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Road woes

## More funds needed to improve: staff

TRACY KIBBLE  
Staff Reporter

Some local politicians charged the Town works department is not doing a good job in repairing and making roads safe, especially for some rural, gravel roadways, staff heard Tuesday afternoon.

"People are literally sinking into the roads. Every year it's the same thing on Vivian Road and St. John's Side Road. People can't use these roads and can't even drive into their driveways. It's completely out of order (the way repairs are being done)," claimed Ward 1 Councillor Margot Marshall.

But Town Clerk Co-ordinator Pat Oakes said Council has ignored staff's recommendations in the past for more money in road repairs.

"In all fairness, Paul (Whitehouse, Director of Engineering) has brought forward motions to improve the roads but the funds aren't there and Council has not been allocating the money," Mrs. Oakes stated.

"This is not a unique problem. Every municipality, like East Gwillimbury, has this problem," she added.

And Fire Chief Bill Brown said some residents should be reviewing the status and safety of private drives and entrances into their homes as well.

"It's not only Town roads that are a concern. I'm more aware of private accesses. (The fire department) can't put our trucks in some driveways. There might be a multi-million dollar home with beautiful gateposts and we can't

protect them. I can't even turn my truck around in some of them," Chief Brown said.

Mr. Whitehouse said the roads department is sanding and pounding stones into roads that get ground into the surface, as an extra precaution to safety.

"We are making the roads as passable as we can," Mr. Whitehouse maintained.

Mayor Fran Sainsbury agreed the flooding problem on some roadways is not "unique" to Whitchurch-Stouffville and said this year's late winter flooding "is the worst in 11 years."

Council made no motion, but requested the Director of Public Works to prepare a report on the number of temporarily impassable roads due to the recent thaw.

Council voted to review staff recommendations when a report is completed.

### Groups benefit

## Stouffville gives out grants

TRACY KIBBLE  
Staff Reporter

The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville will give more than \$14,000 to various groups and organizations, allotted from its 1990 grant request schedule.

The most money given is for local-based groups and events including the Kinsmen Club Santa Claus Parade, Whitchurch-Stouffville Home Support Services, Lemonville Cemetery

upkeep projects and the York-Durham Speech & Stroke Centre.

Council went through the list, amending amounts here, adding amounts there, and requesting staff contact some groups which did not specify how much was needed.

An amount tentatively to be issued to the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, for \$1,815 was questioned and may be lowered after several council-

ors said the amount was too high for Whitchurch-Stouffville residents' needs.

Mayor Fran Sainsbury also won support in deleting a \$50 grant to Greenpeace Foundation, but Ward 6 Councillor Jim Sanders said the timing was bad.

"This is definitely the wrong time to delete a group geared at conserving the environment," Councillor Sanders said.

And one councillor defended the Salvation Army when Ward 3 Councillor Nick Tatone suggested the St. John's Ambulance Service receive \$100 when the army grant was for \$50.

"The St. John's group saves lives," Councillor Tatone maintained.

"And so does the Salvation Army. Each and every day," retaliated Ward 1 Councillor Margot Marshall.

Both grants were kept at \$50.

Other groups who had previously requested funding, but did not specify how much was needed, will not be paid until the request is received in writing.

The Town will make contributions totalling more than \$14,000 to more than 30 groups as approved in the 1990 budget for grant allowances.

The above amounts do not include a \$40,000 one-time grant to the Stouffville Community Track project currently being developed.

the building department reviewed the site in question "and took into account the time of year" with the problem.

Because there were no other neighbors complaining, staff recommend Northmark Properties Inc. be given until this spring to rectify the problem.

There is presently no bylaw regulating the fill and grading change to a property but the situation is being review by the building department.

### Wrong Real Estate sign

A Family Trust real estate sign incorrectly naming a listed property on Aurora Road as industrial has now changed the sign, at Council's request, to the proper rural zoning, Council was told.

The building department has been in touch with the representative, who adjusted the sign to reflect the current rural zoning of the property.

