Hydro asks Township decision on preferred route

Ontario Hydro officials told an overflow meeting of ratepayers in Nassagaweya Tuesday they would follow an alternate route for a 500,000 volt transmission line through the township if Council felt it would lessen the impact on the township.

J.M. Shedden, property planner with Ontario Hydro, emphasized the utility still favoured a diagonal line across the township, but was prepared to follow an alternate route advanced last year by Nassagaweya Planning Board and Council. The alternate route would enter from Puslinch, cross between lot 23 and 24 and go north on the west half of the fourth concession.

The power line is part of a 140 mile long 500,000 volt transmission line linking Nanticoke and Pickering and tielng in with a supply line from the James Bay area. The line crosses 16 municipalities. The province, in a document released August 1971 has indicated the line

will cross Nassagaweya Township. Officials of the township had earlier hoped the line could be included in the proposed utility corridor further

toward the lake. Hydro officials explained the right of way sought would be 610 feet wide with 120 to 130 foot high towers located approximately 1,000 feet apart. Plans called for a single line in the right of way now, a second in approximately 10 years and a third some time later.

W. D. Peters, Hydro forester reviewed the change in policy that sees only selective cutting on the right of way rather that total clearing. "We leave as many trees as possible", he emphasized. At road and river crossings a screen of trees 100 feet in width is left as are trees in the valleys of the right of way he

told the crowd. Mr. Shedden told the meeting the hydro route would enter the township at lot 23-24 and cross in a diagonal line leaving at high-

way 7. It would require removal of two dwellings, two sets of buildings, affect 39 property owners, be five and a half miles long and affect a minimum amount of bush mainly in the vicinity of the Blue Springs Creek, the Lee estate and the Ackman property. He said 400 acres of land would be involved.

The alternate route, approximately as suggested by the township last year, would affect one set of buildings, slide by a number of buildings, be a mile and a half longer, add several very expensive angles, affect the Halton County forest, cross two of the highest points of land in the township, affect the view in the Blue Springs Creek area, reduce the visual impact from the road by being between the lot lines, retain a diagonal direction at the northern corner of the township and cost approximately \$1,000,000 more.

Henry Best, at the opening of

the question period urged more

information on the burying of the

lines

line or laying it in the lake noting that anyone within miles of the overhead line would be affected by it. Hydro officials maintained there was nowhere in the world

that a 500,000 volt line was buried other than possibly for a very short distance.

Calling for consideration of the kind of land affected by the

alternate and hydro routes, Joe Powadluk, noted some people depend for their living on the land and removal of a house can also mean removal of a livelihood. He protested he 'didn't know of earlier meetings on the subject and suggested no early decision could be reached by the township council on the route it would endorse.

Planning Board Chairman John Kitchen reviewed the discussions and committee report preparation of last year that led to the proposal of alternate routes largely following the fabric of the township roads and lot lines, rather than the diagonal route advanced by Hydro officials.

In answer to questions, Mr. Shedden emphasized the Hydro did not intend to sterilize the land on the right of way. He maintained the land would be leased back to the farmer at \$1 a year plus taxes. Keith Moore protested that he dldn't like farming around posts and wondered if Hydro would buy the whole farm so he could locate his dairy farming elsewhere in

Mr. Shedden suggested Hydro would buy the whole farm only if there was serious effect on the farming operation. It would be a matter of negotiation he suggested.

Bruce MacOdrum representing the Sierra Club, a conservation body, urged Hydro to make studies available that were used to convince the provincial government the transmission line couldn't be placed in the utility corridor proposed in conjunction with the Toronto Centred Region report.

To a question regarding the Impact on health and radio and television interference, E.M. Wadge, supervision project engineer said there would be no effect on health. If radlo and television interference occurred Hydro would have to eliminate it even to the extent of installing a new antennae.

R.A. McPhall, district forester with hydro said all trees possible would be left along the route. If trees came within 10 feet of the line they would be pruned. Trees would reach about 25 feet in height at the line's lowest point.

Hon. George Kerr told the meeting the line was absolutely necessary and he cautioned ratepayers about listening to "a lot of scare statements". He suggested the property separations required for the line would have to be heard by the local committee of adjustment and would be subject to to appeal

to the Ontarlo Municipal Board. Citizens attended the meeting from Rockwood, Puslinch, Guelph, Eramosa and King townships as the crowd of more than 250 spilled into the hall at Brookville Representatives were also present from Pollution Probe, the Ontarlo Federation Naturalists, the Slerra Club. Reeve A. MacArthur presided for an orderly meeting.

