

Wednesday, October 2, 1991

Council decides to follow protest group's lead

Members of local group Furiously Opposed to Acton Dumping (F.O.A.D.), are probably a little less furious now that Halton Hills Council has decided to follow the group's lead.

After little debate, councillors directed staff to continue legal action to force United Aggregates to reconstruct the Third Line through the Acton quarry site once quarry operations are exhausted.

Councillors and F.O.A.D. members agreed if United Aggregates is forced to reconstruct the Third Line through the quarry, then the proposal to establish a landfill in the quarry would be permanently shelved.

At a Council meeting the previous week, F.O.A.D. had requested Council members support a resolution similar to the one they passed at Monday's meeting.

Town Administrator Dan Costea said Monday, United Aggregates takes the position it is not obligated to reconstruct the Third Line because the original Third Line reconstruction agreement signed in 1974 between the Town and the quarry's original owner Indusmin, was not registered on title, making the agreement invalid.

However, Mr. Costea said Town lawyers at this point believe they

have a case against United Aggregates.

F.O.A.D. member Gord Vandevalk said he was very pleased with Council's decision. "The resolution does what we had hoped it would do," said Mr. Vandevalk.

He did, however, leave council with something to think about.

Mr. Vandevalk informed councillors that in 1981 Third Line resident Stanley Enright, who is now deceased, took the Town and Indusmin to trial in connection with the original closure of the Third Line as a result of the quarry's opening.

He asked councillors if any of them had knowledge of this court action. However no one did, including long-time Council members Mayor Russ Miller and Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson.

Mr. Vandevalk urged Council to find out more about the court action, saying it could provide answers concerning how to force United Aggregates to reconstruct the Third Line.

Study deferred

Town Council decided Monday to wait another two weeks before voting on a proposed study to determine whether the Ballinafad hamlet boundaries should or



shouldn't be expanded.

Council made its decision after Daphne Shropshall, member of the Hickory Falls Ratepayers Association, claimed the study shouldn't be done until Halton Region conducts a Region-wide hydrology study.

Ms. Shropshall told councillors parts of Ballinafad are already experiencing water shortages.

"We're not opposed to development but we need assurances it won't negatively impact our lifestyle," said Ms. Shropshall.

Mayor Russ Miller said Erin Township and Wellington County should first be consulted about

possibly shelving the study before a final decision is made, since they are scheduled to participate in the project.

Ms. Shropshall said if the study goes ahead, then the project should be funded solely by public money. The Town has tentatively accepted \$15,000 from developers who own land in Ballinafad to use towards the study.

Ms. Shropshall claimed the study's findings could be compromised if developer money is attached to the project.

Ian Keith, Town Planning Director, said the Town has accepted developers money to fund studies on three previous occasions and there were no problems. Once the money is handed over to the Town, said Mr. Keith, the developer is in no way involved in the project.

New transportation service

Acton Councillor Gerald Rennie announced Monday the Georgetown Transportation Pool has started.

The transportation service is primarily for seniors who don't have enough money for a taxi and don't qualify for the Town's Activan.

The service runs every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at a cost of \$5 per person round trip.

For more information call the Halton Hills Volunteer Centre in Georgetown.

Mayor embarrassed

Halton Hills Council learned Monday the Fallbrook Trail in Glen Williams is still covered in litter.

Town Engineer Bob Austin said the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, which owns the property, has said it will clean up the area, yet nothing has been done.

Mayor Russ Miller urged staff to contact the CVCA and insist action be taken immediately.

"It's rather embarrassing the property isn't cleaned up since we promised to have it cleared a while ago," said Mayor Miller.

Declarations announced

Council made several declarations at Monday's meeting.

Councillors declared the week of Oct. 6-12 as Fire Prevention Week; Oct. 16 as World Food Day within in Halton Hills and the week of Oct. 21-27 as Occupational Therapy Week.

Region Briefs

Regional Council decides to defer water study

Although a Halton-wide hydrogeologic study determining the location of water supplies in the Region needs to be done, now is not the time, Regional Council decided Wednesday.

Agreeing the \$120,000 study was too expensive to do this year, a majority of councillors voted to refer the study to the Region's Budget Committee to determine if it could be done next year.

Despite costing \$120,000, the Region would only be required to pay \$70,000 towards the study's total cost. The province would fund the remaining \$50,000, according to a staff report.

Mitchell Fasken, speaking on behalf of Burlington-based Paletta International Corporation, unsuccessfully urged Regional Coun-

cil to permit the study to go ahead now.

He proposed the preliminary study would indicate if more in-depth work is needed to identify water sources in Halton.

Mr. Fasken added, "\$70,000 isn't going to make or break a Region."

Severances still possible

The possibility still exists Halton-area farmers will continue to have the privilege of severing a portion of their property for retirement purposes when Halton Region completes its Official Plan review.

Halton Council directed staff Wednesday to reconsider including retirement severances for bona-fide farmers in the revised Regional Official Plan. Staff had originally recommended the privilege be discontinued.

If the severance is included in the revised plan, then the criteria determining whether or not a farmer qualifies for a retirement lot severance should be more restrictive, indicated councillors.

Most councillors agreed the

severance is necessary because farmers don't have any other form of pension

Burlington Regional Councillor Walter Mulkewich represented the minority view in requesting farmer retirement lot severances no longer be permitted.

He said the policy contradicts the focus of the Official Plan review which highlights the preservation of agricultural land.

Region wins award

Halton Regional Council learned Wednesday the Region is the recipient of a recycling award from the Waste Association of North America

The award recognizes the excellence of the Region's recycling programs.

Despite the award, Chairman Pomeroy told council the Region has no intentions of resting on its laurels.

"We can be proud of our efforts to date, but we must continue to move forward and work towards the minimizing of waste through, reduction, reuse and recycling," said Chairman Pomeroy.

Changes at Independent

Brampton Guardian Publisher Ken Nugent, has now taken on the additional responsibilities of new Publisher at the Georgetown Independent and Acton Free Press, the Herald has learned.

Mr. Nugent replaces outgoing Independent and Free Press Publisher Ken Bellamy.

All three newspapers are owned by Toronto-based Metroland Printing, Publishing and Distributing.

Asked if his new responsibilities will result in the amalgamation of the three newspapers operating out of the Guardian office in Brampton, Mr. Nugent said no.

The Georgetown Independent and Acton Free Press will continue to operate independently of the Guardian, he said.

The Independent and Free Press are currently published out of the Independent office on Armstrong Avenue in Georgetown.

Mr. Nugent said he was looking forward to his added responsibilities.

Mr. Nugent said there will be no changes to the Independent or Free Press' editorial content. He also went on to say there would be no exchange of editorial staff between Georgetown and Acton, and Brampton.

MORTGAGE SEMINAR

WHERE: Acton Branch
WHEN: Thursday, October 10th
TIME: 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

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