much the transformation of under developed countries but to "respect the laws of natural growth," guiding and helping to achieve a gradual improvement.

## Resume School Construction Shortly

Within the next week the Stouffville High School Area Board will give approval to a new contract for the completion of the local High School building. Operations ceased a month ago when the contractor Wm. Rich Construction Co. was unable to continue because of financial difficulties.

The building was heavily bonded and there will be no additional cost to the municipalities involved due to the change in contractors.

Extensive repairs are being made to the southeast wing of the public school building as it was found to be breaking up badly due to moisture getting into the walls. The job now appears more serious than it was first believed and the job is expected to run into several thousand dollars.

## Sight Wolves In Whitchurch

Two large brush wolves were sighted on the Bethesda sideroad east on Sunday night by Rae Atkinson and David Paisley. The two Whitchurch boys sighted the animals again on Monday morning on the Geo. Yake's place, 6th concession. They attempted to follow the wolves but lost track of them in the direction of the Fred Timbers farm.

Almost annually a wolf or wolves are sighted in this vicinity and this is the first report we have received of any being seen so far this year.

## Committee on Wards Will Hear All Views

When he was challenged that he had not sent out proper invitations to a recent meeting of the committee on the Ward system in Markham Twp chairman Lennie stated that the committee was prepared to listen to anyone or any organization any time they wished to make an appointment. As far as invitations, councillor Lennie stated that no one was invited to the most recent meeting although the joint executive spokesmen for the various ratepayers' associations was present since he had requested to be heard.

The matter arose when C. Evans of the Langstaff Ratepayers' Association complained that his association had not received an invitation to the meeting of the ward committee.

Reeve LeMasurier told the delegation that they need have no fear that their views would be neglected. "I will personally see that views are heard from all parts of the township before I sign any Ward system plan," stated the Reeve.

The official opening of the new municipal building has been tentatively set for Saturday, May 1st.

An application was received from the Imperial Oil for permission to erect a service station on No. 7 highway just east of the 4th con. on the Arnold sub-division. Council agreed to approve when the Arnold plan is registered and subject to the approval of the Department of Highways.

After considerable discussion council agreed to the purchase this fall, providing there were sufficient funds left in the road budget, of a steam machine for thawing out culverts. Prices on the machines were, for coal \$1,540 and for oil \$1,200. Chief proponents for the purchase were councillor James and Engineer Howard who complained that something should be done to prevent ratepayers' cellars from being flooded in the Yonge St. area. Beamish Construction Co. had rented a machine to the township at \$6.75 an hour for a few days recently.

Deputy-reeve Clark questioned the wisdom of the expenditure for a machine used such a brief time each year as against renting but finally agreed to the purchase in the fall if money was available.

Mrs. G. Sisco of Toronto moved into the McNabb apartments on Wednesday of this week.

An organization meeting of the Stouffville Shamrock Softball Club will be held in the Municipal Hall on Monday night at 9 p.m. All members of the executive and players are requested to attend.

## Richvale School in Trouble Erected New Addition Without Proper Approval

The Public School Board of the Richvale School, Markham Township may have made a serious financial blunder it was revealed at the regular meeting of Markham Township Council on Monday evening. A communication from the Ontario Municipal Board draws attention to the fact that a \$25,000 capital expenditure for new rooms was made in 1953 on this school without the sanction of the Board. Markham Township appears quite innocent of the matter since no request for this expenditure ever came before council. Reeve LeMasurier stated that he was aware that new building was taking place at the school and from conversation with the contractor believes that the expenditure was closer to \$40,000.

"What I'd like to know is where did the money come from?" said Reeve LeMasurier. "If they paid this big expenditure out of current revenues, their budget for this year will have to be altered and they will have to deplete this debt, providing this council is willing," continued the Reeve. It was said that the 1953 maintenance levy was quite large but only about a quarter of the amount had been used for this purpose and the balance expended for the new rooms.

"I believe the plumbing in the school was condemned by the Health Unit and they have had to rush into this expenditure," suggested councillor Lennie.

Council agreed that the matter was serious, since if Markham refused to sanction the expenditure, the Richvale Board would have to go to the people with a vote.

All agreed that Clerk Hoover should request the chairman of the Richvale Board to appear before council to explain the expenditure and give a detailed statement of what was done with the 1953 levy.

A Sunrise Easter Service is being planned again this year for the Stouffville United Missionary Church. The special speaker on April 18th will be Dr. J.A. Huffman of Winona Lake.

Patrons of the Stanley Theatre will please note that the last complete showing of "Tobacco Road" and "Grapes of Wrath" will begin at 8:30 on Wednesday and Thursday nights, March 10 and 11. Watch the regular weekly advertisement for changes in program.

## Fifth Game To-Night (Wed.)

The fifth game in the current Senior "B" hockey playoffs between the Stouffville Clippers and Ravina Flyers will be played here to-night (Wed.) at 8:30 with the sixth game back in Toronto on Saturday night.

## Hold Up Plan for Home Development at Brougham

At a special meeting called on Monday night, Pickering Twp. Council decided to hold over any decision with regard to the opening up of new subdivisions in the municipality. The Planning Board had requested direction from council concerning such matters. One of the largest requests was for the erection of 31 new homes on the property owned by John White of Brougham. Each proposed new home would cost not less than \$10,000. Other requests came from Kinsale, Greenwood and Brougham should be allowed to develop.

