

Proposed Hydro corridor draws hundreds to Hillsburgh meetings

After four days of hearings in front of the Environmental Hearing Board over the 25 mile portion of a proposed 250 foot, 500 kV hydro corridor, residents of Erin township seem to agree it is the best entertainment for miles. They are flocking to meetings in the Hillsburgh community centre in hundreds to hear arguments pro and con the corridor that have all the hallmarks of a courtroom drama. And there are still more to come.

The meetings, ordered by Energy Minister Dennis Timbrell, have only been asked to consider the 25-mile stretch of proposed corridor which reaches from a point just north of Ballinacree and up to a point west of Shelburne, but the Interested Citizens Group headed by William Mann, contends there should be an independent study of the entire corridor from Bradley Junction to the point in Halton Hills where it will join up with the 500 kV east-west corridor. Queen's Park, through Mr. Timbrell, has indicated that there is no money for an in-

dependent study of the entire route such as was done by Bruce Howlett for the east-west corridor. Citizens along the route are screaming they deserve the same treatment as the Government gave those along the route of the east-west corridor.

Representatives of the Interested Citizens Group and communities along the route of the proposed corridor, have sat through some of the hottest days of the summer to hear testimony from a battery of Ontario Hydro experts defending their choice of a

corridor and pooh-poohing suggestions that Hydro could use existing corridors already occupied by hydro towers to connect the Bruce nuclear power station with the east-west grid.

Hydro lawyer J. B. S. Southey and R. S. Smith, lawyer for the Interested Citizens have been stars of the show but the ICG has been fielding convincing and knowledgeable experts of their own who have strongly indicated there should be an independent study of the entire corridor, because Ontario Hydro has not done a proper environmental study.

Staged for the hearings in the well-lit Hillsburgh community centre meeting rooms, has the Environmental Hearing Board on the middle of a horseshoe while Ontario Hydro representatives sit on one side behind the redoubtable Mr. Southey. Mr. Smith leads the offense from the other side. Both lawyers have led with questions that have led to gripping drama which has the audience, estimated at over 200 for one evening meeting,

holding onto the edge of their seats, alternately applauding and laughing as points were scored.

Although it is one of the busiest times of the year for the predominately rural audience, entire families have come to hear the proceedings because their farm could be affected, or a neighbor's. There have been charges the route Ontario Hydro selected was "political" rather than based on environmental concerns. Earlier this year it was charged in the Legislature that the route chosen took a jog around some of the influential people of the township.

David H. Cressman, senior environmental engineer for Hydro, defended their selection of a route and suggested there would be very little damage to the environment and the majority of the land beneath the 100 foot high towers could be returned to use once towers were installed. He said Ontario Hydro had already demonstrated farmers can carry on farming and he exhibited blown up aerial photos which purported to show how it was done.

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1,283 homes abutting town rejected by planning board

Two separate proposals, calling for a total of 1,283 homes, on 206 acres, bounded by Churchill Road North, and Highway 7, on the fringes of Acton, were turned down by Halton Hills Planning Board, Tuesday night.

The first proposal to be rejected was from Hinari Ltd., of Brampton, who planned 472 units on 88 acres on part of Lot 28, Con. 4.

The second plan, from Acton Holdings, Toronto, called for 811 homes on 118 acres on part Lot 28, and 29, Con. 4.

A report from Assistant Town Planner Ron Burnett said all available capacity in the Acton sewage plant was taken up with houses now under construction and plans already approved.

He said both projects were premature, since the Regional Works department is investigating the possibility of expanding the Acton sewage plant from the present capacity of .65 million gallons a day to one million gallons.



DAMAGE WAS ESTIMATED AT \$2,000 when 35 windows at the main Robert Little school and stone school were broken Sunday. Two youths have been charged. Stones were found inside the shattered panes. Entry window pictured above was of plate glass.

Town to inspect highway 7 plans

Halton Hills council is inviting representatives of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications to come and present a brief on plans for reconstruction of highway 7 between Acton and Guelph.

Councillor Joe Hurst suggested the town should find out about the proposed work on the highway while the plans are still tentative and not wait until they have been finalized.

Hill walks out

Both region sites rejected

Halton Regional Council came within two votes of repeating history and making Milton the regional seat of Halton during a meeting Wednesday.

