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OMB splits hydro hearings, Minister says

By BOB RUTTER

Herald staff writer A spokesman for Housing Minister John Rhodes confirmed Monday that the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) has called separate hearings into applications by Ontario Hydro for construction of two power corridors through Hal-

too Hills. Linda Stevens, an assistant to the minister, said the OMB decision to hold separate meet-

ings for the Nanticoke-to-Pickering and Bradley-to-Georgetown high voltage power transmission corridors was made at the request of Hydro solicitors.

"I believe it is quite within the jurisdiction of the board to do it whenever, wherever or Hills council which Monday affirmed its position seeking a

however," Miss Stevens said. No notification of the split in hearings was made to Halton

single hearing for both corri-

dors. A hearing on the eastwest line is scheduled for Oct.

Ontario Hydro is seeking an amendment to the Esquesing official plan which would allow construction of power corridors in the rural area of Halton Hills. Also required is a rezoning for both rights-of-

Miss Stevens stressed that Mr. Rhodes passed the June 27 Hydro application to the OMB

with a request for a single hearing. The OMB began public notice of hearings last week on the east-west Nanticoke route but did not advertise a hearing for the Bradley-north-

south route. Ontario Hydro spokesman Peter Webster commented Monday that "it's up to the OMB to decide" on separate hearings.

"I could not give you any reply to that," he added when

told of the information received from the minister's office. "That interesting." he

The original Ontario Hydro application placed before the minister says in part. . . "the lands, . .in lots 1-32 inclusive, Con. 5, and in lot 6, Cons. 1-3 inclusive," meaning both the north-south and east-west

Mr. Webster said the application calls for a corridor

feet," according to the application, for the northern route to allow of variances in location of the towers in Halton

He denied that any further development of the corridor, after construction of the Bradley is completed, is contemplated at this time. But he stressed that priorities may charge through time.

Mr. Webster in an interview Friday said the Milton switching station will be a junction point for at least seven and possibly 11 power corridors.

These will include the present east-west corridor, a second east-west corridor scheduled for sometime in the early 1990s, both coming from the west; the Bradley route from the north and as many as eight other corridors running

east to the Trafalgar transformer station in Oakville and the Clairville station near Woodbridge.

will travel through the parkway belts where Hydro has received "ultimate, maximum approval", he said.

The corridors leaving Milton

The corridor east from the Milton station will be about 1,090 feet wide to allow for the

eight possible corridor lines and will narrow to about 545 feet when half the corridors turn south to Trafalgar.

Approved for eastward construction from the Milton station are: two 500 KV corridors south to Trafalgar and two 500 KV lines east to Clairville. Approved but without commitment now are four additional 230 KV lines: two to Trafalgar and two to Clairville.

How many corridors?

By GEORGE EVASHUK Herald staff writer

Exactly bow many tran-

That question was before Halton Hills council which Monday reaffirmed its opposition to an amendment to the official plan proposed by Outario Hydro to allow construction, operation and maintenance of transmission

The town will appeal the amendment before the Ontarlo Municipal Board Oct. 24 at the

town hall on Trafalgar Road. "There is confusion as to the number of tower lines required." John Schneider. vice-chairman of the interested Citizens Group (ICG) said. Ontario Hydro's systems planners indicated that five tower widths would be required by 1982 and seven by 1962, but since Sept. 27 "things

have chanced." Mr. Schneider sald a Hydro spokesman has stated that six to seven tower widths will be needed by 1982 plus two 230 Kilovolt towers out of the Milton switching station for a total of eight or nine. By 1992, 12 to 13 tower lines will be required "and we still haven't discussed the possibility of two lines from Kitchener to bring the total to 15."

Citing the report of the Soldant Commission, Mr. Schneider said there may be 17

towers by mid-1990's. "This wide differnce of smission corridors does On- figures means it is essential tario Hydro want to build council know how many Halton Hills or corridors are being planned."

> He said Hydro's current plans indicate that nine to ten lines will cross Highway 401. At the expropriation hearings held recently in Acton and now awaiting the report of hearing officer Donald Meyrick, Ontario Hydro requested only 250 feet on both a north-south and east-west line through Halton Hills, only enough for a single row of towers, he said.

Yet Hydro's own maps indicate two widths of towers, Mr. Schneider sald, "Hydro's own documents are confused."

He sald the ICG believes that no rezoning of lands should take place until "we learn how many lines are to be and whether they are in the best interests of Halton Hills."

The danger of giving any approval to Ontario Hydro either for a north-south line, which the town opposes, or an east-west line is that precedent exists for the government to give approval to other corridors when one is approved, he said.

