

Community

Region needs additional funds for water supplies study

By BEN DUMMETT
The Herald

Halton Regional staff needs an additional \$166,000 to fund its work into finding available water supplies to service development in the Georgetown South area, the Region's Planning and Public Works Committee learned Wednesday.

The extra money is necessary to study the environmental impact a proposed Regional Well - Test Well 15 - for the Silver Creek Valley in Georgetown, would have on the area surrounding the location, staff told committee members.

Regional Council will consider approving the money this Wednesday based on the committee's recommendation it be granted. If approved, the money spent on the Georgetown south water supply study will total almost \$557,000. Halton's share of this total will be 50 per cent while the developers in the area are responsible for the other 50 per cent, according to a staff report.

Regional staff told committee members studies should continue on Test Well 15 because two other proposed wells on the Tenth Line and at Trafalgar Road and Lindsay Court would not likely have the capacity to service the entire expected population increase for the area.

In light of input from various provincial ministries and local public input led by Georgetown residents Ashley Ransom and Marilyn King, the Regional studies on Test Well 15 focus on the well's impact on the creek itself, the fish and the creek's wetland area, staff said. As well, the possible impact the well could have on two dormant landfills located in the creek will be examined.

Staff explained if it couldn't proceed with studies on Test Well 15, the only other potential water sources that could possibly be tapped are located in Huttonville or Stewarttown.

However, staff estimated the cost of bringing water from Huttonville to the Georgetown area would be approximately \$10 to \$12 million while the cost to draw water from Stewarttown would be approximately half that amount.

If the studies on Test Well 15 show the well would have no negative impact on the creek and the project went ahead, the overall cost would be in the \$2 million range, indicates the report.

During the presentation to the committee, staff didn't say if it would be examining the cumulative impact Test Well 15

along with several other Regional projects slated for the area would have on the creek.

After the meeting, a Regional engineer said the cumulative impact will be addressed once studies on all the projects is complete. No timetable was given.

When asked about the approach, Mr. Ransom said it was the wrong way to go.

A cumulative impact study should be conducted before individual studies are done to get an understanding of what are suitable and not suitable projects for a particular area, he explained.



Laurent Thibault

Thibault steps down as CMA president

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT
The Herald

After 19 years with the Canadian Manufacturers Association and six years as its president, Laurent Thibault of Georgetown had decided to bow out.

"It's time for a change," said Mr. Thibault. "I felt that way and the executive perhaps felt the board needed new ideas. I think it's the best thing for both of us."

But he said he would stay on as president until the 120-year-old association chooses his successor. That could take a number of months said Mr. Thibault.

Because of the unclear date for his departure, Mr. Thibault said he hasn't made any immediate commitments and plans "to take some time and look at various options."

During his stint as president, Mr. Thibault said he was pleased to help bring about a number of changes to benefit the manufacturing sector. Some of these achievements include helping to bring about the free trade agreement. "We felt it was one of the building blocks for Canada to become more globally com-

petitive," said Mr. Thibault adding that one of CMA's missions is to "build a globally competitive Canada".

Moreover, Mr. Thibault said the CMA supported the installation of the Goods and Services Tax. "We worked many years to find an alternative to the manufacturer's sales tax which was replaced by the broadly based GST."

But one thing he would like to have seen for the CMA, which never occurred during his presidency, was "getting a policy more supportive of the manufacturing association. But that's difficult when the majority of people are employed in the service sector," he said.

"I wish we were able to help more people understand the importance of the CMA and the linkages the manufacturing industry has to the service sector."

Mr. Thibault has been a resident of Georgetown since 1975. He was born in the Northern Ontario Francophone community of Sturgeon Falls. The 46-year-old Thibault holds a masters degree in economics.

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Police budget okayed

By BEN DUMMETT
The Herald

Halton Region Council warned the Regional police department last March it would not accept another police budget increase like the 12 per cent increase it requested and had approved for 1990. It's almost a year later and it's obvious the police department was listening.

Halton's Administration and Finance Committee recommended Wednesday the proposed 1991 police budget of 9.5 per cent be approved. The recommendation will go before Regional Council this Wednesday for final approval.

According to a regional staff report the increase translates into the police department being permitted to spend just over \$3 million more than was spent last year.

The total budget request totals approximately \$34.6 million, Halton's Treasurer Joe Rinaldo wrote in his report.

The police budget represents approximately 50 per cent of the Region's total operating budget.

To arrive at the 9.5 per cent increase, the police department was required to cut expenditures over last year by \$700,500, said Mr. Rinaldo.

Mr. Rinaldo explained the police budget increase had to have come in at between 10.5 and 9.5 per cent in order that Regional Council be able to keep the 1991 operating budget increase between five and 10 per cent. The operating budget goes to council for final approval in March.

Included in this year's police budget is a provision for three new staff bringing the employee

total to 527.

The three new staff members will comprise a police officer and two civilian staff members, the report indicates.

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