

Ontario Municipal Board Reserves Decision on Stouffville Annexation

Would be Effective in January 1963

The Ontario Municipal Board has reserved its decision in an application by the Village of Stouffville to annex a total of 1,472 acres from the Townships of Markham and Whitchurch, Chairman, A. L. McCrae and his associate, H. E. Roberts presided at a 5-hour hearing in the Council Chambers, Stouffville, on Thursday. The Board's decision, to be presented in writing to the three municipalities concerned, will not be effective until January, 1963.

Four individuals spoke in opposition to the annexation bid: Mrs. Percy McKay and W. D. Atkinson, both land-owners in Whitchurch, and Messrs. McIntosh and Fenson, representatives in Granger Street Holdings Ltd., Markham Twp. The Township of Whitchurch was represented by solicitor, Joseph Vale of Newmarket. Solicitor, J. D. Lucas acted in the interests of Stouffville. Reeve Wilfred Dean and councillor Chas. Hoover were present from Markham Twp. but filed no opposition.

Expect 7,500 People

Metro Planning Commissioner, Murray Jones, in a lengthy summary of developments related to Stouffville's request for annexation, stated that the town's anticipated population by 1980 was 7,500 people. He suggested that, in the interests of good planning, the village should be surrounded by a border of agricultural land. "It is a developing village within a rural setting, the quality of which, I will say, is very high," he noted. He said that there was a desire to attain controlled growth at an estimated rate of 225 persons per year.

Stouffville is seeking 909 acres of land from Whitchurch and 548 acres from Markham. He informed the Board that the areas to be annexed would not pay anything toward the sewer services unless they would gain a direct benefit. He estimated the capital expenditures to be assumed by the village over the next twenty years to be about \$1,414,000. "The present economic situation of the village is very healthy," he said. Solicitor Vale argued that Mr. Jones' capital works' estimate over a 20 year period was extremely low.

"The present standard is now high," replied Mr. Jones. "They do not intend to gold-plate the curbs. The evidence acquired on an annexation proposal is the most complete I have ever seen," he said.

Estimate Ridiculous

"I have been a resident in the area for more than fifty years and I feel that the cost of services estimate over twenty years as provided by Mr. Jones is nothing short of ridiculous," stated Clifford Walkwork, Reeve of Whitchurch. He estimated the total at about \$3,000,000. He argued that in schools alone, the costs would be extensive to cope with a population of over 7,000. "One million dollars does not go very far in schooling today," he said. He noted further, that with an increase in area and population, many different types of services would also have to be expanded.

Thomas Kerr, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer and Secretary of the Whitchurch Planning Board, said that five properties were located in lot 3, a portion of the area within the Stouffville annexation plan. The owners, Messrs. McKay, Green, Bartholomew, Atkinson and Forsyth represented between 350

and 400 acres. The opposition filed by Whitchurch was concerned only with the strip of land contained within lot 3. No formal Council motion to this effect was submitted to the Board.

Stouffville Engineer, Murray Barrington and Clerk-Treasurer Ralph Corner spoke on behalf of the village. Mr. Barrington said that the sewage treatment plant would be enlarged to handle a population of 7,500. He considered that the town's water supply was adequate.

Fear Tax Increase

Mrs. Percy McKay, the owner of a 51 acre hog-feeding farm west of conc. 9, said that she feared a tax increase would occur with the annexation to Stouffville. "I'm afraid the same thing will happen here as in Scarborough," The McKay's moved to their present property in 1953. "I speak from three different angles," said Walter Atkinson, "as a Stouffville taxpayer, as property-owner in the annexation area and as a member of the Stouffville P.U.C. I object to the amount of land in the annexation plan," he said. "I feel that the town requires land but the proposal is too large." He contended that it would be economically impossible for the Stouffville Public Utilities Commission to provide hydrant services in an agricultural area. "Those who pay taxes into the village of Stouffville should be afforded the same services," he said. Mr. Atkinson owns about 78 acres of land, portions of which are in lot 3. A town water service is piped to the Atkinson sales barn but the owner was required to pay for this privilege. "I wasn't on the P.U.C. then, either," he said. Mr. Lucas replied that there was never any intention to install hydrants on land used for farming.

Messrs. E. S. McIntosh and Ronald Fenson charged that a fifty acre parcel of their land had been "excluded-and-would be 'land-locked' if the annexation boundary were not extended south-west of concession 9 in Markham Twp. They elected to stand opposed to annexation unless their entire 100 acre holdings could be included.

Good Neighbour Policy

Solicitor Vale contended that to include lot 3 in the Twp. of Whitchurch was "being too much of a good neighbour," and would go beyond the requirements of Stouffville. Solicitor Lucas pointed out that Stouffville was interested in the prevention of indiscriminate development in the fringe areas. "One shouldn't wait until things are there before they are stopped," he said. "In my experience, I have never seen an application for an annexation where so much thought has been given to the subject," he continued. "Councils and Planning Boards change from year to year and no municipality can depend continually on the goodwill of its neighbours."

