

## Trustees vote to limit mill rate increase

YORK — York Region public school trustees will attempt to limit their 1976 mill rate increase to 10 per cent.

In unanimously accepting the recommendation from the finance committee, trustees Monday night voted to ask staff to prepare a preliminary draft budget allowing for a maximum 10 per cent increase in the mill rate.

Monday night's motion was a revamped version of action approved by the finance committee during a meeting here Oct. 30.

During that session, the committee approved a resolution calling for a 10 per cent limit on the overall budget increase.

Following Monday's decision, finance committee chairman Joy Horton explained the change in the motion.

"Fundamentally our concern is what it is going to cost the local taxpayer," she said.

The committee opted to limit the mill rate increase "rather than set the dollar figure and see where the mill rate comes out," Mrs. Horton added.

Monday's motion exempts any cost of community use of school from the 10 per cent guideline.

The move came at the suggestion of education director Sam Chapman.

He described as "unreasonable" any move to cut classroom and administrative areas to provide public use of school facilities.

Trustees were told that net costs of community use of schools amounts to an estimated \$200,000.

"If we don't exclude (community use of schools) we're going to have to cut our costs right away," Mr. Chapman warned.

Under the exemption approved by trustees, staff will immediately trim 1975 spending to provide a surplus going into 1976.

"What that will do to save funds is to reduce our leakage from the 1975 budget," he said.

Monday's motion also called for board staff to report ways of implementing any cuts needed to maintain the 10 per cent guideline and highlight problems arising from the 10 per cent restriction.

The board's move gained support from a delegation of municipal representatives who appeared before trustees earlier in the meeting.

Spokesmen for King, East Gwillimbury, Whitchurch-Stouffville and Markham asked the board to maintain a hold-the-line stance in its 1976 budget.

Mrs. Horton reported similar support in letters from municipal officials in Newmarket, Aurora and Richmond Hill.



Orchard Park students from grades 4 to 7 last week were treated to a demonstration of folk and homemade musical instruments. Ken Whiteley (right), a member of the Original Sloth Jug Band who has performed at Mariposa, spent the day at the school and worked with the students in small groups. He performed on a wide assortment of instruments ranging from an Appalachian dulcimer, to a mandolin, to a washboard. He demonstrated a

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## Tentative agreement on library site deal

STOUFFVILLE — The town has now reached a tentative verbal agreement to purchase property for the proposed new library.

Agreements are being drawn up which will make purchase of the land conditional on Ontario Municipal Board approval of debentures.

The land, commonly known as the Schell property, consists of approximately three and a half acres located north of the newly acquired municipal parking lot, just east of Duffin's Creek.

The Library Board is holding meetings with an architect to rough out what

facilities will be required and come up with a cost estimate.

According to Chairman Jim Sanders, the board is attempting to have this estimate before the end of the year as council cannot apply to the OMB until they have the total estimated cost of both the land and the building.

"We want to make it as functional as possible," commented Mr. Sanders. "With the building costs now we have to consider what every square foot will be used for."

He said the board is "aiming toward" making the new library serviceable until the year 2000 but hastened to add it is not possible to predict exactly.

"It is not a priority to make it a fancy building," he told The Tribune, "but we do wish to make it as attractive as possible, and still keep the cost reasonable."

He said they are hoping for public input as to whether people wish a traditional or a modernistic building.

The board is also looking for fund-raising ideas. They are hoping donations will reduce the amount to be taken out of taxes and also make it possible to install special facilities and purchase additional books and films.

It seems likely some space will be designed into the building to be used for crafts by the recreation committee.

The library board has not yet decided how this will be handled, but Mr. Ratcliff speculated there would be a rental fee to the committee which would reflect the maintenance costs.

There has also been some speculation there might be a day care centre built on the same property but in a completely separate building.

Mr. Larmer had served as vice-president of Taylor Transport Ltd. of Markham before purchasing the Stouffville firm.

## Awards, scholarships at SDS graduation

Stouffville Dist. Secondary School annual commencement.

