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Halton Hills Council throws local failed politician, a bone.

Posted on Sunday, February 18 @ 00:00:00 EST by [editor](#)

Halton Hills Council throws local failed politician, a bone.

Halton Hills - Georgetown: The Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills announced on February 6, that defeated [Regional Chair candidate](#); Brent Marshall, has been appointed to the position of Halton Hills Fire Chief and Director of Fire Protection and Prevention Services. The appointment secures civil employment for the [former Halton Region Chief Administrator](#) who found himself unemployed after losing his bid for Halton's Regional Chair to [Gary Carr](#).



Rick Bonnette & Brent Marshall

[Brent Marshall](#) was often seen [promenading](#) as Acton's pretentious Fire Chief in local parades. He joined the service in 1972 as a volunteer firefighter and in 1986, rose to the level of Acton's token Fire Chief for District 1. Brent is quick to point out that he has been a lifelong resident of Halton Hills with a family history in the area that dates back to one hundred years. The Town noted in its Press Release announcement; "Brent Marshall has had an extensive civil career involving Fire, Public Works and Administration". The Town of Halton Hills boasted; "his leadership capabilities are well known in Halton Hills, The Region of Halton and beyond".

To date; the only academic credentials that Brent Marshall has produced through an [F.O.I. \(Freedom of Information\) request](#), qualifying him for any civil position, is a "[T.J. Mahony Road School](#)" [certificate](#) that he received back in 1984. Brent Marshall fast-tracked through the Region's administrative ranks while serving under [Joyce Savoline](#), where he beat-out professionally ranked - academically qualified contenders for the position of Halton's Chief Administration Officer.

Fellow Actonite, Regional Councillor [Clark Somerville](#) commented; he is "most pleased with the appointment of Chief Marshall." adding that he was very impressed with the qualifications of all the (*undisclosed*) applicants for the Fire Chief position, internal and external.

Fellow Actonite, Mayor [Rick Bonnette](#) remarked; he is "delighted with the **appointment**" and is looking forward to working with Chief Marshall both in his capacity as Director of Fire Protection and Prevention Services and as a member of the '[Senior Management team](#)'.

We can only assume [Bonnette](#) hasn't yet realized; he just endorsed the appointment of what the Herald considers; the next 'main contender' for Halton Hills next Mayor's race, a contender who was fading fast from the lime-light of Halton's news media. Furthermore, with Marshall's academia "T.J. Mahony Road School" certificate, The Herald asserts; if Brent Marshall's [previous administrative performance](#) at the region is any indication of what to expect from this *appointed* "Senior Management Team" player, ratepayers of Halton Hills can expect and should prepare for significant increases to the Halton Hills Fire Department's budgets.

UPDATE:

REPORT TO: Chair Johnson and Members of Fire Services and
Emergency Planning Committee

REPORT FROM: A. Brent Marshall, Fire Chief and Director, Fire Protection & Prevention Services
Ed DeSousa, Director of Finance and Treasurer

DATE: June 21, 2007

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. Fire-2007-0004 dated June 21, 2007 regarding the Joint Fire/EMS Facility at 53 Maple Avenue and the Fire Facility at the Eighth Line and 10 Side Road be received;

BACKGROUND:

"Council previously approved the financing of the 53 Maple Avenue Station in two phases with \$250,000 approved in 2003 for studies and architect fees (FIRE-2002-0028) and the balance of \$2,250,000 in 2005 for the construction for a total of \$2,500,000. **The south Georgetown Station (3rd Station) was approved in 2006 at \$1,200,000. The initial budgets were based on different station design and size than**

what is being currently proposed. There are a number of factors that have contributed to this square footage increase which are explained within the text of this report."

"The schematic design that we are proceeding with is the result of an extensive consultation process with our partners, consultants, and our staff. A number of the design components have been modeled after our Acton Station which has proven to be a very functional facility. Draft plans were presented to all Fire Services staff, both full time and part time in both Districts. **Senior Fire Services staff** reviewed the submissions resulting from the consultation process and from those, decided on the most prudent requests. These plans were then forwarded to Thomas Brown, who was asked to modify the plans accordingly. It is based on this valuable input and all of the analysis that has been done over the past several years that these revised plans are in place and form the basis for the foregoing staff recommendations."

Financial

"The current estimated cost to construct the 53 Maple Avenue Station (\$3,477,000) and the south Georgetown Station (\$3,901,000) **totals \$7,378,000**. This represents a **difference of \$3,678,000** from the **original combined budgets of \$3,700,000** (\$2,500,000 and \$1,200,000)."