

Hydro 'expert' admits agricultural training limited

Meetings into the proposed 250 foot 500 KV hydro corridor between Bradley Junction and Georgetown got underway this week at the Hillsburgh Community Centre in front of the Environmental Hearing Board.

Dr. E. Walker of the Ontario Hydro Commission explained the environmental study conducted by Hydro which is contained in a two volume report published last year by the Ontario Government, at Tuesday's session.

Walker stated the study when made, was particularly concerned with the natural areas along the proposed route. The major goal of the study team is "to find a route which best satisfied a number of objectives set down at the outset of the study."

The first task of the group was to "establish the area where major concerns of constraints lay."

Walker continued most of yesterday explaining a set of maps and aerial photographs which were submitted to the Environmental Hearing Commission. The maps included overlays which located such things as high impact areas, areas of cultivation and non-cultivation and areas of personal or local interest which people within the affected communities had designated. Walker admitted under cross-examination he had no formal training in reading aerial photos.

During cross-examination by Robert Smith, lawyer for the Concerned Citizens Group, Walker also admitted the

study on the Bradley to Georgetown line was the first such study ever conducted by Ontario Hydro. He also stated during questioning on his background that he had never done a study on impact analysis of hydro lines, before. Thesis for his doctorate was on ground squirrels. The closest he had ever been to agriculture was during a study he had conducted on the effect groundhogs have on crops and the effect of black-birds on crops.

Smith also asked if icing of the hydro lines had been considered by the group during their study. He was told the Orangeville area, which was known to them to be a bad area for icing, was studied, but that no other areas along the line were.

Reford Gardhouse, a Halton Hills farmer, commented to this reporter during the hearing in its first day "they haven't lacked it up with their expertise" referring to information being given. "If they had we wouldn't be in the mess we're in now. They would have data and everything to back themselves up."

Gardhouse is one of the members of the Concerned Citizens Group which is asking for an independent study into the proposed Bradley to Georgetown line such as the study conducted by Bruce Howlett for the Solandt Commission.

The meetings will continue until the board is satisfied all sides of the question have been heard, the chairman told the first meeting in Hillsburgh.

The Acton Free Press

Works supports corridor study

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PIRATE DAY was well attended at the M.Z. Bennett school on Friday as children came dressed up in pirate costumes. Captain Hook, (not shown), who was really the playground supervisor Rick Rocher, arrived later on in the day to tell stories of his adventures.

\$1,582,550 capital budget but only \$300,000 debt

The town of Halton Hills will spend \$1,582,550 on construction projects in 1975, with only \$300,000 to be paid by debentures.

Tuesday night council passed the 1975 capital budget totalling \$1,582,550. The capital budget covers construction projects, as opposed to the current budget, which covers normal every day operations.

All but the \$300,000 was included in the budget passed a month ago, so the tax rate is not affected by this capital budget.

Roads
Projects to be done this year include Church Street, Acton from Main to Eastern; Sargent Road from Mountainview to Rexway, and Raylawn Crescent, Georgetown. The total cost of the

road work is estimated at \$425,000, with the province paying half.

Culverts will be built on the Fourth Line, Fifth Line and Sixth Line, at an estimated cost of \$98,000. The provincial subsidy is 80 per cent, resulting in a \$19,600 town share.

Storm sewers are planned for Normandy Boulevard, Guelph Street, from Maple to Rexway, and Rexway from Delrex to Sargent Road, Georgetown. The cost is estimated at \$199,000, with the province paying half.

Recreation
The parks and recreation projects amount to \$311,550, but due to increased community centres grants, surplus funds, reserve funds, and donations from Georgetown Lions Club, the town will

pay only \$38,000.

The total cost of Acton arena roof is \$80,000 but \$20,000 comes from a community centres grant, \$15,000 from a reserve fund set up by the former town of Acton for that purpose, \$25,000 from the reserve lot levy fund, and \$20,000 from 1973 surplus fund.

The resurfacing of Acton arena parking lot is expected to cost \$10,200, and the change rooms and community hall at Georgetown outdoor pool \$100,000. This is a Georgetown Lions club project, which will receive a \$25,000 community centres grant.

The old Georgetown arena parking lot will cost \$18,150 to be resurfaced and it will be paid out of current revenue. Tennis courts all over Halton Hills will cost \$71,000.

Lights at Prospect Park, Acton, are expected to cost \$8,000, with \$2,000 coming from community centres grants, and \$3,000 from the former Acton tennis club reserve fund. The remainder will come from the operating fund.

Four courts at the Gordon Alcott arena, Georgetown, are estimated at \$52,000.

Lighting at Emmerson park courts, Georgetown, is estimated at \$8,000, with a \$2,000 Community Centres grant, and the rest paid by the normal operating fund. Fencing at this park is estimated at \$1,500, with a \$374 Community Centres grant.

The same cost and grant is expected for fencing at the courts at the Acton club.

Ball diamonds, lighting and screening at the Fairgrounds Park, Georgetown, has \$15,000 allocated, with \$10,000 to come from the 1974 operating fund and the rest from this year's current revenue.