Dep. Reeve Roberts pointed out that the cost of school building was nothing short of appalling. "Every new subdivision makes it tougher for the farmer," said Dr. Roberts, "soon he will be forced to move out of such communities."

Councillor Lawson maintained that it was possible for the Planning Board and Council to arrive at a compromise concerning subdivision development. "Give an inch and you'll give a mile," exclaimed Dep. Reeve Roberts, "the Planning Board should not show favoritism and okay one subdivision and refuse another."

"The Planning Board is an impartial and non-political body," countered councillor Lawson, "I have no fear of favoritism." Clerk Lloyd Johnson pointed out that the majority of schools throughout the municipality were crowded with the exception of the 7th concession and Clarendon. Mr. Johnson stated however that if the homes were constructed to a certain size the development should be able to carry itself.

## Chamber of Commerce Cites Accomplishments

Stouffville Chamber of Commerce will hold its regular meeting in the municipal hall this Thursday evening to discuss further plans which will benefit business in Stouffville and the community in general, and every businessman along the street should make an effort to be present.

The publicity committee of the local organization has placed in our hands a resume of recent accomplishments of the Chamber of Commerce which appears quite an impressive list.

One of the finest pieces of organization work has been the annual Trade Fair which has proved so popular and which was fostered and promoted by the Chamber of Commerce. The Santa Claus Parade was another promotion effort. Through presentation to council a couple of years ago, Main St. lighting was improved and only last year handsome street signs were erected as well as name signs at either end of town.

Recently some space was cleared at the rear of the northside block of stores to give businessmen and customers additional parking space. Added garbage collection was instituted and this spring the Chamber of Commerce will finance "Elmer, the Safety Elephant" for the children of the public school.

## Jets Edge Weston in Jr. Hockey Race

The Unionville Jets scored a 6-5 victory over Weston Dukes on Tuesday night to bounce back into the playoff running. Weston have two wins and a tie while the Jets have one victory and a tie.

The visitors ran into a flood of penalties early in the game which allowed the Jets to jump into the lead while playing with a one and two man advantage. The contest was handled by referees Jim Crombie and Maurice Walsh. The officiating was the best we have seen this season.

Reg Meserve, star defence performer with the Jets notched two goals for the winners with Doug Gray, Norm Tyndall, Harold Hodgson and John Darbyson netting the others. Gil McNeil looked best for the Dukes.

## Expect Decision This Week in Pickering Hearing

Whitby, March 5 — County Judge John Pritchard today reserved judgment after hearing six days of evidence into alleged irregularities in last December's Pickering Township election.

J. D. Brower, counsel for Gerald Allman, relator in the enquiry, stated his client is not relying on any particular breach but rather on the whole pattern.

"There is," he said, "no definite proof of dishonesty but the relator is accusing the chief returning officer of gross carelessness and inefficiency. The neglect of the chief returning officer commenced with the preparation of the voters' list and culminated with the burning of the complete contents of the ballot boxes one day early."

Many of the deputy returning officers and poll clerks were equally incompetent, Mr. Brower claimed. He said this could be explained by the fact that the chief returning officer did not instruct them in their duties.

Counsel referred to the fact that Gordon McLean, county assessor, had said the assessment rolls of Pickering Township had omissions of transfer which could be counted not in the hundreds but in the thousands.

Col. Stephen Stephenson, intervenor in the case, told His Honor that the by-law authorizing the holding of the election had been passed one day late but he was accepting it as valid due to the fact that the day previous to the passage of the by-law was a Sunday. He admitted there was no evidence of improper instruction to voters and also that there was no evidence of incorrect entries in the poll books.

"Has anything been done which would possibly affect the results of this election?" This was one of the questions posed by A.W.S. Greer of Oshawa, representing Geo. Todd. During the forenoon John K. Brower, who had represented the case for Allman, argued his case, charging the chief returning officer with "gross carelessness and inefficiency." He was followed by Col. Stephenson, who first of all admitted some of the notices had not (continued on Clarendon page)

## Hearing on Annexation Set For March 24th

The date for the hearing before the Ontario Municipal Board in connection with the annexation of approximately fifty acres of the Win Timbers farm by the Village of Stouffville, has been set for Wednesday, March 24th at the hour of 10 a.m.

The east half of this section of land at the 9th con. of Whitchurch Twp. has been subdivided by Mr. Timbers. Several houses are erected there and more will be going up there this year.

The actual boundaries of the land which it is planned to be annexed are laid down in a legal notice which appears in this week's issue of The Tribune.

## SALE OF THREE HOMES RECORDED

Mr. Murray Sinclair, local real estate agent reports the sale of three homes this week and states that there is a definite lack of homes to fill an ever-increasing supply of clients.

The home of Gar Brown, local municipal clerk on Edward St. has been sold to Dr. J. Stevens, veterinarian. The David Minnie house in Gormley has been purchased by Mr. McIntosh of Toronto and John Baderow of Clarendon has sold his home to Mrs. Valentino of the same village.

## HENRY DYCK AUCTION NEXT WEDNESDAY

An auction sale of Holstein cattle, pigs and implements will be conducted on Wed., March 17, the property belonging to Henry Dyck, lot 34, con. 10, a quarter mile south of Stouffville. Among the offerings will be a 1953 Ford tractor.

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