

Task Force Hydro Commission target

Task Force Hydro, the document which proposes to set up a crown corporation out of the present Ontario Hydro received a rough reception at the inaugural meeting of the Acton Hydro Commission, Thursday night.

"Stimulating it all up, they have created a political football which would allow them to get into debt and bleed it awhile," declared commissioner Ted Tyler. "They are taking all the power away from the people."

"And that's why local commissions were set up in the

first place," observed Mayor Les Duby.

Commissioner Bob MacArthur produced a copy of eight resolutions passed at the annual meeting of the Ontario Municipal Electric Association, which he attended, opposing the designation of Ontario Hydro as a crown corporation or the transfer of assets to it.

Municipally owned

The resolutions pointed out that the various municipalities of the province have provided almost all the capital funds to Ontario Hydro to establish generating and transmission facilities and this acquired an equity. This has benefited them through a system of return which demonstrated their ownership of Ontario Hydro.

In the view of the OMEA the recommendations, separately or combined, were directed toward the diminution of the public voice at the local level in the control and operation of the hydro system in Ontario. It was also resolved that regardless of the regionalization of municipal government and the location of the Hydro Electric utility, control should be entrusted to elected commissioners and not those appointed.

The OMEA also went on record as favoring a lower tier municipal placement for hydro if and when regionalization of government occurs.

The resolutions struck a sympathetic note with the Acton Body.

They passed a resolution endorsing a Woodstock resolution opposing the implementation of Task Force Hydro and decided to purchase 2,000 copies of a pamphlet which condenses the effects the Task Force Hydro study would have on the consumer. The pamphlets will be inserted in hydro bill mailings to each Acton consumer.

"What will be will be," said one commissioner with a shrug.

"If we all sit back and do nothing that's what it will be," countered Commissioner Tyler.

In further business, the commission re-elected Wilf McEachern as chairman and Ted Tyler as vice-chairman for another term, with Orville Brown and Mayor Duby on property and Bob MacArthur and Tyler on finance committees. Town clerk Joe Hurst conducted the swearing in ceremony where all commissioners took the oath of office.



THEY'RE OFF at Courtcliffe Park oval as five of 150 machines participating in Carlisle Snowdrifters' annual snowmobile race meet leave the starting line in Sunday's races. (Photo by R. Downs)

Commission satisfied with contest

Acton Hydro commissioners expressed satisfaction with the results of the commission's Christmas lighting contest in 1972 and will consider removing restrictions which barred previous winners from being among prize winners in subsequent contests.

Commissioner Orville Brown said he thought contest judge Georgetown hydro commissioner Jack Armstrong had done a good job in his choice of prize winning houses. He had driven around himself and found the choices excellent.

"He didn't pick those who spent all kinds of money," explained Commissioner Bob MacArthur, "but those who showed the most ingenuity with what they had to work with."

There has been no complaints about the prize winning houses this year, the commission felt, but on the suggestion of vice-chairman T. Tyler Sr. agreed that some thought should be given to the ruling which barred previous winners from being ineligible for prizes for a three year period.

We are defeating our own purpose in barring those who annually set out a fine light display said Tyler. He noted prize winning parades had no such restrictions.

It was also agreed the judge of this year's contest should be granted suitable appreciation in the form of a small gift. Mr. Armstrong was surprised by the quality and extent of lighting displays in Acton, secretary Audrey Urquhart said, and intends to promote a similar contest in Georgetown next year, if possible, using Acton commissioners as judges.

Contest winners in Acton were Mr. and Mrs. Ray Arbie, Mr. and Mrs. W. Miller and Mr. and Mrs. Colin MacColl. Honorable mentions went to Mrs. Reta Braida, Joe Brown and Mr. and Mrs. Alf Duby.

To waterproof Y basement

Work is to begin as soon as possible on waterproofing the Y.M.C.A. basement. Council Tuesday night approved the quotation of Vulcan Waterproofing Limited of \$1,346 for the contract.

Slight damage in fire Mon.

Less than \$100 damage resulted from a Monday afternoon fire at the apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Ron MacIntyre above the YMCA building on Mill St.

Firefighters using Scott air packs put out the fire, which is believed to have been started by a cigarette butt thrown into a garbage bag.

