

Council Briefs

Acton residents concerned over development

Acton residents neighboring a proposed industrial subdivision site at Part 30 and Concession 2, Tuesday at a public meeting, expressed concern that the development, if approved, would cause traffic problems and hinder the view of residents living opposite the complex.

The development application calls for the construction of 15 industrial lots on the west side of Main Street north of the Canadian National Railway Line. But before construction can proceed the area zoning must be amended to an Industrial Light Special Zone, according to a staff report.

Town Planning staff will now prepare a report on the project's viability, accounting for residents' comments and once completed, present it to council for consideration.

Good corporate citizen

Fred Harrison, representative for the Georgetown condominium, The Sands, commended Monarch Resources Recovery and Transfer Limited, for being a good corporate citizen, during a public meeting Tuesday at the Halton Hills Civic Centre. Mr. Harrison was referring to the company's revised plan to construct a waste recovery facility north of Guelph Street on Armstrong Avenue in Georgetown. The Sands overlooks the property. Residents in the condominium opposed the original application because outside storage was included as part of the application. Under the new proposal, the whole operation will be done in two buildings, according to the staff report.

Staff will now consider comments made during the public meeting to decide if construction should be recommended. The recommendation will then go before council for final approval.

No objection to horse stable

Halton Hills General Committee stated Tuesday that it has no objection to the establishment of a horse stable located at the southeast corner of Sideroad 15 and the Third Line in Halton Hills. The General Committee is comprised of Town councillors. If council approves the recommendation this Monday, it will be forwarded to the Niagara Escarpment Commission. The Commission makes the final decision. It has already rejected the proposal but that decision is being appeal-

ed to Niagara Escarpment Hearing Office.

Townhouses nixed

Town General Committee recommended Tuesday that four townhouses not be permitted to be constructed at 50 Church Street East in Acton. Committee's decision is contrary to that of Town staff. Committee is comprised of Town councillors.

Committee followed the lead of the Acton councillors and residents that oppose the development in making their recommendation. Those in opposition argued the property was too small to accommodate four condominiums and the development, as presented, would not fit in with the surrounding neighborhood.

Council will vote on the recommendation this Monday.

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Job opportunity outlook is bleak

Brampton area employers foresee few job opportunities for the coming spring months, according to results of the latest Employment Outlook Survey released today by Manpower Temporary Services, the world's largest temporary help service. Of area employers polled about second quarter hiring plans, 7% intended to hire more workers during the April, May and June period, while 11% expected to reduce staff and 78% foresee no change in workforce levels. The remaining 4% were unsure of hiring plans.

"The current outlook shows some seasonal improvement over

last quarter, when 4% of the employers surveyed planned to add staff and 15% predicted reductions," said Joyce Sasso, local Manpower spokesperson. "But it is also down somewhat from a year ago, when 19% expected increases and 15% projected decreases."

The job market looks most promising in non-durable goods manufacturing and transportation/public utilities. Less hiring activity is expected in construction, durable goods manufacturing and public administration.

Nationally, the results represent an improvement from the dismal outlook of three months

ago, but remain below the usual spring recovery levels. A total of 19% of over 1,500 companies interviewed indicated intentions for higher employment levels, while 16% indicated they would reduce the rolls. Another 61% expect to continue at present levels and 4% are not yet certain.

Optimism exists in the Mining, Public Administration and Transportation and Public Utilities sectors, but the important Manufacturing industries remain extremely cautious.

MINING

The volatile mining industry, with a seasonally expected increase in hiring, leads the nation in the second quarter as 24% plan to add to employment and 10% foresee declines.

CONSTRUCTION

The warm weather of 1991 does not seem destined to bring aggressive construction activity, as employment intentions fall substantially below any previous second quarter in the survey's 14-year history. Only 25% anticipate they will hire additional workers, while 18% will trim down.

MANUFACTURING - DURABLE AND NON-DURABLE GOODS

Manufacturing jobs should be scarce among producers of both durable and non-durable goods. Results from both groups show figures at or near seasonal depths for the second consecutive quarter. Among durable goods makers, 18% predict additional hiring, but 21% are reducing their workforce. The results for non-

durable goods fabricators show 17% increasing employment and 15% decreasing.

TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES

Although one of the strongest outlooks in this quarter lies in the transportation and public utilities firms, it is still slightly behind the second quarter of last year and substantially behind usual seasonal expectations. Twenty-five per cent of firms will seek additional workers, while 13% are cutting down.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE

Leaving behind a dismal first quarter, wholesale and retail firms are not optimistic. They anticipate barely holding the line as 18% will recruit new staff, while another 18% will reduce employment levels.

FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE

For the third consecutive quarter, 10% of finance, insurance and real estate employers will seek new staff. However, a like 10% anticipate they will reduce employment. Never before has the overall outlook for this sector been other than positive in the second quarter.

Steamer will return next week



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Road reconstruction making waves

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collected to justify the selection of one design over another. The report is then submitted to the Town Clerk's office at which time the public has an opportunity to comment on the report. If there is no objection the report then goes to the province for final approval.

Ms. King said a recent Ontario Municipal Board ruling in Lindsay involving the same process indicates councils should endorse the final report before it goes to the Clerk's office. If municipal council rejects the report's findings, a new alternative must be found, said Ms. King.

No one could be contacted at the province's Ministry of Environment's Environmental Assessment Branch to confirm which version of the process is correct at press time.

The assessment branch is the provincial arm that ultimately determines if the preferred reconstruction of Main Street

South is a suitable option.

Gail Rutherford, of the ratepayers group Residents Active in Development Decisions (R.A.I.D.D.) told committee reconsideration should be given to the plan in light of the Region's vision for Halton in the future. Referring to a recently issued Regional draft planning document Ms. Rutherford said the reconstruction proposal as is, may reflect a planning attitude of a "bygone era" - an era in which it was thought "engineering could tame the land, flatten it, straighten it, shift it and pave over it to suit our immediate needs."

The Region's planning vision now is one in which "Healthy Communities" is the theme, that advocate less reliance on personal cars and a greater emphasis on stress reduction by keeping environments as natural as possible, said Ms. Rutherford.



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