O. M. B. Chairman, A. L. McCrae, in reference to the ten acre holdings of the Roman Catholic Diocese, suggested that since the site was in a proposed industrial zone, it would be better re-located. Mr. R. C. White, representing the church, said that he was not opposed to the annexation of land but was concerned over the suggested zoning regulations. "It is not our policy to oppose progress," he said. "I am merely appearing out of courtesy."

Whitchurch Will Have Liquor Vote Only on Petition of Ratepayers

The controversial liquor question that aroused considerable discussion within the Township of Whitchurch during 1961 has been re-introduced before Council again in 1962. At a regular meeting on Tuesday afternoon, a 3-party delegation including Messrs. Grant McCachen (Ridge Inn); Keith Nesbitt (Westview Golf Course) and Stuart Patrick (Glendale) appeared to ask the Council's consideration in holding a vote to establish dining and lounge liquor sales.

The majority members of Council refused to alter their stand of last year and agreed that they should receive a petition containing 25 per cent of the eligible voters before they would give the matter any further consideration. Councillor Ross Farquharson was the lone dissenter. He favoured a vote without a petition.

Mr. McCachen, of Ridge Inn, Oak Ridge, suggested that un-

less he was able to obtain some other source of revenue, he would be forced to close his place of business. Keith Nesbitt stated that he could possibly obtain a liquor license for his golf course to serve members only, but he favoured a permit to serve all customers. He said that at the present time, visitors brought their own liquor supplies and neither the club nor the township gained any revenue from this practice.

Councillor, Mrs. Elsie Gibb said she had no objection to the holding of a vote but contended that a petition should be presented, stating exactly what was desired. Dep-Reeve, Frank Williams said he was quite content to let the matter stand but would not oppose a vote on the issue.

You usually are sitting pretty when you are in good standing.

Brigade is Called to 17 Fires in 4 Days

Stouffville firemen, aided by brigades from Mt. Albert and Aurora, battled a 10 acre fire in a government reforestation area on conc. 7, Whitchurch on Tuesday afternoon, to mark the seventeenth call answered by the local unit in a four-day period.

To date this year, local firemen have been called out 42 times. During 1961, they answered 50 calls and that was an all-time record.

"We're fed up," said Chief Walter Smith, in conversation with The Tribune. The rash of outbreaks started on Friday with 4. On Saturday, there were 7. Monday's total dropped off to 2 but shot up again on Tuesday to 4. Only for a mid-afternoon shower on Sunday, and the total would have been even higher. It's the same story at Claremont, Pickering, Markham, Unionville, Uxbridge and other district fire stations. "It's going to cost some of these townships a fortune," noted Chief Smith.

Stouffville's travel-weary firemen have been so busy that some have found it almost impossible to tend to their own businesses. Every blaze has been a grass fire and the majority have been started through carelessness. The cause of the Whitchurch reforestation fire on Tuesday is not known. The brigades were aided by the Dept. of Lands and Forests at Maple who rushed reserve water supplies in by truck.

Verbal Battle Over Road Supt. Salary

The wage scale of employees within the municipal staff of the Twp. of Pickering that had previously created some council controversy, flared up anew at a special meeting on Monday night at Brougham. Under the threat of a resignation, the council granted Road Superintendent, Jack Chapman a salary increase to \$6,200. Reeve Sherman Scott cast the deciding vote in favour of the new wage figure after the other members became deadlocked on the issue.

Deputy-Reeve, Mrs. Jean McPherson who led the verbal opposition to the suggested increase, charged that the Road Superintendent had already been given a \$250 salary hike and any additional money would require a break in the maximum wage scale. "We set a policy, breathe twice and break it," she said. "It's a case of the employees squeezing the Council like a handful of putty."

"One increase for an employee should be sufficient," agreed councillor Harvey Spang. "I don't get paid for every move I make." Councillor Spang said he had no fault to find with the work Mr. Chapman was doing. "These salaries come directly from the taxpayer's pocket and we must realize who is paying for them."

Wrong Approach Councillor Spang charged that any employee was taking the wrong approach in asking for a salary increase under the threat of resignation. "They want more money or they will quit," he said. "The sooner this attitude is changed, the better it will be for everyone."

"We are acting like school children," remarked Deputy-Reeve, McPherson. "If you won't give me your marbles, I won't give you mine." She stated that as far as she was concerned, there was nothing personal involved.

When an employee threatens to resign, we have no other alternative but to accept the decision that the employee has made," she concluded. "I don't think that the council should approve of the increase in wages when it is presented in this manner," observed councillor W. J. Greening.

