

# Town taxes dues June 27

Town taxes are due on June 27 and September 26. For those on monthly pre-authorized payment plan tax payment dates are June 27, July 27, August 29, Sept. 26 and Oct. 29. Once again, the payment of property taxes for properties classed as farmland shall be due in full on September 26.

# Mayor, Milton rep spar over power plant

**MELANIE HENNESSEY**  
Special to The IFP

A Milton councillor and Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette are again trading barbs over the power plant to be built on Steeles Avenue in Hornby.

Last week at Milton town council Ward 1 Councillor Rick Day brought up the fact Halton Hills has withdrawn its request for the Ministry of the Environment to 'bump up', or elevate TransCanada Energy's (TCE) application to require an individual environmental assessment.

He questioned the environmental science Halton Hills used to make its decision, asking Bonnette and his council, "Where's the beef?"

"Where's the science on the safety of this plant for the people of Halton Hills and Milton?" Day asked.

He said he thinks if Halton Hills withdraws its bump up request, then TCE's case is strengthened.

He was also critical of the money and land Halton Hills will be receiving from TCE— \$1.5 million to assume Halton Hills' obligation for water and sewer service costs in the 401 industrial corridor, \$250,000 for a community project and about eight acres of TCE's property that will be used as a public open space.

"Shame on them (Halton Hills) for taking all that money and property to let TransCanada through," said Day, adding that the big issue is people's health, "not getting as much money and property as you can for it."

*'Where's the science on the safety of this plant for the people of Halton Hills and Milton?'*



**MILTON COUNCILLOR RICK DAY**



**HALTON HILLS MAYOR RICK BONNETTE**

*'I am disappointed once again at Councillor Day trying to make more headlines for himself.'*

Ward 3 Councillor Cindy Lunau said she wouldn't question Halton Hills' right to change its terms, and Day concurred that the town is free to do whatever it wants— "smart or stupid."

"If it's threatening the health of the people of Milton, I don't care if feelings are hurt," he said.

Bonnette fired back in an interview. "I am disappointed once again at Councillor Day trying to make more headlines for himself," he said.

He pointed out that Milton had a chance to spend \$50,000 on an independent study of the plant to "put their money where their mouth is," but council decided not to do so.

"But again, it was a motion by Rick Day and I guess he doesn't have that much clout around the Milton chambers unless it is to approve more housing developments for Milton," he said.

Bonnette also explained Halton Hills' decision to withdraw the bump up request wasn't science-based, but rather based on the Town having the

time to fully understand what TCE's environmental review report addressed.

"When the Town asked for a bump up it was because TCE had not formally committed to the site plan process."

He noted once that commitment was received and an acceptable, prestigious industrial design for the plant was presented to council, the bump up was no longer necessary.

"All reports indicate that the facility has met all necessary regulations regarding air quality," Bonnette said.

He also said that prior to final approval, Halton Hills is comfortable the facility will undergo further review by the Ministry of the Environment, which he emphasized is the actual enforcing body of environmental legislation.

Day ultimately put forward a motion that was passed by Milton council calling for Halton Hills to explain the environmental science used in its consideration to withdraw its bump up request.

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