

Rural areas get garbage pickup

By BEN DUMMETT
the Herald

Despite requests from rural town Councillors Joe Hewitt and Alf Spence to defer the decision to introduce garbage pickup in the rural area in 1991, town council supported the program, at Monday's council meeting.

This means starting next year Halton Hills residents currently not receiving rural garbage pickup will see their 1991 tax bill increase by \$125. The tax bill for those urban and rural area residents who receive garbage pickup will increase by \$21 and \$231 respectively.

Before making a decision Coun. Joe Hewitt wanted town staff to provide a detailed report on issues such as the proposed new landfill in Milton for 1992, the possibility of a blue box program for rural residents and the cost of contracting out rural garbage pickup.

Town councillors suggested rural garbage pickup be introduced once the new dump starts operations. Halton Region says tipping fees will be reduced once Halton gets a landfill. And reduced tipping fees mean garbage pickup in the rural area will be less expensive for rural residents than currently predicted, said Coun. Hewitt.

The cost of garbage collection and disposal represents 83.8 per cent of the urban service charges, said the town treasurer, Ray King.

Coun. Hewitt also wanted the decision deferred until the town knows if a rural area blue box recycling program will be introduced. The Region says it will subsidize a blue box program for the hamlets before the rural area, the town's administrator clerk Dan Costea explained after Monday's

meeting.

But this doesn't mean it won't help finance a rural-area blue box program, he said.

Coun. Hewitt asked town staff if it might be cheaper to contract out rural garbage pickup instead of the town providing the service. But town engineer Bob Austin told council studies show this isn't true.

The town's staff recommended rural area garbage pickup because it creates a more equitable tax system, said Mr. King.

Residents paying the urban service charge are currently subsidizing the taxes paid by residents who don't have garbage pickup, said Mr. King.

Acton YMCA moves

By ALAN MACKIE
the Herald

The Acton YMCA is relocating its programs until two studies are completed, YMCA officials say.

Heather Ferris, a director at the YMCA, said the facility was not capable of offering the program quality the YMCA is used to at the Mill Street location because of the deteriorating state of the building. The time and dates of the programs are the same but the location will be different, she said.

One of the studies is checking in to the possibility of moving the YMCA to a different Acton building, she said, adding "at this point, anything is possible."

The only thing that is not possible is moving out of the Acton community, Ms. Ferris said.

The YMCA office will remain open, she noted, and the Halton Regional Police will continue to use the building.

The building was built in the early 1930s and a part of it is used for

us," within the Acton area, he said.

While he admits the building will need a considerable amount of money put towards getting it back into good condition, he also noted an affection towards the building. "I love this old building; it's beautiful," he said.

Acton Councillor Norm Elliott said the Mill Street building has been "in a state of fairly bad repair for years."

"Any group that works in that building has a white elephant in their hands," he said.

Gord Chapman, a volunteer at the YMCA, said he could not conceive of the organization tearing down the old building and rebuilding on the site. Mr. Chapman is also the chairman of the North Halton Regional council for the YMCA.

Milton dump site appeal is rejected

Continued from Page 1

currently transported to Niagara Falls and parts of New York State - is a major reason for this year's tax increase, said Mr. Rinaldo. The average household will have to pay \$17 more in waste disposal this year.

But Mr. Rinaldo said a dump in Halton will mean a drop in tipping fees.

Meanwhile in a special meeting Wednesday, councillors approved the firm of Gartner Lee Limited to ensure the safety of the leachate collection system proposed for the Milton dump.

Every landfill needs a collection system to prevent leachate - a poisonous fluid created when rain water percolates through a garbage dump - from contaminating the ground water supply.

The Region had to tell the province it would be conducting the hydrogeologic, hydrologic and

geotechnical studies by March 31 or be ineligible for about \$750,000 in provincial grants for the studies, said the Region's commissioner of public works, Bob Moore.

The results of the studies will determine the design of the landfill site, said Mr. Moore.

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