Short-Sighted Councillor Ross Deakin contended that the Road Superintendent was worth more money to the township. "If he should resign, I feel it will cost us a lot more to replace him," he said. "We shouldn't take a short-sighted attitude in this matter."

Councillor Milton Mowbray suggested that there was no assurance that the Road Superintendent would re-consider his resignation even at the \$6,200 figure. Councillor Mowbray agreed that to many taxpayers, the wages of municipal employees would appear high. "The taxpayers expect services and this is simply part of the cost involved," he said. He contended that

Lines Drawn For Big Election Battle

The long-awaited date has been set for the next federal election, June 18th, and all candidates have been named in the local riding of North York. It is estimated that there will be approximately 50,000 eligible voters in this riding to be contested by all three major parties.

Sitting member C.A. Cathers is seeking re-election and opposing him will be John Addison for the Liberals and Stanley Hall for the New Democrats. For many years in the past, North York stood as a Liberal stronghold, but more recently, the Conservatives, with their majority throughout the country, have held sway in North York as well.

Being a major riding, it is expected that some of the "big guns" from each party will make appearances here before the campaign is over. John Addison, the Liberal standard bearer has been the first to campaign actively and through weekly paid announcements in the weekly press, has been placing his program before the people. Undoubtedly Mr. Cathers and Mr. Hall will be following suit in the near future.

Mr. Warren Bailie has been named Returning Officer for the riding and his office is located at Concord.

Local Skater at Gardens Revue

Miss Karen Lewis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lewis of Stouffville, will be appearing this week in the Rotary Ice Revue at Maple Leaf Gardens. She was one of twenty-four girls chosen for the two modern numbers who are the "Ice Cubettes" of the Revue.

Karen, who is a former member of the Stouffville Skating Club, is this year's holder of the Senior Ladies Trophy and with her partner Anna Sheddlowich, the Senior Ladies Dance Trophy, at her home club in Newmarket. She also skates at the Upper Canada Club and Unionville Club under Mr. Bruce Hyland, her teacher.

The township wage scale would have to be sufficiently lucrative in order to attract and keep efficient personnel. He suggested that there was nothing wrong with an employee attempting to better his financial position. Councillor Hubert Wank said that if Mr. Chapman was not willing to accept the finalized figure of \$6,200, the Council would have no other choice but to look elsewhere for a person to fill the post.

Expectant Mother, One Child Die in Tragic Uxbridge House Fire

A tragic Uxbridge Township house fire on Thursday afternoon of last week, took the life of an expectant mother and her two year old son. Mrs. Alice Seelye, conc. 7, Uxbridge died in the inferno that levelled the family's two-story frame home on a market-garden farm, two miles north of Uxbridge town. A son, Wallace succumbed later in the Sick Childrens Hospital, Toronto. A daughter, Donna, 4 was also burned but on last report, was progressing favourably.

It is believed that Mrs. Seelye attempted to rescue her two children from an upstairs bedroom and was overcome by smoke. Her husband, George, entered the blazing structure and was able to save his son and daughter but was driven out before he could rescue his wife. Uxbridge firemen, Jim Martin and Harvey Acton later freed Mrs. Seelye but she was already dead from asphyxiation. It marked the first fatal fire on the records of the Uxbridge brigade since 1912. An official from the Fire Marshall's Department, Toronto, visited the scene on Friday.

First on the scene Swift action by two students

and an Instructor from St. John's Training School, Uxbridge, has been credited with assisting in the rescue of the 4 year old girl. Sixteen year old James Swire, fifteen year old Fred Corey and Instructor, Glenn Fitzgerald noticed the flames and raced across-country to help. Mr. Seelye handed the little girl out of the bedroom window to Jim Swire and he, in turn, handed her to Mr. Fitzgerald. He rendered mouth-to-mouth respiration and rushed her to the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital. The alarm was turned in from the school. The house was a mass of flames when the brigade arrived and only through the heroic efforts of firemen, Martin and Acton were they able to retrieve Mrs. Seelye's body before the upstairs story fell into the basement. Mr. Seelye suffered slight burns but was released from the Uxbridge hospital following treatment.

Before the embers of the tragedy had cooled out, friends and neighbours had furnished a vacant house on the Seelye farm for the surviving members of the family. Mr. Geo. Seelye's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Seelye had also resided in the burned out home.

Costly Fire Burns Over 200 Acres of Reforested Land

Two separate fires burned over 200 acres of valuable private reforestation area in the Glen Major district of Uxbridge Township during the weekend. Claremont firemen, aided by private citizens, battled the flames for two hours on Friday and for two hours again on Saturday.

Boy Scouts from Scarborough have been blamed for the first outbreak that covered about 100 acres, most of which was located on the Jim Walker premises. The second blaze in the same area of conc. 6, Uxbridge consumed about 125 acres.

