



Town of Whitchurch - Stouffville

'The way I see it'

by
Mayor Ken Laushway

WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE - Each week through The Tribune, Ken Laushway, Mayor, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, will be asked to give his own personal opinion on issues of local interest. Questions will be posed by The Tribune or from ratepayers through The Tribune.

Question: Is it practical to spend several thousand dollars on renovations to a municipal building that is not centrally located within the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville?

Answer: Yes. Renovations could cost between \$25,000 and \$30,000. But to purchase even a suitable site elsewhere would involve a minimum of \$150,000. Forty-five percent of the people reside within one mile of the present building and 75 percent within six miles of it. There is municipal parking available for 25 cars and the property may have to be reserved for this purpose. Stouffville as the chief urban centre in the Area could grow to 10,000 people, all the more reason that the municipal centre should be retained at the present site. Now is not the time to venture into a \$200,000 municipal building project until we see where we're going. We could select a location at Bloomington, Lemonville or Ballantrae and find out 10 years from now, we picked the wrong place. If renovation plans are approved this month, the work should be completed by mid-summer.

Question: What is the answer to the traffic problem on the Main Street in Stouffville, particularly on weekends?

Answer: The Region has been requested to conduct a traffic survey on Main Street to determine the origin and destination of all vehicles entering Town. When these figures are established, we will proceed from there. If a large percentage of the people are coming here to shop, then the parking should be improved. If the majority are merely passing through, then they should be re-routed north from Ringwood and west from Lincolnville by

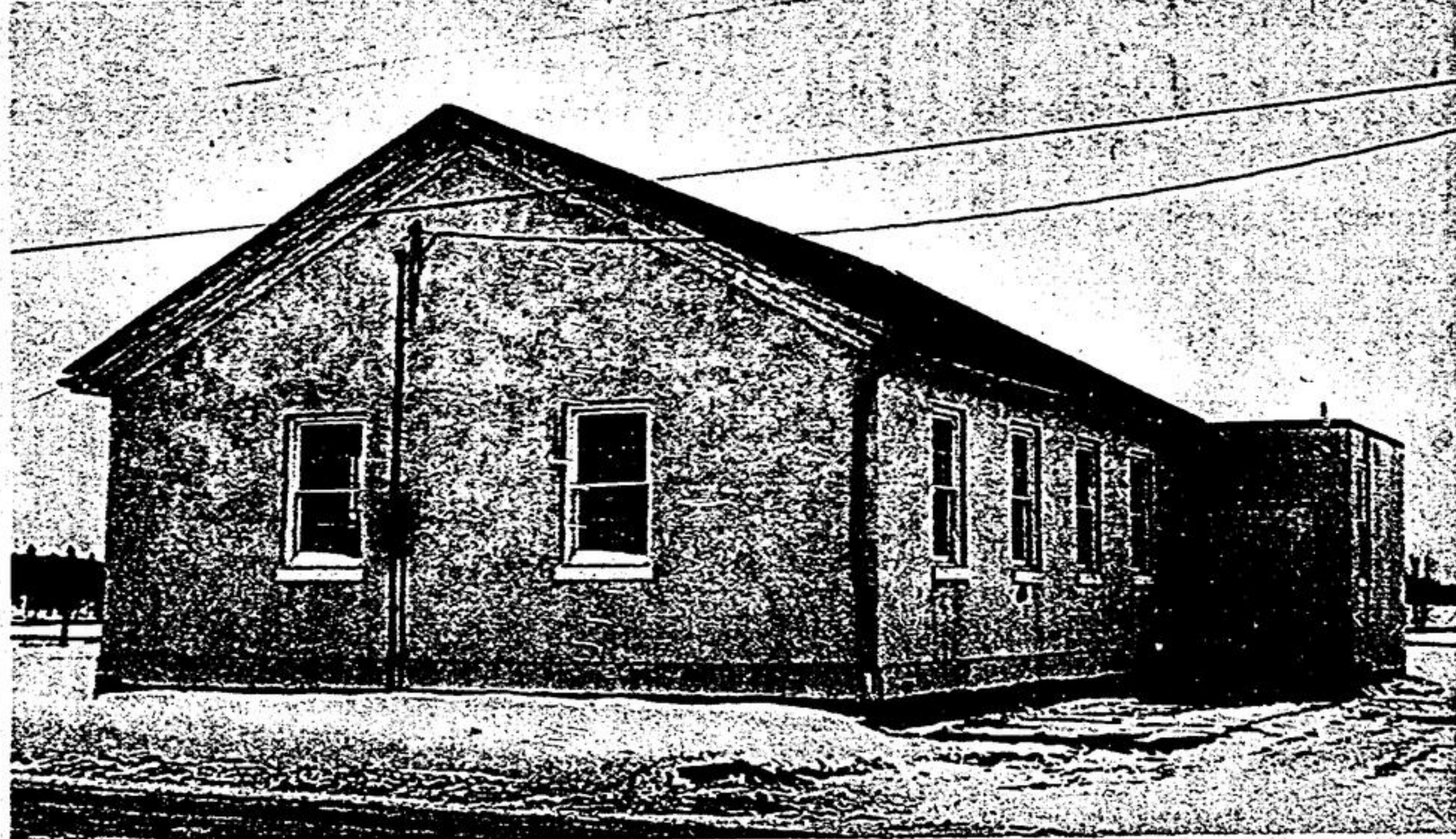
way of the Bloomington Road. The Lincolnville intersection should be properly signed and traffic lights should be installed at Hwy. 48.