"It has been difficult to whether (provincial) government or Hydro is king or pawn in this mixed up chess game of transmission towers," he said.

FALL FAIR CANCELLED

One youngster walks through the muddy, rainsoaked midway Saturday morning at the Georgetown Fairgrounds. Continued rain, protection of baseball diamonds and safety for animals forced the Georgetown

Fair Board to cancel the fair for what is believed the first time in the history of the annual event. For more pictures. and story see page 17.

plead the village's case.

Norval water project debate

Halton region will be asked today to approve interim financing of the Norval water supply project until provincial funds are released April 1.

Environment Minister George Kerr announced Monnesday one day ahead of a meeting with Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed, Halton regional officials and the Norval Community Association, that subsidies totaling \$221,196 will be allocated in the 1978-79 provincial budget.

Approval of the funding comes more than five years after residents of the village began seeking municipal water services to overcome pollution and low water levels in

area wells. Under the provincial funding arrangment the subsidy will represent 64.7 per cent of the projected cost of \$427,165. Halton region will be responsible for the remainder.

Engineering studies on the projects were started this year with a provincial grant of \$50,000. Region chairman Ric Morrow, who asked for the matter to be brought before council today, says tendering for the project could be called shortly with construction starting before the end of the year.

"It's certainly been a long time coming," Art Reinhardt, Norval association water commlitee chairman remarked. "But at least its reached a stage its not reached before and Mr. Kerr has approved the

project." He said he remains optimistic about the region financing the project until the provincial funds are available. He will appear before council today to

"It's, if you'll pardon the word,

farm owner has to charge his

neighbour when it should be

the municipality's responsi-

As the law stand, it is up to

the livestock owner to take the

dog owner to court to see that

"If Mr. Branch's neighbor

came up and punched him in

the nose, it would be up to Mr.

Branch to initiate action,"

Coun. Peter Marks said. "

den't know if it should be a

separate law for dogs and

Council passed a resolution

to refer Mr. Branch's request

to the administrative com-

have no more demands on

prime time - Fridays and

Saturday - at the arenas than

do other groups. "The reason

they're paying is for this prime

Coun. Marks said the snack

mittee for discussion.

the dog is destroyed.

a hell of a situation when a

There are some in the south the water," he said.

Should a referendum he cal- "My opinion is that the led for in the village to support region will not approve the

is optimistic that support will games, too." be shown at council. "If we Provincial subsidies are desupport it," he said.

ing will be made available.

"I am surprised that they part of Halton who "are not took so soon to approve it what excited about Norval getting with an opposition MPP sitting in this riding," he said.

the project cost, "there's financing until the money is is enough people for it," he says the bank." Mr. Pomeroy said "that it would not be a stumble he thought approval of the project would have taken long-Regional Coun. Russ Miller er since "politicians play

were looking at water for some signed to reduce the burden on other municipality, I would individual water users. Under the agreed formula residents But area Coun. Peter Pom- in the village will pay between eroy expressed surprise that \$110 and \$140 per year for the project was approved, nor water services. Without the does he believe interim financ- provincial subsidy the cost would be excessive.

Glen water supply shut off today

Glen Williams residents with dry or low wells and who have been hooked to municipal water for some time will loose that supply beginning today to test whether the damaged aquafer has recovered, says Arnie Zweig, the resident's lawyer.

Water has returned to the wells in the past few days but no one can say if the heavy rains have recharged the aguater or if the water is simply surface seepage. Cutting off the municipal water should tell the tale, Mr. Zweig says, and thus the ministry of environment has given the developers permission to shut off the

connection for a trial period. Dug wells on Karen Drive began to go dry in early July while Mountclair Develop-

ments was pumping a site for sewer trenches they were constructing on Mullen Place.

Tests turned up evidence that the construction may have pierced the aquafer and thus allowed the water table to drop. Repairs were attempted but until now there has been no evidence of the water returning to the wells.

The Glen Williams residents hired a lawyer to handle the legal end of their battle to get a safe, dependable supply of water for their homes.

He was held back on legal proceedings because he is more interested in seeing the home owners get their water than in fighting a court battle. He has been giving the developers time to try different solutions to the problem.

Picked Up In Passing

Thanksgiving service

The Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) will be celebrating Thanksgiving in the traditional manner at the historic "White Church" on Sunday, Oct. 9 at 2:30 p.m. The Church, which was built in 1837, is located on the Fourth Line West in Caledon, north of 34 SiGeroad, about three miles south of Belfountain. The service will be conducted by the Very Rev. David W. Hay, D.D., Past Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and Minister of Knox Church, Caledon East and Claude Presbyterian Church.

