

Council toots horn for CNR lands

By Oksana Buhel

Town of Halton Hills councillors voted Monday to proceed with the execution of necessary documents for the acquisition of two plots of Canadian National Railway (CNR) land - one in Acton and another in Georgetown.

The 1.6 acre Acton property, bound by the CNR tracks and Eastern Ave., will be purchased at a cost of \$50,000 with an additional \$41,359 allocated for capital improvements.

The abandoned 1.34 acre CNR right-of-way in Georgetown, which lies between Wildwood Road and Anne St, will be purchased at a cost of \$7,000 and according to town treasurer Andy Koopmans, "not a whole lot of money" has

been allocated for improvements.

Town administrator Ray King said funds for the purchases will come from the unallocated capital reserve fund.

When the proposal for the Acton property was introduced Nov. 22, eight councillors supported it and five councillors voted against it. When the bill was introduced at Monday's meeting, it was supported unanimously, as was the proposal for the acquisition of the Georgetown property.

King said in November the Acton land could accommodate future parking, for which there is a "demonstrated need," or road widening. He added the land would be a valuable asset if GO train

service is reintroduced.

Capital works suggested for the property include the removal of a loading dock, fence and train tracks.

Koopmans said the only capital works necessary on the Georgetown land is erection of fence.

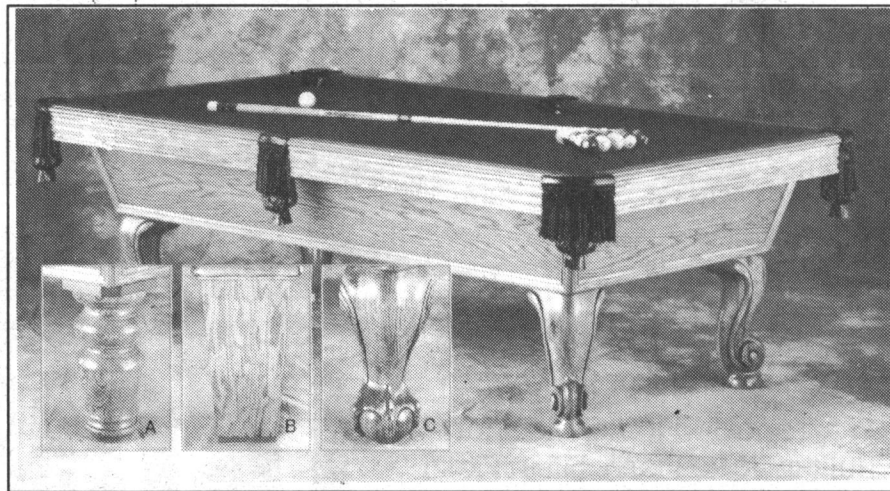
He added the Georgetown land is beneficial because the "storm drainage ditch on the property is easier to maintain if the town owns the land." Koopmans said if the drainage ditch is no longer necessary, the land may be turned over to the Recreation and Parks Department.

Both bids must still be ratified by the CNR board of directors.

King speculated the CNR board will give its decision "sometime in January."

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Youths charged in multiple break-ins

Three young offenders were arrested and charged in relation to three residential break and enters, and police are investigating links with several break and enters which occurred a few weeks ago.

Most recently, the youths broke into a home on Daniella Crt. in Georgetown Monday around noon. They entered the home by prying open a window and took a small amount of food and two bottles of liquor, valued at \$80.

The following day between 2 p.m.-7 p.m., the same youths forced open the basement sliding patio door of a Park Ave. residence and stole a portable CD player, 80 CDs and several watches, valued at \$1,900.

Shortly before or after, the youths entered a Linden Circ. home through an insecure patio door. They took a VCR, portable component stereo, tapes and a few packages of cigarettes.

A description of the boys was provided to police by a Linden Circ. resident and police were able to link the break-ins and make the arrests.

A 15-year-old from Georgetown, a 14-year-old from Georgetown and a 14-year-old former Georgetown resident, now living in Burlington, were arrested and charged. The Burlington youth was also responsible for the Jun. 30 Barber Mill fire on River Dr. in Georgetown. They are being held in custody to await a bail hearing. The boys are also facing other break and enter charges related to past break-ins.

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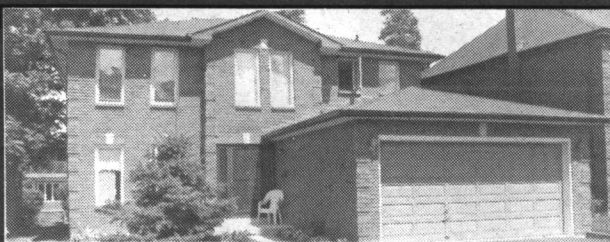
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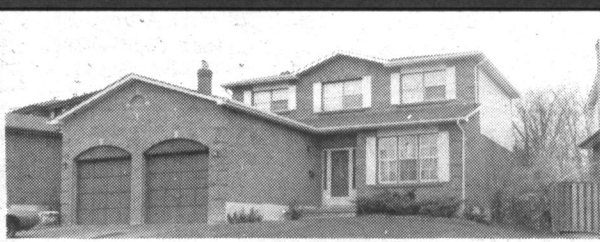
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