

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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HAGUE, N.Y.

PLANNING BOARD SURVEY

The survey sponsored by the Town Planning Board has now been completed and results have been tabulated.

Approximately 325 questionnaires were completed, 130 representing about one-half the year-round residents and 194 representing about one-third the seasonal residents.

Questions covered five areas: the local economy, the environment, town growth, town services and individual concerns.

As might be expected, the year-round residents were more concerned with improving the local economy than the seasonal people. However, the majority did not feel that industrial plants were needed or desirable. Obviously the overwhelming majority of both groups felt that local taxes were too high.

There were also differences of opinion concerning questions on the environment, the seasonal people believing that significant improvement is needed while the year-round people felt only limited improvement is needed. A distinct majority of both groups felt that significant improvement in getting rid of junk cars and cleaning up trash on the highways is needed.

By more than a two to one ratio, the seasonal people would like to see the town population remain as it is while the year-round people by a four to three ratio would like to see it increase. The overwhelming majority favored preservation of historic sites, the establishment of zoning regulations, limitation on the number of mobile homes, and the establish-

ment of additional hiking and snowmobiling trails.

With respect to town services, fire protection received the highest marks with road maintenance and snow removal, parks and recreation and town administration following closely. Only about half the respondents felt that police protection was adequate.

The seasonal people split on the adequacy of the school system, one-third indicating it was adequate, one-third not adequate and one-third with no opinion. A slight majority of the year-round residents believed the school system to be adequate.

A considerable majority expressed concern with such items as pollution of water supplies, increased traffic on highways and the development of property without adequate controls, the seasonal people apparently being more concerned with these items than the year-round residents.

There were many individual comments, more so from the seasonal than from the year-round people. Many used the opportunity to complain of the failure of the town to provide for garbage collection and year-round police protection and many of these also complained of high local taxes. A number underscored the need for better protection of water sources.

There were those who liked things as they are. "Let Hague continue to be a lovely place to live and visit and do not destroy it by efforts to push for so-called progress", was one comment. And, said another, "Don't louse up the loveliest area in the world in the name of any high-sounding or sweet sounding word or phrase."

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THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is edited and published monthly by Emil Seerup, Box 2504, Silver Bay, New York, 12874. It is supported financially by civic minded citizens and local civic organizations. News items and announcements of general interest to the community are solicited.

HAGUE ARTS FAIR

The second annual Hague Arts Fair will be held on Saturday, August 3, from 11 A.M. until 5 P.M. at the Town Park and Beach. This will provide an excellent opportunity for our local artists, craftsmen and hobbyists to exhibit their wares to the community. All forms of artwork and handicrafts will be exhibited. Individuals and organizations will be given adequate space, however tables or booths will have to be furnished by the exhibitors.

Articles which are displayed may be offered for sale. There will be no admission charges nor will exhibitors be required to pay a fee for their participation. Advance registration is required. Call either Mrs. Samascott at 543-2721 or Mrs. Seerup at 543-6052 if you would like to register.

Adequate parking areas are being provided.

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RECYCLING

Mr. Edward Crabbs submitted a proposal to the Town Supervisor which will provide for the recycling of waste materials now being deposited in the town landfill.

At the present time a recycling company in Glens Falls will pay the town a price per ton of various waste materials. One problem is that material to be recycled must be separated from other materials. When presented to the Board at its last meeting, an agreement was reached that the program would be initiated for the recycling of glass bottles. The plan is to place three 55-gallon drums at the landfill into

blue, brown and clear glass bottles would be placed. The bottles are to be crushed and as the drums become filled they will be removed and additional drums will be put in place. Filled drums will be hauled to Glens Falls.

Later, metals of various kinds, newspapers and magazines and perhaps other materials will be incorporated into the recycling program.

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WILBERT A. DECKER

Wilbert A. Decker who had been a resident of Hague for many years, passed away on June 16th at the age of 70. At the time of his death, he was a resident of Ticonderoga.

For many years Mr. Decker had been a millwright for International Paper Company. Following his retirement a few years ago, he was employed at Grimes Floral Shop.

He is survived by his brother, Clifford O. Decker of Hague and a number of nephews and nieces. His wife predeceased him by several years.

Burial took place at Valley View Cemetery on June 18th.

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TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Town Board met on June 11 with all members present.

The Supervisor reported that the town insurance needs had been reviewed by the Potter Agency of Warrensburg and submitted a program which would provide adequate coverage at a lower premium than the present company was providing. Thereupon the Board approved a resolution transferring the town insurance to the Potter Agency.