Successful drive

The Georgetown Venturers Bottle Drive last weekend was pronounced a success by Jim Fleming, one of The Venturer's leaders. Mr. Fleming estimated that they had collected 8 tons of bottles and \$250 worth of returnable bottles. That will leave approximately \$250 to raise to pay for the cance used on the trip to Prince Edward Island this summer. The Venturers intend to continue with a bottle drive on the first Saturday of each month.

Fire prevention

Halton Hills council declared Monday that the week of Oct. 9 to 17 be Fire Prevention week.

Wintario grants

Winterlo grants have been approved for a number of projects in Halton Hills, including two in Georgetown. The Kinsmen Girl's Softball League is to receive a grant of \$977 to assist with the purchase of softball equipment and awards for 20 teams. Credit Valley Artisans will receive a grant of \$815 to share in the purchase of a kiln, a pottery wheel, table looms and other equipment.

Santa arrives

Halton Hills council gave its okay Monday for the Acton "Ys" Men to hold the Santa Claus Parade.

OMB hearing

Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) has set aside the month of November starting Nov. 7 for a full hearing on the subdivision application of Focal Properties land south of Silvercreek. The meeting will be held at the municipal offices on Trafalgar Road. Focal Properities wants to build about 1,300 homes in the area which is now farmland. The town is opposed to the subdivision.

Contract award

Flinkote Canada was awarded a \$10,421 contract Monday by Halton Hills council for re-construction of the tennis courts at Gordon Alcott Arena.

Tower timebomb, council is told

If Ontario Hydro builds 500 Kilovelt transmission towersperhaps as many as 17through Halton Hills, a timebomb will be created which will force a Fifth Line farmer out of business, council was told Monday.

Dave Moffat, who operates a pick-your-own farm with his family near Steeles Avenue. told council that Ontario Hydro had told him his farm would be crossed by only one transmission corridor running north-south and two running cast-west.

demands for land to accommodate the corridorroungly 250 feet per towerhave escalated from 675 feet to 1.750 feet in Halton Hills he advised council to purchase said, and 250 more feet in

much more Hydro's land involve demands would escalate in the megawatts. next two years.

site at the Essa electric no reference to the aircraft at station, about six miles west of 'a small nearby airport, "It's a Barrie, had been unable to real timebomb."

A review of the financial

status of three hockey clubs in

town at the end of the current

season was rejected by Halton

Hills council Monday on a

Coun. Garnet (Pat) McKen-

rie proposed the May, 1978.

review of the Acton Sabres.

who owe the town \$3,070; the

Georgetown Geminis, who are

\$4,079 in debt, and the George-

town Raiders who are break-

If a substantial portion of the

clubs' debts are not paid by

May, 1978, the clubs should be

denied use of the arenas for the

whoms said that if the clubs

fold, the town will never get

next season, he said.

the money back.

recorded 7-5 vote.

ing even.

the operation of his farm.

under the 500Kv line. That pipe delivered a shock of 860 volts per length, he said. "I have

He said he already carries \$500,000 public liability but

thousands of

He noted that nine 747 air-

the Reiders to adult sport

groups, which will save the

club about \$740 and \$624 re-

As well, council approved

reducing the rent on the boos-

ter rooms the two Georgetown

clubs used from \$100 a night to

\$25 but with the stipulation that

the Geminis apply \$75 a week

over and above the rent toward

The Acton Sabres had asked

Offices

their outstanding debt.

spectively in ice rental rates.

charge electrically the irrigation pipes necessary to At Essa, Mr. Moffat said. Hydro had lengths of aluminum irrigation pipe insulated from the ground

To the question of what if the pipes are .. on dry crusty soil and thus partly insulated from ground, he has received no Yet in two years Hydro's answer from Hydro, Mr.

would be forced to get out. He .more public liability for itself. "It's a hazardous situation." Mr. Moffat said. A break at Mr. Molfat wondered how that point in the line would

overheadlines would not

He said Ontario Hydro's craft fly overhead daily and engineer at its demonstration that the government has made

owner, which it already does, Peter Branch has asked Halton Hills council to seek an amendment to the Dog Tax and Livestock and Poultry Protection Act, to make muni-

and to see that the dog is destroyed," Mr. Branch said. Mr. Branch said that he was

in Acton.

pal employees and police, with the police communications sy-

requesting maximum enforce-

ment of the law, use of munici-

Support to destroy dogs in livestock kills

car is owned by Donald .Both were parked on Mill Street East at Willow Street.