Supported by 2,500 gallons of water in the Claremont engine, their tank truck and in portable containers, the fireman spanned an area extending for a whole concession. They had difficulty in getting their heavy equipment into the wooded sec-

tions and most of the work had to be done on foot. Brooms and water-soaked bags were used to smother the ground fires. Damage is expected to run into many thousands of dollars.

LIFE SAVED BY CAR BELT

Markham Twp. Police Const. Evan Kelley has credited the use of front seat safety belts with the saving of a lady driver's life in an accident on 16th Avenue near conc. 10 on Friday morning. Margaret Elste, 21, lot 16, conc. 5, Markham was forced off the road by an unknown motorist and her small Volkswagen car turned over in the ditch.

"She would likely have been crushed," said Constable Kelley. Instead she suffered only minor injuries. The auto was badly damaged.

Early Mermaids



When the mercury soared into the mid-sixties over the holiday weekend, four Stouffville girls ventured onto the sun-soaked sands of Cedar Beach, Musselman's Lake, in

an effort to hasten the summer swimming season. Pictured here (left to right) — Anna-May Sanders, 15, Heather Heaton, 15, Pat Toole, 15 and Frances Farr, 14 relax on

dry land. Although the ice had completely disappeared from the lake, the earliest on record, the girls did not enjoy a "cool" dip in the water. —Staff Photo



Twisted Wreckage

The warped interior of this small foreign car tells the story of an accident in Goodwood on Saturday night that took the lives of a young Rexdale married couple. Phyllis Anne Teel, 22, died almost instantly and her husband, 23

year old John Perry Teel succumbed while en route to hospital. Both front seats were torn from the vehicle, and wreckage was strewn over a wide area. Additional pictures on page 8. —Staff Photo

Two-Car Crash at Goodwood Takes Lives Of Husband and Wife

The worst highway accident in the history of Goodwood hamlet snuffed out the lives of a young Rexdale married couple, Saturday night and scattered the wreckage of their small foreign car over a wide area. Killed almost instantly was Phyllis Anne Teel, 22. Her husband, John Perry Teel, 23, died en route to hospital. James Frederick Bartley of Sutton has been charged with dangerous driving.

The victims were eastbound on No. 47 Highway. They had planned to visit with family relatives in the Woodville area over the Easter weekend. Their auto "rammed into" the side of a southbound vehicle that emerged from the conc. 3 sideroad. None of this car's occupants were seriously injured.

One eye-witness to the collision said that the smaller auto literally "exploded" on impact. The rear-engine import was tossed about 75 feet to the south and both front seats were cleared completely out of the car. The driver was thrown onto the road and his wife was pulled from the wreckage minutes later. Doctor Donald Smith of Stouffville rendered first aid at the scene. The coroner was Dr. T. E. Lennox of Uxbridge.

FEATURE TRACTOR DEMONSTRATION ON ATHA FARM

The Atha farm of Norman Lehman, lot 29, conc. 7, will be the scene of a mammoth tractor-plow demonstration on Friday from 1 to 4 p.m.

The display of equipment under actual every-day working conditions is being promoted by local Ford agent, Fred Lewis of Altona Feed and Supplies.

Tractors and plows of two, three and four furrows will be featured in both gasoline and diesel models. There will be free refreshments and lucky draws.

Brougham April Fire Calls Exceed all '61

Fire-weary members of the Brougham brigade have answered a total of 29 calls, to date, during the month of April, a possible all-time record. During the entire 12 months of 1961, Brougham firemen were called out only 28 times.

Working on a shift system, the volunteers were summoned to the scenes of twelve fires on the holiday weekend and answered two more on Monday. To the south, Pickering Village had 13 calls on Friday, the majority in Pickering Township. "It's ridiculous," stated Brougham Fire Chief, Ross Knox, in conversation with The Tribune. He said that he had attempted to set up a budget for the unit's 1962 operation, but the recent rash of calls had already taxed it to the limit.

Mr. Knox said that one rather extensive grass fire on the Audley Road had burned around two barns and had come only a short distance from a house and driving shed. Five other calls were to the Valley Farm Road district. "One fire, we never did find," stated the Chief.

FINED \$150 FOR OBSTRUCTION

A charge of obstructing justice, filed by P.C. Douglas Tribbling of Markham Township against Jack Ronald Vernon, 18, of Oshawa resulted in a fine of \$150 and costs in Newmarket Court on Tuesday.

The case history dated back to January when Constable Tribbling discovered a quantity of liquor in a car on 15th Avenue near Victoria Square. The driver provided police with a name that was later proven false. After numerous summons failed to reach the accused, P.C. Tribbling and P.C. Barry McWhirter travelled to Oshawa to conduct a personal search for the youth. He was arrested and charged.

In addition to the \$150 fine, Magistrate Hollinrake also imposed a fine of \$10 and costs for having liquor.