

Excavation business has kept him busy



Bruce Timbers is saying good-bye to his excavation equipment and plans to take things a little easier. He has been in the excavation business for the past 23 years and feels that it is time he had some weekends

By Don Bernard
STOUFFVILLE — Bruce Timbers is "retiring" after 23 years in the excavating business, and tomorrow there is an auction of equipment and furniture at his property on Highway 47.

He has taken a position with the Ministry of Transportation and Communication and is moving to Gormley sometime next month when the deal closes on the sale of his house and 13 acres.

His job with the MTT will be relatively easy compared with the seven-day-a-week activity required to keep his excavation business going.

It was that more than anything else that prompted Mr. Timbers to retire. He is looking forward to having weekends free.

"I never had weekends off before," he said.

If he wasn't working, Mr. Timbers was busy pricing jobs. He found that was in such demand that he could never take

time off. In the winter, when excavating was slower, he worked for the MTT driving a snowplow. This year he applied and was hired fulltime.

Mr. Timbers is the son of Win Timbers and grew up on the Timbers farm in Stouffville's west end. In 1952 when he married Joyce Cooper, Bruce Timbers started in the excavating business.

"I've known that I wanted to go into excavating since I was in public school," he said.

He started out with a D-2 Cat loader, without having any formal training in handling excavating equipment.

"I learned everything the hard way," he said.

In 1959, he and his wife Joyce moved to the house they built on Highway 47. In the early days, Mr. Timbers used to do all the ditching for the Public Utilities Commission. That was before the town had its own equipment.

Presently his work includes grading, basements, and pond work. Pond work has become very important in

recent years with them becoming more fashionable.

A pond is dug with a machine using a drag line. It scoops the earth out with a large shovel on the end. After that the banks of the pond are built up and the sides graded. A normal size pond takes between two and three months to excavate.

In the mid-50's, watermain work for the PUC was a large part of his business, but now ponds and grading are the main work.

Mr. Timbers, wife Joyce died of Cancer in 1972 and his one son, Don, 19 works part-time with his father. Don is a student at Stouffville Dist. Secondary School.

His daughter, Linda, aged 22, lives in Fredrickton, New Brunswick as a graphic artist in advertising.

The auction begins at 10:30 with the machinery and tools, which including full line of shop tools, three farm tractors, a van, backhoe, bulldozer and drag line. Furniture sale starts at 1 p.m.

Street names disputed

BLOOMINGTON — Some dispute has developed over the naming of the streets in the new Bloomington subdivision being built by William Popovich.

Mr. Popovich had written council requesting they name the north-south and east-west streets in the subdivision.

Council selected Barnes Place and Paisley

Gate in honor of the family names of long time area residents.

Mr. Popovich then changed his mind and decided he wanted the names Castle Gate and Knights Place and as he explained in a letter to council, "The reasons being that it's a Checkmate Acres Ltd. development and why not have the continuity of names related to characters on a chess board. Furthermore, we plan to have four dif-

ferent models of houses with a couple of variations of each that would take on names like Kings' Court, Pawns Paradise etc."

Councillor Cathy Joyce agreed with the proposed changes commenting, "They are not particularly appealing street names."

"Why not? What's the matter with them," demanded Councillor Merlyn Baker who had originally suggested the names.

free. He has taken a fulltime position with the Ministry of Transportation and Communications. An auction of equipment and furniture is March 28.

By Don Bernard

Department heads' raises are trimmed

YORK REGION — Proposed raises for York Region's department heads have been cut by an average of \$2,800 by regional council.

The proposed raises were set at 12 per cent retroactive to January 1 for the Chief Administrative Officer and were higher for the other executives.

A further recommendation for a six per cent increase as of July 1 was deleted from the report.

Mayor Evelyn Buck of Aurora who had called for a freeze on heads of department salaries was the only member of council who voted against the revised raises which were hammered out in a three and a half hour closed session last week.

Mayor Britnell, Mayor of King, another proponent of a wage freeze changed her mind and voted in favor of the raises. Mrs. Britnell commented after the meeting she still did not agree with the raises but she had agreed to "support the consensus of council."

No formula or percentage was used to arrive at the raises.

Chief Administrative Officer, Jack Reltie will now receive \$42,500. He received \$40,500 last year and the department heads had recommended he get \$45,360 this year. A \$2,000 raise was

given to Dr. Owen Slingerland, Commissioner of Health and Social Services, who made \$36,825 last year. It had been recommended he receive \$42,000 for 1975 but he will now be paid \$38,825.

Regional Solicitor, Edward Oakes received the same raise bringing his salary up to \$36,200. It was slashed \$2,800 from the \$39,000 recommended.

The proposed raise for Murray Pound, Commissioner of planning, was cut from \$33,573 to \$32,975.

Regional Treasurer John Hyllinski had \$4,725

cut from his proposed salary of \$34,000. He will now be paid \$29,250, up from \$27,250 in 1974.

The biggest increase was awarded to Bob Hodgson, Commissioner of Engineering although his proposed salary of \$34,000 was chopped to \$31,000 he is still up \$7,000 over last year.

The lowest paid department head is Regional Clerk Bob Vernon who with his 1975 wage still makes less than any of the other executives did last year. He now receives \$26,000 compared to \$23,435 in 1974.

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For the purposes of garbage removal kindly observe the following:

Definitions

(i) a receptacle, manufactured for the use of the collection of ashes, garbage, household refuse, and trade waste, and shall not have a greater height than 26" and a maximum diameter of more than 18"; it shall also have a water-tight lid and two handles and shall be constructed of materials which have an equivalent durability to No. 28 gauge metal, or

(ii) a non-returnable plastic bag of 2.75 cu. ft. maximum capacity and made from a minimum of 1 1/2 mil. gauge material capable of carrying 50 lbs. of contents without tearing.

"household refuse" means and includes rubbish, discarded materials, clothing, waste paper, broken crockery and glassware, bottles, cans, grass cuttings, garden refuse and such other articles as would normally accumulate at a dwelling or housing unit, but shall not include heavy or bulky articles such as stoves, furnaces, bed springs, mattresses, furniture, boxes, barrels, trees and water or fuel tanks or liquid, explosive, volatile or radioactive material.

Every occupant of a dwelling unit or commercial establishment from which refuse is to be collected shall provide and maintain in good repair, and sanitary condition, sufficient containers to hold his refuse adequately.

All garbage shall be drained, wrapped and placed in a container used solely for this purpose.

Where plastic bags are used as containers they shall be securely tied.

Brush, refuse, paper, etc. shall be compacted and securely tied in bundles, not more than 4 feet in length, or placed in containers or disposable cartons, not exceeding 50 lbs. per bundle.

All containers, etc. shall be put out at one location at least one hour prior to the scheduled time of collection, not more than 3 feet from the curb or roadway.

Every household shall cause to be removed all refuse from his premises at least once in every seven days and containers, plastic bags or bundles shall not exceed 50 lbs. each in weight nor a total of six in number, per week.

J. E. Foskett,
Deputy Clerk.

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