Developers too reported to be away at Milwaukee for a major league baseball game. Councillors Eriksen and Mac Anderson of Oakville, missed the meeting as well.

In a long, drawn-out debate council rejected both the proposed Milton site at Highway 25 and Derry Rd. and a second site in Oakville. The second site was on Highway 25 at Bronte Provincial Park.

The nine-person Burlington caucus played a substantial role in killing both of the proposals. Burlington has nine of the 24 members on council. The Milton site was recommended by the site and building committee and was the first to be voted on.

That proposal received no support from Burlington and only two votes from Oakville. Councillors Terry Mannell and Bill Mason broke ranks with their Oakville colleagues and supported the Milton site on the first vote.

Chances of that proposal winning council's endorsement fell by the wayside, however. Councillor Ric Morrow of Halton Hills was the lone northern councillor to vote against the Milton site.

Commenting on the outcome of the vote during a recess, site and building committee chairman Tom Hill said "If we had McKenzie and Eriksen, we might have had it." Councillor Pat McKenzie of Halton Hills is

reported to be away at Milwaukee for a major league baseball game. Councillors Eriksen and Mac Anderson of Oakville, missed the meeting as well.

Planning Director Ed Cumming gave councillors a verbal report reviewing the committee deliberations and how it had narrowed down the various proposals to two choices.

Central He pointed out the Milton site was preferred because of the scenic attributes and the easy access and geographical centrality.

Mr. Cumming noted the Milton location loaned itself to a picturesque development

the government, but stated he was not prepared to accept Mr. McKeough's explanation when he could see what is happening to the cost of operating sewer and water services.

He said the Regional Works Department was not even going to do the actual work, and would allow any contractor to dig up the town roads.

Hyde claimed at least the actual work should be done by the town, and charged back to the Region if they want to keep control of these services. "We were doing it to the satisfaction of the people. We don't have to swallow

McKeough's malarkey," he concluded.

Levy said he would go further and push for complete control of water and sewers, but if that proves impossible he suggested a working arrangement with the Region may be possible. "We would have better control of how and when the work is actually done."

Sykes said the town would have to get the rest of the municipalities in Halton behind them for the province to listen. He said McKeough would be attending Regional Council August 20, and said the matter would come up at that time.

the town of Halton Hills and Darcy McKeough, Minister of Treasury, Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs, are at loggerheads over the regional installation and maintenance of water and sewer services.

Only Councillor Mike Armstrong did not go along with a letter protesting the regional works department doing the work in town, and sending a letter to all the municipalities in Halton asking for their support.

A reply to the original letter to the Minister stating their views, did not satisfy Councillor Ern Hyde. He said he did not want to embarrass

per hour. Smoke belched from the afterburners and loud booms made everyone wish they had brought their ear plugs.

VROOM! Jet dragsters tore down the strip at Toronto International Dragway on fifth line Halton Hills, Saturday evening reaching speeds up to and over 250 miles



70 YEARS A member of the Oddfellows, George McPhail was presented with the pin commemorating seven decades of membership last Wednesday. Making the presentation are

D.D.G.M. W. E. Coppin, Toronto, left, and United lodge 415 financial secretary Tom MacDonald, right. Fellow lodge members came up by bus from Toronto for the presentation.

Refuse rezoning of Highway 25 lot

Halton Hills Planning Board refused an application by Environmental Technical Services, to rezone a lot on the east side of Highway 25, from industrial to residential.

The lot, with 139 foot frontage on Highway 25 runs 300 feet back to Wallace Street. The owner planned to keep the back half industrial with access to Wallace Street, but wanted to build a home on the part fronting on Highway 25.

A report from the planning department said there are houses on either side of the lot now, although the area is zoned industrial.

The report said the existing six houses did not warrant rezoning, and claimed it would be undesirable to place one or two new homes in this block, "as it would serve as an incentive to preserve the existing housing stock."

Town takes on province in water-sewer battle

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the final recommendation said the area north of the railroad is not suited for future residential development.

Halton Hills Planning Board accepted the planner's report and recommended the application for rezoning be refused by council.

Council settles parks maintenance question

The continuing saga of who in Halton Hills is responsible for parks maintenance may have finally been settled.

Last week the works committee suggested the recreation advisory committee pass on their complaints and inquiries about park maintenance to the town engineer.

Monday night Halton Hills council went along with that plan but only after some debate.

