

# Committee to suggest COL hikes for council

By DAN PELTON  
Staff Reporter

An ad hoc committee on Orangeville Council remuneration has drafted a final report which will propose cost-of-living increases for the current council and a phasing in of a new pay scale for the council elected in 2010.

The report is to be presented to council on February 9.

At its meeting Tuesday night, the committee amended a motion, passed at its Jan. 6 meeting, which recommended that the council's remuneration, "as at January, 2008, be accepted as a reasonable base for council remuneration for this term of council."

As amended, the motion has an addendum that "the remuneration grid for members of Council will be adjusted in 2009 and 2010 in accordance with the Town's salary pay grid adjustment for non-union salaried staff."

The primary motivation behind the addendum was the committee's decision that council is entitled to cost-of-living increases.

The committee was struck by Mayor Rob Adams after council

passed a controversial bylaw that gave itself substantial pay raises effective Jan. 1. It prompted a severe public outcry as to the size of the increases, as well as criticism of the process followed.

The committee was formed as an "independent third party" with the mandate to "review the reasonableness of the recommended changes, the comparator's report and relevant information, and make recommendations to council."

While applauding the efforts of the committee, Mayor Adams expressed concern that the committee based its remuneration motion on the information in a staff-prepared comparator's report and did not approach Council, the body whose actions it was investigating, for more information.

"I'm very interested in receiving the recommendations of the committee and giving them thorough consideration," the mayor said.

"I'm a little surprised that (the committee) didn't contact me and ask about any background material I may have used to make my decision (regarding the pay increases). There

seemed to be an assumption that the staff report was the only thing that went into my decision, and that certainly was not the case."

Committee chair Todd Taylor disagrees, saying the responsibility of the committee, as a representative public body, was to make a decision based on information immediately available to the public.

"We were sticking to the letter of the law and doing what we had to do. Based on the information we have, we found it unreasonable for them to get the cost increases they requested."

One of the main recommendations of the committee is that any increases not be awarded during a term, and only at the beginning of the next one.

At a meeting held last Thursday, member Bob Long didn't agree that council salaries should be frozen and pointed out that council "often forgoes an increase and, every couple of years, there has to be catch up."

The city of Stratford, with a population slightly over 30,000, has emerged as a model for public participation in determining council members' pay

rates. Currently, the city's mayor is paid \$60,000 per year plus compensation for "out of pocket expenses." In 2007, those expenses were reported to be close to \$10,000.

At the same meeting, fellow member J. J. Roy stated: "Council raises should remain (relatively) stagnant for this term. But there should be raises for the following council. I feel strongly about that."

At the same time, the committee was in strong agreement that a process for awarding council pay increases be open to the public at all times.

While agreeing that it would be more appropriate for trained professionals, such as consultants, to come up with salary recommendations, the committee is adamant that a public committee should be formed to review the recommendations and make its own recommendations.

As well, it was agreed that any pay raise should be phased in over the course of a four-year term.

For example, if a raise of 30 per cent was appropriate, the committee decided the best way to disperse it would be to award five per cent the

first year, and 8.3 per cent for each of the following three years.

"It would smooth out large increases," explained committee member John Murray.

Another point brought up by the committee was that members of future council remuneration committees should declare, at the time of their inclusion, that they are not planning to run for council.

This could preclude anyone from having an opportunity to use the committee to push for large increases, then run for a seat on council to cash in.

While acknowledging that it's legally impossible to prevent any qualified candidate from running for council, the committee concluded that any future committee member who did make that choice will be in the spotlight and have to explain himself/herself to the electorate.



Photo/DAN PELTON

**WORKING OUT A DONATION:** By donating the proceeds of the sale of 70 12-day passes to its facility, ACTS Headwaters Family Fitness and Athletics was able to raise \$2,100 for the Dufferin Child and Family Services agency. ACTS sales and administration co-ordinator Jodi McNeill (standing) and Jacqueline Moore of Dufferin Child and Family Services test out the exercise equipment at ACTS.

## Council cautious on budgeting capital projects

• From page A1

would bring in \$405,000 and a 3% hike would equal \$607,000.

Mr. Wilson says having such money in reserve will make Orangeville better positioned to take advantage of partnerships with the different levels of governments, both of whom has stressed emphasis on improving infrastructure.

As well, he says paying less tax now only means paying more later. "To me, it's reality. For years, I heard the mantra of zero-percent increases. But, after that, we had 20 percent increases."

The capital projects that did get the go-ahead Monday were as follows:

Reconstruction of Hansen Boulevard and Amelia Street and reconstruction of the Hansen and Blind Line intersection; walk lights at trail crossings (Fourth and Fifth avenues at Highway 10); replacement of the ice resurfacer at Tony Rose Sports Centre; construction of a trail alongside the local rail line; replacement of playground equipment at Kin Family Park and Kay Cee Gardens; replacement of a tractor, tractor/loader and flex mower; and upgrading the new park-

ing lot on the south side of Broadway.

