

# Parks board, Lions Club to meet on station issue

Acton Parks and Recreation Committee will arrange a meeting with the Acton Lions Club to discuss further the Lions Club proposal to move the CNR station to parkland on the Lakeview side of Fairy Lake, if they are successful in obtaining the building.

The committee has received a letter of objection to the proposed location and a petition signed by Lakeview subdivision ratepayers. The same petition was presented to Acton council last month.

"I don't agree with everything they say in their brief, but they are taxpayers in this town, they have gone through the proper channels, although perhaps they should have come to us first then

gone to council," Councillor Barry Incoe said.

Committee member Gil Malcolm said he thought a lot of confusion about the project could have been avoided if the club had released information about their intended use of the building.

"Residents were in the dark as to what was behind it," he suggested.

Couldn't see it

Councillor Orv Chapman said he couldn't see the building being placed in the suggested location in the first place. The proposed site is on the south side of Elizabeth Drive between the intersections with Tyler and Jeffrey Avenues.

Chairman Diane Spielvogel, however charged an Acton Free

Press picture showing the station on Lakeview parkland was misleading. She said the building was not shown in the exact location proposed.

Lou Bonnette, newest parks and recreation member said he thought the building would fit in better on the other side of the lake, but added "if they get the building, we'll sure as hell find a place to put it."

Bonnette, a building materials salesman, estimated it would cost at least between \$35,000 and \$40,000 to construct a building of similar area now.

Agreeing that there are too many questions about the project left unanswered, members decided to have copies of questions ready for both parties before the proposed meeting.

Areas of responsibility which

parks members are concerned about include services, landscaping, fencing, outside lighting, insurance, routine maintenance, parking, legal ownership, heating, renovations and swimming area development.

It is believed the club would suggest the building be used as a change room for swimmers and headquarters for boaters during the summer and a change room for skaters during the winter.

Commenting on the possibility parks board might have to assume most of these responsibilities, Mrs. Spielvogel had this to say, "If this came up, my reaction would be that we don't want it, because we can't afford it. I'm sure council would down it too, because what we have to maintain they have to maintain."

# Commission paints bleak picture of role in regional government

Although members of Acton Hydro Commission were pleased with recently released information from Premier William Davis that it was not the Ontario Government's intention to dissolve local hydro commissions when Ontario Hydro is turned into a crown corporation, some of the commissioners viewed the situation on a sour note. At a meeting Thursday they reviewed the premier's remarks.

Mr. Davis told delegates to the 64th convention of the Ontario Municipal Electric Association (AMEA) and the Association of Municipal Electric Utilities of Canada that the Government has decided to accept the recommendation to redesignate Hydro as a crown corporation, but certainly not with the aim, as has been suggested of turning Hydro

into a vast, profit-making commercial enterprise controlled by the Government. Commission chairman Will McEachern and Bob MacArthur and superintendent Doug Mason attended the convention from Acton and heard the premier speak.

The premier said it was his personal desire to see the evolution of bigger and stronger municipal utilities. He foresaw the larger distribution units proposed corresponding with the pattern of new municipal governments across the province, with the net result that a smaller percentage of customers would deal directly with Ontario Hydro.

"I believe," Mr. Davis said, "that the recommendations of Task Force Hydro, rather than doing away with the concept of municipal utilities, are designed to update and strengthen that concept."

Commissioner MacArthur said the premier also said the utilities would not likely be controlled at the higher tier, but at the lower tier, but this cut no ice with Mayor Les Duby, who declared there likely wouldn't be a lower tier—that the Government hoped to have only one tier in the region.

The Acton commission had criticized the Task Force Hydro proposal at the January meeting with vice-chairman Ted Tyler Sr. declaring they were a political football which would allow the

Government to bleed Hydro and take all the power away from the people. "And that's why local commissions were set up in the first place," the mayor recalled.

The commission endorsed a Woodstock resolution in January which opposed designating Ontario Hydro as a crown corporation or the transfer of assets to it. The resolution also opposed entrusting control of Hydro to appointed rather than elected officials, an argument which Mr. Davis said the Government has accepted.

"While the tradition of election of commissioners will be left unchanged, a means would be devised to allow for the appointment of commissioners if this is felt by the municipality to be more appropriate in light of its own circumstances," the premier told the convention.

Acton Commissioners were willing to grant the Government had made some concessions to

the dissent but could foresee the day when Hydro and regional government positions would be available to only about five per cent of the population able to spare the time. They cut holes in the regional arguments.

It is going to be more expensive, declared Ted Tyler. "See what regional councillors will draw in fees—\$20,000. And that's cheaper, eh?" he said. "Cheaper for whom?"

"By and large the ordinary citizen won't be able to participate," the mayor felt certain, only those who could compete for the high-priced positions.