Ball screens at Hornby, Limehouse and Prospect Park, Acton, will cost \$5,200, from current revenue. The sum of \$12,800 has been set aside for renovations to Georgetown library.

The \$300,000 debenture is slated for the purchase of land for a new administration building.

Old trees coming down

Unsafe trees on Bower and Elgin will soon be removed by Acton Hydro and town works crews, it was announced at Monday's works committee meeting.

Earl Lambert, 68 Bower Ave., wrote the town last month stating that he would not be responsible for two trees which appear unsafe on Bower and another on Elgin Street.

Committee chairman Joe Hurst revealed the trees will be chopped down soon.



Here's how, kids

TENNIS instructor is former junior champ Karen McKersie. She demonstrates a serve for children Tuesday, three reserve balls at the ready. See the sports pages.

Three in one family hurt in two crashes

In a bizarre co-incident, three members of one Acton family were injured Saturday night in two separate single-car accidents on Highway 25 south of Acton.

Mrs. Ann Newell, 97 Churchill Rd., Acton, was being driven to Hamilton General hospital by one son Kenneth to see another son, Frederick,

injured earlier, when they too were involved in a collision and ended up in Milton district hospital. Three passengers were injured as well.

First crash
It started when a 1969 Plymouth driven by Frederick Newell, 97 Churchill, went out of control on Highway 25 just south of Speyside at 11.15

p.m. striking a tree. The driver and passenger Garry Arpa, 77 Townline, Milton, were taken to Milton district hospital.

Frederick Newell had multiple injuries which included a skull fracture and was transferred to Hamilton. Arpa had contusions and was released from hospital Tuesday.

Arena re-opens

Arena renovations are completed now, and this week the men are working at finishing touches, such as painting the seats.

Installation of a new roof had prevented summer programs and games, but the facility will be back in business next Monday night with a junior lacrosse game here.

Minor lacrosse is also scheduled to play here and there will be roller skating in August.

Lacrosse games had been scheduled in Georgetown.

Playground children have been using the front section of the arena which wasn't affected by the weeks-long building program.

Welcon Construction, Guelph, had the \$70,000, roofing contract. Acton council first began planning for a new arena roof several years ago, then Halton Hills took over.

Rural playgrounds extended to full days

Because of excellent attendance at both the Speyside and Ballinafad summer playgrounds, the Halton Hills recreation department has decided to extend the program to a full day instead of half days.

During the first week of operation, Speyside had 35 children registered for the afternoon sessions. Ballin-

afad, in the mornings, had 37 registered.

The same playground leaders were at each camp due to the split days. Now, with full days, a new arrangement is made. There is one leader in Limehouse, as opposed to two, and one leader-in-training. The Speyside playground also has one leader and a leader-in-

training. Ballinafad has two leaders and one leader in training.

Another Kingham crash

Another accident happened Monday evening at the Main-Kingham corner, beneath a newly-installed flasher warning sign not yet in operation. There have been over half a dozen accidents here since the subdivision was opened, and the flasher had just been installed by Halton Hills workmen that morning.

A car driven by Robert Gilder, Fergus, was coming northbound up the highway when an unknown vehicle pulled into its path, making a left turn into town out of Kingham Hills. The Fergus car left the roadway, crossed the east shoulder and struck a hydro pole. Estimated damage was about \$1,000 and the car had to be towed away.

About three months ago the speed limit sign was moved further down the highway, so cars would be slowed down before reaching the hill. A short distance that previously had a 40 mile speed limit was cut down to a 30 mile limit.

Sun falls

A Toronto Sun paper box toppled over at the Mill-Willow corner Tuesday noon, cutting young Scott Johanson. Passers-by helped lift the box off him, and he was taken to a doctor by his mother. He required stitches.

Remove Acton from building

The sign saying Acton on the ward one municipal building will be removed and the town is going to look into why the name Acton hasn't disappeared from the building sooner.

At Monday's works committee meeting councillor Ern Hyde complained that the old municipal names have been removed throughout the town, except in Acton.

"A year-and-a-half to two years ago it was decided to remove the old names from all our buildings and replace them with Halton Hills. Erasing is off and Georgetown isn't on any building anymore. The only one left is in Acton. "Why hasn't it disappeared?" he wondered. Town engineer Robert Austin said the delay may be caused because efforts were being made to get a cost figure for changing the signs. He said he didn't know why the sign change hasn't taken place.

No. 7 plans seen today

Part of the reconstruction of Highway 7 between Acton and Guelph will include building a sidewalk in front of three houses in Lakaview subdivision which face the highway. The announcement was made at Monday's works committee meeting.

In addition it was revealed that committee chairman Joe Hurst and engineer Robert Austin would be joining Ministry of Transportation and Communications officials at the Rockwood community hall to answer residents' questions about the reconstruction plans on Tuesday and today (Wednesday).



SCHOOL'S OPEN—but not for classes. Entire wall of Acton high school is being rebricked this summer. Reconstruction is necessary to correct a one to one-and-a-half inch gap between the wall and the building. Window

jamb and sashes had rotted and have to be replaced. The heating system will also be changed.