

Hydro wants special status for corridor through town

Unless the Ontario cabinet overrules an Ontario Municipal Board decision, Halton Hills residents will get another chance to complain about the Bradley to Georgetown hydro corridor when Ontario Hydro is forced to ask the town for an Esquering zoning amendment.

Last month the OMB approved By-Law 74-51, the Esquering zoning regulations, and despite objections from Ontario Hydro, decided only existing Hydro installations would be designated as proper land use.

Since then Ontario Hydro has petitioned the provincial cabinet for special status under the by-law which the OMB rejected.

Hydro wants to be able to develop whatever it wants in the town, including the 500 KV power corridor, without having to come for a zoning amendment.

One councillor noted if the cabinet doesn't overrule the OMB, then Hydro would have to apply for a zoning amendment and residents would then be able to object to the corridor before the OMB. He noted this tactic might slow down the development of the corridor but it likely wouldn't prevent its installation in Halton Hills.

At a meeting of Halton Hills subsidiary planning board on May 11, it was decided the town will respond to Hydro's petition

by informing the cabinet the municipality supports the OMB decision without reservation.

Planner Mario Venditti noted that if Hydro gets its exemption under the by-law, not only could the corridor be built without the municipality and residents having and say, but "Hydro could even build a nuclear station anywhere in the town and the municipality would have no control over it."

Councillor George Malby said that in the case of Ontario Hydro this was one time he thought the town should definitely stick to the letter of the law in respect to by-law 74-51.

"This is a case of Hydro not being satisfied being treated like everyone else," Councillor Dick Howitt declared.

Howitt noted this isn't the first time Hydro has objected to the town exercising its power to regulate land use and being forced to come to the town for amendments.

"We have OMB support on this stand and I will be surprised and disappointed if the cabinet interferes," he said.

Planning Board instructed the town solicitor to prepare an answer for the cabinet in response to Hydro's petition saying Halton Hills concurs with the OMB's decision.



M.Z. BENNETT'S triple choir placed second just points behind the winning Martin St. choir at the North Halton music festival. Pictured here are choir participants Marie Arbic, Helen Kockx, Karen McCord, Elizabeth Lynch and Mary Kellic. Just visible in the back row are Karen McHugh and Julia Zions.

The Acton Free Press

One Hundred and First Year—No. 47

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 1976

Twenty-Eight Pages—Fifteen Cents.



HAPPINESS IS... a reunion with a friend you haven't seen in years. Gwen Jeffares, principal of North Halton's Sunshine School for the Trainable Retarded (left) had several grand reunions with former friends Sunday when the staff of the school held an open house to honor her retirement. Mrs. Eileen Buckner of Wellington, a former Acton resident who did much volunteer work in the school's early days, got a hug and a kiss when she arrived for the open house.

Town names stay on signs

Georgetown and Acton won't disappear from road signs, Halton Hills council decided, Monday night.

A sign will be erected at Maple Avenue and the Seventh Line saying "Maple Avenue," but Georgetown will be in brackets beside it.

The sign discussion was kicked off at works committee last week by a letter from H. Vanden Top pointing out it is easy for drivers coming up the Seventh Line to get right on past Georgetown to Highway 7, and asked for a direction sign.

The committee recommended only a sign saying Maple Avenue, but Councillor Roy Booth disputed this. He contended that Maple Avenue

did not say which town it was in.

Councillor Mike Armstrong, works chairman, said they had discussed many ideas and were open for any suggestions. He said the Maple Avenue sign would help tell people where to turn.

"Why not simply an arrow and Georgetown on the sign," asked Booth.

Councillor Dick Howitt claimed the committee is trying to get away from the two urban areas names and become Halton Hills.

Booth said he didn't think he was the only one who always thinks of Georgetown, Acton and Esquering.

Councillor Harry Levy suggested the most common

directions given are to turn left at the golf course. "So maybe the sign should say 'Here's the golf course'."

