Court appearance is set today for Ward 5 Councillor Cliff Gyles

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frauds on the government.

In Gyles' absence, Mayor Hazel McCallion has stepped in to represent Ward 5, said Hamilton.

The mayor occupies the seats of councillors who fall ill or are absent for any other reason, she said.

The Ontario Municipal Act provides elected officials the right to keep their seats unless convicted of a criminal offence and sentenced to jail.

Police arrested Gyles around the dinner hour Monday.

Under police surveillance, a businessman turned over $15,000 in marked Canadian bills at a meeting in a north Mississauga parking lot.

The man had been co-operating with police since going to them in January with allegations that he was asked for $100,000 in exchange for "political influence and consideration on a pending property zoning application."

A search warrant executed Monday at a Mississauga home turned up numerous similarly-marked $100 bills, police said.

The property in question is the former Malton branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, at 3263 Derry Rd. E., just west of Goreway Dr.

The property owner is seeking approval to build a funeral home within the existing facility.

The rezoning application was discussed among councillors at the City of Mississauga's Planning & Development Committee meeting Monday.

However, no recommendation on the application has yet been put forth by the City's Planning Department, officials said.

Gyles, a Ward 5 trustee with Peel's public board from 1980 to 1997, is Canada's longest-serving Black politician, having for 21 years.

Police probe past dealings of councilor

By DECLAN FINUCANE
Staff Feb. 23/01 MN

Peel police have expanded their probe of Mississauga Councillor Cliff Gyles to include his past City-related dealings.

While the Ward 5 councillor remained behind bars for a fourth night after his arrest Monday, charged in connection with an alleged bribery scandal, Peel Regional Police were reportedly collecting information from City Hall on Gyles' dealings since his move to City council from the public school board in 1997.

GYLES

City of Mississauga spokesperson Jane Hamilton said she doesn't know what specific course the police investigation is taking.

"We are co-operating with police on anything they need, but I don't know the specifics," said Hamilton.

City officials are saying little else on the matter and councillors did not discuss the situation at all at Wednesday's general committee meeting.

Staff at the Region of Peel are co-operating with police as well. Mississauga councillors also serve as Regional councillors.

Gyles, 57, who appeared for a bail hearing in Brampton court earlier today, is charged with seeking a kickback from a businessman in return for political influence over the rezoning of the former Malton branch of the Royal Canadian Legion for a funeral home.

Gyles is charged with municipal corruption, breach of trust and

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