## Town fights for servicing to Sixth Line residents

KATHRYN BOYLE kboyle@theifp.ca

A decade-long issue in Halton Hills has made its way to regional council.

On Oct. 4, Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette and Coun. Clark Somerville raised the issue of employment land expansion in the Premier Gateway Area and the effect it has had on residents along Sixth Line during the Region of Halton's planning and public works committee meeting.

When the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) West corridor was announced, the lands the highway would affect became frozen by Halton through its regional Official Plan, which was required under the study and the Halton-Peel Boundary Area Transportation Study.

To supply employment lands, the region's Official Plan was modified to include some of the lots in the area, but some, namely between Fifth Line and Winston Churchill Boulevard, were excluded.

To make up for the lots frozen in the corridor protection, the region added 75 hectares of employment lands. Unfortunately, the 75 hectares chosen were not enough to cover the homes along Sixth Line, which are missing a number of town services, including water.

At the regional council meeting, Mayor Bonnette described the residents' frustration regarding the issue.

"We're asking the region to further investigate into expanding the water on Sixth Line," he said. "There has been a huge issue of wells in the area."

Jim Harnum, commissioner of Public Works, explained the lots Bonnette described were outside the urban area, and specific difficulties came from that.

"There are difficulties with that, both with the

See MAYOR, page 35



Erik Kowal, who lives on Sixth Line in Hornby, is one of 16 homeowners fighting to be connected to town water after Halton Region construction projects dried up their wells twice in the last eight years. He is pictured here next to one of the sites responsible on Steeles Avenue.

Graeme Frisque/Metroland