The 2009 operating and capital budgets will come before Council on Feb. 9.

Town treasurer Wayne Church told the Finance Committee higher insurance costs for 2009 and an estimated \$62,000 deficit from 2008 must be added to this year's budget.

The committee has now recommended funding a \$5,000 portion of the Mayor's Senior's Advisory Committee from reserves instead of the tax levy and cutting the \$15,000 First Night event for 2009 since the Olympic Torch Relay

Celebration will be held December 28.

The committee also reviewed a report recommending that the Town move from a shared (with the County) Information Services Department to a Town-only department at no additional cost in 2009.

The result of all these changes would be that a single family detached home that's assessed at \$247,250 would have an \$11.94 increase in the Town portion of taxes for 2009 but an offsetting \$22.48 cut in the County's portion of the tax bill, and the province's education levy will drop by \$15.54.

### J.D.'s HIDEAWAY & GRILL

**FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Wrigglesworth Plaza**  
(Beer store plaza)  
Hwy 89 & 24, Shelburne  
**519-925-9228**  
HOURS: Tues. & Wed. 11 am - close  
Thurs. - Sunday 8 am - close

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Can't Get it any Better than J.D.'s HIDEAWAY ALWAYS SOMETHING HAPPENING</b> Serving Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner NOW SERVING PRIME RIB DAILY						
1 Dine with Bruce Ley Trio Jazz Band 4-7 pm	2 CLOSED	3 TEXAS HOLD'EM SNOWMOBILERS 10% DISCOUNT w/trail permit Leafs vs Panthers GIANT SCREEN EVENT Wings \$2.50/lb	4 WING NIGHT \$5/lb Leafs vs Sabres	5	6	7 UFC LAUZZON VS FRANCA GIANT SCREEN EVENT Wings \$2.50/lb
8 Dine with Bruce Ley Trio Jazz Band 4-7 pm	9 CLOSED	10 TEXAS HOLD'EM SNOWMOBILERS 10% DISCOUNT w/trail permit Leafs vs Panthers	11 WING NIGHT \$5/lb	12 Leafs vs Lightning GIANT SCREEN EVENT Wings \$2.50/lb	13 PORT DOVER Friday the 13th Celebrations BIKE Show & Shine Trouble & Strife BLUES BAND 9 pm	14 Valentine's Day Dinner & Dance SPECIAL MENU Live Entertainment Brenda Willis
15 Dine with Bruce Ley Trio Jazz Band 4-7 pm	16 CLOSED	17 TEXAS HOLD'EM SNOWMOBILERS 10% DISCOUNT w/trail permit Leafs vs Sabres GIANT SCREEN EVENT Wings \$2.50/lb	18 WING NIGHT \$5/lb	19 "Caring For Me Series" Ladies Night Martini & Manicure \$25 Beauty Tips	20 HOUSE BAND Trouble & Strife BLUES BAND 9 pm	21 UFC INTERNATIONAL EVENT GIANT SCREEN EVENT Wings \$2.50/lb
22 Dine with Bruce Ley Trio Jazz Band 4-7 pm	23 CLOSED	24 TEXAS HOLD'EM SNOWMOBILERS 10% DISCOUNT w/trail permit	25 WING NIGHT \$5/lb Leafs vs Rangers	26 60's Dance DJ	27 Country Singer Debbie Be'Champ 9:00 pm	28 LEAFS VS SENATORS GIANT SCREEN EVENT Wings \$2.50/lb

Orangeville Office Now Open 76 Broadway 519.942.8851

## WAKE UP WITH SCOTT FOX AND THE Z103.5 MORNING SHOW



**DRIVE HOME WITH THE HAMMER AND DJ DANNY D**

905-880-5900  
1-888-349-7971 • 519-942-8147  
www.purewatercanada.com  
manax@primus.ca

WWW.Z1035.COM

## Welcome New Patients

--- Dr. W. Hilliard D.D.S.  
General Dentistry

--- Dr. R. Byers D.D.S.  
General Dentistry

--- Dr. T. Copeland D.M.D.  
General Dentistry

**Lord Dufferin Dental Centre**

Call: 519-938-9500

Open Evenings and Saturdays for your convenience.

www.LordDufferinDental.com

32 First Street, Suite M2, Orangeville, ON L9W 2E1

## HOME OF THE WEEK!!

**Maui Farms**

Woodworking • Cabinetry  
Trim Carpentry  
General Repairs

**Terrie Wagner**  
25 years experience  
519-938-5376  
519-949-9484

**Home Hardware building centre**

Orangeville Home Hardware Building Centre

Your local supplier of Houseware Products, Building Products, Paints, Hardware, Tools and Fasteners, Flooring, Electrical, Plumbing, Sporting Goods & Seasonal Garden Centre.