Fire chief Mick Holmes said the damage was confined to the immediate area where the bag was placed and the wall casing. No estimate on smoke damage was available. The fire occurred at approximately 2:30 p.m.

Councillor Norm Elliott introduced the motion explaining the Y has been plagued with the problem of water leaking in at the foundation and the programs located in the basement suffer. Last year's attempt to improve the situation with fill and changed drainage had proven useless.

He felt this system was the only recourse.

Legacy neglected

"I feel that the legacy of the Y has been sorely neglected by the people of Acton for many years now," Mr. Elliott declared. "And the town is that much the worse off for neglecting a substantial gift."

The work will be done both outside, injecting waterproofing, and inside, where the floor will have to be broken up in some places. Deputy-reeve McKenzie felt a sump pump might be needed. If so, this would be an additional cost above the contract.

Council is responsible for the maintenance of the Y building.

ACTON Municipal Council ACTIVITIES

Council members attended to a variety of matters Tuesday night. Information was received by full council via committee minutes.

The mayor and clerk were authorized to sign a subdivision agreement for phase two of Acton Meadows, including 24 homes. The contract was negotiated last year and the actual agreement can be signed next week. Clerk-administrator Joe Hurst outlined changes in the agreement including new lot levies, road reconstruction and re-location of hydro service with buried cable.

"Bovis is waiting. It's imperative to get underway," commented deputy-reeve Marks.

Three taxi licenses were approved for Reliable Taxi. Only two taxis are operated at present. The O.P.P. had also given approval and stated the vehicles are in proper running order. The operator agreed to submit certificates of mechanical fitness if requested.

A proposed road layout, with sidewalk and storm sewers for Elizabeth Dr. had been presented to committee by N. Nottenboom of R. V. Anderson Associates engineers and was discussed at council Tuesday. Mr. Nottenboom had explained the cost to locate the sidewalk on the north side would be less than on the south side mainly due to the amount of fill that would be required.

Judo enthusiasts receive promotions

Six members of the Georgetown-Y-Budokan Judo Club from this area, were promoted at Ka-kami Baraki in Toronto, January 7.

Cathy Griese, R.R. 4, Acton, was presented with a trophy for being the outstanding female white belt in the club, as well as being promoted to yellow belt.

Darrell Lece R.R. 1, Acton, and Winston Cronkite, Limehouse, advanced to orange belts; Rod Donaldson, Limehouse, and Beth Thomson, R.R. 1, Acton, to blue.

Belt colors, signifying levels of proficiency, are white, yellow

orange, green blue, red for juniors and brown for seniors. There are 10 degrees of black belt at the top.

Only one red belt in the Georgetown club's juniors is held by 13-year-old Jim Thomson R.R. 1, Acton, which is as high as a junior can go.

Gord Thomson, father of Jim, Beth and yellow belted David, was presented with certificate promoting him the 1k Kyu in Kudokan Judo, entitling him to wear the brown belt.

The Georgetown Club will be holding its first home-town tournament, January 21

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FOOD PRICES EFFECTIVE WED. THUR. SAT., JAN. 17, 18, 19 & 20

Bell . . .

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will be no increase for two party service.

Barnes also told council the company is considering a charge of 25 cents for directory assistance calls asking for numbers that are already listed in the telephone book. He said a survey showed that 80 per cent of directory assistance calls are for listed numbers and that this service was costing Bell Canada \$17 million a year.

He said the charge would not apply to persons with sight impediments or to calls made from hotels and motels. New listings would also be exempt.

Pay phones

Also included in the applications is a request to increase the price of a call from a pay telephone from a dime to 20 cents. On the other hand, Barnes

said a new type of pay phone, which would allow emergency calls to be made on credit is to be introduced.

Of particular interest to township residents was a statement by Barnes that his company will accept referrals on what may be considered a Locality Rate Area. These are rural areas, which have a reasonably heavy concentration of residents, such as Limehouse and Hornby. Installation and service rates for these areas are lower than for normal rural districts. Hornby was recently classified an LRA by the company.

Barnes also said consideration is being given to reducing rural lines from eight to a maximum of four parties.

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