The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and the Whitchurch-Stouffville Architectural Advisory Committee are joining to form a more solid structure to complete a list of historically significant structures in the community.

After meeting with Mayor Fran Sainsbury, the committee and Town established a criteria for buildings considered historic: aged at least 100 years; historical significance to Town and architectural significance.

It was decided at least two of the three criteria have to be met.

The issue must still come before full Council for final approval.



photo: DAVE BARNETT

### Chamber charmers

Stouffville's Re/Max Imperial Centre was abuzz with activity Tuesday evening when the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce hosted a wine and cheese reception at the new building. Local business people turned out for

the event to socialize and make business contacts. From left are Bev Kennedy, Jean Barclay, Larry Royalski, Helene Johnson, Dr. Bill Corrigan, Chamber President Susan Myers and Main Street merchant Bob Ancheril.

### Fuel tanks being considered for removal by firm

TRACY KIBBLE  
Staff Reporter

Old Petro-Canada gasoline storage tanks will be considered for removal by the company later this year, Council learned last Tuesday evening.

Ward 4 Councillor Wayne Emmerson earlier requested staff write the company regarding the unused tanks he said have been empty for some time.

Located on Edward Street beside the Stouffville Co-Op, the tanks and equipment will be dismantled and removed by Petro-Canada Products (a division of Petro-Canada Inc.) from the Stouffville location later this year, according to a letter from the co-ordinator of equipment and safety.

The property was originally a petroleum storage plant owned by the company, which "hasn't decided what to do with (the property) yet," confirms Petro Wholesale Marketing spokesman Bill Sparling.

And PetroCanada Manager of Public Affairs Bill Simpkins says the storage tanks are no longer in use because the operation consolidated with one in Newmarket.

The petroleum company will let Council know when the tanks will be removed, Petro officials say.

### Council update

## GO apologizes for oversight

Go Transit formally apologized in writing to local Council recently for an "oversight" that failed to inform the Town of additional train service to Toronto.

The provincially-run passenger service explained the "improved service" announced by the Ministry of Transportation became a reality only after long negotiations and because GO was "anxious to bring the extra train into service without further delay," they forgot to mention it to Whitchurch-Stouffville Council.

The additional train, effective Jan. 29, leaves Stouffville at 7:14 a.m. and arrives at Union Station at 8:11 a.m. The earlier train leaves Stouffville at 6:33 a.m. and arrives in Toronto at 7:30

a.m. The new train leaves Union Station at 5:55 p.m. and arrives in Stouffville at about 6:50 p.m.

### Trailer permission

A local resident who wants to erect a mobile trailer on his Conc. 6 property while building a permanent residence has asked Council's permission to use the trailer on a temporary basis.

Town Building Official Bob Bennett told the committee he is willing to enter into a separate agreement with the resident so he can live on his property while building.

### Cash disagreement

Officials of the local Business Improvement Area and Chamber of Commerce say the cash-in-lieu of office street parking spaces is too high, Council heard recently.

But Town Treasurer Ed Blackburn, who held a tri-party meeting with the groups, said neither representatives gave any reason why they thought the price was too high.

Both the BIA and Chamber of Commerce told Mr. Blackburn the 80 per cent figure decided on is too high.

The two groups' spokesmen are invited to present concerns to council in future.

### Water Run-off Complaint

A Stouffville resident is complaining that a two-acre property abutting his own is not graded but filled with rubble.

He says water run-off caused from excessive fill is disturbing his property.

Council in committee heard that

### Singles group meeting on Tuesday evening

Markham-Stouffville Family Life Centre Counsellor Tony Colangelo is making a return appearance as guest speaker next Tuesday at the Stouffville Singles Support Group.

Mr. Colangelo, who has extensive experience in marital, single and individual therapy, will address matters relating to the children of a marital separation, etc.

The York University psychology graduate was asked to return following an earlier session on healthy self-concepts.

The group meets at 8 p.m. at St. James Presbyterian Church. For information, call 642-1225 or 640-5486.

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