60-4th Ave.  
Orangeville  
(519) 941-5407

Plan number 1-3-616  
**RANCH-STYLE HOME**

This roomy three-bedroom ranch-style home features a three-vehicle garage set at an angle to the living area to create a courtyard effect in the front. Ahead of the foyer, through decorative columns and an archway is the great room, where the gas fireplace will act as a magnet for family members and guests alike during the cooler months. Access to a covered deck, and beyond it a sundeck, will make this room enjoyable during the summer. A nook, designed for breakfast and casual meals, occupies a bayed-out space with an extra-wide sill. The nook also enjoys access to a covered deck, the ideal spot for year-round grilling. The spacious kitchen features an L-shaped counter configuration, as well as a large work island with a raised eating bar and a six-element cook top. A large walk-in pantry will provide always-welcome storage space for canned goods and other necessities. Between the kitchen and the garage is a useful utility area, containing a laundry room, linen closet, powder room, coat closet and broom cupboard. A separate, more formal dining room, divided from the foyer by a half-wall, overlooks the front garden and includes a wet bar, as well as handy access to the kitchen. The master suite, overlooking the back garden for privacy, boasts its own covered deck. A two-way fireplace will cast its glow into the ensuite, which features a soaker tub and tiled surround, and into the bedroom. The enormous walk-in closet includes a display area. A den abuts the master suite and separates it from the second bedroom, which shares a three-piece bathroom and a linen closet with the third bedroom. This third bedroom includes its own walk-in closet. Opposite the U-shaped stairway leading to the unfinished basement is a third walk-in closet. Located near the foyer, this closet will be handy for guests' outerwear, as well as providing storage space for family gear. The home's exterior is finished in a combination of vertical board-and-batten siding and cut stone. Decorative wooden braces enhance the gables. The home measures 102 feet wide and 86 feet deep, for a total of 2,667 square feet of living space, in addition to the unfinished basement.

Plans for design 1-3-616 are available for \$775 (set of 5), \$871 (set of 8) and \$932 for a super set of 10. Please add 5% G.S.T. or 13% H.S.T. (where applicable) to both the plan price and Priority charges.

Our 40th Edition of the Home Plan Catalogue containing over 300 plans is available for \$13.50 (includes taxes, postage and handling). Make all cheques and money orders payable to "Home Plan of the Week" and mail to:

**HOME PLAN OF THE WEEK**  
c/o Orangeville Citizen  
336 Columbia Street, New Westminster, B.C. V3L 1A6  
OR SEE OUR WEB PAGE ORDER FORM ON [www.jenish.com](http://www.jenish.com)  
AND E-MAIL YOUR ORDER TO: [homeplans@jenish.com](mailto:homeplans@jenish.com)

**ALL-MONT LTD.**

Garage Doors and Electric Operators  
Residential - Commercial

Maintenance  
Free Doors  
• Coach House  
• Steel Insulated, R.16.04  
• Steel Non-Insulated

Complete Line of Parts

Visit our showroom  
48 Centennial Rd., Unit 20  
Orangeville, Ontario L9W 3T4  
519-942-1956

**DOUG'S DRYWALL**

- Metal Framing
- Drywall Installation
- Machine Finishing
- Airless Spray Painting
- Decorative Ceilings & Acoustics
- Professionals - 25 Years Experience CALL DOUG

1-519-371-0517  
1-800-628-7386

**PLUMBING REPAIRS**

**MANAX PLUMBING & HEATING LTD.**

Commercial • Industrial • Residential

EXCELLENT RATES-SAME DAY SERVICE  
Licensed • Environment Canada Lic.  
• Softeners & Filters • Water Purification  
• Reverse Osmosis • Iron Removers  
• UV Light Installations Bact Eliminators  
• Drain Clearing • Septic Tank Locating

905-880-5900  
1-888-349-7971 • 519-942-8147  
www.purewatercanada.com  
manax@primus.ca

**WINDOWS/DOORS**

Proven Results  
Come Visit Our Showroom:

2 1/2 miles east of Orangeville on Hwy 9

**David Young**  
941-3667

**TO BE PART OF THIS FEATURE CALL 519-941-2230**

**NEW WAVE POOL & SPA SERVICES**

INSTALLATION SERVICE & REPAIRS BY

QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS

- Inground pool installations
- All work guaranteed
- Full line of chemicals

Mon.-Fri. 9am-6pm  
Sat. 9am-5pm

308 Broadway Unit 4  
Orangeville (519) 942-2722