Nineteen Ontario Scholarships worth \$100 each will be awarded to Carolyn Chase, Susan Christie, Linda Dyson, Susan Eildt, Joseph Gibson, David Harris, Kimberly Hinton, Karen James,

Danuta Kamocki, Eric Knabe, Linda Lafleur, Rosemary Marzlinotto, Randall Melhuish, Shirley Morgason, Margaret Nauta, Colleen Phoenix, Bruce Rodin, Nancy Roper and Thomas Wells.

A total of 50 graduates will receive their Secondary School Honor Graduation Diplomas and 109 students will receive Secondary School Graduation Diplomas.

Commencement is underway at 8 p.m.

MARKHAM — Police were called to settle fights at a football game Saturday between Markham District Secondary School and Newmarket High School.

Police arrived at MDSS about 3:30 p.m. and broke up a fight in which Nicholas Cole, 20, and James Cole, 18, both of Newmarket, before the initial outbreak of fighting.

The senior brother was charged with causing a disturbance by fighting and common assault while James Cole was charged with causing a disturbance.

According to police the two brothers again engaged in a fist fight with some other youths

services and public transit, the report stated.

Chief Administrative Officer Jack Rettie told planning committee that the airport decision would delay work on the region's official plan for another six months. The OP work is already two years behind schedule.

The federal and provincial governments would have paid for some of the road structure to service the airport. The region will likely have to pick up the tab, the mayor told The Tribune.



HARRY BOWES  
easy election win

## Suburban proposals considered

STOUFFVILLE — Planning Board last week heard three alternate proposals for development of a 30 acre parcel of land south of town and to the east of Loretta Crescent and Watson Dr.

Solicitor Don Kimura, of Bernard Aron Associates, the property owners, appeared as a delegation.

The three alternatives were outlined by Gerald Courey, a planner with Marshall Macklin Monaghan Ltd.

The first proposal called for 126 lots, each about 6,000 square feet, and estimating about 500 residents. This scheme assumed full services and an R1 zoning.

A scaled down version of the first plan was envisioned in the second scheme. This plan called for 39 lots, a population of over 150 people, and to be located on 10 acres. The eastern portion of the land would remain rural according to Mr. Courey.

The third plan used a suburban residential classification which has never been used in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

This proposal would utilize one acre lots with septic tanks (See SUBURBAN P. 8)

## Longtime local firm is sold

STOUFFVILLE — William T. Rennie, who owned and operated Rennie Transport Ltd. for 30 years, has retired.

Ron Larmer of Markham has purchased the business. The deal was completed Oct. 1 of this year.

The name of the company will remain the same. Jim Rennie will stay on as dispatcher to co-ordinate the operations of the firms' 17 trucks.

Mr. Larmer had served as vice-president of Taylor Transport Ltd. of Markham before purchasing the Stouffville firm.

## Rezoning granted by planning board

## East end plaza likely to go ahead next year

STOUFFVILLE — Planning Board last week passed a by-law granting Success Building Corporation a C1 (highest density commercial) zoning for the plaza they will build at the corner of Main and Stouffer Streets.

Rezoning the property presented a slight problem as the property and intended uses fit neither C1 or C3 designations.

The solution adopted by

planning board was to allow for the higher zoning but putting restrictions on the more obnoxious uses permitted by C1.

C1 allows two apartments per commercial unit but the by-law specifies only a one to one ratio. Some things allowed in a C3 zoning, such as car sales, taxi or bus stands, parking lot and printing plant are specifically prohibited.

Passing of the by-law

completes the town's work with regard to getting the plaza underway and it will now be forwarded to the Ontario Municipal Board for final approval.

The plaza, which will likely be built next summer, features 17 rental apartments and a maximum of 17 commercial units. The commercial units are designed so the renter can incorporate several of the units if the business requires more than the minimum floor space.

This development, to be called Harding Gate Plaza, will have a maximum of 14 stores, excluding the theatre, in the first phase.

The second phase is ex-

pected to house a chain supermarket.

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