Councillor Joe Hurst explained that the engineer would see to it that recreation advisory committee suggestions for general maintenance would be dealt with by the engineer and that any changes in park set up or design which the advisory groups come up with will be sent to the committee.

Councillor Roy Booth wondered who was responsible for deciding where a slide or new building goes. He continued that he wasn't clear on what department would decide where a new park should go either.

He pointed out the administration committee recommended that anything dealing with planning of parks or facilities should be left in the hands of the recreation committee and wondered if this was now the responsibility of the works department.

Councillor Len Coxie said the intent of the works committee's decision was to have maintenance handled by the engineer and everything else operated by recreation.

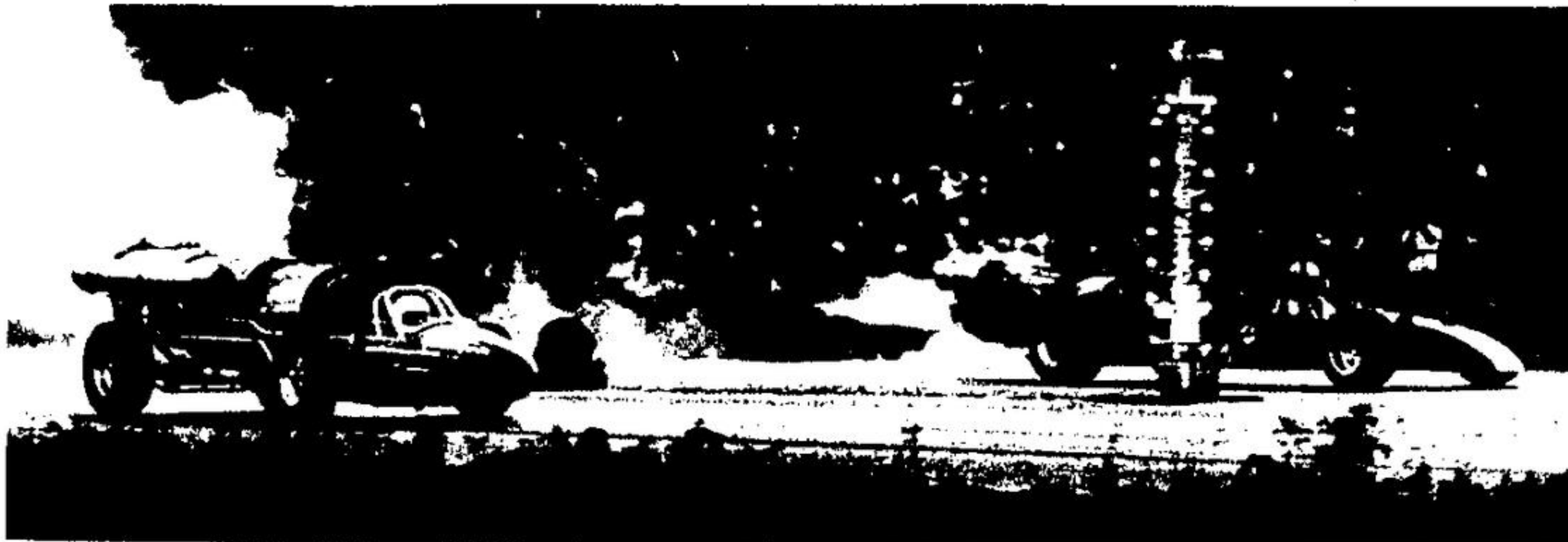
Councillor Ern Hyde said one reason there is a problem with parks is "Some people want to put flower beds on top

of flower beds and other impractical things. At some point someone has to stop and say no to these people."

Councillor Harry Levy said it was the other way around

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Postings for OPP

Men of the Acton detachment of the O.P.P. all know now where they will be going when the detachment closes here Sept. 1.

Detachment commander Corp. Bob Arbour says the Commissioner's Committee of the O.P.P., Toronto, has approved all the transfers effective Sept. 2.

Corp Arbour himself will go to Milton O.P.P., and others who will also transfer to Milton are Cons. Bruce McArthur, Cons. Bob Willmott, Cons. Ron Barrett and Cons. Gerry Gibson.

Cons. Dave Boyes will go to the Guelph detachment. Two men, Cons. Murray McCrea and Cons. Duncan McAleese, will go to Simcoe O.P.P.

Cons. Gary Lee will go to Burlington O.P.P.