

News At A Glance

Region strangling on landfill knot

The escalating costs Halton faces to construct its new landfill in Milton are placing a stranglehold on the Region's ability to expand its 3R - reduce, reuse and recycle - waste diversion program.

Halton Treasurer Joe Rinaldo told Regional Planning and Public Works Committee Wednesday the Region needs to spend an extra \$12.7 million to construct the landfill, bringing the project's total cost to an expected \$51 million. Before the project's initiation, the total cost had been projected at approximately \$11 million, said Mr. Rinaldo.

To pay these escalating costs, said Mr. Rinaldo, the Region will be required to rely on increasing its debt load. Monies in the Region's Waste Management fund have all been accounted for, he explained.

If the Region chooses to cover the increased debt load through the tipping fee, the Region will charge people to use the new landfill and the tipping fee would have to be between \$200 and \$220, according to a staff report.

Since this fee could not compete with tipping fees charged at other landfills, Mr. Rinaldo said, to pay off the debt load while keeping the tipping fee competitive, may require Halton to use money allocated for waste diversion programs.

The only other alternative, said Mr. Rinaldo, is for the Region to seek financial assistance from the province.

Committee members supported this alternative over the other, recommending Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy meet with the province's Environment Minister and Treasurer to discuss increased provincial funding for Halton's new landfill. The recommendation will go before council for final approval this Wednesday.

According to the staff report, the province has allocated \$4.1 million over four years to the Region for the landfill. However, the provincial guidelines state the province is required to cover 60 per cent of a landfill's construction cost. This amount equals \$29.8 million.

The report indicates the province has capped financial assistance to Halton's landfill at \$1 million per year, due to budget constraints.

Chairman Pomeroy told committee, during the meeting with the province he will talk about the



Joe Rinaldo

need to change the Environmental Assessment Act as it pertains to landfills, on top of Halton's need for financial assistance. In order to receive provincial approval to build the Halton landfill, the Region's proposal was first subjected to an environment assessment.

Committee members agreed the cost of the landfill, including the work done as part of the Environmental Assessment, approaches \$100 million.

"The process (EAA) is unacceptable. It requires municipalities to spend so much on disposal that they can't implement improved 3R programs," said a discouraged Chairman Pomeroy.

Committee members questioned how the province expected municipalities to improve their 3R programs when it costs so much money to establish a landfill.

Saying the process has "almost done the Region in (financially)," Mr. Pomeroy predicted smaller and less well off municipalities would go bankrupt by subjecting a landfill proposal to an Environmental Assessment.

Milton Regional Councillor Bill Johnston ended the discussion urging the Region to threaten the province, or expect its concerns to fall on deaf ears.

"Tell the province the Region will scrap its 3R program if changes are not made to the process," said Coun. Johnston.

Compromise reached on area housing

Halton Hills Council shouldn't expect any opposition to the Town Municipal Housing Statement, (MHS), from local ratepayer group Residents Active in Development Decisions (RAIDD), when councillors consider the document at Monday's council meeting.

Following a meeting between RAIDD members and the Town planning staff the two parties agreed on a compromise concerning the projected percentage housing mix over the next 10 years.

The MHS as it currently stands indicates in 10 years time Halton Hills will be comprised of 65 per cent single family homes, 15 per cent townhouses and 20 per cent apartments.

RAIDD has always opposed these projections because they don't reflect the character of the Town, according to the organization. The percentages are skewed, because they are partly based on development applications submitted to the Town but not yet ap-

proved.

Town planning consultant Wendy Nott said during the meeting the MHS projections are based on various demographic material and not development applications, submitted, but not approved by the Town.

It just happens the projections in the MHS reflect a similar housing mix projections in the Town's Development Charges study, said Ms. Nott. The development charges study considers how much the Town should charge developers to build different types of housing in Town.

The two parties finally agreed on a compromise calling for the MHS housing projections to be 65-70 per cent single family homes, 15-20 per cent townhouses, and 15-20 per cent housing.

Town Planner Ian Keith said the compromise will be incorporated in the MHS as long as the changes don't have an impact on the recommended development charges for the Town.