Councillor Les Doby said two representatives coming to the company he works for had missed Acton and gone as far as the Guelph Line. He said drivers should know where Georgetown and Acton is. "It doesn't help them to see a sign saying Halton Hills."

Levy said as long as both towns have streets with the same names, putting up signs with the names of streets only, could not work.

Council voted to add Georgetown to the Maple Avenue sign.

GO still looking for ticket agency

GO Transit has not yet found anyone in the downtown core of Acton to become their ticket agency.

Brian Stewart of GO says he has been to each merchant twice or more with no avail. One local businessman had agreed to the job, but reversed his decision a few days later.

The shopping plazas to the east of town are GO's next hope, Mr. Stewart said.

Trade is stimulated in 95 per cent of ticket agencies, Mr. Stewart says. He pointed out that people purchasing tickets will buy a chocolate bar or cigarettes while waiting for the bus. They all increased their revenue.

Profitable

The GO spokesman said that last year the Acton ticket

Four hurt in crash

Four people were injured in a two-car collision Sunday on Halton Road 12 at the first line. Taken to Georgetown hospital by ambulance were three from one car, driver Erwin Weinhofer, Daniel Ross and Patricia Burrows, all of Toronto. They are all released now. A passenger in the second car, Barbara Ware of Campbellville, was also injured.

The two cars were in collision at 5:55 p.m. at a corner where police reported a stop sign missing due to a previous accident. Another stop sign was knocked down in the accident.

Damage to the Weinhofer car was estimated at \$1000 and to the car driven by Robert Ware at \$2500.

The cars were towed away.

Home buyers pay capital levies

Prospective home buyers in Milton could find an amount as high as \$2,500 buried in the cost of the home to cover capital levies imposed by the town and the region.

Levies in Acton and Georgetown are considerably lower. For single family homes in Acton the fee is \$1550-\$950 for the town and \$600 for the region. The Georgetown portion of Halton

Hills charges \$1,450 for single family homes—\$850 for the town and \$600 for the region.

Medium density units in Milton are charged \$1,745 plus the \$600 regional levy and that compares to \$500 in Acton plus the regional levy and \$750 in Georgetown plus the regional levy of \$600.

While Georgetown area has the lowest residential fee for single family dwellings, it has

hefty fees of \$5,500 per acre for industrial or residential development.

Acton levies no fee for industrial or commercial construction. In the past Milton has not imposed a levy against developers in the industrial-commercial sector but council is negotiating—among other things—a capital levy fee of \$2,000 per acre for the industrial develop-

ment proposed north of Highway 401.

Halton Region is currently considering a staff report that, if passed, would increase the regional levy on homes from \$600 to \$800 in the urban portions of the region and from \$100 to \$200 in rural developments.

Local levies for rural homes vary, with Milton charging \$600 and Halton

Hills charging \$650. The Milton fee of \$600 is currently under review.

Some members of Regional Council feel the region shouldn't even be charging any fee for capital levies as long as the region charges back all of the work done to the various local areas where the work is being done.

They argue that the region credits capital contributions

to the municipality they are derived from, and charges the work back to the same area. In other words it would be simpler if the region just levied the area for work done and let the area municipality worry about how it should be paid for.

The staff recommendation suggests the region should also be tapping developers for \$600 per acre on industrial

Approve fence

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Heller, 190 Mill St., Acton, can go ahead with the fence between their property line and town property line.

Council gave their approval as long as the fence is built at no cost to the town.

Out half hour man arrested

A Toronto man, released from Guelph Correctional Centre on a five-day pass, was out less than half an hour when he was stopped by Halton regional police. Three friends had picked him up,

Permits boosted

Building permits issued for Acton in April got a big boost from the estimated \$35,000 addition to the Commercial Shearing plant. A. P. Green is also adding warehouse space for a building permit value of \$16,800. A workshop at 265 Main N. as well for one \$10,000 industrial permit.

There were three permits for residential repairs, alterations or additions adding up to \$6,250. Three swimming pool permits totalled \$13,400.

One commercial permit totalled \$1,400, one industrial \$10,000 and the two industrial additions, A. P. Green and Commercial Shearing, \$51,800.