Ninety-Seventh Year. -- No. 21

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1971

Eighteen Pages - Fifteen Cents

Hinton appointment challenged at county - then postponed

were made at Halton County Council Tuesday when some members of council attempted to re-appoint H.H. Hinton of Acton as the county's representative to the Sheridan College Board of governors for his second four year term.

Reeve Allan Masson of Oakville said the matter of the appointment had already been ironed out before the meeting started. He and Esquesing Reeve Tom Hill said no time had been allowed for possible candidates from other municipalities to come forward.

Milton Reeve Ron Harris sald Mr. Hinton is a knowledgeable and enthusiastic man. He said he had risen to the position of vice-chairman and might go higher if he was left on.

Manner questioned

When the matter in which the appointment was handled was questioned, Warden F. G. Oakes said Hinton had forgotten more about municipal politics than some of the county councillors

would ever know. Reeve Masson told council he had received "flap" from some of the governors on the board who suggested Oakville should have a representative on the board, seeing as how the college is located there. Dr. J.A.M. Bell from Oakville sits on the board

but is a provincial appointee. The two county appointees at the present time are H.H. Hinton of Acton and Dr. Carl Martin of After considerable

Charges of unfair procedure discussion Reeve Masson withdrew an amendment to a resolution that suggested Jim Peat of Oakville be considered for the post.

Consider Later Council agreed that the matter be left until the December meeting of council and at that

time those two persons and any others who come forward in the meantime will be considered for The appointment carries no salary or honorarium with it.

Endorse county waste disposal planning

Acton council has endorsed a Georgetown council resolution calling for the formation of a county waste disposal committee to discuss waste disposal on a regional basis.

Speaking in favor of the proposal, Deputy-reeve Pat McKenzie told council Holland has a group of people carrying out planning for the whole

"If a country can do it surely the County of Halton could do it," the deputy-reeve remarked. "It's amazing how readily people accept proper planning," he

Council endorsed Georgetown resolution unanimously.



IT WAS STANDING room only at Brookville School last night Ontario Hydro officials about a proposed 500,000 volt

(Tuesday), when Nassagaweya Ratepayers met to question transmission line which would pass through the township.-

Exceed welfare budget \$80,000

Unless the trend changes for collecting welfare fell to a low of the last two months of the year Halton County's Welfare costs will exceed the budgeted amount by \$80,000. The county budgeted \$532,000 for welfare this year.

The provincial government demand for welfare by an adpays 60 per cent of the welfare ditional number of jobs. The costs in the county and the extra jobs are noticeable in remaining 20 is paid from the newspaper advertising he noted. county coffers. In October the number of employables collec- noted Hamilton would require an ting welfare dropped to the additional \$1,000,000 to fulfill lowest ebb in 1971.

number of unemployables of June.

222 for the year in October as

Decline

Deputy Director Rennie Vivlan accounted for the decline in the

At the same meeting it was their welfare requirements. It According to most recent was also noted that Halton had figures 150 employable persons the second lowest percentage of are on the rolls compared to a people on welfare. That was high of 273 in January. The according to figures in the month

Hydro prizes for decorations

A merry Christmas spirit among hydro commissioners Christmas. Thursday produced a decision to offer cash prizes for the three ago by the Chamber of best-decorated houses in Acton this holiday season. Top prize will be \$75, second prize \$50 and third

Out-of-town hydro officials will decorations for their own be asked to come to town to judge . building, too.

the houses some night before

A contest was held some years Commerce. This is the first time the Hydro Commission has offered prizes.

Still in holiday mood, the commission authorized more

Hydro anxious to move — nix new Hulad proposal

When Hulad developer Joe Adamic brought a new proposal to Hydro commission at their meeting Thursday, it was speedily shot down by frustrated members. They assured him in no uncertain terms they were higher averse to anything else that would hold up the agreement on supplying services for the new subdivision.

Mr. Adamic hopes to make a start soon on the first 50 homes of a possible 250 to 300, on the Seynuck, Vyse and Griese properties. Agreement ready

A draft agreement pushed from the solicitor's office just before the meeting was ready for Mr. Adamic's perusal and commissioners wanted to get on with the deal. The draft agreement set out costs and conditions under which the commission would supply street lighting and underground electrical distribution system for the first 50 lots.

Price set in the agreement was \$170 per lot for lighting and \$450 per lot for underground wiring

Exchange .

Yowever, Mr.Adamic had a new scheme. He proposed to hydr commission that they supply hydro service at no cost at all to him. In return, he would assure

all-electric services in the houses for the whole development. He said Barrie, Oshawa and London have all done this with

new subdivisions. You know the amount of consumption this would bring, he

reminded commissioners. However, his proposal was immediately challenged, and

"If there's anything that wrinkles small-town politicians". said Mayor Duby, "It's this push and pull game. The town has gone through a lot to get you moving!"

