

37. Re: Miscellaneous Matters Raised in Letter from
Miss Rhoda Jeffers, 4254 Charles Street

Miss Jeffers in her letter to the Municipal Council which was considered on July 12, 1971, raised several questions which are numbered in her letter. The Manager's comments, keeping consistent with her numbering are as follows:

1. The provision of storm sewer for this block of Charles Street was a very great and distinct advantage to the abutting property owners owing to the very sub-standard interconnecting wooden box drain system existing on each of the properties concerned. The people who carried out improvements in replacing the wooden drains around their foundations with proper drain tiles have made a very good investment, but the storm sewer is still distinctly of great advantage and would have had to be carried out in any event for future street improvement. In our opinion, there are not many municipal projects which represent as good a return on the investment as this one did. Further, the project was financed through the Budget and not as a local improvement; therefore, abutting properties really had no voice in approving or disapproving of the work. The forms she refers to were our requests to the owners to have them indicate where they wanted their connection located.
2. The street was in fact repaired with a maintenance cap some two years before the storm sewer was installed, but the cap is by no means a permanent improvement and was not done as a local improvement; it was simply a wise maintenance investment to avoid the necessity of having to spend excessive sums of money in continually patching the very sub-standard pavement existing prior to that time.
3. Concerning lane paving, Miss Jeffers is quite correct in stating that they were paved with a maximum of thickness of 2" and this is proving to be quite adequate. Some difficulty has been experienced with weeds pushing through the apron tie-ins to garages, but we are dealing with these in consultation with a chemical spraying company and it is expected the problem will be eliminated following the first year. It has been impossible to match perfectly the levels of all garages but an optimum level was kept in mind throughout the paving program.
4. Miss Jeffers' statement involves provision of facilities for students in our school system, and accordingly we will not comment.

Miss Jeffers toward the end of her letter made certain general comments. There is probably always room for some improvement in municipal administration as there is in anything, and Miss Jeffers' points are continually being taken into consideration in every-day administration of the Municipality. Wherever a better method presents itself, we have never been reluctant to take the proper steps to initiate such improvements, and we will continue to do so.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT Miss Jeffers be advised of the contents of this report.