Tyler felt Halton County council had caught the scent of more money as well. "County salaries are up," he noted. "They want one more kick at the cat before they are dissolved." He saw the whole regionalization picture bleakly, comparing proposals to the restructuring of the school boards.

# What council did

At the regular meeting Tuesday night, Acton council:

—Passed by-laws appointing clerk-administrator Grant Usher as tax collector, treasurer, zoning administrator and giving him signing power for financial and other documents. Also passed a by-law appointing deputy clerk Hugh Patterson as deputy clerk treasurer and assigning signing powers to him for the period March 17 - 25 in the absence of the clerk.

—Passed a by-law appointing E. T. Marks as building inspector for the town with a new remuneration schedule. Mr. Marks will receive 85 per cent of the permit fees and the town will retain 15 per cent to cover administration costs and engineering fees. Under the present arrangement Mr. Marks received 100 per cent of the permit fees. Deputy-Reeve Peter Marks declared a conflict of interest and did not participate in the discussion or passage of the by-law.

—Endorsed without comment an Esqueing resolution to the Government and local MLA's advising concern about the proposed garbage disposal site at the Indusmin Quarries and expressing the desire to be consulted before any decision is made and receive any available information on the long range effects on the environment by such a project.

—Accepted the recommendation of the committee and appointed Alf Duby, town works superintendent, as weed inspector for the town. The position carries no remuneration.

—Passed a by-law for the issuance of debentures of \$45,496 for the town line water main construction. Retiring clerk Joe Hurst explained \$53,793 was approved by the provincial and federal governments and there was a forgiveness of \$8,297.15 for labor. The town then must apply to the province for one debenture at 7 per cent interest for the balance of the expenditure, \$45,496. He said the original estimate of \$91,000 for the job was only out \$1,000 one way or the other.

—Approved progress payments to Dundas Construction of \$5,251.30 for construction of the Town Line water mains and \$11,827.63 to Kleenway Construction for Highway 25 six-inch water main, a sum returnable.

—Passed a resolution applying for a 10 year debenture of \$37,400 at 8.5 per cent interest from the Ontario Municipal Improvement Corporation for the new water pump house on the Town Line. Mr. Hurst explained the expenditure was set up in the same construction by-law as the water mains but the period was cut in half from 20 to 10 years.

—Approved progress payment of \$4,959.28 to Civiero construction for work on the Wallace St. culvert.

—After some discussion approved proceeding with work on a 10' x 5' x 66' long concrete box culvert and use of 200 tons of clear stone for the extension of Wallace St. into the Industrial Park. Estimated cost of the project is \$12,790.00.

Mayor Les Duby presided for the two hour meeting which was followed by a budget session. All councillors were present.

# Hope to begin arena work

Phase 4 of the Acton arena reconstruction, which will include stabilizing the north and south walls with cement blocks, may begin Monday, April 9, if Acton council approves the budget submitted by Acton parks and recreation committee this week.

Arena manager Harold Townsley said at Monday's parks and recreation meeting he would

like the work to begin as soon after ice goes out as possible. Acton Figure Skating Club carnival is scheduled for April 7 and the Acton Centennial Commission plans a skate-a-thon for Sunday, April 8.

Mr. Townsley estimated workmen wouldn't be any longer than five weeks at the job. He said he could not see the work interfering

with arena floor activities. Ceiling of the building is also scheduled to receive a coat of light-colored paint to help brighten the place up. Five new basins will be installed in the building's washrooms at a cost not to exceed \$650.

# Halton competitors College Royal winners

Bill Lasby of R.R. 2 Rockwood was the Reserve Grand Champion Showman of the College Royal Livestock Show at the University of Guelph March 10. Over 150 students competed in this show and were placed in their ability to exhibit their animal before the audience. There were classes of Dairy, Beef, Horses and Sheep for both novices and experienced showmen.

Bill Lasby was chosen Champion Beef Judge and then competed with the champions in the other three divisions, ending up as Reserve Grand Champion. He is just completing his second year of the diploma course.

Lloyd Stokes, R.R. 2 Campbell-

ville, placed second in his Senior Horse Championship Class with Edward Bird, R.R. 2 Georgetown, coming second in his Dairy Heifer Class.

Jeff Nurse, R.R. 2 Georgetown, a former winner in the dairy section at the O.A.C. College Royal and Grand Champion Showman at the Kemptville College of Agricultural Technology was the dairy judge. Keith Aiken of R.R. 3 Acton, a former Acton 4-H club member and a fourth year student at the University was in charge of the livestock division of the College Royal.

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For more help, visit or simply call your District Taxation Office. If it's long distance, dial the operator and ask for ZENITH 04000 (it's free).

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**Spare farms**

Family farms that will remain in agriculture should be spared any interference that may result from the construction of hydro corridors through Halton County, the Halton Federation of Agriculture said in a letter to the Solandt Commission on hydro transmission lines.

Halton County's Administration Committee recommended county council endorse the Federation's suggestion.

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