Snapped Ted Tyler Sr., "The people of Acton are not going to line your pocket! You're going to get the benefit?"

Then the buyers of the home will have to pay a "long price" because you advertise Gold Medallion homes. "Who'll win? Only you!" Mr. Tyler asserted.

Explained Mr. Adamic, 'You've got this mistaken

'It would mean something to Acton hydro!" He wondered if Acton wasn't interested in selling

hydro? Above commissioners protests Mr. Tyler pointed out Acton doesn't get a better rate because of more consumption. "We're a non-profit organization. What hydro costs us, this is what it cost the people."

"It was just a suggestion," concluded Mr. Adamic.

Contact soon

He agreed to take the draft agreement to his solicitor and to contact the town as soon as possible for a further meeting. The first 50 homes will be built

facing Wallace St., around the music centre and over to the old His company is now considering winter works. They

are negotiating with sewer contractors. Mr. Adamic confided he had his

eye on one of the lots for himself.

Now a Toronto resident, he wants "to get out of the rat race." Other business

Members agreed to arrange a service contract for the new electric typewritter.

Mr. Tyler will try to attend a

Crack cases

According to Acton police, no charges have been laid yet but they are nearing the conclusion of investigation of recent car thefts. Many cars have been stolen in North Halton recently and police

think they have "cracked" the case. Acton police said more information would be available for the public next week. A missing Georgetown girl was

located here by Acton police this Police received a complaint of broken windows, and another

that air had been let out of tires

Toronto Nov. 23. Eight pages of questions

concerning discipline policy were presented. Copies will be made for all members to peruse. Another questionnaire was assessing the results of Hydro

month last June. Acton hydro had a special contest and advertisements. A letter from the AMEU asked

that Acton commission register its nickname. Nickname? A for Instance:

Guelph Hydro Electrical Commission is nicknamed Guelph Hyáro. Mused the mayor, We can't say

Acton Hi. That's already used by the high school. Quipped Mr. Tyler: Let's put it backwards, like Ottawa would.

Hydro Acton. The letter was filed.

Will McEachern chaired the meeting with commissioners MacArthur, and Tyler present, Mayor Les Duby, superintendent Doug Mason and secretarytreasurer Audrey Urqubart.



FREE PRESS EDITOR Hartley Coles interviewed author Jim Henderson at his country retreat on the outskirts of Acton recently. Turn inside for story and pictures.—(Staff Photo)



A FREE TWO week trip to Nassau, plus \$200 spending money awaits the lucky winner of a free draw, being offered by local merchants: Shoppers can become eligible for the grand prize by visiting any one of the participating

stores and filling in an entry blank with each purchase. Mrs. L. Degen, Cobblehill Road deposited her entry blank in the Acton Pharmacy box this week, as clerk Madeleine Gibbons looked on.—(Staff Photo)

Faint heart ne'er won 1,000 acres-mayor

"Faint heart ne'er won 1000 acres for Acton," according to Mayor Les Duby.

That's why the mayor feels council should not become discouraged, but rather should be a little more forceful in their attempts to annex land in

Esquesing township. In a recent letter to council, a Department of Municipal Affairs official said several annexation applications received from the Peel-Halton area have already been discouraged. He expressed the opinion there is no reason to believe the Acton application would be considered differently.

Different story However, the mayor told council former Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough had told him personally that

municipalities like Acton should proceed as usual with their applications. Mr. McKeough was named provincial treasurer, shortly after Premier Bill Davis was named PC party leader last spring. Dalton Bales was named to succeed him as Minister of Municipal Affairs.

"I rather wish we had that in writing, Les," Councillor Peter Marks remarked. Marks felt council should write Mr. Bales to find out the reason why there would be a difference of opinion between an appointed and an elected official.

The mayor reminded council Premier Davis had dropped a hint that regional government might not be delayed much longer, at the recent Peel County Warden's dinner.

Reeve Frank Oakes, who attended the dinner as Halton County Warden, confirmed the mayor's statement.

"He did say that," Oakes said. "Whether it was in jest or not I don't know," he added. "Was it a bad joke, Frank?"

Marks asked. "I thought it was, although it made a lot of people laugh," the reeve replied.

Councillor Norm Elliott said he thought council should apply for annexation, then if they meet a roadblock pursue that, rather than wait and see if there's going to be a roadblock.

The letter from the department will be discussed again at the next meeting of council's administration committed. Copies are to be forwarded to planning board and to C. F. Leatherland.