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Duignan's bill backed by town council

Halton Hills Town Council readily endorsed a motion Tuesday fully supporting the speedy consideration of Bill 62 by the Ontario Legislature.

Bill 62 is a private member's bill introduced to the Legislature last June by Halton North MPP Noel Duignan. It calls for an amendment to the Environmental Protection Act to prevent the establishment of landfills on the Niagara Escarpment.

Council directed town administrator Dan Costea to write to Ontario Premier Bob Rae, Minister of the Environment Bud Wildman, leaders of all Official Opposition Parties and Duignan advising them of council's support for the proposal. In the same letter, council will ask for Bill 62 to be brought forward and considered by the Legislature "at an early date."

In a telephone interview Wednesday, Duignan's legislative assistant Martha MacLachlan welcomed the news of the town's formal support of the proposal.

More help to propel the bill through second reading will come next Wednesday when a planning meeting will be held at Queen's Park, she said. The meeting, which is being arranged by Duignan's office in conjunction with Halton Hills resident Barbara Halsall, will be attended by MPPs from all parties representing municipalities through which the escarpment runs.

Halsall is president of POWER (Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources), an environmental group which is opposed to a bid by a private company, Reclamation Systems Incorporated (RSI), to establish a landfill site in a mined-out portion of the Acton Quarry. The bill passed first read-

Council Briefs

ing June 10, 1992. If it passes second reading, it will be sent to a parliamentary committee for review. After the committee report, it will go back to the legislature for third reading and, if passed, it will become law.

Landscaped entrances

The town's site plan committee has been directed to address landscaping concerns related to entranceways to Halton Hills. Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson raised the issue, telling council she was "really upset" by the "walled entrances" into Georgetown. She was referring to noise barrier fences in Georgetown South and along Highway 7 near Trafalgar Road.

Serjeantson said the entranceways don't help enhance the town's image because there aren't enough trees or landscaping amenities to make the entrances look attractive. She offered to serve as a one-person committee to look at the problem and report back to council.

Rather than set up another committee, council decided site plan committee could be directed to deal with Serjeantson's concerns.

Meeting slated for May 10

A public meeting about water supply in Halton Hills, focusing on water-taking constraints on Prospect Park Well in Acton, will be held at 5 p.m., May 10, in council chambers, Halton Hills Civic Centre. Councillor Norm Elliott of Acton recently asked for the meeting to be arranged so that he and other councillors can ask questions of Ministry of Environment, Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Halton regional staff.

At a meeting early this month,

Elliott warned council about the bleak future facing Acton development proposals unless something can be done to ease environmental concerns expressed by federal and provincial officials about increased water-taking from Prospect Park Well.

Neighborhood problems

A Norval resident brought several neighborhood concerns to council's attention Tuesday, asking for help in resolving the issues.

Steffanee Appio-DiPanfilo of Draper Street complained about the nearby baseball diamond and its users, some of whom litter the neighborhood with garbage, break windows of area homes and destroy landscaping.

She also said snow removal in the turn-around area of the street has often led to her driveway being blocked and access to the street by emergency vehicles is limited. The road is poorly drained and a commercial body shop in the area is polluting the environment because vehicles are being spray-painted outdoors, she added.

Her concerns were referred to town administration for response.

Fire Calls

Acton firefighters were called to 5th Line and Hwy. 7 Monday at 10 p.m. because of a grassfire, which was extinguished without causing any damage.

On Tuesday evening, firefighters put out a controlled rubbish fire on Park Ave. in Georgetown and cautioned the resident for not having a permit to burn garbage.


Acton and Milton firefighter worked together to put out a large grassfire at Hwy. 25 and 5 Side Road in Acton, on Wednesday at noon.

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New trade consultant

Peter Wilson has been appointed senior business consultant responsible for Ministry of Economic Development and Trade programs and services in Halton Region.

As senior business consultant, Wilson will act as a link to the ministry, helping companies access ministry programs, and providing business advice. He will maintain contact with companies, municipalities, economic development associations and community colleges.

His responsibilities also include identifying and reporting on local economic concerns, opportunities and business trends.

Wilson has lived and worked in the Far East for more than 10 years, holding management positions in engineering and trading companies. His past responsibilities with the ministry include promoting trade to the Pacific Rim, Europe, the Middle East and Africa; attracting investment from the United States, promoting manufacturing opportunities, and facilitating import replacement. He most recently served as senior business consultant for the region of Hamilton-Wentworth.

Wilson is based in the office and can be reached at (416) 521-7783.



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