

Committees Adopt 2-Tier Regional Government

SIMCOE (Staff)—After 18 months of study, the 60 members of the joint study committee Tuesday night voted in favor of a two-tier system of regional government. But it wasn't done without a fight.

For almost an hour the members of the six sub-committees of the Haldimand-Norfolk Study bogged down in a procedural wrangle that would have had the report on local govern-

ment structure ending up being filed with the clerk.

However, a motion to receive the report was defeated and the members went through the report clause by clause, adopting nearly the entire report, with the exception of the introduction.

The six reports will be presented to the government as an indication of what the area wants in regional

government. A similar report on land use was sent to the government more than a year ago and that report is still waiting final approval at the cabinet level. The reports presented Tuesday night dealt with planning and development, public works, finance, social services, administration and local government structure.

One of the most contentious parts of the

local government structure report was a map which outlines a number of boundary changes under a two-tier system of regional government. The map was finally left in after the insistence by the co-chairman of the committee, the Mayor of Waterford and the Mayor of Caledonia. It is emphasized in the report that the map is for purposes of discussion only.

The report recommends that representatives on the new system should be elected on a population basis. Although no conclusions were drawn regarding the number of representatives to occupy the lower tier,

it was decided that a representative or representatives of the lower tier represent their municipality on the upper tier.

Another contentious issue, which was finally left in the report, was the breakdown of representation. The report suggests one representative for municipalities with up to 5,000 population; two with up to 12,000; three with up to 25,000 and four with up to 50,000.

Deputy-reeve Robert Gordon, of Caledonia, said such representation "would mean the rape of Haldimand County." Lloyd O'Grady, an appointed member, disagreed, saying Norfolk would have

some 10 representatives under this system and Haldimand would have eight.

Pius Miller, of Port Dover, said the first thing that will have to be done is to take out the boundary between the two counties. "Then I think you will find we are all the same people."

Tillsonburg was also invited to study joining the Haldimand-Norfolk region.

It was recommended assessment of property be taken over from the province and become a function of the new government. Taxes would be collected at the local

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The North Walpole Public School last week presented a two-act operetta 'Sunbonnet Sue'. Among the leading cast of characters were, from left, Bill Lint, who played the part of Bob Coleman; Jane Walker, as Susan Clifton; Betty Anne Sloat, as Mrs. Scroggs; Floyd Nie, as Abijah Scroggs; David Karl, a member of the chorus and Thomas Chipman, as Ezra McSpavin. (Staff Photo)

County Seeks Meeting Over Gas Line Cuts

CAYUGA (Staff)—Haldimand county council is requesting a member of the Ontario energy board attend its next meeting in order to discuss a Union Gas Company

plan to cut gas supplies to almost 1,000 consumers in Haldimand.

Council, meeting Friday, also asked that every municipality in the county which is

involved in the removal of gas lines by the company present a resolution that can in turn be presented to the energy board and gas company.

A report was outlined at council, which said the company is planning to abandon about 110 miles of pipeline in Haldimand, because of the lines being uneconomical to operate. About 951 people will be involved in the curtailment of service.

Cayuga Reeve Ted Powell said he was annoyed because of the monopoly situation involved. "If you're a utility and a monopoly,

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Sidestep Regional Issue

CAYUGA (Staff)—Haldimand county council sidestepped the issue of regional government at its meeting Friday in order to await the outcome of a general meeting of the two-county study on Tuesday.

County council will hold a special session Thursday, March 23 in Cayuga, to decide the question.

Norfolk county council has already voted to accept regional government, with Haldimand. In fact, several municipalities have already begun forming alliances with other municipalities they wish to be aligned with in a two-tier system of regional government.

Two weeks ago Ontario treasurer and

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Haldimand County Budget Increases By Five Per Cent

CAYUGA (Staff)—Haldimand's 15 municipalities will be asked for some \$50,000 more this year to run the county as councillor's Friday approved a \$997,365 budget for 1972.

The budget is up from the 1971 figure of \$947,591, an increase of about five per cent.

The increase is due mainly from the 100-bed addition to Grandview Lodge that was made last year. The expansion added about \$100,000 to the general account budget.

However, part of this increase is offset by a reduction in the county road budget, which declined from \$481,000 in 1971 to \$420,000 this year.

Council also has a surplus account of some \$150,000, which has been built up during the past several years and there was a brief move to

\$887,000, down from last year's expenditure of \$1,180,000 and the Grandview account is up to \$615,000 from last year's cost of \$456,000.

The county ended last year with a deficit of about \$18,000.

Following is the rate apportionment to the various municipalities with the 1971 figures in brackets.

Caledonia \$75,525 (\$71,756); Dunnville \$154,100 (\$146,410); Cayuga \$25,641 (\$24,361); Hagersville \$58,280 (\$55,371); Jarvis \$19,420

(\$18,451); Canborough \$30,894 (\$29,352); North Cayuga \$54,456 (\$51,738); South Cayuga \$20,927 (\$19,883); Dunn \$48,354 (\$45,941); Moulton \$61,194 (\$58,140); Oneida \$73,708 (\$70,029); Rainham \$74,003 (\$70,310); Seneca \$94,772 (\$90,042); Sherbrooke \$43,003 (\$40,857); Walpole \$163,082 (\$154,943)

The general account budget breaks down as follows, with the 1971 actual expenditure in

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School Budget Declines

CAYUGA—The Haldimand County Board of Education levy has decreased for the second year in a row. J. S. Mitchell, chairman of the board's budget-finance committee announced last Thursday.

The total budget is \$7,482,814, an increase of \$639,000 over the 1971 expenditures of \$6,843,816. The 1972 budget is estimated on 5,150 public school pupils and 2,975 secondary school students. This allows \$639 per elementary pupil and \$1,294 for secondary school students.

Provincial grants will account for about 64 per cent of the revenue, with municipal levies expected to raise 29.5 per cent. Tuition fees

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as suspended with effect at the start of the investigation seven weeks ago. He was later arrested by provincial police after the board fired him, alleging misuse of funds. The board's investigation included a general review of the accounting procedures and accounting records. However, Dr. R. G. de, past board chairman, said that recommendations have yet been made the hospital's accounting firm.

Candidates elected to eight seats and

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