Intersection collision

Georgetown resident Terry Lynn Guest, 33, is taken to Georgetown and District Hospital Wednesday afternoon after a head-on collision at the corner of Guelph Street and Maple Avenue in Georgetown. Nineteen-year-old Trevor Cocks from Glen Williams was turning left from Guelph St. onto Maple Avenue in a 1987 Nissan Truck when he slam-

med into a 1987 White Dodge Aries, driven by Ms. Guest, who was travelling through the intersection on a green light. Both drivers were taken to Georgetown and District Hospital with minor injuries. Mr. Cocks has been charged with improper turning under the Highway Traffic Act. (Herald photo by Lisa Boonstoppel-Pot)

Town digs in heels over \$10,000 fine

By BEN DUMMETT
The Herald

The Town of Halton Hills appears to have no intention of writing off a \$10,000 fine owed by Toronto-based company M.M.G. Ltd., owners of the Barber Mills property on River Drive in Georgetown.

The Herald has learned the Town filed a writ of execution with the Ontario Court, General Division in Milton against M.M.G. Ltd. A writ of execution means if the company sells the Barber Mills property, then \$10,000 of the land's sale price will be collected by the courts on behalf of the Town to cover the outstanding fine.

Bob Ustrzycki, Town Bylaw Enforcement and Licencing Officer refused to comment on the writ, saying he would be able to discuss the situation at a later date. He didn't reveal when that date would be.

M.M.G. Ltd. was fined \$10,000 in February for disobeying a

Town-issued Property Standards Order. The order required the company to board up the buildings on the property and ensure they were structurally sound. The company had 30 days after being found guilty to pay the fine but no payment was forthcoming.

As well as the fine, the company was required to pay the Town the cost of boarding up the buildings on the property and ensuring their safety.

The Town paid approximately \$5,000 to board up the buildings. No one at the Town would say if the company has reimbursed the Town for this expense.

In accordance with civil court procedure, once a writ of execution has been filed, and the property in question doesn't exchange hands within six months, the Town has the right to seize the property and hold it for public auction.

No one at M.M.G. Ltd. could be reached for comment at press time.

Another outstanding fine owed

to the Town totals \$163,000. Halton Hills Development Corporation owes the Town this amount of money in connection with several Ontario Building Code Offences involving the construction of 22 houses in Stewarttown. The company was fined in late November but still no money is forthcoming.

The Town has yet to indicate if it will attempt to obtain the fine money from the company.

Canadian Quote

In most of Canada we are not talking today about a cold, deliberate decision that the country is not worth keeping. The danger instead is that we might let this nation simply slip away because we are too angry or too careless to improve and keep it.

Joe Clark, constitutional affairs minister (1991)

Equestrian competition

The Caledon Horse Trials will be hosting the Ontario Training Division Championships at The Caledon Riding and Hunt Club on Sunday, September 8th. These Horse Trials are the longest continuous running event of its kind in Canada. Organized by Gayle Burton and a dedicated membership, the event also offers Preliminary, regular Training, as well as Pre-Training divisions. The Caledon Riding and Hunt Club is located on Creditview Road just north of Olde Base Line Road in Cheltenham. A hundred and twenty entries will make this a busy and exciting day. The first horse is off at 7:30. Do something different this weekend, come and join us.

For more information contact Gayle Burton at (416) 838-2297.

Scouts Canada local registration

All Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and leaders register for the 1991-1992 year at the following:

- 1st Acton at the Acton Scout Hall, Sept. 9th, at 7 p.m.
 - 3rd Acton at St. Albans Church Hall, Acton, Sept. 9th at 7 p.m.
 - 1st Georgetown at Joseph Gibbons School, Sept. 9th at 7 p.m.
 - 2nd Georgetown at St. Andrew's United Church, Mountainview, Sept. 9th at 7 p.m.
 - 4th Georgetown at St. Andrew's United Church, Mountainview, Sept. 9th at 7 p.m.
 - 5th Georgetown at St. Andrew's United Church, Mountainview, Sept. 9th at 7 p.m.
 - 1st Glen Williams at Glen Williams School, Sept. 9th, 7 p.m.
 - 1st Limehouse at Limehouse School, Sept. 9th, 7 p.m.
 - 1st Ashgrove at Hillcrest United Church, Sept. 10, 7 p.m.
 - 1st Hornby at Hillcrest United Church, Sept. 10, 7 p.m.
- All groups are reminded Scouting uniforms and supplies will be available to buy at St. Andrew's Registration, Sept. 9th. For further information call Jean Layman at 877-6424.