The Board approved the expenditure of approximately \$10,000. of Federal Revenue Sharing funds for the bathhouse which has been constructed at

funds were allocated to highway improvements.

The Supervisor reported that pursuant to a law approved by the Legislature at its last session, the town will be required to pay time and one-half for hours worked by town employees in excess of forty per week. The law is retroactive to May 1, 1974.

A proposal by Mr. Streeter that the town purchase and install a diving board at the town dock was approved provided there would be no increase in the cost of insurance and that the town would not be required to employ a lifeguard.

Space in the new bathhouse has been provided for the Chamber of Commerce. It was agreed that the present building used by the Chamber would be offered for sale to the highest bidder. Bids will be opened at the July meeting.

All materials having to do with property rights to the roadbed at Abbat Day Point have been placed with the town attorney and hopefully a decision will be reached shortly as to what roads and parts of roads can be black-topped.

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SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The school board met on June 10 with all members except Martin Fitzgerald present.

Mr. Meola reported that before school closes, the first and second grade pupils will be taken on an outing to Story Town, the third and fourth graders to Frontier Town and the fifth and sixth grades would go to Time Town.

Rev. Edward Elliott was appointed cleaner effective July 1 at an annual salary of \$6500. He will replace Mr. Uta who resigned May 1. Mr. Elton Masling is the school custodian.

The Board of Registration was reappointed for another year. Its members are: Florence Smith, Alice

Watts, Lillian Sobul and Betty Decker.

Mr. Burleigh, science and math teacher, was given leave of absence for the first semester of the 1974-75 school year.

Mr. Meola reported that some members of the faculty had offered to coach various sports but no assignments have been made.

Members of the Board plan to attend a seminar for local board members in New York City in October.

Mrs. Meade, the music teacher, was applauded for her work in planning and producing the Festival of Arts at the school earlier this year. She will be sent a letter of appreciation.

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MEMBERS OF SCHOOL BOARD HONORED

On June 7 the past and present members of the school board were honored at a dinner held at the Open Hearth Restaurant. George Boyd, Ralph McKee, Peter Connery and Martin Fitzgerald, whose term expired at the end of the month, were presented with certificates of appreciation for the years of service given to the school board. A certificate honoring James Bly posthumously was presented to Mrs. Bly. Mrs. Leila Foote was presented with an engraved pin and a certificate of appreciation for the forty years she has served as school clerk.

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GRIEVANCE DAY

Approximately 100 complaints to the 1974 real property assessments were considered by the Board of Assessment Review on Grievance Day, June 18. Hearings went on from 4 P.M. until about 10:15 P.M. during which about fifty persons appeared in support of their complaints. In a session which lasted until after midnight several days later, evidence in support of the complaints was reviewed and decisions reached. All complainants will be notified by mail

of the action taken by the Board.

A number of complaints arose from mechanical errors which occurred when information from the property record cards was incorrectly transcribed on to the notices sent to taxpayers. Other complaints were based on incorrect property descriptions and measurements and these were quickly disposed of. Finally there were some properties that were clearly over-assessed and justified a reduction.

In total, assessments were reduced in 33 instances for a total of about \$100,000. With approximately 1800 parcels on the tax rolls, the number of complaints would appear to be insignificant and the reductions allowed by the Board, minimal.

Mr. George Boyd is chairman of the Board. Mrs. Florence Smith and the Messrs. James Fitzgerald, Samuel R. Frasier and Emil Seerup are members.

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BURLEIGH NAMED TO COMMISSION

Following Governor Wilson's nomination on May 7, H. Gordon Burleigh was recently appointed by the State Senate to membership on the Lake George Commission succeeding Mrs. Grant W. Johnson of Ticonderoga who has retired.

Burleigh is a native of Ticonder-

oga and has taught science and math at Hague Central School for the past twenty years. He has been active in professional education, having served as president of the Hague Teachers Association and President of the Warren County Supervisory District Teachers Association.

Commissioner Burleigh is well known as a sports official refereeing football, soccer and basketball and umpiring baseball. At present he is on the inactive list of the Collegiate Basketball Officials Association. He is a member of the Elks and the Knights of Columbus and is a member of Hague Post #1538 of the Legion.

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mrs. Ethel Andrus was elected president of the Hague Historical Society on June 19. The other officers were re-elected. In September the Society will visit a museum or other place of interest. Details will be announced.

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PROPERTY OWNERS TO MEET

The Property Owners of Silver Bay will hold its first summer meeting at 10 A.M. on July 13 at the Hague Fire House. The second meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 10.

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