.. A car owned by Rellable Taxi of Acton was parked on the south side of Mill St. with the engine running. The second car was parked on the north side of Mill Street.

facing the opposite direction

a (inancia) break has put coun-

cil in the position of going

against its stated policy of

making recreation pay for it-

concerned with the recreation

department budget. If the

Mayor Tom Hill said he is

PARKED CARS COLLIDE Two parked cars collided to the first car. The second

> McIsanc, R.R.4 Acton. .. The car owned by Mr. McIsaac slipped out of gear into reverse, and moved across Mill Street, colliding with the car owned by Rell-

> able Taxl. .. Damage to the first vehicle was \$50. Damage to the second vehicle was \$300.

arena's budget for the hockey

season will be in 1978, the next

budget could pick up the slack.

to reducing the rent without

rescinding the policy of mak-

cut, and recreation director

Glen Gray "comes back with

extra costs, we won't have a

"We're top heavy in the

leg to stand on," he said.

ing recreation break even.

Coun. Roy Booth is opposed

If council supports the rent

who have been attacking livestock, and to have the municipallty inform new residents of the necessity to control their "The problem of dogs at-

stem, to track down stray dogs

tacking our sheep has been going on for about three years," Mr. Branch sald. "The sheep-killing started last fall. We have been getting up in the night and chasing the dogs away, and we have driven some off, but we can't keep it

up forever." Coun. Russell Miller suggested that the best way to handle the situation is "to find out what we can and can't do to help solve Mr. Patterson's pro-

blem." Coun. Pat Patterson sald.

Reject hockey teams review, OK some help

McKenzie said. "If we're going to cut the rates, we should cut staff too." Coun. Walter Biehn said that without booster rooms for the clubs, they would have no revenue at all. "Eventually" they'll be so far in the hole,

arenas." Coun. Garnet (Pat)

entertainment." Coun. Peter Pomeroy said the clubs are not getting a different rate from other local adult groups. And the booster room were put in at a minimal cost as part of the total rental fee so that groups would have a

source of revenue, he said. chairs, tables and coolers

Opposed were councillors Les Duby, Roy Booth, Russ

which the clubs provide them-Coun. Booth said he could Miller, Peter Morris, Peter support reducing the rent for Pomeroy, Mike Armstrong

the clubs if they would say they and Walter Biehn.

tion was rejected by the majority of councillors, some of

Halton Hills' administration But Coun. McKenzie's mo- building on Trafalgar Road, will be unveiled at a special meeting of council, Oct. 18. At that time council, with all its department heads, will view a presentation from arch-Council approved the recias- itect Don Hallford whose firm sification of the Geminis and designed the former Esques-

that they be reclassified from local adult group down to minor spots group in order to save about \$624 in ice fees. Council wasn't prepared to go this far and instead tossed the booster room rent in free with the ice rental rate, a saving of \$25 per night for the club.

cipalities responsible for the

destruction of a dog which has

Mr. Branch and his wife

operate a sheep farm on Conc.

10 and Mr. Branch reported to

council that their farm was

suffering an increasing a-

mount of damage because of

attacks by dogs on their sheep.

only cause injury and death,

but they also disrupt the breed-

ing schedule and cause the

"It should be the responsi-

bility of the municipality to

pay compensation to the

sheep to become restive.

He said that the dogs not

injured or killed livestock.

Each of the hockey clubs are responsible for cleaning up the

booster rooms.

rates are reduced, how will the budget already set be kept in line, he asked. But giving the hockey clubs

Coun. Peter Marks suggested that as half the expansion resurrected

> plans to expand the building. plans, . . . We haven't even decided if there'll be a build-

meeting is an endeavour to get

the whole council involved and reach a consensus if there is a need for expansion and if so, if It is for the building on Trafalgar Road.

ation was to acquaint new councillors with the idea.

bar at the arenas carned in excess of \$10,000 profit last year, mostly from the crowds they won't recover. If it goes attracted by the hockey clubs. on, we could lose one or two hockey clubs and some local "It behooves us to continue supporting those clubs," he

bar, he said. Voting in favor of Coun. McKenzie's motion for a financial review were: Mayor Tom The booster rooms have al- Hill, Couns. Peter Marks, Coun. Roy Booth said the most no facilities, such as George Maltby, Marilyn Ser-

said. If council would put the

ciups out of business, it would

lose the profit on the snack

Plans for an addition to building committee to set an' agenda.

Council Monday decided to put a \$50 ceiling on cost of the presentation and have an 8:30 a.m. meeting that day for the

Coun. Peter Pomeroy charged, however, that council is "two or three steps ahead of

"I don't think we're ready to it yet." Coun. Pomeroy said. "We don't know if we need the

Mayor Tom Hill told council

that the unveiling and present-

itself", in wanting to view

leantson and Mr. McKenzie.