

Lincoln

uneconomical to give the road an asphalt surface if it would have to be torn up shortly afterwards.

The next developments occurred in October of 1971; on October 12, Council held one of its bi-monthly meetings and the subject of the water and sewage services for Lincoln Road came up once more. (The Civic election was long over by this time.) At the meeting the Gleaner reports: "A motion introduced by Coun. Leslie Brewer, chairman of the public works committee, not to provide money now or in the 1972 budget for the collection of field information necessary prior to actual work getting underway was tabled." Not surprisingly, there were no citizen's delegations present at that meeting.

However, hearing of this development, the citizens banded together once more and a delegation was sent to the council



Dave Rankin

meeting on October 26 with David Rankin as its spokesman. (Rankin, as indicated before, is a former councillor. He went down to defeat in the civic election of June 1971.) Once again, Councillor Brewer spoke up, but by this time he appeared to have undergone a rather noticeable conversion from his stand of two weeks previous. Says the Gleaner: "Coun. Leslie J. Brewer introduced a motion to have the city undertake the necessary fieldwork this fall for the provision of services to the area."

At the meeting, a letter was read from Leo Rowan, an area resident, to the Mayor. In the letter, he states: "When the Tax Bill arrives it equals many of the tax bills received by people in the heart of the city. When the Assessment is appealed, the excuse given for the increase in taxes is 'Your property has increased in value.' How can the property increase in value when developers are

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discouraged from building in this area because there is no water and no sewage disposal? This has certainly happened in the last two years."

Rankin, in his brief, stated that "if a council fails to honour its commitments to regions or areas within its jurisdiction, how then can a council conceivably hope to attract other regions not properly within its limits? Failure of the Council to meet its immediate obligations surely suggests to communities considering amalgamation that they can expect even less satisfactory response to their needs... Building in this area has, for all practical purposes, come to a complete standstill the last several years."

Councillor Ross Millett, apparently incensed at the decision to go ahead with the fieldwork, resigned his position on the public works committee. Millett did not consider the planned extension of water and sewage services to be

economically feasible at that time.

The matter reached its climax two weeks ago when the capital budget was presented before Council. It was approved but not before the \$690,000 required to carry out the Lincoln Road development was trimmed off. This time, even a delegation of concerned Lincoln Road residents couldn't prevent the action—council voted six to four against extending water and sewage services to Lincoln Road. (One area resident, who shall remain anonymous, speculated to the BRUNSWICKAN that the budget had been INTENTIONALLY jacked up so that Council would have an excuse for not providing the services on the grounds it already had sizeable expenditures to make.)

A number of other questions have also arisen concerning the truth of the

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