

Monarch gets transfer station region will bear all costs



ACTON'S ANNUAL SALE

Acton Arts and Crafts president, Jean Denny, checks her display of stuffed dolls and wicker work which she was selling at the group's annual sale Saturday in St. Alban's hall. (Heraldphoto)

BY PAUL DORSEY
Herald staff writer

Hilton Hills councillors Russ Miller and Mike Armstrong met with varying degrees of success last week as Halton region's public works committee finalized short-term plans for the provision of garbage storage facilities at the Georgetown landfill site, which closes today (Wednesday).

During a convoluted, 90-minute debate, the two Halton Hills representatives failed to persuade the committee to endorse Leferink Disposals Ltd. as the firm which would provide and operate a temporary waste transfer station at the dump, but, with the help of regional solicitor Dennis Perlin, did convince their colleagues that the region should bear all related costs, rather than the town of Halton Hills.

As a result of the committee's recommendations, already given an unofficial green light in advance by regional council, public works staff and Monarch Resource Recovery and Transfer Ltd. are expected to have at least ten waste containers, each with a capacity of six cubic yards, located on a portion of the Armstrong Avenue site starting tomorrow.

The transfer station, along with Monarch's contract, will be temporary, until long-term plans can be prepared by the region's landfilling consultants, M.M. Dillon Ltd., and committee representatives Miller and Joan Allingham of Burlington.

EXTEND LEASE

Regional staff will attempt to extend Halton's lease on the Georgetown dump site, owned by Standard Industries Ltd., so that the facility can be operated once the dump closes.

Private citizens only will be permitted to haul household debris and bagged garbage into the 500-square yard area for disposal in one of the containers which, once full, will be transported by Monarch for dumping at the Oakville landfill site.

The transfer station's hours of operation will be the same as those of the dump, with staff on hand for full-time supervision, and the front gate will be locked at the end of each day, enclosing the site within a proposed, eight-foot high, solid "privacy" fence.

The need to install a new fence around the site was among the aspects of suggested recommendations challenged by Coun. Miller, who called the temporary station, with its initial capital cost of \$231,000

and an annual operating cost of \$55,000, "a Cadillac system".

Saying he was "very displeased" with the scale and cost of the operation, Coun. Miller reminded committee members of their visit the week previous to view a transfer station in St. Catharines, where an efficient and relatively inexpensive operation impressed everyone.

"This one here will cost us \$1,000 a week," he complained. "This is way more than we need, with the new fence and all. This may not be the best location, but a dump is just what I was hoping we'd just leave it open," say, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. There may be some problems at first, but we'll have a security guard and trailer on the site. There's no reason it should cost \$78,000 just to get it off the ground."

At Coun. Armstrong's suggestion, a section of the proposed recommendation specifying capital and operating costs for the facility was deleted. Mr. Moore offered to review needs and costs with town officials.

PUBLIC WORKS

Coun. Armstrong joined Coun. Miller in attacking a recommendation by public works director Bob Moore suggesting that all costs related to the transfer station should be charged back to the area municipality. Pointing out that regional council had given Mr. Moore no such direction, Coun. Miller argued

that Halton Hills' only landfill site has been filled to capacity much earlier than necessary because the town has been accepting waste from Milton for nearly five years.

"We've been good neighbors taking garbage from Milton at the region's request," he said. "I don't see why we should have to pay for this now. To do this to Halton Hills would be another knife in regional government."

Coun. Armstrong was backed up by Mr. Perlin in contending that the provision of transfer facilities is a regional responsibility, along with waste disposal. The area municipalities are required only to collect the garbage, according to Bill 151, the provincial legislation which established Halton region, he said.

Mr. Perlin agreed that it would be "illegal" for the region to charge transfer station costs back to Halton Hills, noting that regional council has already adopted the facility as a regional project. Halton "can't have it both ways," he said, adding that the region may, however, wish to consider charging small fees to citizens using the dump or to Monarch for using the Oakville site.

Coun. Allingham sided with her colleagues from Halton Hills in opposing the proposed charge-back, likening it to "shoving this down the throat of Halton Hills", but suggested that Mr. Perlin should prepare a report outlining options and

specifically examining the possibility of charging "tipping fees." The committee voted to have the region assume all costs, however.

