

# Council set to end ban on ice cream truck music

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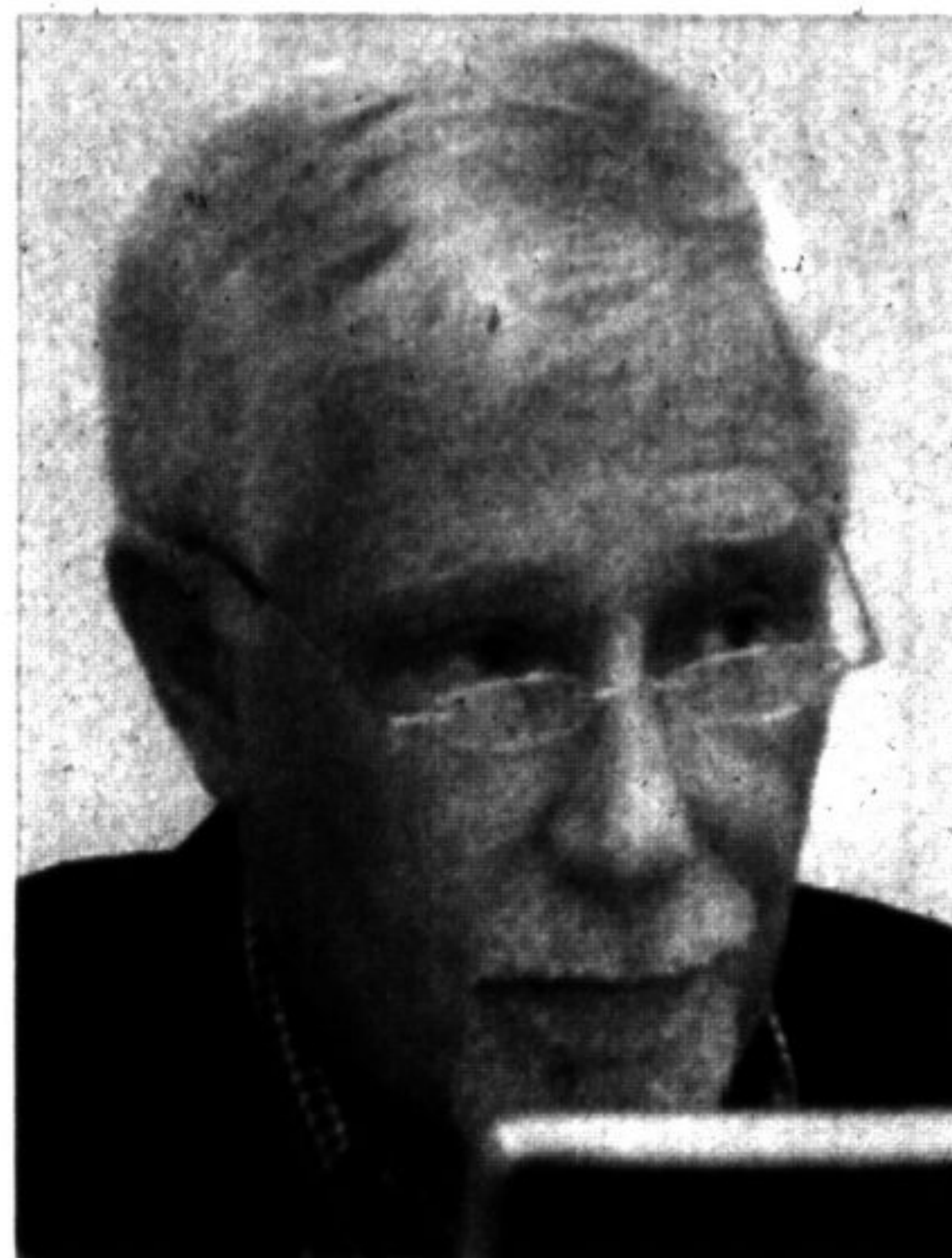
There is nothing like hearing that iconic music bellowing from an ice cream truck as it slowly makes its way through neighbourhoods all summer long.

Even listening to it in council chambers, minus the truck and ice cream, brought huge smiles to the faces of most councillors and gallery members during Tuesday afternoon's meeting.

James Tziortzis, owner of Mister Treats Ice Cream, went before council Tuesday afternoon requesting the bylaw prohibiting the use of chimes by refreshment vehicles be repealed.

"...this bylaw prohibits my ability to reach the target market I am attempting to attract, all while hindering my business' overall success", he wrote in his deputation documentation to council.

No one in Whitchurch-Stouffville has been able to hear that music since 2005 when the town passed a bylaw prohibiting the use of chimes by vendors, such as refreshment vehicles.



**CLYDE SMITH:** Councillor 'can't imagine being offended' by vendor's ice cream truck music.

The bylaw was put in place due to complaints, according to Mayor Wayne Emmerson who was out of office at the time.

"I personally can't imagine being offended by that music," said Councillor Clyde Smith who recalled whenever he heard that music as a child, he would run into his house to ask his parents

for money so he could get an ice cream.

"We miss the guy telling us the sharpener is going by," Mr. Emmerson noted.

Council approved a season-long trial-run for Mister Treats Ice Cream.

The bylaw will also apply to the other ice cream truck operation licensed by the town.

"If the community doesn't like it we can make appropriate changes in the fall," said Councillor Phil Bannon.

Mr. Tziortzis will be in front of council in September or October to review the bylaw with council.

The Stouffville resident plans to start serving up ice cream in town next week.

He will come through Whitchurch-Stouffville Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays between 2 and 8 p.m.

However, he won't be playing his music until May 8. The bylaw enabling the use of chimes cannot be passed by council until its next meeting, May 7 at 7 p.m.

## TOWN BRIEFS

### Reprieve for Stronach house

A lifeline has once again been extended to the Bartholomew house.

Whitchurch-Stouffville town staff recommended demolishing the 160-year-old home earlier this year but council has yet to sign-off on it because people keep coming forward with an interest in relocating and preserving it.

The first person to come forward did so in January, giving the home a reprieve until April 2. A decision was deferred from that day due to the absence of the heritage advisory committee's chairperson.

The person initially interested in saving the home has bowed out. However, there is apparently a second person who has come forward with an interest in the home. However, he or she requires time

to assess the feasibility of acquiring the dwelling, according to the council report.

The deferral to May 7 was approved Tuesday afternoon, but Councillor Phil Bannon cautioned "I don't want this turned into a seven or eight-year burden on the municipality".

The late 1800s Georgian-style farmhouse is mould-infested and may have asbestos-containing materials along with lead paint. At one time it may have been used as a grow-op, according to an engineer's report.

The municipality's heritage advisory committee wants the Stouffville Road home saved.

Frank Stronach's company, Adena Stallions, purchased the approximately 260-acre piece of land the home sits on last year for agricultural feed production.

The home, once owned by Henry Bartholomew, is on the town's heritage inventory list. However, there is no legislative authority in place requiring the owner to restore it back to its original heritage condition.

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