Question: Is there a problem with snowmobiles in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and if so, what is the solution?

Answer: The main problem is created by snowmobile drivers who insist on using their machines in residential areas late at night. The Provincial Government should establish a uniform standard of rules rather than leave it up to the municipalities to

establish their own. Snowmobiles were never meant to be used on roads and highways. An improved means of identification is needed. I would like to see a snowmobile organization formed whereby the members would police themselves. In the end, the municipality may have to provide a place where they can be operated safely and without disturbing those who are entitled to peace and quiet.

Have you a question you'd like the Mayor to answer? Merely write it out on a slip of paper and address it to 'The Mayor', c/o The Tribune, Main Street, Stouffville, Ont.



Built in 1860 Almira Church site to be sold
The Almira Menonite Church, a pioneer landmark on the fifth concession of Markham Township, is now permanently closed. The site will be sold. History records its construction in 1860. Ministers have included Adam Wideman, Samuel Wideman, Lewis Weber, Aaron Grove and Abram Smith —Jas. Thomas.

Police Chief Bruce Crawford

A man who likes problems

YORK REGION - York Region's new police chief, Bruce Crawford, describes himself as a man who 'likes problems'. The reason - 'there's always an answer' says Mr. Crawford. Eager to begin his new work, the former Toronto Port Police chief doesn't anticipate any major problems in the re-organization of the York County forces into one. The 45 year old father - two sons, Bruce, 13, and Allan, 16, and one daughter, Susan, 5 - has had a career full of problems since he left the navy at the end of the war. That year, he joined the York Township Police. Following a course at the R.C.M.P.

college, he was promoted to the rank of detective in 1955. In 1958, Mr. Crawford requested a transfer to downtown Toronto - he wanted to go 'where the action was'. Two months following the transfer, he was promoted to detective sergeant, and in 1963, to headquarters and the rank of Sergeant of Detectives. In 1964, Mr. Crawford was appointed liaison officer between Metro and the O.P.P. and detailed to internal investigations, within the department. In March, 1966, he was appointed deputy chief of the not-as-yet-formed Toronto Port Police. He became chief of that body in

December, 1968. The port police are a unique law enforcement body. Until the Toronto department was formed, the only other in the western world was in London, England. Acceptance by the shipping world came slowly, but the Toronto Port Police have gained the reputation of one of the world's greatest. To make that point more clear, insurance rates in all of the world's major ports increase every year. In 1969, Toronto was the only port with a reduction in rates. So well accepted is the Toronto force, that it has been copied by other ports throughout North America and as far away as Tanzania. Mr. Crawford con-

siders himself an individual-thinking man. You can 'do your own thing', he said, as long as the guidelines set down by society are lived within. 'A person's image is an important thing,' he said. One point he has strong convictions on is the non-medical use of drugs. Totally against drugs used in this way, Mr. Crawford bases his opinion on experience - experience with addicts; experience with

Newman for McKeough

ONTARIO SOUTH - William Newman, M.P., Ontario South, is campaigning on behalf of Darcy McKeough in the Progressive Conservative leadership race. Mr. Newman said he respects Mr. McKeough's judgment, his integrity and his enthusiasm. He feels Mr. McKeough has all the qualities to make the Provincial Conservatives more of a 'people's party'.

Re-appoint planner

MARKHAM - The Markham Planning Committee has recommended the re-appointment of Mr. Kunio Hidaka to the position of Planning Director for 1971. The suggested salary is \$19,000 for the year.

to increase. Presently living in Etobicoke, Mr. Crawford, his wife, Violet, and their children are anxious to move into York Region - to where 'the action is' now. 'Police work is my life,' Mr. Crawford says, 'and I devote my whole time and thinking to the job.'



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New warden

John Williams, reeve of Pickering Twp., is the new Warden of Ontario County for 1971. He defeated his lone opponent, reeve William Gillespie of Beaverton by one vote, 24 to 23. Reeve Williams succeeds Robert Timbers of Sandford to the Warden's post. Mr. Timbers is reeve of Scott.

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