Coun. Armstrong also made it clear he favored the Leferink Disposals Ltd. bid over Monarch's, commenting that Leferink offers only 30-cubic yard waste containers which he said would reduce costs for all concerned.

ACCESS TERMS
Burlington Coun. Pat McLaughlin and Mr. Moore pointed out the advantages of six cubic yard containers in terms of access and convenience, but Coun. Armstrong stood his ground.

"I'm pushing Leferink because they're widely known throughout Halton Hills," he said. "They've done a lot of work for our citizens, and, although this certainly isn't a shot at Monarch, it would have been politically correct to go tender on this, but this is a panic situation, and we know what we want in Halton Hills."

The committee nevertheless voted to accept Monarch's offer for the smaller containers, involving a \$10 per lift charge plus dumping fees. Coun. Armstrong commented that he would attempt to have council sway the decision in Leferink's favor this week.

Hours set for transfer station

Revised hours of operation for the temporary waste transfer station at the Georgetown landfill site have been set by a special sub-committee of Halton region's public works committee, with Coun. Russ Miller among the members. Although usual dumping hours will apply to the transfer station until November 14, Coun. Miller told the town's general committee Monday night, after that date, the facility will be open between noon and 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturdays. These times, in turn, will remain in effect until more permanent plans are ready for the site.

Lot levies deferred on Hall Rd. apartments

An agreement is to come before town council next week enabling developer Al Pilutti to postpone lot levy payments for his proposed 60-unit condominium apartment building until construction resumes in the spring following a preliminary start this fall.

Mr. Pilutti explained to the town's general committee Monday night that the Hall Road project would qualify for special government grants as long as he can install the building's footings before the end of this year. The committee honored his request by recommending deferral of the lot levy payments until construction has extended beyond the footings.

A development agreement

between the town and Mr. Pilutti's firm, O and P Construction, will be presented to council Monday night.

The move was made despite opposition from Coun. Walter Biehn, who pointed out he has nothing against apartments but objects to the condominium form of ownership.

DANGEROUS FORM
"I think it's a dangerous form of ownership," he said. "I think people can get locked into a deal."

Coun. Roy Booth argued, though, that the town should be pursuing its stated goal of encouraging apartment development, whether they are condominiums or not. Other members agreed that there

was no apparent detriment to the town, while the developer would clearly benefit from the move.

In response to a question from Coun. Ed Wood, town treasurer Ray King told the committee that anticipated \$64,500 in lot levies would involve about \$2,500 in interest over the four-month period of postponement.

The lost revenue, however, would be offset somewhat by annual increases in the Southam Construction Index, which dictates the amount of lot levies payable. Since Index rates go up February 14, he said, the developer would be paying higher levies by the time his payments fall due.

Trash program may expand

Halton Hills will continue the Divide and Conquer waste separation program, and even expand the service into Acton, if council accepts a general committee recommendation passed Monday night.

Under the pilot program, sponsored by the Ontario government, Georgetown residents have separated the glass, metal and newspaper in their garbage to be collected separately by the town's waste removal service.

SEPARATED WASTE
However, revenue collected through the resale of the separated waste has not been sufficient to cover the complete costs of the project. Divide and Conquer is expected to have a deficit of \$12,155 incurred during part of 1978 and an additional deficit of close to \$20,000 for 1979 is expected.

Despite the deficits, Halton Hills engineer Bob Austin termed the project "astute" and recommended council continue the program at Halton Hills' expense now that provincial funding has ended.

Mr. Austin predicts that if Divide and Conquer is extended to serve Acton, the project will incur a deficit of \$22,000 during 1980.

Mr. Austin said that with a renewed publicity campaign and the possibility of more lucrative markets for the town's separated waste, participation in the program might be increased while costs could be reduced.

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Burglary nets \$152

Two safes were smashed in a burglary at Goy Cartage in Acton.

The burglars escaped with \$152 in cash. The two safes, a Chubb Mosler and a Sentry safe, were valued at \$1,100.

A toolbox and mechanic's tools valued at \$1,000 were stolen from a parked car recently.

A realistic AM-FM stereo and cassette deck was stolen from a car parked on Prince Charles Drive.

The front wheel, handlebars and all the controls were stolen from a motorcycle in Limehouse.

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