The 11 permits totalled \$82,850.

Music inside

Pictures of the North Halton Music Festival at M. Z. Bennett school last Wednesday are in the centre of the Real Estate section of today's Free Press.

Barn fire

Acton Firefighters were called to a small barn fire about 9:20 a.m. this morning. The call was to a barn on the east side of Nassagaweya 6th Line about a mile south of the 25th Sideroad. The fire seemed to be confined to a pig stall in a barn.

Support request hockey change

After learning of the problems of Acton's Junior C hockey team, Acton Chamber of Commerce executive agreed Monday to write the Ontario Hockey Association supporting the club's request to change their category from Junior C to Junior B.

In the Junior C grouping the team had to drive as far as Bracebridge, Huntsville, Bradford and Alliston to play their league games. They travelled by rented bus and often didn't return home until 2 or 3 a.m. Players are 16, 17

Small park or homes? Leishman park—again

Leishman park — a long, thin strip of land on Mill E. — is up for discussion again.

Area recreation co-ordinator John Cooper told the recreation advisory committee Wednesday that residents around the property had asked him about its future. He said he had recommended they sign a petition, which has been done. They ask that the land be retained as passive parkland, rather than sold to a developer for housing lots.

But if this is done, the committee wants the revenue to be used in Acton.

Long, thin

Members discussed what use could be made of property this shape. It was generally felt it could only be used for flower beds and benches.

The school playgrounds are nearby for children to play in, they recalled.

The land is about 100 feet long by half a block deep, extending from about 257 Mill E. to Acton Blvd.

The matter had been referred to the planner for a report.

Acton money

Chairman Ed Wood made a motion asking that if the land is not developed as parkland but sold for the building of homes, the money be allocated for development of parks and recreation in Acton only. Although members discussed whether Esquering should be included, they finally all voted in favor of the motion. "It's old Acton money," Mr. Wood told them.

Previous petitions on this same subject were signed only by residents of Mill whose homes faced the land and then vacant fields beyond. Now the petition includes the names of residents

of Acton Blvd. and Rosemary Dr.

Councillor Les Doby said he understood some of these people were assured the property would remain parkland when they bought their new homes there. Mr. Doby said there is no assurance of this.

Mr. Doby explained the strip of land was deeded by the developer to the town. Its long, narrow shape made it useless, council of the day felt. Therefore they acquired additional land to make the area deeper and usable as building lots. After considerable money had been spent, council intended to sell the lots. However, neighbors petitioned against this and won their case at a hearing, due to a discrepancy in the way council applied, according to Mr. Doby. Later the Bovis subdivision went in alongside the land.

Homecoming days planned by Legion

A Homecoming Weekend is being planned by the Legion, when all former and present members are invited to gather at the new building. Time chosen is fall fair weekend, September 17, 18 and 19. Plans are just beginning to be made, but they will coincide with the fair.

Letters will be sent out to Legion members, former Legion members and their widows. However others will be welcome to come, too.

Co-chairmen

Max Storey and Vic Patrick are co-chairmen of the com-

mittee planning the reunion, which is in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the Legion.

To mark the event, the Legion massed pipe band has been hired to join in the fall fair day parade Saturday noon. This band is comprised of bandsmen from several branches and they marched last New Year's Day in the Orange Bowl parade in Florida. They are playing at many special events in the Legion 50th anniversary year.

Legion members are also

talking about entering a float in the parade.

There will be a full program at the Legion hall all weekend, and organizers are racking their brains to think of a good way to ferry people from the Legion across the lake directly to the fairgrounds.

Family day

On Sunday a family day is being arranged beginning with an outdoor breakfast. The outdoor patio at the new Legion is expected to be well used that weekend.



MARGARET DEHAAN AND Marian Alexander enjoyed the Apple Dolls by Rose Dolhanyk, Grimsby, at the Oxfam Trade Fair Saturday at the arena. The dolls were very well detailed, including earrings on all of them, which pleased the two girls.